



USECA EXPRESS



Michigan's Largest and Most Active Amateur Radio Club

UTICA SHELBY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION, INC. Volume 21, Number 9, November 2005

NiCd or NiMh?

By Dick Arnold, AF8X

ONLY MENTION these two types because, in my opinion, they are the best choice for portable QRP operation. Other battery types were discussed in a previous Express article.

I consider NiCd or NiMh batteries to be the best choice for portable stations because other types have certain disadvantages: Lead acid or Gel, very heavy. Lithium ion, very expensive.

NiCd batteries are probably the most popular rechargeable power source for hobbyists. They are inexpensive and available almost everywhere. The cells are rated at 1.2 volts per cell, so 10 cells would be needed for a 12-volt battery pack.

NiMh batteries are my favorite. They have many of the same characteristics as NiCds, but are available in much higher capacities — approximately 10 times higher.

NiMh cells also are rated at 1.2 volts per cell. 12-volt battery packs for either NiCd or NiMh batteries can be made easily by using a 10-cell AA battery holder. (Available from Mouser electronics, Stock number 12BH310A [www.mouser.com.])

Both of these battery types have a marked self-discharge rate, so it is advisable to charge them shortly before use.

For QRP operation, AA size cells are the most practical as to weight, price, and capacity. For higher output rigs, larger cells would require some creative packaging to make a compact power source to suit your requirements.

—Continued on Page 7

USECA—Help

Dave, W8RIT

HELLO FELLOW USECAns, I am asking that you take a few seconds to answer some questions about yourself on the USECA Community Board. Your answers are anonymous and can help to shape club activities and functions. You also can see what similarities and differences other club members may have.

What I am envisioning for this opinion poll is this: You answer the questions as honestly as possible. The results will automatically be tabulated after your vote. You and other club members may see these results of each question. We would like to know what you know about radio, what you want to learn, what you have no interest in, in other words what your strengths and weaknesses are.

We want to find your interests in this hobby to increase your pleasure in club activities. This committee will also view the results and be able to see the “big picture” of the members’ personality as a whole club. We can move in the right direction based on those results so the more of you that speak up the better overall view we can get.

We hope to gain a better view of who you are and what you want and do not want for activities and functions. Once we see the club “personality” we should be able to develop and implement different programs, activities and functions to suit your likes. We may need you as club members to then help us in some of your radio skills to give demonstrations and pass along your knowledge of your specialty in radio.

—Continued on Page 7

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

This is the last issue to be mailed to those with email—look for a link to the next issue in your email.

USECA's 2005 Christmas Party

THIS YEAR'S Christmas party will be held at the Elk's Club in Mt. Clemens on Saturday evening, December 3. Price: \$15.00—gets you a wonderful catered buffet dinner, with chicken and pork as the main meat courses. Salad, vegetables, rolls/butter, desserts, coffee and pop are also on the menu. Taxes and tips included, except at the bar. Cocktails will be served at 6:30, cash bar.

There will be a voluntary anonymous gift exchange, up to \$15.00 value suggested. No junk, please, but funny items will be fought over. If you bring a gift, you get a gift. Ann will be collecting at the November Board and General meetings.

People who attended last year's event will tell you how much fun it was. The room will be nicely decorated, and it will be a nice social night out. Friends and family are welcome.

—Continued on Page 10

Next Meeting — Tuesday, November 8

CLUB DIRECTORY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Jim Wickstrom/W11K (586) 771-4135
 Vice President Scott Madison/WN1B (248) 628-4756
 Recording Secretary Ann Manor/KT8F (586) 751-3893
 Treasurer Dennis Gaboury/W8DFG (586) 465-7126
 Membership Secretary Ken Cassale/KW8Z (586) 552-8311
 Past President Nancy Carr/KB8QMS (586) 749-3383

ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

George Schutte/K8GEO (248) 393-4030
 Joe Kennedy/N8OZ (586) 977-7222
 Fred Holmes/W1SKU (248) 693-3638



COMMITTEES

ARRL Liaison Dave/W8RIT (810) 765-3745
 Awards Manager Arpad/WY8M (586) 751-3804
 Door Prizes -OPEN-
 Editor Joe/K8OEF (586) 781-0050
 Field Day Chair Phil/W8IC & Ann/KT8F (586) 751-3893
 Health & Welfare Walt/WB8E (586) 777-2954
 Historian Jerry/K8CFY (586) 791-4484
 Liaisons George/K8GEO & Mike N5WCS
 Mailers/Sorters Ann/KT8F; Phil/W8IC; & Crew
 Net Manager Brian/KC8DIR (586) 749-4561
 Photographer Richard/K8QLM (586) 731-4475
 Program Director Scott/WN1B (248) 628-4756
 Public Relations Officer Ken/N8KC (248) 652-1187
 Refreshments Walt/WB8E and Richard/KC8HJM
 Repeater Trustee Dennis/W8DFG (586) 465-7126
 Swap & Shop Bob/KZ8N (586) 716-9114
 Technical Director Floyd/W8RO (248) 391-6660
 Technicians WN1B; K8FT; WA8GQL; KC8IAQ; W11K; AD8S; N8SA
 VE Testing Joe/N8OZ (586) 977-7222

