
U.S.E.C.A. EXPRESS

Awarded for "EXCELLENCE"

UTICA SHELBY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION, INC. Volume 11, Number 9, November 1995

NOMINATIONS FOR CLUB OFFICERS

Nominations will take place at the November monthly meeting.

The election will be at the December meeting. You must attend to vote.

"THE HAPPENIN' CLUB"

CLUB ACTIVITIES

MONTH	DATE	TIME	EVENT
NOV	11	1 pm	Road Rally
DEC	9	7 pm	8th Annual Christmas Party
MAY	TBA		"Trash For Cash"
MAY	TBA		Pre-Field Day '96
MAY	17-19		Dayton '96
JUN	TBA		U.S.E.C.A. Fox Hunt
JUN	28-30		Field Day '96
JUL	TBA		Christmas in July
AUG	TBA		Clinton River Clean-Up
SEP	2		Romeo Peach Festival Parade

—◆—

1995 FIELD DAY RESULTS . . .

**U.S.E.C.A. PLACED IN THE
TOP TEN—(AGAIN)!**

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NEXT MEETING — November 14th

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Floyd Soo/KF8AT, (810) 391-6660
Vice President	Ann Manor/KG8IF, (810) 751-3893
Recording Sec.	Jim Mickle/N8OKW, (810) 739-6565
Treasurer	Lynn Hardie/KB8QFY, (810) 524-7454
Membership Sec.	Joan Dzidowski/N8VLY, (810) 263-4993
Past President	Earl Hoskins/N8OEX, (810) 544-0625

ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

Arpad Miklos/WY8M, (810) 751-3804
Betty Isbister/N8LXL, (810) 775-3492
H. "Biff" Baydoun/N8NQQ, (810) 566-7749

COMMITTEES

Editor	Joe/K8OEF, (810) 781-0050
Mailers/Sorters	Ann/KG8IF; Phil/WA8ZOF; Biff/N8NQQ & Crew
Swap & Shop	Kevin/N8QVX & Committee
Net Point Coord.	Ken/KF8RG
Net Manager	Lee/KB8TOQ
Activities Chair	Betty/N8LXL
Program Director	Floyd/KF8AT
Repeater Trustee	Chuck/WA8Z
Technical Directors	Doug/N8KND; Tom/KB8NDS & Bill/KB8VLL
Field Day Co-Chair	Betty/N8LXL; Don/WX3M & Arpad/WY8M
Refreshments	Walt/WB8E; Phil/WA8ZOF & Marianne/N8TMJ
Health & Welfare	Kathy/N8VOH, (810) 752-7818 & John/N8FNO
Club Historians	Jerry/K8CFY; Ann/KG8IF & Joe/WD8MFN
ARRL Liaison	Dave/KF8CT
Club Videographer	Floyd/KF8AT
Door Prizes	Bill/AA8LZ

CONTROL OPERATORS

Chuck/WA8Z	Bill/N8CVC	Dave/N8OEV
Earl/N8OEX	Gulliver/WA8VIJ	Gordie/WB8H
Floyd/KF8AT	Pat/N8LOG	Doug/KG8F
Dave /WD8IFL	Mike/WX3L	Nancy/KB8QMS

PROGRAMMERS

WA8Z N8KND WB8H N8FOW N8CVC

VOLUNTEER EXAMINERS

WA8Z	KF8AT	WX3L	W8VRW	AA8LZ
AA8NQ	WY8M	KF8RG	KF8MB	KF8CT
AA8CY	AA8HF	N8KDL	N8CVC	

Still Going . . .

Joe / K8OEF

Nomination time is here! Next month will be the elections for our club's officers.

Our Swap has come and gone. The people who volunteer their time and talent to make this event a success should be highly commended. Our Swap keeps this club going (*still going*).

Speaking of volunteering . . . be sure to ask Stan, N8YWS about his experience at this year's Grand Prix. His rewards were way beyond his expectations and I'm sure he will volunteer again next year.

I'm hoping for interesting items in next month's *Express*. Tom, KB8NDS is planning to submit an article describing his incredible 80-meter antenna used at this year's Field Day. Also, Ken, KF8RG will get his U.S.E.C.A. crossword puzzle printed.

Perhaps you noticed a slightly re-designed front page. I don't know about you, but I'm getting tired seeing the same information on Page 3; except the club activities. Therefore, I'll try to keep the activities on the front page and all the other "stuff" near the back; close to the calendar and our club's application.

As we go to press, it was learned that Joan, N8VLY our recording secretary has decided to not run again for office. (We'll miss you Joan.)

