



USECA EXPRESS



Michigan's Largest and Most Active Amateur Radio Club

UTICA SHELBY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION, INC.

Volume 22, Number 2, February 2006

USECA NEWS

New Net Point Manager

Our new manager is Chris, KV8Z. NCO's should now forward their reports to Chris at kv8z@k8uo.com.

Thanks to Arpad, WY8M for his stellar efforts to keep our Net Points and Awards in our USECA tradition.

Thank You

Many thanks go to our members who made a donation to acquire USECA's 2005 Christmas Party DVD at the January meeting.

On this DVD: 130 photos, digitally enhanced; color corrected; animated transitions; custom titles; holiday music background; a unique beginning and a funny ending!

Go to our web site (at the very top) and you can view a short "promo" of this DVD.

There is a limited supply and if you would like to get one, please contact Joe, K8OEF (k8oef@k8uo.com).

FYBO 2006

February 4, 2006, 9AM - 7PM Freeze Your Butt Off At Metro Beach Metropark The Arizona scQRPions (www.azgrp.org) annually sponsors the FYBO contest, a QRP contest with multiplier points for colder temperatures. All are invited and encouraged to come and participate or stop by and visit. We will have stations set up, so stop by and operate. For more details, email Dave, w8rit@k8uo.com

W1AW Code Practice

By Dick Arnold, AF8X

WHEN I WAS learning the Morse code, I listened to the ARRL-W1AW station everyday, but sometimes the times were not convenient for me. I always listened to the CW rate at just a little faster than I could copy and as soon as I could copy that speed I would stop listening and start at the next faster speed. I had hoped to equal the copy speed of my hero, Doug, K8DK. But that never happened.

If you would like to listen to the code practice but it is at times not good for you, you can download the files and play them whenever you have the time. They can be downloaded at the following site: <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw/morse.html>.

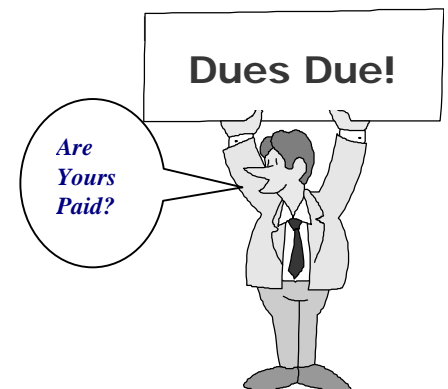
You can pick the files at the speed you want to listen to, but remember, to increase your copy speed; you will have to work at it. Don't listen to 15 WPM if you can copy at that speed. Always push yourself.

Eat B 4 U Meet

The crack kitchen crew will be featuring, for a small nominal fee of course, Coney Dogs, with an undetermined side dish. We will start serving at 6:00 PM and serve till all the Dogs are gone.

NOTE: In order to keep the Eat B 4 U Meet a success, Walt and myself could use some help setting up. So if you are not doing anything, please come early and lend a hand.

Dennis
W8Dah [Food Guy](mailto:FoodGuy)



Next Meeting — February 14

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	Ken Cassale/KW8Z (586) 552-8311
Board Member	Walt Gracey/WB8E (586) 777-2954
Board Member	Phil Manor/W8IC (586) 751-3893
Board Member	Joe Kennedy/N8OZ (586) 977-7222
Past President	Jim Wickstrom/W1IK (586) 771-4135

COMMITTEES

ARRL Liaison	Dave/W8RIT (810) 765-3745
Awards Manager	Chris/KV8Z
Door Prizes	-OPEN-
Editor	Joe/K8OEF (586) 781-0050
Field Day Chair	Phil/W8IC & Ann/KT8F (586) 751-3893
Health & Welfare	Walt/WB8E (586) 777-2954
Historian	Jerry/K8CFY (586) 791-4484
Liaison	Dave/KC8TTQ
Mails/Sorters	Ann/KT8F; Phil/W8IC; & Crew
Net Manager	Brian/KC8DIR (586) 749-4561
Photographer	-OPEN-
Program Director	Brad/N8VI (248) 506-7609
Public Relations Officer	Ken/N8KC (248) 652-1187
Refreshments	Walt/WB8E and Richard/KC8HMJ
Repeater Trustee	Dennis/W8DFG (586) 465-7126
Swap Director	Scott/WN1B (248) 628-4756
Swap Team	Dave/W8RIT; Tom, KD8AVF
Technical Director	Floyd/W8RO (248) 391-6660
Technicians	WN1B; W8IC; K8FT; WA8GQL; KC8IAQ; W1IK; AD8S; N8SA
VE Testing	Joe/N8OZ (586) 977-7222
Webmaster	Brad/N8VI (248) 506-7609

CONTROL OPERATORS (*Phone Number Above)

Scott/WN1B	Phil/W8IC*	Joe/N8OZ*
Dennis/W8DFG*	Jim/W1IK*	Floyd/W8RO*
Dave/KC8IAQ	Joe/K8OEF*	

PROGRAMMERS

Dennis/W8DFG	Dave/KC8IAQ
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Michigan's . . .

