



USECA EXPRESS



Michigan's Largest and Most Active Amateur Radio Club

UTICA SHELBY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION, INC.

Volume 25, Number 3, March 2009

USECA Meeting Minutes

Board Meeting—February 2, 2009

In attendance:

Bill, N8SA	President
Rob, KD8ENP	Vice-President
Ann, KT8F	Recording Secretary
Dennis, W8DFG	Treasurer
Joe, N8OZ	Membership Secretary
Jim, WY8I	Board Member
Larry, W8NIC	Board Member
Chuck, N8ZA	Board Member
Tom, N8ZI	Past President



*Absent

Note: board member's call signs are not included in the minutes as they are listed above.

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

Correspondence read by Ann re: upcoming Maumee Swap.

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

Treasurer's report provided by Dennis. Motion to accept made by Ann, and supported by Jim, motion carried.

Membership: Joe – 99 members.

Web master report provided by Alec. Recent problems taken care of, some new updates will be added soon.

ARRL: no report.

Trustee: Dennis W8DFG – no report this month.

Winter Field Day report provided by Bill. Sounds like it was a good time for all.

Health and Welfare: no traffic this month.

Jim, WY8I has offered to be inter-club liaison.

Technical report: Jim, W1IK – repeater operating fine. Will visit the main site this week to do a cursory inspection and filter change. Jim's power supply is currently in use at the north site. He suggested that the club purchase the power supply from him. Jim, WY8I made a motion that the club reimburse him at \$50.00 for his equipment and it will then remain at the site. Motion supported by Joe, vote, motion carried.

Field Day: no report.

Old Business

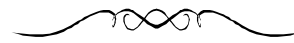
Dennis will pass out an updated policy page.

—Continued on Page 8

Who Cares?—You Do!

I have had it proven to me over and over that you, the member cares, that's who. This month we had a GREAT Winter Field Day hosted at Camp Ozanam in Port Sanilac. We had nine stations 'by my count' on the air. That is bigger than most Club FDs! Give yourselves a Big Hand those of you who participated, visited, encouraged on air or just plain were excited with us over this outing. We proved that even though we do not openly engage ourselves in emergency communications any more we ARE READY! Bravo to you. My special thanks to the Cafeteria Crew led so ably by Larry "Magic Chef" W8SOX and crew. WE held a party and people showed up with radios and operated, or at least that is how it seemed. I ventured up on Saturday AM arriving about 10:30 to find almost all of the antennas up and operating and the stations set up. I helped with the last antenna or two and then we got to it with the able guidance of our chairman Pete "Get r Done" AA8GK. And get it done we did. We ate a big lunch and tore into it, making some pretty good contacts. Larry and crew kept the chili and soup hot and put on a HUGE dinner Saturday night. Unfortunately I had to leave shortly after that but I sure enjoyed my time. At this printing I don't have scores but I really don't care. I saw a first class operation running smoothly. I wish I could say the same when I was in CAP. You guys ROCK! The only minor appearance of Murphy was to Leo's snowmobile and that just gave us more face time with him so it was not a big deal. All in all it was a Grand experience and I encourage you all to get into these outings when we host them.

—Continued on Page 8



March for Babies 2009

Dennis, W8DFG

Again, it's that time of year, **March for Babies**, formally known as Walk America. For all the new hams and new members in the club, we have been doing this event for the community since 1995. On the day of the walk, which is April 26th, we provide communications for the March of Dimes and the health and welfare for the 2500 walkers who raised \$324,000.00 last year. It's not a busy day, which is good, meaning that all is going well. But one never knows when an ambulance, or any other emergency that may arise. This is our mission for the day.

—Continued on Page 6

Next Meeting — March 9th

CLUB DIRECTORY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Bill Chesney/N8SA (586) 468-0106
Vice President	Rob Lifton/KD8ENP (248) 797-2264
Recording Secretary	Ann Manor/KT8F (586) 751-3893
Treasurer	Dennis Gaboury/W8DFG (586) 465-7126
Membership Secretary	Joe Kennedy/N8OZ (586) 977-7222
Board Member	Jim Odam/WY8I (586) 879-3127
Board Member	Larry Logarta/W8NIC
Board Member	Chuck Perushek/N8ZA (586) 557-4983
Past President	Tom Tincknell/N8ZI (586) 651-7239