But the good news is that Floyd, KF8AT and Ann, KG8IF will run again.

73 for now.

November—Nominations December—Elections

WHO IS IT?

Nose of the North!
Mouth of the South!

The Prez' Says . . .

Floyd/KF8AT

Hope everyone has been enjoying the autumn season. Fall always comes too soon in my book. Don't get me wrong, I enjoy winter activities too, but summer does seem to be the shorter of the two seasons!

Just to recap what's been going on. We started the spring off with the repeater system going back up to full power. The response was great. We had our transmit coverage back up to match our receive coverage again. Mobile reports from Port Huron, Anchor Bay, Wyandotte, Holly and Ann Arbor were all good. That allowed us boaters and bikers to make good use of the repeater system too.

Speaking of boating and biking; the USECA Flotilla and the bicycle mobiles were alive and well all summer. With the great coverage our repeater provides, it's a natural for these activities. There was a lot of boating activity out on Lake St. Clair (and its Flats) and Anchor Bay, and it was great being able to get into the system from out there.

The Camelot Isle QRP DXpedition went on again in August with its associated fun in the sun. The weather was great and so was the food. The only trouble with all these summer activities is that there are not enough weekends in the summer for them all. This was one of those weekends. The Woodward Avenue Dream Cruise was this weekend, so I came off the island on Saturday for that. We need another month of summer!

The Fox Hunt happened during the last official meeting of the summer in June. It was great. The weather held out for us; it had rained pretty hard to the west. Bryan (AA8CY) and I placed the hidden transmitter in a remote corner of Lakeside Mall. All participants eventually found the Fox and we all joined up at Frank's Place for Pizza and libation. I want to congratulate Shaun (KB8MUZ), Michelle (KA8VKH), Paul (AA8OZ), Pete (N8CBG), Bob (K8DJR), Arshog (N8UQZ), Brian (KB8ZRO), Dave (KG8KZ), Arpad (WY8M), Doug (N8KND), Dave (KB8PEV), Don (WX3M), Bill (AA8LZ), Don (N8VTF), Randy, (KB8QXD), Biff (N8NQQ), Gary (N8RRU), Joan (N8VLY), Jerry (K8CFY) and Betty (N8SIH), in their success in finding the Fox. I hope to see more of you out there next spring sniffing for the fox! Our annual Fox Hunt has always been a fun, low key educational way for beginners to break into the sport of hidden

transmitter hunting. USECA has always encouraged newcomers to fox hunting to our annual event. This is also the reason that the emphasis is on FUN and learning rather than the all out serious "gotta find 'em first" philosophy. There are many fox hunts all over the Metro Detroit area, and many of them are "serious," ours is not. Let's keep the event going in the spirit for which it was originally intended; an excuse to play radio and partake of pizza and beer. YES!

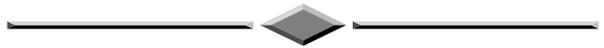
Of course, there was Field Day held on June 23, 24, and 25. For Friday's setup, Walt led a great team first thing in the morning to get the mess tents up and the stoves cleaned and ready for use. As the day progressed, more and more members arrived and began to help with mess tent and station setup. Of course, it wouldn't be Field Day weekend without a little rain shower. The antenna systems that were erected was truly an awesome sight! Gaylen (WD8PLQ) and Marion (N8MOJ) were in charge of the 20 CW station; and they came up with a 4 sloping dipole array that had a complete set of 4 wire directors for each. WOW! Team 40 CW (and copycats 40 SSB) used a 5 sloping dipole array that was also quite unique and functional. Tom (KB8NDS) came out prepared with the heavy artillery. He put up a pair, count 'em-2, 80 meter verticals that were in a phased array. Another WOW! This was just a few of the 19 or so systems that the club had running that weekend. The hot dogs were great and our own rock and roll band "QRM" played until after 1:30 am. Saturday morning came way too early for those of us that stayed up until 3 am with the band. With setup pretty much done, the contest started at 2 pm Saturday afternoon. Conditions were certainly not as good as last year, but seemed to improve as the day wore on. The Steak-Out was another rousing success! As night fell, the serious contest stations got into their "Graveyard Shift" mode and continued to "whack 'em and stack 'em" all night. We all knew what had to happen sometime during the weekend, and happen it did. During the last hour of the contest, the sky got dark to the west and the lightning and thunder got closer and closer. It really acted as though it tried to go around our site to the north, but finally, at about 1:45, the storm hit with a vengeance! So, the stations were off the air before 2 pm, but it really didn't hurt our score. At last word, our score should be pretty close to last year's, so we are hopeful of yet another top 10 finish. Stay tuned for more details!

