

U.S.E.C.A. EXPRESS

Awarded for "EXCELLENCE"

UTICA SHELBY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION, INC.

Volume 11 – Number 6

NEXT MEETING — JUNE 13th

JUNE 1995

FIELD DAY · FIELD DAY · FIELD DAY



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FOX HUNT

FOX HUNT

FOX HUNT

JUNE 13

The monthly meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. At 8:00 p.m. will be the the club's annual FOX HUNT. Come & enjoy the fun!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

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

COMMITTEES

Editor Joe/K8OEF, (810) 781-0050
Mailers/Sorters Ann/KG8IF; Phil/WA8ZOF;
Biff/N8NQQ & Crew
Swap & Shop Kevin/N8QVX & Committee
Net Point Coord. Ken/KF8RG
Net Manager Lee/KB8TOQ
Activities Chair Betty/N8LXL
Program Director Dave/KG8KZ
Repeater Trustee Chuck/WA8Z
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& Bill/KB8VLL
Field Day Co-Chair Betty/N8LXL; Don/WX3M &
Arpad/WY8M
Refreshments Walt/WB8E; Phil/WA8ZOF &
Marianne/N8TMJ
Health & Welfare Kathy/N8VOH, (810) 752-7818
& John/N8FNO
Club Historians Jerry/K8CFY; Ann/KG8IF &
Joe/WD8MFN
ARRL Liaison Dave/KF8CT
Club Videographer Floyd/KF8AT
Door Prizes Bill/AA8LZ

CONTROL OPERATORS

Chuck/WA8Z	Bill/N8CVC	Dave/N8OEV
Earl/N8OEX	Gulliver/WA8VIJ	Gordie/WB8H
Floyd/KF8AT	Pat/N8LOG	Doug/KG8F
Dave /WD8IFL	Mike/WX3L	Nancy/KB8QMS

PROGRAMMERS

WA8Z	N8KND	WB8H	N8FOW	N8CVC
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VOLUNTEER EXAMINERS

WA8Z	KF8AT	WX3L	W8VRW	AA8LZ
AA8NQ	WY8M	KF8RG	KF8MB	KF8CT
AA8CY	AA8HF	N8KDL	N8CVC	

Still Going . . .

Joe / K8OEF

Hoping you receive this notice in time, the Memorial Day Weekend Camp Out location has been changed—from Algonac to Pontiac Lake State Park! Dina has the details; or see the minutes of the last general meeting.

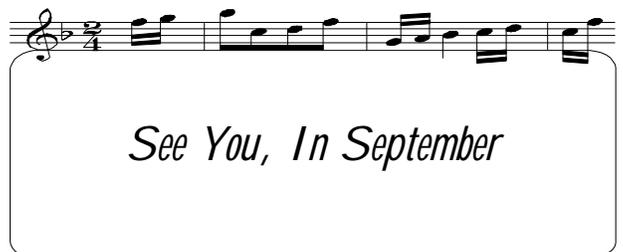
Congratulations, Best Wishes and Good Luck to Phil/WA8ZOF and Ann/KG8IF on their upcoming June wedding.

Sorry there was not enough advance notice for the "Trash For Cash" event to spread the word and help make it a bigger success. Perhaps next time.

If you look closely, you will note several changes under the Control Operators and Volunteer Examiners on this page. The revision reflects a more truism. Also, Floyd is the club's videographer. Speaking of changes, the mast head of the front page has been changed.

Have a great, safe and fun filled summer. The EXPRESS will return with the September issue.

73 for now.



THINK . . .

FIELD DAY—FIELD DAY—FIELD DAY

V.E. TESTING

Examinations for an Amateur License are held the FIRST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH (except July and August). Starting time is 7:15 p.m.; please do not arrive earlier. Walk-ins are welcomed. Pre-registration is preferred. Test site is at the Salvation Army, 34 Grand, Mt. Clemens. You must have the following if testing: Picture I.D.; copy of your current license or completion certificates, if any. Birth certificate is accepted in lieu of picture I.D. For more information and directions to the test site, contact Bill/N8CVC at: (810) 468-8345; (before 9:00 p.m.).

ALTERNATE V.E. TESTING

Hazel Park ARC
 Mike, WD8S; (810) 399-7970
 Bill, N8SWQ; (313) 533-5962
 LARC Club (Livonia); (313) 261-5486
 Motor City Radio Club (Wyandotte)
 Stan, KB8SB; (313) 676-6248

U.S.E.C.A. MERCHANDISE

SWEAT SHIRT

SIZE	PRICE
S-XL	\$15.00
XX	\$17.00
XXX	\$18.00
XXXX	\$20.00

T-SHIRT

SIZE	PRICE
S-XL	\$8.25
XX	\$9.25
XXX	\$10.25
XXXX	\$11.25

(CASH ONLY—CONTACT WALT, WB8E)

Award-Winning EXPRESS



"THE HAPPENIN' CLUB"

CLUB ACTIVITIES

MONTH	DATE	TIME	EVENT
MAY	26-29		Memorial Weekend [Location Changed] Camp-Out
JUN	13	8 pm	U.S.E.C.A. Fox Hunt
JUN	23-25		Field Day
JUL	14-16		Christmas in July Algonac State Park Camp-Out
JUL	30	8 am	EMARC Swap & Picnic
AUG	12-20		Bay City Camp-Out
AUG	19-20		Clinton River Clean-Up
SEP	?		Romeo Peach Festival
OCT	21	8 am	Boy Scouts—JOTA Stony Creek Park
OCT	22	8 am	U.S.E.C.A. Swap & Shop
NOV	11	1 pm	Road Rally
DEC	?		Annual Christmas Party
MAY	17-19		Dayton '96

2-METER LANs

LOCAL AREA NETS

DAY	TIME	CLUB	FREQ.
SUN	1:00 pm	U.S.E.C.A./Info.	147.180
SUN	7:00 pm	HPARC/Kids	146.640
SUN	8:00 pm	SPIRIT of '76/Traders	146.760
SUN	9:00 pm	HPARC/DART	146.640
MON	8:00 pm	MECA	147.200
TUE	8:00 pm	U.S.E.C.A./Info.	147.180
WED	8:00 pm	SPIRIT of '76/Info.	146.760
WED	8:00 pm	SMART/ARPSC	147.140
WED*	9:00 pm	[SATERN]*	147.180
WED	9:00 pm	MICHIGAN QRP	145.170
THR	8:00 pm	EDISON/Info.	145.330
THR	9:00 pm	ECHO	147.080
FRI	Midnight	U.S.E.C.A./Hoot Owl	147.180

*FIRST and THIRD WEDNESDAYS ONLY.

