

"Just Remember...It's Only A Hobby"

The USECA Express is published monthly by the Utica Shelby Emergency Communications Association of Macomb County, Michigan. Club meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. local time at the Donald Bemis Junior High School, 12500 Nineteen Mile Road in Sterling Heights, Michigan (between Schoenherr and Clinton River Roads).

Articles submitted for publication in the EXPRESS should be delivered to the Editor no later than the Friday after the night of the Club Meeting for publication in the following months issue.

For those who need to get a message to the Board or the Membership Secretary please call our answering machine at 268-6730.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!!!

Pre-Field Day is being held this month on
May 8 at the Winter Cove Picnic Area at
Stoney Creek Metro Park
from 9:00 am to 6:00 p.m.!

PS. Walt wants thank the Ham who gave him
the CW program for his new computer. We
have been hearing from many Russian Hams
who are relieved at the reduced levels of
QRM coming from the Detroit Area!

TABLE OF CONTENTS

USECA Volunteers	2
From the Editor	3
Computer Corner	4
Soapbox	5
Elmer List	8
Membership Application	9
Classified Ads	10
Experiences of a new Ham	11
Oak Park ARC Amateur Nite	11
New Scanner Law	12
Net Point Notes	12
FM Net Point Totals	13
CW Net Point Totals	14
Test Session Change	14
Basic Bulgarian for CW	15
Pre Field Day	16
A Message From Floyd	17
Antenna of the Month	20
Basic Electronics Part 4	23
The Radio Amateurs Code	27

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Earl Hoskins/ N8OEX
Vice President	Dave Martin/ KF8CT
Recording Sec'y	Dave Larson/ N8OEV
Treasurer	Rick Parady /KB8KLW
Membership Sec'y	Joan Dzidowski/ N8VLY

VOLUNTEER EXAMINERS

WA8Z	KG8F	NW8M	N8KDL	AA8CY
KF8AT	KF8MB	KF8RF	KF8RG	AA8HF
WJ8Q	KF8CT	WX3L	WX8L	N8CVC
WY8K	WY8M	KF8RF	W8VRW	

ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

Harrison "Biff" Baydoun	N8NQQ
Floyd Soo	KF8AT
Doug Drauch	N8KDL

CONTROL OPERATORS

Chuck Boyer	WA8Z
John Wuestewald	N8FNO
Vance Dupuis	WD8QNI
Bill Chesney	N8CVC
Mark Javit	KB8SW
Dave Duncanson	KF8RF
Gulliver Silvagi	WA8VIJ
Gordie Tuzinsky	WB8H
Dave Larson	N8OEV
Jerry Paquette	WM8V
John Sonnenfeld	KA7KZO
Floyd Soo	KF8AT
Earl Hoskins	N8OEX

USECA PROGRAMMERS

Chuck Boyer	WA8Z
Doug Martin	N8KND

USECA TECHNICIANS

Sean McCarthy	WX8L
Joe Fiorini	N8LDL

COMMITTEES

Express Editor	Dave Duncanson/ KF8RF
Swap Dictator	Virginia Przekaza/ N8NLS and Committee
Activities Chair	Betty Isbister/ N8LXL Steve Wahoski/ KF8VM
Program Director	Floyd Soo/ KF8AT
Repeater Trustee	Chuck Boyer/ WA8Z
Technical Director	Doug Martin/ N8KND
Field Day Chairs	Betty Isbister/ N8LXL Don Chisholm/ WX3M Gordie Tuzinsky/ WB8H
Mailers/Sorters	Earl Hoskins/ N8OEX and Crew
Health & Welfare	John Wuestewald/ N8FNO Kathy MacKenzie/ N8VOH
Net Points Coord.	Ken Coughlin/ KF8RG
Club Historians	John Pizzuti/ WB8NHT Joe Paulson/ WD8MFN
ARRL Liaison	Dave Martin/ KF8CT
Club Videographers	Charlie Lupo/ WY8K Floyd Soo/ KF8AT
Door Prizes	Bill Isbister/ KF8FK
Net Managers (2M)	Bill Stranahan/ N8NMX Scott Kraft/ KB8NXS
Net Manager (CW)	Don Chisholm/ WX3M
Refreshments	Walt Gracey/ WB8E Don Chisholm/ WX3M Kathy Sears/ KF8FX

HONORARY/CHARTER MEMBERS

C= Charter H= Honorary F= Founder

KA8KTV (F,C,SK)	N8HCT (F,C)	WD8MFN (F,C,)
KA8IZM (F,C,SK)	N8FNO (F,C)	N8BK (H)
WB8NHT (F,C)	K8QLM (F,C)	KA8BDG (C)
WB8QNI (C)	N8FDN (C)	WA8VZZ (C)
WA8OSF (H)	KA8VYV (H)	N8AWV (H)
J. HAUBNER (C)	G. MANQUHARDT (H)	

From The Editor

Dave - KF8RF

I thought that spring had finally arrived but, judging by the snowflakes falling now, I guess it hasn't! I've got some important stuff to cover here other than the usual trivial babble. Here goes....

The Soapbox Vote

By now you may have heard that the Soapbox vote is complete. The vote was like this: 15 people voted for censorship of the articles and 5 voted to leave it the same. What really surprised me was that I kept hearing from all of these people about how my mailbox was going to be filled with votes and how everybody was all upset etc.....yet only 20 people out of a 250 member club took the time to vote. I guess all those nameless, faceless, opinionless "upset people" need to find better use for their time. In any event this is the last time I'm going to print anything about the censorship stuff. Life goes on.....

Repeater Usage

At the last club meeting the subject of repeater usage, specifically the use of the Autopatch, came up. It seems that there is a regular pattern of people interrupting QSO's at about 5:00 p.m. to "make a quick patch" Then they call home to say that " I'm almost home...see you in 2 minutes" I have to agree that this is pretty ridiculous. Now, technically this is a proper use of the repeater but don't you think that it is pretty rude to interrupt other people's QSO's to call home when you are less than 15 minutes from home anyways? If it is an emergency then it's appropriate but otherwise it is rude.

While I'm on the subject of repeater conduct we need to cover the subject of malicious interference.