The camp outs went very well too. I will let those that participated in the Christmas in July and the other camp-outs to report on those events. Unfortunately, I had previous engagements those weekends, not to mention the fact that I don't own any camping gear.

The MS-150 went very well again this year. At the crack of dawn on Saturday, July 8, all the riders gathered at Northville Downs for the start of the bicycle tour. It was a beautiful morning, and we had Bob (N8SCQ) ride along with us as he did the year before. Lissa and I were riding for Team GM again, so after the starting line activities, we were on the road at 8 am. As we got into the ride a couple of hours, we all realized that we riding into one hell of a headwind. Even though the day was nice, almost everybody rode from Northville to Lansing in 1st gear. It took me 2 hours less to ride the same route last year, when we had a SLIGHT headwind! Lissa and I had planned to ride back to back centuries this weekend, but after that headwind, we said NO WAY! After we finally arrived at MSU, we relaxed a bit before pigging out in the cafeteria. After sharing horror stories about the headwind with many other riders, we turned in for the evening. It was gray and gloomy on Sunday morning, with light rain in the air. After breakfast, we all hit the road for the ride back to Northville Downs. Even though it rained all morning, I didn't mind a bit. It was such a pleasure not to have to ride into a stiff headwind that this riding in the rain was a nice change! After lunch, the sun actually was peeking through the clouds and the roads dried out. Needless to say, our average speed was much better on the return trip. We arrived back at Northville Downs at mid-afternoon and loaded the bicycles up and attended the barbecue before heading on home. All in all it was another great weekend for a great cause! I am already looking forward to the 1996 MS-150!

I also had the opportunity to ride in the weekend portion of the "Michigander IV." This was a week-long mountain bike ride from South Haven to (midland?). The weekend ride began in Kalamazoo on Saturday July 22 and consisted of a 40 mile ride on the Kal-Haven Trail, ending in South Haven where we all camped. Luckily, Lissa and I got the tent up before the rain storm hit. Sunday morning was gorgeous. After breakfast, we all hit the trail again and rode all the way back to Kalamazoo. The folks that were riding all week camped there, and continued first thing Monday morning towards the ultimate destination. A couple other USECANs, Andy

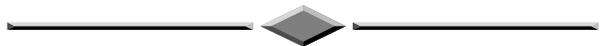
(WB2C) and Mike (KF8BU) also volunteered Amateur Radio services on their mountain bikes. They rode the whole week, and I hope that they will give us a report on how that went. One day, Lissa and I will set the time aside to ride all week. The only change we will make is that we will have a motor-home as our chase vehicle, with A/C, shower, microwave, real beds, etc. This camping stuff after a hard day's ride is for the hard core!



KUDO KORNER . . .

Congratulations to Shaun/KB8MUZ on his upgrade to Tech Plus on September 14. Shaun was a Novice Plus since he was 11 years old, 4 years ago.

Shaun is a member of USECA, OCARS and Skywarn advanced trained.



V.E. TESTING

Examinations for an Amateur License are held the on the first Saturday of each month (except July and August). Starting time is 7:15 p.m.; please do not arrive earlier. Walk-ins are welcomed. Pre-registration is preferred. Test site is at the Salvation Army, 34 Grand, Mt. Clemens. If testing, you must have the following: picture ID.; copy of your current license or completion certificates, if any. Birth certificate is accepted in lieu of picture ID. For more information and directions to the test site, contact Bill, N8CVC at: (810) 468-8345; (before 9:00 p.m.).

ALTERNATE V.E. TESTING

Hazel Park ARC
Mike, WD8S; (810) 399-7970 or Bill, N8SWQ; (313) 533-5962
LARC Club (Livonia); (313) 261-5486
Motor City Radio Club (Wyandotte)
Stan, KB8SB; (313) 676-6248

CONDUCT A NET?

Randy/KB8QXD

Hello fellow USECANs.

I recently had an interesting QSO with Jim, N8WMY. It contained the question, "How does one conduct a net"?

It was mentioned to me that every USECA net has people who are in such a hurry to be the first check-in, end up doubling.

When Jim said this, I agreed with him; and, we were discussing ways to eliminate that dilemma.

We agreed that both the Spirit of '76 and the Edison clubs conduct their nets in such a way as to eliminate the so-called pile-up.

For instance, the suggestion was made that when you check in, you would say, "This is" [de-key] then state your call and name. Each check in would have 3 or 4 seconds between each check in.

A short time later, Floyd, KF8AT and Bill, KB8QMP joined the QSO. Floyd stated his views on that subject and it was well noted at that time. Bill said, "If you don't like how the net is run, take one yourself."

