



# USECA EXPRESS



Michigan's Largest and Most Active Amateur Radio Club

UTICA SHELBY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION, INC. Volume 23, Number 10, December 2007

## USECA Meeting Minutes

Board Meeting—November 5, 2007

In attendance:

|                |                      |
|----------------|----------------------|
| N8ZA, Chuck    | President            |
| N8VI, Brad     | Vice-President       |
| KT8F, Ann      | Recording Secretary  |
| N8OZ, Joe      | Membership Secretary |
| *W8DFG, Dennis | Treasurer            |
| WB8E, Walt     | Board Member         |
| N8ZI, Tom      | Board Member         |
| (Vacant)       | Board Member         |
| *W1IK, Jim     | Past President       |
| *Absent        |                      |



Meeting called to order by the President at: 7:33 PM.

Motion to accept the minutes of the last BOD meeting made by Dennis, supported by Walt, motion carried.

Treasurer's report provided by Dennis. Motion to accept the report made by Tom, seconded by Ann, motion carried. Dennis will bring a motion to the floor at the general meeting to pay for our liability policy.

Membership: Joe, N8OZ – 161 with tonight's BOD approval of new members.

Express: Joe, K8OEF – not present, no report.

Webmaster report given by Alec NF8X – everything working well, website updated.

ARRL liaison: we need a volunteer to take over this position.

Trustee: Dennis reported that everything is going well. Will run the backup repeater 1 x month. Renewal TDS will be sent in to the repeater council.

Technical: Phil, W8IC – Jim, W1IK is continuing to work on the new repeater controller. There are a lot of cables to prepare.

Swap: Tom reported on our recent swap. Reviewed issues. Discussion re: ways of improving next year's swap.

Health and Welfare: Walt, WB8E – all taken care of.

Fundraiser: all tickets for the ICOM 706 Mark IIG were sold, providing a profit to our club. Jim, W1IK won the radio. Discussion re: doing another raffle.

### Old Business:

Field day: Alec reported that we ended up in 20<sup>th</sup> place in 2007 field day.

—Continued on Page 7

### Election:

## Nominees

The nominations for club officers at the November meeting were as follows:

#### President

Keith, N8EB  
Tom, N8ZI

#### Vice President

Alec, NF8X

#### Recording Secretary

Ann, KT8F (I)

#### Treasurer

Dennis, W8DFG (I)

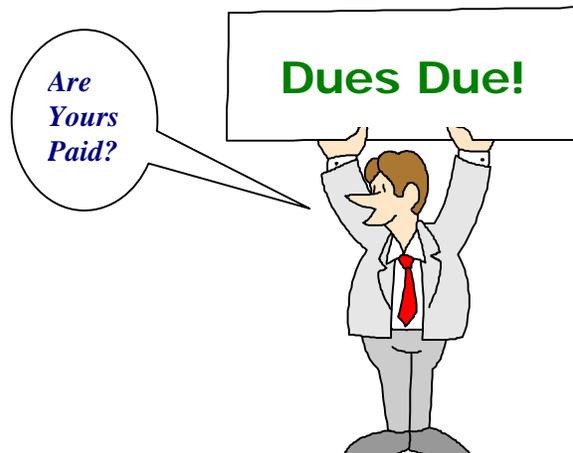
#### Membership Secretary

Joe, N8OZ (I)

#### Board Member (3 Elected)

Walt, WB8E (I)  
Brad, N8VI  
Jim, WY8I  
Rich, K8PJQ  
Ray, K8RDJ  
Ken, N8UO

(I) Incumbent



Next Meeting — December 10th — Elections

## CLUB DIRECTORY

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

|                      |                                     |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| President            | Chuck Perushek/N8ZA (586) 557-4983  |
| Vice President       | Brad Tarratt/N8VI (248) 506-7609    |
| Recording Secretary  | Ann Manor/KT8F (586) 751-3893       |
| Treasurer            | Dennis Gaboury/W8DFG (586) 465-7126 |
| Membership Secretary | Joe Kennedy/N8OZ (586) 977-7222     |
| Board Member         | Walt Gracey/WB8E (586) 777-2954     |
| Board Member         | Tom Tincknell/N8ZI (586) 651-7239   |
| Board Member         | (Vacant)                            |
| Past President       | Jim Wickstrom/W1IK (586) 771-4135   |