COMMITTEES

ARRL Liaison	Bill/N8SA
Awards Manager	Bob/N8ZY (586) 978-1682
Door Prizes	-OPEN-
Editor	Joe/K8OEF (586) 781-0050
Field Day Chair	Bill/N8SA, Steve/N8XO & Ray/N8UY
Health & Welfare	Rob/KD8ENP (248) 816-2222
Historian	Jerry/K8CFY (586) 791-4484
Mailers/Sorters	Ann/KT8F & Crew
Net Manager	Bob/N8ZY (586) 978-1682
Photographer	Wes/KD8DHS
Program Director	Rob Lifton/KD8ENP (248) 797-2264
Public Relations Officer	Ken/N8KC (248) 652-1187
Refreshments	Walt/WB8E; & Alec/NF8X
Repeater Trustee	Dennis/W8DFG (586) 465-7126
Swap Director	Larry, W8NIC
Technical Director	Jim/W11K (586) 771-4135
Technicians	KA8D; WA8GQL; W8RO; AD8S; N8SA; W1SKU; N8ZI
VE Testing	Joe/N8OZ (586) 977-7222
Webmaster	Alec/NF8X (586) 873-8841

CONTROL OPERATORS (*Phone Number Above)

Jim/WY8I*	Joe/N8OZ*	Chuck/N8ZA*
Jim/W11K	Floyd/W8RO	Tom/N8ZI*
Joe/K8OEF*	Alec/NF8X*	

PROGRAMMERS

Dennis/W8DFG	Jim/W11K	Brad/N8VI
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The Editor is:

Still Going

Joe, K8OEF

Thanks to Chuck, N8ZA and Ken, N8KC for their contribution of providing the *Express* with pictures of recent events and happenings.

Don't forget to set your clocks AHEAD by one hour on Sunday, March 8.

73 for now.



The *USECA EXPRESS* is published monthly (except July and August), by the UTICA SHELBY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION, INC., of Macomb County, Michigan. Club meetings are held on the second Monday of each month (except July and August), 7:30 p.m., local time, at the Elks Club, 179 S. Main (between Church and Robertson), Mt. Clemens, Michigan. *Visitors are always welcome.* Articles for the *EXPRESS* should be submitted to the editor no later than the night of the club meeting for publication in the following month's edition. **The articles within are those of the author and not necessarily endorsed by USECA.** Material contained in the *EXPRESS* may be reprinted provided credit is given to the *USECA EXPRESS* and the author, except material published by permission of a copyright holder.

USECA VE Testing

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

Last Summer

Chuck, N8ZA

Hello all. I thought I'd tell you some of the things I was doing this summer with others in our club—and show some photos. We were asked if we could help take down a 60 ft. tower and we did. n8zba, w8ic, wb8f, wy8i, wb8sjd, and I. My favorite pic is of n8zba at the top of the tower and then w8ic and n8zba at the bottom of the tower still practicing safety and staying hooked up with the last section. We also had the chance to be part of the ISS contact that took place at the Armada Middle School. Thanks to Tom, n8zi what an opportunity this was for our club to give back to the community. One of my favorite pic is Tom, n8zi with one of the students as they made contact with the ISS and also Ed, kd8cxj giving a talk on the ISS. We were also at one of the picnics I think You were there to I waved at you, there was a lot of people that's for sure thanks to Leo, kw8j the ring leader of this event. Jonesy, k8dje came out with his Big Grill and also made home-made ice cream right there at the park. One of my favorite pic's is of wy8i and k8dje posing for a photograph the evening ended with all going to the other end of the park to listen to the Teen Angels where our own Jim, w1ik was playing .we also were on the Bramble that is always a lot of fun but did you know we were also on the Gray Fox. Well you know we took down a 60 ft. tower but did you know we also took down a 70 ft. tower Larry, wb8sjd; Don, wb8f and me with the owner. I have a couple of photos I wish I had the best one. Don was at the top of the tower and a large hawk landed on to and was looking at Don like lunch. The tower took a lot of work the tilt motor and hinge bracket was frozen but it finally came down. The owner was happy it was down and for our help made a large contribution to the club. Well I have a pic of Don on the tower and Larry working on the motor for the tilt. It seems we always have something going on in USECA land. Now we have a new summer ahead of us with more activities and I can't wait. I hope to see you all at the next event. 73.