My answer to Bill is, "I will take one of those nets and I will show you and Floyd that it can be done in an orderly manner."

I would also like to challenge all the net operators to do the same. Try this method and see if it works for you. Before you host the net, let everyone know how you would like them to check in.

There is no sense to hold a net if everyone is going to double with each other.

Every club has certain procedures to hold their nets; monitor their nets and you will see for yourself.

73.

WELCOME . . .

NEW CLUB MEMBERS

Joan/N8VLY

The following are new U.S.E.C.A. members that joined our club since March 1, 1995:

KC8ACF/Brad/Rochester Hills

KC8BW/Steve/Harrison Township

KB8GGI/Paul/Romeo

WA8LCZ/Byron/Warren

KB8QNA/Pierre/Sterling Heights

KB8TVW/Jim/Clinton Township

KB8ULS/Roger/Ira

KB8WBZ/Carl/Clinton Township

KB8WFW/Mike/Warren

KB8WLR/Chuck/St. Clair Shores

KB8WMS/Jim/Fraser

N8WMY/Bill/Detroit

KB8WTH/Richard/Clinton Township

KB8YLB/Ed/Warren

KB8YXY/John/Chesterfield

KB8YYA/Dreux/Clinton Township

KB8YYC/Dennis/Mt. Clemens

KB8YYD/Tom/Roseville

KB8ZAU/Howard/Clawson

KB8ZNA/Brian/New Baltimore

And, non-hams: Gerald M. Cayan, Clawson; William C. Walter, Sterling Heights; and, Frank Raya, Roseville.

Welcome to all of you. We hope you enjoy our club, its activities and members. If you don't, please let me (or any board member) know.

**USECA Board Meeting Minutes
October 3, 1995**

In attendance:

KF8AT	Floyd	President
KG8IF	Ann	Vice President
KB8QFY	Lynn	Treasurer
N8OKW	Jim	Recording Secretary
N8VLY	Joan	Membership Secretary
WY8M	Arpad	Board Member
N8NQQ	Biff	Board Member
N8OEX	Earl	Past President
K8OEF	Joe	Editor
N8QVX	Kevin	Swap Chairman
K8CFY	Jerry	Historian
KF8CT	Dave	
N8RRU	Gary	
N8KND	Doug	

Absent:

N8LXL Betty Board Member

Meeting was called to order by the President at 7:38.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

The treasurers report was approved as submitted.

Membership

The current membership is 204.

Repeater Status

The Romeo site needs a little tweeking. It is adjusted a little too hot and the audio is a little low. Doug is planning to work on it soon.

ARRL

Vanity call signs have been delayed until after the first of the year.

Activities

Swap—October 22—Kevin, N8QVX. As of tonight 83 of 96 tables have been sold and paid for. Jim will contact the hall to try to get more tables. Table set-up will be from 2:00 to 4:00 on Saturday. Early vendor setup on Saturday will be from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m.

September 8-9 Campout at Algonac. A good turnout of campers had a good time and enjoyed a nice weekend.

September 23-24 Campout at Algonac. Cancelled due to forecasts of cold weather and conflict with SATERN training meeting on Saturday night.

Boat cruise September 9th. It was a sell out. All had a great time, even if it was a bit cold in the bow. We will do it again next year.

Christmas Party, December (?) Lynn and Ann will coordinate.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

Respectively submitted,

Jim Mickle, N8OKW, Recording Secretary



**USECA General Membership Meeting
October 10, 1995**

Board Members in attendance:

KF8AT	Floyd	President
KB8QFY	Lynn	Treasurer
N8VLY	Joan	Membership Secretary
WY8M	Arpad	Board Member
N8NQQ	Biff	Board Member
N8LXL	Betty	Board Member
N8OEX	Earl	Past president

Absent:

KG8IF	Ann	Vice President
N8OKW	Jim	Recording Secretary

Meeting called to order by the President at 7:37 p.m.

Attendance was approximately 71.

The minutes were accepted as printed in the *Express*.

The treasurer's report was presented.

MEMBERSHIP—Joan, N8VLY. Current paid membership 200+.

NET MANAGER—Lee, N8TOQ. General report on current net status. Net awards were presented to: WY8M; KB8TOQ; KB8TAS; N8OKW ; N8OEF; and, WD8IFL.

REPEATER—Doug, N8KND. Reported new integrated circuit needed for controller memory. North site antenna elevation will not occur due change in Ford site management.