### COMMITTEES

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| ARRL Liaison             | Bobby/N8CY (248) 879-7214                            |
| Awards Manager           | Keith/N8EB (586) 777-6751                            |
| Door Prizes              | -OPEN-   |
| Editor                   | Joe/K8OEF (586) 781-0050                             |
| Field Day Chair          | Bill/N8SA, Steve/N8XO & Ray/N8UY                     |
| Health & Welfare         | Walt/WB8E (586) 777-2954                             |
| Historian                | Jerry/K8CFY (586) 791-4484                           |
| Mailers/Sorters          | Ann/KT8F; Phil/W8IC; & Crew                          |
| Net Manager              | Keith/N8EB (586) 777-6751                            |
| Photographer             | Wes/KD8DHS   |
| Program Director         | Brad/N8VI (248) 506-7609                             |
| Public Relations Officer | Ken/N8KC (248) 652-1187                              |
| Refreshments             | Walt/WB8E; & Richard/KC8HMJ                          |
| Repeater Trustee         | Dennis/W8DFG (586) 465-7126                          |
| Swap Director            | Tom/N8ZI (586) 651-7239                              |
| Technical Director       | Jim/W1IK (586) 771-4135                              |
| Technicians              | KA8D; W8IC; WA8GQL; W8RO; AD8S;<br>N8SA; W1SKU; N8ZI |
| VE Testing               | Joe/N8OZ (586) 977-7222                              |
| Webmaster                | Brad/N8VI (248) 506-7609                             |

### CONTROL OPERATORS (\*Phone Number Above)

|           |            |             |
|-----------|------------|-------------|
| Jim/WY8I  | Joe/K8OEF* | Fred/W1SKU  |
| Phil/W8IC | Joe/N8OZ*  | Chuck/N8ZA* |
| Jim/W1IK* | Floyd/W8RO | Tom/N8ZI*   |

### PROGRAMMERS

|              |          |           |
|--------------|----------|-----------|
| Dennis/W8DFG | Jim/W1IK | Brad/N8VI |
|--------------|----------|-----------|

The Editor is:

## Still Going

Joe, K8OEF

Be sure to vote in the upcoming elections. And while you're there, it's a good time to pay your annual dues. Remember, this club needs more than good will to be successful; it needs your financial support.

Just read in the newspaper that the City of Mt. Clemens will be installing their holiday tree. Give me a break! It's a Christmas tree. And the "A" in ACLU stands for American. Bah!

To each and every one of you, we wish you and yours the merriest *Christmas!*

73 for now.



The Editorial Staff?

The *USECA EXPRESS* is published monthly (except July and August), by the UTICA SHELBY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION, INC., of Macomb County, Michigan. Club meetings are held on the second Monday of each month (except July and August), 7:30 p.m., local time, at the Elks Club, 179 S. Main (between Church and Robertson), Mt. Clemens, Michigan. *Visitors are always welcome.* Articles for the *EXPRESS* should be submitted to the editor no later than the night of the club meeting for publication in the following month's edition. **The articles within are those of the author and not necessarily endorsed by USECA.** Material contained in the *EXPRESS* may be reprinted provided credit is given to the *USECA EXPRESS* and the author, except material published by permission of a copyright holder. The awards for "Excellent" (1994) and four times "Superior" (1995, 1996, 1997 and 1998) were received from ARNS (Amateur Radio News Service). [Note: ARNS has disbanded.]

### USECA VE Testing

Testing will be the THIRD Monday of the month from September thru June. Joe, N8OZ, is the Contact VE. Pre-registration is encouraged. Test fee is \$14.00 cash (exact change only). Examinees need to bring Xerox copies of current license and un-expired CSCE's, if any. There is no copy machine at the test site. Official starting time is 7:00 PM. Walk-ins are welcomed. Test site is at the Mt. Clemens Elks Club (179 S. Main St. in Mt. Clemens). Other VE test sessions can be arranged—contact the Contact VE for details.

## **A Stranger Among Us: A Tale of Intrigue Within our own Ham Community.**

### Part I - "The Author Rambles"

**I'LL ADMIT THIS** right now: I'm somewhat of a conspiracy theorist. I'm not one of those over-the-edge types who believes the moon landing never occurred and was filmed in some secret studio. Let's face it - that kind of thinking is just ridiculous. It's particularly ridiculous considering the fact that the landing was filmed in the desert, not a studio (a desert near Roswell, New Mexico to be precise). But I digress. The reason I mention my love for a good conspiracy theory is that I recently bumped into a full-blown conspiracy in the most unlikely of places - right here in our own ham community.

The whole incident started about 2 months ago when I began studying for my General License. Having purchased the ARRL General Class License Manual, I began an intense study regimen. At first, I intended to read each chapter in turn, figuring I would absorb all the pertinent information from every chapter and proceed to take the practice exams after reading the entire book. This lasted about 2/3 of the way through Chapter 1. Or maybe it was the Preface - I forget. Anyway, my curiosity got the best of me and I flipped to the last section of the manual - the part containing the "official question pool". Working through the questions I realized I would be able to pretty easily pass the test by just reading the questions many times and remembering the correct answers. Perhaps this wouldn't be the best form of study to a "purist," but I had already purchased a Yaesu FT-897 and wanted to use it. Speed was paramount.

