



# USECA EXPRESS



Michigan's Largest and Most Active Amateur Radio Club

UTICA SHELBY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION, INC.

Volume 25, Number 5, May 2009

## USECA Meeting Minutes

Board Meeting—March 2, 2009

In attendance:

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



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

Meeting called to order by the President at: 7:27 PM.

Membership: Joe -138 members.

Treasurer's report: None (only expense was phone line).

Web master report: None; Bill requested that Alec update the club officer page.

Trustee: Dennis W8DFG: All control ops have their own access code and password. Only control ops who have paid membership dues have access.

Health and Welfare: It was requested that we send a card to Laura, the wife of Brian KC8DIR.

Technical report: Jim W1IK was not in attendance.

Field Day: Dennis reports that he is going to pick up the new food tent this weekend. He also mentioned that we sold 90 radio raffle tickets which we used to finance the tent.

New Business: Dennis proposed that we hold a raffle for an HF radio. The drawing shall be held at the swap and the radio is to be purchased at Dayton.

Dennis also moved that we not spend money on QST subscriptions for the library, as an unwise use of club funds. Motion was seconded by Rob. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Joe and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Chuck motion carried, meeting adjourned at:8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rob Lifton, KD8ENP, Acting Recording Secretary

—Continued on Page 4

## Notes from da' prez

**H**ERE IT IS already spring. I start thinking of FD, larks in the park and antenna installations, not necessarily in that order. It is a wonderful time of year. Next month the program will be on my favorite event every year; FIELD DAY. Are you ready? Are you signed up to help or chair a station? What is holding you up? We need help we can count on for planning purposes, not the least of which is our station count. Steve, N8XO threw down the gauntlet at the April meeting when he said we are shooting at 20A, the max available. That is, or should not be that hard for us to do. I remember us running 28A in the past. WE CAN DO IT! We just need your help. WE need your expertise or just your labor. If experienced in FD you can teach newer hams. If new to it you can learn more in one weekend than in years of experience. It is a quality experience for new and old(er) hams alike. So what is stopping you?

—Continued on Page 4

## USECA Discounts

Chuck, N8ZA

Hello everybody! Did you know your USECA membership can save you money? Well it sure can—here are the participating businesses—just show your card to receive your discount.

For all of your Eyeglass needs just mention the USECA name at any SVS Vision optical center.

Looking for a place to buy metal for your antenna project? Then it's time to use your USECA discount for a 10% off at: Metal Mart USA, 31164 Dequindre, Warren MI 48092, (586) 977-5820. They are about 4 buildings north of 13 Mile Rd. on Dequindre. Open M-F 8 to 5 and Saturdays 9 to noon.

Are you looking for Diodes, Antenna Accessories, Batteries, Capacitors, Fuses, Electrical or Electronic Resistors, Switches, Electric Switches, Tubes, Wire, then its time to visit Able Electronics for a 10% discount. Able is located at 27201 Harper Avenue, St. Clair Shores, MI 48081, (586) 777-8236.

Next Meeting — May 11th

## CLUB DIRECTORY

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

### COMMITTEES

ARRL Liaison	Bill/N8SA
Awards Manager	Bob/N8ZY (586) 978-1682
Door Prizes	-OPEN-
Editor	Joe/K8OEF (586) 781-0050
Field Day Chair	Bill/N8SA, Steve/N8XO & Ray/N8UY
Health & Welfare	Rob/KD8ENP (248) 816-2222
Historian	Jerry/K8CFY (586) 791-4484
Mailers/Sorters	Ann/KT8F & Crew
Net Manager	Bob/N8ZY (586) 978-1682
Photographer	Wes/KD8DHS
Program Director	Rob Lifton/KD8ENP (248) 797-2264
Public Relations Officer	Ken/N8KC (248) 652-1187
Refreshments	Walt/WB8E; & Alec/NF8X
Repeater Trustee	Dennis/W8DFG (586) 465-7126
Swap Director	Jeff/KD8CIA
Technical Director	Jim/W1IK (586) 771-4135
Technicians	KA8D; WA8GQL; W8RO; AD8S; N8SA; W1SKU; N8ZI
VE Testing	Joe/N8OZ (586) 977-7222
Webmaster	Alec/NF8X (586) 873-8841

### CONTROL OPERATORS (\*Phone Number Above)

Jim/WY8I*	Floyd/W8RO	Chuck/N8ZA*
Jim/W1IK	Alec/NF8X*	Tom/N8ZI*
Joe/N8OZ*		

### PROGRAMMERS

Dennis/W8DFG	Jim/W1IK	Brad/N8VI
--------------	----------	-----------

The Editor is:

## Still Going

Joe, K8OEF

*Low Keyed!* You talk about being low keyed—the entire editorial staff has been in this mode for quite some time—almost to the point of not being involved enough to help this club make a difference. Several personal issues needed to be attended to and other events that took priority over the hobby — it's not an excuse, it's a reason. We'll do the best we can with what we have to work with and just go from there and see what cards we are dealt with next.