NAME BADGES

With the Official U.S.E.C.A. Logo — \$3.00
 Contact Jerry, KB8TAS: (810) 263-0227

FD – SOAPBOX

TOPTENTOPTENTOPTENTOPTEN

Okay... so here it is. FD is just around the corner and this is how the stations are going to be lookin':

- 10 SSB — KB8YYC
- 10 CW — KB8WBZ
- 15 SSB — KG8IE
- 15 CW — KG8IF + WA8ZOF
- 20 SSB — N8RHV
- 20 CW — N8MOJ
- 40 SSB — AA8LZ + WX3M
- 40 CW — AA8CY + KF8AT
- 75 SSB — N8RRU
- 80 CW — KB8NDS
- 160 Multi — WA8ZOF
- Novice/Tech — KB8SRB
- 6M Multi — KB8QXD
- Satellite — N8MBK
- 2M Multi — N8QVX
- 220 Multi — N8VMH
- 440 Multi — KB8SFN
- 1.2Ghz — KB8TVV
- 2M Talk in — KB8QMP + N8TVF

Yep, that's right. 17A for Field Day 1995!!! Nineteen active stations. And how can we do this? Simple. Participation. We have active members willing to make this happen and put us on the cover of QST (and maybe others) yet again!

Many stations still need stuff. Like generators and towers and loggers and and... stuff. So listen for them on the nets. Give them the support they need. Simple rule for Field Day. BRING EVERYTHING!!! Bring lawn chairs and tuners and adapters and coax and antennas and beer and Jack Daniels and what ever ya can find. Worst case it'll taken a trip in your car! Big deal.

Find the station chair for the band your interested in and get with them. No, ya don't have ta be committed to a specific band, though some of ya should be committed... period. Feel free ta show up and wander around and try different stuff. Stuff is cool. Yeah.

Some reminders for FD:

→Use monochrome monitors for the computers. Color one's make a ton of noise on HF. Laptops and notebooks rule!

→No glass bottles. Jim's(N8MCD) horses wouldn't like the surprises in the grass.

→HF stations will use a tuner, primarily to help filter out harmonics.

→ALL HF stations will try very hard to obtain an I.C.E. Band Pass Filter to reduce interference and increase scores. (Available thru AES, not a plug, just a reference.)

→Stations will try very hard ta be up and running by midnite Friday. Well... lubricated anyway!

Anyway, before we get too serious... FD is a party too!!! Friday nite we have the band QRM for your listening pleasure! We'll have a keg available at the 'Arp tarp-o-beer'!! There'll be socializin' 24 hours a day for the entire weekend. Feel free ta spend the nite in your tent/trailer/camper thing. Or just stay up all nite.

Up all nite... Many operators es loggers will be up all nite and your support would be, like, appreciated... and stuff. Gas -n- oil in the generators checked. Run ta get op's coffee or beer. Relieve the logger for ten so he/she can get rid of some coffee or beer. Really need help on the midnite ta six shift Saturday nite!!

Yes this is a contest. But we have fun, too! We're the club that pioneered that concept. We can be in the top ten and have a good time. There are plenty of stations for everyone to try. There is no reason a person can't find a place to operate at FD95! There's NINETEEN stations for you-know-who's sake!!! Yes, some (abt a third) are hot-dog whack-em and stack-em full blown contest stations; but the other MAJORITY two-thirds are more laid back and willing to casually let ya operate if ya never been at the mike er key before! So... NO excuses abt how someone wouldn't let ya operate. There aren't any!

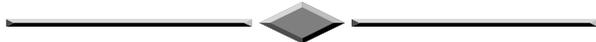
And if ya don't want ta operate, that's cool too. Plenty o' help needed erectin' towers, cookin' in the kitchen, cleanin' up afterwards, bringin' the towers back down (one way or another!). Point is, there's a whole lot of people ta meet and a whole lot ta do at FD95. Chip in. It'll be a blast!

Well, that's it fer now. Got plenty more ta write about, but Joe's a waitin' on this!

CQ FD CQ FD de
WY8M

KUDOS

Sean, KF8ZV and a few other boys from Eisenhower High School recently took 1st place nationally in a design and manufacturing competition. (Sean is the son of KF8RG).



[In case you wondered what the Dayton Hamvention folks do with all the money they collect, the following may surprise you.]

DARA

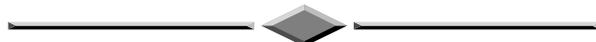
The Dayton Amateur Radio Association is the same organization which sponsors the celebrated Dayton Hamvention and other amateur events. In 1995, DARA will be awarding eight scholarships, each totaling \$2,000. Applicants must be graduating from high school in 1995 in order to qualify for these awards.

[Worldradio, March 1995]



**Memorial Day Weekend
Camp-Out Info!
NEW LOCATION!**

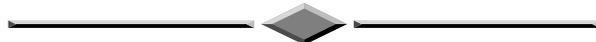
The location has been changed FROM Algonac TO Pontiac Lake State Park. Please make a note of it.



"Do I Have It?"

I hear this a lot on the repeater. Why is this? Perhaps it is the lack of procedures. Operating tip— if there is more than just you and another person in the QSO, it is best to turn it over to someone and reduce the chances of a "double"—(play it safe, don't assume anything).