The question pool I was studying was a new one, taking effect on July 1, 2007. Many hams don't yet know this, but since the CW requirement was removed, the test questions are now much harder than the ones on the tests the "older" hams had to take. By a magnitude of 10. In fact, the ARRL recently published an official statement that anyone who has not taken the newer, harder, test can no longer be considered a "real" ham. This is just a bit of information I thought everyone would find useful - back to the story.

For the most part everything was going fine with my studies until I reached a very unnerving anomaly in the question pool. I remember the page exactly. Page 11-16. The flow of my study was instantly wrenched when I came to the following question: **"G2C06 - This question has been withdrawn."** Withdrawn? Whatever could this mean? Why on earth would a question be withdrawn? If there had been a "bad" question, wouldn't they have eliminated it before releasing the question pool? Or couldn't they have just spanked the bad question, or given it a time-out, but still let it stay in the question pool? I thought about this a little but more, and then something occurred to me. Perhaps the question was not a "bad" question, but maybe it was in fact a

"good" question - a legitimate question. Perhaps this question rightfully belonged in the general pool, but was removed by someone; someone who had reason to prevent it from being seen. Perhaps someone had an *agenda* and even something to lose should the question become public knowledge.

Admittedly, I sometimes let my imagination run away with me, and I realized I was spending too much time worrying about this one withdrawn question. Surely there was a perfectly legitimate explanation why the question had been removed. I decided I was just being silly. Besides, I was wasting time not studying. So I let the matter go, and continued reading. I was clipping along the questions, being generally interested and engaged.....until..... I came to the section about operating frequencies.....and what class gets what frequencies on what band at how many watts.....and what section of what band is permitted for RTTY.....and whether you can operate packet at 300 or 900 baud on whatever band.....but only if it is an odd month..... of an even year.....and blah blah blah.....ZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZ.

I was bored to tears. I thought about Icom and Kenwood and Yaesu and Alinco and all of the money they spend on beautiful glossy poster board and ink in order to make wall-sized frequency charts. All of that effort and expense, and someone expects me to *memorize* that information? And steal the thunder and purpose of these radio manufacturers who produce such beautiful and useful printed resources? Forget it, I thought - I'm not memorizing it! I'll just operate on 80, 40, 20 and 10 meter-"ish".

At this point the frustration and fatigue concerning frequency and mode memorization tired me greatly and I had to go to bed. I closed the manual, laid my head upon my pillow and drifted off. The last thing I remember thinking before fading to sleep was "G2C06...withdrawn...."

The following morning I awoke with a clear head and renewed energy to tackle the question pool. I had pretty much forgotten the vanishing question and had come to terms with the tedious frequency and mode memorization. My solution was this: I would just throw out my CQ at random frequencies in random modes and wait either for an answer from an exotic DX location or from an official at the FCC. Either QSO would be quite interesting, really. I opened my manual and continued. I studied amateur radio practices (common sense), safety

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**SPECIAL RELEASE:****FCC GRANTS SPECIAL CALLSIGN TO LOCAL AMATEUR**

In an unprecedented move, the Federal Communications Commission recently bestowed upon William D. Chesney of Clinton Township, MI an honor higher than any previously given. In response to the cutting-edge work Mr. Chesney has contributed to the area of Electrical and RF grounding, officials at the FCC agreed that he should be given a special call sign.

Knowing that Mr. Chesney was a very busy man, commonly giving advice over the local repeater while at the same time driving and answering his cell phone, it was decided that he should be granted the shortest call sign ever devised.

As of October, 2007, William Chesney has the distinct honor of being the only amateur radio operator in the WORLD with a mono-syllabic call. The call is so unique that it cannot perfectly be expressed in written form. It is meant to be an audible call, and must be heard to be fully understood. However, a somewhat close representation can be made in writing. The integrity of the call is kept intact by making sure it is pronounced using only ONE syllable.

Per special decree of the FCC, Mr. William D. Chesney shall henceforth be known by the special call "enedsay."

[Author requests anonymity—Ed.]

**What Is An American?**

**Y**OU PROBABLY MISSED it in the rush of news last week, but there was actually a report that someone in Pakistan had published in a newspaper an offer of a reward to anyone who killed an American, any American.

So an Australian dentist wrote the following to let everyone know what an American is, so they would know when they found one.

An American is English, or French, or Italian, Irish, German, Spanish, Polish, Russian or Greek. An American may also be Canadian, Mexican, African, Indian, Chinese, Japanese, Australian, Iranian, Asian, or Arab, or Pakistani, or Afghan. An American may also be a Cherokee, Osage, Blackfoot, Navaho, Apache, or one of the many other tribes known as native Americans.

An American is Christian, or he could be Jewish, or Buddhist, or Muslim. In fact, there are more Muslims in America than in Afghanistan. The only difference is that in America they are free to worship as each of them chooses. An American is also free to believe in no religion.

For that he will answer only to God, not to the government, or to armed thugs claiming to speak for the government and for God.

An American is from the most prosperous land in the history of the world.