BEST-IN-CLASS!

Did You Know?

The close of the February General Meeting on the 14th is the very last day to pay your dues and be included in USECA's Official 2006 roster.

The Editor is:

Still Going

Joe, K8OEF

It was great to be at the January general meeting. It was particularly enjoyable to see our members "step up" to the call and volunteer their TNT (time and talent), for the betterment of our club. Chris, KV8Z will now handle the net points and be the designated Awards Manager. Also, Scott, WN1B has volunteered (as long as time permits) to be our Swap Director this year — and at the same time, Scott was able to recruit two members for the Swap Team; Dave, W8RIT and Tom, KD8AVF. Scott would like to have at least one more volunteer. Can it be *you*? The entire editorial staff wishes to thank all of you for helping the club in their time of need.

The next edition of the *Express* is our March issue. Traditionally, we will include our club roster. The Board will make the decision whether to have that included in our electronic edition of the *Express*.

Was this edition mailed to you? And, if so, do you have email capabilities? If the answer is yes to both, please notify our membership secretary with your email address—this will help decrease our on-going expense.

73 for now.

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Optimum Portable

By Dick Arnold, AF8X

AS A PERSON WHO likes portable QRP operation, I have spent many an hour trying to think of unusual places to operate from that would be interesting to others as well as myself.

A few weeks ago I thought of a place that would be the envy of most portable operators.

Atop Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial at Put-In-Bay, Ohio seemed to be an ideal place to setup a station. Everyone knows that when it comes to antennas, elevation is everything.

At 352 feet, I believed I could be heard around the world. I recalled my last visit to the top of the monument and remembered the wide ledge that would suffice as a working surface for the little KX-1 that I intended to use. I thought about antennas and decided I would bring several wires and maybe the small MP-1 vertical. But first I needed permission from the National Park Service to operate from there.

I wrote a letter describing what I wanted to do and the equipment I

was to use, and explained how my operation would bring them some notoriety in other states and possibly other countries as well.

Today I received their answer. Their letter is shown here less the application that was also included.

After reading about the license fee and insurance required, I decided to look elsewhere for an unusual operating location. Perhaps this might be a desirable club event, but I have dismissed this location as a solo endeavor.



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial
P.O. Box 549
Put-in-Bay, OH 43456
(419) 285-2184

L30(PEVI)

MWR-PEVI-2501

December 12, 2005

Mr. Richard J. Arnold
22901 E. Schafer St.
Clinton Twp, MI 48035

Dear Mr. Arnold:

We are in receipt of your letter requesting permission to operate a small ham radio transceiver atop the monument at Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial. From your correspondence, we have a general idea of what you intend to do and your proposal has not been immediately denied. Nor is it just as simple as allowing you permission to set up and operate from the top of the Monument on a given day.

DIRECTOR'S ORDER #53: SPECIAL PARK USES states:

3.1 General. The National Park Service may permit a special park use if the proposed activity will not:

- Cause injury or damage to park resources; or
- Be contrary to the purposes for which the park was established; or
- Unreasonably impair the atmosphere of peace and tranquility maintained in wilderness, natural, historic or commemorative locations within the park; or
- Unreasonably interfere with the interpretive, visitor service, or other program activities, or with the administrative activities of the NPS; or
- Substantially impair the operation of public facilities or services of NPS concessioners or contractors; or
- Present a clear and present danger to public health and safety; or
- Result in significant conflict with other existing uses.

A superintendent must deny initial or renewal requests upon finding that any of the above conditions will not be met. Existing activities that do not meet these conditions must be phased out.

