

# U.S.E.C.A. EXPRESS

UTICA SHELBY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION

Volume 10 – Number 9

"HEAR IT ON THE AIR – SEE IT IN THE PRESS"

November, 1994

The *U.S.E.C.A. EXPRESS* is published monthly by the UTICA SHELBY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION of Macomb County, Michigan. Club meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month, 7:30 p.m., local time, at the Donald Bemis Junior High School, 12500 Nineteen Mile Road, Sterling Heights, Michigan (between Schoenherr and Clinton River Road). 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 need to get a message to the board or the membership secretary, please call our answering machine at: (810) 268-6730.

## WHAT'S NEW . . .

### NEW EDITOR

### NEW NET MANAGER

### NEW MEETING DATES

## CONTENTS

Directory.....	2
Still Going.....	3
Club	4
Thoughts From The President....	5
N8YVC.....	6
Historically	6
Net Time.....	7
Testing.....	7
Quick News.....	7
FM Net	8
CW Net Points.....	9
Musings.....	9
Repeater DX'ing.....	11
Drake For Sale.....	11
Calendar.....	12
Membership	13

# U.S.E.C.A. EXPRESS

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Floyd Soo/KF8AT  
(810) 228-1600  
Vice President Ann Lovett/KG8IF  
(810) 739-2448  
Recording Secretary Jim Mickle/N8OKW  
(810) 739-6565  
Treasurer Lynn Hardie/KB8QPY  
(810) 524-7454  
Membership Secretary Joan Dzidowski/N8VLY  
(810) 263-4993  
Past President Earl Hoskins/N8OEX  
(810) 544-0625

## ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

WY8M Arpad Miklos  
(810) 751-3804  
KF8CT Dave Martin  
(810) 826-9783  
N8NQQ H. "Biff" Baydoun  
(810) 566-7749

## NETS

- 2 Meter – 147.180 MHz (Local Time)  
Sunday 1:00 PM  
Tuesday 8:00 PM  
Friday Midnight
- CW – 21.140 MHz  
Thursday 9:00 PM  
Friday 10:00 PM

## CONTROL OPERATORS

WA8Z/Chuck	N8CVC/Bill	KB8SW/Mark
KF8RF/Dave	WA8VIJ/Gulliver	N8OEV/Dave
N8OEX/Earl	N8LOG/Pat	WB8H/Gordie
KF8AT/Floyd	WX3L/Mike	KG8F/Doug
WD8IFL/Dave	WB8QNI/Vance	N8FOW/Ron

## TECHNICIANS

WX8L Sean McCarthy  
N8LDL Joe Fiorini

## PROGRAMMERS

WA8Z N8KND WB8H N8FOW N8CVC

## VOLUNTEER EXAMINERS

WA8Z	WB8F	KG8F	NW8M	N8KDL
WJ8Q	KF8AT	WX3L	WX8L	N8CVC
WY8K	WY8M	KF8RF	W8VRW	AA8LZ
AA8CY	AA8HF	KF8RG	KF8MB	KF8CT

## COMMITTEES

Editor Joe/K8OEF  
Swap & Shop Virginia/N8NLS & Committee  
Activities Chair Steve/KB8LEW & Betty/N8LXL  
Program Director Floyd/KF8AT  
Repeater Trustee Chuck/WA8Z  
Technical Director Doug/N8KND  
Field Day Co-Chair Betty/N8LXL; Don/WX3M; & Arpad/WY8M  
Refreshments Walt/WB8E; Phil/WA8ZOF & Marianne/N8TMJ  
Mailers/Sorters Ann/KG8IF; Phil/WA8ZOF & Crew  
Health & Welfare John/N8FNO & Kathy/N8VOH  
Net Point Coord. Ken/KF8RG  
Club Historians Ann/KG8IF; Jerry/K8CFY; & Joe/WD8MFN  
ARRL Liaison Dave/KF8CT  
Club Videographer Charlie/WY8K  
Door Prizes Bill/AA8LZ  
Net Manager Lee/KB8TOQ

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

## SILENT KEYS

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

## Still Going . . .

*Joe / K8OEF*

Our president and vice president speak of the passing of Velma/N8YVC.

Thanks to Betty/N8LXL for the time and effort she put into the EXPRESS; only those who do this “stuff” really know what it takes to be the editor.

Thank you Scott/KG8IE for being Net Manager. Taking Scott’s place will be Lee/KB8TOQ.

Early congrats to Jerry/K8CFY and Betty/N8SIH on their upcoming marriage.

Note the temporary changes in the club’s meetings. The regular December board meeting will be moved up a week to November 29. Also, the general meeting will be moved up a week to December 6. The enclosed calendars reflect these one-time changes (they’re noted in *italic and underlined*); it is not a mis-print. Also, see the date for the Christmas party.

Elections will be here before you know it; it’s time to give it some thought.

If you monitored the Sunday afternoon information net on October 2, you would have been one of the first to hear the new FCC telephone number; it’s there to serve you. Once again that number is: (800) 322-1117. This number was disseminated by W1AW on September 22, 1994.

