

# USECA EXPRESS

Awarded as "EXCELLENT" and "SUPERIOR<sup>2</sup>"

UTICA SHELBY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION, INC.

Volume 13, Number 5, May 1997

## PRE-FIELD DAY

*Ann, KG8IFE*

**S**PRING! IT IS HERE AT LAST! Yes! This means—what else?—almost time for the annual USECA PRE-FIELD DAY PICNIC! The date is Saturday, May 10 (day before Mothers Day)—the place is the traditional spot—Stony Creek Metro Park, Winter Cove Area. The area has been reserved for us. It is quite a nice spot with grassy hills and a lake nearby. Inclement weather is no excuse for staying away—our area has a large pavilion. Last year's weather was a bit much to cope with, I will admit—however—the hardy folks of USECA showed up anyway. Resourceful members went out and bought sheets of Visqueen, this cut the wind to a tolerable level. Per my usual formula: "bring an umbrella so it won't rain." Jerry, KB8TAS has already obtained Visqueen for this year's picnic, so I expect the weather should be quite nice.

The park opens at 9:00 a.m.—so you may arrive just about anytime of the day you like. The grills will be going about noon or so. The club will provide hot dogs and hamburgers, paper plates and such. Please bring your own pop and a tasty pass-a-dish to help create another memorable feast.

We generally have a few radio stations set up—year before last, we ran 7-Alpha, making the proud claim that our Pre-Field Day was as big as many club's Field Days! The stations will have control operators in place, so this may be a good chance to try out some of the HF bands and see what they are like. It certainly is fun to check out the rigs and swap radio stories and tips with the owners.

Family members, kids, friends and even (nice) doggies are welcome. Bring out your toys (but no squirt guns please)—this is an excellent place to roller blade, ride a bike, fly a kite or a Frisbee. It will be a fine day of enjoyable socializing, chowing and playing with our toys. The main purpose of this picnic, however, is to get us all fired up for the MAIN EVENT to come in June—FIELD DAY. This is a chance to get out and practice, tweak your gear, and get the FD spirit! See you there.

## FIELD DAY

*Scott, KG8IE*

**I**T'S NOW MAY or very soon will be, and Field Day will be here before you know it. As I am typing this we still need a few station chairs to complete the site. I am hoping to fill all positions real soon. Joe (K8OEF) was kind enough to mail to '97 Field Day rules [in this edition] to me and I'm studying them with a fine tooth comb to glean as many points as from them as possible.

This year there will be something new there will be a children's activity center to help keep the kid's busy and out of trouble. I am hoping to make this field day as enjoyable to as many as possible. With YOUR help, we will have the biggest field day yet! You all have heard me crying and whining for station chairs for the past two or three months. I have even tried to help this by locating rigs for some of them, i.e., 2 meter CW; I have a rig for that station and I will loan you the antenna. All you need is coax, a couple of chairs with a table and whalla, there you are. 2 meter CW is a fairly easy station to run, you send as fast as you can copy; 99% of the time most hams will send back to you at the same speed you send. 220 needs a chairperson as well. Without your help, I cannot do this. Field Day is one of our biggest functions OUR club does. Be a part of the "movers and shakers"—look for, and find your little niche to help—there is something for EVERYONE and I do mean everybody. I need the young with strong backs to the older with knowledge to set it up in the best way.

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**(810) 268-6730**

## IMPORTANT NOTICE! MAY MEETING — NEW LOCATION

Detroit Edison Macomb Center  
15600 19 Mile Road — Clinton Twp.  
Between Garfield and Hayes

**NEXT MEETING**  
May 13



# CLUB DIRECTORY

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Dennis Gaboury/KB8YYC, (810) 465-7126
Vice President	Dave Martin/W8VB, (810) 826-9783
Recording Secretary	Debby Cokewell/KB8YYB, (810) 263-0227
Treasurer	Jim Mickle/N8OKW, (810) 739-6565
Membership Secretary	Mark Milby/KC8DBI, (810) 293-3603
Past President	Floyd Soo/W8RO, (810) 391-6660

## ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

Ann Manor/KG8IF, (810) 751-3893
Nancy Carr/KB8QMS, (810) 749-3383
Marianne Mickle/N8TMJ, (810) 739-6565

## COMMITTEES

Activities Chair	Betty/N8LXL
ARRL Liaison	Dave/W8VB
Awards Manager	Ken/KF8RG
Door Prizes	Dina/N8YJI
Editor	Joe/K8OEF, (810) 781-0050
Field Day Chair	Scott/KG8IE, (810) 978-1203
Health & Welfare	Kathy/N8VOH, (810) 752-7818 & John/N8FNO
Historians	Jerry/K8CFY; Ann/KG8IF & Joe/WD8MFN
Mailers/Sorters	Ann/KG8IF; Phil/W8IC; & Crew
Net Manager	Bill/K8WI
Photographer	Richard/K8QLM
Program Director	Floyd/W8RO
Public Relations Officer	Ken/KF8RG
Refreshments	Phil/W8IC, Dave/KC8FCR; Rick/N2XBE & Marianne/N8TMJ
Repeater Trustee	Chuck/WA8Z
Swap & Shop	Chris/KC8EZU, (810) 987-6540
Technical Director	Doug/N8KND

## CONTROL OPERATORS

Doug/K8DK	Pat/N8LOG	Floyd/W8RO
Gordie/WB8H	Dave/N8OEV	Bill/N8SA
Dave /WD8IFL	Earl/N8OEX	Gulliver/WA8VIJ
Mike/WX3L	Nancy/KB8QMS	Chuck/WA8Z

## PROGRAMMERS

N8FOW	WB8H	N8KND	N8SA	WA8Z
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## VOLUNTEER EXAMINERS

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

## SILENT KEYS

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

f= Founder      c= Charter      h= Hon. Charter

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

The Editor is:

# Still Going

Joe, K8OEF



The May meeting—this is our last indoor meeting until after the summer break (September). Be sure to note, the May meeting will be at a different location.

Speaking of the May meeting, it's the perfect time and place to bring your Trash-For-Cash items. The June Meeting/Fox Hunt will be after the Trash-For-Cash event on June 8 unless the event goes to the alternate date—June 22.

Due to technical reasons, the PL will be left on at all sites including the main site until further notice.

The date for our 10th Annual Christmas Party will be on Saturday, December 13.

Our Swap Flyer will soon be on our Web Page. 73 for now.



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

*Ken's Kozy Korner*

**NET NOTES**

*Ken, KF8RG*

**H**EY! — WE'VE GOT A popular NEW net! The new 10 meter USECA SSB informal net on 28.425 MHz seems to draw quite a crowd. Although the 10 meter band has been fairly inactive due to low sunspot numbers (poor propagation), there are a few frequencies where local hams seem to congregate.

Even though DX is rare on 10 meters at this point in the solar cycle, local communications are quite noise-free and the equipment needed to get on this band is relatively inexpensive. A used Radio Shack HTX 100 (no longer made) goes for about \$100 or less, while the Ranger 2950 and Uniden 2600 both retail for under \$250 new (\$100-200 used). There are numerous mods for each of these rigs (the Ranger is also available in a 100 watt version). The RS model was a SSB/CW only rig, while the other two are SSB/AM/CW/FM. Antennas for this band are also cheap, as any old CB antenna will usually do just fine with a little shortening (not lard!).

I've almost completed designing the 1997 awards—it's been difficult finding the time to sit down at the computer and put them together. For 1997, I am eliminating both the old CW & FM awards, and in their place, creating completely new VHF and HF net awards. Doing this will increase opportunities to earn either of our awards and possibly encourage a few Techs to go after their HF upgrades (I always make the HF awards prettier!). 10 meter SSB NCOs would earn 3 points, similar to their FM phone counterparts, and check-ins would earn 2 points. HF CW nets and VHF FM nets would continue to earn points as in the past. Please see the new 1997 Net Awards system explanation for details.