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USECA Meeting Minutes

Board Meeting—January 3, 2006

In attendance:

N8ZA, Chuck	President
N8VI, Brad	Vice-President
KT8F, Ann	Recording Secretary
KW8Z, Ken	Membership Secretary
W8DFG, Dennis	Treasurer
WB8E, Walt	Board Member
W8IC, Phil	Board Member
N8OZ, Joe	Board Member
W1IK, Jim	Past President
*Absent	



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

Motion to accept the minutes of the last BOD meeting made by Phil, W8IC and 2nd by Brad, N8VI, motion carried.

Treasurer's report - end of year complete report provided by Dennis, W8DFG. Motion to accept made by Joe, N8OZ and supported by Jim, W1IK, motion carried.

Membership: 198 members 79 paid members for 2006. Applications reviewed and accepted.

Webmaster: Brad, N8VI – everything appears to be working well, No recent changes made. Dennis, W8DFG has updated all the email addresses.

Express: Joe, K8OEF – no report.

ARRL: Dave, W8RIT – will report at the general meeting.

Technical: Scott, WN1B – will provide a gift to Messina. Work on repeater pending break in the weather.

Trustee: Dennis W8DFG. No specific report at this time.

Field Day: Phil, W8IC – stated that certain ARRL rules need to be followed. At each station, each operator will be limited to their license limits, or there must be a control operator present. Extra class operators will be needed to act as control operators.

Swap: a committee of 2-3 people is desired to run this year's swap. Scott, WN1B is willing to assist the committee. Dave, W8RIT volunteered to be on the committee. Scott will assist in pulling together the committee.

New business: Dennis, W8DFG has a bill for \$170.00 for insurance on repeater equipment. Jim, W1IK made a motion that this bill be paid, 2nd by Brad, N8VI, discussion, motion carried.

Dennis, W8DFG made a motion that we bring to the floor at a general meeting a proposed bylaws change: a vote to raise the dues by \$5.00 to \$25.00/year. 2nd by Ann, KT8F. Discussion. Motion carried.

Brad, N8VI – asked the BOD if there should be a section on the web page listing SK's. Discussion ensued on this issue. It was decided to make a statement regarding the SK in a current issue of the Express, and provide the list in the December issue. Jim, W1IK suggested listing new

members on the website and in the Express, this was agreed on.

Scott, WN1B asked the BOD on behalf of Bill, N8SA, if he could associate the course he will be teaching in Feb - the 2-day technician class - with the USECA name. The BOD agreed. The presentation will be made available to Brad, N8VI to put on the web site for download.

Rich, K8PJQ suggested that to assist new members, the club should develop a way to list member's interests in the hobby. The new members would then be able to contact with their particular interests/questions. Discussion.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Jim, W1IK 2nd by Dennis, W8DFG, motion carried, meeting adjourned at 9:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann, KT8F, Recording Secretary



General Meeting—January 10, 2006

In attendance:

N8ZA, Chuck	President
N8VI, Brad	Vice-President
KT8F, Ann	Recording Secretary
KW8Z, Ken	Membership Secretary
W8DFG, Dennis	Treasurer
WB8E, Walt	Board Member
W8IC, Phil	Board Member
N8OZ, Joe	Board Member
W1IK, Jim	Past President
*Absent	

Meeting called to order by the President at 7:37 PM.

Introductions, new members, visitors and upgrades recognized.

Motion to accept the minutes of the last general meeting made by Mike, N5WCS and 2nd by George, K8GEO, motion carried.

Membership: Ken, KW8Z – 198 members.

Treasurer's report by Dennis, W8DFG. Motion to accept made by Jim, N8DMW and supported by Scott, WN1B.

Webmaster: Brad, N8VI – reported on current status. New section has been added to the website that contains materials from presentations at the meetings.

Express: Joe, K8OEF – no report.

Technical: report by Scott, WN1B. Will be relocating the antenna at the Mt. Clemens site. Downtown site should be up soon.

ARRL: Dave, W8RIT made a motion that the membership give him permission to satisfy the minimum required member information for ARRL affiliation with the intent of renewing our Special Service Club status. Supported by Jim, W1IK. Discussion. Motion carried.

