



USECA EXPRESS



Michigan's Largest and Most Active Amateur Radio Club

UTICA SHELBY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION, INC.

Volume 16, Number 5, May 2000

Field Day 2000

JERRY, N8KLX

IT'S TIME TO START thinking about **Field Day**. Yes, I know it's only April and this afternoon as I write this it was snowing, but Field Day will be here before you know it. We had our first organizational meeting back at the end of January, and the format for this year's event was decided. We are going to run in the **5 watt Battery** class, the same as last year.

What does **5 Watt Battery** mean?

It means that the **transmitter, receiver and the connected station accessories** must be operated from a power source that is not connected to commercial power or a motor driven generator. We have chosen to use batteries as the power source. The rules do provide that the batteries may be charged while they are being used. They may be charged from a motor driven generator while being used.

There will be ONE generator in use during the contest. That generator will supply all power to the stations. A power distribution

network will be setup (under the watchful eye and direct supervision of Bill, N8SA). The station chairs will be responsible for connecting to the power distribution points (if they want to). The Power will be available for Creature Comforts, lights, battery charging, etc.

There are a couple of new things for Field Day this year. There is a new bonus category—demonstrate non-traditional communications. It's worth 100 points. It's just a demonstration. The contacts made DO NOT count to our point total and the demonstrating station DOES NOT count in our station count. We will be demonstrating APRS.

The FCC license restructuring that goes into effect April 15 will have NO affect on the basic Field Day rules or operation. There will still be a Novice/Technician station in operation running both Phone and CW. Speaking of the Novice/Tech Station, we need a Chairman (or Woman) for that station. It's a great way to break into field Day and learn

a LOT about setting up and running a station. The last 2 Novice/Tech station chairs went on to chair the 20 meter phone station. Previous Novice/Tech chairs are now station chairs at other high profile stations, so it's not a dead end job. You **MUST** be a Novice, Technician or Tech Plus to qualify as the Chair.

The stations listed as available are just that—available. If you are interested in chairing a station, just give me a call—I'm in the roster and the *Express*, (810) 731-9041, try me on the repeater; (I LISTEN a lot, drive times)—or better, drop me an e-mail at n8klx@arrl.net.

THINK FIELD DAY!



As of the April Board Meeting, this is the list of stations and their Chairs

	Phone	CW	Digital
160	Wayne, N8RAR		
80	Eric, KM5D	Tom, KK8M	
40	Mark, W8IR	Jim, W8NG	Steve, KC8KJN
20	Jerry, KB8TAS	WB8T, Don; WB8E, Walt	Dave, KC8IAQ
15	Scott, KG8IE	KG8IF, Ann; W8IC, Phil	
10	Dave, WN8VOT		
6	Jon, KC8HYU	Dave, W8VB	
2	Bill, N8NMX		
440			
Satellite			
Novice/Tech			

Next Meeting — May 9

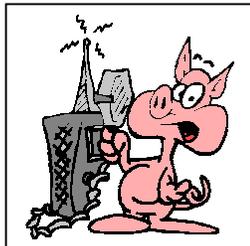
CLUB DIRECTORY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Debbi Cokewell/KB8YYB, (810) 263-0227
 Vice President Nancy Carr/KB8QMS, (810) 749-3383
 Recording Secretary Ann Manor/KG8IF, (810) 751-3893
 Treasurer Delphine Wrona/KC8JSH, (810) 791-4669
 Membership Secretary Marianne Mickle/N8TMJ, (810) 677-1667
 Past President Dennis Gaboury/W8DFG, (810) 465-7126

ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

Dave Cunningham/KC8IAQ, (810) 791-2720
 Mark Milby/W8IR, (810) 293-3603
 Jerry Radcliffe/N8KLX, (810) 558-7729



COMMITTEES

ARRL Liaison Dave/W8VB
 Awards Manager Jon/KC8HYU
 Door Prizes Dina/N8YJI
 Editor Joe/K8OEF, (810) 781-0050
 Field Day Chair Jerry/N8KLX, (810) 731-9041
 Health & Welfare Marianne/N8TMJ, (810) 677-1667
 Historians Jerry/K8CFY & Ann/KG8IF
 Mailers/Sorters Ann/KG8IF; Phil/W8IC; & Crew
 Net Manager Brian/KC8DIR, (810) 749-4561
 Photographer Richard/K8QLM
 Program Director Nancy/KB8QMS
 Public Relations Officer Ken/N8KC
 Refreshments Don/KC8CPT & Richard/KC8HMMJ
 Repeater Trustee Bill/N8SA
 Swap & Shop Dave/KC8IAQ, (810) 791-2720
 Technical Director John/K8ZEC, (248) 828-3742
 Technicians K8FT; WA8GQL; KC8IAQ; N8KND; WY8M;
 N8MIV; W8RO; N8SA

CONTROL OPERATORS

Dennis/W8DFG Dave/KC8IAQ Nancy/KB8QMS
 Doug/K8DK Mark/W8IR Floyd/W8RO
 Gordy/WB8H Joe/K8OEF Bill/N8SA
 Gulliver/WA8VIJ

PROGRAMMERS

Scott/W8CQD Gordy/WB8H Mark/W8IR
 Dennis/W8DFG Dave/KC8IAQ Doug/N8KND; Bill/N8SA

VOLUNTEER EXAMINERS

WB8E	W8IR	N8KC	N8OEF	N8SN	WB8X
K18HW	WA8IZV	WY8M	N8OZ	WM8T	
W11K	WA8JPR	W8NG	N8SA	KB8WTH	

SILENT KEYS

Len Czapiewski/K8DHH	Joe Steel/KA8IZM	Harry Young/W8VRW
Art Sheff/WD8EGV	Rick Parady/KB8KLV	Velma Ragon/N8YVC
Joe Lucido/NU8F	John Moore/KA8KTV	John Tomlins/KG8YX
Charles Smith/N8FWF	John Palmer/WD8LBH	
Clarence Ringo/W8HQO	John Pizzuti/WB8NHT	

f= Founder c= Charter h= Hon. Charter

N8AWV h	N8HCT fc	WB8OSF h
KA8BDG c	KA8IZM fc SK	K8QLM fc
N8BK h	KA8KTV fc SK	WB8QNI c
N8FDN c	G. Manquardt h	KA8VYV h
N8FNO fc	WD8MFN fc	WA8VZZ c SK
J. Haubner c	WB8NHT fc	

The Editor is:

Still Going

Joe, K8OEF (k8oef@tir.com)



To get attention, I always believed something should be new, special or different—I'll give them each a try. I volunteered to take the Information Nets on the 2nd Tuesday during July and August (something new) since there are no general meetings. I will be taking either email and/or ICQ messages during the net; if the information requires immediate attention it will be addressed on the air—otherwise, immediately following those nets, the information will be addressed at that time (something special). If this is at all successful, perhaps it could be continued at various times during future nets (something different). There is no predicting how the results will be unless it gets tried—so what is there to lose? Remember, "nothing ventured, nothing gained." (More in next month's Express.)

73 for now.

Traffic Handling Training Seminar

On Saturday, May 13, Bruce, KC8MWV will conduct a training seminar on traffic handling. The seminar will be held at 7:00 PM at the Salvation Army Corps at 55 Church Street (at Gratiot) in Mt. Clemens.

Traffic handling is a valuable skill during disasters. During normal times it's fun, develops operating skills, and promotes amateur radio in the community.

Bring the name, address and phone number of a friend or family member, and send that person a message during our special session of the Southeastern Michigan Traffic Net that evening!

If you have questions, please contact Bruce Webber at (248) 577-9938 or email at: bwebber@michgannet.com.

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Mobile CW

Ken, N8KC

EVER THOUGHT OF trying CW/Mobile?—And I mean *mobile*, not the kind you do from a parking lot—the ‘weavin’ in and out of traffic’ kind. It’s really not all that hard if you set up your mobile station for ease of operation and learn to head copy at a speed that’s comfortable for you. It’s *not* necessary to be a CW speed-freak, nor is a fancy antenna and HF rig required.