73 for now.

### MEMBERSHIP NOTICE!

Joe, N8OZ

Just a friendly reminder from your Membership Secretary—Don't forget to include a SASE if you want your membership card mailed to you (r-e-a-d the membership application).

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

### USECA VE Testing

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

## USECA NET POINTS

CALL	NAME	VHF	HF	TOT	CALL	NAME	VHF	HF	TOT	CALL	NAME	VHF	HF	TOT
N8ZA	CHUCK	37	100	137	K8QLM	JANICE	6	0	6	N8SCO	DOUG	0	2	2
N8ZY	BOB	19	96	115	KB3PTA	JAMES	0	6	6	N8WY	PAUL	0	2	2
W8NIC	LARRY	22	52	74	KC8C	TONY	6	0	6	N8XYL	KAREN	0	2	2
N8YBY	LEONARD	40	30	70	N8UO	KEN	6	0	6	VE3TTF	ALLEN	0	2	2
AK8S	ALAN	26	40	66	W8IR	MARK	0	6	6	W1NB	SCOTT	0	2	2
KD8CXJ	ED	40	8	48	K8DJE	JONESY	3	2	5	W1WWX	JOHN	0	2	2
N8ZBA	DAN	9	31	40	K8DXX	BILL	3	2	5	W8AJA	WAYNE	0	2	2
K8RDJ	RAY	19	20	39	KA2IBE	JOHN	3	2	5	W8NVC	NIC	0	2	2
N8AE	CARL	9	22	31	KC8CTZ	BOB	3	2	5	W8WTH	RICHARD	2	0	2
KD8HIZ	ANDY	14	16	30	KD8HNK	PHIL	5	0	5	WB8OAF	BILL	2	0	2
W1IK	JIM	18	8	26	KI8JN	PHIL	4	0	4	WB8SJD	LARRY	2	0	2
WB8E	WALT	8	18	26	W8BUJ	ROB	0	4	4	WB8WZO	DUAINE	0	2	2
KD8CFU	DAVE	11	14	25	K8RFP	RON	3	0	3	WI2Q	DAVE	0	2	2
N8UJ	CHUCK	11	14	25	N8JGU	MIKE	1	2	3	WI8C	DAVE	0	2	2
KC8UHK	RANDY	6	18	24	N8KA	JOE	3	0	3	WI8G	JASON	0	2	2
W8AOQ	STEVE	0	24	24	N8RUE	EDDIE	3	0	3	AB8BT	ANDY	1	0	1
W8SOX	LARRY	15	8	23	W8EDX	ED	1	2	3	AB8XR	GARY	1	0	1
KC8REX	BERNARD	1	21	22	W8TRC	TOM	3	0	3	AB8YR	ALLIECE	1	0	1
KD8HTU	MARTY	8	14	22	W8VO	CLEM	1	2	3	KA8DYD	PAUL	1	0	1
WY8I	JIM	10	12	22	AA8OH	JIM	2	0	2	KA8GRH	JOHN	1	0	1
WB8F	DON	5	14	19	AC8DB	RICH	0	2	2	KA8LGI	DARRELL	1	0	1
KD8CIA	JEFF	2	16	18	K7SDF	DON	2	0	2	KB3R	ED	1	0	1
N8FGB	RICH	0	18	18	K8LFE	JIM	2	0	2	KB8WMB	GLEN	1	0	1
N8ZI	TOM	4	14	18	K9DLW	DENNIS	2	0	2	KC8EZW	MARK	1	0	1
KA8POZ	SHAWN	17	0	17	K9FOV	BRUCE	0	2	2	KC8IDG	KEVIN	1	0	1
KD8JDC	RYAN	7	10	17	KB3QMT	JEFF	0	2	2	KC8QDN	GLORIA	1	0	1
KD8ENP	ROB	10	6	16	KB7BXP	DAVID	0	2	2	KC8SYN	JEFF	1	0	1
KF8XO	JEFF	0	16	16	KB9GNB	GERALD	0	2	2	KC8ZJP	RON	1	0	1
W8OMC	KEN	0	16	16	KB9JSM	KENT	0	2	2	KD8BQQ	KURT	1	0	1
N8CR	DENNIS	11	4	15	KC8DB	MARVIN	0	2	2	KD8CK	DENNIS	1	0	1
KD8JNS	SHAUN	2	12	14	KC8JNS	SHAWN	0	2	2	KD8CMD	FRED	1	0	1
KD8GZE	TOM	7	6	13	KC8LDN	RAY	0	2	2	KD8CUB	CHRIS	1	0	1
K8GIM	ED	0	12	12	KC8LUM	MIKE	0	2	2	KD8GVT	ERIC	1	0	1
W8RIT	DAVE	0	12	12	KC8OYD	CHUCK	0	2	2	KD8HNW	SEAN	1	0	1
N8UZE	DEE	7	4	11	KC8VWZ	DICK	2	0	2	KD8HSM	JUNE	1	0	1
AA8OZ	PAUL	8	2	10	KC8ZEY	ADAM	0	2	2	KD8IGL	MARK	1	0	1
KC8ZRY	RANDY	8	2	10	KD4FXL	GLEN	0	2	2	KD8ILS	WILLIAM	1	0	1
N8EB	KEITH	10	0	10	KD8DHS	WES	2	0	2	KD8IUM	TONY	1	0	1
W8DFG	DENNIS	8	2	10	KD8DQE	JAMES	0	2	2	KD8JNT	MINOTT	1	0	1
WD8IFL	DAVE	8	2	10	KD8FDD	JASON	0	2	2	KD8JSV	GEOFFRE	1	0	1
KC8NQA	MIKE	1	8	9	KF8FK	ALLEN	0	2	2	KD8JZP	JOHN	1	0	1
KD8GVO	PHIL	9	0	9	KG4ZFV	RICHARD	0	2	2	KD8KFK	PAUL	1	0	1
KG4JTC	DAVE	9	0	9	KG9O	KEN	0	2	2	KD8ZOT	KEVIN	1	0	1
KD8IUO	RUSS	6	2	8	KJ4DIO	WAYNE	0	2	2	KI8HJ	LARRY	1	0	1
KD8JWF	GENE	8	0	8	KW8YL	KIM	2	0	2	KW8J	LEO	1	0	1
KF9FK	ALLEN	0	8	8	KZ8N	BOB	2	0	2	N8DMW	KAREN	1	0	1
KV8Z	CHRIS	8	0	8	N2HXP	LOUIS	0	2	2	N8HAR	RUSSELL	1	0	1
WB8WKQ	JEFF	6	2	8	N4HCP	BUTCH	0	2	2	N8HTV	JOHN	1	0	1
KC8CPT	DON	7	0	7	N4UBC	RAY	0	2	2	N8JEF	JEFF	1	0	1
KD8JTU	JAMES	1	6	7	N5WCS	MIKE	2	0	2	N8KLX	JERRY	1	0	1
KW8Z	KEN	7	0	7	N8DV	FRED	2	0	2	N8NJS	DAN	1	0	1
WB8QGT	JIM	5	2	7	N8KC	KEN	0	2	2	N8OEO	JOHN	1	0	1
AA8GK	PETE	6	0	6	N8OV	CURTIS	2	0	2	NF8X	ALEC	1	0	1
AC8AK	GENE	2	4	6	N8PC	GERALD	2	0	2	VA3QRM	JOHN	1	0	1