The root of that prosperity can be found in the Declaration of Independence, which recognizes the God given right of each person the pursuit of happiness.

An American is generous. Americans have helped out just about every other nation in the world in their

time of need. When Afghanistan was overrun by the Soviet army 20 years ago, Americans came with arms and supplies to enable the people to win back their country. As of the morning of September 11, Americans had given more than any other nation to the poor in Afghanistan.

Americans welcome the best, the best products, the best books, the best music, the best food, the best athletes. But they also welcome the least.

The national symbol of America, The Statue of Liberty, welcomes your tired and your poor, the wretched refuse of your teeming shores, the homeless, tempest tossed. These in fact are the people who built America.

Some of them were working in the Twin Towers the morning of September 11, 2002 earning a better life for their families. I've been told that the World Trade Center victims were from at least 30 other countries, cultures, and first languages, including those that aided and abetted the terrorists

So you can try to kill an American if you must. Hitler did. So did General Tojo, and Stalin, and Mao Tse-Tung, and every bloodthirsty tyrant in the history of the world.

But, in doing so you would just be killing yourself. Because Americans are not a particular people from a particular place.

They are the embodiment of the human spirit of freedom. Everyone who holds to that spirit, everywhere, is an American.

—Internet

[A Blast From The Past—USECA Express—January 2003]

**A Stranger—Continued from Page 3**

practices (easy), electrical principles (interesting) and so on - I was in a groove. Sure, I stumbled on some questions and realized I would have to give extra effort to certain subjects, but that was to be expected. No problem. But then it happened again. I wasn't prepared for it and it hit me like a freight train. Smack-dab in the middle of page 11-43: **"G5B10 - This question has been withdrawn."**

My world went dark. I couldn't breathe. My greatest fears had been confirmed in that one instant. *One* withdrawn question could be explained away. But two? Forget it. There is NO WAY a question pool could be released with two "bad" questions. Too much review goes into the process of making these tests. Too many good minds are involved. In fact, do "bad" questions even exist? I can't for the life of me think of a "bad" question. Perhaps something like "The dog ran home" is a bad question. But it's only a bad question because it isn't a question at all - it's a statement. Throw a question mark at the end of that baby and, wham, you have yourself a question. And a darn good one, too, if you need to know where the dog is. Whatever - it was now painfully clear to me that someone with an agenda had these questions removed. And that person had some serious connections. You don't just call the FCC or ARRL and request that questions be erased from public memory. This kind of thing could only be the result of power, corruption and above all, *conspiracy*.

I vowed not to let the matter rest. I also vowed, however, not to let it detract me from my studies nor prevent me from obtaining my General. I now had two purposes: 1) pass the test and 2) get to the bottom of this insidious wrong. If not just for the good of my ham brethren (and sisthren), but for the integrity of the testing process. For Society, Democracy, and the First Amendment. And for a good article to submit to the Express.

For the remainder of this article, I won't comment any further regarding my studying for the General exam. That topic pales in comparison to the intrigue of which I am about to speak. I will say parenthetically, however, that I did very well on my exam. I did so well, in fact, that I was named the world's "Realest" ham ever. I even have a special QSL card that says "W8TGR - World's Realest Ham" on it. Listen for me on 23.4 megahertz or whatever that number is that's in the 440 meters band or wherever, CW upper phone mode. We'll hook up and I'll send you one of the cards. Please send me \$2.00 for postage.

So back to the "bad" questions. I knew finding out the whole truth behind this matter would take some real effort. I am, however, not a man without means, and I was fairly confident that I could ferret out enough information to begin peeling back the layers of truth and falsehood that would ultimately reveal the source of the questions' removal. Due to issues of confidentiality

and national security, in many instances I will not be able to disclose how I obtained certain information.

Many people risked great danger in revealing these things to me. I will not betray their trust. Please know, however, that what you are about to read is all true. Except, of course for the parts that aren't. In general, anything written that makes me look ignorant or silly is probably true. Anything written within a city block or two of the words "national security"...well... I'll leave that to the reader to decide.

My research began where all good research begins - in the library. I flew to Washington DC to peruse the expansive resources of mother of all libraries: The Library of Congress. I knew exactly what section of the library I needed to go to and wasted no time in beginning my research. But after 7 hours of exhaustive reading and cross-referencing I found absolutely nothing of help to my case. I was thoroughly discouraged and very tired. Every once in a great while, however, the planets come into perfect alignment, and luck just seems to fall on your lap. This very thing happened after my 7 tireless hours of fruitless searching. Ready to give up and go back home, I turned to my right to walk to the exit. Miraculously, at the very end of the long shelf I had been searching was a small sign that read "Amateur Radio". If not for the fact of seeing this small sign, I probably would have left the library and stopped my research right then and there. In retrospect, my success in solving this mystery is ultimately attributable to one very small coincidence: the fact that, in the Library of Congress of the United States of America, the section labeled "Amateur Radio" is on the same shelf, only a bit farther down, from the section labeled "Adult Material."