—Continued on Page 9

Gray Line Propagation

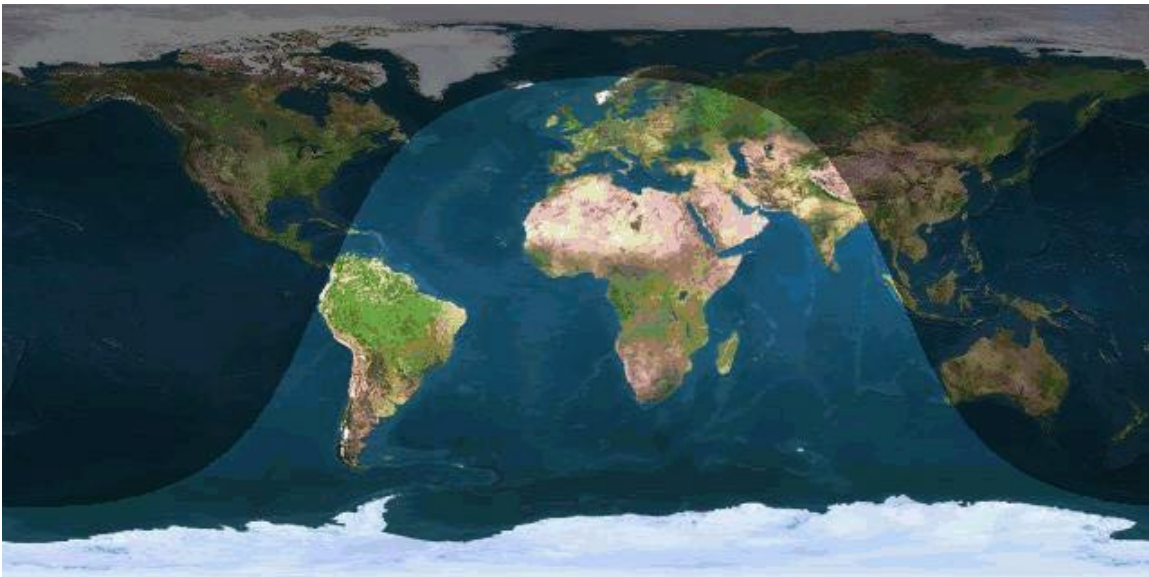
By Dick Arnold, AF8X

IT'S STILL DARK outside. But after a rather sleepless night you decide to get up. The coffee is made and a steaming cup sits before you on your desk as you snap on the switch to power up your radio station. A low hiss comes from the speaker as you tune down through the bands. "Dead", you think. Just as you are about to give up and switch off the power, a faint sound, different from the static noise, is heard. You try to tune it more clearly, but it disappears as you tune back and forth. You take a sip of coffee and at that moment the very faint signal gradually becomes louder and louder until you can copy the familiar dah di dah dit dah dah di dah, CQ! You listen intently as the signal gets even louder, CQ CQ CQ DE JN3XAO JN3XAO K. Your heart jumps, no one is answering him. You move quickly now and nervously finger your paddle sending your call twice and the pro sign "K" The JN station comes right back and you log a new Japanese station.

You have just experienced Gray Line Propagation. No, this didn't really happen, but it could have.

The grey line is a moving band around the Earth that separates daylight from darkness. Propagation along the grey line is very efficient. One major reason for this is that the D layer, which absorbs HF signals, disappears rapidly on the sunset side of the grey line, and it has not yet built upon the sunrise side. When one radio station is in the dusk and the opposite station is in the dawn, there is a possibility for so called "gray line propagation". At sunrise the D-layer builds up slowly and at sunset it disappears slowly again. During this change, low frequencies are not absorbed but refracted by the D-layer and they will enter the F-layer with a much lower wave angle than normal. In this way longer distances can be used for propagation on the lower bands. Gray line propagation occurs in general on the 1.8, 3.5, 7 and 10 MHz bands and the paths will be in the dark.

Gray-line map: <http://www.smeter.net/propagation/views/current-gray-line.php>



This map shows the current position of the grey line terminator at time of access.

When both ends of a path are in the twilight zone*, one at sunrise and the other at sunset, then we have a gray line situation. The effect of advantageous propagation conditions at twilight hours has been recognized since the early days of lowband DXing. Dale Hoppe, K6UA and Peter Dalton, W6NLZ, first called the zone in which the special propagation condition exists the "gray line". The gray line is a zone centered around the geographical terminator.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 0) complete darkness | 6) sunset |
| 1) astronomical twilight begins | 7) civil twilight ends |
| 2) nautical twilight* begins | 8) nautical twilight* ends |
| 3) civil twilight begins | 9) astronomical twilight ends |
| 4) sunrise | 10) complete darkness |
| 5) ... | |

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Skeds

By Dick Arnold, AF8X

OVER THE YEARS I have had many schedules with ham friends. Success depends on several things. Distance between stations, band, frequency, time of day, and antennas.

