



USECA EXPRESS



Michigan's Largest and Most Active Amateur Radio Club

UTICA SHELBY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION, INC. Volume 14, Number 2, February 1998

☺ LAST CALL FOR DUES ☺ ☹ DON'T BE LEFT OUT! ☹

6 Meter Repeater With New 6 Meter Net

Dave, KC8IAQ

ON JANUARY 1, 1998 the N8MCD 6 meter repeater was fired back up. Jim (N8MCD) explained "When I heard about the renewed interest in 6 meters, it motivated me to finish some of the required work on the Repeater." Jim has also agreed to allow USECA to conduct a weekly Net on the Repeater. The Repeater is located in Romeo.

The Repeater uses 51.740 MHz output, and a -500 kHz offset (51.240 input). If there are band openings Jim may be required to activate a 100 Hz PL to reduce interference. Jim likes people to take advantage of 6 meters, and welcomes all to use the system. If you don't have any 6 meter gear, you might want to program the frequency into your scanner.

The new 6 meter net has been moved from 50.130 USB to the N8MCD Repeater. The nets will be conducted weekly at 8:00 PM. There are already four NCO's scheduled. This is a great way to take advantage of our valuable radio spectrum.

It may not be as expensive as you think to get into 6 meters. Ten Tech offers a Transverter kit for about \$100. You can adapt an HF rig, or even a 2 meter radio to 6 meters with the Transverter. I just purchased a new 6 meter HT, it even has PL tones, the cost was just over \$200. A Ringo Ranger AR-6 would be a good choice, they are about \$70. The repeater antenna is vertical polarity.

Remember the old saying, if you don't use it, you might lose it. Each one of our bands has a certain flavor to it. This band offers more range than 2 meters, and band openings are quite a bit farther too. If you can't use any HF yet, this might satisfy your craving for some long range contacts!

See you on the "Magic Band"!

From the desk of

The Grand WAZOO

WDennis, W8DFG

WELL FELLOW UESCAN's, we're into another year, and it looks like it will be an action packed one.

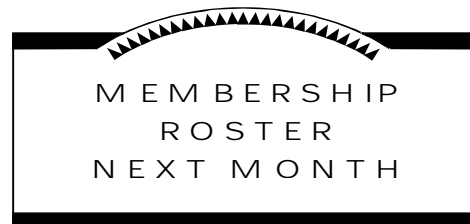
First of all I would like to thank Dave, W8VB for his year as Vice President. Congratulations go to Nancy, KB8QMS, and Dave, KC8IAQ to the election of the position of Vice President and Board Member respectively. Hats off to Brian, KC8DIR for stepping forward and volunteering to get the pop for our meetings. Phil, W8IC is still hoping for someone to take over the duties of the java pot! Won't someone give it a whirl?

Don't forget to renew your dues, this could be your last issue of the *Express*. You'll miss all the great articles and updates provided through this media.

Speaking of updates, this year is one is shaping up to be a busy one. With road rallies, WalkAmerica, pre-Field Day, Field Day, fox hunt, club picnic, Romeo parade, our successful Swap, and to round off the year, USECA's Christmas party. During the summer months lets not forget the campouts, QRP outings, or the spontaneous road trips that just pop-up with fellow hams.

We will have one more activity this summer. In the month of August, we will be needed for the primary election in Macomb County. Please volunteer for this because there will be no meeting to stir up support for this civic event.

—Continued on Page 13



Next Meeting — February 10 — at DETROIT EDISON

CLUB DIRECTORY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Dennis Gaboury/W8DFG, (810) 465-7126
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 Ann Manor/KG8IF, (810) 751-3893
 Marianne Mickle/N8TMJ, (810) 739-6565

COMMITTEES

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 Earl/N8OEX Bill/N8SA Chuck/WA8Z
 Nancy/KB8QMS Gulliver/WA8VIJ

PROGRAMMERS

Doug/N8KND Bill/N8SA Chuck/WA8Z

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AA8CY	AA8HF	WY8M	KG8QT	N8SA
WB8E	KG8IE	KA8NDY	KF8RG	W8VB
K8EN	WX3L	N8OEF	W8RO	K8WI

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Len Czapiewski/K8DHH	Rick Parady/KB8KLW
Art Sheff/WD8EGV	John Moore/KA8KTV
Joe Lucido/NU8F	John Palmer/WD8LBH
Charles Smith/N8FWF	John Pizuti/WB8NHT
Clarence Ringo/W8HQO	Harry Young/W8VRW
Joe Steel/KA8IZM	Velma Ragon/N8YVC

CLUB HOTLINE: (810) 268-6730

f= Founder	c= Charter	h= Hon. Charter
N8AWV <i>h</i>	N8HCT <i>fc</i>	WB8OSF <i>h</i>
KA8BDG <i>c</i>	KA8IZM <i>fc</i> SK	K8QLM <i>fc</i>
N8BK <i>h</i>	KA8KTV <i>fc</i> SK	WB8QNI <i>c</i>
N8FDN <i>c</i>	G. Manquardt <i>h</i>	KA8VYV <i>h</i>
N8FNO <i>fc</i>	WD8MFN <i>fc</i>	WA8VZZ <i>c</i>
J. Haubner <i>c</i>	WD8NHT <i>fc</i>	

The Editor is:

Still Going

Joe, K8OEF



The final cut-off date for club dues is the night of the meeting on February 10th. If your dues are not paid by that time, you will no longer receive the (award-winning) *Express*. As in the past, the Club Roster cut-off is that same night—the 1998 Roster will be included in our March edition.

The February meeting will be at the Detroit Edison Regional Facility on 19 Mile Rd., between Hayes and Garfield. A tour of the facility will be provided that evening.

The Vanity Gates are open. If you received a new call, notify the membership secretary—especially if you want your new call in this year's roster. Also, let me know (via e-mail), and I'll update you in the E-Mail Directory.

In case you didn't notice in last month's *Express*, the SATERN Net is again included in our Local Area Net Schedule.

I'd like to thank the Board for the plaque I received at the January meeting—what a pleasant surprise!

73 for now.



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Ken's Kozy Korner

February's Net Notes

Ken, KF8RG

IT IS WITH great sadness that I note here the passing of one of USECA's finest NCO's. Harry Young (W8VRW), before he became ill, was one of the most enthusiastic and active CW operators USECA has ever had. For several years running, Harry earned USECA's "CW/HF Top OP" award for his efforts as both an NCO and a regular check-in. Seldom heard on VHF, except to pass along his latest rare DX catch to a jealous Marion (N8MOJ) or to talk about antennas, Harry preferred the music of Morse Code. He could make a "Bug" sing and a straight key talk—but most important, Harry was always there to help the newcomer climb over their own Code stumbling blocks by meeting them on the air for practice. Harry—always helpful, always cheerfully offering advice, may your legacy, spirit, and memory endure among your fellow USECANs.

Congratulations to USECA's "TOP OPs of 1997": Richard Brege, K8QLM (VHF), and Lora Leggett, KC8GMT (HF). As I predicted earlier, 1997 was a banner year for USECA's awards program, out-pacing any of the last seven years with a grand total of 33 VHF and 9 HF awards earned. Several Hams earned both VHF and HF awards as well as extra USECA gold seals. Presented with awards during 1997 were: WN8VOT, W1IK, KB8WTH, KB8YYA, N8OEF, KB8TAS, KB8YYC, WB8E, KC8IAQ, KC8BIU, KC8CXB, KA8NDY, WA8JPR, N8TMJ, W8IC, KB8QMS, AB8BP, KC8DIR, KC8HMG, W8VB, N8VTF, KG8YX, KC8CPT, W8NG, KC8IAP, N8OKW, KF8RG, K8CFY, KG8IF, N8MOJ, KA2IBE, KB8AKS, KC8DBG, W8RO, and W8VRW(SK). The last 1997 awards and the 1997 "Top Op" plaques were presented during January's General Membership meeting. If your score, as shown in this Express, is more than 50 and you have not received an award please call me at home. USECA's nets have always been fun and interesting, thanks to all of you who participate! Next month's Express will begin reporting the 1998 Netpoint Database.