You *will* need to be able to concentrate *ondriving*, above *all else*—if you are unable to devote *full* concentration to your driving and copy CW, then please don’t attempt it—it’s just not worth the risk of a car accident. In order for you to drive safely and attempt CW/m, code should be ‘conversational’ for you. In other words, it should be no more distracting than a regular conversation with a passenger in your car. It’s not necessary to copy at ‘high’ speed either—if you can head-copy and send at 5wpm, that’ll do just fine (although, you may find you’ll finish your trip before the QSO!).

The HF rig you take on the road should be *easy* to use—the fewer knobs, the better. For CW, it’s nice to have the choice of a narrower filter, but you’ll probably find many of the options desirable on most base rigs simply far too complicated to operate while driving—keep it simple. A VFO, band up/down, memory channels, bandpass filtering (and maybe a CW narrow filter), a good noise blanker, RIT, and a notch filter are all things I’d want handy on the dash. The noise

blanker is important—a good one will get rid of much of the electronic hash present in many cars. A decent notch filter, if included, will further reduce some single tone noise. RIT is handy to go after those stations that aren’t quite on frequency, but I generally don’t use the ‘narrow’ CW filter on my rig, making this option superfluous in most QSOs. The rig doesn’t have to be expensive either. I’ve seen HTX 100’s & Rangers (10m only, about \$100), FT-7’s (80-10m, 5 bands, about \$250 or so), Atlas rigs (5 bands, \$175-350), and Ten-Tec Scouts (about \$3-500 w/ a few band modules).

For mobile HF antennas I make no recommendation. I’ve seen some very expensive ones and I’ve seen homebrew cheapies. I guess it depends on just how serious you wanna’ get. I use a series of Valor antenna called the Pro-Am line—about \$12-20 at most swaps. With my set-up, I have to get out of the car to change antennas for each band I wish to work, but I figure if I snap one off, I’m not out much cash. I’ve had fairly consistent signal reports, but then I usually only work the strong stations as it takes too much concentration to decipher the weak ones and drive at the same time.

The key you use is dependent on your style of sending. I prefer a set of ‘paddles’, but I have worked other mobiles who were running a straight key (bumpy roads can be a problem) and even one fella using a ‘bug!’ (Now *that’s* a CW Op! I can’t even make mine sound good from

my desk at home!) Floyd, W8RO and several others I’ve heard on the air use a leg/knee strap key, similar in idea to what was used by the Air Force in WWII. Phil, W8IC uses a straight key in his van, on a small table extending from the console/engine cover. I use an approximately 2” square plastic paddle set, made by White Rook (Model 44), which is velcro’d to my center console when in use. I feel it offers a more natural operating position, requiring less concentration on my part and it costs less than \$15!

Give mobile CW a shot... you may find it a real blast to suddenly find yourself the object of an HF pile-up! You’ll suddenly be unique among operators.... Just try breaking into DX pile-up with ‘/m’ appended to your call and watch what happens! Just last week, while signing ‘/m’, I was the object of a pile-up after working one Polish station. No less than eight other DX stations called *me* in just the time it took to drive to work. Of course, there’s always the grin you’ll get when the other fella says.. “you’re actually driving?” “How can you do that in traffic?” or “...what does /m mean?” Just be sure to send at a speed you can head-copy at—while you’re driving, there’s little chance you’ll have time to write anything down. Only concentrate on getting the meat of the QSO—kinda’ like hearing most of a conversation, and piecing the rest together as you go. There’s no need to get 100%.

See Walt for the ALL-NEW Field Day 2000 Shirt(s)!

Field Day 2000 Sweatshirts/T-shirts are being ordered now ! See Unca’ Walt (WB8E) to place your order. Hurry! The new design for 2000 *is*ure to be a hit—with **NEW** graphics based around Underdog and Sweet Polly Purebred—the *latest* new members of USECA! Get **YOURS** today and **baylin’** come Field Day **CASH ONLY, PLEASE!** with your order, no CODs, Checks or IOU’s. Shirts: S-XL \$6.00; XX \$7.00; 3X \$8.00; 4X \$9.00. Sweat Shirts: S-XL \$12.00; XX \$13.00; 3X \$14.00; Hooded Sweat Shirt M-XL \$17.00.

Also available at the QRM tent on Field Day—**QRM - Tour 2000**” iron-on for the back of your Field Day shirt. Details to come.

Packet Activities

Paul, KC8NGY

NOW WHAT? You have all your equipment set up and working after last month's article. You have experimented with some systems. Maybe you have met some people on packet. But what do you do now? Well, are you a DX'er? You can either make a packet DX contact or you can monitor the local PacketCluster for HF DX spots. Do you just want to send mail to your ham buddies? How about just experimenting and exploration? Well, all of these are possible and will give you hours of enjoyment.

Finding DX Spots

Perhaps you have listened to the K8NA repeater on 145.13 for DX spots. Perhaps you have missed a station because you do not have a pencil and paper ready to write down the frequency and call sign. Well, now you don't have to worry. Just use packet. You will get the same DX spots directly onto your computer screen. Now how do you do this?

1. Tune your packet rig to 144.95
2. At the command prompt on your packet screen, type `k8na` (there are also other stations, and you may need to use another one depending on your location, ask me and I will find the station)
3. You will be greeted and asked to give several things, your name, QTH, and so on.
4. Now DX spots will come across your screen as they are reported
5. To find out more about this system and how to report DX spots, send messages, and so on. Type `help`
6. To disconnect, type `disconnect`

Nodes

Nodes and digipeaters extend our range on packet. Digipeaters simply repeat what you send and nodes provide other services, such as listing stations heard and other nodes heard. Almost all stations can act as digipeaters. Most nodes in

the SE Michigan area are on 145.03. People use the nodes and digipeaters mostly to send mail to other hams who leave their stations on 24hrs and have conversations. How do you use a node?

1. Tune your packet rig to 145.03
2. Type `c strlng` (there are others, this is in Sterling Heights. I use it from Northern Shelby Twp. You can try `shelby` in Shelby Twp., `lenox` in Lenox Twp., `saline`, `n8rgc-8`, `kb8olf-7`, `kg8aw-8`. Contact me if you need to find one in your area)
3. Type `j` for a list of stations heard
4. Type `n` for a list of other nodes you can connect to from the node
5. To connect to a station type `<callsign or alias>`
6. To log off, type `b`

Bulletin Board Systems

Bulletin Board Systems are like bulletin boards, or USENET newsgroups on the Internet. You can post messages for a large group of people. There are several systems, such as the MACEOC, Macomb County Emergency Operations Center. People use it to post regular messages, though, it is not just for emergency use. There is also the DETIP packet system. To use these systems:

1. Tune your packet rig to 145.03 (for MACEOC), or 144.93 (for DETIP)
2. Type `c maceoc` (you may need to use a node or digipeater), or `detip` (you will need to go through a short registration)
3. To see a list of messages, type `l` on MACEOC. The DETIP messages are quite old, nobody has posted much for a while. The messages are organized into categories, the categories with new messages are listed. To see them, type `a <category name>` and then type `l` to list the messages.
4. You will see a list of messages and message numbers. To read messages, type `r <message number>`

5. To send a message, type `b` all (MACEOC) or `s <category name>` (DETIP) or `s <call sign>` to send to a specific person. At the end, type `/EX` or `<ctrl>z`.

6. On DETIP, you have your own 'inbox' where personal mail is addressed, to access it type `a <your call sign>`. On MACEOC, all mail is in the same area.

7. To log off, type `b`

Sending Personal Mail

If a person you know keeps their packet station on 24hrs a day (most do), you can send them messages directly.