*Submitted by Bob, N8ZY*

**Meeting Minutes—From Page 1****General Meeting — April 13, 2009****In attendance:**

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

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

Introductions were made, new members, visitors and upgrades recognized.

Motion made to accept the minutes as printed in the Express made by Steve, NM8XO and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tom, KD8GZE, motion carried.

Treasurer's report given by Dennis, W8DFG. Motion to approve made by Eddie, N8RUE and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne, N8RAR, motion carried.

Membership: Joe, N8OZ reported 139 paid USECA members.

Webmaster: Alec, NF8X was absent.

Express: Joe, K8OEF was absent.

Technical report: Jim, W1IK was absent.

Trustee report: Dennis, W8DFG, Nothing to report.

Health & Welfare: Rob, KD8ENP passed around a "Get Well" card for Laura Klovski, wife of Brian, KC8DIR.

Field Day: Steve, N8XO is now signing up station chairs. Jerry, N8KLX has his new logging software out, it will be posted on the USECA website <http://www.usecaarc.com>.

Dennis also picked up a new Field Day food tent. Anyone interested in helping out is invited out to the Field Day site to test out the new tent (its a new tent and we need to know how it goes together before Field Day).

Old Business: March for Babies (Formerly "Walk America") is Sunday April 26. Our special event call is W8A.

We have decided not to go ahead with the project of using club funds to pay for QST subscriptions to public libraries.

New Business: Saturday April 18<sup>th</sup> is the Michigan QSO Party.

Bill, our club president informed us that he is bringing back the stop and shop table to our general meetings.

Thanks to Walt, WB8E and crew for providing tonight's eat-before-you-meet dinner.

44 members and visitors were present.

Business portion of the meeting concluded at: 8:29 pm.

Tonight's program provided by Bill, our club president. The presentation was on APRS, or Automatic Packet Reporting System.