[Ed.]



Didja Ever Wonder . . . ?

Why do you need a driver's license to buy liquor, when you can't drink and drive?

Why isn't "phonetic" spelled the way it sounds?

Why are there interstate highways in Hawaii?

Why are cigarettes sold in gas stations when smoking is prohibited there?

How does the guy who drives the snowplow get to work in the morning?

If a 7-11 is open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, why are there locks on the doors?

If nothing ever sticks to Teflon, how do they make Teflon stick to the pan?

If your vehicle goes at the speed of light, what happens when you turn on the headlights?

Why do they put Braille dots on the keypad of the drive-up ATM?

Why do we park on driveways, and drive on parkways?

You know that indestructible black box they use on airplanes? Why can't they make the entire plane out of the same substance?

Why is it that when you're driving and looking for an address, you turn down the volume on the radio?

[Worldradio, March 1995]

U.S.E.C.A.

08 May 95

Dear Members,

On behalf of the March of Dimes, many thanks to you, and the members of the other clubs (for a total of 47 people), for supporting our Campaign for Healthier Babies. Your willingness to participate, even though we did not have a spandix alert, is greatly appreciated.

This year's WalkAmerica was a huge success. As always our 2700 dedicated Metropolitan Beach walkers raised nearly \$230,000 for the March of Dimes. We are pleased to report that throughout southeastern Michigan approximately 15,000 energetic walkers pledged \$1.3 million.

Once again, from one volunteer to a group of volunteers, thank you for your commitment.

Best regards,

(signed)

Dennis Gaboury

KB8YYC

Volunteer Co-Chair

Metro Beach Walk

(signed)

Tom Robinson

No Call

Volunteer Co-Chair

Metro Beach Walk

CARE AND TIPS

Rechargeable Batteries

(From Motorola)

These battery tips will help assure you the highest performance and longest cycle life from your Motorola rechargeable battery.

1. Charge your new battery overnight (14-16 Hours) **before** using it. This is referred to as "initializing" and will enable you to obtain maximum battery capacity.
2. New batteries can be stored up to two years without significant cycle loss.
3. Store new/unused batteries, at room temperature, in cool dry area.
4. Batteries which have been in storage should be charged overnight.
5. When using a Motorola rapid charger, leave battery in charger for an additional 1-2 hours **after** the green light appears.

6. **Do not** leave your radio & battery in the charger when not charging. Continuous charging will shorten battery life. (Don't use your charger as a radio stand.)
7. Only charge batteries **when they need it**. If it isn't fully discharged, don't recharge it. (We recommend you purchase a second battery for multiple/longer duty cycle applications.)
8. **Do not** return fully charged batteries to the charger for an "extra boost." This action will **significantly** reduce cycle life.
9. Stabilize battery to room temperature 72°F **before** charging. Charging below 40°F & above 104°F will decrease cycle life.

FIELD DAY
JUNE 24 & 25

Word Jumble!

ORDUNG

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

ERTMON

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

LYRCAST

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

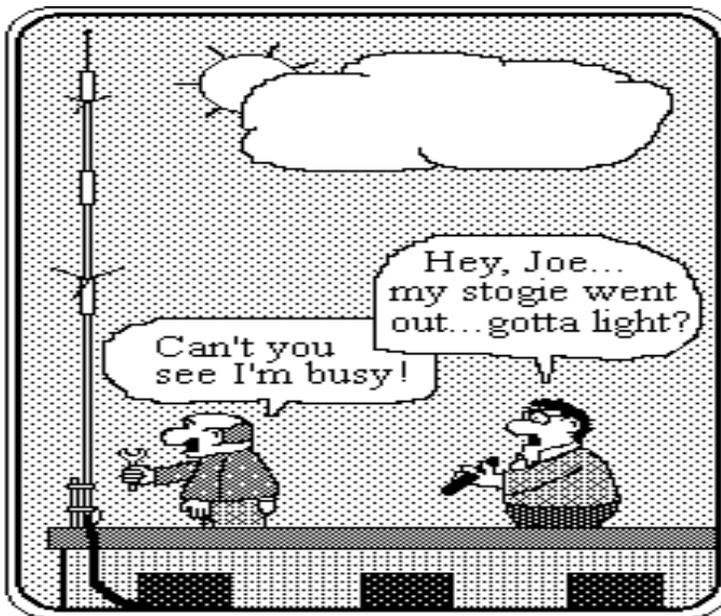
HINDREAL

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Unscramble the words to find the letters to solve the puzzle...

	"					
--	---	--	--	--	--	--

						"
--	--	--	--	--	--	---



What every ham seeks....

K7BRQ

NET OP SCHEDULES					
	2-METER NETS (147.180 MHz)			CW NETS (21.140 MHz)	
WEEK	SUN. 1 PM	TUES. 8 PM	FRI. MIDNIGHT	THURS. 9 PM	FRI. 10 PM
1	KG8IF	WB8E	KB8WTC	-OPEN-	W8VRW
2	K8OEF	N8LXL	KB8TAS	-OPEN-	-OPEN-
3	AA8MD	WY8M	KF8AT	-OPEN-	WA8ZOF
4	-OPEN-	KB8RBV	WY8M	-OPEN-	N8MOJ
5	KB8RSH	N8VVH	KB8QMS	-OPEN-	W8VIJ

CornerBeam vs Yagi

When hams think of gain, they usually have a yagi in mind. But a yagi may not be the best solution for you. Take a look at what a 2-meter CornerBeam offers:

- 12 dB gain over a dipole
- 40 dB Front-to-Back ratio
- 60° Half-power Beamwidth
- SWR < 1.2:1 across the band
- No dimension over 4 ft.
- Mounts directly to tower or mast
- No need for offset or side mount for vertical polarization
- Weighs only 10 pounds

CornerBeam — 10 dB Gain — \$145
10% Discount For All USECA Members

Dave Medley, N8VMH
Tenna Tech (810) 749-6011

HELPFUL HINTS FOR LEARNING CW

I have heard and used a couple different tricks to try and associate the sound and rhythm of the characters. This is just a few that have been talked about on the repeater and on HF in the recent past

If you have any others to add to this list, please contact me and I will update it.