New for 1998! USECA (as of early January) is sponsoring a Six Meter net on the N8MCD repeater (51.740MHz, -500kHz offset) on Wednesdays at 8 pm (time & day subject to change). We're hoping this will stir up a bit more local interest in this under-utilized Amateur band. Topics will probably stick to the technical aspects of six meter operating and radio in general. Jim's repeater is located in southern Romeo, adjust your beam or power accordingly (a *vertically* polarized antenna will work best). Check-ins and NCOs will be awarded points in the USECA VHF database in accordance with past practice. If you don't have any six meter gear, you might want to look into Ten-Tec's six meter transverter (2m or 20m in, 6m out, all modes), at just \$89 it seems to be one of the more cost-effective ways to explore the band.

February Traverse City Trip—those of you interested in the T.C. swap and related fun in T.C. should know that there'll be a group of USECANs in the area the weekend of

Valentines Day. The swap itself is on Valentine's Day (the usual 8 am - 1 pm)—a perfect excuse to splurge on some radio stuff and take the spouse on a little vacation! Caravan up with other USECANs as we head north, in search of the perfect "Nutty Irishman" (ask Ann). Listen in on HF on 3920 kHz LSB, 3720 kHz CW, (+ or - QRM) if you don't go, or, if you do, on the T.C. repeater, 146.860- to keep in touch with fellow USECANs. We will be on the air rather randomly, but will look around these frequencies for anyone calling us.

See ya' next month

Dues!

If you're reading this and your 1998 dues are *still* unpaid, they are **OVERDUE!** Your 1998 USECA Dues were *LATE* as of 1/1/98—get that checkbook out **NOW** and renew your annual membership **OR THIS MAY BE YOUR LAST NEWSLETTER!** You'll find a membership form at the end of every "Express." Give your extra forms to your friends and help the club grow.

—KF8RG

[No "May Be" about it. The membership secretary will purge the mail list and if you did not pay your dues, you will no longer receive the Express.—Ed.]

(From QST)

February's Contest Corral

- 1 North American Sprint
- 6-8 Vermont QSO Party
- 7-8 Kansas QSO Party
- Ten-Ten International QSO party (SSB)
- 8 North American Sprint (CW)
- 9-13 School Club Roundup
- 14-15 PACC Contest
- 21-22 ARRL International DX Contest (CW)
- 22-23 CQC Winter QSO Party
- 27-3/1 CQ WW 160 Meter Contest (phone)
- 28-3/1 REF French Contest (phone)
- RSGB 40m Contest (CW)
- UBA Contest (CW)
- 28-3/2 YL/OM Contest (phone and CW)

Details in QST Magazine. Send your ARRL contest results and comments to ARRL HQ, 225 Main, Newington, CT 06111.

—KF8RG

Let's Have a Membership Drive!

I've heard lots'a talk about setting goals for Field Day 1998 already—why not set another for USECA? For several years now the club's membership has been near or just above 200 (some will say we used to have over 300, but that figure was inaccurate, as it counted people who hadn't paid dues in over a year). I propose that we attempt to attain a *true* membership count of 300 in 1998—it'll take only a little salesmanship from all of us to do it. Talk up your club on other repeaters, tell 'em about all the stuff we do, and all the fun we have as a group. **USECA *is* the Happenin' Club!** Let's make sure the rest of the Detroit area knows it! Keep a spare USECA application handy (*mail* 'em one if they give you their address) and encourage others to join at swaps, or on the air.

—KF8RG

Ham Radio Demonstration

Diane, WI8K reported on the up-coming amateur radio demonstration Saturday, March 7 at Macomb Mall. It will run from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. She will be looking for volunteers to assist with set-up, tear-down, the special event station, the packet station, the NTS message booth, public service communications, amateur TV, and the satellite demonstration. Diane will send letters announcing the event to the magazines in December, and will also communicate with the various radio clubs and the media. Donna had 1,000 fliers printed, and Diane is asking everyone to place them in churches, schools, electronics stores, etc. We will run a computerized CW demonstration rather than having a station. We will make the first call for volunteers at the January meeting.

—LC Tuned Circuit, January 1998

Dayton Hamvention WITH USECA

Friday, May 15–Saturday, May 16–Sunday, May 17

Rooms have been set aside for USECA at the Piqua Ohio Comfort Inn; I-75, Exit 82. The rate is \$80.84 per room. Use group number G01041 thru April 1, 1998; call (937) 778-8100. For more information, contact Biff, N8NQQ at: (810) 566-7749.

Notice To All Members

Ken, KF8RG

Participation: that's what makes our club prosper—the willingness to step forward and volunteer your talents and services to your club is what keeps us strong. Participation goes beyond dues, beyond voting on issues and officers. It means, not only *talking* about the "little details," but *personally, physically*, seeing them through to the finish as well.

I've noticed a number of you seem to attend *every* meeting—you enjoy the comradery and the coffee, you talk about where you'd like to see the club go and what you'd like to do. But why is it that the same fella has been bringing and setting up the coffee pot for over 4 years? He has asked, at meetings, numerous times for someone to relieve him of this duty, but as I witnessed at the December meeting, nearly everyone was suddenly struck deaf and his request was made light of (and this is only a *15 minute per month* job!). As a Club, we should not and cannot expect a member to volunteer for any duty "*forever*." Volunteers will become non-existent if they begin to see any USECA job as a "life sentence."

There *will* come a day when our Editor, Joe, will say "enough's enough!" (I too, hope it's not soon, but that's his decision. His job does require large blocks of his time, occasionally when it's very inconvenient.) There *will* come a day when I'll want to opt out of my involvement in the Awards Program (been doing it for 6 years now, it's still fun, but beginin' to get old). The \$64,000 question will be: will someone step forward to continue these jobs or will we all suddenly be struck deaf and dumb? As a club, *every one of us* needs to grasp the fact that membership goes *beyond* dues, *beyond* volunteering to be a guest operator at Field Day or being an occasional NCO (I would consider both a privilege!)—rather, we must *all* contribute, *more than mere dues*, if we expect USECA to thrive and grow over the long haul. What have **YOU** done lately for USECA?

**"Nothing
Heard"**

SOAPBOX

S W E E E E E E E E E E E E E E E E T
(I c a n ' t b e l i e v e k e n n y l i v e d)

Here we are once again with another quality rousing rendition of da box. Well, prob'ly a kinda just okay kinda lame-o rendition. Didn't have a lot o' time. OT, mortgage refinance, holidays, etc. been suckin' up da time.

How 'bout that aerial assault at the christmas party? Even had colored paper! Need a scouting report to see if they got 'em all outa da deer antlers yet. Only heard one complaint. Wasn't even really a complaint. More like a request by an attending member if we could have at least one x-mass party w/o paper airplanes. A USECA x-mas party with out paper airplanes? Shudder!! Even three of da staff at Garfields joined in and had a good time.

Been a while since there's been a basic repeater descrip'. You know, where's it at and how do it werk? So here yaz goes...