If you'd like to run a net, or have questions about USECA's net operations, please get in touch with Bill Ibisster (K8WI), our net manager. He can tell you which nets are in need of NCOs, help you with info on how to run a net, and schedule you as a regular USECA NCO.

Pre-Field Day—our annual extravaganza at Stony Creek Park is almost upon us, with Field Day following only one month behind! (Pray for good weather!) If you've got anything layin' around the house that could earn the club a few bucks at a flea market, bring it along to Pre-Field Day! Someone will be there to collect it. The cash earned on the flea market sale of these goods will help defray our Field Day costs (we run one of the largest in the country!) Please remember that no alcohol is allowed in Stony Creek Park—if you bring it; keep it in your car and out of sight—it could cost us the use of the park in the future!

Something else to keep in mind—know anyone who might possibly be interested in Ham Radio? Have a Ham friend who you think might enjoy USECA's social activities and friendliness? Talk up USECA and bring them along to our activities and meetings. Check into nets on the other metro repeaters and invite other hams to join in the fun stuff we do as a club (if it's a pass-a-dish, remind them to bring something). Pre-Field Day and Field Day are just two

of USECA's events that can be used as powerful tools to recruit new members and enlist prospective new Hams. Do YOUR part!

Till next month . . . 73!

NOTE!—If you know somebody in the media, or feel you can get USECA into the news media, by all means DO SO! Don't wait for me or my OK. DO IT! Recently, some members were told that publicity is my job—it is not! I was honorably named to that unmanned position because no one else had been doing it and I had a few successes just kinda doin' it on my own (without anyone's consent). It's the responsibility of ALL of us to put our club in the public eye if we expect USECA to grow and prosper.



**"THE HAPPENIN' CLUB"**

**CLUB ACTIVITIES**

MONTH	DATE	TIME	EVENT
MAY	10	9:00 am	7th Annual Pre-Field Day
MAY	13	7:30 pm	General Meeting
MAY	16-18		Dayton
JUN	8		Trash-For-Cash (Alternate 6/22)
JUN	10	7:30 pm	General Meeting/Fox Hunt
JUN	13-15		Campout—Frankenmuth
JUN	27-29		Campout—Field Day
JUN	28-29		Field Day
JUL	3-6		Campout—Lakeport*
JUL	18-20		Campout—Algonac (Xmas)*
AUG	3	12:00 pm	Picnic—Port Huron
AUG	8-17		Campout—Tawas Point*
SEP	1		Romeo Peach Festival Parade
SEP	9	7:30 pm	General Meeting
OCT	14	7:30 pm	General Meeting
OCT	26		Swap & Shop
NOV	11	7:30 pm	General Meeting
DEC	9	7:30 pm	General Meeting
DEC	13		10th Annual Christmas Party

\*Group # 255868

CAMPOUT NOTES: Frankenmuth—Listen to the nets for more details. To make reservations, call 1-800-44PARKS. The parks are filling up fast—call ASAP for your reservations.

Any questions, call Dina, N8YJI (810) 777-4207.





## Do Dayton Hamvention

With USECA

Wednesday, May 14 • Thursday, May 15\*  
Friday, May 16 • Saturday, May 17 • Sunday, May 18

We have 28 rooms set aside at the Comfort Inn (Exit 82 on I-75 & SR36) at the Miami Valley Centre Mall, 987 East Ash Street, Piqua Ohio 45356.

Reserve your room by April 30, 1997 with the group account number G00680 for USECA \$68/1 or \$72/2 if you use our group number. Phone: (513) 778-8100.

Be sure to use the dates for the nights you want the room under your name and confirm if you plan to arrive after 5:00 p.m.

During the visit:

147.420 or 442.000 MHz Simplex (100 Hz CTCSS)

Contact Biff, N8NQQ at (810) 566-7749 if you need more information.

\*9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. visit the Air Force Museum with USECA.

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

## WHERE'S THE SWAPS?

Day	Month	Date	Where*
SAT	MAY	3	Cadillac
F,S,S	MAY	16-18	Dayton, OH
SAT	JUN	7	Hudsonville
SAT	JUN	14	Midland
SUN	JUN	15	Monroe
SAT	JUL	12	Petosky
SAT	AUG	2	Houghton
SUN	AUG	3	EMARC
SUN	AUG	10	Jackson
SUN	SEP	14	L'Anse Creuse
SUN	SEP	21	Adrian
SUN	OCT	26	USECA (12th Annual)
S, S	NOV	15-16	Fort Wayne, IN

\*Michigan unless otherwise noted.

Source: QRV Bulletin

**Leave A Gap!**

## Why An Amateur Radio Operator Is Called A HAM

Gerry Crenshaw, WD4BIS, Rowlett, Texas

**H**AVE YOU EVER WONDERED why we radio amateurs are called "HAMS"? Well, according to the Northern Ohio Radio Society, it goes like this: the word ham was applied in 1908 and was the call letters of one of the first Amateur wireless stations operated by some members of the Harvard Radio Club. There were Albert S. Hyman, Bob Almy and Peggie Murray. At first, they called their station Hyman-Almy-Murry. Tapping out such a long name in code soon called for a revision and they changed it to HY-AL-MU, using the first two letters of each name.

Early in 1909, some confusion resulted between signals from Amateur wireless HYALMU and a Mexican ship named HYALMO, so they decided to use only the first letter of each name and the call became HAM.

In the early pioneer unregulated days of radio, Amateur operators picked their own frequency and call letters. Then, as now, some Amateurs had better signals than some commercial stations. The resulting interference finally came to the attention of congressional committees in Washington and they gave much time to proposed legislation designed to critically limit Amateur activity.

In 1911, Albert Hyman chose the controversial Wireless Regulation Bill as the topic for his thesis at Harvard. His instructor insisted that a copy be sent to Senator David I. Walsh, a member of one of the committees hearing the bill. The Senator was so impressed, he sent for Hyman to appear before the committee. He was put on the stand and described how the little Amateur station was built. He almost cried when he told the crowded committee room that if the bill went through, they would have to close up the station because they could not afford the license fees and all the other requirements that were set up in the bill.

The debate started and the little station HAM became a symbol of all the little Amateur stations in the country crying out to be saved from menace and greed of the big commercial stations who did not want them around. Finally, the bill got to the floor of Congress and every speaker talked about the poor little station "HAM."

That's how it all started. You will find the whole story in the Congressional Record. Nationwide publicity associated station HAM with Amateurs. From that day to this, and probably to the end of time, in radio, an Amateur is a HAM.

GL and 73's de Gerry WD4BIS

(This was previously published in the Amateur Radio Communicator March/April, 1994)

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TRASH-4-CASH—JUNE 8th—Contact Gary, KC8CXB