Due to the timing, I can not comment on the swap.

I would like to see a “Welcome” notice to acknowledge the new members. (Hello Joan.)

As an editor, it’s kinda nice because I have the final say-so what will be printed. Also, I will go from last to first in receiving my copy of the EXPRESS.

I realize you don’t get a second chance to make a first impression. With such short notice, I’ll do my best at this time and try to improve as time goes on. The last several issues, I did contribute the Calendar and Membership Application; now I’ve got the whole thing.

Remember: “Don’t Shoot The Messenger.” I’ll be the composer of the EXPRESS and subsequently hand it off to others for the printing, folding and mailing. I did not agree to write articles; only put them in a presentable format. If you want something included, the deadline is the evening of the general meeting. As an alternative, feel free to mail your

articles to me at: 12060 Cherokee Circle, Shelby Twp., MI 48315. I try to check into the Sunday and Tuesday nets.

Nostalgia time – I restarted my hobby back in the Fall of 1992. After listening to the U.S.E.C.A. nets; they seemed to be in a bit of disarray. I said, “they may need some help.” Therefore, I offered to take one net per month. The net manager suggested the second Sunday of the month. Well, that was two years ago. So, for 25 months this has been my contribution to the club.

Since the malaise of the main repeater, the Hootowl Net has been more “off” than “on.” I hear it used to be a real wild event. They seem to have been quite tame for some time – maybe it’s the lack of a “topic.” I recall hearing stations on Saturday or Sunday criticize the topic of the previous net. I believe those who criticize the topic should chose one and run the net themselves.

Speaking of “hootowl” topics, I tossed out an idea during one net that has not been discussed (go ahead and say it, “why not do it yourself” – maybe I will). It would be what do you like or dislike about the U.S.E.C.A. club? What better way to find out, first hand, from the members, what it is doing right and what could be improved. Without feedback, the club could remain stagnant and the saying “same-old same-old” will prevail. There are a lot of good things the club has done “on the fly;” and it’s amazing how quickly events have active participants; especially on short notice.

Reviewing the past issues there has been some comments to the content of the EXPRESS. Yes, I realize freedom of speech, etc., however, one must consider the audience. After re-joining this hobby, I listened a lot and picked up a clue as to what may be acceptable, and as a guideline thought it was appropriate – what would you discuss in mixed company should be acceptable to discuss on the air and print in the EXPRESS. I don’t want to be a dictator; maybe a referee. We’ll take one issue at a time and see what happens.

So, it’s my turn to step-up and help the club again. This is my first attempt at this, so there may be some growing pains and eventually get it to where we could all be proud and continue to grow the hobby.

So, guys and gals, this is your paper; I’d appreciate any suggestions to improve and we’ll continue to “go forward.” (I can’t tell you how much I dislike that phrase).

73 for now.



# U.S.E.C.A. EXPRESS

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## USECA GENERAL MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 11, 1994

Meeting called to order at 19:39.

Greetings and salutations.

First time visitors: Mark KB8UNX, JERRY KB8TAS.

Upgrades: Ray N8WYP to general.

Minutes accepted by Darwin AA8HF, second by Earl N8OEX.

Velma N8YVC passed away the morning of the meeting. She will be missed by all.

Lynn's KB8QFY treasury report. Just got receipts for field day at meeting, so no FD report.

Joan N8VLY membership report: 211 members!

New net manager Lee KB8TOQ. Please contact at (810) 542-0383 if you'd like to run a net.

Jerry K8CFY is getting married to Betty N8SIH Oct 30th.

Betty N8LXL is stepping down as editor of the Express. Joe K8OEF [(810) 781-0050] will be taking over. Good luck Joe and thanks Betty.

Virginia N8NLS SWAP DICTATOR talked up the swap and asked to talk it up on the repeater due to lack of DVR and misprinted date in someone else's newsletter. Participation is the key.

Phil WA8ZOF spoke for Ann KG8IF about the USECA red jackets. Orders are being taken by Ann.

## NEW BUSINESS

Christmas party at CJ Barrymores (S side of Hall, E of Heydenreich) Dec 10th at 7pm. Betty N8LXL will coordinate. Reservations taken until December meeting.

Nominations at the November meeting for officer/board member positions. The vote will be at the December meeting.

Paul AA8OZ talked about fox hunt starting at Dix and Southfield.

Bill N8CVC connected with the Leader Dogs for the Blind. We've been trying to get an antenna on the roof for the amateurs using their services there for a couple years.

Testing will be the first Saturday evening of the month ALWAYS from now on. Except major holiday weekends in which case moved to the next weekend. Contact N8CVC.

Jamboree on the air sponsored by the Boy Scouts will be on October 15th.

66 people at the meeting. Low for a USECA meeting.

Program was on new technology.