Summer or Winter Weight USECA Jackets—Jackets may now be ordered. See Betty, N8SIH: \$40 winter; \$37 lightweight.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SWAP—October 22nd—Kevin, N8QVX
Table sales exceed 100. Need help Saturday to set up tables, and lots of help on Sunday with ticket sales, door control, etc. Kevin had tickets available at the meeting. Need help from all to promote the swap by talking it up on the repeater and distributing flyers.

Jim, N8OKW needs help for Nov 11 Rally.

Bill, N8CVC needs to borrow laptop computers for testing at swap.

S.A.T.E.R.N. members Walt, WB8E; Nancy, KB8QMS; Dennis, KB8YYC modeled the new uniforms recently acquired. Jackets priced at \$19.99.

Dave, WDIFL had USECA bumper stickers on sale.

Next month:

Nomination for election of club officers.
Antenna Show and Tell.

Meeting host KB8YYB.

Following the break, Floyd, KF8AT gave an excellent presentation showing comparison of receivers old and new. A number of older tube receivers were displayed after the presentation which included the famous Collins URR 390.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted; Dave Martin, KF8CT, acting Secretary.



HELP WANTED

Thumbs Up 95 Road Rally

November 11, 1995

Help is needed to man checkpoints and provide radio communications for the 1995 version of the Thumbs Up Road Rally. Here is another way to use your radios to provide public service while having a good time. The event will run from 2:00 p.m. until about 10:30 p.m. on Saturday, November 11. Registration for workers and competitors and workers will be at the Imlay City Burger King, located on M-53, just north of I-69. The finish will be at Tietz Restaurant on the north end of town. We will have a chance to finish the evening with a

snack, supper, and/or a drink while the committee does the scoring. Since we have over 30 checkpoints scheduled, we will need lots of workers. If you are available to give a hand, call Jim, N8OKW at (810) 947-2432 and leave a message, or Marianne, N8TMJ at (810) 739-6565. If you want to compete, the same phone numbers will work. Just give us a call, and we'll give you the information that you need.



November Program Needs YOU!

The program for the November USECA General Meeting will be a Show and Tell of sorts on the subject of antennas. It will be a Show and Tell because I am asking club members that have had some personal experiences with antennas for HF/VHF/UHF to share those experiences with the rest of the membership.

Depending on how many participants there are, I plan to allow individuals approximately 5 to 10 minutes each to briefly share their own findings about anything and everything regarding antennas. This information can be about mobile, portable, QRP, QRO, RDF, base, remote or multiband antennas. I am looking for those of you that have used the antenna analyzers to share your findings with the group too. There was a time that the information that you get out of a handheld analyzer took a complete computer system to provide!

There may be short videos shown too, as well as genuine antennas that will be brought in for display. So, please contact Floyd (KF8AT) to let him know that you are interested in sharing your experiences at this program.

DON'T FORGET THAT THE NOMINATIONS FOR THE 1996 BOARD MEMBERS WILL ALSO BE HELD AT THE NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING. PLEASE BE THERE AND HAVE A SAY IN THE FUTURE OF YOUR CLUB!

COMPUTER CORNER

What The "95" In Windows 95 Really Stands For

1. Its completeness percentage when it ships.
2. Number of floppies it ships on.
3. Megabytes of HD space it occupies.
4. Megabytes of RAM it requires.
5. CPU MHz required to run it.
6. Percentage of users who must upgrade their hardware to run it.
7. Pages in its "Easy-Install" manual.
8. Number of minutes to install.
9. Number of tech-support calls needed.
10. Number of people who actually pay for the upgrade.

*ARNS, September 1995; From Leon's 9/94 Internet posting.
Leon's e-mail address: marr@minerva.cis.yale.edu.*

TECH TIPS

Mobile Gain Antenna

For mobile antennas, gain is very much limited by mechanical considerations. Longer antennas having the aperture to produce gain cannot too often be mounted on the vehicle roof and still withstand the severe strain and impact of tree limbs, overpasses, or garage doors. Often when the gain antenna is deck or bumper-mounted, it has no more effective performance than a quarter-wave whip in the roof.

Considering rear-deck mountings, the maximum gain (free space) in practical size antennas will be in the order of 3 dB for 150 MHz and 5 dB for 450 MHz. Even then, the lengths required for these gains may be objectionable for many applications.

Receive vs Transmit Gain (Station Antenna)

Although the antennas used in two-way are bilateral and have the same capabilities of gain for both transmit and receive, the gain may not always show up the same in performance due to directional distribution of noise picked up on receive.