Here are some for you to try:

The letter Q is --.- or "dah-dah-di-dah", which sounds like the phrase "pay day today"!

The letter V is ...- or "di-di-di-dah", which sounds like the most well known part of Beethoven's Fifth.

The letter G is --. or "dah-dah-dit", which sounds like the phrase "Dog-gone it".

The question mark is ...-. or "di-di-dah-dah-di-dit", which sounds like "ditty dum-dum ditty".

I want to hear more from all of you CW experts!

73 and GUD LUK de Floyd, KF8AT.

HELP WANTED . . . FIELD DAY VOLUNTEERS

A MESSAGE FROM THE BIG KAHUNA (prez, that is)

Floyd Soo, KF8AT

Spring is here at last (I hope)! Here we go with another summer of fun in the sun. I know that all of you will be busy with your activities throughout the summer, and that's great! I too am looking forward to the usual biking, boating, shooting, swimming, camping activities; as well as the amateur radio stuff of course.

I am sure that all of you have seen or heard about the nasty weather that certain parts of the country are already experiencing. One of the things that many people do during the summer is travel. I'll bet most of you take some sort of ham gear along with you on your trips; whether it's your VHF/UHF gear or you HF rig, one thing to bear in mind is that it never hurts to be prepared for anything! Now, I don't mean that you have to take your kitchen sink along on your camping trip down south. What I am saying is that you should be aware that different parts of the country (world) have certain idiosyncrasies of their own (that means that they're all different in their own way, you know)!

Why, do you ask, am I bringing this point up? Well, let me just toss out a few facts here. First, do you have any idea what the leading cause of weather related deaths in Michigan is? I knew that Skywarn training was good for something—Yes you are right, lightning kills more people in this state than any other weather related reason.

So what's new, you say? Well, that fact just ain't true in

many other parts of the country! Let's say that you're camping alongside a stream in the Rockies, or maybe somewhere down in Texas, or better yet, how about out in southern California? Know what? The number one killer overall in the country from weather related causes is Flash Flooding! I hope that you and your fellow campers can swim REAL GOOD, and I hope that all of your ham gear is waterproof, floats and has a water actuated strobe on it!

Here's my point: We hams may be called upon to help with emergency situations at any time and in any location. If we have the foresight to plan for some of these situations, we can all be of some use in an emergency, instead of becoming one of the statistics!

So think about where you are going, and then think about the kind of trouble that could arise there that may be different than what you are used to! Then, make some plans and take some precautions! Don't be caught unaware and unprepared, take a proactive attitude when it comes to your safety and the safety of your family.

Enough of that emergency stuff, let's talk about the fun stuff that has been or will be topics of discussion. Dayton has come and gone for 1995 already! Next year it will happen in May instead of April, and watch! Instead of better weather, it will snow next May in Dayton! Any bets? This year the weather was fantastic! The swap was filled with more tube type HF gear than has been there in maybe decades!

There was tons (literally) of Collins, Drake, Swan, Hallicrafters, Hammerlund, Heathkit, etc., there. I also think that lots of people thought that the Michigan Militia was going to be shopping there, because there

was also a ton of surplus military equipment too. Unfortunately, I was working at my booth inside all weekend, so I couldn't puruse the flea market like I had planned to. I still had a great time, though.

Unfortunately, my schedule is full when I am in Dayton, which means I miss all of the hot tub events in Pinqua. I will leave that report to several of the actual participants!

One of the main things I do in Dayton is get together with the Collins Collector Association there every year. Many of you don't know my background relative the old Collins gear, so I'll bore you with some history.

I first saw Collins radio equipment in the mid 1960s as a child, as I began to get interested in Amateur Radio. I am not sure exactly what the fascination was, but I knew that I had to have some of that gear one day. It was THE MOST EXPENSIVE gear available at the time, often costing more than many of the new cars for that time period. What that meant, of course, was that I couldn't afford it and my parents were not going to buy it for me.

So, just as with most of us Baby Boomers, I had to wait until I could afford the gear as an adult. A vast majority of the Collins radio users are in exactly the same boat as I. This means that there are significant numbers of Collins radio equipment out there still in use today by many operators like me. Well, a bunch of us gathered on 20 meters back in 1988 and 1989 and formed a small group that has since become the Collins Collector Association.

(Continued)

I am one of the founding members and still on the B.O.D., as well as being the Net Manager for our nets. I have been the NCO for some nets on 20 meters that have lasted 5-1/2 hours, nonstop, by myself! Needless to say, the first thing I did was make a run to the little boy's room after I closed the net. It's been a lot of fun, I have met many great people, and been to a lot of neat places with the CCA. Of course, our goal is to provide Collins radio users a means of archiving and distributing any and all information about the equipment itself and to provide a means to buy, sell and trade this old classic gear.

That is how I ended up producing a series of videos known as the Collins Video Library. These videos teach people how to operate, align, modify, troubleshoot and restore their Collins radio gear. (These are some of the products that I sell at my booth inside HARA Arena.) The CCA has been getting together at Dayton since 1991, and it sure has been educational as well as fun!

I will talk more about how I got into ham radio and how I became so wrapped up in the Collins radio equipment in the September issues of the Express. I hope to kick off a new series of articles written by all of YOU! I have always found it interesting to hear how all of you got involved in the hobby, and what your own personal interests are within the hobby.

So start jotting down some of those thoughts now and have them ready this fall when I ask you how you got into this fascinating hobby.

I mentioned upcoming events this summer, well of course, Field Day is coming up and we are shooting for Top Ten overall again. Once you have

tried all the rest, come over and join the best! Come and be part of the fun at the USECA Field Day 1995!