Lately we have had a rash of interference on the repeater. When someone is purposely interfering they are doing it for a reason.....to get a reaction. Kinda' like when your older brother or sister would pick on you. As long as you threw a fit about it they were happy. As soon as you grew up and stopped reacting (or maybe pounded them back) they stopped picking on you. Same situation here on the repeater. As long as we continue to react and complain on the air the interference will continue. As soon as it starts you should ignore it if you can or sign off if you can't. Here's an idea for you: how about someone taking the bull by the horns and forming a RDF Committee to track down the jammers? Biff, N8NQQ, runs a foxhunt every month and many people are involved in it. How about it RDF'ers....want to put your skills to use in stopping the interference?

That's enough spleen venting for this month. Hope you get a chance to go to the Pre-Field Day and that the weather will start to cooperate a little more. Also I think that every one in the club needs to thank Elizabeth, N8XCZ, for all of the hard work she has put in on the Pre-Field Day as well as having the guts to get up in front of the membership to tell us about it. 73 for now

de KF8RF

Computer Corner

by Dave /KF8RF

Thought I'd try something new here this month since I didn't get the Meeting Minutes in time. As the "chipheads" in the club know, Microsoft recently released a new version of that time honored favorite, MS-DOS. The latest and greatest version is DOS 6.0. Since I recently purchased it and am now using it, I thought I'd give you a small rundown of what I found.

When DOS 5.0 first came out all I heard was that "it's filled with bugs" or "it'll crash your system". Now I have found that most computer users are using version 5.0 and have no complaints. It's the same situation here....all I have heard is about all of the problems with DOS 6.0 so I'm going to give my opinion. In many respects DOS 6.0 is the same operating system as 5.0 but Microsoft finally wised up and included their version of the extra utilities that most people bought in addition to DOS 5.0. Here's a small review of some of the new utilities:

DOUBLE SPACE

This is probably the most talked about feature of the new DOS. This utility is basically a stripped down version of Stacker, the compression utility that doubles the size of your hard drive. I have used both products and this is what I have found. I have a 210 meg hard disc. When I ran Stacker 3.0 I had my drive partitioned into a 140 meg "C" drive and a 65 meg "D" drive. I was somewhat leary of compression programs so I only compressed the "D" drive. It increased the size of my "D" drive from 65 megs to 170 megs....almost a 3 to 1 increase. As I loaded programs onto it I found that the overall size was reduced to around 140 megs. This is because some programs will compress better than others. Overall I would say that the ratio of compression was about 2 to 1. When I loaded DOS 6.0 I decided to remove the partition and format the drive in order to start out fresh. After I had reinstalled Windows 3.1 I ran the Double Space program and I found that the drive compressed like this: The 210 meg "C" drive became a 350 meg "C" drive. Also, the program created a 30 meg uncompressed "H" drive, to provide space for the Windows swap file and other drivers for the compression program that cannot be stored on a compressed drive. Chances are the "H" drive would have been smaller if I had set up Windows with a smaller swap file. No big deal.

Overall Impression: I like Double Space better than Stacker 3.0, even with the lower compression ratio. Stacker 3.0 is nice but I have found too many programs that need special setup's in order to run with it. I have always hated getting a new program and finding notes in it like "ATTENTION STACKER USERS". So far Double Space has run flawlessly. Like any other compression program, it slows down your disk access time a little bit but the extra space is well worth the slower speed.

MEMMAKER

This is another real nice feature of DOS 6.0. This one is basically a stripped down version of 386MAX, the automatic memory manager that enables you to get the best memory configuration for your machine. 386MAX is another one of those programs that tends to be a bit flaky with certain applications, though I ran it for almost a year and never had a problem. Memmaker, as the DOS 6 version of 386MAX, is run after all your software is installed. It automatically searches your TSR programs and loads them into the upper regions of your RAM memory, which gives your software more breathing room. Case in point: when I tried to run Wolfenstein 3D before I used Memmaker it would not run. After I used Memmaker it had more than enough space. Overall I like Memmaker better than 386MAX because it does the job almost as well but does not take up 2.5 megs of disk space.

CONCLUSIONS

I'm running out of space here so I'll keep it short. In addition to the features I have talked about, DOS 6.0 also has a Backup utility and an Anti-Virus program built-in. While the DOS version of these utilities may not be as extensive as the aftermarket stuff available, it more than does the job for 95%+ of the home users. If the cost of all the aftermarket utilities were added up you would spend almost \$350.00. DOS 6.0 can be purchased for around \$40.00 until May 31. My advice is to take advantage of the cheap price and upgrade. If you have some of the aftermarket stuff already it is still a good deal because of all the extra features you get. These utilities are all built into the system and are "bug free" in spite of what you hear on the radio. Just talk to Walt. He'll tell you all about it!

SOAPBOX

by Arpad - WY8M

PARENTAL ADVISORY - EXPLICIT LYRICS

Fifteen people. That's all it took. Fifteen people. Our club is well over 200 people strong and it only took 15 of those to get censorship protocol established. Sad. But fair, I guess. It was put to a vote, for those who cared. Reminds me of a bumper sticker I saw years ago. "THE MORAL MAJORITY IS NEITHER". This is true. It's just a small yet very vocal part of our society. The chick that squawks the loudest gets the worm. The squeaky wheel gets the grease. The apathetic speechless majority get their just reward. I guess that arrogant ARRL Great Lakes Rep'll be happy about that. Of course, this whole "thing" is kinda' stupid. This whole "thing" is supposedly over a couple of words. A couple of really bad, naughty, disgusting, mind-warping words. Words SO bad they have to be censored now! Why, they're SO bad you would never hear them on regular network TV! Well, okay, I guess you could, and do every day. But they're still filthy, horrible, bad words. Words SO terrifyingly bad that some parents are scared to let their kids read the Express. I talked to a member at the club meeting whom I've known for years. It went like this:

"Ya know, I don't let my kids read the Express"

"Why not?"

"Well, you used that "D" word relating to feminine hygiene."

"You mean to tell me that your kids, kids who watch more TV than adults, who see those Summer's Eve commercials during the middle of the afternoon every twenty minutes while your wife watches soaps, the soaps with very adult situations, are going to be warped by a word? Isn't that a bit hypocritical? Do you let them watch TV? How can you?"

We've gone well beyond one printed word in a 30 second hygiene commercial...'