**USECA 1997 VHF Net Points As Received By April 6th**

Displayed 185 of 185

Call	Name	pts	Call	Name	pts	Call	Name	pts	Call	Name	pts
WW1AW	BILL	1	WB8FUI	PHIL	4	KB8QXB	SUE	1	N8YTV	HARRY	13
W11K	JIM	37	KC8FVU	PHIL	3	KB8QXD	RANDY	4	N8YWS	STAN	10
WB2C	ANDY	3	KC8FXF	MIKE	2	N8RAR	WAYNE	3	KG8YX	DOC	13
VA3AWC	ALBERT	2	KC8FYF	GEORGE	2	KB8RBV	MANNY	13	KB8YYA	DREUX	21
VA3LJ	DON	1	KC8FYQ	GERALD	7	KF8RG	KEN	13	KB8YYC	DENNIS	21
VE3ZVF	BILL	1	KC8FYR	BRENT	3	KB8RJS	ERIC	1	KA8YYL	ALLEN	1
KE4DIP	MIKE	1	KB8GGI	PAUL	2	WD8RNO	LYNN	1	KB8ZGX	PETE	1
WQ4I	JOE	1	KC8GIX	CARL	1	W8RO	FLOYD	7	N8ZLU	TIM	1
KC4RFZ	KEVIN	1	KC8GMT	LAURA	8	N8RRU	GARY	3	N8ZPJ	SCOTT	2
KC4ZHC	STEVE	2	KC8GMU	GEORGE	4	N8RUE	EDDIE	6	N8ZRZ	AL	2
KMSD	ERIC	2	KC8GMV	JOHN	1	N8RUH	TJ	4	N8ZZF	PAT	4
KB8AKS	JERRY	7	KB8GPO	KEN	2	N8RUJ	ED	4			
KC8ARS	HENRY	1	W8GQL	DAN	2	N8SA	BILL	4			
KC8BCP	MARK	1	N8HOB	ED	1	N8SIH	BETTY	10			
KA8BDG	DICK	6	N8HZE	KEN	4	WB8SIW	JIM	3			
KC8BFP	MARK	7	W8IC	PHIL	5	K8SJK	RICHARD	1			
KC8BGR	JEAN	8	KG8IE	SCOTT	15	W8SJW	CHARLIE	1			
KC8BIU	TED	28	KG8IF	ANN	9	KB8SPC	JUDE	1			
KC8BXD	HENRY	2	WD8IFL	DAVE	3	KB8SWR	JEFF	2			
K8CFY	JERRY	21	WB8ITJ	JACK	1	KB8TAS	JERRY	30			
KC8CPT	DON	21	W8JEK	BOB	1	KB8TEZ	MATT	1			
KC8CJR	RON	3	WA8JPR	BILL	18	KG8TJ	KEVIN	1			
K8CWE	DICK	1	N8JUC	JOHN	1	N8TMJ	MARIANNE	10			
KC8CWS	DENNIS	1	N8JVA	ANDY	1	KB8TOP	JEFF	1			
KC8CXB	GARY	25	W8IK	DIANE	2	KB8TVV	JIM	6			
WS8D	MIKE	1	W8KC	PAUL	14	N8TWA	ROY	1			
KC8DBG	BILL	6	K8KKK	JERRY	1	K8TXS	ALEX	1			
KC8DBI	MARK	13	N8KXL	JERRY	1	N8UDZ	ADRIAN	1			
AA8DD	BOB	1	N8KND	DOUG	1	KA8UHG	STEVE	2			
KC8DDG	TOM	5	WD8KNO	LYNN	1	WB8UKU	CHRIS	1			
KC8DIP	BOB	1	N8KOV	LLOYD	1	KB8ULS	ROGER	1			
KC8DIS	GRAHAM	2	KG8LB	GARY	2	KB8UZT	ELMER	1			
W8DJ	DJ	3	N8LOG	PAT	1	W8VB	DAVE	17			
KC8DQF	NEEDNAME	1	KC8LT	JACK	3	WA8VIJ	GULLIVER	2			
KC8DRK	TIM	4	N8LXL	BETTY	6	N8VLY	JOAN	2			
KC8DRV	BILL	1	KB8LYA	FRED	2	N8VLZ	GORDIE	2			
N8DVO	FRED	1	WY8M	ARPAD	8	N8VOH	KATHY	1			
WB8E	WALT	24	KF8MB	MEL	3	WN8VOT	DAVE	41			
KC8EDK	BRIAN	2	N8MG	MARTY	3	WB8VPZ	JIM	1			
KC8EDO	JIM	5	KB8NDL	ROD	1	KB8VQM	LESTER	1			
KC8EEJ	JIM	14	KA8NDY	DAN	13	N8VTF	DON	13			
KC8EMD	JASON	2	N8NQO	BIFF	10	N8VVH	LINDA	10			
KC8EPO	ROGER	2	N8NSV	BOB	1	KB8WCM	STEVE	1			
N8ERV	TOM	1	N8NTD	JOHN	1	KB8WVW	GREG	1			
KC8EVI	LES	5	N8OEF	VAL	22	KB8WFZ	DOUG	1			
KC8EWP	JOSH	9	N8OEV	DAVE	3	KG8WG	LEE	10			
KC8EZU	CHRIS	3	N8OEX	EARL	2	KG8WH	DAVE	3			
KC8FDO	DUSTIN	4	AA8OH	JIM	3	K8WI	BILL	18			
KC8FEO	PAT	1	N8OKW	JIM	11	KB8WKI	LAURA	1			
KC8FES	MARK	1	K8OX	RICH	3	KB8WLR	CHUCK	1			
N8FGB	RICHARD	1	KB8PIK	MARILYNN	5	KB8WTH	RICH	26			
N8FGK	JERRY	1	KB8PKV	WAYNE	3	KB8WVM	STEVEN	1			
KC8FMX	JIM	7	KB8PLW	DAN	1	W8WZ	CARL	2			
KC8FRW	JOHN	13	K8PUP	MIKE	1	KF8XO	JEFF	1			
KC8FTW	AMY	1	KB8ODT	CASE	2	N8XPS	MIKE	5			
KC8FTX	LEO	1	K8QLM	RICHARD	87	N8XRB	JEFF	3			
KC8FTY	DEREK	7	KB8QMS	NANCY	22	KB8YBT	JOHN	4			
KC8FTZ	JIM	1	WB8QNI	VANCE	1	N8YJI	DINA	12			

**Top 20 VHF Operators**

Call	Name	pts
1	KBGLM	RICHARD 67
2	WN8VOT	DAVE 41
3	W11K	JIM 37
4	KB8TAS	JERRY 30
5	KC8BIU	TED 28
6	KB8WTH	RICH 26
7	KC8CXB	GARY 25
8	WB8E	WALT 24
9	N8OEF	VAL 22
10	KB8QMS	NANCY 22
11	KB8YYC	DENNIS 21
12	K8CFY	JERRY 21
13	KC8CPT	DON 21
14	KB8YYA	DREUX 21
15	WA8JPR	BILL 18
16	K8WI	BILL 18
17	W8VB	DAVE 17
18	KG8IE	SCOTT 15
19	W8KC	PAUL 14
20	KB8EEJ	JIM 14

**Top 15 HF Operators**

Call	Name	pts
1	N8MOJ	MARION 44
2	W8VRW	HARRY 14
3	N8RAR	WAYNE 8
4	W8IC	PHIL 4
5	W8RO	FLOYD 4
6	WN8VOT	DAVE 3
7	N8OEF	VAL 2
8	WD8PLQ	GAYLEN 2
9	KC8EDO	JIM 2
10	KC8FTZ	JIM 2
11	K8WI	BILL 2
12	KC8FXF	MIKE 2
13	W8VB	DAVE 2
14	W8XJ	LARRY 2
15	KB8YYC	DENNIS 2

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

Want to run a net?  
Earn extra points?  
See or call Bill, K8WI,  
for more information.

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

NOTE: The 1st 1997 Awards will be presented at the September General Meeting.

[The following contains greater detail from KF8RG's "ARRL News" in last Month's *Express*—Ed.]

## ARRL NEWS

ARRL members are being invited to add their ideas, comments and recommendations to those of the ARRL WRC-99 Planning Committee, which has suggested sweeping—and potentially controversial—changes to the Amateur Radio licensing structure in the US. On the table for open discussion and debate are proposals that include:

- Elimination of the Novice license
- Creation of a new Intermediate license to replace the Technician Plus expanded HF privileges for Intermediate licensees, including phone on 160, 75 and 15 meters
- A 10-wpm General CW test (with more stringent testing standards for all CW exams)
- Expanded phone privileges for General-class and higher licensees

Details of the plan, discussed during the recent ARRL Board of Directors meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico, will appear in March QST. The Board says it seeks comments from members to ensure that before any plan goes forward, it enjoys broad support from the amateur community. The Board will not act on the issue at least until its July meeting.