CONTROL OPERATORS (*Phone Number Above)

Scott/WN1B* Jim/W11K* Floyd/W8RO*
 Dennis/W8DFG* Joe/K8OEF* Dave/AD8S
 Dave/KC8IAQ Joe/N8OZ*
 Phil/W8IC* Nancy/KB8QMS*

PROGRAMMERS

Dennis/W8DFG Dave/KC8IAQ

SILENT KEYS

Len Czapiewski/K8DHH	Stuart Satrun/KW8K	Vance Dupuis/WB8QNI
Art Sheff/W8EGV	Rick Parady/KB8KLW	Dave Martin/W8VB
Joe Lucido/NU8F	John Moore/KA8KTV	Harry Young/W8VRW
Charles Smith/N8FWF	John Palmer/WD8LBH	Velma Ragon/N8YVC
Clarence Ringo/W8HQO	Joe Palson/WD8MFN	John Tomlins/KG8YX
Joe Steel/KA8IZM	John Pizzuti/WB8NHT	

f= Founder c= Charter h= Hon. Charter

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

Michigan's . . .

BEST-IN-CLASS!

The Editor is:

Still Going

Joe, K8OEF

November already! This is the time of year that USECA's general meeting will be accepting nominations for our club's officers. If you have intentions of serving our club in one of the elected capacities, be sure to attend the November meeting. Elections will take place at the December meeting.

Last month I mentioned the on-line *Express* will be moving to the Community Board on USECA's web page. The new downloading procedure is on page 8.

LATE NEWS: I understand if you are a member and have email capabilities, this will be the last printed *Express* you'll receive. The plan is to alert members when the current edition is available, and with a link, will take you right there.

73 for now.



(That's us—U S of A)

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From Da Finance Guy

FOR THE PAST six months or so during the Board meetings, we have discussed different fundraisers for the club. As all of you may know Swap attendance in general has been down, not just at ours, but all the clubs have notice a drop in attendance. This is our main source of income for USECA. I brought up to the membership at the October meeting that we institute a monthly 50-50 drawing, with the minimum prize of \$100 be given at the monthly drawings. This would mean that we would have to get a small Gaming License from the State, that on the ticket the License number, date of drawing, address of drawing, as well as the time be on the ticket. The License would cost about \$80 for the year. I am looking to get the printing of the tickets underwritten from a company.

To make this work we would need a commitment of members to sell tickets every month for the 10 months that we meet. We would need to sell a minimum of 200 tickets a month to meet this goal. This of course would be any combination, 20 people selling 10 tickets, 40 people selling 5 tickets. The greater amount of tickets sold, means the prize would be larger.

The selling point for the 50-50 drawing is – it's not Ham related and tickets could be sold to anyone. Cash is always a good thing.

To sweeten the pot, the person selling the winning ticket would receive \$15 for his effort, we would pull a second ticket, and who ever sold that ticket would receive \$10. Of course their would be some record keeping involved, so if a member took tickets to sell, one would have to turn in money or tickets not sold back in at every meeting.

We have gone through a big expense this year upgrading the Repeater system. We have gone through the system from head to toe, with installing a new controller and voter that can accept 8 remote sites, to replacing the remote sites with plug and play receivers to make maintenance or replacement easier and faster.

Plus last year's Swap saw a drop in income that we realized in our coffers. I will be bringing this information to the November meeting for consideration of the members to vote on. This will be an important vote, and I ask that if you can attend this meeting, please do so. The sole purpose of this club is the

Repeater, without this Repeater there would be no club. Another reason for being at this important meeting, nominations for next year's officers will be placed.

Now onto another subject concerning income. Bob Hollingsworth, KZ8N, our Swap Czar this year, has requested help at this year's Swap. He needs our help to insure that this year's event gets pulled off without a hitch. We will be able to have a Saturday night set up which will help immensely. We will need help in the following areas: Table set up, ticket sellers, security, parking, and Swap tear down. So if you can help in any of these spots, get a hold of Bob at hamfest@k8uo.com to give a much needed helping hand.

Also, after the Swap the APCC will have a buffet for a mere \$7.00. The 32 people that stayed last year for the feast will testify that it was one heck of a spread. So plan on joining us afterwards and save the cost of fuel.

73,

Dennis W8DFG
Treasurer/Repeater Trustee

Clinton Township Proposed Ordinance

Bill, N8SA

Here are the pertinent facts on this ordinance.