Remember that something this big and this good takes a lot of work and organization. We need YOU! Sign up to help with the tents, or in the mess tent, or with one of the stations that will be on the air. There are a multitude of things that have to be done to pull something like this off.

Get together with Stan, N8YWS, and help him repair the main tents the weekend before. Walt (WB8E) can certainly use strong young bodies to help put those tents up on Friday morning, and don't forget about all those towers on Friday afternoon. I have been told that one of the best duties is in the mess tent. They say you can't get any closer to the food and drinks.

The party on Friday night has become a tradition, too. The all ham band "QRM" will be playing again in the evening. So much to do, so little time and people to do it with. So sign up and join the fun! Let's see if we can get on the cover of QST again.

Camping get-togethers at Bay City, Algonac and Pontiac; Christmas in July, Pistol and Trapshoots; Boating and Island get-togethers; Bicycle Rides; QRP DXpeditions; Fox Hunts; Weddings; Parades; Walkathons; Dart Throws; Summer Swaps; Jam Sessions; Tower Parties, etc.

These are many of the events that we are all looking forward to in the next several months. There will be continuing work on our repeater system as well. Lots to do. If we can find the time and energy to get to all on the list of things to do, we will have a fun filled and jam

packed summer season. I hope to see all of you participating in the fun and glory!

Remember that the program in September's General Meeting will be a presentation by Jim Wades (WB8SIW) on the History of Radio, from the early 1900s to about the 1930s. He will have slides and examples of some of the early radios. Don't miss it!

73 and GUD DX until then!

1994 USECA VIDEO

Now available . . . see and hear 40 minutes of USECA's record-breaking, Top 10 finish in the 1994 Field Day event.

Still more . . . see and hear last year's Pre-Field Day and the QRP Dxpedition, etc.

Interested? For only \$7.00 you can share in 60 minutes of USECA fun!

Contact Floyd, KF8AT at: (810) 391-6660.

**USECA Board Meeting Minutes
May 2, 1995**

In attendance:

KF8AT	Floyd	President
KG8IF	Ann	Vice President
KB8QFY	Lynn	Treasurer
N8OKW	Jim	Recording Secretary
N8VLY	Joan	Membership Secretary
WY8M	Arpad	Board Member
N8NQQ	Biff	Board Member
K8OEF	Joe	Editor
KF8CT	Dave	
K8CFY	Jerry	Historian

Absent:

N8OEX	Earl	Past President
N8QVX	Kevin	Swap Chairman
N8LXL	Betty	Board Member

The meeting was called to order by the President at 7:43 P.M.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

The treasurers report was approved as submitted.

Membership

Current paid 1995 membership is 190.

Repeater Status

The repeater is UP and working reasonably well. The amplifier is currently at Doug's undergoing repairs. It is expected to be installed on May 3rd.

World Radio Advertising

Moved by Jim, N8OKW/Ann, KG8IF to not renew the advertising in World Radio. Passed.

Newsletter

The possibility of putting the Express on N8VMH BBS. It was agreed that instead, we would put a flyer about the club and a membership application on the BBS if Dave is agreeable.

ARRL

The benefits of being a special service club was reviewed. The only additional thing that we need to do as a club to get special service club status is to have a formal training program.

Activities

Walk America for the March of Dimes, April 30th., Walt, WB8E.

We provided communications for the Metro Beach Walk America. A total of 47 hams volunteered their services. EDS furnished T shirts and lunches for the 20 workers that they had committed to. There were a few problems in feeding the remaining workers.

Pre Field Day, May 13, Ann, KG8IF and Lynn, KB8QFY.

Will again be at Stony Creek. The site has been reserved. Help is needed for morning set up and evening clean up. A pass-a-dish sign up sheet has been started and most of the staples have been committed for. There will be a walking fox hunt.

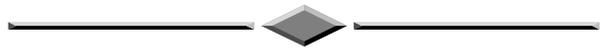
Field Day, June 23, 24, 25, Betty, N8LXL. See Betty, Don, WX3M or Arpad, WY8M to volunteer to help or chair a station. Many of the station chairs have already been signed up.

Swap-October 22, Kevin, N8QVX. The swap will be at Clintondale High School, on 15 Mile West of Gratiot. Space for up to 200 tables in the two cafeterias is available. Food service will also be available. Flyers were distributed to the dealers at Dayton by Kevin.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Respectively submitted,

Jim Mickle, N8OKW, Recording Secretary



**USECA General Membership Meeting
May 9, 1995**

Board Members in attendance:

KF8AT	Floyd	President
KG8IF	Ann	Vice President
KB8QFY	Lynn	Treasurer
N8OKW	Jim	Recording Secretary
WY8M	Arpad	Board Member
N8NQQ	Biff	Board Member
N8LXL	Betty	Board Member
N8OEX	Earl	Past president
N8VLY	Joan	Membership Secretary

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

All present introduced themselves. Attendance was approximately 70.

Upgrades:

Dennis	KB8YYC	Tech
Debbi	KB8YYB	Tech
John	KB8YXY	Tech
Marty	KG8QT	Advanced

The minutes were accepted as printed in the Express.

The treasurers report was presented.

MEMBERSHIP, Joan, N8VLY.
Current paid membership is 189.

REPEATER, Doug, N8KND.
Doug broke a tube just before he was ready to install the amplifier. Replacement tubes are being shipped, and it is planned to install it this weekend.

Activities

Walk America for the March of Dimes, April 30th., Dennis, KB8YYC.

We provided communications for the Metro Beach Walk America. A total of 47 hams volunteered their services.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Pre Field Day, May 13, Ann, KG8IF and Lynn, KB8QFY.

Will again be at Stony Creek. Winter Cove Picnic Area. Help is needed for morning set up and evening clean up. Sign up for your pass-a-dish tonight. Squirt guns and alcoholic beverages are not permitted in the park. Paul, AA8OZ will run an on-foot Fox Hunt.