1. Tune your packet rig to the frequency they operate on (probably 145.03)
2. Connect to their call sign (you usually add -1), you may need to use a node or several nodes. Contact them another way and ask them what node they use. Then, try connecting to that node and then to them. If you cannot connect to that node, then connect to the node you usually use and connect to the node they use and then to their station (remembering to add -1 or if they tell you to use something different)
3. Type `s <the person's call sign>` to send them mail
4. When you are done, type `e/EX` or `<ctrl>z`.
5. Then to log off, type `b`

These are just some of the possibilities of packet. I hope you enjoy it. Remember, this is still sent over the airwaves, anybody can monitor and the content must be within FCC rules. For assistance, just contact me. Via E-Mail, the repeater, or packet (log on to node `strlng`, connect to `tn8kc-1`, and then type `s kc8ngy` to send me mail). Also, I am trying to put together a packet mail directory for the Express, so if you are on packet, send me your mailbox address and local node. Hope to see you on packet.

12 Volt Connection

A STANDARDIZED DC CONNECTOR that's cheap, easily available, handles up to 25 amps, can't be plugged in backwards, can be hooked up with no tools in total darkness. Sounds like the perfect solution to portable/emergency operations right? Well, I think I've found a logical standard for high and low current 12 volt distribution, the grounded AC receptacle and the RCA phono plug. This may sound strange, but follow my logic and I think you'll agree that this is a common sense fix for a problem most hams will encounter sooner or later.

My criteria for connector selection was this:

1. They must be readily available in all areas.
2. They must handle 15 to 25 amps. RCA plugs 5 amps or less.
3. They must be inexpensive.
4. They must be reverse polarity protected.
5. They must be foolproof.

Here's the problem. W8ABC has a radio he wants to use at field day with W8XYZ's power supply. With some tools we can hook the wires to the power supply with no shorts and hopefully the right polarity. You need tools, good lighting and time. In a real emergency, time may be crucial, tools and lighting may not be available.

Here's the solution. W8ABC puts a male grounded AC plug on his radio power cable wiring negative to the ground and positive to both blade terminals. W8XYZ puts an outlet box and female receptacle on his power supply wiring it the same way. Now hooking up to the supply takes only seconds. If the radio or power supply fails, it can be unhooked and replaced easily.

Taking this to the next step, they can also put the receptacles under the dash of the car, on their emergency batteries, generators and solar panels and put the male plugs on other rigs, lights and junction boxes. If two cars have receptacles installed, getting a "jump" is as easy as two male plugs on a heavy gauge cable. Now everyone can plug into everyone else—isn't that part of what ham radio is all about?

The solution for low current (up to about 5 amp) devices like TNC's, computers, handhelds and chargers for HT batteries is the RCA phono plug. Positive to the pin and negative to the shell. A 1/4 inch hole in the

side of the outlet box will mount a female RCA jack that you can plug into with a short jumper to a multi RCA jack outlet box.

Now you can plug in all your accessories.

Now for the cautions and warnings:

1. BE ABSOLUTELY SURE TO PLAINLY LABEL ALL GROUNDED AC CONNECTORS FOR 12 VOLTS DC ONLY. It's good insurance.

2. Wire a 10 gauge jumper inside the AC plug and across the back of the receptacle. This and all connections should be well soldered. If the cable is inadvertently plugged into 120 volts AC, the jumper will blow the fuse/circuit breaker. Note: I have not tried this and I don't recommend that you do! Refer to number one above.

3. Be sure to install a 20 to 40 amp fuse/circuit breaker AT THE VEHICLE BATTERY. A circuit breaker is better here if you plan to do a lot of jump starting or heavy charging/discharging. Use #10 wire or heavier. Find a good chassis ground to mount the metal outlet box in a vehicle.

4. Be sure to install the right value fuse in each power cable for each device (radio, TNC, keyer—etc.).

5. Use caution when using a double male jumper cable to connect one battery/vehicle to another. Don't short across the plug.

Of course it's a good idea to make up adapters to go to and from that OTHER 12 standard connector that is usually intermittent and burns up at less than ten amps—the cigarette lighter plug/socket. I've installed the above distribution system in most all of my vehicles, radios and portable equipment. A few years ago I built a 100 watt repeater that also uses this type of power distribution. It has worked flawlessly. It's handy in case of a failure or to remove and upgrade the equipment. The more of us that build to the same standards the better off we all are. I hope you find this idea useful. If you have comments, suggestions or are using this system please let me know.

73 and more power to ya,

Tom Bert ARS KB8MFV

—Submitted by Chuck, N8SN

Area Balloon Project

Phil, W8IC

The Michigan Area Balloon Experimental Launch -1, or MABEL-1, is a group of amateur radio operators interested in launching and tracking a high altitude balloon and then recovering the payload after a parachute landing. The payload is tentatively planned to have three cameras sending live video down at 439 MHz as well as 2 two meter aprs/gps beacons. The planned landing site is the Thumb of Michigan, providing the wind is cooperative. Areas of project activity will include a Launching Team, H.F. Net Control, Communications Director, FAA Coordinator, Tracking and Prediction Teams, Direction Finding/Recovery Teams, Weather Coordinator, Documentation Team, and Payload Specialists. Most of the coordination for this project is being done via e-mail, and some on 2 meter simplex. Interested? Send e-mail to: w8ic@arrl.net I will add you to the project list. You will receive updates and can contribute your ideas and talents.

The Town Enforcer

I have a problem with my town code enforcer. I need advise about this situation. In 1996 I installed 3 towers with permission from my town board. I was lucky as it cost me only 800.00 in permits. At a board meeting in 1996 the town board unanimously agreed to the terms of the towers. Also, in the minutes of the meeting the board agreed that interference would not be my problem and affected resident are required to install filters.

Basically have had one neighbor with interference problems, I have spent at least \$100+ dollars to correct any problems, installing filters and buying telephone etc. I did the installing of filters at the neighbors house. I have spent many hours correcting the situation leading up to summer of 1999.

In 1999 the neighbor became hostile about interference in their security system and demanded that I stop my transmitting, This is where it starts to get ugly.

I refused to stop transmitting and also told the neighbor to correct the problem with the filters that I had given to them. Well, that wasn't good enough—so, the summer of 1999 is the last time I spoke to the neighbor. I recently operated in the 2000 ARRLDX contest phone. The day after, a different neighbor contacted me that the neighbor with interference is going around the neighborhood with a town petition.

The petition was to get neighbors to sign and present to the town board. Keep in mind that I live in the suburbs of NYC where it is 2 acre zoning. These neighbors are spread apart. I have no idea how many signed the petition, but it was presented to the town board. The town board said it would look into the matter.

A week after the town board meeting I received a phone call from the local newspaper regarding the interference problem. I told the reporter that I'm not interested in making a statement. The reporter called a few days later and said that

he is doing the article and is going to give the neighbors view only in the newspaper.

Well, I had no choice but to state the facts, I don't have anything to hide. I told the reporter that this interview would be on my terms. The terms would be to do the interview in my radio shack.

This turned out to be in my favor as the reporter gave me an outstanding write-up in the newspaper and did his homework and called the FCC and spoke to John Winston, an Assistant Bureau Chief of the FCC. Also, used my photo QSL card on the front page of the article. The only bad thing was the code enforcer with his statement in the newspaper and it read like this: Union Vale's Deputy Code Enforcement Officer John Caulfield tells a somewhat different story, that the town code prohibits interference and if there's a continued violation that he's told of then he'll contact Higgins. Caulfield said Higgins might possibly be fined. He said he can't forbid Higgins from broadcasting, but Higgins does have to conform to certain laws.

The Code Enforcer now has sent me a CERTIFIED LETTER in the mail and it reads as following:

This letter is to inform you that this office has received a complaint concerning the use of your amateur radio equipment. Specifically, the complaint concerns interference with the neighbors ability to receive public broadcast (television, radio) signals and also that the interference may affect the operation of the security alarm system within their house.