1. One tower up to 75 ft total. (Building app. needed.)
2. One roof top antenna support structure which can be up to 5 feet over the peak of the roof.
3. Above can have up to a 20 foot antenna of a vertical omnidirectional type—no beams at this height—they were adamant on this point!

4. The ordinance allows for a TV type support for one antenna not to exceed 15 feet over the roof. This is for anyone—the above exemptions are for hams and federally licensed individuals (CAP/MARS) only!

5. 10 foot setback from property line for all towers. NO FALL ZONE restrictions! This was huge and hard to get!

I would like to personally thank the Clinton Twp. Ordinance Update Committee, and the ZBA, and the

Township Board for its cooperation on this subject. They supported us as hams from the start and were willing to work with us instead against us as most local jurisdictions do. It was indeed a pleasure to work with these fine folks.

Next meeting to approve the proposed ordinance will not be until about early December. More later!

USECA Meeting Minutes

Board Meeting—October 4, 2005

In attendance:

W1IK, Jim	President
*WN1B, Scott	Vice-President
KT8F, Ann	Recording Secretary
KW8Z, Ken	Membership Secretary
W8DFG, Dennis	Treasurer
*K8GEO, George	Board Member
*N8OZ, Joe	Board Member
W1SKU, Fred	Board Member
*KB8QMS, Nancy	Past President
*Absent	



Meeting called to order by the President at 7:38 PM

Motion to accept the minutes of the last BOD meeting made by Dennis, W8DFG, and 2nd by Fred, W1SKU, motion carried.

Treasurer's report provided by Dennis, W8DFG – motion to accept by Ann, KT8F and 2nd by Ken, KW8Z, motion carried.

Membership: Ken, KW8Z – 189 members.

Webmaster: Dave, KC8IAQ – discussion with Brad, N8VI re: domains.

Technical: Fred, W1SKU, repeater now running at 15 watts – problem with new PA is being worked on.

Trustee Report: no report.

ARRL – Dave, W8RIT will report to the membership next week.

Swap report by BOB, KZ8N. Listed vendors and info on tables sold. Needs help in all areas. Rich, K8PJQ offered to sell a brand new Yaesu FT 2800 mobile FM radio to the club for \$100.00, to be used a swap prize. Jim, W1IK, made a motion that we purchase the radio, 2nd by Ann, KT8F, discussion, motion carried. The radio will be the first prize at the swap.

Notes from the inter-club liaison were read to the BOD.

Dennis, W8DFG, Discussed the monthly drawing of raffle tickets. Need to sell at least 200 for a profit. Will present the issue to the general membership. Would like to apply for the license, and start the drawings in January.

Health and Welfare: Walt, WB8E reported. Please contact Walt if you know of someone with an illness.

Ann, KT8F reported on the Christmas Party. Saturday, December 3, at the Elk's Club, 6:30 PM cocktails, 7:00 dinner. Cost: \$15.00.

Field Day shirts can still be had on the web.

Dave, KC8IAQ reported on the recent zoning Board of Appeals regarding antenna heights and limiting antennas on a roof. The ordinance to be re-written.

New Business: Dave, W8RIT would like to poll the members for topics they might be interested in. He would like to head up a committee to assist with this project.

Ann, KT8F brought before the board a presentation regarding discontinuing the mailing of hard copy newsletters vs. emailing.

Hard copies will go to those who do not have computers. Dennis, W8DFG made a motion that this issue be brought before the general meeting for a vote, seconded by Fred, W1SKU, discussion, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned 8:51 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Manor, KT8F, Recording Secretary



General Meeting—October 11, 2005

In attendance:

W1IK, Jim	President
WN1B, Scott	Vice-President
KT8F, Ann	Recording Secretary
KW8Z, Ken	Membership Secretary
W8DFG, Dennis	Treasurer
K8GEO, George	Board Member
N8OZ, Joe	Board Member
W1SKU, Fred	Board Member
*KB8QMS, Nancy	Past President
*Absent	

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

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

Motion made to accept the minutes as printed in the Express made by Jim, N8DMW and 2nd by Mike, N5WCS, motion carried.

Treasurer's report given by Dennis, W8DFG. Motion to allocate \$2800.00 for swap expenses made by Dennis, W8DFG, 2nd by Scott, WN1B, motion carried. Motion to approve the financial report made by Rich, K8PJQ and 2nd by Tom, W8TRC, motion carried.

Membership: Ken, KW8Z: 190 members.

Technical report: Floyd, W8RO, PA modified, Repeater running at 25 watts currently.

Website: Dave, KC8IAQ – no report.

Express: Joe, K8OEF – no report. Email articles for the Express to Joe.

ARRL: Dave, W8RIT discussed upcoming elections for ARRL and other issues.