After its research revealed that as many as three Novices in four are inactive, the committee concluded that the Novice license is no longer useful. Although the committee would end the Novice license, its plan provides current Novices with an easy means to upgrade (via an open-book test) to the new Intermediate class license, which would replace the current Technician Plus. All present Tech Plus licensees would become Intermediate licensees. The Basic license would supplant the Technician license—now the hobby's most-popular entry-level ticket—with no changes in privileges. In addition, the committee's plan would phase out the current Novice and Tech Plus bands on 80, 40 and 15 meters, and replace them with new Intermediate-class allocations. The committee's consensus plan for Intermediate-class licensees calls for new CW bands on 80, 40 and 15 meters starting 25 kHz up from the lower band edge, digital and phone-band privileges on 75 and 15 meters and a 50-kHz phone or CW segment at the top end of 160 meters, plus expanded Novice and Tech Plus CW and phone allocations on 10 meters.

According to the proposal, Intermediate CW bands would be 3525 to 3700 kHz, 7025 to 7050 kHz, 21025 to 21150 kHz and 28050 to 28300 kHz. Digital operation was suggested for 3600 to 3625, 21100 to 21125 and 28100 to 28189 kHz. Phone privileges would include 1950 to 2000, 3900 to 4000, 21350 to 21450, SSB from 28300 to 28500 and FM from 29500 to 29700 kHz. Transmitter power for Intermediate-class licensees would be limited to 200 W PEP output (other licensees using these bands would not be limited to 200 W, however).

General-class and higher amateurs also would benefit from the plan, if it's adopted according to the committee's outlines. General-class hams would get additional phone privileges 3800 to 3850, 7200 to 7225, and 21250 to 21300 kHz; Advanced-class hams would add 3725 to 3775, 7125 to 7150 and 21175 to 21225 kHz; Extra-class hams would also have 3700 to 3750, 7125 to 7150 and 21150 to 21200 kHz.

With the exception of 40 meters, where Novice and Tech Plus licensees already have privileges, the committee suggested no changes on the hobby's narrowest and most crowded bands—including 20 meters and the narrow WARC bands at 30, 17 and 12 meters.

The Intermediate CW test would be 5 words per minute (the same as the current Tech Plus requirement), but the committee proposed that the General class CW requirement be set at 10 wpm. There still would be no additional CW exam for the

Advanced ticket, nor would there be any change in the 20-wpm requirement for the Extra. Exams for all classes would include a return to a sending test and the requirement for one minute of solid copy during a five-minute test—instead of the current method that tests on the content of the CW text.

Right now, these major changes are only in the talking stage. "Let us be very clear about this," said ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, who characterized the committee's proposals as a starting point for discussion, not a done deal. "The changes are not ARRL policy; nothing has been proposed to, or by, the FCC, and the ARRL Board is committed to making no decision before its July 1997 meeting." Sumner said there is no timetable to complete the process. Only after there is an opportunity for in-depth consideration and discussion by the membership will the ARRL Board consider taking the next step—to approach the FCC with a rulemaking proposal—a process that automatically invites additional comments and suggestions.

Between the time they receive March QST and May, members are asked to voice their opinions on the committee's suggestions to their directors, whose postal and e-mail addresses are listed on page 10 of QST. All suggestions and comments—positive and negative—are welcome.

—ARRL



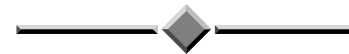
## HAM RADIO GROWS IN 1996

Good news: The number of licensed Amateur Radio operators in the US rose by approximately 1.9% last year! FCC statistics show that ham ranks increased by 12,207 from December 1995 to December 1996. During 1996, 28,854 new licenses were issued by the FCC, while another 13,926 hams upgraded their operating privileges.

Not-so-good news: During January 1997, the total number of hams dropped by 641 (possibly due to the cancellation or expiration of the licenses of deceased hams). The number of new and upgrading hams also was off slightly last month compared to the month previous.

Bad news: The number of applications forwarded to the FCC by the ARRL-VEC for new and upgraded licenses during 1996 was down by 5198 over the previous year. That represents a 16% drop—consistent with what other VECs are reporting.

—ARRL



## DAYTON UPDATE

If you plan on attending this year's Dayton Hamvention, be prepared to drive to the Hara Arena from wherever you will be staying. The Hamvention will no longer be providing bus service from area hotels to the convention site. The reason? The same as it was the last time the Hamvention was forced to cancel the buses—cost. The cost of running the service has become so high as to make it impractical to continue.

—World Radio, March 1997

"F o r I D ?"

## 1997 Field Day Rules

**1) Eligibility:** Field Day is opened competitively to all amateurs in the ARRL/RAC Field Organization (plus Yukon and NWT). Foreign stations may be contacted for credit, but are not eligible to compete.

**2) Object:** To work as many stations as possible on any or all amateur bands (except 10, 18 AND 24-MHz bands) and, in doing so, to learn to operate in abnormal situations under less-than-optimum conditions. A premium is placed on skills and equipment developed to meet the challenge of emergency preparedness and to acquaint the public with the capabilities of Amateur Radio.

**3) Dates:** June 28-29, 1997.

**4) Field Day Period:** From 1800 UTC Saturday until 2100 UTC

Sunday. Class A and Class B (see below) stations who do not begin setting up until 1800 UTC Saturday may operate the entire Field Day period of 27 hours. Others must begin their setup no earlier than 1800 UTC Friday, and may operate no more than 24 consecutive hours; ie, once on-the-air Field Day operation has started, it must end 24 hours from that point.

**5) Entry Categories:** Field Day entries are classified according to the maximum number of simultaneous transmitted signals, followed by the designation of the nature of the individual or group participation. Below 30 MHz, once a transmitter is used for a contact on a band, it must remain on that band for at least 15 minutes. During this 15-minute period, the transmitter is considered to be transmitting a signal, whether it is or not, for purpose of determining transmitter class. Switching devices prohibited.

(Class A) Club/nonclub portable: Club groups (or non-club groups with three or more licensed amateurs) set up specifically for Field Day. Such stations must be located in places that are not regular station locations, and must use no facilities installed for permanent station use, nor any structures installed permanently for Field Day use. Stations must be operated under one call sign (except when the Novice/Technician position is used) and under the control of a single licensee or trustee for each entry. All equipment (including antennas) must lie within a circle whose diameter does not exceed 300 meters (1000 feet). All contacts must be made with transmitter(s) and receiver(s) operating independent of commercial mains. Entrants who, for one reason or another, operate a transmitter or receiver from commercial mains for one or more contacts will be listed separately at the end of their class.

Any Class A group whose entry classification is two or more transmitters (non-Novice) may also use one Novice/Technician operating position (Novice bands only) without changing its basic entry classification. For Field Day purposes only, any Canadian Amateur HF licensee, who has been licensed for less than six months prior to Field Day, shall be considered a "Novice" to provide a means for Canadian Field Day Class A stations with two or more transmitters to participate with a "Novice/Technician" operating position. This "Canadian Novice station" is restricted to the US Novice sub-bands and power/mode restrictions. The Novice/Technician station (including antennas) should be set up and operated by Novice and Technician licensees and should use the call sign of one of the Novice/Technician operators.

(Class A—Battery) Club/nonclub portable: Club groups (or non club groups with three or more licensed amateurs) set up specifically for Field Day and all contacts are made using an output power of 5 W or less and the power source is other than commercial mains or motor-driven generator (eg, batteries, solar cells, water-driven generators). Other provisions are the same as for class A.

(Class B) One- or two-person portable: Nonclub stations set up and operated by not more than two licensed amateurs will be placed in Class B. Other provisions are the same as for Class A. One- and two-person Class B entries will be listed separately in the results.

(Class B—Battery) One- or two-person portable: Non-club stations set up and operated by not more than two licensed amateurs and all contacts are made using an output power of 5 W or less and the power source is other than commercial mains or motor-driven generator (eg, batteries, solar cells, water-driven generators). Other provisions are the same as for Class A. One- and two-person Class B—Battery entries will be listed separately in the results.

(Class C) Mobile: Stations in vehicles capable of operating while in motion and normally operated in this manner, including antenna. This includes maritime and aeronautical mobiles.