Ferst off, dere's da main site. That's across the street from Erma's custard stand NE of Hall & Mound. Not a lot of patrons this time of year, so parkin's good. Look up at the top o' the red -n- white tower on the right hand side. That big white 21' stick on the side arm is ours! Custom built. For you old timers of USECA, the folded dipoles fer da VHF low B-band were removed a few months back. They didn't use 'em anymore an' (for the ebonically inclined) axed us to remove 'em. NO PROBLEM. Well, minor problem. Ask Doug. Anyway, we sold 'em at our swap to the 6M crowd and the proceeds went into da treasury.

We have a total of four RX sites now. On any given day, most or all are working with the persnickety voter kinda choppin' up the over deviated crowd with a side order of internal (infernal?) finickiness. Reason #27 we're buyin' a new voter system.

The **south site** is in downtown Detroit on the Penobscot (?) building. The stick is side mounted kinda facin' north. When I put it up, I could see Belle Isle on one side and the 'bassidor bridge on da udder. A good 210°+ line of site radius with minorly attenuated south coverage. As ya looked to the north, there was no other building in the vicinity that was higher than the stick. Too cool.

The north site is at about 37 Mile and Ryan. If there was a 37 & Ryan! It's on the side of a tower on the highest hill in Macomb county at the Ford test track. Unfortunately, the stick is below the peak of the hill. The stick is only ten feet up! We've tried fer years to get it a few feet higher to get WAY improved north coverage...but efforts failed due to excessive paperwork, bureaucracy, non-communication and minimal follow up. Bummer. Coulda been the "even wickiedier" north site. Dan (WA8GQL) had been our contact up there. Hope he still is.

Our latest way cool RX stick is the east site on top of the county building in downtown Mt. Clemens. The tallest spot, by far, on the east side. Outstanding lake coverage. Nuff sed.

And last, but first, is the main site RX stick. Used to have a set o' cans on the big main stick and that stick was not only the TX, but the local Utica area RX, too. Unfortunately the radiation pattern wasn't none to good fer some local stuff (umbrella effect), so we're usin' a lower more local RX stick. That'd be on the left side below the main stick on another side arm. It'll still have great distance coverage.

That lower aluminum custom built side arm is the original repeater antenna location. Used to have a G-6 on it, and that was the whole enchilada. That was the entire repeater antenna system ten years ago. Amazing how times have changed...

Latest word on the new waycool whizbang controller + voter doohicky with onboard hard drive is: it'll be in 'round May-ish. In the mean time, the old system will be patched up and kept on th' air to th' best of the tech crews ability. When the new one gets installed, the old one'll be up fer sale. It's an RC850 and four rx voter package. See Doug.

NEW HAPPENINGS...There'll be a repeater tech committee meeting each third Tuesday of the month at 7 pm at Doug's house. This is **NOT** a social gathering and is by Doug's invite only. BYOB. This regular monthly meeting is to focus on repeater issues, site repair status, site checks, and schematic documentation. If you have board level electronic experience and RF trouble shooting under your belt, call Doug (810-558-7729) to get on the committee. This should help decrease repeater down time and help create more knowledgeable repeater tech's.

Gotta go. Time fer the Jan meeting. Joe'll be waitin' fer this.

CUL, WY8M

**AIN'T NO STOPPIN' US NOW,
WE'RE ON THE MOVE!**

"The Happenin' Club"

Club Activities

MONTH	DATE	TIME	EVENT
FEB	10	7:30 pm	General Meeting
MAR	10	7:30 pm	General Meeting
APR	7	7:30 pm	General Meeting
APR	26	6:30 am	WalkAmerica
MAY	9	9:00 am	8th Annual Pre-Field Day
MAY	12	7:30 pm	General Meeting
MAY	15-17		Dayton Hamvention
MAY	22-25		Campout—Lakeport, Port Huron
JUN	9	7:30 pm	General Meeting/Fox Hunt
JUN	TBA		Trash-For-Cash
JUN	26-28		Campout—Field Day
JUN	27-28		Field Day
JUL	4-5		Hang Loose Weekend
JUL	17-19		Campout—Christmas in July
JL/AG	31-9		Big 10-Day Outing
SEP	7		Romeo Peach Festival Parade
SEP	TBA		Western Campout

Where's The Swaps?

Day	Month	Date	Where*
SUN	FEB	8	Mansfield, OH
SAT	FEB	14	Traverse City
S, S	FEB	21-22	Cincinnati, OH ¹
SUN	FEB	22	Livonia
SAT	MAR	14	Marshall
SUN	MAR	15	Maumee, OH
SUN	APR	19	St. Joseph
SUN	APR	26	SEMARA
F, S, S	MAY	15-17	Dayton, OH
SAT	SEP	19	Grayling
SUN	SEP	20	L'Anse Creuse
SUN	SEP	20	Adrian
SUN	OCT	25	USECA

¹ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention & Hamfest.

*Michigan unless otherwise noted. Source: QRV Bulletin

Did You Know?

If the \$20 dues is a bit much for you, you can submit just \$8 for the (award-winning) newsletter only—see our application.

E-Mail Directory

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If you are a club member and would like your address published (or changed) in the Express, send it via e-mail to K8OEF.

IF YOUR DUES ARE NOT PAID BY FEB. 10, YOUR NAME WILL BE REMOVED.

A QUIZ

IQ

Here is a little test you might like to take. Don't think too hard. Write down your answers as you take it; the answer key is at the bottom. There are only 20 questions.

- 20 Correct—Genius
- 17 Correct—Above Normal
- 15 Correct—Normal
- 8 Correct—Nincompoop
- 6 Correct—Moron
- 3 Correct—Idiot

*** Questions ***

1. Do they have a 4th of July in England?
2. How many birthdays does the average man have?
3. Some months have 31 days; how many have 28?
4. A woman gives a beggar 50 cents; the woman is the beggar's sister, but the beggar is not the woman's brother. How come?
5. Why can't a man living in the USA be buried in Canada?
6. How many outs are there in an inning?
7. Is it legal for a man in California to marry his widow's sister? Why?
8. Two men play five games of checkers. Each man wins the same number of games. There are no ties. Explain this.
9. Divide 30 by 1/2 and add 10. What is the answer?
10. A man builds a house rectangular in shape. All sides have southern exposure. A big bear walks by, what color is the bear? Why?
11. If there are 3 apples and you take away 2, how many do you have?
12. I have two US coins totaling 55 cents. One is not a nickel. What are the coins?
13. If you have only one match and you walked into a room where there was an oil burner, a kerosene lamp, and a wood burning stove, which one would you light first?
14. How far can a dog run into the woods?
15. A doctor gives you three pills telling you to take one every half hour. How long would the pills last?
16. A farmer has 17 sheep, and all but 9 die. How many are left?
17. How many animals of each sex did Moses take on the ark?
18. A clerk in the butcher shop is 5' 10" tall. What does he weigh?
19. How many two cent stamps are there in a dozen?
20. What was the President's name in 1950?

(Answers Next Month)

73

from Louise Ramsey Moreau, W3WRE

"The traditional expression "73" goes right back to the beginning of the landline telegraph days. It is found in some of the earliest editions of the numerical codes, each with a different definition, but each with the same idea in mind—it indicated that the end, or signature, was coming up. But there are no data to prove that any of these were used."

"The first authentic use of 73 is in the publication The National Telegraphic Review and Operators' Guide, first published in April 1857. At that time, 73 meant "My love to you"! Succeeding issues of this publication continued to use this definition of the term. Curiously enough, some of the other numerals used then had the same definition as they have now, but within a short time, the use of 73 began to change."

"In the National Telegraph Convention, the numeral was changed from the Valentine-type sentiment to a vague sign of fraternalism. Here, 73 was a greeting, a friendly "word" between operators and it was so used on all wires."