If the antenna is directive into a noise source of higher intensity than surrounding ambient noise level, little or no gain may be shown on receive over an omnidirectional antenna since it will bring up the noise with the signal. On the other hand, if it looks

away from the noise and can use its front-to-back or front-to-side pattern discrimination to drop the noise much lower than ambient, it may show considerable improvement in signal to noise over that of just gain alone. Noise conditions must be taken into consideration when planning the receive performance of the system; otherwise, gain antennas may not contribute as planned—especially in the 25 or 50 MHz region.

Connectors and Termination

Outside of tees or multi-junctions, connectors are mostly male to female straight through or adapters from one size or type of line to another. Some users prefer UHF types such as the PL259 male, while others like Type N. Make-up with Type N is from male to female, while make-up for UHF requires a double ended (female) splicer between males.

Type N and UHF connections are suitable for use in mobile radio communications. However, UHF connectors should not be used above 300 MHz. Type N are better protected against water entry into the connector, but still should be taped for full protection. Adapters are available between the two types so that the antenna connector can be mated to the transmission line connector.

Source: Decibel; Engineering

NET OP SCHEDULES

NET OP SCHEDULES					
	2-METER NETS (147.180 MHz)			CW NETS (21.140 MHz)	
WEEK	SUN. 1 PM	TUES. 8 PM	FRI. MIDNIGHT	THURS. 9 PM	FRI. 10 PM
1	KG8IF	WB8E	KB8WTC	-OPEN-	W8VRW
2	K8OEF	N8LXL	KB8TAS	-OPEN-	-OPEN-
3	AA8MD	WY8M	KF8AT	-OPEN-	WA8ZOF
4	-OPEN-	KB8RBV	WY8M	-OPEN-	N8MOJ
5	KB8RSH	N8VVH	KB8QMS	-OPEN-	W8VIJ

NCO's—If you are unable to take your net, please get a replacement or contact Lee/KB8TOQ.

CornerBeam vs Yagi

When hams think of gain, they usually have a yagi in mind. But a yagi may not be the best solution for you. Take a look at what a 2-meter CornerBeam offers:

- 12 dB gain over a dipole
- 40 dB Front-to-Back ratio
- 60° Half-power Beamwidth
- SWR < 1.2:1 across the band
- No dimension over 4 ft.
- Mounts directly to tower or mast
- No need for offset or side mount for vertical polarization
- Weighs only 10 pounds

CornerBeam — 10 dB Gain — \$145
10% Discount For All USECA Members

Dave Medley, N8VMH
Tenna Tech (810) 749-6011

PART II

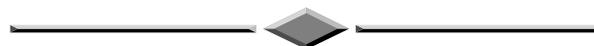
"HAM-DOM"

Kathy/N8VOH

The New and Improved Ham Dictionary . . .

1. When one forgets who he is, he is said to have "Hamnesia."
2. When Floyd lugs around all his Collins gear, he could develop a bad case of "Hamerroids."
3. When the USECA club gathers for field day, Romeo is full of "Hamsters."

Are there any readers who would like to contribute to this dictionary?



RUBBER DUCKS

The rubber duck antenna on your handheld is not a very efficient antenna. The typical 2 meter rubber duck has a 5 dB loss. If you have a 3 watt radio, your rubber duck will only radiate less than 1 watt!

A quarterwave antenna has 0 dB loss and will allow all 3 watts to be radiated!

THANKSGIVING IS NEAR!
Are you ready for Christmas?

From Our Net Point Manager

Ken/KF8RG

I'd like to personally congratulate all of the members who recently earned awards—your participation in U.S.E.C.A.'s nets are greatly appreciated. The awards program is our way of sayin' "THANKS!" in hopes that you'll continue your enthusiasm for your club's activities. Enthusiasm *is* contagious—you only have to watch Dina (N8YJI) in action at one of the club camp-outs (or on 2M SSB) to know that!

Speaking of membership—when's the last time you "talked up" the club with a ham (or non-ham) friend? New members are always welcome in U.S.E.C.A. Can you think of any other club in the Metro area that offers so many activities to choose from? How many other clubs offer camp-outs, a "Pre-Field Day," boat trips, Island QRP parties, fox hunts, a "Top 10" Field Day, skeet shoots, monthly Amateur licensing Exams, and an informal get-together *every* Saturday night. At \$20 a single membership is a bargain—at \$30, a family membership is a steal. (How many other clubs do *anything* Family oriented?) There simply is no other club in the Metro area that offers what U.S.E.C.A. does. Lot's of fun, with Ham Radio thrown in for good measure. "Talk up" the club; renew *your* membership *on time* (1996 annual dues should be paid by January 1st) and see if you can't solicit a few new members yourself! I'm sure all of you know at least one fellow ham whom you could talk into joining U.S.E.C.A. (or renewing a lapsed membership).