(Class D) Home stations: Stations operating from permanent or licensed station locations using commercial power. Class D stations may count contacts only with Class A, B, C and E Field Day groups for points.

(Class E) Home stations—emergency power: Same as Class D, but using emergency power for transmitters and receivers. Work stations in Class A, B, C, D and E.

**6) Exchange:** Stations in any ARRL/RAC Section will exchange their Field Day operating class and ARRL/RAC Section. For example, if your club group was planning to operate in the three-transmitter, Class A category from Missouri, you would send "3 A Missouri." Foreign stations send RS(T) and QTH.

### 7) Miscellaneous Rules:

A) Operators participating in Field Day may not, from any other station, contact for point credit the Field Day portable station of a group with which they participated.

B) A station used to contact one or more Field Day stations may not subsequently be used under any other call during the Field Day period. Family stations are exempted.

C) Each phone and each CW segment is considered as a separate band. All voice communication contacts are equivalent, and Packet/RTTY/ASCII/AMTOR is counted as CW. A station may be worked once on each band. Crossband contacts are not allowed. The use of more than one transmitter at the same time on a single band is prohibited, except that a Novice/Technician position may operate on any Novice band segment at any time. No repeater contacts.

**8) Scoring:** Scores are based on the number of valid contact points times the multiplier corresponding to the highest power used at any time during the Field Day period, plus bonus points. Phone contacts count one point each, and CW contacts count two points each. Power multipliers: If all contacts are made using an output power of 5 W or less and if a power source other than commercial mains or motor-driven generator is used (eg, batteries, solar cells, water-driven generators), multiply by 5. If any or all contacts are made using an output power of 150 W or less, multiply by 2. Multiply by 1 if any or all contacts are made using an output power more than 150 watts. Batteries may be charged while in use for Class C entries only. For other classes, batteries charged during the Field Day period must be charged from a power source independent of the commercial mains.

A) Bonus points: The following bonus points will be added to the score (after the multiplier is applied) to determine the final score. Only Class A and B stations are eligible for bonuses. Just check the box on the Field Day summary sheet to indicate that you qualify for the bonus, and attach the necessary proof.

1) 100% emergency power: 100 points per transmitter for 100% emergency power. All equipment and

clipping, a memo from a BC/TV station stating that publicity was given or a copy of the material that was sent to the news media for publicity purposes.

B) 100 points for physically locating in a public place (eg shopping center, parks, etc.) with significant access by the public. The intent here is for Amateur Radio to be on display to the public.

C) An additional 100 points can be earned by such display stations in public places actively conducting an information booth for the visiting public, and dispensing information handouts, maintaining visitor's log, etc., as an information/recruiting tool for Amateur Radio. Evidence submitted for both (B) and (C) may consist of copies of handouts, visitor's log, brief report on activities conducted, photos, etc.

3) Message origination: 100 points for origination of a message by the club president or other Field Day leader, addressed to the SM or SEC, stating the club name (or nonclub group), number of operators, field location and number of ARES members participating. The message must be transmitted during the Field Day period, and a fully serviced copy of it must be in standard ARRL message form or no credit will be given.

4) Message relay: 10 points for each message received and relayed during the Field Day period, up to a maximum of 100 points. Copies of each message, properly serviced, must be included with the Field Day report.

5) Satellite QSO: 100 points can be earned by completing at least one QSO via satellite during the Field Day period. The repeater provision of Rule 7C is waived for satellite QSOs. A satellite station (one) does not count as an additional transmitter. On the summary sheet, show satellite QSOs as a separate "band."

6) Natural Power: Field Day groups making a minimum of five QSOs without using power from commercial mains or petroleum derivatives can earn 100 points. Intuitively, this means an "alternate" energy source of power such as solar, wind, methane or grain alcohol. This includes batteries charged by natural means (not dry cells). The natural-power station counts as an additional transmitter. If you do not wish to change your entry class, take one of your other transmitters off the air while making the natural-power QSOs. A separate list of natural-power QSOs should be enclosed with your entry.

7) W1AW message: A bonus of 100 points will be earned by copying a special ARRL Field Day bulletin sent over W1AW on its regularly announced frequencies just before and during Field Day. This message can be received directly from W1AW or by any relay method. An accurate copy of the received message should be included in your Field Day report.

8) Packet Radio: 100 points can be earned by completing at least one QSO on packet radio during the Field Day period. The repeater provision of Rule 7C is waived for packet radio QSOs. A packet station (one) does not count as an additional transmitter. On the summary sheet, show packet radio QSOs as a separate "band."

9) VHF/UHF: 100 points can be earned by completing at least ten QSOs (excluding packet contacts) on any band or combination of bands above 50 MHz (VHF/UHF bands) during the Field Day period. A VHF/UHF station (one) does not count as an additional transmitter. This station is not limited to making just ten QSOs. It may be operated for the entire Field Day period, and all contacts (excluding packet contacts) count for QSO points credit, including the first ten.

9) Reporting: Entries must be postmarked by July 29, 1997. No late entries can be accepted. A complete entry consists of an official ARRL summary sheet (or reasonable facsimile) and a list of stations worked on each band/mode during Field Day, plus

bonus proof. The list of stations worked on each band or mode may take the form of official ARRL dupe sheets or an alphanumeric listing of call signs worked per band and mode. This list may be computer-generated. Incomplete or illegible entries will be classified as checklogs. A copy of Field Day logs should be kept by your Field Day group, but should not be sent in unless specifically requested later by ARRL.

10) Condition of Entry: Each entrant agrees to be bound by the provisions, as well as the intent, of this announcement, the regulations of his or her licensing authority and the decisions of the ARRL Awards Committee.

11) Disqualification: See the Contest Disqualification Criteria for complete details.

**W1AW Field Day Bulletin Schedule**

In addition to the regular schedule detailed in April QST, extra CW bulletins will be run at 1400 UTC (10 AM EDT), and extra phone bulletins at 1500 UTC (11 AM EDT) both Saturday and Sunday mornings.

—ARRL

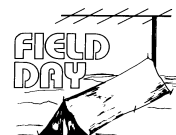


**Field Day—Continued From Page 1**

We are still trying to fill a few open chairs, if you think you might be interested in being a chairperson contact me via the repeater, phone, or e-mail. My info is correct in the new club roster. One of the people we need is someone to run the charging station to recharge the batteries for everyone considering we will be QRP battery again this year. I wish to thank the ones who have taken some of the open stations for doing so. Here is an updated list of our stations we have for Field Day, June 28, 29, 1997.

- 160 PHONE N8RAR
- 160 CW (OPEN)
- 80 CW KK8M
- 75 PHONE N8RRU/N8OEX
- 40 CW AA8CY/W8RO
- 40 PHONE W8VB
- 20 CW WB8E
- 20 PHONE N8K LX/N8RHV
- 15 CW W8IC/KG8IF
- 15 PHONE KB8AX/KG8IE
- 10 PHONE N8YWS
- 10 CW W8PLQ/N8MOJ
- NOV./TECH. KC8DBI
- 6 METERS N8YTV/KC8EZU
- 440 KC8EWP
- 220 (OPEN)
- 2 METERS KC8DDG
- 1.2 GHz KB8TVV
- PACKET (OPEN)
- SATELLITE KC8BTV
- AMATEUR TV ??????

**JUNE 27\* — JUNE 28 — JUNE 29**  
\*Setup/Music/Eats/Fun!





[An Express Reprint From The Past—December 1994]

## NO-CODE vs "KNOW CODE"

In October's "World Radio" magazine and in the November issue of the "Express," morse code, as a requirement for HF privileges, was the subject of some speculation. Both, in some way, mentioned the assumed imminent demise of morse code and it's supposed irrelevance in today's world of high speed data links, spread spectrum, and other advanced technologies. Some have gone as far as to assert that the FCC's Morse Code proficiency requirement for HF should be lifted. As an avid fan of CW, and for the sake of the Amateur Hobby, it is my fervent hope that the HF CW requirement be retained as it now stands.