"In 1859, the Western Union Company set up the standard "92 Code." A list of numerals from one to 92 was compiled to indicate a series of prepared phrases for use by the operators on the wires. Here, in the 92 Code, 73 changes from a fraternal sign to a very flowery "accept my compliments, which was in keeping with the florid language of that era."

"Over the years from 1859 to 1900, the many manuals of telegraphy show variations of this meaning. Dodge's The Telegraph Instructor shows it merely as "compliments." The Twentieth Century Manual of Railways and Commercial Telegraphy defines it two ways, one listing as "my compliments to you"; but in the glossary of abbreviations it is merely "compliments." Theodore A. Edison's Telegraphy Self-Taught shows a return of "accept my compliments." By 1908, however, a later edition of the Dodge Manual gives us today's definition of "best regards" with a backward look at the older meaning in another part of the work where it also lists it as "compliments."

"Best regards" has remained ever since as the "put-it-down-in-black-and-white" meaning of 73 but it has acquired overtones of much warmer meaning. Today, amateurs use it more in the manner that James Reid had intended that it be used — a "friendly word between operators."

—Submitted by Floyd, W8RO

" D o I H a v e I t ? "

USECA Final 1997 VHF Net Points

Call	Name	pts	Call	Name	pts	Call	Name	pts
KB0QYX	BOB	6	KC8GNH	KEVIN	9	K8PIK	MARILYNN	12
WW1AW	BILL	5	N8GQE	KURT	1	KB8PKV	DWAYNE	5
W11K	JIM	128	WA8GQL	DAN	13	KB8PLW	DAN	4
WB2C	ANDY	11	KC8GRP	JEFF	9	KA8QEU	DOUG	1
KA2IBE	JOHN	34	KC8GRZ	JERRY	4	WD8QFM	JACK	1
VA3AWC	ALBERT	3	KC8GUC	LENNY	9	K8QLM	RICHARD	258
VE3AWI	RICK	1	KC8GUE	MIKE	40	KB8QMP	BILL	16
VE3BWK	HOMER	1	KC8GXA	PHIL	1	KB8QMS	NANCY	65
WX3L	MIKE	6	KC8GXE	PATRICK	3	N8QVX	KEVIN	3
VE3TBI	TIM	1	KC8HCU	JOHN	1	N8QXP	CHARLES	1
KC4ITU	DWIGHT	2	N8HFN	BILL	1	KB8QYX	BOB	2
KE4MTM	MIKE	1	KC8HKU	JOHN	4	N8RAR	WAYNE	15
W4VNS	ED	2	KC8HMG	JANICE	94	KB8RBV	MANNY	18
KE4WQJ	LOIS	1	KC8HMJ	RICH	4	KB8RCB	TONY	2
AA7LX	JOHN	1	KC8HMK	VICKY	3	N8REY	DENNIS	1
KC8ACF	BRAD	1	KC8HMN	SCOTT	14	KF8RG	KEN	55
KB8AKS	JERRY	50	KC8HRH	MARK	1	N8RGF	BOB	3
KC8AQJ	BARB	1	KC8HUJ	JOHN	1	W8RO	FLOYD	88
KC8ARS	HENRY	10	KC8HYU	JON	31	N8RRU	GARY	22
KA8BDG	DICK	21	N8HZE	KEN	11	N8RUE	EDDIE	20
KC8BDR	PAUL	1	KC8IAO	PEGGY	18	N8RUH	TJ	11
KC8BFP	MARK	22	KC8IAP	MARY	69	KD8RV	GREG	1
W8BHF	BOB	6	KC8IAQ	DAVE	117	N8SA	BILL	25
KC8BIU	TED	50	W8IBO	DENNIS	1	N8SCQ	BOB	2
AB8BP	MARK	75	KC8IDG	KEVIN	6	KB8SFD	BOB	1
KB8BSG	CARL	1	KC8IDT	KEVIN	1	N8SIH	BETTY	37
AB8BT	ANDY	32	KG8IE	SCOTT	31	W8SIW	JIM	9
KC8CEV	TED	1	KC8IEY	DON	1	KB8SUL	DAVE	2
K8CFY	JERRY	59	KG8IF	ANN	54	KB8TAS	JERRY	87
KC8CHZ	GEORGE	6	WD8IFL	DAVE	18	KB8TEZ	MATT	36
KC8CPT	DON	62	KC8IHO	COLLIN	7	N8TMJ	MARIANNE	50
KC8CXB	GARY	50	KC8IJK	SHAWN	12	KB8TVV	JIM	13
WS8D	MIKE	2	K8IKW	GARY	2	N8TXV	BILL	1
KC8DBG	BILL	50	KC8IMF	SCOTT	2	KA8UHG	STEVE	10
AA8DD	BOB	2	KC8IPF	DENISE	4	WB8UKU	CHRIS	8
KC8DDG	TOM	9	KC8IPG	LOU	1	KB8ULS	ROGER	3
KC8DDL	ANDY	4	KC8IRU	DAVE	3	N8UZT	ELMER	2
K8DHA	JOHN	1	KC8IWN	MAURICE	2	W8VB	DAVE	66
KC8DIR	BRIAN	92	W8JP	JOHN	13	N8VGB	STEVE	2
WA8DKV	MARSHALL	2	WA8JPR	BILL	51	WA8VIJ	GULLIVER	3
KC8DPO	RON	1	W8KC	PAUL	34	N8VLY	JOAN	6
N8DVO	FRED	5	N8KXL	JERRY	2	WN8VOT	DAVE	116
K8DXX	BILL	2	N8KR	KEN	1	KB8VQM	LESTER	4
WB8E	WALT	74	N8KSC	STEVE	1	W8VRW	HARRY	1
KC8EDO	JIM	7	WD8LBJ	DALE	1	N8VSI	SCOTT	5
KB8EOD	MIKE	1	W8LNB	FRANK	2	N8VTF	DON	57
N8ERV	TOM	5	KB8LYA	FRED	14	N8VVH	LINDA	19
KC8EVI	LES	15	KB8M	TOM	7	KB8VX	JON	1
KC8EZU	CHRIS	15	WY8M	ARPAD	18	KB8VWY	DORIS	1
KC8EZV	TED	7	KF8MB	MEL	6	KB8WBV	KEN	4
KC8EZW	MARK	21	N8MCD	JIM	2	KB8WCM	STEVE	2
WD8F	BOB	8	N8MIV	NORM	1	KB8WCP	DON	2
KC8FES	MARK	4	KB8MKA	STAG	1	KB8WGW	LEE	38
WB8FPQ	BILL	2	KB8MYW	STEVEN	1	KG8WH	DAVE	34
KC8FRW	JOHN	28	KA8NDY	DAN	53	K8WI	BILL	35
KC8FTY	DEREK	10	W8NG	JIM	60	KB8WLR	CHUCK	5
WB8FUI	PHIL	21	N8NQQ	BIFF	32	KB8WTH	RICH	107
KC8FVU	PHIL	5	N8NTD	JOHN	2	KY8X	JOE	2
N8FWD	HAROLD	4	N8OAE	ERNIE	3	KF8XO	JEFF	9
KC8FXF	MIKE	9	N8OEF	VAL	86	N8XOJ	ISAIAH	2
KC8FYO	RAY	2	N8OEV	DAVE	26	N8XRB	JEFF	5
KC8FYQ	GERALD	38	N8OKW	JIM	59	N8YJI	DINA	32
KC8GFN	DAVE	5	N8OMP	GARY	6	KB8YNY	MICHELE	2
KC8GMT	LORA	107	N8OWI	COLE	2	N8YTV	HARRY	19
KC8GMU	GEORGE	13	K8OX	RICH	10	KG8YX	DOC	78