Antennas are important if stations are close and communication is via ground wave. Both antennas in this case should have the same polarization. Cross polarization will seriously degrade signals.

Distance and time of day will dictate the band to use. For example 40 meters during the daylight

hours will provide communications over short distances, but as night begins the band will stretch out and will no longer be suitable for short distance communication.

A good way to determine all the factors necessary for a successful sked is to look at a net directory and see what time and frequencies they are operating on and if possible listen to a couple to see if you can hear stations in the area where the other sked station will be located. My own experience has shown that 80 meters is pretty

good during the day for almost any where in the state. For near by states during the day, 40 meters is good. Listen to Midcars on 7.258 to get an idea of the coverage.

15 and 20 meters are good for long distances during the day if the bands are open. Remember all your preparations are dependant on propagation. Try to have an alternate plan if your selected band is dead. Perhaps a later time or different band may work for you.

S.A.D.

By Dick Arnold, AF8X

HAVE YOU EVER noticed how good you feel when the sun is shining? I know when you walk out into the summer sun you almost have to smile.

S.A.D. or Seasonal Affective Disorder is a malady that most of us who remain here in the Northern states during the winter months suffer to some extent. Science tells us sunlight is an important part of our lives and its deprivation can cause mild to serious symptoms of depression.

Symptoms of depression (excessive eating and sleeping, weight gain) during the fall or winter months are likely to be the result of S.A.D. Treatments includes spending as much time in the outdoor light as possible or exposure to specially designed light boxes.

What has this got to do with ham radio? Well maybe the reason Joe Ham is depressed isn't because Mrs. Ham denied him a new rig for Christmas, or Bill Yagi has been moping around after spending

hours on end in his basement shack lit only by a dim overhead bulb.

I have experienced the effects of S.A.D. and was surprised to learn the cause. Now I try to spend as much time as possible soaking up that December to March sunlight and when indoors I try to keep the rooms brightly lit. This has helped me and like the Sparrows who stay and tough out the Michigan winters, I survive.

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This condition only lasts from minutes to a couple of hours depending on your location latitude. The duration is shorter at the equator and longer toward the Polar Regions. The circumference of the Earth at the equator is 25,000

miles. The Earth rotates in about 24 hours. Therefore, if you were to hang above the surface of the Earth at the equator without moving, you would see 25,000 miles pass by in 24 hours, at a speed of $25000/24$ or just over 1000 miles per hour. Multiply by cosine of your latitude

to see how fast the Earth is rotating where you are.

If you are an early riser or can tear yourself away from the TV in the evening, look up the Gray Line map and see where the terminator is and try working some DX Along the line.

USECA Club Liaison

MONTH	DATE	EVENT
FEB	4	H.A.R.A. Swap and Shop. Hiawatha Amateur Radio Association Negaunee, MI Negaunee Township Hall 42 Hwy M-35 http://www.qsl.net/k8lod/ Talk-In: 147.27 (PL 100) Contact: Robert Serfas, N8PKN Phone: 906-225-6773 Email: n8pkn@aol.com
FEB	11	Annual Swap-n-Shop. Cherryland Amateur Radio Club Traverse City, MI Immaculate Conception Middle School 218 Vine Street http://www.carc.tc Talk-In: 146.86 Contact: Joe Novak, W8TVT Phone: 231-947-8555 Email: jjnovak@charter.net
FEB	19	Livonia Amateur Radio Club. Livonia, MI Livonia Community Recreation Center 15100 Hubbard Road http://www.larc.mi.org Talk-In: 145.350 (-) Contact: William Johnston, W8WSJ Phone: 734-673-5071 Email: swap2006@larc.mi.org
FEB	25&26	Two Day Technician license theory class and testing and In conjunction with Civil Air Patrol and USECA amateur radio club. There will be a two-day technician theory class and test section at the Macomb Community College Center campus, 44575 Garfield Road, Clinton Township. The class is free but attendees are required to pre-register and to read and bring the ARRL Now You're Talking! 5 th edition study guide. Saturday class starts at 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M Sunday class starts at 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Contact: Scott wn1b@k8uo.com
MAR	18	Crossroads Hamfest. Southern Michigan Amateur Radio Society Marshall, MI Marshall High School 701 North Marshall http://www.qsl.net/w8df Talk-In: 146.660 (no tone) Contact: Billy W. Booth, KD8CDS Phone: 269-965-1415 Email: SQJUMPER@aol.com
		<i>Submitted by David, KC8TTQ</i>