During my recent inspection of the neighbors' property and your antenna field, we had discussed the problem by telephone. At the time you indicated the PART 15 rules of the FCC and electronic devices. This is correct. However, you may have overlooked the fact that you are required to comply with PART 97 of the FCC rules which prohibits your interference with the Public Broad-

cast frequencies that your neighbors are attempting to receive.

PART 97 also indicates that once you are made aware of the fact that you may be interfering with public broadcast, you must cease interfering with such broadcast signals. **YOU MUST CEASE OPERATION.**

A review of the FCC rules (47CFR97) indicate that you are also subject to possible restrictions of operation where the operation of the station **COULD CAUSE** human exposure to RF electromagnetic fields levels in excess allowed under sec 1.1310 of the code.

The enforcement of the FCC codes and any required testing and certification is enforceable by the FCC.

A copy of the original complaint is being forwarded to the Federal Communications Commission with request that they investigate the alleged interference with the public broadcast signals in the area, and the possible hazard to humans. Signed the code enforcer.

This Code Enforcer basically is threatening me to cease my operations. In 1996 the town board knew the rules and regulations, the new board wants to restrict my operations. I'm looking for advice and possibly taking a law suit against my town.

Any help would be appreciated. 73, Ray Higgins, W2RE, Poughquag NY.

P.S. Forward this around so other amateurs see how town code enforcers think they're above the federal law.

—Submitted by John, N8HTV



Support the reinstatement of the 20 wpm Extra Class CW requirement

Join the CW Revolution

The elimination of the Extra class CW requirement is shocking, unbelievable and paves the way for the reallocation of the CW portions of HF to Phone during the next restructuring. Can and would they ever outlaw CW? The Military Amateur Radio Service (MARS) Did!

Why emphasize only the reinstatement of the 20 wpm Extra Class CW requirement & what about the 5 & 13 wpm Extras?

For years, multitudes of knowledgeable, logical, articulate, passionate people have worked hard and long to bring about change. Perhaps you were one of them and are tired of the disappointments and really believe there is no point in trying.

How and why were the CW requirements nearly eliminated?

Why?—Because of greed. Most of the equipment manufacturers, the ARRL, and most of the amateur radio publications either had a direct or indirect influence on the reduction of the CW requirements.

Let's take Kenwood Communications Corporation for instance (Kenwood): how did they advocate for CW? Here is a quote from Federal Communications Commission REPORT AND ORDER Adopted: December 22, 1999 Released: December 30, 1999

By the Commission: (The entire document can be viewed in plain text at http://www.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/1999/db991230/fcc99412.txt)

28. Kenwood states that licensing of persons because they are proficient in Morse code is inconsistent with encouraging those interested in modern telecommunications to join the ranks of amateurs and become skilled in the technical sciences.

29. On the other hand, several commenters equate passing a telegraphy examination to the type of on-the-air operator a licensee will be, proof of skill level, or emergency communication capabilities. Kenwood, however, states that Morse code telecommunications is not a skill used often in emergency communications or disaster relief any longer. Other comments express a personal preference for exchanging messages with other amateur radio stations using telegraphy. While Kenwood agrees with these observations, it states, however, they are not a sufficient justification for keeping Morse code proficiency as a licensing requirement.

As a matter of fact Kenwood is mentioned eleven (11) times. So now we have big business controlling yet another facet of our lives, our hobby.

I don't know about anyone else but I'll never do business with Kenwood again, even though they manufacture such wonderful products. The cost is much higher than I ever would have believed.

So how did the ARRL support CW? The ARRL is referenced twenty (20) times in the "REPORT AND ORDER." I won't bore the reader with the gruesome details. If the reader wishes to go to the previously cited web address and

read the REPORT AND ORDER and the ARRL web site <http://www.arrl.org>, read the ARRL restructuring proposal and draw the obvious conclusion. But unlike Kenwood we don't have any other choice. For better or worse the ARRL is the only real power advocating for ham radio. Some of us are required to be ARRL members because we hold positions in the ARRL e.g. OO, EC, AEC etc.

So what about the amateur radio publications, how did they support CW? Ever wonder why the amateur radio community hasn't heard anything about any movement or group supporting a reinstatement of the 20 wpm Extra class CW requirement, when so many of the comments the FCC received regarding the restructuring proposal were pro CW? I don't expect the amateur radio publications to take sides or advance their own agenda but it seems they have. No letters of outrage published—well maybe they didn't receive any (yeah right). No mention of the CW reduction and our feelings about it in the ones I read (CQ & QST) other than to report on the REPORT AND ORDER. Controversy sells magazines but I don't see any. Well, maybe I am the only one with strong pro CW feelings, but if I am why did the FCC in the REPORT AND ORDER write, 27. Few issues coming before us present such a clear dichotomy of viewpoints as does the issue of the appropriate telegraphy examination requirements for an individual to qualify for an amateur radio license.

I don't know about anyone else but I am going to cancel whatever is left of my three-year subscription to CQ and tell them I think their agenda and their biased publication stinks even though it has a bunch of good stuff in every issue. I have an anti CW friend who subscribes, I'll read his when he's finished with it.

The FCC . . . I believe in my heart of hearts that the FCC was trying to do the right thing. I truly believe that their judgment was swayed by the big buck lobbyist.

Not even a little bit hopeless. How many minutemen were at Concord to fire the shot heard around the world and start the American revolution?—77! Can you imagine 7,700 or 77,000 guys trying to go against Great Britain today—they'd be crushed like little ants. These 77 guys were willing put it on the line (let's not do that even for CW).

We can make a difference! How can we beat the big buck lobbyist from Kenwood, the ARRL, the publishers, and God only knows who else. This is about money and greed! WE CAN GET THE BIG BUCK GUYS TO HELP US. But to get their attention you have to hit them in the groin a couple of times (I sincerely hope that wasn't offensive but I don't know how else to say it). How do we do that? By taking away their money. Discourage people from joining the ARRL and if you're not an officer quit and ask for your money back. As an American you have the right (maybe the responsibility) to

boycott. Remember the money testicles (forgive the crudeness) are very sensitive.

So is that it, just boycott?

Not just a boycott, a BOYCOTT. The boycott is very, very important, remember the sensitive area (I am trying to be polite about this) is the money. Boycotts alone have succeeded in bringing about tremendous changes (think dolphin free tuna and California grapes). The boycott is the beginning. We can publish too. The very thing that damns us, the internet, can save us. We can fire the "first shot" right here on the internet. We can find out if there are others who care about CW and organize right here on the internet.

The pen (and truth) is mightier than the sword, the ARRL and even Kenwood. Please give this URL or web address to any pro CW person you know. But no one else, if they are aren't pro CW, this web site won't change their mind. Please sign our guest book and we will print it and suggest where the BIG BUCK guys, including the ARRL can put it (I am really avoiding being crude here).

For years, multitudes of knowledgeable, logical, articulate, passionate people have worked hard and long to bring about change. Perhaps you were one of them and are tired of the disappointments and really believe there is no point in trying.

Perhaps it's grandiose on my part to think now that it's a done deal it could be changed. But it took all that to learn that years of sound knowledge, logic and reasoning do not influence the policymakers.

What influences the policy makers is the big buck guys. The big buck guys pay people who know how to make the things they want sound appealing to the policymakers. Since we can't seem to influence the policymakers we need to influence the big buck guys. Boycotts work! They work because it takes very little effort, just make a different choice. Boycotts have and continue to change things. It's better than sitting there a beaten, self-pitiful victim. I don't mind being beaten and can accept it if I've tried everything. One person suggested to me that on 4/15/2000 if most of the VE's were too busy to go to their VE sessions and stay busy for 3 months you'd sure get the big buck guys' attention.

