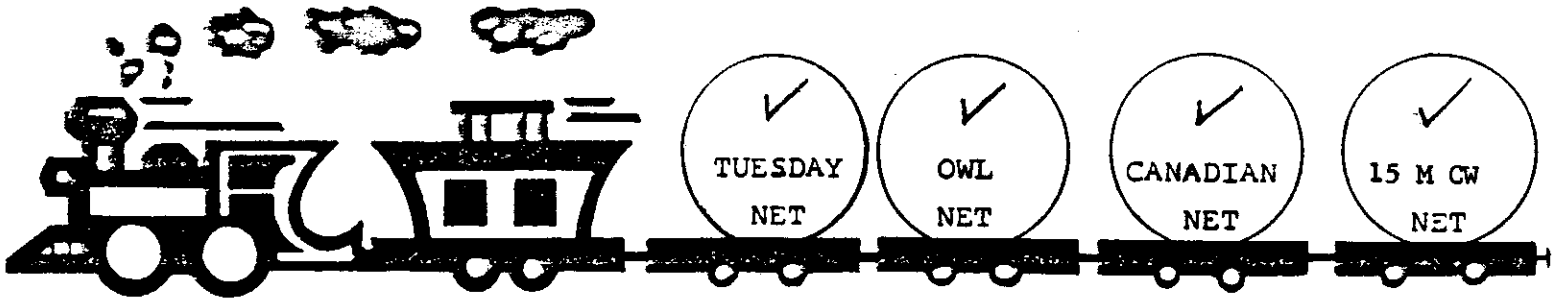


# "THE U.S.E.C.A. EXPRESS" UTICA-SHELBY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS ASSN. MACOMB COUNTY 147.18/78

PUBLISHED MONTHLY  
BY  
USECA INTERNATIONAL

YOUR EDITOR: WB8QNI

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SEPTEMBER/  
OCTOBER 88

# U.S.E.C.A. FACTS

volume 3 no.8

SEPTEMBER 1988

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## POINT NETS

Sun.	1300 EST	147.78/147.18
Tue.	2000 EST	147.78/147.18
Thu.	1930 EST	21.165 CW
Fri.	2359 EST	147.78/147.18

## OTHER NETS

Sun	2200 EST	21.125 CW
Mon.	2200 EST	21.125 CW
Tue.	2100 EST	28.400 SSB
Tue.	2200 EST	21.125 CW
Wed.	2200 EST	21.125 CW
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f Founder    c Charter    h Hon. Charter

K8BKTU f c SK	N8HCT f. c
N8FNO f c	K8BIZM f c SK
W88MFN f c	W88NHT f c
K8QLM f c	K88BDG c
W88QNI c	W8BVZZ c
K8BWOT c	N8FDN c
N8BK h	W88OSF h
K8BVV h	N8AWV h
J.Haubner c	G. Marquardt h

# USECA EXPRESS

BOB MACCAULEY WB8G 792-6145

volume 3 no.8

SEPTEMBER 1988

The OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER of the UTICA-SHELBY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS ASSN. of Macomb County, Michigan  
WA62 RPTR- 147.18/ .78 located near Cass & Mound rd., Utica, Mi.- with satellite rcvr at SELFRIDGE ANG Base. Club meetings  
held on 2nd Tuesday of month, 7:30 pm, at FAITH LUTHERAN Church, 1/4 mile south of 23 Mile Rd. on SHELBY RD., UTICA, MI.  
(west of Van Dyke). Items for publication must reach the Editor no later than 3rd Thursday of month, which is one day following the  
night of the BOARD MEETING. EDITOR: JERRY MCGINN, K8CFY, 20216 MCKISHNIE, MT. CLEMENS, MI. 48043 (313) 791-4484

## EDITORIAL.....

AH! LABOR DAY! (the only day you don't have to work- except of course, Walt). - Sadly for some it heralds the end of Summer; but gladly, for most of us, it heralds the new approaching Fall- the most magnificent, colorful and spectacular time of the year in Michigan! It brings out the romantic nostalgia of all our poetic feelings, yet makes us wary of the forboding winter to come; and thus sharpens our senses of responsibility - to hurry and enjoy while time is left, but also to remember to get necessary things done before it's too late. AH! SUCH IS LIFE!.....let the good dreams roll on!