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Call	Name	pts
KB8YYA	DREUX	90
KB8YYC	DENNIS	74
N8ZFA	PETE	7
N8ZZF	PAT	16

Top 20 VHF Operators

Call	Name	pts	
1	K8QLM	RICHARD	258
2	W11K	JIM	128
3	KC8IAQ	DAVE	117
4	WN8VOT	DAVE	116
5	KC8GMT	LORA	107
6	KB8WTH	RICH	107
7	KC8HMG	JANICE	94
8	KC8DIR	BRIAN	92
9	KB8YYA	DREUX	90
10	W8RO	FLOYD	88
11	KB8TAS	JERRY	87
12	N8OEF	VAL	86
13	KG8YX	DOC	78
14	AB8BP	MARK	75
15	WB8E	WALT	74
16	KB8YYC	DENNIS	74
17	KC8IAP	MARY	69
18	W8VB	DAVE	66
19	KB8QMS	NANCY	65
20	KC8CPT	DON	62

Top 20 HF operators

Call	Name	pts	
1	KC8GMT	LORA	178
2	KA2IBE	JOHN	114
3	W8RO	FLOYD	87
4	KF8RG	KEN	67
5	N8MOJ	MARION	60
6	W8VRW	HARRY	54
7	WA8JPR	BILL	50
8	W8IC	PHIL	50
9	KB8WTH	RICHARD	50
10	N8OEV	DAVE	34
11	K8WI	BILL	32
12	WB8FUI	PHIL	31
13	K8QLM	RICHARD	30
14	KC8HMG	JANICE	30
15	AB8BD	MARK	27
16	KB8YYC	DENNIS	27
17	WN8VOT	DAVE	21
18	KG8YX	DOC	20
19	KC8IAQ	DAVE	18
20	WB8E	WALT	18

*Database c/o KF8RG (Ken)
Software written by WU8C (Tom)*

See USECA's "Net Point System
Explanation" for info on how
net points & awards are earned.

See or call Dave (KC8IAQ),
USECA's Net Manager,
for more information on
running a net and earning
extra points.

Mobile Radio Installation Recommendations

The following is excerpted from the owner's manual of every new Chrysler product:

INSTALLATION OF RADIO TRANSMITTING EQUIPMENT

Special design considerations are incorporated into this vehicle's electronic system to provide immunity to radio frequency signals. Mobile two-way radio and telephone equipment must be installed properly by trained personnel. The following must be observed during installation.

Power connections should be made directly to the battery and fused as close to the battery as possible.

Antennas for two-way radios should be mounted on the roof or the rear area of the vehicle. Care should be used in mounting antennas with magnet bases. Magnets may affect the accuracy or operation of the compass on vehicles so equipped.

The antenna cable should be as short as practical and routed away from the vehicle wiring when possible. Use only fully shielded coaxial cable.

Carefully match the antenna and cable to the radio to ensure a low Standing Wave Ratio. (SWR).

Mobile radio equipment with output power greater than normal may require special precautions.

All installations should be checked for possible interference between the communications equipment and the vehicle's electronic systems."

The owner's first line of contact regarding vehicle problems is the dealer. The literature supplied with each vehicle lists the steps to be taken in the event the dealer is unable to resolve the problem. To assist in properly installing communications equipment in Chrysler vehicles, the following information is provided. Always use good construction practices (see ARRL Handbook or other standard reference works).

The information contained in this guide has been prepared for use by persons installing two-way radio equipment (transmitters and receivers) in vehicles. It has been prepared in accordance with current engineering principles and generally accepted practices, using the best information available at the time of publication. It is not possible to cover all of the possible installations of two-way radio equipment in this guide. Accordingly, Chrysler Corporation cannot be held responsible for incidental or consequent damages arising out of the use of the information contained herein. The responsibility for installations and modifications is the sole responsibility of the customer.

The installation recommendations presented here are intended to supplement the radio manufacturer's instructions.

1. **CONTROLS** Mount the transceiver to a solid surface. If you use screws through the floor pan, put body sealer over the underbody projections (Stamped acorn nuts, filled with sealer are available at most body shops for this purpose.). This will keep moisture out of the carpet and insulation, and will forestall rust in this area. Watch out for wire harnesses routed under carpet and behind instrument panel.

If you mount the radio under the instrument panel, be sure that there is no interference with proper operation of the foot controls. Mount the control head or front panel (especially the microphone cable) so that it is clear of the steering wheel and column controls and passenger airbag. If the unit is heavy, extra bracing may be needed for stability. Newer vehicles have more structure and energy absorbing materials in the knee blocker (the lower part of the Instrument Panel).

For one piece transceivers, if ignition switch control is desired, it is good practice to use a power relay to avoid overloading the ignition switch, and to maintain the advantages of direct battery feed.

Try the installation out before you start drilling holes.

2. **UNDERHOOD WIRING** Connect the power (battery +) lead at the battery or at the power distribution center, if the vehicle has one. A ring terminal of the proper size should be used, solder if the terminal is exposed to the weather. Wheel bearing grease or a commercial protectant should be used to slow corrosion. This lead should be fused as close to the battery as practical to protect the wiring (and the vehicle)! If the power connection is underhood, use a weatherproof fuse holder. Motorola Communications Division supplies a weatherproof holder, part number 09-84277B01 for 5AG cartridge fuses that is part of their standard installation kit. Packard Electric Division of GM makes an insulator, part number 12033769, terminal number 12020156 with cover 12033731 for standard SAE plastic fuses.

DO NOT FUSE THE GROUND LEAD. If the ground-side fuse were to open, the entire supply current would be conducted by the coax shield. This could cause the feedline to overheat, with possible resulting damage.

It is preferable to connect the ground (battery -) lead at the battery connection to the body (This is usually a 6 or 8 AWG black wire from the battery negative terminal to a screw at the wheelhouse or radiator support.). If a separate sheet metal ground is used, clean the paint off a one inch or so diameter area of body panel where the ground lead is to be connected (usually the case with commercial trunk mount radios). An awl may be used to pierce a starting hole for a #12, minimum, plated ground screw. A ring terminal with lockwasher serrations of the proper size for the screw or a separate serrated (not a split or SAE) lockwasher should be used between the terminal and the screw head. As above, some grease or protectant should be used if the connection is in an unprotected area.

If the power cable must pass through the dash panel, try to find an existing hole with a grommet that is unused. If none is available, pull the carpet back from under the dash panel in the passenger footwell in the cabin. Locate a place where there are no other components on either side, as high up as possible. An awl may be used to punch a small hole through to the engine compartment. If the position is good, enlarge the hole by driving the awl in up to the shank. If this is not large enough to easily pass the cable, enlarge it by using a larger tapered punch. This will leave an extruded hole with no sharp edges. Install the cable and seal the hole with silicone RTV or commercial body sealer on both sides. Seal any extra holes that you may have made. Dress the underhood wiring so that it is safe from all hazards, such as: exhaust manifold, steering shaft, throttle linkage, fans, etc. Tie wrap as required.

- 3. CABLING** Route control cables under the floor mats, inside the corner where the floor pan meets the rocker panel for best protection. Remove the sill plates and tuck the cable under the floor mats or carpet and padding. For most left hand drive vehicles, use the right side for best separation to the main body harness (usually on the left side).

Route the cable along the extreme outboard edge of the floor pan, under the side trim, if possible.

- 4. REMOTE TRANSCEIVER** For trunk mount installations in passenger cars, you may need to remove the rear seat cushion and seat back to get the cable into the trunk. The seat cushion is usually clipped at the front, lower edge by its own frame: push down and back, then lift. Note the front and rear clipping points for ease of reinstallation. The seat back is usually clipped to the rear compartment inner panel: pull out at the bottom and slide up to remove. Again, note the clipping points for ease of reinstallation. There is usually a vapor/sound barrier behind the seat back which must be pierced to pass the cable.

