

U.S.E.C.A. EXPRESS

UTICA SHELBY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Volume 11 – Number 2

NEXT MEETING — FEBRUARY 14th

February, 1995

The *U.S.E.C.A. EXPRESS* is published monthly by the UTICA SHELBY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION, INC., of Macomb County, Michigan. Club meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month, 7:30 p.m., local time, at the Donald Bemis Junior High School, 12500 Nineteen Mile Road, Sterling Heights, Michigan (between Schoenherr and Clinton River Road). 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. For those who need to get a message to the board or the membership secretary, please call our answering machine at: (810) 268-6730.

Dues Due

Membership renewals are due in January. If mailing in renewals, or applications, please send them to my home address (45731 Plum Grove, Macomb, MI 48044) for more rapid attention. Remember, copies of licenses and upgrades are needed for the files. Thanks for your cooperation!

73 . . . Joan / N8VLY



CONTENTS

Directory.....	2
Still Going.....	2
Club	3
Do Dayton.....	5
Testing.....	5
Net Op	5
Tube[in].....	6
Camp Outings.....	6
Dayton Dates.....	6
FM Net	7
Net Point Explanation.....	7
CW Net Points.....	8
Net Notes.....	8
Local Area	9
Settin' The Hook.....	9
Calendar.....	10
Restaurant Review.....	11
Membership	12

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Floyd Soo/KF8AT, (810) 391-6660
Vice President Ann Lovett/KG8IF, (810) 739-2448
Recording Sec. Jim Mickle/N8OKW, (810) 739-6565
Treasurer Lynn Hardie/KB8QFY, (810) 524-7454
Membership Sec. Joan Dzikowski/N8VLY, (810) 263-4993
Past President Earl Hoskins/N8OEX, (810) 544-0625

ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

Arpad Miklos/WY8M, (810) 751-3804
Betty Isbister/N8LXL, (810) 775-3492
H. "Biff" Baydoun/N8NQQ, (810) 566-7749

COMMITTEES

Editor Joe/K8OEF, (810) 781-0050
Mailers/Sorters Ann/KG8IF; Phil/WA8ZOF;
Biff/N8NQQ & Crew
Swap & Shop Kevin/N8QVX & Committee
Net Point Coord. Ken/KF8RG
Net Manager Lee/KB8TOQ
Activities Chair Betty/N8LXL
Program Director Floyd/KF8AT
Repeater Trustee Chuck/WA8Z
Technical Director Doug/N8KND
Field Day Co-Chair Betty/N8LXL; Don/WX3M &
Arpad/WY8M
Refreshments Walt/WB8E; Phil/WA8ZOF &
Marianne/N8TMJ
Health & Welfare John/N8FNO & Kathy/N8VOH
Club Historians Ann/KG8IF; Jerry/K8CFY &
Joe/WD8MFN
ARRL Liaison Dave/KF8CT
Club Videographer Charlie/WY8K
Door Prizes Bill/AA8LZ

CONTROL OPERATORS

Chuck/WA8Z	Bill/N8CVC	Mark/KB8SW
Dave /K8RF	Gulliver/WA8VIJ	Dave/N8OEV
Earl/N8OEX	Pat/N8LOG	Gordie/WB8H
Floyd/KF8AT	Mike/WX3L	Doug/KG8F
Dave /WD8IFL	Vance/WB8QNI	Ron/N8FOW

PROGRAMMERS

WA8Z	N8KND	WB8H	N8FOW	N8CVC
------	-------	------	-------	-------

VOLUNTEER EXAMINERS

WA8Z	WB8F	KG8F	N8KDL	N8CVC
AA8NQ	KF8AT	WX3L	WX8L	AA8LZ
WY8K	WY8M	KF8RF	W8VRW	KF8CT
AA8CY	AA8HF	KF8RG	KF8MB	

Still Going . . .

Joe / K8OEF

Thanks to the board for giving me some guidelines they would like for me to follow regarding the size of the EXPRESS.

Speaking of the EXPRESS, I apologize that last issue contained several anomalies that should have not occurred. First was Ann's (KG8IF) announcement to be a grandmother contained Scott's (KG8IE) call in the minutes. I should have caught that; evidently the recording secretary mis-typed it; and, I missed it. Next was the purge of certain pages just prior to printing. If you look closely, you will notice the table of contents contained errors and the calendars were missing. This was done for a reason (I was later informed); it will not happen again in the future.

First I've heard of it—great idea: a Kids Net. Per *The Zero Beat*: "The Kids 2 meter phone net starts every Sunday at 7:00 p.m. sharp on the DART on 146.64. Third party traffic is okay, but NO ADULTS please!"