## Thoughts From The President

*Floyd Soo/KF8AT*

Where do I begin? So much to say, so little time and space! I will start with events that occurred before our summer break. Words cannot express the gratitude I have for all that participated in our 1994 USECA Field Day! How can I describe our Field Day? Let me count the ways! Awesome, epic, legendary, record setting, remarkable, kick ass, biggest, best, are all words that come to mind! I will not go through a list of names and call signs to try and thank those that are responsible for another successful USECA Field Day! I will say a heartfelt THANKS to everyone that attended and helped! We (you) all know who was responsible for all the hard work that led to this fabulous outing! It was ALL of YOU that were there! We could not have done it without participation! That is why everyone else in the country is trying to play catch up! We are already preparing for next year's event and looking for ways to make it better, bigger, stronger, etc.! Once more, just let me say to all involved, THANK YOU for a fantastic effort! For the few of you who missed it for whatever reason, jump in and join the fun in 1995!

There were other events that were successful over the summer too! The camp-outs at Algonac State Park and Bay City, the Christmas in July celebration, the pistol shoots, the QRP Dxpedition on Camelot Isle, the boat trips . . . they were ALL fun and successful happenings because of your participation! Let's keep the ball rolling and get involved with all the activities that this club has to offer!

I would like to thank all the club members for your patience and perseverance in regard to our repeater system. Considering the environment that it has to live in and the amount of use it gets, it has had a very good reliability record. Unfortunately, once in a while, it has to be tended to just like anything else. So it is in for some routine and some preventative maintenance. I am sure that Doug, N8KND, would like to remove it from the middle of his living room as soon as he can! Let Doug know if any of you can help him in any way with this monumental task! Bill Tate, N8JXW, has done a great job of finally getting all the bugs out of the present backup repeater. Of course, there were the normal support staff involved

with the logistics and other assistance too! To them, THANK YOU!

I also wish to thank the club for all the support and understanding that helped me through a very difficult time. My mother lost a nine month battle with cancer in September. I spent the final four weeks at her side, and that precluded me from participating in many of the events that I had planned on participating in. What can I say but thank you all for your support! While we are on the subject, I believe that I speak for the entire membership when I say that Velma, N8YVC, will be sorely missed. As most of you know, Velma passed away on October 11th. Velma is survived by her husband "World Famous" Dave, WD8IFL, and Danny. From the entire club, our sympathy to the whole family.

I also wish to thank Betty, N8LXL, for her devotion and hard work as Editor of the USECA Express. Due to other obligations, Betty has had to resign as Editor. I am SURE we'll continue to hear from her in the future! She has done such a great job with Field Day, we can't possibly let her go that easy! I wish to also thank and congratulate Joe Janules, K8OEF, (not to be confused with N8OEF), for letting us volunteer him as Betty's successor as Editor! From here on out, make sure that Joe gets anything that you want to appear in the Express! Bravo Joe!

Back by popular demand, the next major gathering will be the Christmas Party planned for Saturday the 10th of December, 1994. Location will be the same as last year at C. J. Barrymore's on Hall Road between Romeo Plank and Grosebeck. Stay tuned to the repeater and the Express for more details!

Well, that's it for now. Hope to hear all of you on the airwaves and see you all at the Christmas Party!



## **HISTORICALLY SPEAKING**

*Jerry McGinn, (K8CFY) Club Historian*

### **WHAT IS USECA?**

Well, what's in a name. The letters stand for UTICA SHELBY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION. Wow! What a mouthful – you-see-ahh – is mucho grande. Although the name implies Utica/Shelby area, (that's where it all started), the organization actually embraces a much larger area, primarily of Macomb County. Emergency Communication? Well yes, we backup the 147.200 machine with our repeater, we are committed to skywarn and RACES; and we are a non-profit Association of Radio Amateurs. Well, that's what's in a name–out front–but behind all that is an organization of dedicated, serious but fun-loving hams who like to talk radio; like to serve the community; like to help other organization; and like to get together often and eat a lot. Comradeship–that's the underlying keynote of U.S.E.C.A. Witness the many dedicated VEC's who coordinate Testing and Exams monthly so that newcomers may become licensed and licensed amateurs may upgrade. Witness the many camp-outs, picnics, and restaurant get-togethers; the community parades and festivals we service; the impromptu QRP-in-the-park meetings; the fox hunts aaannd theeeee BIGGEST FIELD DAY in Michigan! Yes, WITNESS OUR COMRADESHIP! The FRIENDLIEST REPEATER in town.

Who is to blame for all this you-see ahh? Well, there once was a friendly amateur who had a dream of all this and much more. In fact his name was (more) – JOHN MORE, KA8KTV. He talked it up with his cronies and persuaded a few friends for contributions and a small band known as our Founding Fathers emerged – the new kids on the block – U.S.E.C.A.

There were seven founder/charter members: KA8KTV/JOHN MOORE; WB8NHT/JOHN PIZUTTI; KA8IZM/JOE STEEL; N8HCT/JAMES HANSMAN; K8QLM/RICHARD BREGE; N8FNO/JOHN WUESTWALS & WD8MFM/JOE PALSON. The first three are now silent keys. Five more joined as Charter members and these were: WB8QNI/VANCE DUPUIS; N8FDN/GLENN FORTER; KA8BDG/DICK MASON; WA8VZZ/FRITZ BURGESS; & J. HAUBNER.