More pictures on Page 7

Winter FD 2009 from Ken, N8KC



The Missing Q Signals

(Submitted by Ken, N8KC)

Original List by John Queen, KA0SEY & Mike Colyar, K7ITL

Additions by Thom LaCosta K3HRN and members of QRP-L

Some Q signals have never made it to the ARRL's official list. Here are some that may agree would be useful in appropriate situations. As with regular Q signals, each can be a statement or a question, depending on whether a question mark follows it.

- QAS - I am speaking out of my ass
- QAS? - Are you speaking out of your ass?
- QBA - My antenna is BIG!
- QBA? - How big is your antenna?
- QBO - Don't sit next to that guy in the meeting.
- QBO? - Buddy, can you spare some soap?
QBS - It's getting deep in here.
- QBS? - Did I tell you about the one that got away?
Alternate suggested by ken cubilo w8ob
- QBS - Clean the bird sh*t off your antenna so you can hear me
- QBS? - Should I clean the bird sh*t off my antenna so I can hear you
- QCP - I am using Cat Power(From Rotary Cat Power Wheel)
Suggestions made for spark gap transmitter on QRP-L mailing list
- QCP? - Are you using Cat Power?
- QCW - I am going to whistle Morse Code on FM (or SSB)
- QCW? - Why are you whistling Morse?
- QDR - Damn Right the frequency is busy!} In response to QRL
- QDR? - Do you have a Receiver?} In response to QRL
Contributed by Don Melcher = W6ZO
QET - Phone home.
- QET? - Has anyone called me from another planet?
- QEW - Copy is difficult due to Ear Wax.
- QEW? - Is copy difficult due to Ear Wax?
Contributed by John L Sielke W2AGN
- QFH - This frequency is MINE! - go elsewhere.
- QFH? - Is this frequency hogged?
- QHI - I am jumping in quick to say hi, then going QRT.
- QHI? - Are you leaving after only one transmission?
- QKB? - How many knobs does your radio have?
QKB n - My radio has "n" knobs.
Contributed by Fred K6DGW
- QKN? - How many of them do you know how to use?
- QKN n - I think I know how to use "n" of them.
Contributed by Fred K6DGW
- QLF - I am sending with my left foot.
- QLF? - Are you sending with your left foot?
- QLK - I am sending with my left foot and keyboard.
- QLK? - Are you sending with your left foot and keyboard?
Contributed by Thom LaCosta K3HRN
- QNO - I am sending through a non-standard orifice.
- QNO? - Are you sending through a non-standard orifice?
Contributed by Thom LaCosta K3HRN
- QOF Yes, I am an Old Fart.
- QOF? Are you an old Fart?
Contributed by Jim W7RY

Continued on Page 6

Skywarn Spotter Classes

Training Alert

The Office of Emergency Management has once again teamed up with the National Weather Service to offer severe weather spotter training this year. The training is free of charge and open to the public. The training will be conducted at the Macomb Intermediate School District (MISD) building located at 44001 Garfield, Clinton Township. The sessions will be held at the south end of the building in the first floor conference room. The training schedule for 2009 is as follows:

Wednesday—March 11, 2009—7 pm-9:30 pm

Wednesday—March 25, 2009—7 pm-9:30 pm

Wednesday—April 8, 2009—7 pm-9:30 pm

To be sure that we have adequate space for you, we encourage you to call our office at 586-469-5270 to register for any of these classes.

—Submitted by N8YBY

March for Babies 2009—From Page 1

We also will have a Special Events station set up. Those hams that want to test antennas for Field Day come out and set up and try out the new equipment. We secured W8A for the call sign for this [Special Events Station](#). If you want to participate in the Special Event Station, the Walk Committee will be out Saturday morning setting up for the Walk, or come out Sunday morning and set up, we have the call for the weekend, and the event will be listed in QST.

Brain, KC8DIR will be in command this year to organize the day's activity. So please contact him if you are interested in participating, via of the repeater, or send him e-mail at kc8dir@comcast.net. We have people stationed at the checkpoints, registration area, people have even brought their bikes out to ride the walk route. We have the ability to cover 100% of the walk site with just your HT. Make sure that you have your batteries charged.

For those of you have worked the Walk in the past we will be using the same vehicle pass that we used in past years. If anyone needs a pass for April 26th, we will make arrangements to meet outside of the park to get one, or at the next meeting I will have them available. A pass will not be needed for Saturday for set-up, just mention to the person at the entrance booth that your there for March for Babies set-up.

So come out from 7:00 AM to 12:00 PM, or whatever time you can spare, and be Radio Active! If you need any other information, please contact me on the repeater, or at w8dfg@arrl.net

73.