The DART repeater has accepted ownership by the Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club.

Upcoming will be information on the Field Day T-Shirts and the Clinton River cleanup.

Lastly—Net Control Ops, please read Ken's article *Net Notes* on Page 8; it contains important information.

73 for now.



**Did You Remember To Re-new
Your Membership?**

USECA Board Meeting Minutes January 3, 1995

In attendance:

KG8IF	Ann	Vice President
N8OKW	Jim	Recording Secretary
N8VLY	Joan	Membership Secretary
KB8QFY	Lynn	Treasurer
WY8M	Arpad	Board Member
N8LXL	Betty	Board Member
N8NQQ	Biff	Board Member
K8OEF	Joe	Editor
N8QVX	Kevin	Swap Chairman
N8KND	Doug	
WB8E	Walt	
K8CFY	Jerry	
KF8CT	Dave	
WA8ZOF	Phil	

Absent:

KF8AT	Floyd	President
N8OEX	Earl	Past President

The meeting was called to order by the Vice President at 7:30.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

The treasurers report was approved as submitted. All petty cash receipts have been reconciled. Final balancing of the books will be completed as soon as the bank statement arrives. Our application for non-profit bulk mailing permit has been denied, so our mailing cost will be going up with the new postal rates.

Membership

Current paid 1995 membership is 81. Total membership stands at 216. Membership renewals are expected to increase in late January as they do every year.

Repeater Status

The repeater is still at Doug's. Doug spent the entire Christmas break working on the repeater. It is progressing well. Doug will be distributing boards for assembly by the end of the week. It is expected that the repeater will be up by the end of the month. We need to get more qualified people to work on the repeater. If you are qualified, please call anyone on the board to volunteer.

Newsletter

After much discussion it was agreed that the newsletter will be kept at 12 to 16 pages to control costs. Printing costs have gone up 33% and postage costs are also going up, as you all know.

Activities

Christmas Party

Party was at Barrymores on Saturday, December 10th. at 7:00. Forty-two members attended and had a good time.

Hams on Ice

A happening is planned as soon as the ice is good, Listen to the repeater for the dates and time.

Swap

Kevin has a meeting scheduled with the college for Tuesday the 10th. It is hoped that we can continue to use the college. We will try to get a multi year commitment.

Program Manager

Because of Floyd's other commitments, he needs someone else to take this job. We will be looking for nominees at the January meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 P.M.

Respectively submitted,

Jim Mickle, N8OKW, Recording Secretary

USECA General Membership Meeting January 10, 1995

Board Members in attendance:

KG8IF	Ann	Vice President
KB8QFY	Lynn	Treasurer
N8VLY	Joan	Membership Secretary
N8OKW	Jim	Recording Secretary
WY8M	Arpad	Board Member
N8NQQ	Biff	Board Member
N8OEX	Earl	Past president

Absent:

KF8AT	Floyd	President
N8LXL	Betty	Board Member

The meeting was called to order by the vice president at 7:38 P.M.

All present introduced themselves. Attendance was approximately 60.

Upgrades:

KA8NDY	Dan	Advanced
--------	-----	----------

The minutes were accepted as printed in the Express.

The treasurers report was accepted as presented. A full report will be presented at the next meeting

MEMBERSHIP, Joan, N8VLY
Renewals for 1995 total 108 at this time.

REPEATER, Doug, N8KND

Work is progressing well. Transmitter boards will be wired this weekend. Might be operational next weekend. It is planned to have it in a sealed cabinet with heat transfer system to keep it clean.

A request was made for people with technical training to help Doug. Please contact Doug to volunteer

U.S.E.C.A. EXPRESS

NET MANAGER, Lee, KB8TOQ

A number of net awards were available, but were not awarded as Lee was not available to sign them. They will be awarded at the next meeting.

Activities

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dayton, Biff, N8NQQ

Forty motel rooms have been reserved. See Biff for flyers. It's a great party.

Swap, Kevin, N8QVX

Kevin has had a meeting with the people at the college about the swap for 1995. He will know in about a week if we will have the college again or will have to find a new place.

Hams on Ice, Walt, WB8E

Will happen on a Sunday, as soon as the ice is safe.

Moonlight Monte Rally, February 25th, Jim, N8OKW

Help is needed in the afternoon and evening for communications and controls.

Pre Field Day, May 13, Ann, KG8IF and Lynn, KB8QFY
Will again be at Stony Creek. Help is needed for morning set up and evening clean up.