Looking back upon that wonderfully HOT Summer past, one might ask 'what hath MAN wrought?' Well, for starters I know my electric bill shot up 5% more than it's usual high; but I was comfortable! Many others were not so fortunate; and many too, voluntarily gave up their comfort to perform a civic task beneficial to all in our contiguous communities. YES, I AM SPEAKING OF THE CLINTON RIVER CLEANUP; and I say a job well done- by all the river crews and especially by all the USECAN'S and their fellow HAMS, who coordinated their tasks so successfully. Unfortunately, one volunteer had a fatal coronary; but he died doing something good- something he really believed in and wanted to do. So be proud that we too are doing good; what we believe in- for ourselves, for our community; for our children and also for our country!

Heroes don't look for great rewards, but it is gratifying to see that such good newspaper PR was given to the volunteer community effort. And I'm especially glad I phoned the ADVISOR, asking them to especially play up the role of the Amateur

Radio operators. Staff writer Debra Pascoe lived up to her promise in that regard and we are thankful for the press exposure; we wonder however what happened with the promised photography. That would have been extremely nice. Well, a little at a time I guess. Maybe the Romeo Festival will be more productive. (You know, the more of this stuff we get, - the more fodder we have for the cannons to send off to your Senators & Congressmen! Remember that! Please.)

79, and 90,

Jerry McGinn, Editor

## TACTICAL LOW-FREQ. ANTENNA TESTED

(butchered & excerpted from Worldradio)

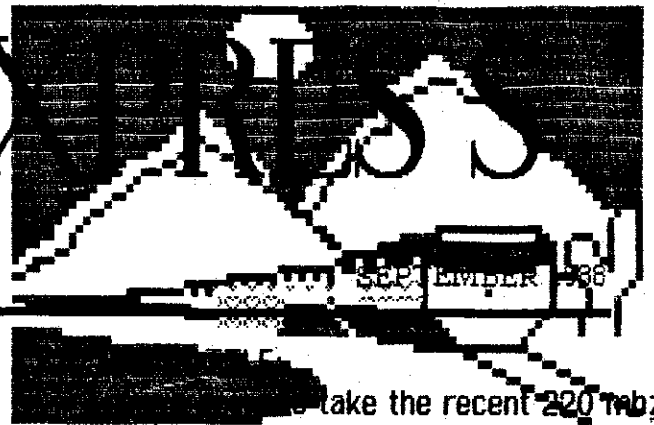
The Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command, under contract with ASTRON Corp., will conduct tests on an exp'tl low-freq. ant. to determine its electrical performance characteristics and to evaluate its potential for various applications including tactical use aboard naval combatant ships . . . . .

Testing will be conducted on a sporadic basis from Aug. to Oct. 1988 from sites at Va. & Md. Tx output pwr will be 1kw. The ant. is a tx'ing loop design in the shape of a triangle 65' high at the apex & extending 400' along the base. The wire is 0 guage litz cable, & the loop is tuned with a combination of fixed and variable capacitance. ....listening reports from longwave listeners are requested. This qualitative data will augment field strength data taken by proj. personell. .... The objective of collecting data is to determine the potential coverage of a low freq. system using this type ant. in a naval battle group. The primary oper. freq. will be 185khz; 175 khz is available as a secondary frequency.