Field Day, June 23, 24, 25, Betty, N8LXL.
The program was planning for field day. Arpad reviewed the station chair assignments. Only a few stations are open. We always need people to help at the stations, especially the 3-6 AM time period. See Betty, Don, WX3M or Arpad, WY8M to volunteer to help or chair a station.

Trash for Cash, May 21, Walt, WB8E.
Donate any salable items to Walt or Nancy, or bring them to Armada early on the 21st. We will be on the repeater for talk-in.

Memorial Day Campout, Dina, N8YJI.
Because of overload at Algonac, the campout has been moved to Pontiac Lake State Park. Group reservation number is 30246. Reservation number is 800-5432YES. Make your reservations as soon as possible

Christmas in July, July 14, 15, Marianne, N8TMJ.
Is planned for Algonac State Park. Make your reservations early.

Swap-October 22 Kevin, N8QVX.
The swap will be at Clintondale High School, on 15 Mile West of Gratiot. Space for up to 200 tables in the two cafeterias is available. Food service will also be available. One Thousand flyers were distributed to dealers at Dayton.

PROGRAM MANAGER, Dave, KG8KZ.
The June meeting will be the annual fox hunt.

SATERN, Bill, KB8QMP.
Net participation is very good. WD8IFL will be running control operator training at the next net. The net is held on the first and third Wednesdays at 9:00 PM. on the USECA repeater.

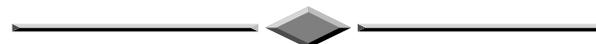
TESTING, Bill, N8CVC.
Testing is first Saturday of the month at the Salvation Army. We had 15 people tested last Saturday. June is the last testing till fall. All people who plan to test are encouraged to pre-register.

FIELD DAY SHIRTS, Walt, WB8E.
Walt took final orders for the great 1995 field day T-Shirts and Sweat Shirts.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

Respectively submitted,

Jim Mickle, N8OKW, Recording Secretary



CLINTON RIVER CLEAN-UP

VOLUNTEER
RADIO OPERATORS NEEDED

Saturday, August 19
Sunday, August 20

Contact Biff, N8NQQ
(810) 566-7749

CQ FIELD DAY



CQ FIELD DAY

June Net Notes

Field Day is here! (Well, almost!) I'm looking forward to setting up my trailer; haven't used it but once (on our annual pilgrimage to the Betsie River) since last Field Day. I hope all of you come well prepared, that's what Field Day's real purpose is . . . to test our preparedness for an emergency situation and our ability to open a line of communication under less than ideal situations.

Speaking of less than ideal situations, the last Field Days have brought us some nasty surprises in the weather department—be prepared for everything from hail to sunburn (We've had it all.). A good operating position is paramount! Leave your leaky tent at home . . . using just a screen tent will invite disaster and probably force you to close your station in even a light rain. Be sure to ground all your gear and especially any towers (lightning seems to be a regular visitor at Field Day!). Towers should also be guyed adequately (heavy rope (1/2") and substantial stakes)—they should not be swaying in the wind with every breeze (strong winds have also been regulars at our Field Days.)

Safety is also of utmost concern on Field Day—be sure to cordon off any areas of hazardous RF energy around your station site (exposed ladder line or live antenna sections). Use a safety harness when climbing any towers (Don't climb if you don't feel comfortable doing it—you won't be a hero if you fall!). If you bring children, *watch them closely*—a field with metal towers, cables, moving autos, and barbed wire fences is no playground! Do not drive amidst the station sites unless necessary—the extra traffic just turns the field into a quagmire, instead, park by the house. Glass is a **No-No** on field day—bring any beverages in plastic or metal containers—broken glass can maim or kill Jim's (N8MCD) animals. Remember, we are guests on Jim's farm and we'd like to be welcome back!

Help will be needed setting up—offer your assistance if you can. This is a *club* activity. Field Day is not just something to *attend*, it requires your *participation*. Arrive early Friday to help put up the mess tents. Calls will be made on the repeater for help mowing and getting the site ready for our arrival. Monitor the repeater for the latest info. Let's see a few new faces at set-up! Always seems to be the same individuals.

As is my custom, I'd like to thank those Net op's who got their check-in sheets to me in a timely manner during the last month: W8VRW, WY8M, KB8TAS, N8MOJ, KB8VLI, KB8WTC, KB8SFK, KB8QMP, KB8RBV, KG8IF, and WA8ZOF. Thanks all!

BCNU on Field Day . . .

Look me up at 15 CW or my trailer.

Ken . . . KF8RG

PS . . . I nominate WY8M as Weather God. Floyd was in charge of the weather the last three years . . . maybe Arpad can do better! (What the hell . . . he needs a job anyway!)

NI-CADS

A Fire Hazard

Skip Douglas / KA9DDN

Beware, anyone who uses Alinco HT's, especially the DJ-180 and DJ-580, and all users of rechargeable-battery equipment.

The charging terminals on the Alinco HT batteries are *not* diode-protected against external short circuits. The manual points this out but fails to emphasize the possible consequences.

Aaron Douglas, N9UBF (my son), had his Alinco on his bed along with items from his school bag including a spiral-bound notebook. Somehow the charging terminals of the battery contacted the metal binding of the notebook, and *within seconds* either the battery case or the spiral wire heated enough to set the blanket afire.

Fortunately Aaron was there. He noticed the smoke and fire in time to extinguish it, preventing more serious consequences. Had it happened when no one was home, we would no longer have a house.

The same could happen to you, if you carry a battery in your pocket, along with change, keys, nail file, etc.

As a result of our experience, I strongly recommend the use of a soft case for the Alinco HT's. And never place the uncased radio, or its spare batteries, on any surface other than something like a table that is clear of conductive items.

Perhaps you are asking yourself, "How can a small, low-voltage battery pack be so dangerous?" Well, the nickel-cadmium (Ni-Cad) [Ni-Cd] batteries in most portable equipment have extremely low internal resistance. So they can deliver a very large current into a short circuit.