Well he didn't like being trapped in the double standard hypocrisy and proceeded to change the subject. This is what I have to deal with. Then...life went on...

Anyway, speaking of censorship getting an ugly hold in this country, the "Where's Waldo" book is now banned in a Long Island, NY school. It seems that a womans' mammary gland (can you say breast?) is partially visible in the corner of one of the pages in a beach scene. It's about the size of half a comma on this page. You know the standard joke where a lady is tanning herself on the beach on her belly with the suit untied and a kid dumps some cold water on her back which makes her jump up. Real pornographic, eh? Yep, be seein' Waldo books soon at your local 25 cent peep show. Sad story is that a parent complained and the principal took the book off the shelf. No argument, just yanked it. Easy. It is the easy way out. Remove the choice. Anna Quindlen wrote about this and other related issues April 4, 1993 in the Detroit Free Press. A womans point of view. Her last two sentences sum up a lot of what is going on. "Your kids can handle the breast in 'Where's Waldo?'. It's the adults who have the problem." I agree. If the morals and values you instill in your children are strong and true, then you have nothing to fear; for they will be able to handle whatever life throws at them. On the other hand...? Censorship seems to be the theme today. 1984 is a little delayed, but it's getting here!

Things are getting too serious. Let's have some fun.

Hey, how about that \$100 donation to the "poor" GMARC? Seems they were in need of cash. Don't know why. But our board voted to give them money. Your money and my money. Isn't that club made up of people working at GM (+ immediate relatives) only? Mostly management/engineering types? Don't these guys make enough money to chip in five bucks a head out of their \$50,000+ salaries between twenty of them to make that same contribution? I don't understand. If the clubs own members can't come up with a few hundred bucks, why should we? What, not enough members care about their own club to cough up some dough or what? I guess this bothers me a bit 'cause I got laid off two days before hearing this at the April meeting. I know. HEY, Board Members! The WY8M club is low on cash. Slip me a "C" note or two, will ya? It'll hold me for a week until I can get another job!

Soapbox - Continued

Speaking of money, let's raise the dues to \$20-. It's been at \$15- for years, inflation has only gone up, and if this money give-a-way is a trend, we'll need more. Is this starting to resemble Congress?

Did you know that every hour and a half a car/train crash kills someone? Neither did I. Weird.

Speaking of repeater projects, The north and south sites are pretty much done. The east site is in the works, I think. Need a good west side site. Something maybe just south of Pontiac and 200+ feet high. Preferably a building. I'm getting tired of climbing 200 foot towers! Oh, the view from the south site is something like this: draw a line from the northwest (?) side of the Phlenoblescot building to the Belle Isle side of the Belle Isle bridge and one to the middle of the Ambassador bridge. About 185 degrees actual view. The signal sources in the other 175' are either reflected from adjacent structures or received through the building by the antenna. Also, there are no obstructions taller than the antenna site in the visual range. Sweet! Speaking of big projects, the repeater program is about done. What next?

HOT OFF THE PRESSES!!! (was in the porcelain library when I caught this one!) In the Free Press 4-4-93 and I quote the first sentence of the article, "The Jacksonville (FLA.) school district won a First Amendment booby prize Tuesday for banning "Snow White" for children in kindergarten through second grade." The school officials thought the book too violent for kids. As if they can read anything that detailed in its original format at that age. Why don't we all get together at Field Day and have a book burning in honor of this stupidity! Yea, a book bonfire! Geez, people! How about a rating system like the movies or CD's or kids toys so parents can help make a choice instead of removing the choice? Removing the choice is removing freedom. Freedom IS freedom of choice, remember?

Anyway, back to projects... We have a 1.2 GHz antenna on the Utica tower. Our repeater is set up for the IC-900 modules and the club could put something up there. Problem is expense and only a few hams on 1.2 GHz. SOoooo how about the club puts up half the cost and those interested in 23 cm. can chip in the rest (non-refundable donation). There's a few guys in the club runnin' up there. Whadda ya think? How many 2 meter clubs have 23 cm rebroadcast or link? None I can think of! How about being first on the block? We also apparently have the capability to hook up a weather station to the repeater. Instead of just the time, you could bring up the temp or wind speed/direction. Think the skywarn guys would get use out of that? I think they could.

Doug, N8KND, has been our technical director for over two years now. He's done a good job putting a complex repeater system together to give us great coverage. But he's not going to be around forever. Ya' get burnt out on the stuff after a while. And who will fill his shoes when he steps to the sidelines to enjoy his masterpiece with us? Doug has a EE bachelors degree and works at the GM proving grounds in Milford where he deals with RF problems in vehicles. He owns several radios, computers, and scanners not to mention the tools and parts necessary to work on electronic projects of all types. He custom designed circuitry for the receive sites on his computer and built the prototypes from scratch. Additionally, being single with no kids (eligible ladies call 558-7729) allows him time to work on prototypes. Time most people don't have. The man has the intellect, experience, and capability to handle undertakings like the USECA repeater. This is going to be a tough act to follow. Good luck USECA.

N8CVC move over. Someone is trying to take your quick-key award away from you!

Todd seems to be doing well with the book thing. Keep it up!

WJ8Q is STILL alive. But only operates digital. Does that mean he's dead? Walt thinks so.

It seems police dispatchers have taken to talking while your trying to talk to them. This makes it difficult for hams to communicate with them via patch. Guess we'll have to let them know we're using one-way radio first thing. Train of thought used to be don't tell them 'cause they don't care whether or not your a ham. They still don't, but they DO need to know your on a radio.

Think us ham's 'll ever get a geosynchronous satellite? THAT would be cool!

Soapbox - Continued

Golly gosh gee whiz!!!! Oh boy! Dang!! Darn! Naw, it's just not the same.

Yes, testing at Bill's still exists. But not for long at this rate! We need to do something to perk this testing up a bit. Maybe another test session on the west side of Macomb county two weeks after Bill's. Or advertise it better. Maybe a nice poster with a map on it we could display at MR and K-40. Or something I suggested two years ago. Put club meeting and testing info on the back of swap flyers so that all flyers passed out (about 7,000 a year) could help keep the community aware of our test sessions. Pass on any ideas to our club PR person. Do we still have one? We used to!