The FCC Morse Code requirement is seen by some as a "barrier," erected to somehow filter the new amateurs coming into our hobby (and the HF bands) . . . Not True! The Morse code requirement for the HF bands (5 WPM) stems from the ITU's (International Telegraphy Union's) rule requiring a fundamental skill in receiving and sending morse code. While the FCC is at liberty to change the CW speed required for the General and Extra licenses, it would take an international consensus to do away with code as a requirement for the bands below 30 MHz.

Morse Code, as a means of wireless communication, requires the least complex equipment to send and receive. CW technology is thus less expensive to buy or build, making it the mode of choice for many third world Amateurs. QRP CW transceivers that can fit in a Cracker-Jack box are not uncommon and some transmitters can be small enough to fit inside a 35mm film container (ala the "Oner" of QST fame). It is also the most efficient mode, requiring the least bandwidth, and the lowest signal/noise ratio to effectively communicate. It's no wonder that QRP enthusiasts largely prefer this mode of operation!

I'll grant you, morse code is dying as a means of routine communication other than recreational. It is much slower and more laborious than most other modes. Sadly, even the Navy and Coast Guard no longer use it much and are in the process of phasing it out almost entirely in favor of high speed data links via satellite. Historically though, Morse Code has always been useful as a "last resort" mode to get the message delivered when all else fails. This *potential* alone should be enough for any Ham to see the value of Morse Code. Since Amateurs have the reputation of being the last line of defense in communication, don't *you* think we should continue the HF Morse Code requirement?

Do you remember the American Lieutenant Colonel, shot down in North Vietnam, paraded in front of TV cameras in Hanoi and made to confess alleged U.S. war crimes? Then you'll also recall his message, sent in Morse Code with blinks of his eyes . . . (- --- .- .- .- .-) T-O-R-T-U-R-E! He simply had no other way to communicate his desperate situation to viewers. P.O.W.'s throughout this century have used morse code to communicate discreetly amongst themselves during internment, tapping out messages, plans, and encouragement to each other on prison walls. Code, as a method of communication between hams, has a way of teaching good operating habits . . . in a

CW QSO, if the sending station suddenly ends his transmission without a procedural sign (AR, KN, K or BK), the other station is left wondering what happened. Accuracy and a readable fist are also important, in fact almost as important as the message itself! Without both, the message is lost in confusion at the receiving end.

Your fist, as you become more proficient at CW, has a sound all it's own, especially on a straight key. In this respect, CW can be an art form, with each operator having his/her own unique style. An operator using a "bug" (a mechanical keyer) can have a truly identifiable style. On occasion, as I tune across the bands, I'll recognize a "fist" I've heard before and sure enough it'll be an old friend.

Yes, code can be difficult to learn for some of us, but there are many examples of Amateurs who have beaten that challenge. Blind hams, deaf hams and paraplegics . . . even one amateur who passed his 20 wpm from the confines of an iron lung, using a straw to blow on a reed switch . . . all were hams far more challenged by code than most of us ever will be! To initially learn Morse Code is the hardest part. Getting to know all 42 characters and prosigns can seem daunting, but by setting aside approximately 20 minutes a day, twice a day, *every* day, most people have little difficulty learning the code at 5 words per minute in four to six weeks. Practice tapes worked for me, others use computers, some copy off the air, any method that works is the best one for you. Now is the time, with winter upon us, and yard work done till spring, to set aside the time needed to learn, upgrade or hone your skills in CW. Join the fun during USECA's CW nets, listed on the front page. Try out CW on the VHF/UHF bands if you've got the gear or just use an oscillator and practice sending back and forth with a friend.

Don't get me wrong! This is not a diatribe against No-coders! Many no-coders I've tested as a VE have gone on to learn code and upgrade. The codeless Technician tickets are an excellent way to get a taste of Amateur Radio on the bands above 30 MHz and whet the appetite for more! Most get involved with many other aspects of the hobby than just using the local repeater. I only mean to encourage more new hams to learn Morse Code and to reap for themselves the enjoyment this time-honored mode of communication can bring. Knowing code is what distinguishes our service from all the others . . . it is the glue that binds us . . . our common bond. (Even if it's only so you know which of the repeater's remote receive sites is ID'ing) . . . Besides, we need more CW ops for Field Day '95!

73 . . . KF8RG

**USECA FUN  
HAS JUST BEGUN!  
ARE YOU READY?**

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

**'97 FIELD DAY SHIRTS**  
*(Designed by Nancy, KB8QMS)*

Sizes	T-Shirts	Sweat Shirts
Small-XL	\$8.00	\$14.00
XXL	9.00	15.00
XXXL	10.00	16.00
XXXXL	11.00	17.00

Design: Black & White—Lettering: Red  
T-Shirt Color: White  
Sweat Shirt Color: Ash (Gray/White Mix)  
**CONTACT WALT, WB8E — CASH ONLY**

**USECA VE TESTING**

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

**EVENT CONTACTS:**

**PRE-FIELD DAY**  
Ann, KG8IF

**TRASH FOR CASH**  
Gary, KC8CXB

**FIELD DAY**  
Scott, KG8IE

**CAMPOUTS**  
Dina, N8YJI

**RALLIES**  
Jim, N8OKW

**FOR SALE**

DRAKE TR4-C with matching MS4 power supply & cables, Drake W4 2000/200 wattmeter, MFJ CW audio notch filter, original manuals, D-104 mike, straight key, collection of many extra tubes including new matched trio of 6JB6 finals and muffin fan for cooling final section. All in as new condition. First \$400 takes it all. Looking for a later model solid state Yaesu HF rig. Dave, KG8WH, (810) 228-2157.

FT690 RII, 6 meter all mode xcvr., 10 watt mobile amp., mobile mounting bracket, encode & decode boards, DTMF mic., \$475. 6 meter 100 watt mobile amp. \$200. Package deal \$600. T.J., N8RUH, (810) 786-5735.

HEATHKIT IO-101 Vectorscope with manual. Like new condition and includes Ham Radio article on making RTTY monitor scope, \$25.00. Dan, WA8GQL, (810) 247-0444.

IBM 5.25 Inch external disk drives. Like new condition. Little use. IBM TYPE 4869 360K; IBM TYPE 4869-002 1.44M. If both units wanted, have controller card for IBM PS2 computers. \$40.00 each. Can work out price for all three. Dan, WA8GQL, (810) 247-0444.

M<sup>2</sup> 440 Beam, used only twice at Field Day, \$80. 2-meter J-pole, built by N8RUH, \$15. Arpad, WY8M, (810) 751-3804.

MFJ-204B antenna bridge (analyzer) \$50. MFJ-202B RF noise bridge, new, never used \$40. Boca IDE 100 hard drive controller card, new, still in box, \$16. Jerry, K8CFY, (810) 791-4484 or E-Mail: irish12@juno.com.

POLAR Orbiting Weather Satellite receiving system in like new condition. Includes: Vanguard Scanning Receiver WEPIX 2000-B (\$380.00 new); OFS computer card and software with Graftrax (\$425.00 new); Satellite turnstile type antenna with preamp. Includes more expensive stainless steel elements. (\$175.00 new); Receiver is mounted (easily removed, not modified) in 19 inch by 7 inch aluminum rack panel. Also in panel new Simpson 4-1/2 inch panel meter, 0 to 100 microamps for satellite signal strength; All manuals and paperwork. Complete system for \$400.00. Dan, WA8GQL, (810) 247-0444.