At 10:15, following Bill's presentation, Steve, N8XO moved that we adjourn, this was seconded by Paul, AA8OZ.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rob Lifton, KD8ENP, Acting Recording Secretary

**Notes from da' prez—From Page 1**

Dave, W8RIT and I presented 'APRS', or 'Automatic Packet Reporting System' at the last meeting. I promised a couple of links. Those of you getting this electronically will just be able to click on the links below to find out more about this fascinating segment of our hobby. I have been running around with my tracker for a couple of weeks now and am surprised at the lack of fixed digipeater stations available for my little mobile signal to reach an I-gate and therefore be tracked on the web. I find this disturbing. Please consider putting one up at home! It only takes an old TNC and a 2m radio, or 'AGW' running on a PC and a radio with a digital sound card interface. It is not rocket science. I and tons of other mobile trackers rely on these. Please add yours to the mix. Below is the links to a few sights that should help. I would ask that our webmaster put these links on our web site also.

APRS by Bob Bruninga, founder of APRS,  
<http://www.aprs.org>

Byonics, manufacturer of fantastic APRS equipment,  
<http://www.byonics.com>

AGW sound card software to emulate a TNC—free software!  
<http://www.sv2agw.com/downloads/default.htm>

A couple of links to help with the TNC parameters for APRS digis :  
<http://www.nwapr.info/fixstationsettings.htm>  
<http://skynet.entz.net/webpages/shorty/kcapr/Config.html>

Hope these help you get on APRS soon!

THINK FIELD DAY!

73, Bill, N8SA

# USECA APPLICATION



Rev. 6/08

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

## FOR FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS ONLY:

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

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

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

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

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

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

(Allow 4-6 weeks for processing.)

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



## Local Area FM Nets

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

VHF PL'S — 100 Hz

On The World Wide Web

USECA Home Page

**WWW.USECAARC.COM**

## Local HF Nets

DAY	TIME	CLUB/DESCRIPTION	FREQ.
MON	7:30 pm	LCARC/15 Meter CW	21.165
MON	9:00 pm	LCARC/15 Meter Phone USB	21.395
<b>TUE</b>	<b>8:00 pm</b>	<b>USECA/80 Meter Phone LSB</b>	<b>3.830</b>
<b>WED</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>USECA/6 Meter Phone USB</b>	<b>50.140</b>
THU	7:30 pm	LCARC/10 Meter Phone USB	28.435
<b>THU</b>	<b>9:00 pm</b>	<b>USECA/15 Meter CW</b>	<b>21.140</b>
<b>FRI</b>	<b>10:00 pm</b>	<b>USECA/80 Meter CW</b>	<b>3.570</b>
<b>FRI</b>	<b>11:00 pm</b>	<b>USECA/10 Meter Phone USB</b>	<b>28.425</b>

Listings in **BOLD** are USECA club nets, but **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

## Net Ops Schedules

### 2-METER NETS

	SUN. 1 PM	SUN. 8 PM**	FRI. 11:45 PM
WEEK	147.180 MHz	147.180 MHz	147.180 MHz
<b>1</b>	KD8CXJ	W11K	-OPEN-
<b>2</b>	N8ZA	W8NIC	-OPEN-
<b>3</b>	-OPEN-	-OPEN-	-OPEN-
<b>4</b>	WB8E	KD8GZE	-OPEN-
<b>5*</b>	KT8F	-OPEN-	-OPEN-

\*If applicable

\*\*Traders/Tech Support

Updated 12/09

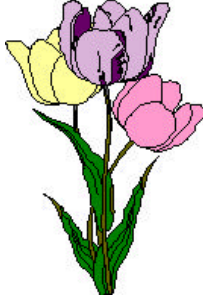
NCO's—If you're unable to take your net please get a replacement or contact Chuck, N8ZA (586) 557-4983—Don't wait!

# USECA

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

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**



**MAY 2009**

## NOTICE!

On Monday May 11, 2009, first class postage will increase from 42¢ to 44¢.

### *"The Happenin' Club"*

## Club Activities

MONTH	DATE	TIME	EVENT
MAY	11	7:30 pm	General Meeting
MAY	15-17		Dayton Hamvention
MAY	18	7:00 pm	VE Test Session
JUN	8	7:30 pm	General Meeting & Fox Hunt
JUN	15	7:00 pm	VE Test Session
JUN	27-28		Field Day 2009

## Inside This Issue

USECA Meeting Minutes.....	1
Notes from da' prez.....	1
USECA Discounts.....	1
Still Going.....	2
VE Testing.....	2
USECA Net Points.....	3
USECA Membership Application.....	5
Local Area FM and HF Nets.....	5
Net Ops Schedule.....	5
Club Activities (Cover)	