Field Day, Betty, N8LXL

See Betty or Don, WX3M to volunteer to help or chair a station.

TESTING, Bill, N8CVC

Testing is first Saturday of the month at the Salvation Army. We had 19 people tested last Saturday. Only about 30-40 percent are pre registering. All people who plan to test are encouraged to pre-register.

USECA Jackets Ann, KG8IF

Will take orders if at least six people want them.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 P.M.

Respectively submitted,

James F. Mickle, N8OKW, Recording Secretary

NAME BADGES

WITH THE OFFICIAL U.S.E.C.A. LOGO



BADGE \$3.00 — OFFICER BARS \$1.00 — PAYMENT WITH ORDER

Contact Jerry/KB8TAS or Debbi (XYL/KB8TAS)

ORDER BADGES AT U.S.E.C.A. MEETINGS

OR BY MAIL (NO PHONE ORDERS)

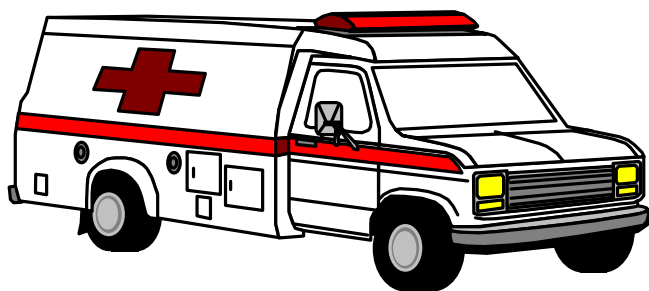
15892 Marentette Drive, Clinton Township, MI 48038

For Further Information, Call (810) 263-0227



DO DAYTON HAMVENTION With U.S.E.C.A.

Thursday April 27, 1995
Friday April 28, 1995
Saturday April 29, 1995



We have 40 rooms set aside at the Comfort Inn (exit 82 on I-75 & SR36) at the Miami Valley Centre Mall, 987 East Ash Street, Piqua Ohio 45356.

The third floor is non-smoking and the fifth floor is smoking.

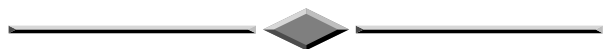
Reserve your room by March 1, 1995 with the group account number P24355 for U.S.E.C.A. Phone (513) 778-8100.

Be sure to use the dates for the nights you want the room under your NAME and confirm if you plan to arrive after 5 PM.

Contact Biff, N8NOQ at: (810) 566-7749 if you need more details.

TESTING

Examinations for an Amateur License are held the **FIRST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH** (except July and August). Starting time is 7:15 p.m.; please do not arrive earlier. Walk-ins are welcomed. Test site is at the Salvation Army, 34 Grand, Mt. Clemens. You must have the following if testing: Picture I.D.; copy of your current license or completion certificates, if any. Birth certificate is accepted in lieu of picture I.D. For more information and the directions to the test site, contact Bill/N8CVC at: (810) 468-8345.



NET OP SCHEDULES

2 METER NETS

WEEK	(SUN. 1 pm)	(TUES. 8 pm)
1	KG8IF	WB8E
2	K8OEF	N8LXL
3	AA8MD	WY8M
4	N8QVX	KB8RBV
5	KB8RSH	N8VVH

HOOTOWL NETS

WEEK	(FRI. Midnight)
1	-OPEN-
2	-OPEN-
3	-OPEN-
4	-OPEN-
5	-OPEN-

CW NETS

WEEK	(THURS. 9 pm)	(FRI. 10 pm)
1	N8SCQ	W8VRW
2	N8SCQ	N8SCQ
3	N8SCQ	WA8ZOF
4	N8SCQ	N8MOJ
5	N8SCQ	W8VIJ

TUBE SUPPLIERS

TUBE[in]

[Thanks to Dave/KF8CT the following is for your information]

ARRL HQ is glad to provide this information free of charge as a service to League members and affiliated clubs. The following is a list of companies that sell vacuum tubes:

Antique Electronic Supply
(Antiques, Components, Kits)
6221 S. Maple Ave.
Tempe, AZ 85283
(602) 820-5411

Cetron Communications Division
715 Hamilton St.
Geneva, IL 60134
(708) 208-3700

Elmira Electronics
P.O. Box 4230 Southside Station
Elmira, NY 14904
(607) 734-6114