Most Ni-Cad battery packs don't have exposed charging terminals connected directly to the batteries. The Yaesu FT-23/73 family of HT's, for example, uses an internal diode to block current flow out of the charging terminals. To test whether a battery-pack's charging terminals for safety, measure the voltage across its charging terminals with a multimeter. If you read a voltage, your battery pack is unsafe.

The terminals on almost all Ni-Cad battery packs are exposed when the batteries are detached from the radio or other device they are intended to power. Thus the precautions I've outlined apply to most Ni-Cad batteries when they are separated from their loads.

ARNS/April 1995

U.S.E.C.A. EXPRESS

Awarded for "EXCELLENCE"

1995 FM Net Point Totals (as of May 9th)

Call	Name	pts	Call	Name	pts
WBZC	ANDY	1	KB8QXB	SUE	4
WX3L	MIKE	11	KB8QXD	BANDY	14
WX3M	DOH	1	KB8QYM	DAVE	1
WD7G	TONY	1	NB8ZS	PAUL	1
KA7KZO	JOHN	8	KB8RBV	MANNY	23
KB8AKS	JERRY	8	KF8RG	KEN	6
KF8AT	FLOYD	36	KB8RJS	ERIC	1
AA8BE	RUDY	1	N8RRU	GARY	12
WD8BRE	ED	2	N8RUE	EDDIE	15
K8CFY	JERRY	17	N8RUH	TJ	9
KF8CT	DAVE	19	KB8RDM	TREK	1
K8DHA	JOHN	1	N8RYT	TOM	1
N8DPH	DEB	1	KB8SPK	RED	3
WD8DQS	LESTER	1	KB8SFO	DENNIS	1
W8DYC	JACK	1	N8SH	BETTY	16
WB8E	WALT	26	KB8SRB	STAN	4
KB8GGI	PAUL	4	KB8SRD	KEN	8
KG8GJ	KEVIN	1	KB8SR	JERRY	4
KB8GPO	KEN	1	N8SUR	RICH	5
WA8GQL	DAN	4	KB8SVN	CHUCK	1
WD8GQL	DAN	2	KB8TAS	JERRY	28
WB8H	GORDIE	2	KB8TBV	JIM	1
AA8HF	DARWIN	1	N8TMJ	MARIANNE	17
N8HYH	BOB	1	N8TNI	SHARON	1
N8HZE	KEN	2	KB8TOQ	LEE	18
KG8E	SCOTT	2	N8TUN	STEVE	3
KG8F	ANN	24	KB8TVV	JIM	3
WD8IRL	DAVE	22	KA8HHG	STEVE	4
KG8IG	DOH	1	KB8JLS	ROGER	2
N8JGM	JOE	1	KB8JM	MURRAY	1
W8JEK	BOB	1	WA8VJL	GULLIVER	2
N8KIM	WAYNE	1	KB8VID	DAVE	1
N8KND	DOUG	8	KB8VJL	STEVE	27
N8KNS	DOH	4	KB8VLL	BILL	4
KG8KZ	DAVE	15	N8VLY	JOAN	6
N8LJE	KEVIN	1	N8VLZ	GORDIE	8
N8LXL	BETTY	3	N8VNH	DAVE	3
KB8LYA	FRED	13	N8VOH	KATHY	9
AA8LZ	BILL	5	KB8VQM	LESTER	7
W8YM	ARFAD	29	N8VTF	DON	15
KF8MB	MEL	2	N8VVH	LINDA	3
N8MBK	NATHAN	1	KB8VWL	ED	2
N8MCD	JIM	1	KB8VWR	MARIE	1
AA8MD	ERIC	16	KB8WBV	KEN	4
N8MJ	JIM	1	KB8WRZ	CARL	12
N8MIV	NORMAN	1	KB8WVY	GREG	1
KB8MUA	ANDY	1	KB8WFW	MIKE	3
KB8NDS	TOM	2	KB8WYF	JOSHI	4
KA8NDY	DAN	18	KB8WLR	CHUCK	9
N8NMX	BILL	1	KB8WLU	PAUL	5
N8NQO	BIFF	13	KB8WMS	JIM	3
KA8NRM	CHUCK	1	N8WVW	RICK	1
N8NTD	JOHN	15	N8WVW	JIM	8
N8NEA	JEAN	1	KB8WPG	MIKE	1
N8OAE	ERNE	4	KB8WTC	MIKE	30
WB8CAF	BILL	1	KB8WTH	RICHARD	6
K8OEF	JOE	33	N8WYP	RAY	1
N8OEF	VAL	4	N8XCZ	ELIZABETH	5
N8OEM	BARB	5	N8XOH	JIM	1
N8OEV	DAVE	3	N8YBY	LEONARD	2
N8OEX	EARL	3	N8YJ	DINA	11
N8OW	JIM	12	N8YWK	BOB	4
N8OW	COLE	8	N8YWS	STAN	18
KB8QFR	JIM	13	KB8YA	DREW	2
KB8QFY	LYNN	9	KB8YB	DEBBIE	1
KB8QLZ	GARY	14	KB8YIC	DENNIS	5
KB8QNP	BILL	14	N8ZFA	PETE	1
KB8QNS	NANCY	27	WB8ZL	PAUL	4
KG8GT	MARTY	8	WA8ZCF	PHIL	8
N8QVX	KEVIN	4	N8RZ	AL	1
KB8QWY	FRANK	1			

Date: 05/09/95 Displayed 142 of 154

1995 CW Net Points (as of May 9th)

Call	Name	pts	Call	Name	pts
WX3L	MIKE	2	KA8NDY	DAN	12
N8LHS	NEEDNAME	2	N8OEF	VAL	36
KF8AT	FLOYD	44	WD8PLQ	GAYLEN	8
AA8CY	BRIAN	4	KF8RG	KEN	2
WB8E	WALT	34	N8SCQ	BOB	2
KG8F	ANN	2	WA8FOB	CHARLES	2
KG8KZ	DAVE	18	WB8RW	HARRY	90
WA8LCZ	BYRON	8	N8WYO	ALAN	18
W8YM	ARFAD	6	WA8ZCF	PHIL	24
N8MOJ	MARION	42			