Club Liaison: George, K8GEO, reported on upcoming events. See list elsewhere in this issue.

No trustee report.

Field day – Phil, W8IC reported on the June event. Phil stated that if someone else is interested in running the event, Phil will be glad to help out.

Dennis, W8DFG, discussed fundraiser ideas. See the article by Dennis, printed in this issue regarding 50/50 tickets.

—Continued on Page 9

Be Prepared

By Dick Arnold, AF8X

THE RECENT TV coverage of the hurricane savaged areas down south brought to mind the state of un-preparedness of the general population. I feel individuals are responsible for a plan to activate when danger threatens. Some people wait to be taken care of, while others move decisively to safety.

Most of you are probably familiar with the Boy Scout motto, "Be Prepared." I have tried to apply that philosophy since my days as a scout until today. Working in the construction field for forty years, I learned to imagine the worse case scenarios and prepare for them.

The motto, "Be Prepared" should apply to the ham radio hobby as well. During emergencies, natural disasters, etc. many hams fill the communication void when other systems fail. These dedicated people train for emergencies and have the equipment to keep communications alive in areas that have become isolated. Usually during power outages, Amateur Radio is the most reliable if not the only means of communication.

We can be prepared for emergencies by a little forethought. Imagine the power is out; would you be able to open your electric garage door? Would you be able to keep your furnace running during cold weather? Those are only a couple things to think about. There are solutions to problems like these, but they are easier to come by before it becomes a necessity. Are the rechargeable batteries you have kept in a fully charged state? If you have a generator, do you have fuel for it?

Try thinking about all the bad things that could happen and then think about what you can do to prepare for them should they become real.

This area is not at risk from hurricanes, however we do get very destructive tornados. When you hear the warning, do you wait to see what happens, or make preparations in case of a close encounter?

The technical skill you have gained by becoming a ham can help you to manage emergency situations. Also, some of the equipment used in the hobby can be useful. 120 volts may be available from an inverter hooked up to 12-volt batteries. 2-meter radios are useful during severe storms or tornado warnings. I always listen to the weather nets and hear the reports of the volunteers that go out and monitor conditions. Weather information can be heard long before it is repeated on TV or commercial radio stations. If there was a tornado touchdown, you will get an early warning on 2 meters.

The annual ham field day is a demonstration of emergency preparedness. We should be prepared not only at the end of June, but continuously. Every year in some area struck with disaster, Amateur Radio answers the much asked question, "What good is it?"

Be Prepared.

Morse Code

By Dick Arnold, AF8X

(I promise, this will be my last word about CW)

LEARNING MORSE HAS been a hot button issue with a lot of hams. Instead of deciding to learn it, they consume enormous amounts of energy finding excuses why they shouldn't or can't learn it. As someone who has enjoyed CW for many years, I find it ludicrous that a person "can't" learn it. You only have to decide to do it. Much like quitting smoking, it is sometimes painful to practice, but if your mind is made up, you will succeed. I often equate learning Morse to a blind person learning Braille. It would be a shame to limit a person's ability to communicate by refusing to learn the mode required.

I believe anyone, yes anyone, can learn Morse if they truly want to. Sadly, soon they will no longer be required to learn it. Sad because Morse is a tradition in amateur radio. CW operators, with their "secret" lan-

guage have enjoyed using Morse since the beginning of radio communications.

Some say CW is outmoded by the new digital modes. The same could be said for SSB, but I don't hear people calling for an end to SSB because at an early age, they learned to speak. It should be remembered that the new digital modes all require an electronic device to decipher it. Like SSB, Morse can be deciphered by the human brain; also Morse can be sent and received using light, sound, or graphic signs; a useful thing in an emergency situation.

When the FCC ends the Morse requirement, CW will not stop. Those of us who enjoy it, will continue to use it and feel just a little bit superior to those who can't.

USECA NET POINTS

AS OF 10-3-05

VHF TOP 25

Callsign	Name	Total
W11K	Jim	85
KC8HMG	Janice	51
N8YBY	Leonard	48
KW8Z	Ken	46
K8QLM	Richard	45
W8DFG	Dennis	39
WB8E	Walt	36
KC8TTQ	David	34
N8OZ	Joe	34
WN1B	Scott	29
KV8Z	Chris	29
N5WCS	Mike	28
KC8LOC	Tom	26
KD8AWZ	Keith	25
KC8VCJ	Andy	25
KD8AVF	Tom	24
AB8BT	Andy	21
WY8M	Arpad	19
W8WTH	Richard	19
KC8SYO	Bob	17
N8PDP	Michael	17
KD8ARL	Steve	15
KI8JN	Phil	14
KT8F	Ann	13
KC8CPT	Don	13