—Continued on Page 8

CW Revolution—Continued from Page 7

But such a boycott could do irreparable harm to amateur radio; maybe more than the destructuring. Also, to be effective you'd need more unity and commitment than could be mustered. Many hams, like many Americans, in their apathy are willing to roll over, give up and accept whatever the big buck guys shove down their keyers. You don't have to be one of them, you can make choices. They won't hear reason but they will hear choices. Even if the reinstatement of the 20 wpm CW requirement never happens maybe in the next destructuring we won't lose as much of the CW spectrum due to a boycott now. Maybe the big buck guys will tread a little more lightly.

What we really need is an organization and a leader! So someone out there in cyber space please help us.

FISTS, a great organization which has some high and lofty goals, and some great advice on CW, makes about as much of a difference as an atom of silicon on Miami Beach. I think after the next restructuring, when the CW portions of the HF bands are reallocated to phone, FISTS may be very helpful in helping CW operators legally squeeze in between SSB QSO's. That is assuming they don't outlaw CW during the next restructuring. Fists seems to be a cute, feel good, self serving (not CW preserving) organization dedicated mostly to increasing its membership while making some effort at promoting CW. What follows is a comment I left in their guest book and FISTS' response:

Name: Tim—WB8HRO Website: Referred by: Clicked on a 'Guestbooks by GuestWorld' Button From: Howell, MI Time: 2000-01-25 13:44:12 Comments: If FISTS really supports CW, where is your opposition to reducing the code requirement? Especially the 20 wpm Extra requirement? Not even a big link at the very beginning to: <http://www.-qsl.net/n5lf/> ??? I thought FISTS might be a worthwhile organization to join but, thought I'd wait and see what FISTS would say or do. I am glad I saved the money so I can use it to support the effort to reinstate the 20 wpm Extra code requirement. Without this requirement I would still hate CW. Come on FISTS let's really try to preserve CW!

FISTS Response:

It is not intended to be a political organization. We don't look down on any other mode and believe there is room for all. Our members just happen to like CW and we promote it's use. ... We are not a group of political activists attempting to shape bureaucratic policy or legislative decision making. ... As an organization we do not endorse or condemn policy. ...

Well, how politically correct! Talk about spin. Who said anything about looking down at other modes? Why would anyone bring up and deny looking down at modes? I didn't mention looking down at anyone or anything. Ok, FISTS doesn't want to be political, but FISTS can't provide its members with information and links? Yes, just keep pounding the brass and play ostrich until CW is outlawed.

Why emphasize only the reinstatement of the 20 wpm Extra Class CW requirement & what about the 5 & 13 wpm Extras?

1. The 5 and 13 wpm Extra would be grand-fathered as an Extra, they would lose nothing. I am not proposing dropping anyone back to General. It doesn't matter if there are a billion 5 and 13 wpm Extras. What matters is that CW survives by having the 20 wpm CW requirement reinstated. What matters is that the CW portions of the HF bands are not reallocated to phone. What matters is that CW is not outlawed.

2. There is safety in numbers. Let's face it, we need more people attracted to and active in amateur radio if the hobby is to survive. The radio spectrum belongs to the public so amateurs need to have a reason to exist. There are five reasons that the amateur radio service exists and all involve needing a lot of people in the hobby. HF privileges attract people to the hobby. So perhaps the general portions of the bands will be crowded. As far as opening amateur radio to a bunch of riffraff, the type that exists on the 11 meter band, in my experience the no-code techs have been good operators. In fact, I have personally heard more 11 meter type nonsense from Extra Class operators on HF and haven't heard any nonsense from any no-code tech. amateur radio will die without more people, especially young, in the hobby.

3. There is just too much big money opposing the 13 wpm CW requirement to ever have a prayer to reinstate the 13 wpm requirement. By reinstating only the 20 wpm requirement CW will survive and the big buck people will have what they want. It's doable and if we put enough pressure on the big buck people they may have the 20 wpm requirement reinstated for us. Remember the big buck people are interested in money. If they lose 20 percent of their market share because of the 20 wpm CW issue, they will help with it or at least not oppose it. On the other hand, the big buck guys won't gain any money by reinstating the 13 wpm CW requirement.

4. After passing the 20 wpm CW test, CW becomes a viable means of communication because you can easily copy 13 wpm. 5 wpm is just too slow and for many too boring.

5. One of the five reasons that the amateur radio service exists is to provide emergency communications. When the sophisticated technology fails (telephones, faxes, internet, cellular phones, public safety communications systems and networks, amateur digital modes, and SSB) CW, in its simplicity, works when nothing else will. This has been proven time and time again. It is this inevitable failure of technology which causes the public safety professionals to welcome the services of radio amateurs. It's because CW works when nothing else will that public safety professionals, in their disaster communication planning and preparations, provide amateur radio operators with training, and equip disaster command centers with amateur radio equipment.

6. For many people the twenty wpm code requirement provides the ultimate challenge in

amateur radio. When people are challenged, the interest in the hobby is fostered and facilitated. They continue to be active in amateur radio and buy amateur radio goods and services.

HELLO, HELLO big buck guys, are you listening? I am a former quadriplegic. I can walk reasonably well now but still have impaired hand function. I could have easily gotten a doctor to sign off on the Extra class code requirement. When I learned that the code requirement might be reduced or eliminated I started the impossible: learning to print fast (I am sure my doctors would have told me this too was not possible.) I did pass the 20 wpm code test and this former code hater is now a code lover.

Riley Hollingsworth gave amateur radio back its self-respect.

Please, please let us give amateur radio back its dignity by having the 20 wpm CW requirement for the Extra class license reinstated.

What Can You Do to Help?

1. Sign the guest book below which requires you to leave a comment (you can just say 73) but, we hams always have some comment—please comment. If this page doesn't get very much action (hits and guest book entries) I will know that we CW proponents are in the minority. So will anyone who visits this page.

2. Tell every pro CW person you know (check your logs) about this page.

3. Please do not send money to me. If you feel you wish to send money now please consider sending it to [qsl.net](http://www.qsl.net); they provide the space for this site and do a great service to amateur radio by providing free email boxes and web sites to any amateur radio operator. This allows the internet to enhance amateur radio rather than detract from it. Thank you [qsl.net](http://www.qsl.net)! The web address or URL is <http://www.qsl.net>. Later when we have an organization we can all send money to it.

4. Boycott: a) The ARRL, cancel your membership, tell them why, and ask for the unused portion of your QST money back. Get others to do the same thing. This is a tough one for me. The ARRL does so much good. QST is great! It does so much to protect our frequencies and fight restrictive antenna regulations. The ARRL operates the National Traffic System (NTS) and the Amateur Radio Emergency Service. It provides so much to the hobby. But it got greedy and is no longer a balanced member driven organization. With our own dues they sold us out. The ARRL will

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USECA 2000 VHF Net Points as received by April 10