Here's one for thought. Why do clubs exist? One major reason in the recent past was to get money together for a local repeater. Repeaters are expensive and groups in a given geographic area got together to fund and put up these new fangled VHF rebroadcasters. No longer was simplex HF the only choice for good local communication. Now we take VHF FM clarity all for granted. I know I do. Every day I turn on the radio and it works and the repeaters work. Now what? Now that we have a powerhouse repeater system, what is our next goal? A USECA satellite? Food for thought.

Other stuff to think about... what do we do for this Field Day to make it special and different from the rest? Something that'll HAVE to get us into QST. Maybe a professional fireworks display Friday night. Nude CW contest. Nude skydiving? Ouch. We're running out of unique stuff to do!

Offensive. Have to be careful about that. Everything is offensive to someone somewhere and everything can't be censored. I'm offended by anyone who censors. I'm offended by people who don't use their turn signals. I'm offended by pro-lifers. I'm offended by racist organizations denouncing racism unless its for their collective good. I'm offended by the Board for giving our money to other clubs. I'm offended by Congress voting raises for themselves, whatever their party. I find it offensive that only twenty members mailed in a vote. But I don't censor or block information from anybody! I look for solutions, not excuses. Spread that on your cracker and eat it!

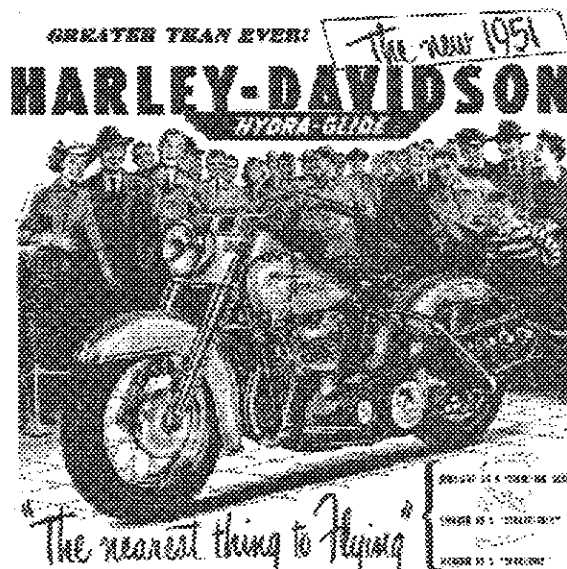
Well, I'm getting tired of writing so catcha' all later. Maybe after some of this silliness regarding word usage dies down we'll return to normal Soapboxy kinda shtuff! Seeeya!

Dauble-ewe-why-ate-emmm

P.S. FART! I feel better now!

P.P.S. Sarcasm IS a form of humor. A higher form.

"SPRING MUST BE HERE CUZ' I'VE GOT BIKE FEVER" - BILL/ KA8CBZ



ELMER LIST

Over the past several months the need for a "Elmer System" within the club has been discussed. For those that don't know, an Elmer is an experienced Ham that is willing to provide advice or guidance to a less experienced Ham.

While the idea for an Elmer list has been around for awhile, the only thing missing was a volunteer. UNTIL NOW.....T.J., N8RUH, has accepted the challenge of maintaining a current list of Elmer volunteers within the club.

Also discussed was what type of Elmering skills should be included in the list. It was decided that 2 lists will be established: One list will include Amateur Radio Elmers, which will be updated and published monthly. The other list will include General Elmers, with specialties not limited to Amateur Radio. This list will be published in the Express only 1 time per year. If you feel particularly experienced in any give subject, put it down: i.e. Scuba Diving, Car Repair, Cooking, Plumbing, Electrical , etc.

If you get tired of being on the list all you have to do is to notify the Express Editor and your name will be removed. Here is your chance to help other Hams.

SIGN UP SHEET

Name:

Callsign:

Phone Number:

Your Specialties:

When completed, please mail to :

T.J. Iley - N8RUH
2035 Cecil Avenue
Troy, Michigan
48083

USECA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONTYPE OF APPLICATION: NEW RENEWAL NEWSLETTER ONLY

DATE OF APPLICATION:

NAME:

ADDRESS:

CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE:

BIRTHDATE:

CALLSIGN:

CLASS:

TELEPHONE NUMBER:

WANT IT LISTED IN ROSTER? YES NOARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE ARRL? YES NO
IF YES, WHEN DOES IT EXPIRE? (MM/YY)DO YOU DESIRE AUTOPATCH PRIVILEGES? Yes No
IF THIS IS A RENEWAL, PLEASE LIST YOUR AUTODIAL NUMBER.A CURRENT COPY OF YOUR LICENSE IS REQUIRED FOR CLUB RECORDS.
HAS THE CLUB RECEIVED A COPY OF YOUR CURRENT LICENSE?

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP: IF THIS IS A FAMILY MEMBERSHIP PLEASE LIST THEIR CALL SIGNS

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP (INCLUDES NEWSLETTER)	\$15.00
FAMILY MEMBERSHIP (INCLUDES 1 NEWSLETTER)	\$25.00
NEWSLETTER ONLY (NO MEMBERSHIP OR AUTOPATCH)	\$ 3.00

Dues can be given to the Membership Secretary or mailed to:

Utica Shelby Emergency Communications Assoc.
P.O. Box 1222
Sterling Heights, Michigan 48311-1222

CLASSIFIED SECTION

If you have any items that you would like to sell please feel free to send me the specifications and all that stuff and I'll include it.

IBM compatible 286 AT Computer**Includes:**

- Math CO processor
- 4 Mb RAM
- 80 Mb HDD
- 3 1/2 and 5 1/4 disk drive
- VGA High Res. Monochrome Monitor
- Keyboard and Mouse
- 1/2 Height Tower
- Price: \$785.00

Call Arpad at 751-3804

10 to 40M 4 band HF Hustler Vertical Antenna

- completely rebuilt, modified

Price: \$55.00

Call Arpad at 751-3804

Diamond Dual Bander Mobile Antenna

- Includes trunk mount
- Excellent Condition
- Price: \$ 85.00

Call Dave at 399-4333

Kenwood TM-731A Dual Band mobile**Includes:**

- Tone Board
- Full Mods
- Manual
- Mount
- Price: 570.00

Call Arpad at 751-3804

440 Ringo Ranger II \$25.00

Call Arpad at 751-3804

Diamond X-200 2M/440 Base Antenna

Price: \$100.00

Call Arpad at 751-3804

ICOM 2 Meter HT

- Model 2G AT
- Max output 7 watts
- Tone Encoder/Decoder
- External Power supply
- Speaker Mike
- All manuals
- Price: \$275 or best offer

Call Dave at 399-4333

FIELD DAY T-SHIRTS ARE NOW BEING ORDERED !