HF TOP 21

Callsign	Name	Total
WY8M	Arpad	181
W11K	Jim	99
K8QLM	Richard	62
KA2IBE	John	34
N8NKY	Edward	30
AB8BT	Andy	28
W8OMC	Ken	25
KV8Z	Chris	19
KC8LOC	Tom	16
WN1B	Scott	10
KC8HMG	Janice	8
N8ZY	Robert	6
WB8OAF	Bill	6
WJ8R	Dave	4
N5WCS	Mike	2
N1GKE	Myrton	2
KD8AMO	Dan	2
KI0FH	Ray ND	2
KA6GME	Dave TX	2
N8COQ	Ken	2
K8DXX	Bill	2

Logging Software written by Jerry N8KLX

ATTN NCO'S: TURN YOUR LOGS INTO: WY8M@K8UO.COM

Please list calls in a vertical column. PLEASE include names!

Due to the sheer quantity of check ins, well over 200 hams, only the top 25 for each category will be listed.

73 de WY8M dit dit

Progress?

Dick, AF8X

CW will no longer be included on the FCC license test. Cheers were heard from far and near. This is my opinion: If the CW requirement is removed from the test and when all of us old timers are gone, there will be no more CW mode. This is sad because remember, CW is the only digital mode that does not require a computer to either send or receive messages. I'm sure that some time in the future an emergency will arise and because the computers are down, no message will be sent. CW can be sent via wireless, light, audio, or even pressure without the aid of any electronic device to decode it. Five words a minute is within the reach of anyone willing to learn it. I believe any person wanting a ham license should be challenged beyond memorizing the now published test questions and answers and dedicated enough to spend a couple weeks learning Morse.

CW is a part of radio history that should remain as long as there are people willing to use it.

NiCd or NiMh?—From Page 1

Both NiCd and NiMh batteries need to be charged at 1/10 their rated capacity e.g. 220 mAh = 22 mA charge rate.

NiCds have a reputation of "memory effect" meaning that after several discharge uses to the same point, the battery will no longer maintain full power output past that point unless it is "cycled" by fully discharging before recharging. The newer NiCds don't seem to have this problem.

To make my life simpler, I wanted one charger to handle all my battery needs. I consulted battery-expert, "Red" Scholefield. He recommended the Great Planes Triton battery charger and conditioner. This device is all that is needed for all battery types and is programmable for many different operations. This charger is available through hobby dealersⁱ at about \$129.00.



ⁱ <http://www.towerhobbies.com/>

**USECA—Help—From Page 1**

We would also like to find out about your strengths in knowledge on certain areas, maybe we'd approach you to ask if you would share your knowledge in these areas with others eager to learn. We not only want to find out what you want to learn, but what you will want to teach.

The questions in the opinion polls would approximately come out every month or so. It would only take you a few seconds to answer the multiple-choice questions. These questions will be found on the USECA Community Board under: [USECA Forums](#) [USECA Members Membership Opinion Polls](#). Please view the USECA Community Board Membership Opinion Poll section regularly, as well as viewing the site more frequently for other varied topics that you can have your input on.

Only if you speak up can you have a say in what you want the club to become.

ARRL Elections Three Divisions

NEWINGTON, CT, Sep 8, 2005--There will be contested elections for ARRL Director and Vice Director seats in three divisions for terms beginning next January 1.

In two other divisions, the incumbent Director and Vice Director are running unopposed and have been declared elected. Balloting for Director will occur in the Atlantic, Great Lakes and Midwest divisions. Balloting for Vice Director will take place in the Atlantic and Great Lakes divisions.

In the Great Lakes Division: Incumbent Director James E. Weaver, K8JE, is being challenged for reelection by Neil Sablatzky, K8IT. Running for Great Lakes Division Vice Director are Daniel M. Romanchik, KB6NU, and former Great Lakes Division Vice Director Gary L. Johnston, KI4LA. Current Vice Director Richard Mondro, W8FQT, has decided not to run for another term.

Ballots will go out by October 1 to all full ARRL members on record as of September 10, 2005, in the Atlantic, Great Lakes and Midwest divisions. The deadline to receive completed ballots at ARRL Headquarters is noon Eastern Time Friday, November 18, 2005.

Any member entitled to a ballot and who has not received one by November 1 should request a duplicate ballot from the Secretary, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.