Fair Radio Sales
Box 1105
Lima, OH 45802

Fala Electronics
P.O. Box 1376
Milwaukee, WI 53201

International Components Corp.
105 Maxess Road
Melville, NY 11747
(800) 645-9154

Kirby
298 West Carmel Dr.
Carmel, IN 46032
(317) 843-2212

LTA Industries, Inc.
P.O. 92
Canfield, OH 44406
(216) 533-0087

Ocean State Electronics
(Amateur Components, QST Kits)
P.O. Box 1458
Westerly, RI 02891
(800) 866-6626

Penta Labs/Jolida Inc.
(800) 783-2555

RF Gain Ltd./Richardson
116 South Long Beach Rd.
Rockville Centre, NY 11570
(800) 348-5580

RF Parts
1320 Grand Ave. #16
San Marcos, CA 92069
(800) 737-2787

R&L Electronics
Miamisburg, OH
(800) 221-7735

Southern Radio Supply
1909 Tulane Ave.
New Orleans, LA 70112
(504) 524-2343

Steinmetz Electronics
7519 Maplewood Ave.
Hammond, IN 46324
(219) 931-9316

United Page (Out of Business?)
481 Getty Ave.
Patterson, NJ 07503
(201) 279-7500

Unity Electronics
Dept. H
P.O. Box 213
Elizabeth, NJ 07206

Varian Associates, Inc.
301 Industrial Way
San Carlos, CA 94070-2682
(800) 432-4422

VRS (QS)
(Antiques, Schematics, Literature)
P.O. Box 541
Goffstown, NH 03045

Camp Outings

Dina / N8YJI

Memorial Weekend

May 26-29
Algonac State Park
Make reservations ASAP

Field Day Weekend

June 23-25
Jim's farm

Christmas in July

July 14-16
Algonac State Park

August - Bay City

August 12-20
Bay City State Park

And more to come. Probably one in September too.

Hope to see you there!



Dayton Dates

Hamvention '95 is still slated for the weekend of April 28-30 at the HARA Arena in Dayton, but don't bother to book your hotel for '96 just yet. After four decades of fighting the uncertainty of weather conditions in Ohio in late April, ham radio's greatest show on earth is changing its date effective in 1996. That's when the Dayton Hamvention will abandon its traditional last weekend in April for a much warmer and less rain vulnerable mid May date. Starting in 1996, the Dayton Hamvention will be held the third weekend in May. The new schedule puts Hamvention '96 on the weekend of May 17-19. The 1997 Hamvention will be May 16-18 and 1998 will be May 15-17.

[The Zero Beat, January 1995]