Walt /WB8E is currently taking orders for the newest version of that time honored classic:

The USECA Field Day T-Shirt!

Quantities ordered is very limited so if you want one you better get it soon. Once they are gone there won't be anymore. See Walt for details!

EXPERIENCES OF A NEW HAM

by Ann /KB8NYY

For someone with a lifelong paranoid fear of public speaking, how did I get involved in RADIO, of all things? Well, I did, and here I am. First contact experiences: 10 meter sideband -- when the call came back to me I was so shocked I forgot my own callsign! Thereafter, I made sure it was prominently displayed. The day eventually arrived in which I had earned the right to use 2 meters. Oh no, I thought, if I say something stupid now, THESE GUYS will know who I am! Of course I promptly said something stupid. I considered sticking my head in the oven but it was electric so I decided to give up radio forever and ever instead (about 2 weeks) .

First CW Contact....now THAT was an experience in terror! My CQ was immediately answered, to my combined delight and horror> I don't know what was worse...sending or receiving.

The scenario:

Sending: What do I say? What do I say???

Receiving: What did he say? What did he say???

"Copy, Copy" I yelled at my laughing Elmer, fortunately standing by. While I was busy puzzling over "FB Ann", my contact was sending 3 words ahead. "GUD chat wid u Ann". Ha Ha (or Hi Hi) I thought, "this guys not so brilliant, he can't even spell". After a 20 minute qdo, which seemed like 2 hours, I stopped shaking and told myself grimly that I was having fun, repeat, FUN. The guy was very nice. He told me that I had a nice fist. I think.

Radio is indeed a strange and wonderful hobby, even for an electronic illiterate like me. I know that I will never forget what it is like to be "new" and will always try to extend the same warm courtesy, help, and encouragement to others that has been shown to me. I've made a lot of new friends and a whole world has opened up. TNX to one and all for making me feel so welcome. 73 - Ann/ KB8NYY

Oak Park Amateur Radio Club "Amateur Nite"

The Oak Park ARC is presenting a yearly event call AMATUER NITE, which is being held on May 9, 1993 at 7:00 p.m. at:

Oak Park Community Center
14300 Oak Park Blvd (just west of Coolidge)
Oak Park, Mich.

This event is being held to show off Amateur equipment as well as to present manufacturers literature to all interested persons. Amateurs will give talks and demonstrations of their equipments, repeaters, packet systems, computers, and other related items. There will be door prizes and lots of literature and equipment for you to see! we are sure that there will be something of interest to anyone who attends.

For information contact: Mark /KF8MT at 544-4114, Jim /N8QMD at 352-0681, or Diane /N8KBA at 559-0147

Plan on seeing and hearing plenty about Amateur Radio, plan on asking questions, and, most important of all, Plan on meeting a lot of swell people who have something in common - Radio!

The Demise of Cellular-Capable Scanners

submitted by Walt /WB8E

originally printed in Nuts and Volts Magazine, March 93'

As we were busy ringing in the New Year, our elected officials were busy ringing in new laws supposedly intended to bolster the privacy of cellular telephone conversations. As anyone with a background in Amateur Radio can attest, monitoring hobbyists have been using receivers or scanners to monitor just about anything on the airwaves since the first transmitter began broadcasting.

We've pretty much taken this ability for granted, as it has always been our right. As citizens we all technically owned the airwaves, and allowed the government to regulate their use on our behalf. While this regulation has generally applied to the transmission of signals, it now applies to the reception of signals as well.

Senate Bill S1579 and House Bill HR6191, primarily concerned with "900 number" pay-per-call abuse, contained a provision introduced by Senator Larry Pressler (R-S.D.) which amends section 302 of United States Code, Title 47. This bit of Federal code has been historically known as the Communications Act of 1934.

The new law (PL 1020556) requires the FCC to deny certification after April 28, 1993 to any scanning receiver that:

- 1) Received frequencies allocated to cellular telephones
- 2) Can be readily altered to receive cellular frequencies
- 3) Or is equipped to descramble digital cellular calls into analog audio

This means that no scanners made after April 28 of this year which are capable of receiving cellular frequencies will receive the certification required for the unit to be sold in the United States. Existing stock of scanners manufactured prior to that date may be sold until depleted. Six months later, no scanner meeting the above criteria may even be imported or manufactured. If you've been considering the purchase of a cellular-capable scanner for your test bench, now is the time to do so.

Bob Grove, publisher of Monitoring Times summed it up best when he said "...Canada and even former Communist countries now have more listening rights than Americans"

Net Point Notes

by Ken /KF8RG

A quick glance at the net point sheet (on the next page) should tell you that precious little in the way of check-in sheets has come my way! Floyd /KF8AT, is the only Net Op to turn in a CW check-in sheet in the 4 months I've been doing this job for the club. Obviously at 4 points per net, 4 times a month, the fella' who "usually" runs the net should have at least 50 more points than shown! No check-in sheets, no credit! I don't know if it's worth printing CW net points that aren't very current, but since they're not tallied with the FM net points I figured we ought to print them at least 3 times a year.

There are a few individuals that deserve commendation for their speed in getting check-in sheets to me. They are: Kathy / N8VOH, Jim /N8OKW, Rick /KB8KLW (who often turns in other Ops check-in sheets as well....guess no-one can spare the postage), Scott /KB8NXS, Linda /N8VVH, and Mike /WX3L. These club members usually get their net points in the mail within a day of the net. That's what I call reliable! Some folks send them in every 2 months or so but it's kinda' hard to print an up-to-date Netpoint Report when you're 2 months behind!