—Submitted by Dave, W8RIT

USECA Club Liaison

MONTH	DATE	EVENT
DEC	3	A Net Control Station Training Workshop will be held on December 3rd at Salvation Army Headquarters 16130 Northland Drive in Southfield from 10 am - 2 pm. This workshop will discuss what you should know in order to be a more effective net control station no matter what kind of net in which you participate. If you wish to attend please email me at k8amr@arrl.net and I will send a copy of the manual. You are expected to read the manual before hand and bring written answers to the scenarios found at the back of the manual. If you attend and submit the written answers, you will receive a certificate of completion.
DEC	4	33rd Annual Swap & Shop L'Anse Creuse Amateur Radio Club Harrison Township (Mount Clemens), MI L'Anse Creuse High School 38495 L'Anse Creuse Road Talk-In: 147.08+ (ECHO repeater); 146.42 Simplex Contact: David Herrington, N8NLK Phone: 586-465-2797 Email: n8nlk@arrl.net
DEC	18	Amateur Radio Group of Youth in Lowell Lowell, MI Lowell High School 11700 Vergennes Street http://www.argyl.org Talk-In: 146.620 - (PL 94.8) & 145.270 - (PL 94.8) Contact: Al Eckman, WW8WW Phone: 616-897-7659 Email: al.eckman@sbcglobal.net
		<i>Submitted by David, KC8TTQ</i>



Larkers in the Park!

STAY
RADIOACTIVE!

USECA Express on the New Web Page

Go to WWW.USECA.ORG. You will have to log in including a password. Once you're in, go to the top where it says "Downloads." Click on it and you'll see a page of Categories; click on the USECA Express and from there you'll be given a choice of what year you want. (You will see screenshots of the various months.) Click on the year; and from there you can click on the month you desire; you must then scroll down and click the "I Agree, Download Now." You will then be asked to "Open" "Save" or "Cancel." (And now a possible glitch.) If you select the "Open" it may not work. You'll have to Save it (to your hard disk) then using Adobe Reader open it from there. Be patient, the bugs are being worked on. If you're still uncomfortable with the above, try the old K8UO.COM site.

—Submitted by Joe, K8OEF

Meeting Minutes—From Page 4

Christmas party info provided by Ann, KT8F, see additional info elsewhere in this issue. Ann will be collecting (\$15.00) starting tonight.

New Business: Dave, W8RIT stated he would like to get a feel for the interests of the club for future programs. He would like to head up a committee to assist with this project. There are 2 polls currently on the community board. See additional info per Dave in this issue.

A motion was made at the BOD meeting to bring before the membership the issue of discontinuing mailing hardcopies of the Express. Ann, KT8F provided details of the plan. Hard copies would go to those without email or internet access, an email link to the current issue to everyone else. This would save the club a substantial amount of money.

Motion made by Dave, W8RIT, 2nd by Floyd, W8RO. Discussion. Vote taken, motion passed unanimously. This change will take place formally in November 2005.

Swap: Bob, KZ8N discussed the needs for the upcoming the USECA swap. He had a sheet for people to sign up for positions in security, ticket sales and other areas. All volunteers will get a dollar off their swap ticket price. Following the swap, you can attend a dinner in the hall at a reasonable price of \$7.00.

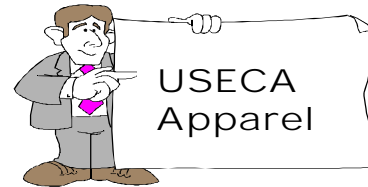
Business portion of the meeting concluded at 8:58 PM.

Program provided by Scott, WN1B, on antenna basics.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Manor, KT8F, Recording Secretary

USECA VE Testing

Testing will be the FIRST Thursday of the month from September through June. Joe, N8OZ will have the CVE duty. No pre-registration is needed or wanted. Test Fee is \$14.00. Applicants need copies and originals of CSCE's and/or license. There is no copy machine at the Elks; (there is none close by). Starting time is 7:00 p.m. — please do not arrive earlier. Walk-ins are welcomed. Test site is at the Mt. Clemens Elks, 179 S. Main St., Mt. Clemens. If testing, you must have the following: picture ID (or birth certificate); and a copy of your current license or completion certificates, if any.



Jackets—\$45.00 • Sweatshirts—\$25.00
Polo Shirts—\$22.00 • Caps—\$6.00
(2X & 3X—Additional Charge)
Contact: Chuck, N8ZA
At Meetings or Phone (586) 557-4983

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. Additional awards for the highest annual HF and VHF scores. Awards are meant to encourage **participation** and can be earned by any **USECA member**.
- ✓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 your logs to: Arpad, WY8M, 28803 Grobbel, Warren, MI 48092; or email to wy8m@arrl.net.
- ✓5) If you notice any errors in the database, wrong or changed call signs, mis-spelled names, etc., let Arpad know ASAP.

The *USECA EXPRESS* is published monthly (except July and August), by the UTICA SHELBY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION, INC., of Macomb County, Michigan. Club meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month (except July and August), 7:30 p.m., local time, at the 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. The awards for "Excellent" (1994) and four times "Superior" (1995, 1996, 1997 and 1998) were received from ARNS (Amateur Radio News Service). [Note: ARNS has disbanded.]

USECA Cork Board

? Radio Items?