I will be making up new awards for 1996 soon. I'd appreciate any ideas any of you may have. Jot 'em down on paper (drawings included) and mail 'em to me. I've got an excellent color printer, so anything on disk or CD ROM (quality graphics please) is also appreciated.

I hope to see more of you at testing in the upcoming winter months—it's an excellent time to upgrade your ticket! No more lawns to cut, vacations to pack for, or gardens that need tending. Now's when you can set aside some time to learn the code, increase your code speed, or study for that written test that's the next step for you in Amateur radio. I'll be lookin' for ya!

Net Point Notes . . .

1. A star next to your name indicates an award is due.
2. Awards should be picked up at club meetings, they will not be mailed.
3. Net point tallies are only as accurate as the check-in sheets are forwarded to net point manager; late or missing logs cannot be scored. Please avoid dupes on your logs and write neatly. Accuracy matters . . . get the callsigns right.
4. Net logs should be mailed within the week to KF8RG, 53762 Kristin Ct., Shelby Twp., MI 48316.
5. NCO's . . . take note, logs mailed more than a month late will only earn you 1 pt as NCO.
6. Plaques are awarded at year's end to the highest scoring contestants on CW & FM.
7. FM Check-in=1 pt.; CW Check-in=2 pts.; FM NCO=3 pts.; CW NCO=4 pts.

COMING NEXT MONTH

The December issue of the *Express* will have a custom-made U.S.E.C.A. crossword puzzle!

U.S.E.C.A. 1995 Net Points as received by Oct. 12

Call	Name	pts	Call	Name	pts	Call	Name	pts
WX3L	MIKE	22	N8NTD	JOHN	20	KA8VFK	NEEDNAME	1
WX3M	DON	3	N8NXM	ED	1	KB8VLI	STEVE	30
WD4DNN	JOHN	1	N8NZA	JEAN	1	KB8VLJ	DAVE	3
WD7G	TONY	1	N8OAE	ERNIE	13	N8VLY	JOAN	11
KA7KZO	JOHN	20	WB8OAF	BILL	1	N8VLZ	GORDIE	10
AA7LX	JOHN	1	WB8ODH	BRIAN	1	KB8VM	DAN	1
KCBACF	BRAD	9	K8OEF	JOE	89	N8VMH	DAVE	14
KB8AKS	JERRY	10	N8OEF	VAL	12	N8VOH	KATHY	17
KF8AT	FLOYD	79	N8OEM	BARB	10	KB8VQM	LESTER	9
AA8BE	RUDY	1	N8OEV	DAVE	7	W8VRW	HARRY	1
N8CBG	PETE	1	N8OEX	EARL	8	N8VTF	DON	33
K8CFY	JERRY	37	N8OKW	JIM	51	N8VVH	LINDA	7
N8CHB	ROGER	1	N8OSU	RANDY	1	KB8VWL	ED	2
KF8CT	DAVE	39	N8OWI	COLE	12	KB8VWR	MARIE	1
N8CVC	BILL	3	AA8OZ	PAUL	1	KB8VWY	DORIS	1
WD8DQS	LESTER	1	N8PYH	GERARD	1	KB8WBV	KEN	6
WB8E	WALT	59	KB8QFR	JIM	30	KB8WBZ	CARL	33
KB8GFE	KEN	2	KB8QFY	LYNN	15	N8WDO	DAN	2
KB8GGI	PAUL	7	KB8QKR	JIM	1	KB8WLU	PAUL	6
KG8GJ	KEVIN	2	KB8QLZ	GARY	24	KB8WMS	JIM	18
KB8GPO	KEN	3	KB8QMP	BILL	38	N8WMY	JIM	19
WA8GQL	DAN	9	KB8QMS	NANCY	73	KB8WTC	MIKE	57
WB8H	GORDIE	3	KG8QT	MARTY	9	KB8WTH	RICHARD	25
AA8HF	DARWIN	10	N8QVX	KEVIN	23	N8XCZ	ELIZABETH	7
N8HJW	FRAN	1	KB8QWF	DORIS	1	KB8YBT	JOHN	1
N8HTV	JOHN	1	KB8QXB	SUE	8	N8YBY	LEONARD	2
WB8HUA	TOM	1	KB8QXD	RANDY	45	KB8VFM	MARTY	1
KG8IE	SCOTT	3	N8QXP	CHARLES	1	N8YJI	DINA	34
KG8IF	ANN	46	KB8RBQ	LOUIE	1	KB8YJM	JOHN	1
WD8IFL	DAVE	61	KB8RBV	MANNY	51	KB8YLB	ED	3
KG8IG	DON	1	KF8RG	KEN	24	N8YWK	BOB	7
N8IGM	JOE	1	N8RHT	RICK	3	N8YWS	STAN	22
WB8JEK	BOB	1	WD8RNO	LYNN	2	KB8YYA	DREUX	31
N8JEX	RICH	8	N8RRU	GARY	20	KB8YYB	DEBBIE	1
AA8JN	FRANK	4	N8RUE	EDDIE	44	KB8YYC	DENNIS	38
N8JVA	ANDY	1	N8RUH	TJ	12	KB8YYD	TOM	1
N8KDL	DOUG	1	N8RUJ	ED	2	KB8ZAW	RAY	3
N8KIM	WAYNE	1	N8RYT	TOM	1	N8ZFA	PETE	2
N8KXL	JERRY	1	N8SCQ	BOB	4	WB8ZJL	PAUL	7
KG8KM	HAL	1	KB8SFK	RED	3	KB8ZMC	BILL	6
N8KND	DOUG	10	N8SIH	BETTY	35	KB8ZMD	PAM	1
N8KNS	DON	7	KB8SRB	STAN	5	WA8ZOF	PHIL	9
KG8KZ	DAVE	17	KB8SRD	KEN	15	KB8ZUZ	JIM	1
N8LLE	KEVIN	1	KB8SRI	JERRY	5	N8ZZF	PAT	1
KB8LRE	KEN	1	N8SUR	RICH	6	KB9KCW	BOB	2
N8LXL	BETTY	4	KB8TAS	JERRY	52			
KB8LYA	FRED	36	N8TMJ	MARIANNE	44			
AA8LZ	BILL	18	KB8TOQ	LEE	53			
WY8M	ARPAD	57	KA8TPE	SCOTT	1			
KF8MB	MEL	2	N8TUN	STEVE	4			
N8MCD	JIM	3	KB8TVV	JIM	17			
AA8MD	ERIC	30	K8TVS	ALEX	1			
N8MIJ	JIM	2	KA8UHG	STEVE	4			
KB8MUA	ANDY	3	N8UJL	SARA	1			
KB8NDS	TOM	5	KB8ULS	ROGER	3			
KA8NDY	DAN	45	KB8UNX	MARK	2			
N8NLS	VIRGINIA	1	KB8UTC	MIKE	1			
N8NMX	BILL	2	WA8UVW	BILL	1			
N8NQQ	BIFF	31	WK8V	DAVE	1			