Date: 05/09/95 Displayed 19 of 19

Top 20 Contenders

Call	Name	pts
1	KF8AT	FLOYD 36
2	K8OEF	JOE 33
3	KB8WTC	MIKE 30
4	W8YM	ARFAD 29
5	KB8TAS	JERRY 28
6	KB8VJL	STEVE 27
7	KB8QMS	NANCY 27
8	WB8E	WALT 26
9	KG8F	ANN 24
10	KB8RBV	MANNY 23
11	WD8FL	DAVE 22
12	K8CT	DAVE 19
13	KB8TOQ	LEE 18
14	KA8NDY	DAN 18
15	N8YWS	STAN 18
16	N8TMJ	MARIANNE 17
17	K8CFY	JERRY 17
18	N8SH	BETTY 16
19	AA8MD	ERIC 16
20	N8NTD	JOHN 15

Net Point Explanation Ken / KF8RG

- (1) CW NCO = 4 pts; CW Check-In = 2 pts
FM NCO = 3 pts; FM Check-In = 1 pt
- (2) Net points can only be awarded as I receive them. (Net control ops: It is your responsibility to get your check-in sheets to me as soon as possible and as complete and legible as possible)
- (3) Point totals are as of the date noted at the foot of each net point list. Check-in sheets that arrive later will not be noted until the following month.
- (4) FM and CW net points are tallied separately and separate awards made.
- (5) If you change your call, it is your responsibility to let me know or your records will be wrong! The FCC hasn't yet allowed me access to their database.
- (6) A (*) by your name means an award is due. Awards are presented at USECA's monthly meetings. If you can't make it, please arrange for someone else to pick it up.
- (7) To save space here, and avoid using half of the club paper as a score sheet, I am again resorting to suppressing records. As has been my practice, if you have not checked into a net in approximately 3 months (FM), 6 months (CW), your call will not be listed. Simply check into a net to get back on the list with all past points credited. Note the 'Displayed xxx of xxx'; the second number is the total number of records.
Please mail check-in sheets to KF8RG, Ken Coughlin, 53762 Kristin Ct., Shelby Twp., MI 48316-2240.

Top 20 Contenders

Call	Name	pts
1*	WB8RW	HARRY 90
2	KF8AT	FLOYD 44
3	N8MOJ	MARION 42
4	N8OEF	VAL 36
5	WB8E	WALT 34
6	WA8ZCF	PHIL 24
7	N8WYO	ALAN 18
8	KG8KZ	DAVE 18
9	KA8NDY	DAN 12
10	WD8PLQ	GAYLEN 8

JUNE, 1995

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2 METER NET 1:00 P.M. 147.18	2 METER NET 8:00 P.M. 147.18	BOARD MEETING 2 METER NET 8:00 P.M. 147.18	SATERN NET 9:00 P.M. 147.18	CW NET (21.140) 9:00 P.M.	CW NET (21.140) 10:00 P.M. HOOTOWL NET MIDNIGHT 147.18	CW NET (21.140) 10:00 P.M. HOOTOWL NET MIDNIGHT 147.18
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
2 METER NET 1:00 P.M. 147.18	2 METER NET 8:00 P.M. 147.18	OUTDOOR GENERAL MEETING 7:30 P.M. FOX HUNT 8:00 P.M.	CW NET (21.140) 9:00 P.M.	CW NET (21.140) 9:00 P.M.	CW NET (21.140) 10:00 P.M. HOOTOWL NET MIDNIGHT 147.18	CW NET (21.140) 10:00 P.M. HOOTOWL NET MIDNIGHT 147.18
18	19	20	21	22	23	24/Field Day
MONROE HAMFEST 2 METER NET 1:00 P.M. 147.18	2 METER NET 8:00 P.M. 147.18	2 METER NET 8:00 P.M. 147.18	SATERN NET 9:00 P.M. 147.18	CW NET (21.140) 9:00 P.M.	FIELD DAY "GET READY" CW NET (21.140) 10:00 P.M. HOOTOWL NET MIDNIGHT (147.18)	
25/Field Day	26	27	28	29	30	
2 METER NET 1:00 P.M. 147.18	2 METER NET 8:00 P.M. 147.18	2 METER NET 8:00 P.M. 147.18	CW NET (21.140) 9:00 P.M.	CW NET (21.140) 9:00 P.M.	CW NET (21.140) 10:00 P.M. HOOTOWL NET MIDNIGHT 147.18	

U.S.E.C.A.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION APPLICATION

DATE _____ NEW RENEWAL NEWSLETTER ONLY
CALL _____ CLASS _____ AUTO-PATCH _____
NAME _____
STREET ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
TELEPHONE # _____ PRINT IN ROSTER: YES NO
BIRTHDATE _____
MEMBER: ARRL YES NO RACES YES NO
 COPY OF CURRENT LICENSE FOR U.S.E.C.A. FILE

FOR FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS ONLY:

CALL _____	CLASS _____	CALL _____	CLASS _____
NAME _____		NAME _____	
BIRTHDATE _____		BIRTHDATE _____	
MEMBER: ARRL <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		MEMBER: ARRL <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
RACES <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		RACES <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES (INCLUDES NEWSLETTER) REGULAR: \$20 — FAMILY: \$30

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

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

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

JOAN L. DZIDOWSKI, N8VLY

45731 PLUM GROVE

MACOMB, MI 48044

The *U.S.E.C.A. 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, Sterling Heights, Michigan (between Schoenherr and Clinton River Road). *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. For those who need to get a message to the board or the membership secretary, please call our answering machine at: (810) 268-6730.

U.S.E.C.A.

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