The Library of Congress, it turns out, is just an exploded version of a common bookstore. That is to say, they have approximately the same ratio of science books, fictional works, home improvement books, etc - just a lot more of them. As such, I was not surprised to see that the section of "self help" books took about 5 floors of the library. Similarly, religion was its own annex with 18 separate rooms. Classic literature had 3 very nice floors of its own. In the same fashion, The Library of Congress has 1/10 of an entire shelf dedicated to the 53 books ever written about amateur radio. It didn't take me long to find what I needed from among these 53 books. In the space dedicated to book #52 was placed, instead of an actual book, a woodcarving of a book, with the following written on its spine: "Amateur Exam Commission - Investigation Division." I pulled the solid wooden form from the shelf and read the front. I was extremely intrigued to find the following: **"BLANK FACSIMILE. ONE ORIGINAL IN EXISTENCE. EYES ONLY"** In smaller print near the bottom of the wooden "facsimile" read: **"Ref: Library district WB, sec. 3u4s.4e3c2a-8E, Warren, Michigan."**

—Continued on Page 6

**A Stranger—Continued from Page 5**

I thought I knew what this meant, but I checked with the section librarian to be sure. She was a very attractive young woman with auburn hair and a perfect complexion. Glancing at the blank wooden fascimile she gave me a startled look. "My God," she exclaimed, "I haven't seen one of these in ages. And that was only when I worked in the highly classified department of the library. Normally these kinds of wooden book substitutes were in the Military or CIA departments. Where did you get this?" I pointed to the section with the "Amateur Radio" placard. "What exactly is amateur radio?" she asked me. I responded: "Well, to be honest the exact nature of amateur radio is itself quite classified. That's why there are only 53 books on that shelf, instead of the hundreds that have been written." She looked intrigued by what I was saying, so I decided to educate her a bit on the subject: "The Reader's Digest version is that amateur radio operators are specifically chosen and licensed by the Federal Government to conduct various operations involving the modulation and demodulation of audio frequencies and radio spectrum frequencies, including the more difficult and exceedingly dangerous microwave and even higher frequencies. We are also charged with being at the cutting-edge of a significant portion of the visible and invisible light spectrum. We are specialists in the realm of wireless signal propagation, implementation, utilization and interception. In essence we control, and in a large sense *define*, the entirety of electromagnetic and light-wave phenomenon on earth, as well as hundreds of miles into space. Exactly what we do with these abilities is, of course, not available to the general public."

I'll tell you what: the librarian was thoroughly digging me at this point. I decided to cap it off with "but, honestly, I have probably told you far too much about this subject. Please promise to keep what I have told you on the down-low. Can you do that for me?" "Of course - absolutely." She said, gazing at me longingly through her beautiful hazel eyes. "Thank you so much," I said. "Now back to this particular book. Am I correct in assuming that there is only one original of this volume, and that it is located somewhere in Warren, Michigan?" "That's exactly right" she replied and continued, "I can see now why such a book would be highly classified after all you have told me." "Well," I finished, "amateur radio literature is commonly classified due to its sensitive nature, but this particular volume seems to be even more so than the rest. Now I need to figure out exactly why." Before leaving, I asked the librarian if I could have her number so maybe we could have dinner sometime. She wrote her number on a small piece of memo paper, folded it half, and shyly gave it to me with a blush on her cheeks.

Leaving the Library of Congress, I felt uplifted that I had found what looked to be an excellent lead into the

issue of the omitted test questions. I was also feeling quite a sense of pride in having so thoroughly impressed the pretty librarian with my fully accurate account of amateur radio. On the flight home I reached into my coat pocket for a cough drop, and felt the memo paper. Imagining how excited this pretty woman must be, knowing she would be having a date with such a powerful and interesting man, I opened the paper to transfer the number to my digital organizer. On it she had written "2". It took me a while to admit she had snubbed me, but after dialing the number "2" on my phone at least 50 times with nothing but dial tone in response, I realized she must not have been as impressed with me as I thought. Oh well, I rationalized, at least I won't have any distractions preventing me from getting to Warren and finding this important book.

For those of you who may have never been there, let me describe Warren, Michigan to you. Imagine purgatory. Now add hundreds of vacant homes and commercial buildings. There you go. Well, I suppose I just described all of Southeastern Michigan, but you get the idea. Warren is actually a very interesting place, especially the Polish part. If you have never seen an old woman in an apron cleaning landscape stones with a vacuum cleaner, you will see it in Warren. There are many other fantastic and memorable things to be seen in Warren, but I recommend seeing them only if you have full-coverage insurance that covers mental counseling. Being a bit mental myself I had no worries about venturing into the Warren area. Truthfully, many of my best friends came from Warren, but I lost touch with them when they became "too good" for me and moved up to the more affluent northern areas of Macomb County. They all now live on Elizabeth Road in Mount Clemens. La-tee-da.