ALS 600 Solid State Base Amp. No tune 1.5 to 22 MHz. List \$1129.99; sell for \$1000. (Page 86 in AES catalog) Contact Jerry, K8CFY at: k8cfy@k8uo.com.

COMET SB-14 6M/2M/440 Mobile antenna. Black fold-over base. Excellent condition. Only \$40! Contact Floyd, W8RO, at (248) 431-7769 or w8ro@k8uo.com.

KENWOOD Linear Amp. 1000 watts, model TL-922A; 160-15 meters; \$1000.

General Radio Freq. Measuring Equipment; 2-6' cabinets; w/all frequency equipment; w/manuals; lots of electronics; \$250.

HEATHKIT Transceiver model HW-16; w/manual. 80-40 & 15 meters; no crystals; \$35.

HEATHKIT SWL radio model GR-81; 160-80-40-20 meters; w/manual \$50.

Contact K8LJM, Jose; (586) 792-4602.

★2 REPEATERS. 2 meter and 440. Yaesu Vertex VXR 5000s. CAT 1000 controllers with DVR and WX interface. Wacom cans. Peet Bros weather station. Cabinet. Gerry, K8GER (989) 826-3196 or k8ger@k8uo.com.

WANTED: Motorola Expo batteries in GWO. Contact Floyd, W8RO at (248) 431-7769 or w8ro@k8uo.com

? Miscellaneous Items?

CHEVROLET, 2003 Trailblazer 4WD (W8RO/M). Excellent condition, loaded. Sandlewood exterior, Tan interior. 29K miles. Only \$22,900! For more details, contact Floyd, W8RO at (248) 431-7769 or w8ro@k8uo.com.

IMATION SuperDisk 120MB Parallel Port Drive. Will trade for anything for which I can find a use. Dick Arnold (586) 791 3595.

FREE! To a good home: Epson Apex L-1000 Dot Matrix Printer (24 pin). Very good condition with manuals and drivers! Contact Floyd, W8RO at (248) 431-7769 or w8ro@k8uo.com.

SONY/DELL 21" CRT Computer Monitor with manual; like new; 2 years old. \$295. Contact Joe, K8OEF at (586) 781-0050 or k8oef@k8uo.com.

TOSHIBA Laptop computer 486 Satellite with Canon Jet Printer. \$130. Hewlett-Packard Color Printer Deskjet 560C. \$35. Bapco safety analyzer 120v to 220v test for ground on any product. \$125. Sony car stereo, AM/FM cassette with Sony CD 10 Disc Changer \$140. KC8QIC, Denny, (586) 268-7417.

TRU-CHEK Rain Gauge. "World's best rain gauge." Slightly used and still in box with unused mounting bracket. \$15 Contact Floyd, W8RO at (248) 431-7769 or w8ro@k8uo.com.

★New or changed this month.
Please notify the editor to have item(s) added and/or removed.

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

USECA's 2005 Christmas Party—From Page 1

You may mail your reservations to: Ann Manor, 4865 Bates Dr, Warren, MI, 48092. You may also make your reservations with Dennis, W8DFG. Make checks payable to USECA. Cut-off date is Monday, November 28.

★FOR SALE

KENWOOD TS-570DG – All band all mode HF transceiver, covers all HF-broadcast-ham-CB-marine bands, transceives all popular modes AM/FM/CW/SSB up to 30MHz, digital display, DSP, auto-notch filter, IF shift, automatic antenna tuner built-in, CW memory keyer, many more features, front panel in great shape but sides have a couple small holes in them where previous owner mounted it in some sort of MARS/CAP room, have the owners manual, mic and power cord, no box, no options installed; Had originally planned to use it mobile but got lazy; \$625.

KENWOOD R2000 – Shortwave HF receiver, covers all HF-broadcast-ham-CB-marine bands, receives all popular modes AM/FM/CW/SSB, 150kHz to 30MHz, built in power supply or can run on external 12VDC, have box, owners manual, service manual; \$325

MFJ-915 – RF Isolator, SO-239 (PL-style) connectors, manual, like new; \$25.

WIRE ANTENNA – A G5RV-style HF wire antenna with loading (shortening) coils in line with the two wire dipole elements, ladderline feed abt 28', wire legs abt 33' each, loading coil is abt 6' from ends, coils are abt 1.5" dia & abt 50 turns, PL style connector; FREE to a newer ham who just passed their 5 wpm; otherwise \$30.

American Electrola DXC-100 – rare tabletop radio only 2000 made, all solid state, American made with American components, allegedly the last SWL USA-made radio actually made in the USA, HF receiver to 30 MHz, AM/FM/SW, digital display, direct entry keypad, wooden case, front firing speaker, large internal wire loop antenna, long telescopic antenna, ext. jack, power supply, original owners manual; \$125.