Open the trunk and pick a spot where the cable is safe from chafing on any sharp sheet metal. Tie wrap or tape in place at this location. Repair the barrier sheet if necessary. Replace the seat back and cushion, taking care that the cable is not pinched by the seat cushion when there is someone sitting in the seat. On some vehicles there may be a channel for wiring at this location.

For remote control radios, a sheet of ½" plywood one or two inches larger than the radio, is a good method to mount the transceiver to the shelf. It provides a good mounting surface, some shock and vibration isolation, and it keeps moisture away from the radio. Mounting on the floor of the trunk is not recommended. To conserve trunk space, in some vehicles, the radio may be mounted to the rear compartment panel. Locate as far as possible from any vehicle electronic modules located in the rear of the vehicle.

In any case, provide good air circulation, a 50 watt RF output FM transmitter will dissipate about 22 watts (@70% efficiency). Do not pile things on top of the unit.

- 5. TRANSMISSION LINE** The transmission line (coaxial cable) should be treated in the same way as the control and power cables. Route flat along body sheet metal wherever possible (Watch out for sharp edges and pinches. If it is necessary to cross over wiring, cross at right angles. In some cases, additional shielding between the transmission line and the vehicle wiring may be helpful. It is important to maintain the maximum spacing to the vehicle harnesses, especially if the antenna is not a good match. Use the best cable available (98-99% braid coverage or braid/foil) especially at UHF and above. Mechanical pressure on the cable can cause degradation or even short circuits. Do not rely on the obsolete military 'RG' designations as an indicator of quality.

The use of N, BNC or C connectors is recommended over "UHF" connectors. A small amount of silicone dielectric grease (not the white heat sink compound) in the connector (after soldering) will minimize condensation problems. Cut the line as short as practical, to minimize losses.

- 6. ANTENNA LOCATION** Antenna location is the most important consideration in any mobile installation. For VHF and UHF antennas the recommended place on almost all vehicles is in the center of the roof. The center of the trunk is an acceptable alternate.

For HF antennas, refer to the manufacturer's instructions and follow them closely, unless you are an experienced antenna experimenter. HF antennas should be mounted to body or frame steel for a good counterpoise as well as structural strength. Aluminum bumpers are heavily anodized for corrosion protection, and the coating (aluminum oxide) is very hard as well as nonconductive. A small grinder with a coarse stone will break through the anodized coating for electrical connection. Glass-mounted antennas should be mounted at the very top edge of the glass.

7. **ANTENNA INSTALLATION** Permanently installed antennas are preferable over magnetic, glass or body lip mounts for anything other than for low power or temporary installations. Most of these alternate antennas will reflect some power back at the feedpoint. Much of this will be radiated from the feedline inside the passenger compartment, and may be picked up by the vehicle wiring.

Glass-mount antennas will not work or will only work very poorly in vehicles with metallized glass (Electrically-heated windshields or solar reflective glass). Non-metallic bodies (*e.g.*: Viper) require a ground plane with radius approximately equal to the length of a quarter-wave antenna. Copper is the best choice, but aluminum or even steel may be used. Install on the inside of the body panel with a good adhesive or tape and provide a good RF connection to the coax shield at the feedpoint. Screen, mesh or thin sheet stock may be used. Shape is not critical, but some directivity may be noted if not round.

For VHF and UHF, a good quality "NMO" (New MOtrola) base or other mount with feedline (center conductor *and* shield) soldered to base is recommended. This will allow the maximum flexibility in antenna selection and is the best choice for electrical and mechanical considerations. Use the proper hole saw ($\frac{3}{4}$ " for NMO) or have it done professionally if you are not comfortable with power tools. Hole plugs are available, for use at sale or trade-in, if you expect to remove the antenna base.

To install the antenna base in the hole, remove the one or two door trim pieces at the pillar where the cable is to be routed and ease the headliner away from the roof. Insert a piece of flat steel or plastic banding ($\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide) and guide to the desired corner. Pull it through, leaving 6" or so to tape the transmission line to it (easier without the connector, but possible even with a PL-259). Continue pulling until the antenna base is one inch or less from the hole, then seat the base and screw on the outside ring, O-ring down (a little silicone grease will help maintain a good seal for the life of the vehicle. Tighten with an open end wrench, and apply a small amount of silicone grease to the contact and insulator surface of the base. This will help exclude water, but must be renewed periodically. Tip: if you remove your antenna to go through the car wash, there are caps available to exclude water during the process.

In most vehicles, RG-58-sized cable will fit between the pillar trim and body sheet metal. If necessary, the technique used on the roof can also be used to snake the cable down the pillar.

Install the connector very carefully. There are good instructions in the ARRL handbook. Use a hot, high-wattage iron and work quickly, to prevent damage to the cable dielectric. If you are a beginner or are not comfortable with this kind of detail work, ask around for some help; it is extremely important.

—Submitted by Bill, WB8FPO

A BLAST FROM THE PAST!

[USECA Express—September 1995]

If Only . . .

Nancy / KB8QMS

If my call sign was **KF8AT**, I would be the Prez., the big kahuna. I could be proud that I was true to my word concerning the goals that I stated for the club and that I did an excellent job.

If my call sign was **N8KND**, I would have left the country; also, to get away from the massive job of keeping the repeater system going.

If my call sign was **K8OEF**, I would be able to say I am the editor of the *Express* and that every issue is award winning and deserves an excellent rating.

If my call sign was **KG8IF**, I would be married to **WA8ZOF** (wow), I would be a vice president who knows how to spell potato; and, I would be a true friend because I listen with my heart.

If my call sign was **WD8IFL**, I would be world famous; and, know how to smoke a turkey. I would have a sailboat; and, be a part of the "aquanuts" of USECA.

If my call sign was **N8TMJ**, I would know how to throw a great Christmas in July party; and, I could be proud knowing I am such a caring person.

If my call sign was **N8OKW**, I would know how to sew on velcro; and, I would know an awful lot about racing cars.

If my call sign was **WY8M**, I would have the "Arp Tarp," at field day; and, have my call sign used at one of the biggest events in amateur radio.

—Continued on Page 13

USECA Board Meeting Minutes—January 6, 1998

In attendance:

*W8DFG, Dennis President
 KB8QMS, Dave Vice-President
 KB8YYB, Debbi Recording Secretary
 W8IR, Mark Membership Secretary
 N8OKW, Jim Treasurer
 KC8IAQ, Dave Board Member
 KG8IF, Ann Board Member
 N8TMJ, Marianne Board Member
 W8RO, Floyd Past President
 K8CFY, Jerry Historian
 K8OEF, Joe Express Editor
 W8VB, Dave ARRL Liaison
 *KC8EZU, Chris Swap Chairman
 KG8IE, Scott Field Day Chairman
 N8KND, Doug Repeater Technician
 WB8E, Walt; W8YM, Arpad; KB8TAS, Jerry; KC8IAO, Peggy;
 N8KLX, Jerry; KC8IAP, Mary.
 *Absent

The meeting was called to order by the Vice President at 7:35 P.M.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

The Treasurer's report was approved as submitted. An Audit Committee was appointed, Floyd, W8RO, Ann, KG8IF, and Scott, KG8IE. Financial records were turned over to the Audit Committee.

Membership: Mark, W8IR reported that the 1997 membership exceeds 243.

Repeater: Doug, N8KND, informed the board that the back repeater will be picked up and stored at Arpad's, W8YM.

ARRL: No report.