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

The above column is for club members only.  
*(Notify the editor to have your item removed.)*

**Pots have *Handles*.**  
**Newspapers have *Personals*.**  
**People have *Names*.**

**NAME BADGES**  
WITH THE *OFFICIAL* USECA LOGO  
CONTACT JERRY, KB8TAS: (810) 263-0227

**USECA Board Meeting Minutes—April 1, 1997**

In attendance:

KB8YYC	Dennis	President
W8VB	Dave	Vice-President
KB8YYB	Debbi	Recording Secretary
*KC8DBI	Mark	Membership Secretary
N8OKW	Jim	Treasurer
KG8IF	Ann	Board Member
KB8QMS	Nancy	Board Member
N8TMJ	Marianne	Board Member
*W8RO	Floyd	Past President
K8CFY	Jerry	Historian
K8OEF	Joe	Express Editor
KC8EZU	Chris	Swap Chairman
KG8IE	Scott	Field Day Chairman
*N8KND	Doug	Repeater Technician

WB8E,Walt; KB8YYA,Dreux; N8SIH, Betty; N8VVH,Linda;  
 KB8TAS,Jerry; KC8FYQ, Gerald  
 \*Absent

The meeting was called to order by the President at 7:31 P.M.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

The treasurer's report was approved as submitted.

Dennis, KB8YYC reported that Dan, KA8NDY and Lee's, KG8WG son passed away. A motion was made by Ann, KG8IF, seconded by Nancy, KB8QMS and passed to send a check in the amount of \$25.00 to Dan and Lee to be used as needed.

Repeater: Dennis, KB8YYC announced that the repeater codes have been changed as of April 1, 1997.

Newsletter: All is going laudably.

ARRL: Dave, KF8CT bruited that the ARRL Field Day rules will appear in the next Express.

**Old Business**

Pre-Field Day: Ann, KG8IF indicated that plans are progressing well. Hamburgers and hot dogs have been ordered. Don't forget to bring your pass a dish. Gerald, KC8FYQ volunteered to arrive at Stony Creek at 9:00 A.M. for set up, he will need volunteers to help.

Field Day: Scott, KG8IE reported that he still has 2 open station chairs; 220 and the second 2 meter chair. Discussion ensued the ARRL rules. Scott assured us that the rules and guidelines will be posted and followed, and safety precautions will adhered to. Station chairs have had their first meeting and organizational plans are proceeding well.

Linda, N8VVH needs volunteers to assist in the children's activity area. This is an important part of Field Day, please volunteer.

Walt, WB8E is taking orders for Field Day Shirts at the meetings. The first order will be going in shortly. These orders will be on a prepaid cash-only basis. Printing on the back of shirts will be optional on request.

Swap: Chris, KC8EZU reported that plans for the Swap are advancing. Chris will check to make sure we have the proper certificate of insurance. The Swap flyer will be on the Web page.

Ann, KG8IF announced that the Christmas Party will be held on Saturday, December 13, 1997 at Garwood's. Cost will be approximately the same as last year.

Trash for Cash: Gerald, KC8FYQ reported that donations are incoming. If you have nothing to donate, monetary contributions will be accepted.

**New Business**

Colloquy ensued about an article by Biff, N8NQQ in the Express regarding thanking the staff at Bemis Junior High School where we hold our meetings. A motion was made by Jim, N8OKW, seconded by Dave, W8VB and passed to authorize flowers or a plant sent to the Principal, as well a contribution of \$50.00 to a school fund chosen by the Principal. Marianne, N8TMJ will handle the above matter.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 P.M.

Respectively submitted,

Debbi Cokewell, KB8YYB, Recording Secretary

**USECA General Meeting Minutes—April 8, 1997**

In attendance:

KB8YYC	Dennis	President
W8VB	Dave	Vice-President
KB8YYB	Debbi	Recording Secretary
KC8DBI	Mark	Membership Secretary
N8OKW	Jim	Treasurer
KG8IF	Ann	Board Member
KB8QMS	Nancy	Board Member
N8TMJ	Marianne	Board Member
*W8RO	Floyd	Past President
K8CFY	Jerry	Historian
K8OEF	Joe	Express Editor
KC8EZU	Chris	Swap Chairman
KG8IE	Scott	Field Day Chairman
*N8KND	Doug	Repeater Technician

\*Absent

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

All present introduced themselves. New attendees were given a hearty welcome.

New upgrades were recognized.

A motion was made by Linda, N8VVH, seconded by Bill, N8SA and passed to accept the minutes of the last meeting as printed in the Express.

Treasurer: The Treasurer's report was presented. A motion was made by Walt, WB8E, seconded by Earl, N8OEX and passed to accept the Treasurer's report.

Membership: Current paid membership is 200. Mark, KC8DBI, will be accepting membership dues tonight.

Express: Turn your articles and information in to Joe, K8OEF tonight for publication in the next issue of the Express.

ARRL: Dave, KF8CT has literature available tonight on W1AW schedule, also information on the west side of the state linked repeater system.

Net Manager: Bill, K8WI sent in a report that the Nets are under control. Please check in and support the new 10 meter net on Friday nights at 11:00 P.M. on 28.425 phone.

Testing: Bill, N8SA reported that the next testing session will be Saturday, May 3, 1997 at the Salvation Army in Mt. Clemens. Bill needs volunteers to help with testing. Whether you are a VE or not, Bill can use your help. Also, every Saturday evening there is an Open House at the Salvation Army for all interested Hams to socialize, exchange ideas and information, please join us. There is a meeting for SATERN. Saturday, April 12, 1997 at 7:30 P.M. in the Conference Room at the Salvation Army.

Apparel: Marilyn, K8PIK reported that Richard, KB8WTH has resumed his duties as Apparel Chairman.

Trash For Cash: Donate your unwanted wares to be sold at the Armada Flea Market. Make certain that your articles are in GOOD, saleable condition. Monies raised through Trash for Cash help to support Field Day. We have set a date of June 8, 1997, with a rain date of June 22, 1997. Storage of Trash for Cash items will in Gerald's, KC8FYQ garage.

Meeting Hosts: Thanks to tonight's hosting triad, Jason, KC8EMD, Richard, K8QLM and Janice, XYL of K8QLM. Next month's Hosts will be the bodacious Marilyn, K8PIK and the lovely Fred, KB8LYA.

**Old Business**

Field Day shirts for 1997 have been designed and Walt, WB8E will be taking orders. Tonight is the last night for the first order. Orders will be on a prepaid cash-only basis.

Walk America: Dennis, KB8YYC reminded us that Walk America will be held on Sunday, April 27, 1997 at Metro Beach Metropark in Harrison Township. We are providing the communications and need volunteers. Meeting time has been set for 6:30 A.M., this year the control point will be in the parking lot. If you are going to volunteer, see Dennis, KB8YYC, Dreux, KB8YYA or Walt, WB8E for passes to enter Metro Beach. If you intend to volunteer please come prepared with enough batteries and any other supplies you may need.

Pre-Field Day: Ann, KG8IF chronicled plans for Pre-Field Day. It will be held May 10, 1997 at the Winter Cove Picnic Area at Stony Creek Park from 9:00 A.M. until dusk. Bring your radio equipment. No water guns will be allowed due to extensive equipment set up. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be supplied by the Club along with plates, napkins and cutlery, please bring a dish to pass and the non-alcoholic beverage of your choice. We need volunteers to help with set-up and clean-up, please contact Ann.

Swap: Chris, KC8EZU, promulgated plans are proceeding. Chris is looking for volunteers and any ideas that will result in a bigger and better Swap.

Field Day: The Field Day report will be part of tonight's presentation on Field Day 1997 by Scott, KG8IE.

Linda N8VVH is looking for volunteers to help in the Field Day Kitchen, as well as with the children's activity center. Sign up will be during the break.

**New Business**

Dennis, KB8YYC indicated that the Executive Board passed a motion to send the Principal of Bemis Junior High School flowers and to donate \$50.00 to a school fund of the Principal's choosing. This was a suggestion made by Biff, N8NQQ to thank the staff and the school where we hold our meetings.

The May 13, 1997 meeting will be held at Detroit Edison Macomb Center, 15600 19 Mile Road, Clinton Township. This is located on the south side of 19 Mile Road between Hayes and Garfield. Enter through the front door and proceed to the lounge on your left. The meeting will start at 7:30 P.M. as usual. There will be a presentation on electricity and summer storms.