MFJ MFJ-956 – tuner, two knobs, 2 SO-239's; \$24.

ARRL QST MAG's – couple boxes of the ARRL's QST magazine, 1970's vintage; FREE!

Motorola 5Y – actually made by Galvin Mfg Co. in 1937, no case, large Motorola speaker, very dusty, functional condition unknown, FREE!

Yaesu MH-34 – Speaker mic for Yaesu HT's, single pin 4-conductor style, rotatable lapel clip, like new; \$20.

Kenwood SMC-33 – Speaker-mic for Kenwood HT's, two-pin style, right angle connector, has the three programmable buttons across the top, lock switch on the back, rotatable lapel clip; \$45.

Computer Speakers – amplified pc speakers, used only 10 minutes; \$5.

Archer 15-1113 – UHF/VHF/FM pre-amp, 110V; \$10.

CB Antenna – about 26" long, base loaded, base load is tunable w/2 adjustment rings, 3/8" style mount; \$5.

Cell Phone Mobile Power Cord – for cell phone with 4.8V battery, DC coaxial plug on phone end; \$5.

Power Supply – switching PS, 12-15 VDC, 16A, works, you wire it up; \$25.

Duckies – UHF duck about 6" with BNC, \$5; dual band 2M/440 "Icom" style about 6" with BNC, \$15; 11 Meter black rubber duck with right angle PL259, \$5.

K-40 10/11M Whip – 4' fiberglass, black, tunable, substitute for original K-40 stainless whip & base load, no mount or coax just the antenna; \$4

Contact Arpad, WY8M at: wj8m@arrl.net or 147.180 MHz+ 100 Hz PL.



USECA APPLICATION

DATE _____ NEW RENEWAL
 CALL _____ CLASS _____ AUTO-PATCH _____
 NAME _____
 STREET ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 TELEPHONE # _____ PRINT # IN ROSTER YES NO
 BIRTHDATE _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____
 MEMBER: ARRL YES NO RACES YES NO

Rev. 3/04

FOR FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS ONLY:

CALL _____ CLASS _____	CALL _____ CLASS _____
NAME _____	NAME _____
BIRTHDATE _____	BIRTHDATE _____
MEMBER: ARRL <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	MEMBER: ARRL <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
RACES <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	RACES <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> 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 46331, Mt. Clemens, MI 48046**
 (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.
SUN	1:00 pm	USECA/Information	147.180
SUN	7:00 pm	USECA/Youth	147.180
SUN	8:00 pm	USECA/Traders/Helpers	147.180
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
MON	9:00 pm	USECA/Morse Code Class	147.180
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

VHF PL'S — 100 Hz

On The World Wide Web
 USECA Home Page

WWW.USECA.NET

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
WED	7:00 pm	USECA/6 Meter Phone USB	50.150
THU	7:30 pm	LCARC/10 Meter Phone USB	28.435
THU	9:00 pm	USECA/15 Meter Slow CW	21.140
FRI	10:00 pm	USECA/80 Meter CW	3.710
FRI	11:00 pm	USECA/10 Meter Phone USB	28.425

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

Net Ops Schedules

2-METER NETS

	SUN. 1 PM	SUN. 8 PM**
WEEK	147.180 MHz	147.180 MHz
1	VA3IDJ	W1IK
2	KT8F	KC8WXF
3	-OPEN-	W8RIT
4	KW8Z	WN1B
5*	WB8E	KW8Z

*If applicable

**Traders/Helpers Net

NCO's—If you're unable to take your net please get a replacement or contact Brian, KC8DIR (586) 749-4561—Don't wait!

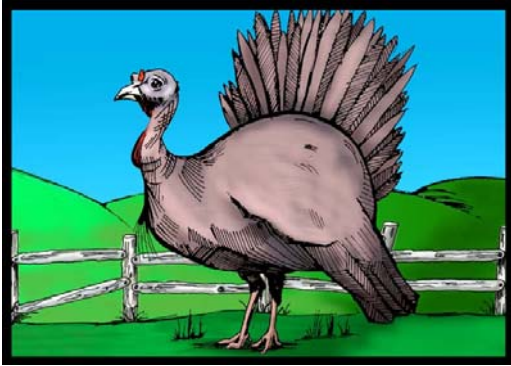
USECA

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

POSTMASTER: DATED MATERIAL

PRESRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
WARREN, MI
PERMIT NO. 289



NOVEMBER 2005

"The Happenin' Club"

Club Activities

MONTH	DATE	TIME	EVENT
NOV	8	7:30 pm	General Meeting (Nominations)
DEC	3	6:30 pm	USECA 18th Annual Christmas Party
DEC	13	7:30 pm	General Meeting (Elections)

Name Badges

WITH THE OFFICIAL USECA LOGO
CONTACT LAURA — (586) 749-4561