Newsletter: Articles will be due at the general membership meeting. Joe, K8OEF reported that an article written by Dave, KC8IAQ, is on the front page of the ARNS publication.

New Business:

Jim, N8OKW, informed the Board that the lost gift check to Bemis Junior High School has been reissued.

Discussion ensued regarding insurance for the repeater and associated equipment. Doug, N8KND, submitted a detailed list of the equipment inventory. A motion was made by Floyd, W8RO, seconded by Ann, KG8IF, and passed to purchase ARRL insurance for equipment listed in the inventory.

Discussion began regarding renaming the USECA Website to USECA.org. The matter was tabled.

Dialog opened concerning activities for the 1998 calendar year.

Discussion commenced on the subject of selecting a new location for post-Foxhunt celebrations. Walt, WB8E, will check on possibilities.

Gerald, KC8FYQ, has been named as new Trash for Cash chairman.

Other Chairs for 1998 are:

- Field Day - Scott, KG8IE
- Field Day Kitchen - Linda, N8VVH
- Pre-Field Day - Ann, KG8IF
- Swap - Chris, KC8EZU
- Christmas Party - Ann, KG8IF

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 P.M.

Respectively submitted,

Debbi Cokewell, KB8YYB, Recording Secretary

USECA General Meeting Minutes—January 13, 1998

In attendance:

W8DFG, Dennis President
 KB8QMS, Nancy Vice-President
 KB8YYB, Debbi Recording Secretary
 W8IR, Mark Membership Secretary
 N8OKW, Jim Treasurer
 KC8IAQ, Dave Board Member
 KG8IF, Ann Board Member
 N8TMJ, Marianne Board Member
 *W8RO, Floyd Past President
 K8CFY, Jerry Historian
 K8OEF, Joe Express Editor
 W8VB, Dave ARRL Liaison
 *KC8EZU, Chris Swap Chairman
 KG8IE, Scott Field Day Chairman
 *N8KND, Doug Repeater Technician
 *Absent

The meeting was called to order by the President at 7:36 P.M.

New upgrades were recognized.

A motion was made by Bill, N8SA, seconded by Scott, KG8IE, and passed to accept the minutes of the last meeting as printed in the Express.

A motion was made by Walt, WB8E, seconded by Bill, N8SA, and passed to accept the Treasurer's report as presented.

Membership: Current 1998 paid membership is in excess of 140. the time to renew is now, see Mark, W8IR.

Repeater: In Doug's, N8KND, absence Arpad, W8YM, informed the membership that the controller is on order.

Express: Joe, K8OEF, will be accepting articles for the next Express. The Golden Crystal Award was presented to Dave, KC8IAQ.

Net Manager: Dave, KC8IAQ, updated members on the new 6 meter net.

Testing: Bill, N8SA, encapsulated current testing information. Testing will continue to be the first Saturday of each month at the Salvation Army in Mt. Clemens.

Apparel: See Delphine, XYL of KB8WTH, to place your orders.

Hosts: Thanks to this month's host, Don, KC8CPT, and John, KA2IBE. The hosts for next month will be Bill, WW1AW, and Bill, KC8DBG.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

The Net Point Awards were presented.

Joe, K8OEF, was presented with a special plaque for his dedicated and superior work as editor of the Express.

Jim, N8OKW, reminded everyone that the Moonlight Monte Rally is scheduled for Saturday, February 21, 1998 in Imlay City. Volunteers are needed. Also, Saturday, February 28, 1998 is the Closed Road Stage Rally in Lewiston.

Bill, N8SA, reported on plans for the Election Night Net for the August election. An organizational meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 27, 1998 at 7:00 P.M. at the Salvation Army in Mt. Clemens, plan to attend.

Dennis, W8DFG, relayed information about WalkAmerica to be held on Sunday, April 26, 1998.

—Continued on Page 13

IF ONLY—Continued from Page 11

If my call sign was **N8NQQ**, I would have a Dutchman motor home with air and be retired with nothing to do except camp.

If my call sign was **WB8E**, I would be one hell of a nice guy. I would be our club ambassador extraordinaire; one of the doers and shakers of USECA I would be an extra class with class; and, last but not least, I would be the world's greatest salesman since I would be able to sell a used pie container with fork and crumbs included.

If my call sign was **N8VLY**, I would thank **N8RRU** for buying me a camper.

If my call sign was **N8OEX**, I would be a great chef; and, I would ask the club to provide me with an official chef's hat.

If my call sign was **N8SIH**, I would have gotten to go bra-less at the Port Huron picnic and get away with it.

If my call sign was **K8CFY**, I would own that cool looking bike and ride around and around at Algonac State Park

If my call sign was **KB8TAS**, I would be "the guy" that sells the badges with the official USECA logo.

If my call sign was **WX3M**. I would have a brain; and, I would know an awful lot about alot.

If my call sign was **KG8IE**, I would have won the Detroit Region Championship Spring Road rally.

If my call sign was **KF8RG**, I would get a lot of mail and not junk that says "occupant" or "resident."

If my call sign was **N8VTF**, I would get to drive the Salvation Army Canteen and get to have trainees at my every beck'n call.

If my call sign was **KA8NDY**, I would own Elmer Fudd.

If my call sign was **KB8QXD**, I would get to say "this is" KB8QX Delta.

If my call sign was **N8YJI**, I would own the Taj Mahal, and be "the other woman."

If my call sign was **AA8CY**, I would have an awesome head of hair and get to wear it in a pony tail.

If my call sign was **KB8YYC**, I would be able to yank your chain; and, be "talked into" chairing a station at field day and doing a fine job.

If my call sign was **KB8QMP**, I would be a captain and be able to get a SATERN team together to provide service in time of disaster.

If my call sign was **N8MCD**, I would install a shower on my property, so I wouldn't be contributing to the destruction of the ozone layer.

If my call sign was **KB8QMS**, I would be me.

FOR SALE

Kenwood TM-731 dual band mobile, fully modified, tone decode board, best RX front end ever made, box and manual, \$400. 440 mobile gain antenna, NMO mount, \$25. 2M mobile gain antenna, NMO mount \$25. Arpad, WY8M, (810) 751-3804.

Tailtwister II heavy duty ham rotor. Like new condition, new bearings and grease, \$150.00. Dan, WA8GQL, (810) 752-8675.

Two Meter VHF FM 80 watt amp., 12 vdc, keys w/1 watt. \$100. 10 & 15 meter HF 3-element beam, \$120. 20 meter HF 3-element Hy-Gain beam \$120. Sea Hawk 14 VHF/FM marine radio \$75. T.J., N8RUH, (810) 786-5735.

★Zenith AT-compatible, 640 memory, 2 floppys 5-1/4's, color monitor RGB with video input option. good machine for packet. Contact: n8erv@tir.com, (810) 485-2118 (pager).

★New this month. *Notify the editor to have items added/removed.*

The above column is for club members only.

General Meeting Minutes—Continued from Page 12

The February, 1998 USECA meeting will be held at Detroit Edison on 19 Mile Road between Hayes and Garfield.

Dennis, W8DFG, announced that the Vice-President will be the chairman of the Program Committee.

Biff, N8NQQ, reminded everyone to make their Dayton reservations early.

Tonight's program will be on CW procedure, presented by Marion, N8MOJ, and Jim, WB8SIW.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbi Cokewell, KB8YYB, Recording Secretary

The Grand WAZOO—Continued from Page 1

Touching on another subject, I would like to make a couple of remark's regarding the repeater. 1.) Please remember that if you arrive to a scene of a accident after it happens chances are that incident has been called in many times over. Unless you can stay with the situation and find out if there are any PI's, PLEASE think about having a base station call the police. The era of the cell phone is upon us. 2.) PLEASE - PLEASE - PLEASE - let's watch out for the quick keying. At some point in time we are all guilty of this. Please leave a gap in case someone has other traffic to pass. Well, off the soapbox for now.