U.S.E.C.A. EXPRESS

1994 FM NET POINTS

Call	Name	Pts.	Call	Name	Pts.
WX3L	MIKE	24	KB8QXB	SUE	22
VE3NGN	ED	1	KB8QXD	RANDY	40
VE3VEJ	CLARE	1	N8QZS	PAUL	10
KA7KZO	JOHN	27	N8RAR	WAYNE	5
KB8AKS	JERRY	5	KB8RBV	MANNY	58
KF8AT	FLOYD	65	KF8RG	KEN	40
W8BYR	BILL	1	N8RHT	RICK	14
N8CBG	PETE	2	N8RLL	MAYNARD	3
KA8CBZ	BILL	5	N8RRU	GARY	40
K8CFY	JERRY	43	KB8RSH	MARTY	33
KF8CT	DAVE	36	N8RUE	EDDIE	23
N8CVC	BILL	10	N8RUH	TJ	31
WB8E	WALT	54	N8RUJ	ED	3
WB8FNQ	GREG	1	KB8RVR	DON	1
KG8FR	CHUCK	3	N8SCQ	BOB	27
KB8GGI	PAUL	5	KB8SDN	JERRY	1
KG8GJ	KEVIN	2	KB8SFL	JIM	5
KB8GPO	KEN	11	KB8SFN	DON	6
WA8GQL	DAN	8	KB8SGT	DON	1
WB8H	GORDIE	12	N8SIH	BETTY	29
AA8HF	DARWIN	10	KB8SRB	STAN	14
N8HIY	BOB	1	KB8SRD	KEN	5
N8HTV	JOHN	2	KB8SRI	JERRY	14
N8HZE	KEN	6	N8SUR	RICH	4
KG8IE	SCOTT	44	KB8TAS	JERRY	17
KG8IF	ANN	66	N8TKK	DENNIS	2
WD8IFL	DAVE	52	N8TLC	BILL	6
WD8IWE	SHIRLEY	1	N8TMJ	MARIANNE	38
W8JEK	BOB	4	N8TNI	SHARON	1
N8JEX	RICH	6	KB8TOQ	LEE	17
N8KEF	CHRIS	1	N8TUN	STEVE	3
KG8KM	HAL	12	KB8UFP	BOB	1
N8KND	DOUG	8	KA8UHG	STEVE	6
N8KNS	DON	4	N8UJK	HELEN	3
KG8KZ	DAVE	64	N8UJL	SARA	15
N8LXL	BETTY	11	N8VBH	PAT	12
KB8LYA	FRED	29	K8VDA	BILL	1
AA8LZ	BILL	16	KB8VDV	MIKE	1
WY8M	ARPAD	74	KB8VLH	JERRY	1
N8MCD	JIM	10	KB8VLI	STEVE	5
AA8MD	ERIC	53	KB8VLL	BILL	4
N8MIJ	JIM	9	N8VLY	JOAN	17
N8MXG	RON	13	N8VLZ	GORDIE	46
KA8NCH	ED	1	N8VMH	DAVE	12
KA8NDY	DAN	31	N8VOH	KATHY	26
N8NMX	BILL	5	N8VVH	LINDA	50
N8NQQ	BIFF	30	N8WDO	DAN	15
N8OAE	ERNIE	10	N8WMY	JIM	7
K8OEF	JOE	106	KD8WU	BOB	1
N8OEM	BARB	21	N8WYP	RAY	34
N8OEV	DAVE	29	N8XCZ	ELIZABETH	34
N8OEX	EARL	15	N8XRB	JEFF	30
N8OKW	JIM	51	N8XSF	EUGENE	1
N8OWI	COLE	33	N8XSM	GENE	10
AA8OZ	PAUL	2	N8YJI	DINA	48
KB8QDT	CASE	1	N8YVC	VELMA	70
KB8QFR	JIM	32	N8YVD	KELLY	10
KB8QFT	DENNIS	4	N8YWK	BOB	1
KB8QFY	LYNNE	36	N8YWS	STAN	37
KB8QLZ	GARY	16	KA8YYL	ALLEN	1
KB8QMP	BILL	15	WB8ZJL	PAUL	23
KB8QMS	NANCY	64	WA8ZOF	PHIL	24
N8QVX	KEVIN	66	N8ZRZ	AL	54
KB8QWY	FRANK	12	N8ZZE	JOHN	1

01/07/95, KEN
(KF8RG)
Displayed 128 of 285

TOP 20 CONTESTANTS

No.	Call	Name	Pts.	Total
1	K8OEF	JOE	17	106
2	WY8M	ARPAD	17	74
3	N8YVC	VELMA	0	70
4	N8QVX	KEVIN	4	66
5	KG8IF	ANN	5	66
6	KF8AT	FLOYD	11	65
7	KB8QMS	NANCY	11	64
8	KG8KZ	DAVE	12	64
9	KB8RBV	MANNY	11	58
10	N8ZRZ	AL	3	54
11	WB8E	WALT	7	54
12	AA8MD	ERIC	6	53
13	WD8IFL	DAVE	1	52
14	N8OKW	JIM	7	51
15	N8VVH	LINDA	2	50
16	N8YJI	DINA	4	48
17	N8VLZ	GORDIE	8	46
18	KG8IE	SCOTT	3	44
19	K8CFY	JERRY	4	43
20	KF8RG	KEN	8	40

Date: 01/07/95, KEN (KF8RG)
Displayed 128 of 285

Net Point Explanation

Ken / KF8RG

- (1) CW NCO = 4 pts; CW Check-in = 2 pts
FM NCO = 3 pts; FM Check-in = 1 pt
- (2) Net points can *only* be awarded as I receive them.
(Net control ops; It is *your responsibility* to get your check-in sheets to me as soon as is possible and as complete and legible as possible!)
- (3) Point totals are as of the date noted at the foot of each net point list. Check-in sheets that arrive later will not be noted until the following month.
- (4) FM and CW net points are tallied *separately* and separate awards made.
- (5) If you change your call, it is *your* responsibility to let me know or your records will be wrong! The FCC hasn't yet allowed me access to their database.
- (6) A (*) by your name means an award is due.
Awards are presented at USECA's monthly meetings. If you can't make it, please arrange for someone else to pick it up.
- (7) To save space here, and avoid using half of the club paper as a score sheet, I am again resorting to suppressing records. As has been my practice, if you have not checked into a net in approximately 3 months (FM), 6 months (CW), your call will not be listed. Simply check into a net to get back on the list with all past points credited. Note the "Displayed xxx of xxx"; the second number is the total number of records.