Call	Name	pts	Call	Name	pts	Call	Name	pts
NFOZ	LARRY	1	KC8JAA	JAMES	2	N8SN	CHUCK	2
W1K	JIM	40	KC8JCH	RAY	3	K88SUL	DAVE	2
KA2IBE	JOHN	3	W8JEK	BOB	3	WM8T	BRENT	1
VA3AWC	ALBERT	1	K8JN	FRANK	3	K88TAS	JERRY	12
N3KLS	JAY	1	K8JN	PHIL	4	K88TEZ	MATT	10
VE3LFZ	MARIE	9	WA8JPR	BILL	20	K88TIQ	JEFF	3
VE3OMP	PAUL	1	KC8JSH	DELPHINE	1	N8TMJ	MARIANNE	6
VE3PTC	BOB	1	KW8K	STU	14	K88TWO	HANK	1
VE3TMG	TERRY	1	N8KC	KEN	4	K88UHG	STEVE	2
VA3XDN	DAN	1	W8KC	PAUL	20	W8UHQ	DAN	1
KD4DLA	JAMES	1	KC8KIR	MATTHEW	8	KE8UM	MURRY	2
KC4ZHC	STEVE	1	KC8KJN	STEVE	8	WU8V	KIRK	1
KC8ARS	HENRY	1	KC8KJS	STEVE	1	W8VB	DAVE	47
WB8B	BOB	1	K8KKK	JERRY	1	W8VEB	KEN	2
WB8HF	BOB	3	KC8KRR	GREG	2	WA8VEB	KEN	3
KC8BIU	TED	9	N8KSC	STEVE	1	W88VOT	DAVE	5
KC8BNY	JERRY	1	W8BLCZ	BYRON	2	N8VTF	DON	1
AB8BT	ANDY	18	KC8LDM	MICHAEL	1	K88WCA	BEN	1
KC88XD	HENRY	5	KC8LDN	RAY	10	K88WF	VINCE	2
K88BZS	KEN	1	K88LFE	JIM	1	K88WFW	MIKE	1
K8CFY	JERRY	8	K88LGI	DARREL	12	K88WH	DAVE	1
K8CPA	CHUCK	2	KC8LIR	SCOTT	1	K88WHQ	CHUCK	1
KC8CPT	DON	20	KC8LOC	TOM	39	K88WTH	RICHARD	20
KC8CRJ	RON	1	KC8LUM	MIKE	8	WB8X	LENNY	3
N8CVC	MARY	1	KC8LXN	LORIE	1	N8XOJ	ISAIAH	2
WD8CZJ	JACK	15	WY8M	ARPAD	6	N8YBI	LEONARD	23
KC8DBG	BILL	2	N8MCD	JIM	4	N8YJ	DINA	7
AA8DD	BOB	2	KC8MES	FRED	2	K88YNY	MICHELLE	1
W8DFG	DENNIS	11	N8MKG	DENNIS	1	K88YRW	STEVE	2
KC8DIR	BRIAN	29	N8MOU	RICHARD	1	N8YWS	STAN	1
WA8DKV	MARSHALL	2	N8MQU	RICHARD	1	K88YYA	DREUX	4
K88DSC	JOHN	6	KC8MSX	BILL	1	K88YYB	DEBBIE	4
K8DXX	BILL	8	KC8MWV	BRUCE	14	W88YZN	CHRIS	1
K8DZT	FRANK	1	K88MYW	STEVE	1	K88ZAW	RAY	1
N8SE	JOHN	32	KC8NAG	JIM	1	K88ZE	JOHN	1
WB8E	WALT	14	KC8NDO	RAY	19	K88ZEC	JOHN	9
KC8ECB	KEN	3	W8NG	JIM	5	K88ZEH	DICK	2
W8EDX	EDWARD	2	KC8NGW	JIM	1	N8ZR	STEVE	2
WD8EEO	CHRIS	1	KC8NGY	PAUL	30	N8ZZ	JOHN	1
N8ERV	TOM	2	KC8NLE	KEN	16	N8ZZE	JOHN	3
K8ES	PHIL	1	KC8NLG	KEITH	1	N8ZZF	PAT	1
K8EZ	RANDY	1	KC8NLJ	MIKE	2			
KC8FRW	JOHN	3	KC8NLK	JUSTIN	1			
WB8FUI	PHIL	2	KC8NQA	MIKE	4			
KC8FYQ	GERALD	1	KC8NQL	JOE	1			
KC8GFN	DAVE	1	KC8NQS	ROSS	1			
KC8GMS	PHIL	3	KC8NUA	DAWN	2			
KC8GMT	LORA	23	KC8NUB	RON	1			
KC8GNH	KEVIN	1	K88NXT	MATT	1			
W8GOL	DAN	1	KC8NYR	SUSAN	2			
K88GPO	KEN	1	K88OEF	JOE	1			
WA8GQL	DAN	2	N8OEF	VAL	10			
KC8GWR	FRED	1	N8OEV	DAVE	1			
K88HJ	LARRY	18	N8OKW	JIM	2			
KC8HMG	JANICE	62	N8OZ	JOE	10			
KC8HMM	SAM	8	N8PDP	MICHAEL	28			
KC8HNQ	PAT	1	W8PEG	PEGGY	3			
N8HTV	JOHN	6	K88Q	ART	1			
K88HW	STEVE	4	K88QFV	FRED	1			
KC8HYS	PAT	1	K88QLM	RICHARD	82			
KC8HYU	JON	45	K88QMP	BILL	3			
N8HZE	KEN	13	K88QMS	NANCY	4			
KC8IAP	MARY	12	N8RAR	WAYNE	18			
KC8IAQ	DAVE	34	K88RBV	MANNY	3			
W8IC	PHIL	4	W88RNO	LEN	1			
W8IDO	DENNIS	1	WD8RNO	LYNN	1			
K88IF	ANN	5	W8RO	FLOYD	10			
WD8INW	GEORGE	1	N8SA	BILL	2			
W8IR	MARK	5	N8SE	JOHN	1			
KC8IZG	DAVE	1	N8SIH	BETTY	6			

Top 20 VHF Operators

Call	Name	pts
1	K88QLM RICHARD	82
2	KC8HMG JANICE	62
3	W8VB DAVE	47
4	KC8HYU JON	45
5	W1K JIM	40
6	KC8LOC TOM	39
7	KC8IAQ DAVE	34
8	N8BE JOHN	32
9	KC8NGY PAUL	30
10	KC8DIR BRIAN	29
11	N8PDP MICHAEL	28
12	KC8GMT LORA	23
13	N8YBY LEONARD	23
14	W8KC PAUL	20
15	K88WTH RICHARD	20
16	WA8JPR BILL	20
17	KC8CPT DON	20
18	KC8NDO RAY	19
19	AB8BT ANDY	18
20	K88HJ LARRY	18

Top HF operators

Call	Name	pts
1	K88QLM RICHARD	105
2	WY8M ARPAD	48
3	KC8LCC TOM	36
4	W8N PHIL	28
5	N8RAR WAYNE	28
6	WA8JPR BILL	28
7	K88TAS JERRY	25
8	KC8HMG JANICE	24
9	N8KC KEN	20
10	KC8HMM SAM	18
11	KA2IBE JOHN	18
12	W1K JIM	16
13	N8MOJ MARION	14
14	W8RO FLOYD	14
15	KC8GMT LORA	12
16	AB8BT ANDY	12
17	K88WH DAVE	10
18	KA8LGI DARREL	8
19	AA8DD BOB	8
20	KC8ECB KEN	6

Database c/o KC8HYU Jon
Software written by WU8C (Tom)

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

See or call Brian KC8DIR, USECA's Net Manager, for more information on running a net and earning extra points.

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 K8ZEC, John: k8zec@tir.com
 ★New/change from previous.



"YOU'VE GOT MAIL!"

If you are a club member and would like your address published (or changed) in the *Express*, send it via e-mail to K8OEF.

Y2K Net Point System

- ✓1) HF CW NCO = 4 points, HF SSB/VHF NCO = 3 points, HF CW/SSB check-in = 2 points, VHF check-in = 1 point. HF < 30 MHz, VHF > 30 MHz. (NOTE: Check-ins should do so *personally*, proxy check-ins are legitimate *only* for members on club business. "In & Out" check-ins, though allowed, are discouraged.)
- ✓2) Awards are earned for 50 points and multiples thereof; plaques for the highest annual HF and VHF scores. Awards are meant to encourage **participation** and can be earned by any licensed amateur.
- ✓3) Net logs must be readable and include the CALLS and NAMES of check-ins, as well as NCO, DATE, and MODE.
- ✓4) NCO's: Forward net logs to the Awards Manager within 30 days; logs received later will not earn the bonus points normally awarded a NCO. MAIL logs to: Jon, KC8HYU, 19351 Todd Drive, Clinton Twp., MI 48038; E-Mail: kc8hyu@home.com.
- ✓5) If *you* notice any errors in the database, wrong or changed call signs, misspelled names, etc., let Jon know ASAP.