Mr. Richard J. Arnold
 Page 2
 December 12, 2005

Continued from Page 3

In order for a permit to go forward it will be necessary for you to supply us with additional information. As far as I can tell from a review of permits previously issued, your proposed activity has not been authorized here before. Because this is potentially precedence setting, it will be necessary to pursue a more rigorous review process in order to establish the legality a potential impacts of the action. Please keep in mind that Perry's Victory is a **National Monument** and subject to a variety of laws and policies, any of which might preclude the use that you propose. The Monument is also the final resting place of six officers that lost their li during the Battle of Lake Erie.

There are also costs associated with the issuance of a Special Use Permit (SUP) that will have to be borne by you. Initially there is a nonrefundable \$100 application fee and there will be additional costs associated with compliance and monitoring. If you are interested in continuing to obtain a permit, please return the completed application with the fee. However, because there is no guarantee of an approved SUP being issued at the end of what could be an involved process, I recommend that you satisfy any additional questions that you might have by phone letter before committing to the permit course.

Sincerely,



Andrew J. Ferguson
 Superintendent

Enclosure



For all the visitors, from other than Michigan, coming to the Super Bowl in February.

1. First, you must learn to pronounce the city name. It's Deh-troit. NOT DEE-troit. If you pronounce it DEE-Troit then we will assume you are from Toledo and here for the country Music hoe-down.
2. Forget the traffic rules you learned elsewhere. Detroit has its own version of traffic rules...Hold on and pray!
3. The morning rush hour is from 6:00 am to 10:00 am. The evening rush hour is from 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Friday's rush hour starts Thursday morning. Weekends are open game.
4. If you actually stop at a yellow light, you will be rear-ended, cussed out and possibly shot. If you're first off the starting line when the light turns green, count to five before going across the intersection. This will avoid getting in the way of cross-traffic who just ran their yellow light to keep from getting shot.
5. Schoenherr can ONLY be properly pronounced by a native of the Detroit metro area. That goes for Gratiot too.
6. Construction and renovation on I-94, I-96, I-75, I-275, I-375, The Lodge and The Southfield Freeways are a way of life and forever. Just deal with it.
7. If someone actually has their turn signal on, it is probably a factory defect or they are "out-of-towners"
8. All old men (or women) with white hair wearing a hat have total right-of-way.
9. The minimum acceptable speed on I-696 and I-275 is 85 regardless of the posted speeds. Anything less is considered downright SISSY. Oh, and don't even think of allowing more than one car length between cars!
10. That attractive wrought iron on the windows and doors in Detroit is NOT ornamental. DO NOT get out of your car to take pictures.
11. Never stare at the driver of the car with the bumper sticker that says "Keep honking, I'm reloading," he/she is.
12. If you are in the left lane, and only going 70 in a 60 mph zone, people are not waving because they are so friendly in Detroit. I would suggest you duck.
13. I-275 and I-696 is our daily version of NASCAR.
14. It's not M-10, it's "the Lodge."
15. That's not a lake, it's a pothole.
16. If someone tells you it's on Outer Drive, you better hope you have a map.
17. The Michigan left turn is simple. If you want to turn left, go a 1/4 of a mile past your turn, get to the left, then make a left, then make another left, then make a right when you get back to the intersection where you wanted to turn left in the first place. NOW you have gone left.
18. And those 2 really ugly arches over Telegraph? DON'T EVEN ASK! WE DON'T HAVE A CLUE!

—Submitted by David, KC8TTQ

Meeting Minutes—From Page 4

Trustee: Dennis, W8DFG – no report.

Field Day: Phil, W8IC displayed and explained the sign-up board. He requested that people sign up as soon as possible.

FYBO coming up – see Dave, W8RIT.

Swap: Scott, WN1B – requested volunteers to form a swap committee for this year's swap. He will help the committee in various ways. 2 people stepped up to the plate: Dave, W8RIT and Tom, KD8AVF. We need one more volunteer.

Club Liaison: George, K8GEO mentioned upcoming events.

Old Business

Arpad, WY8M (outgoing net manager) handed out the awards for last year's net points.

Keith, N8EB handed out awards for the first place fox-hunters for January 2006 and December 2005.

New Business

Scott, WN1B stated there would be a 2-day seminar held at MCCC on Saturday/Sunday, the last weekend in February (25-26) to teach the technician class. Time: 8:30 AM to about 6:00 PM. Testing will be included.