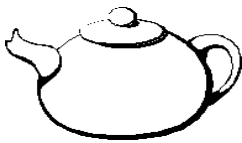
With all the information passed on to the members in this article, I would like to close with one thought . . . "It's never too late to participate." Maybe this will be the saying for '98.

73.

NAME BADGES

WITH THE OFFICIAL USECA LOGO

CONTACT DEBBI, KB8YYB: (810) 263-0227



HANDLES



PERSONALS



NAMES



(810) 268-6730

FEBRUARY MEETING HOSTS

Bill, WW1AW

Bill, KC8DBG

1998 NET POINT SYSTEM

- ✓1) HF CW NCO = 4 points, HF SSB/VHF NCO = 3 points, HF CW/SSB check-in = 2 points, VHF check-in = 1 point. (NOTE: Check-ins *must* do so personally, proxy check-ins are not legitimate. "In & Out" check-ins, though allowed, are discouraged.)
- ✓2) Awards are earned for 50 points and multiples thereof; plaques for the highest annual HF and VHF scores. Awards are meant to encourage participation and are open to all licensed amateurs.
- ✓3) Net logs must be readable and include the CALLS and NAMES of check-ins, as well as NCO, DATE, and MODE.
- ✓4) NCO's: forward net log gets to the Awards Manager within 30 days; logs received later will not earn the bonus points normally awarded a NCO. MAIL logs to: 53762 Kristin Ct., Shelby Twp., MI 48316, c/o KF8RG, via packet to KF8RG-1 (145.03 MHz) or KF8RG @ DETIP BBS (144.93) or catch me on the air to pass your list.
- ✓5) If you notice any mistakes, wrong or changed call signs, names misspelled, etc., let Ken know ASAP.

USECA VE TESTING

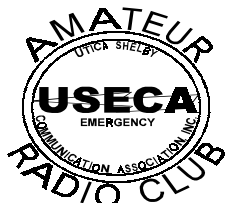
Examinations for an Amateur License are held the on the first Saturday of each month (except July and August). Starting time is 7:15 p.m. — please do not arrive earlier. Walk-ins are welcomed. Pre-registration is preferred. Test site is at the Salvation Army, 55 Church, Mt. Clemens. If testing, you must have the following: picture ID (or birth certificate); and a copy of your current license or completion certificates, if any. For more information and directions to the test site, call Bill, N8SA at: (810) 468-8345; (before 9:00 p.m.).

USECA APPAREL

Jackets—\$45.00 • Sweatshirts—\$25.00
 Polo Shirts—\$22.00 • Caps—\$6.00
 (2X & 3X—Additional Charge)
Contact: Richard, KB8WTH
At Meetings or Phone (810) 791-4669

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 Tuesday of each month (except July and August), 7:30 p.m., local time, at the Donald Bemis Junior High School, 12500 Nineteen Mile Road (between Schoenherr and Clinton River Road), Sterling Heights, 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. To get a message to the Board or the Membership Secretary, please call our answering machine at: (810) 268-6730. The awards for "Excellent" (1994) and twice "Superior" (1995 and 1996) were received from ARNS (Amateur Radio News Service).

USECA APPLICATION



DATE _____ NEW RENEWAL NEWSLETTER ONLY
 CALL _____ CLASS _____ AUTO-PATCH _____
 NAME _____
 STREET ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 TELEPHONE # _____ PRINT IN ROSTER: YES NO
 BIRTHDATE _____ Copy of Current License for USECA File
 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 (Includes Newsletter) Regular: \$20 — Family: \$30

Newsletter (Only): \$8 — Auto-Patch: \$35 (One Time Fee) + Annual Dues

Applications can be given to the Membership Secretary at monthly meeting or mailed.

Please make check payable to: **USECA**—Address: **P.O. Box 1222, Sterling Heights, MI 48311-1222**

(Allow 4-6 weeks for processing.)



2-Meter LANs

Local Area Nets

DAY	TIME	CLUB	FREQ.
SUN	1:00 pm	USECA/Information	147.180
SUN	8:00 pm	SPIRIT of '76/Traders	146.760
SUN	9:00 pm	HPARC/DART	146.640
SUN	9:00 pm	Garden City ARC	146.860
SUN-SAT	10:15 pm	S. E. Michigan Traffic Net	145.330
MON	8:00 pm	MECA	147.200
MON	9:00 pm	USECA/Slow Code	147.180
TUE	8:00 pm	USECA/Information	147.180
TUE	9:00 pm	Motor City Radio Club	147.240
WED	8:00 pm	GMARC	146.700
WED	8:00 pm	SPIRIT of '76/Info./Traders	146.760
WED	8:00 pm	SMART/ARPS	147.140
WED*	9:00 pm	SATERN	147.180
WED	9:00 pm	MICHIGAN QRP	145.170
THU	7:00 pm	HPARC/Kids	146.640
THU	8:00 pm	EDISON/Information	145.330
THU	9:00 pm	ECHO	147.080
FRI	Midnite	USECA/Hootowl	147.180

*First and Third Wednesdays Only.

On The World Wide Web

USECA Home Page

<http://www.rust.net/~dkaherl/useca.htm>

Net Ops Schedules

2-METER NETS

	SUN. 1 PM	MON. 9 PM**	TUES. 8 PM	FRI. MIDNIGHT
WEEK	147.180 MHz	147.180 MHz	147.180 MHz	147.180 MHz
1	KG8IF	W1IK	K8QLM	K8PLW
2	WN8VOT	N8OEF	(No Net)	KC8GUE
3	K8QLM	W1IK	W8IR	KC8DIR
4	N8OKW	N8OEF	KC8IAP	KC8GMT
5*	-OPEN-	-OPEN-	-OPEN-	-OPEN-

**Slow Code

HF NETS

	THURS. 9 PM	FRI. 10 PM	FRI. 11 PM
WEEK	21.140 MHz/CW	21.140 MHz/CW	28.425 MHz/USB
1	KC8GMT	-OPEN-	KC8IAQ
2	KC8GMT	W8RO	KC8GMT
3	KC8GMT	-OPEN-	W8DFG
4	KC8GMT	-OPEN-	KA2IBE
5*	-OPEN-	-OPEN-	-OPEN-

*If applicable..

NCO's—If you are unable to take your net, please get a replacement or contact Dave, KC8IAQ.

Leave A Gap!

USECA

UTICA SHELBY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION, INC.
P.O. Box 1222 • Sterling Heights, MI 48311-1222

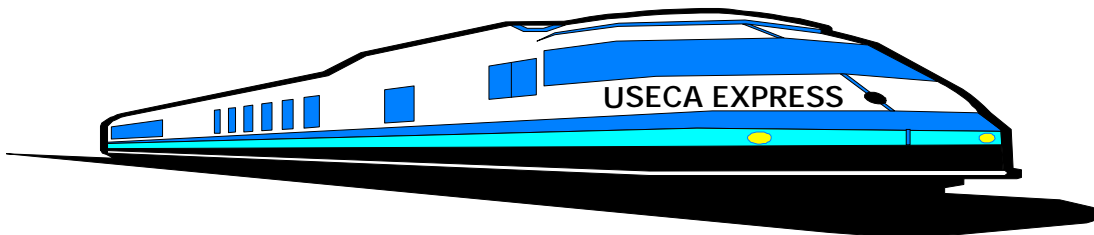
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PAID
WARREN, MI
PERMIT NO. 289

POSTMASTER: DATED MATERIAL

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Coming Your Way