The Missing Q Signals— (Continued From Page 5)

- QOK - Your last transmission was Okie Dokie.
- QOK? - Was my last transmission OK?
- QPM - Your signal is purr modulated.
- QPM? - Is my signal purr modulated?
- QRC - Warning, rag chewer on frequency.
- QRC? - Are you a rag chewer?
- QRG - You are transmitting in or near the ... (wave length or frequency) amateur band.
- QRG? - Am I transmitting in or near an amateur band, and if so which one?
- QRW - Means Qrp - Really Weak
- QRW? - Qrp, you are Really Weak? contributed by w0rw
- QWC? - Who cares? } Courtesy of
- QWC - I don't care } Fred Bonavita, K5QLF
- QWC - I have to go to the bathroom } Courtesy of
- QWC? - Do you have to go to the bathroom? } Fred Bonavita, K5QLF
- QZZ - I fell asleep at the mike.
- QZZ? - Is that a 60Hz hum, or are you snoring?



Last Summer—Continued



Meeting Minutes—From Page 1

New Business

Chuck reported on a recent Webinar - an internet discussion. Informed us regarding items discussed. Chuck can send anyone interested a PDF file.

Larry discussed a few ideas for getting members to run nets. Larry made a motion that the board members take responsibility for running one net a year. Seconded by Rob. Discussion. Vote. Motion did not pass. Other possibilities discussed. The hoot owl net was discussed. Larry noted that the net is essentially dead. The net could be either eliminated or replaced with a technical net. The membership will be asked for their input at the meeting. Larry will write an article.

Alec, NF8X volunteered to chair a committee to review and update the bylaws this year. He will appoint members to serve on the committee.

Dennis – March for Babies (used to be Walk-America) event will be held April 26 at Metro Beach.

Volunteers needed. See article elsewhere in this Express.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Larry and 2nd by Rob, motion carried, meeting adjourned at: 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Manor, KT8F, Recording Secretary.



General Meeting — February 9, 2009

In attendance:

- | | |
|---------------|----------------------|
| Bill, N8SA | President |
| Rob, KD8ENP | Vice-President |
| *Ann, KT8F | Recording Secretary |
| Dennis, W8DFG | Treasurer |
| Joe, N8OZ | Membership Secretary |
| Jim, WY8I | Board Member |
| Larry, W8NIC | Board Member |
| Chuck, N8ZA | Board Member |
| *Tom, N8ZI | Past President |
- *Absent

Meeting called to order by the President at 7:31 PM.

Motion to accept minutes from last meeting as printed in the Express by Dave, WD8IFL; seconded by W8AOQ .

Treasurer’s report submitted by Dennis, W8DFG. Motion to accept by Eddie, N8RUE; seconded by Steve, N8XO.

Membership Secretary Joe, N8OZ reported 108 paid members.

Webmaster’s report: Alec, NF8X: Nothing new to report.

Bill, N8SA called out for more NCO’s to run our various nets.

Express editor’s report: Joe was absent. It was noted that the Express is now 25 years in publication and that the same award-winning newsletter has outlived the entities who gave the awards.

Technical director’s report: Jim, W1IK was absent.

Trustee report: Dennis, W8DFG had nothing to report.

Old Business

Bill discussed all the fun we had at Winter Field Day.

New Business

N8SA expressed interest in a gun related activity for the club; NOT an official USECA event.

Dennis, W8DFG announced that we will have a special event station set up at Metro Beach for the March for Babies: W8A. The event takes place on April 26 from 7am till noon.

Break at 7:58.

ARRL Report: Dale Williams, WA8EFK, our ARRL Michigan Section Manager, delivered a presentation after the break. The presentation discussed the ARRL’s organizational structure and went into detail about the Michigan Section. It should also be noted that the Michigan Section is working to codify PRB-1 into State Law and more information may be found at:

<http://www.prb1michigan.org>.

Following the presentation, Betty, N8SIH made a motion, seconded by Steve, N8XO to adjourn the meeting at 9:13.

Respectfully submitted by Rob Lifton, KD8ENP acting secretary.



Who Cares?—From Page 1

Many have excuses about other things happening and some are valid, but some are just priority and scheduling issues. Make Ham Radio and your club a Priority. It will return everything you give it in spades. Schedule that next USECA outing with the wife or hubby and let them know it is out of line to bump it off to go furniture shopping or whatever. Attend the next meeting instead of watching those ‘Andy of Mayberry’ reruns! Caught ya huh? Nuff preaching from the pulpit. On to other important things.