Once again, I have seriously digressed. I was about to describe what I found at the Warren Public Library. Regretfully, though, the USECA Express deadline is on top of me. And, I suppose, I have rambled enough for one issue. The reader is promised that what will be disclosed in Part II will not only shock and amaze, but will lead us all to rethink the relationships we have within our own ham community. Someone among us has unknown power and connections. That same person has a strong personal interest that was seriously threatened by two obscure questions on the General exam. Next month we will meet that person, and we will decide for ourselves whether a malicious conspiracy has been perpetrated, or whether the man behind the conspiracy, in fact, has in his own way promoted the betterment of ham radio worldwide.

To be continued...

73, W8TGR

[Unedited per author's request—Ed.]

**Meeting Minutes—From Page 1**

Christmas party: Ann requested that the board approve a budget of \$200.00 for expenses for the party. Motion made to provide \$200.00 for these expenses made by Joe, seconded by Brad. Discussion regarding various expenses. Vote taken, motion carried.

Discussion regarding the club purchase of an antenna for OSCAR – a 2 meter crossed yagi for educational Satellite contacts. This is still under discussion by the committee.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Brad and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tom, motion carried, meeting adjourned at: 8:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ann Manor, KT8F  
Recording Secretary

**General Meeting—November 12, 2007**

In attendance:

|               |                      |
|---------------|----------------------|
| N8ZA, Chuck   | President            |
| N8VI, Brad    | Vice-President       |
| KT8F, Ann     | Recording Secretary  |
| N8OZ, Joe     | Membership Secretary |
| W8DFG, Dennis | Treasurer            |
| WB8E, Walt    | Board Member         |
| N8ZI, Tom     | Board Member         |
| (Vacant)      | Board Member         |
| W1IK, Jim     | Past President       |

\*Absent

Meeting called to order by the President at 7:30 PM.

Introductions were made, new members, visitors and upgrades recognized.

48 members and visitors present.

Motion made to accept the minutes as printed in the Express made by Phil, W8IC and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ray, N8UY, motion carried.

Treasurer's report given by Dennis, W8DFG. Motion to approve made by Blake, KC8PQA and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tom, W8TRC, motion carried. Dennis stated the premium is due on our liability policy. Dennis made a motion that the club approve the expenditure of \$320.00. Motion seconded by Tom, W8TRC. Motion carried.

Membership: Joe, N8OZ – 161 members currently.

Website: Brad, N8VI - everything is working. If you have any club related pictures, please get them to Brad or Wes, KD8DHS.

Technical report provided by Jim, W1IK. Jim stated that the repeater is working when there is no courtesy tone. See Jim for more info. He continues to work on the programming of the new controller.

Field Day: Alec, NF8X reported that we were in 20<sup>th</sup> place nation wide, 4<sup>th</sup> place in the QRP section nation wide, and 1<sup>st</sup> place in Michigan. Thanks to the organizers and all who participated to make it such an excellent event.

Swap: Chuck thanked everyone for the hard work that helped make our swap a success. Tom, N8ZI, one of the swap dictators, mentioned that it was great to see a such a crowded swap!

**Old Business:**

Christmas party: Ann is collecting now for the party. Cut-off date is December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please send your check to Ann, 4865 Bates Drive, Warren, MI 48092; or to our P.O. Box: USECA P.O. Box 46331, Mt. Clemens 48046. In addition to our normal festivities, Phil, KD8GVO, a professional performer (Island Phil) has agreed to provide wonderful music and entertainment. Don't miss it!

Jim, W1IK has a used ICOM radio in excellent condition that he has considered selling to the club at a reduced amount to use for a raffle prize. A decision will be made soon.

Foxhunt: Jim, KC8WXF was the fox; thanks Jim, nice job. The hunters came in is this order: Phil, W8IC and Ann, KT8F at 7:32, and Brad, N8VI, Laura, KD8HEC, and Nate, NJ8Z at 7:02. Brad's crew started late.

Tom, KD8GZE stated that he could place an announcement on Shelby Twp. Comcast and WOW public service board providing information on club events.

Tom also brought in 2 batteries to give away for QRP operation.

Nominations: Dennis, W8DFG and the other past presidents are on the nominating committee. Dennis presided over the nomination process.

(I) incumbent

President: Tom, N8ZI.

Vice President: Alec, NF8X

Recording Secretary: Ann, KT8F (I)

Treasurer: Dennis, W8DFG (I)

Membership Secretary: Joe, N8OZ (I)

Director positions:

Jim, WY8I

Walt, WB8E (I)

Brad, N8VI

Ray, K8RDJ

Ken, N8UO

Rich, K8PJQ

Nominations closed at this time, to be reopened in December. Absentee ballots will be sent out as requested and write-ins can be placed on them.

Dennis stated that we are giving away a fresh turkey and two multi-meters with the 50/50 raffle tonight. Meters donated by Jim, WB8AZP.