The June 10, 1997 meeting will take place in the parking lot at Bemis Junior High School at 7:30 P.M. Following the short meeting there will be a Fox Hunt, this year there will be a dual fox.

A card was received from Dan, KA8NDY and Lee, KG8WG thanking all for their thoughts and prayers during their time of sadness.

Dina, N8YJI informed us that campouts will be held:  
 June 13, 14, 15      Frankenmuth—Info will be forthcoming  
 July 3, 4, 5, 6      Lakeport State Park—Port Huron  
 July 18, 19, 20      Christmas in July—Algonac State Park

August 8-17      Tawas Point State Park—Tawas  
 September 26, 27, 28      Algonac State Park

Our group number for all State Park campouts is #255868, reservations can be made by phoning 1-800-44PARKS. Please make your reservation for Tawas Point State Park now, they are already filling up. If you have any questions contact Dina at (810) 777-4207.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbi Cokewell, KB8YYB, Recording Secretary



**ARRL Special Offer!**

Until June 30th, the ARRL is offering a special 5 year membership plan that can save you a bundle and lock in lower dues into the next century! Annual membership dues have been \$31 for some time. Until June 30th 1997, you can get a five year membership for only \$124 (a savings of \$31—1 year for free!)—on July 1st, dues will increase and this offer expires. Remember, your ARRL dues pay for *much* more than *just* QST, entitle you to many privileges as a member, and help to defend our Ham bands. Join the ARRL now and put your money where your mouth is!



**May Contest Corral**

(from the pages of QST)

- 3-4      Connecticut QSO party  
           MARAC County Hunters Contest (CW)  
           Massachusetts QSO party  
           Ten-Ten Spring CW Contest
- 10      ARRL Spring Sprints (UHF)  
           (902, 1296, & 2304 MHz bands)
- 10-11    Nevada QSO Party
- 17-18    ARRL Spring Sprint (VHF) 6 meters
- 17      Armed Forces Day
- 24-25    CQ Magazine's Worldwide WPX Contest  
           (Work all prefixes) (CW)

Planning on working an ARRL contest? Send your log and comments on the contest to the ARRL at 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111; you may see your call in QST!



*On The World Wide Web*

**USECA Home Page**

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

# USECA APPLICATION



DATE \_\_\_\_\_  NEW  RENEWAL  NEWSLETTER ONLY  
 CALL \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS \_\_\_\_\_ AUTO-PATCH \_\_\_\_\_  
 NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 TELEPHONE # \_\_\_\_\_ PRINT IN ROSTER:  YES  NO  
 BIRTHDATE \_\_\_\_\_  Copy of Current License for USECA File  
 MEMBER: ARRL  YES  NO RACES  YES  NO



## FOR FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS ONLY:

CALL \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS \_\_\_\_\_  
 NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 BIRTHDATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 MEMBER: ARRL  YES  NO  
 RACES  YES  NO

CALL \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS \_\_\_\_\_  
 NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 BIRTHDATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 MEMBER: ARRL  YES  NO  
 RACES  YES  NO

Annual Membership Dues (Includes Newsletter) Regular: \$20 — Family: \$30  
 Newsletter (Only): \$8 — Auto-Patch: \$35 (One Time Fee) + Annual Dues

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

PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: USECA Address: P.O. BOX 1222, STERLING HEIGHTS, MI 48311-1222



## 2-METER LANs

### LOCAL AREA NETS

DAY	TIME	CLUB	FREQ.
SUN	1:00 pm	USECA/Information	147.180
SUN	8:00 pm	SPIRIT of '76/Traders	146.760
SUN	9:00 pm	HPARC/DART	146.640
SUN	9:00 pm	Garden City ARC	146.860
Mon-Sat	9:30 pm	Thumb Mid-Mich. Traffic	147.300
MON	8:00 pm	MECA	147.200
MON	9:00 pm	USECA/Slow Code	147.180
TUE	8:00 pm	USECA/Information	147.180
TUE	8:00 pm	SEMARA	146.740
WED	8:00 pm	GMARC	146.700
WED	8:00 pm	SPIRIT of '76/Info./Traders	146.760
WED	8:00 pm	SMART/ARPC	147.140
WED*	9:00 pm	SATERN	147.180
WED	9:00 pm	MICHIGAN ORP	145.170
THR	7:00 pm	HPARC/Kids	146.640
THR	8:00 pm	EDISON/Information	145.330
THR	9:00 pm	ECHO	147.080
FRI	Midnite	USECA/Hootowl	147.180

\*First and Third Wednesdays Only.

**MAY MEETING HOSTS**  
 Marilyn, K8PIK  
 Fred, KB8LYA

## NET OPS SCHEDULES

### 2-METER NETS

	SUN. 1 PM	TUES. 8 PM	FRI. MIDNIGHT
WEEK	147.180 MHz	147.180 MHz	147.180 MHz
1	KG8IF	K8QLM	-OPEN-
2	WN8VOT	N8LXL	KB8TAS
3	K8QLM	KC8DBI	W8RO
4	N8OKW	WB8E	WY8M
5	KG8WG	KB8QMS	KB8QMS

### CW NETS

	THURS. 9 PM	FRI. 10 PM
WEEK	21.140 MHz	21.140 MHz
1	-OPEN-	W8VRW
2	-OPEN-	-OPEN-
3	-OPEN-	W8IC
4	-OPEN-	N8MOJ
5	-OPEN-	W8VIJ

*NCO's—If you are unable to take your net, please get a replacement or contact Bill, K8WI.*

## A NEW NET

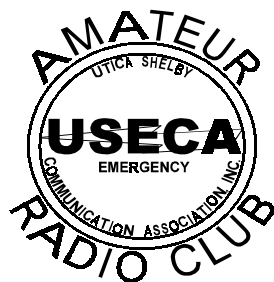
A new 10 meter phone net—before the Hoot Owl Net—will be on Fridays at 11:00 p.m. on 28.425 MHz.



# USECA

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

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## MAY 1997

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### UPDATED 1997 NET POINT SYSTEM

- ✓1) HF CW NCO = 4 points, HF SSB NCO = 3 points, VHF NCO = 3 points, HF CW/SSB check-in = 2 points, VHF check-in = 1 point. (NOTE: Check-ins *must* do so personally, proxy check-ins are not legitimate. "In & Out" check-ins, while allowed, are discouraged.)
  - ✓2) Awards are earned for 50 points and multiples thereof; plaques for the highest annual scores, HF and VHF. Awards are meant to encourage participation and are open to all.
  - ✓3) Net logs must be readable and include the CALLS and NAMES of check-ins, and denote NCO, DATE, and MODE.
  - ✓4) NCO's: forward net log gets to the Awards Manager within 30 days; logs received later will not earn the bonus points normally awarded a NCO. MAIL logs to: 53762 Kristin Ct., Shelby Twp., MI 48316, c/o KF8RG, via packet to KF8RG-1 (145.03 MHz) or KF8RG @ KB8VK's BBS or catch me on the air to pass your list.
  - ✓5) If you notice any mistakes, wrong or changed call signs, names misspelled, etc., let Ken know ASAP.
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The *USECA EXPRESS* is published monthly (except July and August), by the UTICA SHELBY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION, INC., of Macomb County, Michigan. Club meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month (except July and August), 7:30 p.m., local time, at the Donald Bemis Junior High School, 12500 Nineteen Mile Road (between Schoenherr and Clinton River Road), Sterling Heights, Michigan. *Visitors are always welcome.* Articles for the *EXPRESS* should be submitted to the editor no later than the night of the club meeting for publication in the following month's edition. For those who want to get a message to the Board or the Membership Secretary, please call our answering machine at: (810) 268-6730. The awards for "Excellent" (1994) and twice "Superior" (1995 and 1996) were received from ARNS (Amateur Radio News Service).