The signal will consist of alternative periods of steady carrier & on/off keyed 10wpm Intntl Morse Code (call sign NWA), the word TEST, w/a single alphabetic chr. related to the current test condition. All reception reports should: identify time & date, location of rcvr, description of ant & rcvr., freq, RST & test condition alphabetic character. Reception Reports verified with spcl QSL. Send to: SPAWAR, -- NWA TEST, WASH.D.C. 20363-5100

# USECA EXAMINERS

volume 3 no.8



The U.S.E.C.A. is certainly a growing, progressive organization. At each meeting there are four or five new faces, most of them new members. We heartily congratulate and WELCOME these NEWMEMBERS:

K88DRU	GOLDWIN SMITH
K8UON	NANCY SHIFFER
N8JCS	KEVIN BAKER
K8AYZ	PAUL NIEMI

### NEW CALL:

**W18K-(N8BWG) - JOHN MILLER**  
**W18L-(KB8AHL)-DIANE SCALZI**

## TESTING REPORT

In our test session on August 13, we had 10 examinees with 6 (60%) of them upgrading, including a new general and a new technician. Of the 22 elements administered, 15 (68%) were successfully passed. Thanks to WB8E, N8COQ, W18L, WFBI, and N8BG for being examiners. Upgraders are: K88FIT to Tech; N8HZK to Adv; ANDREW QUERRY to Tech; K88FIG to Tech; JOHN ULINSKI to Gen; and N8FUN to Advanced.

## EXAMINATION ANNOUNCEMENT

We will have a test session at the USECA hamfest. Testing will begin at 9 AM. Preregistering guarantees a seat and a test, plus assists in planning. Limited seats are available. To preregister, send to my address as listed in the USECA roster:

1. completed FCC FORM 610
2. \$4.55
3. license photocopy
4. any element credit photocopies
5. indicate license class attempting

Be sure to bring picture ID and original license to the test.

This test session will be done with DeVRY VEC. EXAMINERS WHO DESIRE TO BE ACCREDITED with DeVRY VEC, or any eligible EXTRAclass, may send their materials to me or to DeVRY Institute.

**n8zr**

(see Application form enclosed....editor)

we take the recent 220 mhz defeat, but will you find any of the we going to once again (it seems as always, these days) step back into the ring and carry on the fight? I DON'T KNOW- you all know what has to be done- - again; but we do have one last chance to be brave gladiators and slay the monsters of commercialism who are ever trying to take from us our precious frequencies and privileges. FIGHT FIGHT!!

With a new season of meetings and happenings coming up we should all put our thinking caps on and try to come up with new ideas for pepping up meetings, improving our public image, how best can we serve others and our fellow USECANS. An interesting approach to this comes from Phil Larson, WA8YAN, in the EMARC SPARKS club bulletin: "A lot of really great ideas never even get mentioned.... and therefore never get done." (because) "I'm not going to say anything because I don't want to be chairman in charge of it." His solution is an anonymous suggestion form. NEAT! YOUR IDEAS, sent in to the club this way, can at least be considered (by the Board) and possibly come to fruition at a meeting under New Business. And (maybe) someone else would be happy to chair that brainstorm of yours. Give it some thought! Better yet, come up with a NEAT, NEW SUGGESTION OF YOUR OWN.

GOOD WX AND TIMES WERE SHARED BY all at the annual picnic at Dodge Park. The FOX successfully eluded the intrepid 'hunters' until 'coaxed' from hiding by the promise of a few beers. Just to make it legal, a replay allowed N8FNO and WA8Z to find the 'lil rascal-(K88BMY). Others enjoyed good food, company & games.

# The Little Wonder

Eddy Shell, W5ZBC  
1209 Holiday Place  
Bossier City, Louisiana 71010

Every new QTH for the typical ham brings its own antenna problems. Returning to college to pursue additional graduate studies brought the age-old problem of how could I affix an antenna to a college dorm and not come under the watchful eye of the college authorities? The "Little Wonder" and an antenna tuner was the answer to my problem.

The basic idea came from an AFMARS antenna presently being used by some of the Texas members. This antenna is a normal 40-meter dipole with a coil at each end. The coil consists of 197 turns of No. 12 nyclad wire, close wound on a one-inch stock. It is tuned with a 48-inch pigtail which tunes 3311 kHz with a 1:1 SWR, with the ability to have a full-size 40-meter dipole for 7305 and the amateur use as well. (1 inch equals 50 kHz on the pigtail.)

The "Little Wonder" gets its name from the fact that it is a little wonder that the "Little Wonder" works. My first contact on 40 meters was a W3 in Pennsylvania, with a barefoot KWM2 at ten o'clock on a Saturday night and with the "Little Wonder" leaning against a wall in the kitchen location of my "ham shack."