Please *mail* check-in sheets to KF8RG, Ken Coughlin,
53762 Kristin Ct., Shelby Twp, MI 48316-2240.

1994 CW NET POINTS

Call	Name	Pts.	Call	Name	Pts.
KB0LFA	PETER	2	N8OEF	VAL	60
WX3L	MIKE	20	N8OSU	RANDY	2
WX3M	DON	4	AA8OZ	PAUL	2
KC5EPH	BRIAN	2	AA8PJ	JEFF	2
KF8AT	FLOYD	132	WD8PLQ	GAYLEN	22
KF8CT	DAVE	2	KB8QEN	GARY	18
AA8CY	BRIAN	32	N8QFL	DAN	6
WB8E	WALT	86	KF8RG	KEN	16
WD8FDU	NEEDNAME	2	N8RHV	JAY	2
WB8H	GORDIE	4	KB8RSH	MARTY	2
KG8IE	SCOTT	12	N8SCQ	BOB	46
KG8IF	ANN	20	WA8TOB	CHARLIE	2
WD8IFL	DAVE	14	KB8TOQ	LEE	2
AA8JN	FRANK	2	WA8VIJ	GULLIVER	4
KG8KZ	DAVE	96	W8VRW	HARRY	186
KG8LB	NEEDNAME	2	N8WYO	ALAN	12
WA8LCZ	BYRON	16	N8WYP	RAY	6
AA8LZ	BILL	2	KF8XO	JEFF	2
WY8M	ARPAD	16	KF8YT	SCOTT	4
AA8MD	ERIC	6	WB8ZJL	PAUL	10
N8MOJ	MARION	118	WA8ZOF	PHIL	68
KA8NDY	DAN	6	N8ZSC	HAL	8

TOP CONTESTANTS

No.	Call	Name	Pts.	Total
1	W8VRW	HARRY	30	186
2	KF8AT	FLOYD	16	132
3	N8MOJ	MARION	22	118
4	KG8KZ	DAVE	16	96
5	WB8E	WALT	18	86
6	WA8ZOF	PHIL	12	68
7	N8OEF	VAL	8	60
8	N8SCQ	BOB	0	46
9	AA8CY	BRIAN	4	32
10	WD8PLQ	GAYLEN	2	22
11	WX3L	MIKE	0	20
12	KG8IF	ANN	0	20
13	KB8QEN	GARY	0	18
14	WA8LCZ	BYRON	4	16
15	KF8RG	KEN	10	16
16	WY8M	ARPAD	0	16
17	WD8IFL	DAVE	0	14
18	N8WYO	ALAN	12	12
19	KG8IE	SCOTT	0	12
20	WB8ZJL	PAUL	2	10

01/07/95

Displayed 44 of 55

Net Notes

As I write this, 1995 is only a week old. 1994 is over . . . done . . . fini! Which brings me to the topic at hand. Any outstanding 1994 Net check-in sheets should be mailed to me IMMEDIATELY! Any and all 1994 check-in sheets should reach me no later than February 5th, 1995. At that time I will be making up the final awards for 1994, including the 1994 CW and FM Champions. Final awards for 1994 will be presented at the February general membership meeting.

LAST CALL, for those of you who procrastinate, to get your ancient check-in sheets to me. Any 1994 check-in sheets that arrive later than the above date will be rendered null and void, becoming cheap fuel for my fireplace.

In the March "Express," you'll find a listing of all those who earned an award in 1994, their point totals and the order in which they earned the award. With the new year starting, now's the time to set your sights on an award for 1995 . . . take a few nets, learn CW, or do it the hard way by checking into 50 nets . . . they're not that hard to get!

As I pen this, I can hear the "temporary" repeater flaking out once again . . . seems to be going from bad to worse quickly. I thought we had a commitment that this problem would be history before the end of December? With the New Year in full swing, the holidays behind us, and most of us working overtime, I'm beginning to wonder if the time *will ever* be found to complete the overhaul of the repeater.

Speaking of repeaters . . . wrote an article here a few months ago on "Repeater DXing." Maybe we should run that article again. I recently overheard a few individuals trying to make contacts into Ohio and New York using the repeater. I was amazed at the ignorance shown by the hams involved as one asked the other station to wait for the 2 or 3 other repeaters being activated to drop before replying. Hard to believe someone can be so dense, tying up 3-5 repeaters at once and being a multi-state pain in the ass. When you hear what sounds like a band opening, go simplex! It's where the fun and challenge is. Just be sure to first ask, ". . . is the frequency is in use?" Keep DXing off the repeater! If all you've got is a rubber duck and an HT; upgrade your gear or do what one fella I worked did; he climbed a water tower near Toledo with his HT to work DX.