Tonight's presentation was provided by Jim, WB8AZP on D-Star radios.

The business portion of the meeting was concluded at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ann Manor, KT8F  
Recording Secretary

## USECA Cork Board

### Radio Items

### Miscellaneous Items

SONY Trinitron Multiscan E540 21" CRT Computer Monitor with manual; like new; 2 years old. \$100. Contact Joe, K8OEF at (586) 781-0050.

★New or changed this month.  
Please notify the editor to have  
item(s) added and/or removed.

This Cork Board is for club  
members only and it's free!

### Name Badges

WITH THE OFFICIAL USECA LOGO  
CONTACT LAURA — (586) 749-4561

### ★FOR SALE

**ELECRAFT K1** — four-band version with ALL internal options, presently set up for 15-20-30-40M, digital display, menu options, XIT/RIT, amazing automatic antenna tuner, noise blanker, 3-stage cw filter, built-in battery pack, built-in speaker, internal/external power switch, original box and assy manual, color-matched Palm Paddle iambic key affixed to K1 with spare key base and extra cord, will include small padded carrying case and bnc adaptor and assorted wire/rope, looks/works great; \$600 for the whole package = OR = trade my K1 + \$\$\$ for your TS-2000.

**CUSHCRAFT R5** -- 10-12-15-17-20M HF vertical antenna, details at: <http://www.cushcraft.com/support/pdf/r5.pdf> , works great, looking to upgrade; \$100 firm.

**Kenwood TR-2500** -- 2M HT, no battery but has cigarette lighter plug battery-pack by-pass thingie, LCD digital display, PL encode board inside, this HT not for sale but free to use for a month for any newly licensed ham radio operator who needs a temporary rig!

**Philips TrenchMOS FET** – BUK9508 55A N-channel enhancement mode FET transistors, 55 Vds at 125 A (Id), TO220AB case, have 30 of them in an anti-static sleeve, eBay sells for \$2.55; Buy whole sleeve for \$40.

**TrippLite PR-40** – DC power supply, 13.8VDC, 40A, no meters, ¼" lugs on back; \$100.

**Power Supply** – switching PS, 12-15 VDC, 16A, works, you wire it up; \$20.

**Optimus 33-3021** – Uni-Directional Microphone, black, on/off switch, cord; \$20.

**ElectroVoice 634A** – microphone, short cable; \$5.

**Archer Video Selector** – Radio Shack Cat# 15-1261, has 7 F-connectors on the back, couple switched up front; \$5.

**Archer Special Effects Switcher** -- Radio Shack Cat# 15-1274, 110V; \$5.

**Heathkit Assembly Manual HX-10** – good condition, appears complete; \$10.

**Heathkit Manual Deluxe SWL Receiver GR-54** – poor condition, may be complete; \$5.

**Heathkit 1984 catalog** – good condition; \$5.

**Micronta Power Supply** -- Radio Shack Cat# 22-124, 12VDC, 2.5A, manual; \$10.

**Realistic WX Radio** -- Radio Shack Cat# 12-156, pocket weather radio, built-in telescopic antenna; \$10.

**BUD Filter LF-601** – variable low-pass filter, SO-239 PL-type connectors, 5 adjusters; \$20.

**Meissner 15-7510** – "Wave Trap" (filter), 6Mc to 13Mc, for ladderline; \$10.

**Optimus AM/FM** -- Radio Shack Cat# 12-794, pocket radio, works; \$5.

**Adaptor** – RCA-style to PL style (SO-239), have a few; \$1.

**Dummy Load** – "twin tower" dual massive ceramic resistors, looks like 50+W easy; \$15.

**NEC Computer Monitor** – model XV17+, 17" color, works; \$50.

**1N3085** – huge 100V 150A recovery diodes, have one left; \$10/each.

**CB Antenna** – about 26" long, base loaded, base load is tunable w/2 adjustment rings, 3/8" style mount; \$5.

**Cell Phone Mobile Power Cord** – for cell phone with 4.8V battery, DC coaxial plug on phone end; \$5.

**Wall Warts** – various voltages, email with needs; \$2 to \$5.

**Duckies** – UHF duck about 6" with BNC, \$5; dual band 2M/440 "Icom" style about 6" with BNC, \$15; 11 Meter black rubber duck with right angle PL259, \$5.

**K-40 10/11M Whip** – 4' fiberglass, black, tunable, substitute for original K-40 stainless whip & base load, no mount or coax just the antenna; \$5.

**K40** -- 10/11M base-loaded antenna with SS whip, no base for it just antenna; \$5.

**Regency CB-501** -- 40 ch CB radio, with mic, "as is"; \$5-.

Contact Arpad, WY8M at: [wy8m@arrl.net](mailto:wy8m@arrl.net) or, 147.180+ MHz (100 Hz PL).