Top 20 FM Ops

Call	Name	pts
1	K8OEF	JOE 89
2	KF8AT	FLOYD 79
3	KB8QMS	NANCY 73
4	WD8IFL	DAVE 61
5	WB8E	WALT 59
6	KB8WTC	MIKE 57
7	WY8M	ARPAD 57
8	KB8TOQ	LEE 53
9	KB8TAS	JERRY 52
10	N8OKW	JIM 51
11	KB8RBV	MANNY 51
12	KG8IF	ANN 46
13	KB8QXD	RANDY 45
14	KA8NDY	DAN 45
15	N8TMJ	MARIANNE 44
16	N8RUE	EDDIE 44
17	KF8CT	DAVE 39
18	KB8QMP	BILL 38
19	KB8YYC	DENNIS 38
20	K8CFY	JERRY 37

Top Ten CW Ops

Call	Name	pts
1	W8VRW	HARRY 180
2	N8MOJ	MARION 108
3	KF8AT	FLOYD 66
4	N8OEF	VAL 54
5	KA8NDY	DAN 48
6	WB8E	WALT 40
7	KG8KZ	DAVE 40
8	WA8ZOF	PHIL 30
9	N8WYO	ALAN 22
10	WD8PLQ	GAYLEN 14

Displayed: 164 of 202
 Database c/o KF8RG... Ken
 Program Courtesy of WU8C

NOVEMBER, 1995

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

U.S.E.C.A.

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

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

The *U.S.E.C.A. EXPRESS* is published monthly (except July and August), by the UTICA SHELBY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION, INC., of Macomb County, Michigan. Club meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month (except July and August), 7:30 p.m., local time, at the Donald Bemis Junior High School, 12500 Nineteen Mile Road, Sterling Heights, Michigan (between Schoenherr and Clinton River Road). *Visitors are always welcome.* Articles for the *EXPRESS* should be submitted to the editor no later than the night of the club meeting for publication in the following month's edition. For those who want to get a message to the Board or the membership secretary, please call our answering machine at: (810) 268-6730.

U.S.E.C.A.

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