Here's a money saving idea I've tossed out before . . . send your net logs to me on a post card; they're still just 19 cents! Just write small (typewritten preferred) and be sure to include the *callsign* and *name* of each check-in, the *date*, *mode*, and *NCO*. (Please note any callsign changes you know of.)

As usual, a note of thanks to those NCO's who regularly get their check-in sheets to me with a minimum of delay: Phil (WA8ZOF), Joe (K8OEF), Ann (KG8IF), Eric (AA8MD), Arpad (WY8M), Marion (N8MOJ), Harry (W8VRW), and Dan (KA8NDY).

Ken . . . KF8RG

2-METER LANs

Local Area Nets

Yes, in the computer world, a LAN is a Local Area Network—for now we'll call it Local Area Nets.

Again, I am asking for your help, to keep this information current and accurate; this is to benefit all members/readers to stay informed of what is happening where and when.

I believe there are nets on all the local systems within the general area such as: MECA, Echo, Edison, and Spirit of 76 to name a few. Let's work together and perhaps as time goes by, this form will be a wealth of information. (Send updates to the editor.)

If this works out, it will be in the EXPRESS every month; if it appears there is no interest, it will be eliminated (real quick). LAST CALL!

DAY	TIME	CLUB	FREQ.
SUN	1:00 p.m.	U.S.E.C.A.	147.180
SUN	7:00 p.m.	HPARC/Kids	146.640
SUN	8:00 p.m.	SPIRIT of 76	146.760
SUN	9:00 p.m.	HPARC/DART	146.640
TUE	8:00 p.m.	U.S.E.C.A.	147.180
WED	8:00 p.m.	SPIRIT of 76	146.760
WED	8:00 p.m.	SMART	147.140
FRI	Midnight	U.S.E.C.A.	147.180
(?)	(?)	MECA	147.200
(?)	(?)	ECHO	147.080
(?)	(?)	EDISON	145.330

Settin' The Hook

I visited K-40 a few weeks before Christmas; I had been hoping to pick up a Shortwave Broadcast receiver for my Dad that was easy to use and very portable. They didn't have what I was looking for at the price I needed, so I wound up ordering from Grove (same company that puts out "Monitoring Times" and "Satellite Times"). While I was there though, I ran into a fella, who introduced himself to me as a "CB Tech." He seemed to be carrying a mighty big chip on his shoulder against Hams in general and had no qualms about expressing his disdain for Amateur Radio and it's Morse code requirement.

I attempted to explain, "... You can now get a Ham license without having to learn Morse code—the "Tech-Lite," although you'd still have to know code to get access to the HF Bands, you'll have plenty of fun on the VHF/UHF bands ... lots to explore there!"

He'd have none of it. "Morse code is dead, useless, and antiquated ... that anyone would still use such an archaic mode is bordering on the ridiculous! I can't believe it's still required by the FCC!" he stated.

When I explained that CW has a usefulness as the mode that "makes it" when nothing else will, he argued that it was only a marginal edge. When I then stated that it was the mode of choice for QRP'ers for the same reason, and that Homebrew CW gear was, in many cases, the only affordable option in third world countries, he relented a bit, but then slapped back saying: "... most hams have become something less than appliance operators, unable to repair, let alone build their own equipment." Agreeing to an extent, I then asked him if he thought he could build a transceiver capable of comparing with even the lowest priced ICOM rig for less money. He replied "... of course not!" I then went on in defense saying, "... many Hams still build their own antennas—when was the last time you saw a homebrew CB antenna?" "I've built a quad beam" he said. "That's great!" I then said, "... but I don't recall ever seeing a homebrew CB set; pretty rare, aren't they? In fact, illegal?" He admitted grudgingly that I was probably right as I tried to persuade him into picking up a copy of "Now You're Talking" and getting his Amateur license. It should be a breeze for you," I said, "... you seem to know your way around radios and electronics."

I've seen this fella at many local swaps, usually selling CB stuff and odds and ends ... can it be that no-one has ever really approached him on the subject of becoming a ham? Perhaps all that was needed was a nudge.

I watched him leave the store ... he didn't buy the book ... but he did stop to look at it for a moment. Perhaps next time he will and another new, enthused Ham will join our ranks. Perhaps not, but at least I baited the hook! Do you know someone who might enjoy our hobby? Introduce them, bring 'em to a meeting, take 'em along on a club outing or simply give them a tour of your shack ... spark that interest, ignite that flame and your own enjoyment of the hobby may well be rekindled as well. It's also the easiest way to bring new members into the club and increase our own numbers.