Wow, this is getting long. See ya' at Field Day. 73....Ken / KF8RG

FM Net Point Totals
submitted by Ken /KF8RG

U.S.E.C.A. NET POINTS		
CALL	NAME	PTS
N1FCK	GREG	25
VE3FYN	NEEDNAME	1
WX3L	MIKE	85
WX3M	DOM	54
VE3OEH	MIKE	1
KATKZG	JOHN	32
KF8AT	FLOYD	112
KBAYZ	PAUL	23
K88BMY	MIKE	15
N8BY	BOB	69
W8BC	TOM	30
* K8CBZ	BILL	52
N8CFC	CATHY	1
K8CFY	JERRY	86
W8CRS	EARL	7
KF8CT	DAVE	66
N8CVC	BILL	22
A88CY	BRIAN	12
N18D	ROGER	1
* W8BE	WALT	152
W8BEV	ART	3
N8ERV	TOM	20
K8BESU	STEVE	1
KF8FK	BILL	66
KF8FX	KATHY	3
N8FZS	JOHN	1
K886GI	PAUL	9
K886PO	KEN	16
W8BH	GORDIE	45
A88HF	DARWIN	34
W8BI	GREG	1
W8BIFL	DAVE	80
K88IKW	VICTOR	1
A88IL	JOE	2
W8BIMR	ED	1
K88IQK	JOE	4
W88ITB	FRED	7
W88IWE	SHIRLEY	10
W8JEK	BOB	16
N8JEX	RICH	52
K8JRE	JOE	3
W8K	CHARLIE	64
N8KDL	DOUG	2
N8KHN	BILL	15
N8KIZ	STEVE	10
* K88KLM	RICK	157
N8KND	DOUG	9
N8KNS	DON	48
W8BL	SEAN	13
W8LLJ	JOHN	2
KE8LT	HANK	39
N8LL	BETTY	79
W8M	ARPAD	58
KF8MB	HEL	36
N8MCD	JIM	126
W8MCE	PETE	1
N8MET	SAH	27
N8MGO	SHARON	1
N8MIJ	JIM	27
K8MKB	JERRY	1
N8MLD	CAROLYN	1
N8MOJ	HARION	4
K88NCV	TODD	1
K88NDS	TOM	14
N8NLS	VIRGINIA	18
N8NMG	JOHN	18
N8NNT	BILL	93
N8NNU	KARL	3
N8NPC	BOB	38
N8NQQ	BIFF	65
N8NTD	JOHN	56
N8NIN	ED	15
K88NIS	SCOTT	47
K88NYY	ANN	16
N8NZD	DAVE	39
W8BO	STEVE	2
N8BDD	STEVE	3
K8DEF	JOE	14
N8DEF	VAL	21

TOP TWENTY CONTESTANTS

No.	Call	Name	Pts	Totals
1	* K8BKLM	RICK	10	157
2	* W8BE	WALT	6	152
3	N8MCD	JIM	4	126
4	KF8AT	FLOYD	6	112
5	* N8ONI	COLE	10	100
6	N8NMX	BILL	15	93
7	KE8VM	DAN	7	88
8	K8CFY	JERRY	4	86
9	WX3L	MIKE	5	85
10	W8BIFL	DAVE	14	80
11	N8LIL	BETTY	3	79
12	N8OEV	DAVE	8	78
13	N8OKW	JIM	10	71
14	N8BY	BOB	4	69
15	N8RUE	EDDIE	7	68
16	KF8CT	DAVE	5	66
17	KF8FK	BILL	6	66
18	N8NQQ	BIFF	2	65
19	KF8RG	KEN	7	65
20	W8K	CHARLIE	1	64

Date: 04/07/93, KEN (KF8RG)

Net Point Explanation:

- 1) A "*" by your call denotes an award due. (There is a certificate for 50 check-ins and each multiple thereof.) Pick up your awards at USECA meetings.
- 2) A "NEEDNAME" means just that, either the net control op did not note names with calls or the name was not given at net time.
- 3) FM net control ops receive 2pts for each net. CW control ops get 4 pts each net.
- 4) FM check-ins receive 1 pt each net. CW check-ins get 2 pts. (The difference is meant to encourage upgrading by use of the Code and to reward the extra time and effort of a CW net.)
- 5) If you have not checked into a net in the last 3 months, your points total will not be listed. A simple check-in will put you back on the list! (with all points noted)
- 6) Net points can only be awarded as I receive them. (Net control ops; Please get check-in sheets to me as soon as possible and as complete as possible!)
- 7) CW net points are tallied separately and are published only when I receive updates on checkins.

CW Net Point Totals

submitted by Ken /KF8RG

U.S.E.C.A. C W N E T P O I N T S

CALL	NAME	PTS	CALL	NAME	PTS
WX3L	MIKE	21	WABLCZ	BYRON	2
WX3M	DON	36	K8GLEW	STEVE	8
KFBAT	FLOYD	6	N8LXL	BETTY	6
K8CBZ	BILL	22	N8LYM	JEFF	6
K8CFY	JERRY	2	N8MOJ	MARION	12
N8CXL	JOHN	2	N8OEV	DAVE	2
A8BCY	BRIAN	8	N8OWI	COLE	2
W88D	MIKE	2	W88PLQ	GALEN	4
A88DD	BOB	2	N8RFI	BOB	2
W88E	WALT	24	KF8RG	KEN	2
K8BFK	BILL	2	K88VM	STEVE	4
K88KLW	RICK	8	WY8W	PAUL	6
N8KVS	JEFF	2	W8ZOF	PHIL	18

Date: 04/07/93, KEN (KF8RG)

Displayed 26 of 27

TOP TWENTY CONTESTANTS

No.	Call	Name	Pts	Totals
1	WX3M	DON	15	36
2	W88E	WALT	8	24
3	K8CBZ	BILL	7	22
4	WX3L	MIKE	8	21
5	W8ZOF	PHIL	10	18
6	N8MOJ	MARION	8	12
7	K88KLW	RICK	2	8
8	A8BCY	BRIAN	4	8
9	K88LEW	STEVE	0	8
10	N8LXL	BETTY	0	6
11	N8LYM	JEFF	2	6
12	WY8W	PAUL	2	6
13	KFBAT	FLOYD	6	6

Please excuse the inaccuracies in the CW net report. I have not seen an update on checkins from any net ops in over 4 months (with one exception, KFBAT). If you check into the CW net please remind the net op to send in his checkin sheet.

The address again, is: 53762 Kristin Ct., Shelby, Mi.
48316-2240.