One of my major goals as President is to grow the club membership this year. Be thinking of ways to do that and we will discuss it at the meeting. The Board and I are starting discussions and would love to have input. Send me or the board an E-mail if you cannot attend the meeting. As always we are always open to suggestions as to what you want for programs at meetings, outings, etc. I hope to hold a bunch of Larks in the Parks this spring and summer leading up to Field Day, our largest and most organized Lark. This club has the stuff winners are made of. We have this CAN DO attitude that is something I am so proud of in this organization. So, ask not what the Club can do for you, ask what you can do for the club. Thanks President Kennedy for my misquote!

Look forward to seeing you at the meetings,

Bill Chesney, N8SA
Da’ Prez

USECA APPLICATION



Rev. 6/08

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

FOR FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS ONLY:

CALL _____ CLASS _____
 NAME _____
 MEMBER: **ARRL** YES NO
RACES YES NO

CALL _____ CLASS _____
 NAME _____
 MEMBER: **ARRL** YES NO
RACES YES NO

Annual Membership Dues: Regular: \$20 — Family: \$30 — Mail Printed Newsletter, ADD \$10.00

New Member applications must be mailed to P.O. Box address below.

Please make check payable to: **USECA** — Address: **P.O. Box 46331, Mt. Clemens, MI 48046**

All mailed-in applications to the P.O. Box must include a self-addressed stamped envelope.

(Allow 4-6 weeks for processing.)

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



Local Area FM Nets

DAY	TIME	CLUB	FREQ.
SUN	1:00 pm	USECA/Information	147.180
SUN	8:00 pm	USECA/Traders/Tech Sup.	147.180
SUN	9:00 pm	HPARC/Info	146.640
SUN	9:00 pm	Garden City ARC	146.860
SUN-SAT	10:15 pm	S. E. Michigan Traffic Net	145.330
MON	7:30 pm	SATERN	147.180
MON	8:00 pm	MECA/Info	147.200
MON	8:00 pm	GMARC (PL 123)	443.075
TUE	9:00 pm	Motor City Radio Club	147.240
WED	9:00 pm	ARPSC/Info	145.490
THU	8:00 pm	RACES/ARES	147.200
THU	8:30 pm	LCARC/Info	147.080
SAT	11:45 pm	Hoot Owl	147.180

VHF PL'S — 100 Hz

On The World Wide Web

USECA Home Page

WWW.USECAARC.COM

Local HF Nets

DAY	TIME	CLUB/DESCRIPTION	FREQ.
MON	7:30 pm	LCARC/15 Meter CW	21.165
MON	9:00 pm	LCARC/15 Meter Phone USB	21.395
TUE	8:00 pm	USECA/80 Meter Phone LSB	3.830
WED	7:00 pm	USECA/6 Meter Phone USB	50.140
THU	7:30 pm	LCARC/10 Meter Phone USB	28.435
THU	9:00 pm	USECA/15 Meter CW	21.140
FRI	10:00 pm	USECA/80 Meter CW	3.570
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**	FRI. 11:45 PM
WEEK	147.180 MHz	147.180 MHz	147.180 MHz
1	KD8CXJ	W11K	-OPEN-
2	N8ZA	W8NIC	-OPEN-
3	-OPEN-	-OPEN-	-OPEN-
4	WB8E	KD8GZE	-OPEN-
5*	KT8F	-OPEN-	-OPEN-

*If applicable

**Traders/Tech Support

Updated 12/09

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

USECA

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

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

FIRST CLASS MAIL



MARCH 2009

***Spring Ahead!* — Daylight Savings Time Begins Sunday, March 8, 2009**

"The Happenin' Club"

Club Activities

MONTH	DATE	TIME	EVENT
MAR	9	7:30 pm	General Meeting
MAR	16	7:00 pm	VE Test Session
APR	13	7:30 pm	General Meeting
APR	20	7:00 pm	VE Test Session
APR	26	7:00 am	Walk For Babies 2009
MAY	TBA		Pre-Field Day & Picnic
MAY	11	7:30 pm	General Meeting
MAY	15-17		Dayton Hamvention
MAY	18	7:00 pm	VE Test Session
JUN	8	7:30 pm	General Meeting & Fox Hunt
JUN	15	7:00 pm	VE Test Session
JUN	27-28		Field Day 2009

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