Ken ... KF8RG

FEBRUARY, 1995

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 CW NET (21,140) 9:00 P.M.	3 CW NET (21,140) 10:00 P.M. HOOTOWL NET MIDNIGHT	4 TESTING SALVATION ARMY
5 2 METER NET 1:00 P.M. 147.18	6	7 BOARD MEETING 2 METER NET 8:00 P.M. 147.18	8	9 CW NET (21,140) 9:00 P.M.	10 CW NET (21,140) 10:00 P.M. HOOTOWL NET MIDNIGHT	11
12 2 METER NET 1:00 P.M. 147.18	13	14 GENERAL MEETING 7:30 P.M.	15	16 CW NET (21,140) 9:00 P.M.	17 CW NET (21,140) 10:00 P.M. HOOTOWL NET MIDNIGHT	18
19 2 METER NET 1:00 P.M. 147.18	20	21 2 METER NET 8:00 P.M. 147.18	22	23 CW NET (21,140) 9:00 P.M.	24 CW NET (21,140) 10:00 P.M. HOOTOWL NET MIDNIGHT	25
26 2 METER NET 1:00 P.M. 147.18	27	28 2 METER NET 8:00 P.M. 147.18				

Restaurant Review

The Cheapskate Gourmet

FILIPPA'S WINE BARREL

In Utica, on Mound Just North of M-59

<u>Cost</u>	<u>Quality</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Variety</u>	<u>Ambiance</u>	<u>Smoke Free</u>
\$\$	★★★★	★★★	★★★★	★★★	★★★

Filippa's is a quality restaurant. From the attractive surroundings to an excellent variety of well prepared dishes, Filippa's is a excellent dining experience.

The entrees include a good variety of fresh fish dishes, steaks, chops, chicken and ribs. In addition, they have a nice variety of sandwiches at lunch. To supplement the regular menu, they have a number of specials at both lunch and dinner. Entrees include an excellent tossed salad and choice of potato, rice or vegetable. If you like fish and chips, be sure to order yours done in the paper bag. Outstanding!

To accompany your dinner, there is a good choice of house wines as well as the usual mixed drinks. A variety of beer is also avail-

able. One thing that is out of place is the soft drinks; they are served in the can with a fresh glass filled with ice.

Appetizers include several fresh made soups, breaded mushrooms, an Onion Flower (enough to serve 4-6), nachos and several others. If they have the Cajun mushrooms on the special menu, be sure to give them a try. Plan to share as it is a large portion.

If you are looking for a nice place to dine, rather than just eat, Filippa's is a good choice. The food is excellent, the service attentive and the surroundings attractive. A dinner for two without alcohol and desert will generally be under \$30. Quite reasonable for the quality of food and service.

Key: \$ <\$10 \$\$ 10-15 \$\$\$ 15-20 \$\$\$\$ >\$20 for a complete meal.

★ Fair ★★ Good ★★★ Very Good ★★★★ Excellent

Restaurant Review by The Cheapskate Gourmet is planned as a regular column in the EXPRESS.

U.S.E.C.A.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION APPLICATION

DATE _____ NEW RENEWAL NEWSLETTER ONLY

CALL _____ CLASS _____ AUTO-PATCH _____

NAME _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE # _____ PRINT IN ROSTER YES NO

BIRTHDATE _____

MEMBER: ARRL YES NO RACES YES NO ARES YES NO

COPY OF CURRENT LICENSE FOR U.S.E.C.A. FILE

FOR FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS ONLY:

CALL _____ CLASS _____

NAME _____

BIRTHDATE _____

MEMBER: ARRL YES NO RACES YES NO ARES YES NO

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES (INCLUDES NEWSLETTER)

REGULAR: \$20 - FAMILY: \$30

NEWSLETTER (ONLY): \$8 - AUTO-PATCH: \$35 (ONE-TIME FEE) + ANNUAL DUES

PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: **U.S.E.C.A.**

APPLICATIONS CAN BE GIVEN TO MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY AT MONTHLY MEETINGS OR MAIL TO:

JOAN L. DZIDOWSKI, N8VLY
45731 PLUM GROVE
MACOMB, MI 48044

U.S.E.C.A.

UTICA SHELBY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION ASSN.
P.O. Box 1222
Sterling Heights, MI 48311-1222

BULK RATE
POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 41
STERLING HEIGHTS, MI 48311



*Cuddle
Alert!*