TEMPORARY V.E. TEST SESSION CHANGE

There will be no test session during JULY at Bill, N8CVC's house. The AUGUST test session will be held on August 7th at Ken /KF8RG's house because Bill's house will be unavailable at that time.

Directions to the house:

From Van Dyke (either Northbound or Southbound)

- 1) Go west on 24 mile road to Shelby Road ((2nd light)
- 2) Turn right (North) on Shelby Road.
- 3) The 3rd street on the right is Woodmire. Turn right.
- 4) Go down Woodmire to Kristin Court, which is the first street on the right.
- 5) The house is a Grey Tri-Level with a gravel driveway.

As usual there will be a talk-in on 147.18 (+)

Basic Bulgarian for CW QSO's

submitted by Walt /WB8E

NOTE: Underlined letters should be sent as ONE CHARACTER.

Such as: MM = ----; AA - .-.-DOBRO UTRO
Good MorningDOBXR DEN
Good DayDOBXR WE OE ER
Good EveningBRADXT MI E
My location isGRADXT MI E BLIZO DO
My location is nearOBRATNO KXM WAS
Over to youAZ SE NARIOEAM
My name isBLAGODARAA ZA NOWATA STRANA
Thank you for the new countryMOAATAA RADIOSTANCIAAA E PRIEMOPREDAWATEL S WHODNA MOQ NA
My station is a transceiver with an input power ofW.
Watts.MOAATAA ANTENA E OE ETWORKA
My antenna is a quadMOAATAA ANTENA E 3 ELEMENTEN LXOE
My antenne is a 3 element beamMOAATAA ANTENA E DXLXG PROWOD
My antenna is a long wireMOAATAA ANTENA E WERTIKALNA
My antenna is a verticalANTENATA MI E DIPOL
My antenna is a dipoleANTENATAMI IMA EMNO PRIWLIOEANE
My antenna is a ground planeDNES E SLXNOE
It is sunny todayDUHWA
It is windyOLAOENO E
It is cloudyWALI DXVD
It is rainingWALI SNAAG
It is snowing.IMA SM SNAAG
There are cm of snowAZ NAJ PREDAWAM PO MORZEW KOD
SXWXROTENO
Your morse code sending is perfectWAOTETO PREDAWANE PO MORZEW KOD E
I operate mostly morse codeIMATE HUBAWA RADIOSTANCIAAA
You have a nice stationAZ RABOTAA W ELEKTRONIKA
I work in electronicsDA
YesNE
NoQE WI OTPRATAAA QSL KARTO OEKA
I will send you a QSL card.WSIOEKO HUBAWO
Best WishesVELA AA WI HUBAWO DX
Good DXBLAGODARAA ZA RAZGOWARA
Thanks for the chatBLAGODARAA
Thank YouMNOGO PRIAATNO BEOE E DA GOWORAA SXS WAS
It has been a pleasure talikeg to youOE ESTITA KOLEDA
Merry ChristmasOE ESTITA NOWA GODINA
Happy New YearDO WIDANE, PRIAATELEW
Goodbye, My FriendI DX
Peace and DX

UTICA SHELBY
EMERGENCY
COMMUNICATION
ASSOCIATION

USECA

USECA SECOND ANNUAL PRE-FIELD DAY PARTY

USECA is a social club that is affiliated with many community activities.

The USECA Club is one of the largest Amateur clubs in the United States. One does not have to be an Amateur Radio Operator, commonly called HAMS to join the club. The club sponsors one of the best 2 meter repeater in Michigan. The repeater is located at 147.180 MHz and is open for public amateur use. An amateur radio operator does not have to be a member of USECA to use the Repeater. Although everyone is welcome to use the repeater, club members are only allowed to use the special features the repeater system offers. The repeater offers club members Phone Patch, Emergency Autodialer, Voice Mailbox, Voice Instant Replay, Bulletin Board, Clock, Touch-tone Pad Test, Paging,

and PL Sub-tone/ Touch-tone Repeater Access. The USECA Club is made up of the friendliest group of people you will ever meet. The club has a wide variety of members from Doctors and Lawyers to sales people at K-40 Electronics. The club members ages range from teenagers to senior citizens. There is no generation gap in the amateur radio hobby. The club activities include the Clinton River clean up, Community Organization Services for the Peach Festival in Romeo, MS Walkathon, Car Shows, Amateur Testing and one of the Largest Field Day gatherings in the world.

This year USECA is proud to announce the second Annual Pre Field Day Party. You are welcome to join the Party and all of the USECA Activities.

Amateur Radio Fun For Everyone. Here's When & Where!

The Second Annual Pre-Field Day Party will be held at Stoney Creek Metro Park in the Winter Cove Picnic area. The picnic party will be on Saturday May 8, 1993 From 9:00 am to 6:00 pm. The only cost to you will be the price of admission into the park. The park allows sailboats, bicycles, volleyball, baseball, frisbees, dogs on leashes and fishing for sales people at K-40 Electronics. The park is located at 26 mile & Mound, maps are available at the park office. There will be a talk in on the USECA Repeater. Should be a good time for all who attend.

For More information about the USECA Club or any Amateur related information, such as licensing and joining the club please contact one of the following people: Mike Mastrovito WX3L (313-689-3533), Bill Chesney N8CVC (313-468-8345) or Walt Gracey WB8E (313-777-2954). Picnic arrangements by: Elizabeth Iley N8XCZ. Publishing compliments of Computat Inc Engineering Services.



If you own a sail boat bring it along or rent one at the park for a low all day price. With or without a sail boat you are sure to have a good time.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- 20 Meter and 40 Meter HF Radio setup and operating on display. The operators will kindly answer any questions you have about Amateur Radio.
- Hamburgers, Hot-dogs and Pop for the first 120 customers.
- An operating Generator for AC Power.
- Plenty of parking and picnic area at Stoney Creek.
- Many friendly Amateur Radio Operators to entertain & answer questions.