USECA Board Meeting Minutes—April 4, 2000

In attendance:
 KB8YYB, Debbi President
 KB8QMS, Nancy Vice-President
 KG8IF, Ann Recording Secretary
 N8TMJ, Marianne Membership Secretary
 KC8JSH, Delphine Treasurer
 *KC8IAQ, Dave Board Member
 W8IR, Mark Board Member
 N8KLX, Jerry Board Member
 W8DFG, Dennis Past President
 *K8CFY, Jerry Historian
 K8OEF, Joe Express Editor
 W8VB, Dave ARRL Liaison
 *K8ZEC, John Repeater Technician
 KC8DIR, Brian Net Manager
 *Absent



The meeting was called to order by the President at 7:30 P.M.
 Minutes of the last meeting were approved.
 Treasurer's report was approved.
 Membership report: 226 members, 112 ARRL members.
 Program for the April 11 general meeting: - cross banding.
 Technical committee report: moving forward.
 Express: no report.
 ARRL: Dave W8VB - no new official business to report.
 H&W - no significant problems to report.

Old Business:

Nancy, KB8QMS made a motion to apply application with the MARC BOD for recoordination under Regional status. Dennis, W8DFG 2nd. Discussion ensued. Motion passed.

Mark, W8IR still working on the club call sign application.

Express printing expenses discussed. Other options were considered.

Pre FD: Ann, KG8IF requested funds for Pre FD expenses. Dennis, W8DFG made the motion, Jerry, N8KLX 2nd. Motion passed.

FD: Jerry, N8KLX reported the current status: 16 alpha. Several stations open, including novice tech. Article describing the logging software will be in the June issue of QST. See also the link on USECA web page for downloading the software.

FD kitchen: Discussion ensued regarding FD expenses.

New Business:

Marianne, N8TMJ made a request to remove the address correction from the Express front page.

Dennis, W8DFG discussed the upcoming March of Dimes Blade America event. Possible project for USECA.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Ann Manor, KG8IF, Recording Secretary



USECA General Meeting Minutes—April 11, 2000

KB8YYB, Debbi President
 KB8QMS, Nancy Vice-President
 KG8IF, Ann Recording Secretary
 N8TMJ, Marianne Membership Secretary
 KC8JSH, Delphine Treasurer
 KC8IAQ, Dave Board Member
 W8IR, Mark Board Member
 *N8KLX, Jerry Board Member
 W8DFG, Dennis Past President
 *Absent

The meeting was called to order by the President at 7:30 P.M.
 New members, visitors and upgrades were recognized.
 The minutes were accepted as printed in the Express.

The treasurer's report was presented.

Membership: Marianne, N8TMJ reported: 230 members, ARRL - 115.

Repeater, no report.

Express, no report.

ARRL, no report.

Marianne, N8TMJ provided the health and welfare report.

USECA apparel: Richard KB8WTH stated it is necessary to order the USECA jacket tonight if wanted by FD.

Tonight's Hosts: thanks to Kim, KC8HRP and Scott, W8CQD

Next month's hosts: Ray, KC8NDO and Bill, KC8DBG

Dreux, KB8YYA discussed WalkAmerica - April 30. 35+ volunteers are needed for communications. 4 to 5K walkers are expected. Please arrive by 6:30 AM, or at 9:30 AM.

Jerry N8KLX - special event station - will have 20, 40, 10 meters stations. W8A - call sign. Freq to use: 146.535. Walt WB8E - suggested bringing radios for fun.

Pre FD - Ray, KC8NDO - gave report. Saturday, May 13, 2000, Stony Creek Metro Park. Hot dogs/hamburgers, condiments and picnic supplies provided by the club - bring your own non-alcoholic beverages, chairs recommended. Bring radios and other toys. There will be a hidden transmitter hunt in the afternoon, provided by Phil, W8IC.

Motion by Jerry, KB8TAS before membership to advance funds for Pre FD expenses. 2nd by Walt, motion passed.

Walt, WB8E is taking orders for T-shirts, sweatshirts for FD. Cash only please.

FD - 14 alpha at this time. Open stations: 160 CW, 10 CW, Novice tech (must be a tech plus). Fd meeting to be held at 2 PM at the Pre FD picnic Sat. May 13, 2000. Station chairs should attend.

Nancy, KB8QMS reminded the membership about the summer picnic August 27 at New Baltimore City Park. Bring a pass-a-dish.

Swap: Dave, KC8IAQ - we're in good shape at this time.

Camping - Dina, N8YJI gave report: Lakeport sold out for Memorial weekend. Algonac in July, Straights State Park and Tawas in August have spots available. Call 1-800-44PARKS. Group #623476. Contact Dina for more info.

FD budget - Dennis, W8DFG made a request for funds for FD expenses.

Walt, WB8E made the motion, Fred KB8LYA 2nd. Motion passed.

Dennis, W8DFG spoke about the March of Dimes Blade America (roller blading event): will be held 2nd weekend in June. Should be done by noon. More info to come - may need communications help.

Bruce, KC8MWV- will give seminar on traffic handling at a SATERN meeting, Sat. May 13 - 7 PM.

Paper work party Friday night, April 14. at the Salvation Army. Pot luck meal at 10:30, paperwork for new upgrades to be signed starting at 12:01 AM, April 15. Bring your own table setting and beverage.

New Business:

Floyd, W8RO reported: - "Frequency," a movie about ham radio will open on 4/28/00. This movie should be promoted.

Debbie, KB8YYA gave report on the MARC meeting at Tawas.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Program: Cross-banding, provided by Floyd, W8RO and Dennis, W8DFG

Respectfully submitted, Ann Manor, KG8IF, Recording Secretary

USECA Cork Board

▶ Radio "Stuff" ◀

ALINCO DJ-C4T UHF H.T. with manual and battery charger. Mint condition. \$50.00. Richard, K8QLM, (810) 731-4475.

★BEAM,15M 3 ele, used for FD twice, otherwise stored inside, w/balun and manual, \$150. WY8M 810-751-3804 or wy8m@home.com

SALE. 2-Meter Stick antenna w/approx. 12' co-ax. \$20. (810)-786-5442 KC8BIU, Ted.

TEN-TEC; complete station. Omni-C transceiver; model 255 power supply/speaker; model 229 antenna tuner (re-strung by T.T. Spring '99); model 243 remove VFO; model 444 linear amplifier. All units are mint condition, with manuals. Package deal only. \$1,400. OBO. Richard, K8QLM, (810) 731-4475.

WANTED: Looking for a code oscillator with 1/4" key jack. Sam, KC8HMM.

★New or changed this month.
Notify the editor to have items added and/or removed.

The Cork Board is for club members only and it's free!

▶ Miscellaneous Items ◀

ATARI LYNX hand held video game with 6 cartridges and carrying case. Like new condition. \$20.00. Dan, WA8GQL

COLEMAN 1993 Seneca Camping Trailer. Queen and double bed provide comfortable sleeping for four adults or 2 adults and 3 kids. Dual dinettes provides sleeping for 3 more kids. Three burner stove and sink inside. Separate high output 2 burner stove for outside. Lots of storage, including a place for the porta potti (saves the late night trips to the facility). Canopy for shade on those sunny or rainy days. Tows great. Dry weight approx. 1400#, so can be towed by about any vehicle. We towed it thru the mountains of California, as much as 18% grades, with a Saab 900, 2.3L in 1998. Excellent condition. \$3800. Those of you who have been at the USECA campouts the last two years have seen it. Contact Jim Mickle, N8OKW, (810) 677-1667, Jim Mickle@juno.com.

EPSON Apex Action Printer L1000, 24 pin dot matrix printer. Excellent condition and works beautifully. Comes with tractor feed, as well as plain paper feed; owners manual and software. First \$20 takes it. Call Floyd at (248) 391-6660 or e-mail: hires@rust.net.