Construction is simple and all parts can be purchased locally:

1 3/4" hard drawn copper tubing 31 1/2"  
(junk yard, Sears, etc.)

1 3/4" hard drawn copper tubing 43 3/4"  
(junk yard, etc.)

4 6/32 1" brass bolts and nuts

1 3/4" oak dowel rod (fir will work, but oak is stronger)

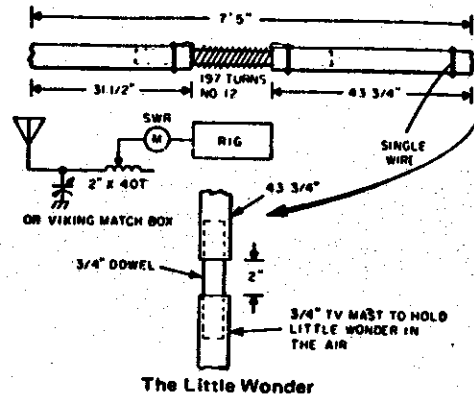
1 roll of plastic tape

1 55 feet of No. 12 nyclad wire (motor rewinding shop)

1 single-wire feedline to run from Little Wonder to antenna tuner... I used 8', 33', and 59' (when it comes into the room it could be hot with rf, so use a rubber or plastic coating on this section). I have found the 59' to work best with the Little Wonder about 35' up on top of a TV mast; however, at school the Little Wonder sat on the window ledge—so who knows?

2 3/4" bar stool rubber feet

1 24"x1" plastic water pipe to cover coil after assembly



How to construct: Drill a small hole in the wooden dowel 8" from one end. Twelve inches of No. 12 nyclad wire is pushed through the small hole. One person holds the 55 feet of No. 12 tight, and the second person starts turning the dowel rod until 197 turns have been made. A second hole is then drilled, and the other end of the No. 12 wire is put in this hole. Friction and the bend of the wire holds the coil in place. The dowel-coil assembly is pushed into one end of the 43 3/4" tubing, and the other end of the coil is pushed into one end of the 31 3/4" tubing. A 6/32 hole is drilled through the tubing and dowel and a 6/32 bolt makes a mechanical connection of the tubing to the pigtail of the coil. A third hole is drilled opposite the coil in the end of the long tubing, one inch from the end. A 6/32 bolt is placed in this hole for the single-wire feeder to be attached. The over-all length of the Little Wonder is 7'5". Rubber bar-stool feet are then placed over each end of the Little Wonder to keep out the weather, and the coil section is taped for the same reason. Attach your feedline and work the world.

How to tune the "Little Wonder": The best method of tuning the rig is to tune the unit into a 50-ohm load and then connect the antenna tuner. (Do not tune the rig.) The antenna tuner is tuned for 1:1 SWR. (A Viking Match Box will work fine; or make your own.)

How does it work? I am on the air with a lone KWM2 from 3311 kHz to 28 MHz, and without it I'd be QRT for the nine-month period. Trust you will be on the air soon with your own "Little Wonder." ...W5ZBC