A Message From Floyd/ KF8AT

I am not sure where this article/letter will end up in the Express, but I just decided it was time to put some ink to paper. As one of your Board members, I have listened carefully to the opinions expressed by most of YOU recently. By YOU, I mean the membership. I received quite a bit of feedback regarding Arpad's Soapbox and all of you that contacted me got the same response, after I listened at length to what was on your mind. The response was.. "put it in writing and send it to the Board or the Editor". I did this not pass your opinions off, but I want the same response as Arpad (well kind of...). I am not interested in dissention among the ranks, I am interested in getting YOU involved! I hear all kinds of thought provoking subjects tossed around on HF and on the repeater, but NOBODY (up until now) has put ink on paper! Our club is the most active, the friendliest, the youngest at heart, the most social and of course the club with largest Field Day in the country (bar none!). No other club in the area (probably the country) has Dart Throws, Bowling get-togethers, Pre-Field Day, monthly Fox-Hunts, active Youth Groups, QRP interest groups, Packet interest groups, weekly CW nets on HF, weekly Saturday get-togethers at the restaurant, regular picnics, annual treks to faraway places (like Gull Island and Dayton), annual Swaps, monthly VE test sessions, twice weekly information nets on the repeater, which just happens to be one of THE BEST repeater systems in southern lower Michigan! Do you get my point??!! What other club has members that with a moment's notice, come up with a handful of knowledgeable and qualified people to go to a fellow amateur's (not necessarily a club-member either) QTH to help erect an antenna?; or will start a CW class when enough people become interested? What other club has as many members volunteering for RACES/ARES duty, to help provide communications for Walkathons, bicycle rides, Clinton River Cleanups, Parades, or even Museum Displays, etc.?!!? What other club actively encourages ANYONE to enter our hobby via ANY license class and then afterwards follows up and helps the new ham get on the air by loaning equipment and antennas or continued encouragement to upgrade?? What other clubs donate antennas to needy organizations to further the efforts of those organizations to help handicapped amateurs visiting the area??

The list goes on and on. My point is this: We have a great thing going here! Why not get involved? I mean by doing more than bringing a bag of potato chips to the picnic. There always seems to be the regulars that volunteer for most of the activities. If you haven't done anything like that for awhile, jump in and help!! I don't mean you have to help or get involved with everything, just pick one activity that sounds like fun to start with and get active! Next year you may find another activity that interests you!

Maybe just taking that first Information Net on the repeater or something (Wow! You can do that from the comfort of your own home!).

It is great to see all the new members taking the plunge and volunteering for many of the activities that the club sponsors. I am only touching the tip of the iceberg, there are more events and activities with hundreds of people volunteering already. That is why our club is the great one that it is! All that are involved with this club knows that we have something special! My goal is to encourage one and all to direct our energies in a positive direction. I got into this hobby for enjoyment and relaxation. I also understand the responsibility that comes with "the ticket". I am NOT involved in the hobby to get into disagreements and cat fights with anyone for personal OR political reasons. I am here to have some fun and to contribute to my country and community. If we all join together, I am sure that we can all have a hell of a good time with the many aspects of this hobby! So lets make an attempt to put personal and political differences aside and we can all enjoy the hobby even more! (One of these days maybe the ARRL will even take note!)

My only regret is that people like the ARRL do not take the time to give positive recognition to people that really care and contribute to the hobby. Ones that sit back and ignore the good things that are happening and would rather find fault and criticize the opinions of one member of a progressive, positive organization; are furthering the stereotype that the ARRL is no longer helping, but hurting amateur radio. I am not talking about Mike Kurta's letter. Mike's letter was constructive criticism, and his opinion was presented in a positive manner. However, there are others in the ARRL (who will remain nameless for now) who would rather "cop a bad attitude" towards a club because he is too short sighted to see that one man's opinion is his own and that he is totally entitled to it! If this is the ARRL's role and philosophy on amateur radio clubs in general then we can do better without them. Again, I would rather see energies directed in more useful directions. This is my brief appearance on the "soapbox"!

OK, enough of that. This past February, I had the distinct honor and pleasure of accompanying Jim (N8OKW) on one of his SCCA road rallies. Jim is one of the organizers for the SCCA Rallies here in the area. I drove for him during the final pre-check as well as during the actual rally. To say that it was fun would be an understatement! Also joining us that evening was John (KA7KZO), Biff (N8NQQ) and Bill (N8NMX). John, Biff and Bill drove all over the course, staying ahead of the competitors because they were providing communications for the check points in the rally! It sounded like they also had a pretty good time too! Jim is

involved with several different rallies during the course of the year and he always welcomes our assistance! So, next time don't miss it! If you want to know just how much fun it was, ask John, Biff, Bill or I and I am sure you will want to join in on the fun next time!

Another activity that has gained popularity is the annual trek to Gull Island. What and where is Gull Island you say? Well, Gull Island is a small party island just at the mouth of the South Channel in Lake St. Clair. We set up a field day type station there on a Friday and operate through the night and most of the day on Saturday. Operation is usually on 75, 40, 20 and sometimes 10 meters. We also have VHF/UHF there too. The only way on and off the island is by boat, so this whole thing takes some organization. If you are interested, contact Bryan (AA8CY) or Floyd (KF8AT). We would like to set up a date for this outing soon.

1992 Field Day Videos are done and available now for only \$8.00. It is 90 minutes long and also contains footage from Gull Island and an antenna climb. Don't miss it! There are even a couple of 1991 Field Day Videos left too! Both videos feature our own club members playing in a band at Field Day and providing all the music!

Now, I have to put my money where my mouth is, so here goes. In this issue you will see the first of a series of "Brain Teaser" type problems or questions. I am hoping to stimulate thought and foster a greater understanding of some of the technical aspects of amateur radio. I am certainly NOT an expert on any of the subjects that will appear in this column, so I will learn along with all of you as we go on. I am also a regular contributor to the Collins Collector Magazine and occasionally to Worldradio and Radio Fun. These problems will also appear in the CCM, so maybe these problems will instill thought amongst both groups! I am not going to take credit for dreaming up all these problems. There is a group of us that meet nightly on 75 meters and many of my friends are extremely knowledgeable in many areas of the hobby. We all have been taking turns presenting problems and solutions. It has been a lot of fun and of course it certainly has been educational! So, I will share them with all of you and hope that you enjoy them as much as we all have! I encourage questions, comments and new problems from the membership on any of these problems!

THIS MONTH'S BRAIN TEASER

With 1,500 watts of carrier fed into a 50 ohm dummy load,

1. What is the RMS voltage across the dummy load?
2. What is the current through the dummy load?

Answer next month!