*Continued on Page 7*

## **N8YVC**

*Ann / KG8IF*

As many of you know, on October 11, USECA lost a very special lady, Velma, N8YVC. Many of you did not know that she had been chronically ill for years. She downplayed this, never let it deter her and live her life to the max. In spite of chronic pain and occasional setbacks, Velma never complained, preferring instead to ask how YOU were doing. An often repeated statement was “hey, any day I can get out of bed and get my feet on the floor is a good day and I'm not going to waste it.”

She was into many things. Obtaining her amateur radio license a couple of years ago was a major accomplishment which brought her much pride and happiness. She really loved this club and her USECA family, and played an active role. I remember being scared to death to take a net, so Velma did it first, saying “if I can do it, anybody can!” She loved going camping and on other outings with her many friends from the club. One of her favorite activities was going ice fishing with Walt, WB8E, who she adored. Nancy, KB8QMS was also a special friend.

Velma had an interest and talent for crafts, often giving away things she had made. She was truly gifted at painting porcelain dolls. I was often amazed at her creations. She also raised cockatiels and an African Grey parrot, hand feeding them and teaching them to talk. Recently, she started taking country line dance lessons.

She was a wife, a mother, a sister, a friend. She had a generous spirit, and a fine sense of humor. We shared some pretty explosive laughs, often courtesy of Mr. Iffel.

During her service, the pastor repeated a well said statement attributed to Walt – “She would rather light candles than complain about the dark.” In closing the service, the pastor simply stated “. . . and now, from Velma, N8YVC . . . 73's and 88's. The key is silenced.”

*73 and 88's to you too, Velma. You will be missed.*

# Net Time . . .

*Joe / K8OEF*

Our new Net Manager, Lee/KB8TOQ, will hopefully have this column on a monthly basis to remind those who have volunteered which net to take. Since I don't know "who's on first" anymore, I tossed in my call and some at the last meeting, perhaps by next month, all the other slots will be filled. Please contact Lee at (810) 542-0383 and inform her what net you would like to run. (I hope the CW net operator list is accurate.)

## NET OP SCHEDULES

### 2 METER NETS

WEEK	(SUN. 1 pm)	(TUES. 8 pm)
1	KG8IF	-OPEN-
2	K8OEF	-OPEN-
3	AA8MD	WY8M
4	N8QVX	-OPEN-
5	-OPEN-	-OPEN-

### HOOTOWL NETS

WEEK	(FRI. Midnight)
1	-OPEN-
2	-OPEN-
3	-OPEN-
4	-OPEN-
5	-OPEN-

### CW NETS

WEEK	(THURS. 9 pm)	(FRI. 10 pm)
1	N8SCQ	W8VRW
2	N8SCQ	N8SCQ
3	N8SCQ	WA8ZOF
4	N8SCQ	N8MOJ
5	N8SCQ	W8VIJ

# Testing . . .

Examinations for an Amateur License is held the **FIRST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH**. Starting time is 7:15 p.m.; please do not arrive earlier. Walk-ins are welcomed. Test site is at the Salvation Army, 34 Grand, Mt. Clemens. You must have the following if testing: Picture I.D.; copy of your current license or completion certificates, if any. Birth certificate is accepted in lieu of picture I.D. For more information and the directions to the test site, contact Bill/N8CVC at: (810) 468-8345.

# Quick News . . .

New Editor is Joe/K8OEF.

New Net Manager is Lee/KB8TOQ.

New (temporary) meeting dates: December's regular Board Meeting and General Meeting have each been move UP by one week.

Jerry/K8CFY and Betty/N8SIH are to be married October 30th at St. Blase Church in Sterling Heights at 1:15 p.m. Good luck to both of you.

The Christmas Party will be on December 10.

Start planning for Dayton, April 27-30. Contact Biff/N8NQQ: 566-7749.

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*Continued from Page 6.*

Our pioneer group also included four Honorary Charter members who were: WB8OSF/DONALD TODD; KA8YYV/(KE8MA), KENNETH CURWIN; W8AWV/RON STARR; & G. MANQUARDT.

So there you have it. From the efforts and dreams of these pioneers, the 'YOU-SEEK ANS' have grown to be one of the greatest and largest ham group in Michigan – A veritable asset to the eight-land body of radio amateurs.