from the files of  
K8CFY

# The Radio Amateur Guide to 800 Numbers

Compiled by: Pete Kemp, KZ1Z

Company Location 1-800-###-####

Ace Communications	Indianapolis, IN	445-7717
Alexander Batteries	247-1821	
All Electronic Corp	Van Nuys, CA	826-5432
Amateur Electronic Supply	Milwaukee, WI	558-0411
Amateur Electronic Supply	Orlando, FL	327-1917
Amateur Electronic Supply	Wickliffe, OH	321-3594
Amateur Wholesale Electronics	Watkinsville, GA	451-2397
Amp Supply	Raleigh, NC	346-5701
Austin Amateur Radio Supply	Austin, TX	423-2604
C-Comm	Seattle, WA	426-6528
C & S Sales	Deerfield, IL	292-7711
Colorado Comm Center	Denver, CO	227-7373
Communications Specialists	Orange, CA	854-0547
Communications Elec. Spec.	Ann Arbor, MI	USA-SCAN
Digital Radio Systems (DRSI)	Winter Park, FL	327-9956
EGE	Clearwater, FL	999-0204
Electronic Equipment Bank	Woodbridge, VA	444-4799
Grove Electronics	Salem, NH	444-0047
Ham Radio Outlet	Vienna, VA	368-3270
(The) Ham Station	Brasstown, NC	438-8135
Hamtronics	Anaheim, CA	854-6046
Henry Radio	Evansville, IN	523-7731
Jan Crystals	Trevose, PA	426-2820
Jur's Electronics	Los Angeles, CA	421-6631
K-Comm	Ft. Meyers, FL	237-3063
Madison Electronic Supply	Culver City, CA	882-1343
Memphis Amateur Electronics	San Antonio, TX	344-3144
MJF	Houston, TX	231-3057
Missouri Radio Center	Memphis, TN	238-6188
Cptoelectronics, Inc.	Mississippi State, MS	647-1800
Orion Hi-Tech	Kansas City, MO	327-5912
Peripherals, Inc	Ft. Lauderdale, FL	327-7020
R & L Electronics	Calabasas, CA	256-7020
Reno Radio	Southbury, CT	634-8132
RF Enterprises	Hamilton, OH	221-7735
Tandy National Parts (RS)	Sparkle, NV	345-5686
Telex/Hy-gain	Merrifield, MN	233-2482
Texas Tower	Ft. Worth, TX	442-2425
TIC General	Minneapolis, MN	328-3771
Universal Electronics	Plano, TX	272-3467
Williams Radio Sales	Thief River Falls, MN	423-6417
Wilson Antenna	Reynoldsburg, OH	431-3939
(The) Wireman	Colfax, NC	523-0347
	Henderson, NV	541-6116
	Landrum, SC	727-WIRE

Coqito, ergo Spam --

I think, therefore I Ham.

Frank, W9MKV

## Amara Radarange

at 10 GHz?

I recently was offered the guts of a defunct microwave oven for what ever use I could make of the parts within. I know there's at least a power transformer and a magnetron in there; has anyone it practical to recycle the guts of these things? As far as I know, the magnetron is good; the thing was junked for a combination of old age and control malfunction. — Mike Edelman, KABOSZ

Here's a step-by-step process for converting a microwave oven to amateur 10 GHz service:

1. Remove door, discard.
2. Remove power supply, discard.
3. Remove Magnetron, discard.
4. Place 10 GHz radio in cooking cavity; wire power supply to "cook" switch.
5. Point antenna out of microwave.
6. The "cook" button now is the PTT, with the light being the "transmit" lamp.

In all seriousness, microwave ovens operate at 2450MHz, NO don't take the output and put it into a couple of doublers! You might also be interested to know that the spectrum of the microwave oven's output is VERY WIDE (300MHz). It is much too noisy to be used for useful communications. I have, however thought about experimenting with putting one on 2448 MHz (ham band) and trying to lock it up to a clean reference either by injection locking (requires a 750W circulator), or by "pushing" it with the power supply. — Mike Ferrara

## Magnetrons and Kenwoods

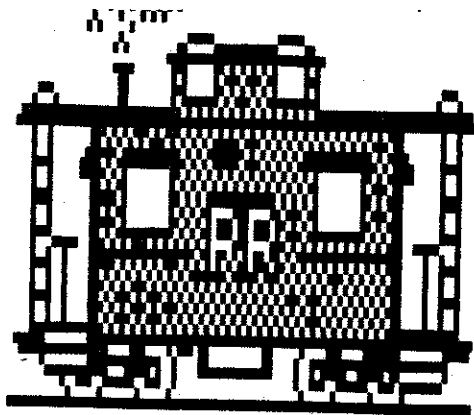
Thanks to all who replied to my inquiries. Current plans involve using the magnetron as a shack paper-weight, given the non-trivial hazards of 1 KW of microwaves floating around the careless experimenter! — Mike Edelman, KABOSZ