Joe, K8OEF has videos of the Christmas party available, several people donated and received a copy.

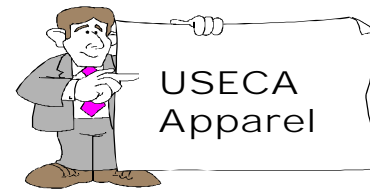
The business portion of the meeting concluded at 8:20 PM.

The program was on radio operation via satellites, provided by Brad, N8VI and Chuck, N8ZA.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann, KT8F, Recording Secretary

USECA VE Testing

Testing will be the FIRST Thursday of the month from September through June. Joe, N8OZ will have the CVE duty. No pre-registration is needed or wanted. Test Fee is \$14.00. Applicants need copies and originals of CSCE's and/or license. There is no copy machine at the Elks; (there is none close by). Starting time is 7:00 p.m. — please do not arrive earlier. Walk-ins are welcomed. Test site is at the Mt. Clemens Elks, 179 S. Main St., 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.



Jackets—\$45.00 • Sweatshirts—\$25.00
Polo Shirts—\$22.00 • Caps—\$6.00
(2X & 3X—Additional Charge)
Contact: Chuck, N8ZA
At Meetings or Phone (586) 557-4983

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. HF < 30 MHz, VHF > 30 MHz. (NOTE: Check-ins should do so *personally*, proxy check-ins are legitimate *only* for members on club business. "In & Out" check-ins, though allowed, are discouraged.)

✓2) Awards are earned for 50 points and multiples thereof. Additional awards for the highest annual HF and VHF scores. Awards are meant to encourage **participation** and can be earned by any **USECA member**.

✓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 logs to the Awards Manager within 30 days; logs received later will not earn the bonus points normally awarded a NCO. Mail your logs to: Chris, KV8Z, 8420 Republic, Warren, MI 48089; or email to kv8z@k8uo.com.

✓5) If you notice any errors in the database, wrong or changed call signs, mis-spelled names, etc., let Chris know ASAP.

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 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 Cork Board

? Radio Items?

ALS 600 Solid State Base Amp. No tune 1.5 to 22 MHz. List \$1129.99; sell for \$1000. (Page 86 in AES catalog) Contact Jerry, K8CFY at: k8cfy@k8uo.com.

KENWOOD Linear Amp. 1000 watts, model TL-922A; 160-15 meters; \$1000.

General Radio Freq. Measuring Equipment; 2-6' cabinets; w/all frequency equipment; w/manuals; lots of electronics; \$250.

HEATHKIT Transceiver model HW-16; w/manual. 80-40 & 15 meters; no crystals; \$35.

HEATHKIT SWL radio model GR-81; 160-80-40-20 meters; w/manual \$50.

Contact K8LJM, Jose; (586) 792-4602.

2 REPEATERS. 2 meter and 440. Yaesu Vertex VXR 5000s. CAT 1000 controllers with DVR and WX interface. Wacom cans. Peet Bros weather station. Cabinet. Gerry, K8GER (989) 826-3196 or k8ger@k8uo.com.

WANTED: Motorola Expo batteries in GWO. Contact Floyd, W8RO at (248) 431-7769 or w8ro@k8uo.com

? Miscellaneous Items?

★CHEVROLET, 2003 Trailblazer 4WD (W8RO/M). Excellent condition, loaded. Sandlewood exterior, Tan interior. 29K miles. Only \$19,995! For more details, contact Floyd, W8RO at (248) 431-7769 or w8ro@k8uo.com.

FREE! To a good home: Epson Apex L-1000 Dot Matrix Printer (24 pin). Very good condition with manuals and drivers! Contact Floyd, W8RO at (248) 431-7769 or w8ro@k8uo.com.

SONY/DELL 21" CRT Computer Monitor with manual; like new; 2 years old. \$195. Contact Joe, K8OEF at (586) 781-0050 or k8oef@k8uo.com.

TOSHIBA Laptop computer 486 Satellite with Canon Jet Printer. \$130. Hewlett-Packard Color Printer Deskjet 560C. \$35. Bapco safety analyzer 120v to 220v test for ground on any product. \$125. Sony car stereo, AM/FM cassette with Sony CD 10 Disc Changer \$140. KC8QIC, Denny, (586) 268-7417.