# USECA APPLICATION



Rev. 9/06

DATE \_\_\_\_\_  NEW  RENEWAL  MAIL PRINTED NEWSLETTER  
 CALL \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS \_\_\_\_\_  
 NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 TELEPHONE # \_\_\_\_\_ PRINT # IN ROSTER  NO  
 BIRTHDATE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 MEMBER: ARRL  YES  NO RACES  YES  NO

## FOR FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS ONLY:

CALL \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS \_\_\_\_\_  
 NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 BIRTHDATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 MEMBER: ARRL  YES  NO  
 RACES  YES  NO

CALL \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS \_\_\_\_\_  
 NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 BIRTHDATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 MEMBER: ARRL  YES  NO  
 RACES  YES  NO

**Annual Membership Dues:** Regular: \$20 — Family: \$30 — Mail Printed Newsletter, ADD \$10.00  
 Applications can be given to the Membership Secretary at monthly meeting or mailed.  
 Please make check payable to: **USECA** — Address: **P.O. Box 46331, Mt. Clemens, MI 48046**  
 (Allow 4-6 weeks for processing.)

USECA reserves the right to accept or reject New or Renewal Memberships.

## Local Area FM Nets

| DAY     | TIME     | CLUB                       | FREQ.   |
|---------|----------|----------------------------|---------|
| SUN     | 1:00 pm  | USECA/Information          | 147.180 |
| SUN     | 8:00 pm  | USECA/Traders/Helpers      | 147.180 |
| SUN     | 9:00 pm  | HPARC/Info                 | 146.640 |
| SUN     | 9:00 pm  | Garden City ARC            | 146.860 |
| SUN-SAT | 10:15 pm | S. E. Michigan Traffic Net | 145.330 |
| MON     | 7:30 pm  | SATERN                     | 147.180 |
| MON     | 8:00 pm  | MECA/Info                  | 147.200 |
| MON     | 8:00 pm  | GMARC (PL 123)             | 443.075 |
| TUE     | 9:00 pm  | Motor City Radio Club      | 147.240 |
| WED     | 9:00 pm  | ARPSC/Info                 | 145.490 |
| THU     | 8:00 pm  | RACES/ARES                 | 147.200 |
| THU     | 8:30 pm  | LCARC/Info                 | 147.080 |

VHF PL'S — 100 Hz

On The World Wide Web  
 USECA Home Page

[WWW.USECAARC.COM](http://WWW.USECAARC.COM)



## Local HF Nets

| DAY        | TIME            | CLUB/DESCRIPTION                | FREQ.         |
|------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|---------------|
| MON        | 7:30 pm         | LCARC/15 Meter CW               | 21.165        |
| MON        | 9:00 pm         | LCARC/15 Meter Phone USB        | 21.395        |
| <b>WED</b> | <b>7:00 pm</b>  | <b>USECA/6 Meter Phone USB</b>  | <b>50.150</b> |
| THU        | 7:30 pm         | LCARC/10 Meter Phone USB        | 28.435        |
| <b>THU</b> | <b>9:00 pm</b>  | <b>USECA/15 Meter CW</b>        | <b>21.140</b> |
| <b>FRI</b> | <b>10:00 pm</b> | <b>USECA/80 Meter CW</b>        | <b>3.570</b>  |
| <b>FRI</b> | <b>11:00 pm</b> | <b>USECA/10 Meter Phone USB</b> | <b>28.425</b> |

Listings in **BOLD** are USECA club nets, but ALL ARE WELCOME!

## Net Ops Schedules

### 2-METER NETS

|      | SUN. 1 PM   | SUN. 8 PM** |
|------|-------------|-------------|
| WEEK | 147.180 MHz | 147.180 MHz |
| 1    | -OPEN-      | W1IK        |
| 2    | KT8F        | N8EB        |
| 3    | -OPEN-      | N8ZI        |
| 4    | -OPEN-      | KW8Z        |
| 5*   | WB8E        | -OPEN-      |

\*If applicable

\*\*Traders/Helpers Net

NCO's—If you're unable to take your net please get a replacement or contact Keith, N8EB (586) 777-6751—Don't wait!

# USECA

UTICA SHELBY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION, INC.  
P.O. Box 46331 • Mt. Clemens, MI 48046

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

## FIRST CLASS MAIL



*Happy Holiday  
Season To All!*

## DECEMBER 2007

### Eat B 4 U Meet

For the month of December, for a small nominal fee, the menu will be: Spaghetti with Garlic Bread and Salad, starting at 6:00 PM.

### "The Happenin' Club"

## Club Activities

| MONTH | DATE | TIME    | EVENT                             |
|-------|------|---------|-----------------------------------|
| DEC   | 8    | 6:30 pm | USECA 20th Annual Christmas Party |
| DEC   | 10   | 7:30 pm | General Meeting (Elections)       |
| DEC   | 17   | 7:00 pm | VE Test Session                   |

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