Its Already Been Done

Mike, see the July 1988 issue of RF Design where one of the runner ups of the third annual RF Design awards contest has a microwave oven conversion amateur television transmitter. David Pacholok's oven-to-amateur television transmission conversion is pictured in the issue. What looks like two sweep tubes and a meter are in the food cavity, and a small dish connects to coax running into the top of the maggie. A quote from RF Design: "(David Pacholok's) work in tuning and modulation methods for consumer-grade magnetrons may be the first of its kind. David's entry demonstrates an application not covered in the manufacturer's data sheet." — Jim L. Garver, WA7LDV

Amamas @ 2400 MHz

Hi! Glad to hear the reference was of interest to you. Since it was, I dug out that issue of RF Design and brought it in. It is the July '88 issue, on page 24. The circuit was the fourth runner-up winner in their annual RF Design Awards Contest. There is a picture of the converted microwave (it's a Holpoint), but this is all the text there is about it: "David Pacholok of Creative Electronics Consultants in Sleepy Hollow, NY, will receive the final prize. His entry was a report on his conversion of a microwave oven to an amateur television transmitter. His work in tuning and modulation methods for consumer-grade magnetrons may be the first of its kind. David's entry demonstrates an application not covered in the manufacturer's data sheet." That's it. No pointer to any source for more info, no reference to an article in any of the ham mags, no address to contact, zlich ... Maybe you can get an address from a Call-book (I don't have one). — Will Martin



# The Caboose

SEPT 1988

USECA EDITION

By K8CFY

## INDIAN LORE.....> AUGUST

was named for the Roman Emperor Augustus, who enjoyed several personal triumphs during the month in 8 B.C. Previously it had been called Sextilis, for it was then the sixth month of the Roman year. To please Augustus, the Roman Senate took a day from February to make August of equal length with July, the month named in honor of his uncle, Julius Caesar.

The Anglo-Saxons called it "Harvest Month", for at that time they were busy filling their barns with the harvested crops.

The Sioux also called it "Harvest Moon", a name that many of us still use - at least in song. For the Spokane and Nez Perce it was "Summer Moon". The Kansa called it "Deer Rubbing Antlers Moon". Among the Omaha and the Oto (their elk not yet pushed back into the mountains, and their buffalo still roaming the plains) it was "Moon When The Elk Bugle - When The Buffalo Bellow". It was also called "Moon When Geese Shed Their Feathers". (This name, by the Arapaho and Cheyenne, was also assigned to the following moon; and such period-variations in assigned names were not uncommon.)

**September**, our ninth month, continues the name of "The Seventh" from the old Roman calendar. In spite of attempts by the Senate, the Romans did not change the names of the last four months - no longer accurate or fitting following the addition of the earlier months of January and February.

In the time of Charlemagne this moon, rather than August, was called "Harvest Moon". The Anglo-Saxons named it "Gerst-monath" or "Barley Month" during which they harvested their barley and made their brew. Our current "Labor Day", as a major holiday, officially ends the summer season.

Among the Cheyenne and the Arapaho, it was the "Drying Grass Moon". The Sioux and the Kiowa and the Taos named it "When The Leaves Become Yellow Moon". Among the Apache it was known as "The Moon When The Corn is Taken In;" a name slightly modified among other tribes to "Corn Festival Moon". For the Ojibwa, concerned with a different harvest, it was "Wild Rice Moon". And among various tribes on the Great Plains, it was "Hunting Moon - Moon of The Drying Meat".

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Amplifier., 600 W PEP,  
Excellent  
condition.....\$325.00

Yeasu FT 708R  
(H.T.),.....440 Mhz

Excellent condition.....\$155.00

ICOM 740, FM, CW Filter & Internal P.S.

Excellent condition.....\$615.00

DIAWA Model CN520 Cross Needle Wattmeter  
\$ 50.00

TEN-TEC Model 229 2KW Ant Tuner...\$100.00

GORDIE, N8DXL..949-3063...(please leave msg)

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Members are encouraged to place their  
items of interest, (wanted, or for sale) in the  
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- Have you ever been discredited by DeVry or another VEC? If you have, please supply details.  
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