# U.S.E.C.A. EXPRESS

## 1994 FM NET POINTS

Call	Name	Pts.	Call	Name	Pts.
WB2C	ANDY	9	KB8QXB	SUE	20
WX3L	MIKE	20	KB8QXD	RANDY	36
WX3M	DON	7	N8RAR	WAYNE	4
VE3RBH	RUTH	1	KB8RBV	MANNY	40
KD4YLR	ERIN	1	N8REZ	MARK	1
KA7KZO	JOHN	21	KF8RG	KEN	32
KF8AT	FLOYD	48	N8RHT	RICK	10
N8BFX	WALT	1	N8RHV	JAY	4
WD8BRE	ED	3	K8RO	DALE	1
N8CBG	PETE	1	N8RRU	GARY	32
K8CFY	JERRY	34	KB8RSH	MARTY	31
KF8CT	DAVE	32	N8RUE	EDDIE	20
N8CVC	BILL	10	N8RUH	TJ	28
AA8CY	BRIAN	2	KB8RVR	DON	1
AA8DD	BOB	2	N8SCQ	BOB	24
WB8E	WALT	44	KB8SFK	DUANE	4
WA8ENR	TONY	5	KB8SFN	DON	4
N8FUN	NORM	3	KB8SFO	DENNIS	2
N8FYL	JOHN	1	KB8SFP	BOB	1
WB8G	BOB	3	KB8SFU	DENNIS	1
KB8GPO	KEN	9	N8SIH	BETTY	24
KB8GS	BOB	2	KB8SLA	KATIE	2
WB8H	GORDIE	10	N8SNL	LOUIE	2
AA8HF	DARWIN	8	KB8SPH	HANK	1
N8HZE	KEN	5	KB8SRB	STAN	8
KG8IE	SCOTT	38	N8SRB	STAN	1
* KG8IF	ANN	57	KB8SRD	KEN	3
* WD8IFL	DAVE	50	KB8SRI	JERRY	11
WB8ITV	FRED	1	N8SUR	RICH	3
N8JEX	RICH	6	KB8TAS	JERRY	2
AA8JN	FRANK	7	N8TFP	LARRY	1
N8JXW	BILL	1	N8TLC	BILL	6
N8KEF	CHRIS	1	N8TMJ	MARIANNE	29
KG8KM	HAL	12	KB8TOQ	LEE	2
N8KND	DOUG	6	N8TUH	STEVE	2
KG8KZ	DAVE	48	N8TVW	BOB	9
WX8L	SEAN	1	K8TXS	ALEX	9
N8LXL	BETTY	9	NG8U	STAN	1
KB8LYA	FRED	24	N8UJL	SARA	15
AA8LZ	BILL	14	KE8UM	MURRAY	1
* WY8M	ARPAD	51	KB8UNX	MARK	1
KF8MB	MEL	11	N8VBH	PAT	11
N8MCD	JIM	7	KA8VFK	ELMER	7
AA8MD	ERIC	43	N8VLY	JOAN	16
N8MJD	GARY	1	N8VLZ	GORDIE	36
N8MOJ	MARION	2	N8VMH	DAVE	11
KB8MUA	ANDREW	1	N8VOH	KATHY	23
N8NAV	MARK	2	N8VTF	DON	34
KA8NDY	DAN	2	N8VVH	LINDA	47
N8NLS	VIRGINIA	4	N8WDO	DAN	14
N8NNU	KARL	1	N8WMY	JIM	1
N8NQQ	BIFF	25	KF8WR	TED	1
N8OAE	ERNIE	8	N8WYP	RAY	27
* K8OEF	JOE	81	KF8XO	JEFF	18
N8OEF	VAL	10	N8XRC	BILL	10
N8OEV	DAVE	27	N8XRD	SHARON	2
N8OEX	EARL	13	N8XSF	EUGENE	1
N8OKW	JIM	40	N8XSM	GENE	8
N8OWI	COLE	31	N8YBY	LEONARD	4
AA8OZ	NEEDNAME	1	N8YJI	DINA	43
WD8PLQ	GAYLEN	2	* N8YVC	VELMA	69
N8PNO	DAVE	9	N8YWS	STAN	32
KB8QFR	JIM	28	WA8Z	CHUCK	3
KB8QFT	DENNIS	4	N8ZFA	PETE	7
KB8QFY	LYNNE	27	WB8ZJL	PAUL	20
KB8QLZ	GARY	12	N8ZLE	DAVE	17
* KB8QMS	NANCY	50	WA8ZOF	PHIL	16
* N8QVX	KEVIN	57	N8ZRZ	AL	47
KB8QWY	FRANK	7			

Displayed 137 of

## TOP 20 CONTESTANTS

No.	Call	Name	Pts.	Total
1 *	K8OEF	JOE	17	81
2 *	N8YVC	VELMA	12	69
3 *	KG8IF	ANN	12	57
4 *	N8QVX	KEVIN	5	57
5 *	WY8M	ARPAD	4	51
6 *	KB8QMS	NANCY	7	50
7 *	WD8IFL	DAVE	9	50
8	KF8AT	FLOYD	9	48
9	KG8KZ	DAVE	8	48
10	N8VVH	LINDA	6	47
11	N8ZRZ	AL	9	47
12	WB8E	WALT	8	44
13	N8YJI	DINA	5	43
14	AA8MD	ERIC	13	43
15	KB8RBV	MANNY	7	40
16	N8OKW	JIM	8	40
17	KG8IE	SCOTT	7	38
18	KB8QXD	RANDY	2	36
19	N8VLZ	GORDIE	4	36
20	K8CFY	JERRY	5	34

Date: 10/09/94, KEN  
(KF8RG)

## Net Point Explanation:

*Ken / KF8RG*

(1) CW NCO = 4pts; CW Check-in = 2pts  
FM NCO = 3pts; FM Check-in = 1pt

(2) Net points can *only* be awarded as I receive them. (Net control ops; It is *your responsibility* to get your check-in sheets to me as soon as is possible and as complete and legible as possible!)