FISHER studio standard bookshelf stereo system. Like new condition, plastic cover. PLL digital fm/am stereo tuner, Two deck cassette tape player/copier, record changer on top, graphic equalizer, CD player. Very little to no use. Model MC-750. \$85.00. Dan, WA8GQL.

GMC '92 Typhoon. Turbocharged, inter-cooled V6 w/AWD, ABS, CD and alarm. Very fast, looks great, runs great and always garaged. 92K miles. \$16K obo. Floyd, W8RO; (248) 391-6660 or floyd@hirescom.com.

OLDSMOBILE '97 Aurora, silver, 42K miles, loaded, excellent condx. Contact Floyd, W8RO, at (248) 391-6660 or floyd@hirescom.com.

SATURN 1995. SL2. Blue/black; 67k miles; auto starter. Dina, N8YJI, (810) 777-4207.

CW Revolution—Continued from Page 8

deny it or say their proposal (which suggested a 12 wpm for the Extra) blah, blah, they're going to do such and such, and blah, blah.

Don't accept the greedy lies. (As I am typing this I prevented a friend on 2 meters from joining.) Don't let up until the 20 wpm CW requirement is reinstated. When the 20 wpm CW requirement is reinstated we can go and recruit for the ARRL. b) Kenwood, while producing great products, is not an expert on amateur radio emergency communications. Kenwood is an expert on making money. Tell everyone you can find from Kenwood what you think of what amounts to their dictating policies to amateur radio operators. And find someone else to do business with. c) Amateur Radio Publications, if they're not printing both sides, or if they're not publishing information of any kind about the pro and con CW debate (besides reporting the changes in the law) you know what their agenda is. And the same thing that goes for the ARRL and Kenwood goes for them, too.

There are two notable exceptions:

1) Amateur Radio Newline <http://www.arnewline.org/> has and continues to report pro and con CW information and I will go on supporting them.

2) World Radio <http://www.wr6wr.com/index.html> I have been told recently published an article on CW.

I don't know what the repercussions will be to me personally regarding this web page. I am only a novice amateur revolutionary. forces may be brought to bear that may result in the termination of this web page. Therefore, on your browser please click file, click save and save it to your hard drive. Revolutions don't live in buildings or on web sites, they live in the hearts of the followers.

I can accept betrayal if I have at least tried to do something about it. I pray this is only the beginning.

Can many voices (or CW signals) unite and be heard as one overpowering signal?

Let us unite and give amateur radio back its dignity.

Questions, comments, suggestions, or ideas, send email to Tim, WB8HRO: wb8hro@amsat.org.

—Submitted by Arpad, WY8M

FOR SALE

★Battery isolator for vehicle. New in box. Unknown size. No paperwork. \$40.

27" Admiral TV, 3yrs. Old; \$200.

Portable B&W TV 5"; \$10.

Uniden BC60XLT hand held VHF/UHF 30ch scanner; \$60.

Realistic home CD player, works; \$20.

Wilson ProStaff ladies graphite golf club set, w/bag & more, like new; \$200.

440 Ringo Ranger II; \$20.

CB antenna 4' fiberglass; NEW; \$5.

Sony CDP591 CD player; \$25.

Xerox 6010 Memorywriter electric typewriter; \$25.

386 Computer; \$100.

Contact Arpad WY8M; 810-751-3804 or wy8m@home.com

Have you changed your call sign recently? If you have, please notify Marianne, N8TMJ our club membership secretary. If you don't tell her, who will?

May Meeting Hosts

**Ray, KC8NDO
and
Bill, KC8DBG**

NAME BADGES

With The OFFICIAL USECA Logo
Contact Debbi, KB8YYB: (810) 263-0227

USECA APPLICATION



DATE _____ NEW RENEWAL
 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

Rev. 12/98

FOR FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS ONLY:

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

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

Annual Membership Dues Regular: \$20 — Family: \$30 — 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**
 (Allow 4-6 weeks for processing.)



2-Meter LANs

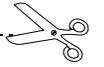
Local Area Nets

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
SUN-SAT	10:15 pm	S. E. Michigan Traffic Net	145.330
SUN-SAT		MACEOC (Packet)	145.030
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	9:00 pm	Motor City Radio Club	147.240
WED	8:00 pm	GMARC	146.700
WED	8:00 pm	SPIRIT of '76/Info./Traders	146.760
WED	9:00 pm	ARPSC	145.490
WED	9:00 pm	MICHIGAN QRP	145.170
THU	7:00 pm	HPARC/Kids	146.640
THU	8:00 pm	RACES/ARES	147.200
THU	8:00 pm	EDISON/Information	145.330
THU	8:00 pm	SATERN	147.180
THU	9:00 pm	ECHO	147.080
FRI	Midnite	USECA/Hoot Owl	147.180

On The World Wide Web

USECA Home Page

WWW.USECA.ORG



Net Ops Schedules

2-METER NETS

	SUN. 1 PM	MON. 9 PM**	TUES. 8 PM	FRI. MIDNIGHT
WEEK	147.180 MHz	147.180 MHz	147.180 MHz	147.180 MHz
1	KG8IF	N8OEF	K8QLM	KC8IAQ
2	W8IR	W1IK	-Mtg-***	KC8MWW
3	K8QLM	N8OEF	KC8IAP	KC8DIR
4	AB8BT	W1IK	W8IR	KC8HYU
5*	WB8E	N8OEF	-OPEN-	-OPEN-

Slow Code — *July and August Only; K8OEF

HF NETS

	THURS. 9 PM	FRI. 10 PM	FRI. 11 PM
WEEK	21.140 MHz/CW	21.140 MHz/CW	28.425 MHz/USB
1	K8QLM	-OPEN-	KC8LOC
2	N8MOJ	W8RO	KA2IBE
3	W8RO	W8IC	K8QLM
4	AA8DD	WB8E	-OPEN-
5*	-OPEN-	-OPEN-	-OPEN-

*If applicable

NCO's—If you're unable to take your net please get a replacement
 or contact Brian, KC8DIR (810) 749-4561—Don't wait!

USECA Hot Line: (810) 268-6730

USECA

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

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

POSTMASTER: DATED MATERIAL

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U.S. POSTAGE
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WARREN, MI
PERMIT NO. 289



MAY 2000

USECA . . . Your Final Answer!

"The Happenin' Club"

Club Activities

MONTH	DATE	TIME	EVENT
MAY	9	7:30 pm	General Meeting
MAY	13	9:00 am	9th Annual Pre-Field Day
MAY	19-21		Dayton Hamvention 2000
MAY	26-29		Campout—Lakeport
JUN	13	7:30 pm	General Meeting—Fox Hunt
JUN	23-25		Campout—p/o Field Day
JUN	24-25		Field Day 2000
JUL	21-23		*Campout—Xmas in July—Algonac
AUG	11-15		*Campout—St. Ignace & Tawas
AUG	15-20		*Campout—Tawas Point; E. Tawas
AUG	27		Annual Club Picnic
SEP	4		Michigan Peach Festival Parade
SEP	12	7:30 pm	General Meeting
SEP	22-24		Campout—Western—Algonac
OCT	22		USECA Swap
OCT	27-29		Campout—Halloween—Algonac

* Group Number 623476; Call 1-800-44-PARKS

Swaps

Day	Month	Date	Where
F,S,S	MAY	19-21	Dayton 2000*
SUN	JUN	18	MONROE
SUN	OCT	22	USECA

*ARRL National Convention

Source: QRV Bulletin, QST & N8ARO

6-METER NETS

	WED 7 PM	WED 8 PM
WEEK	50.150 MHz/USB	51.740 MHz/FM
1	—OPEN—	—OPEN—
2	KC8IAQ	K8QLM
3	N8YBY	KC8HYU
4	W8VB	W8VB
5*		—OPEN—

*If applicable

NCO's—If you're unable to take your net please get a replacement or contact Brian, KC8DIR (810) 749-4561—Don't wait!