★FOR SALE

FUTURE DUMMY LOAD? – 50 ohm 1% resistor, 25W, NON-inductive, metal case, have several, build your own dummy load; \$5 each.

1999 BMW R1100S – my yellow beemer!, email for flyer; \$5,500.

1999 NIGHTHAWK – Honda 750cc 4-cylinder Nighthawk motorcycle, black, 18k miles, new aftermarket windshield added, Clymers shop manual; \$2500.

KENWOOD R2000 – Shortwave HF receiver, covers all HF-broadcast-ham-CB-marine bands, receives all popular modes AM/FM/CW/SSB, 150 kHz to 30 MHz, front firing speaker, built in power supply or can run on external 12VDC, have original box, owners manual, service manual, makes a great Christmas present and is now only; \$295

TrippLite Power Supply – model PR-40, label sez "13.8V @ 40A", no meters, ¼"-20 threaded power lugs on the back, power switch on the front, yep, it's heavy! \$100.

ROLODEX RT-8214 – electronic organizer, 2Mb of memory, touch screen like PDA, software, pc cable for backups, just got it but looks like I won't use it, so, for sale; \$20.

MFJ-915 – RF Isolator, SO-239 (PL-style) connectors, manual, like new; \$20.

American Electrola DXC-100 – rare tabletop radio only 2000 made, all solid state, American made with American components, allegedly the last SWL USA-made radio actually made in the USA, HF receiver to 30 MHz, AM/FM/SW, digital display, direct entry keypad, wooden case, front firing speaker, large internal wire loop antenna, long telescopic antenna, ext. jack, power supply, original owners manual; \$95.

MFJ MFJ-956 – tuner, two knobs, 2 SO-239's; \$20.

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

¼" Phono – all metal male phono plug, use for mono headphones and such; \$1.

Yaesu MH-34 – Speaker mic for Yaesu HT's, single pin 4-conductor style, rotatable label clip, like new; \$20.

Kenwood SMC-33 – Speaker-mic for Kenwood HT's, two-pin style, right angle connector, has the three programmable buttons across the top, lock switch on the back, rotatable label clip; \$45.

Computer Speakers – amplified pc speakers, used only 10 minutes; \$5.

Dummy Load – "twin tower" dual massive ceramic resistors, looks like at least 50W could be 100W, actual value unknown, have used it at lower power levels; \$15.

1N3085 – huge 100V 150A recovery diodes, have two; \$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.

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

Wall Warts – various voltages, email with needs; \$3 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; \$1.

Contact Arpad, WY8M at: wY8m@arrl.net or 147.180 MHz+ 100 Hz PL.



(That's us—U S of A)

★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!

USECA APPLICATION



Rev. 1/06

DATE _____ NEW RENEWAL
 CALL _____ CLASS _____ AUTO-PATCH _____
 NAME _____
 STREET ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 TELEPHONE # _____ PRINT # IN ROSTER YES 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
 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	7:00 pm	USECA/Youth	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
MON	9:00 pm	USECA/Morse Code Class	147.180
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.USECA.NET

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
WED	7:00 pm	USECA/6 Meter Phone USB	50.150
THU	7:30 pm	LCARC/10 Meter Phone USB	28.435
THU	9:00 pm	USECA/15 Meter Slow CW	21.140
FRI	10:00 pm	USECA/80 Meter CW	3.710
FRI	11:00 pm	USECA/10 Meter Phone USB	28.425

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	VA3IDJ	W1IK
2	KT8F	N8EB
3	-OPEN-	W8RIT
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 Brian, KC8DIR (586) 749-4561—Don't wait!

USECA

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

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Stay Radioactive

FEBRUARY 2006

Name Badges

WITH THE OFFICIAL USECA LOGO

CONTACT LAURA — (586) 749-4561

"The Happenin' Club"

Club Activities

MONTH	DATE	TIME	EVENT
FEB	2	7:00 pm	VE Test Session
FEB	14	7:30 pm	General Meeting
MAR	2	7:00 pm	VE Test Session
MAR	14	7:30 pm	General Meeting
APR	6	7:00 pm	VE Test Session
APR	11	7:30 pm	General Meeting
MAY	4	7:00 pm	VE Test Session
MAY	9	7:30 pm	General Meeting
MAY	TBA		Pre-Field Day
MAY	19-21		Dayton Hamvention
JUN	1	7:00 pm	VE Test Session
JUN	13	7:30 pm	General Meeting & Fox Hunt
JUN	24-25		Field Day

Only smart people can.

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