(3) Point totals are as of the date noted at the foot of each net point list. Check-in sheets that arrive later will not be noted until the following month.

(4) FM & CW net points are tallied *separately* and separate awards made.

(5) If you change your call, it is *your* responsibility to let me know or your records will be wrong! The FCC hasn't yet allowed me access to their database.

(6) A (\*) by your name means an award is due. Awards are presented at USECA's monthly meetings. If you can't make it, please arrange for someone else to pick it up.

(7) To save space here, and avoid using half of the club paper as a score sheet, I am again resorting to suppressing records. As has been my practice, if you have not checked into a net in approximately 3 months (FM), 6 months (CW), your call will not be listed. Simply check into a net to get back on the list with all past points credited. Note the "Displayed XXX of XXX;" the second number is the total number of records.

Please *mail* check-in sheets to KF8RG, Ken Coughlin, 53762 Kristin Ct., Shelby Twp, MI 48316-2240.



# U.S.E.C.A. EXPRESS

## 1994 CW NET POINTS

## TOP CONTESTANTS

Call	Name	Pts.	Call	Name	Pts.
KB0LFA	PETER	2	AA8MD	ERIC	4
WX3L	MIKE	20	* N8MOJ	MARION	84
WX3M	DON	4	* N8OEF	VAL	52
KC5EPH	BRIAN	2	N8OSU	RANDY	2
* KF8AT	FLOYD	68	WD8PLQ	GAYLEN	20
KF8CT	DAVE	2	KB8QEN	GARY	14
AA8CY	BRIAN	27	N8QFL	DAN	4
* WB8E	WALT	60	KF8RG	KEN	6
WD8FDU	NEEDNAME	2	N8SCQ	BOB	46
WB8H	GORDIE	2	WA8TOB	CHARLIE	2
KG8IE	SCOTT	12	WA8VIJ	GULLIVER	4
KG8IF	ANN	17	* W8VRW	HARRY	148
WD8IFL	DAVE	14	KF8XO	JEFF	2
AA8JN	FRANK	2	KF8YT	SCOTT	4
* KG8KZ	DAVE	68	WB8ZJL	PAUL	8
KG8LB	NEEDNAME	2	* WA8ZOF	PHIL	50
WA8LCZ	BYRON	10	N8ZSC	HAL	8
WY8M	ARPAD	16			

No.	Call	Name	Pts	Total
1	* W8VRW	HARRY	72	148
2	* N8MOJ	MARION	38	84
3	* KG8KZ	DAVE	30	68
4	* KF8AT	FLOYD	16	68
5	* WB8E	WALT	22	60
6	* N8OEF	VAL	8	52
7	* WA8ZOF	PHIL	18	50
8	N8SCQ	BOB	0	46
9	AA8CY	BRIAN	4	27
10	WD8PLQ	GAYLEN	2	20
11	WX3L	MIKE	0	20
12	KG8IF	ANN	2	17
13	WY8M	ARPAD	0	16
14	KB8QEN	GARY	8	14
15	WD8IFL	DAVE	2	14
16	KG8IE	SCOTT	0	12
17	WA8LCZ	BYRON	8	10
18	N8ZSC	HAL	2	8

Date: 10/09/94, KEN  
(KF8RG)

Displayed 35 of  
46

## NET POINT MANAGER MUSINGS

USECA FM Nets . . . what happened to `em? I haven't been around much lately to check in, but on the odd occasions that I was, there were no nets to check into! I haven't heard a Hoot Owl net in a while . . . and my FM net check-in sheets (as received) show it. The CW nets haven't seemed to falter . . . still getting check-in sheets from those net ops! The fact that the repeater is out of commission is no excuse! Run some power and run a simplex net on the repeater output (it's been done before!) . . . just be sure to announce it as such! Sure, the fella's with HT's and rubber ducks won't be able to check-in, but net points for those who do will be doubled (if "simplex" is noted on the check-in sheet). Checking into our nets signifies your readiness as a communicator should an emergency arise (ergo the name, Utica-Shelby Emergency Communications Association). If you *always* require a repeater (and remote receive sites) to do so, then perhaps you should look into a way to upgrade your station and signal, just in case.

I picked up some old Hammy Magazines from the late seventies at the L'Anse Creuse swap . . . anybody remember "Ham Radio Horizons"? Nice magazine . . . sure wish they were still around. I especially enjoyed reading some of the old articles and letters to the editor. I was truly amazed at how little some things seem to change.

I came across one letter to the editor, decrying the high cost of manufactured Amateur equipment (17 years ago). In looking over the prices I was shocked to learn that many top of the line rigs cost almost dollar for dollar what they do today! Taking inflation into account, that means that Hams today spend proportionally less of their income for the same grade of gear as Hams did back then (even though technology has vastly improved). Hard to believe, but check it out!

Another letter dealt with the "Novice Enhancement" issue of 17 years ago and someone's dislike of new ham's having it "easier" (novices back then had one year to upgrade or lose their license and very limited, CW only, HF access) . . . sounded very similar and just as "small-minded" as some of the "No-Code Tech" bashing I hear on occasion today.

(Continued)

*(MUSINGS, continued)*

The ads were entertaining as well, featuring rigs such as the Atlas 110, Yaseu 101E, ICOM 701, Palomar PTR-130k (2m all-mode), Kenwood 820S and 520S, Ten-Tec Century 21 and Argonaut, Drake TR7 line (did you know they made a triple band 2m/220/440 FM rig?), and the Heath HW8 (this ad was especially comical . . . it bragged of a ham who got his DXCC with a HW8 and then, in the fine print, adds that he was stationed at a base in Antarctica . . . making him very rare DX indeed! Probably worked a pile-up every time he got on the air). Pictures of most DX-Expedition teams seemed to invariably include a Collins' station in the background although I saw no ads for Collins gear. Most rigs of the day were hybrid, with transistorized receivers and tube finals (in many cases, putting out more than today's 100 watt standard). While I recognized many company names, quite a few were new to me . . . I've heard of Kantronics, but never knew they made radios . . . how `bout Wilson? (made antennas, HT's etc.) . . . Taylor? (Antennas) . . . Hamco (Iambic Paddles and Keys) . . . and Instructograph (ticker-tape type Morse trainers).

One article (mind you . . . 17 years ago!) dealt with the supposed ill effects of power line and radio emissions (sound familiar?). It seems that the press ran some misleading articles on the "imminent danger" of electromagnetic fields from power lines and radio broadcasts, stirring up a storm of angry letters and litigation from an ill-informed public.

Interesting too, were the many obvious differences in Hamming then versus today. The WARC bands did not exist yet, in fact, the ITU was only then exploring the idea. Amplitude modulation (AM), was still very popular, though SSB and FM were obviously the modes of choice. Judging by what I saw in ads, packet radio did not exist yet and although "touch tones" were in use on the VHF bands, the technology was still fairly crude by today's standards. The magazines made no mention of Volunteer Examiner Testing Sessions . . . all amateur exams were administered by the FCC at the local field office. An article on FCC actions mentioned a move to open 50-50.1 MHz of the 6 meter band to General Class operators (oddly, it was already open to Technicians), an internal investigation of licensing irregularities in the Indianapolis area, and a crackdown on the sale of

Linear Amplifiers . . . seems too many were turning up on the 11 meter band.

A little history can be enlightening, it can give you a whole new perspective. Pick up some old books or magazines and explore for yourself just how far we've come in amateur radio, or maybe like me, you'll just enjoy seeing where we've been. Many of you, like me, have been in the hobby less than a decade . . . some amazing changes have happened in just that time! Ask some of the old-timers in our club about their experiences . . . they've seen some *truly* remarkable changes since they first became hams and I'm sure most would be happy to relate their stories to you. And who knows? You may just make a new lifelong friend too!

Are you hoarding old books and magazines? Do you really plan on doing anything with them other than storing `em or leaving them behind when you depart this life? (to be sold at a swap for 10 cents each). If you're not really sure why you're saving them . . . I've got a suggestion! Why not bring them to a club meeting and give `em away? (After copying any valuable technical articles, of course.) I regularly hand out my USECA newsletters, "World Radio," old catalogs, and "QSTs," but only to newcomers and examinees at our VE Testing Sessions. It costs me nothing, (I've already read the magazines!) and I feel it's a great way for new hams to get some insight into the many different aspects of our hobby. I usually limit each person to one copy of each magazine and strive to keep the "collectors" at bay. Just be sure to ask whomever takes one to pass it along to someone else when they're done. Don't just let `em sit and collect dust! Put those old magazines to work for the hobby!

73 till next month, *KF8RG*

As you may have noticed, a few of us are due to receive awards. Please be patient as we are in the process of changing the look of the awards. As usual, many thanks to the net ops who are prompt in getting their check-in sheets to me: Joe (K8OEF), Jim (N8OKW), Eric (AA8MD), Marion (N8MOJ), Harry (W8VRW), Scott (KG8IE), and Linda (N8VVH).

## Repeater DX'ing . . . NOT a Good Idea!

Band openings on 2 meter can be fun . . . it's not all that often that you can hear hams from a few hundred miles away and it can be intriguing to listen to distant repeaters you've never heard before. With my 2 meter beam, I can hear the Bowling Green, Ohio 7.180(+) machine almost daily when our repeater is quiet and, having once been an Ohioan and attended Bowling Green State University, the urge to chat with the "townies" can be almost unbearable.

"Repeater DX'ing," while seemingly innocent enough, is a rare opportunity to be a royal pain-in-the-butt in multiple states simultaneously and can tie up 3-4 distant repeaters during your little two-way chat. (The 147.180(+) repeater frequency pair is quite heavily used: Bowling Green, OH; London, Ont.; Angola, IN; Niles, MI; and Gladwin, MI to name a few). The thought should occur, to anyone who tries, that the use of high power to work a distant repeater during a band opening will in all probability cause other distant repeaters to activate as well . . . perhaps even a few *you* can't hear!

FM DX'ing should be kept off the repeater . . . there's much more personal satisfaction to be gained from using your own equipment to make a "simplex" contact with the same station. Besides, if you're working for an ARRL VHF award, contacts made using repeaters are worthless anyway. When you hear distant repeaters, resist the temptation to chat, instead, try listening or calling CQ on the National Calling frequency, 146.520 MHz, or one of the other FM simplex frequencies listed in the ARRL Repeater Directory. If you simply must work DX via a repeater, try listening to the Edison Repeater around 11 a.m. The Edison machine has a 2 to 10 meter FM repeater link that is available (as band openings permit) and will allow you to work DX at will. (Just remember, others want to use it too!)

[Ken/KF8RG]

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## DRAKE FOR SALE

Complete "ready-for-the-air" Amateur station for sale. All in MINT condition.

	MR's Price	My Price
Drake TR4C 5 band Tranciever (80-10m 300 watt) SSB-AM-CW	\$375.00	\$265.00
Drake MS4 (matching speaker and power supply)	90.00	75.00
Drake W4 wattmeter (200/2000 watts)	75.00	45.00
MFJ CW audio notch filter	25.00	FREE
Astatic D-104 Microphone	75.00	10.00
Extraneous tubes (Approx 30, various types, most new)	60.00	15.00
Includes all Manuals & alignment guide		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$710.00</b>	<b>\$410.00</b>

Price is FIRM. All gear goes at once or none at all!

Also, for any U.S.E.C.A. member or new Ham (less than 1 year) purchasing the rig, I'll include enough wire and 50 ft. of coax for your choice of antenna.

I can be reached at (810) 652-1187, ask for Ken.

# NOVEMBER, 1994

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 BOARD MEETING 2 METER NET 8:00 P.M. 147.18	2	3 CW NET (21.140) 9:00 P.M.	4 CW NET (21.140) 10:00 P.M. HOOTOWL NET MIDNIGHT	5 TESTING SALVATION ARMY
6 2 METER NET 1:00 P.M. 147.18	7	8 GENERAL MEETING 7:30 P.M.	9	10 CW NET (21.140) 9:00 P.M.	11 CW NET (21.140) 10:00 P.M. HOOTOWL NET MIDNIGHT	12
13 2 METER NET 1:00 P.M. 147.18	14	15 2 METER NET 8:00 P.M. 147.18	16	17 CW NET (21.140) 9:00 P.M.	18 CW NET (21.140) 10:00 P.M. HOOTOWL NET MIDNIGHT	19
20 2 METER NET 1:00 P.M. 147.18	21	22 2 METER NET 8:00 P.M. 147.18	23	24 THANKSGIVING CW NET (21.140) 9:00 P.M.	25 CW NET (21.140) 10:00 P.M. HOOTOWL NET MIDNIGHT	26
27 2 METER NET 1:00 P.M. 147.18	28	29 BOARD MEETING 2 METER NET 8:00 P.M. 147.18	30	27 CW NET (21.140) 9:00 P.M.	28 CW NET (21.140) 10:00 P.M. HOOTOWL NET MIDNIGHT	29

# U.S.E.C.A.

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

### NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION APPLICATION

DATE \_\_\_\_\_  NEW  RENEWAL  NEWSLETTER ONLY

CALL \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS \_\_\_\_\_ AUTO-PATCH \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE # \_\_\_\_\_ PRINT IN ROSTER  YES  NO

BIRTHDATE \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBER: ARRL  YES  NO RACES  YES  NO ARES  YES  NO

COPY OF CURRENT LICENSE FOR U.S.E.C.A. FILE

#### ***FOR FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS ONLY:***

CALL \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

BIRTHDATE \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBER: ARRL  YES  NO RACES  YES  NO ARES  YES  NO

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES (INCLUDES NEWSLETTER)  
REGULAR: \$20 - FAMILY: \$30

NEWSLETTER (ONLY): \$8 - AUTO-PATCH: \$35 (ONE-TIME FEE) + ANNUAL DUES

PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: **U.S.E.C.A.**

APPLICATIONS CAN BE GIVEN TO MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY AT MONTHLY MEETINGS OR  
MAIL TO:

JOAN L. DZIDOWSKI, N8VLY  
45731 PLUM GROVE  
MACOMB, MI 48044

**U.S.E.C.A.**  
UTICA SHELBY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION ASSN.  
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**CHRISTMAS PARTY**  
**DECEMBER 10**