



2014 Ziegenbein Award / Ladies Night Banquet

Fifty-six attended CMARC's Ladies Night Banquet on Friday, May 8 at the Delhi Café in Holt. We all had a truly wonderful evening: the food was fantastic, the restaurant staff was gracious, and the musical entertainment provided by "Jonathan Stars" was superb! Members of the Ladies Night Banquet Committee (John/KD8NNQ, Leota/KD8SQD, and Bob/KB8DQQ) beautifully handcrafted the gifts the Ladies took home and the decorated sheet cake the Club ordered for the event was a sweet ending to an extraordinary night.

The highlight of the evening, however, was the presentation of the "Ziegenbein Award". Eyes roamed around the room as Ziegenbein Award Committee Chairman Don/KB8RAD described the person who was been chosen to receive the Award for the past calendar year. As he continued his speech, it became increasingly apparent to the roomful of waiting listeners who the winner of CMARCs' highest and most prestigious honor would be. The room then erupted in thunderous applause as Don finished with the words, "Introducing the winner of the Ziegenbein Award for the year 2014... Mr. Daniel M. Beuchert/WX8MOJ"!

CONGRATULATIONS, Dan and THANK YOU for your dedicated service to the Central Michigan Amateur Radio Club! You are truly deserving of this honor and all of our appreciation! Many thanks also go to CMARC President Julie/KB8ZXR, who so wonderfully planned and coordinated the entire event.

~Submitted by Don McLain/KB8RAD, Ziegenbein Award Committee Chairman



Inside This Issue

- Field Day Updates
- A Trip Through Field Days Gone By
- Birthdays & Anniversaries / Meeting Information / Upcoming Hamfests / Treasurer's Report
- What's My Sign?
- CMARC Meeting Minutes
- VE Exam Schedule / Practice Exams
- ARRL MI Section News
- Green Radio
- Modern Radios...too complicated?
- The DX Corner
- Contesting at W8PLP
- Ladies Only
- 2015 Outdoor Hamfest



2015 ARRL FIELD DAY

HAM RADIO

Schedule of Events

Friday, June 26, 2015

- Station setup may begin anytime after 3pm depending on Station Chair.
- Park Gates will close at Dusk.

Saturday, June 27, 2015

- General Site Setup: 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM
- VE Testing Session: 11:00 AM
- Lunch: 12:30 PM
- Contest Operating Begins: 2:00 PM
- Fox Hunt (Direction Finding): 3:00 PM
- Main Meal / Club Picnic: 6:30 PM
- Evening Snack: 8:00 PM

Sunday, June 28, 2015

- Breakfast: 8:00 AM
- Contest Operating Ends: 2:00 PM
- Site Teardown: 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM

General Site Information

- Location: Rayner Park, across from Dairy Hill
622 E. Ash St (M-36)
Mason, MI 48854
(South side of park, end of gravel drive)
- Talk-In Repeater Frequency: 145.390
- Local Simplex Frequency: 146.580

Update From our Field Day Chairman

Greetings Field Day Enthusiasts!! Below is our All Star lineup for CMARC ARRL Field Day 2015! We will again be running "3A".

HF SSB (John KC8QZB), **HF Digital & Logging Network** (Matt KD8OOS), **HF CW** (Gregg WB8LZG and Chris NS8Q), **6M Phone** (Jim KA8DDQ), **GOTA** (Brian KD8ONC), **Generator Power** (Dave K8QH), **Ingham County Sheriff Trailer & Logging Computers** (John NO8T), **Food Chair** (Maribeth Harger), **Fund Raising, Food Donations & Porta Jon Donation** (Jim KC8QWH and Ginny KD8HPG), **Public Information Officer** (Kenny N8BVV), **Safety & Traffic Bonus point Guru** (Bob K8RDN), **Site Captain, Keymaster & Logging Network** (Randy KD8MOK), **VE Testing** (John KD8NNQ), **Educational Activity** (Dennis KB8ZQZ & Jeff KC8PUN), **CW Trailer** (Seventh Day Adventist Disaster Response Team: Dan KD8OIB), **Photographer**, in support of our bonus points (Phil KD8ZZK)

City of Mason and the Rayner Park Volunteers have done a fantastic job of cleaning the area up that we use. The pile of compost and rubble as well as much of the scrub has been removed from the south side of the site. Several small trees (or antenna hanging equipment to some) have been planted. I will be posting a food signup sheet to the listserv shortly and will have it at the June meeting as well.

We are also looking for a canopy in the 10x20 size range to be used for the VE session. Anyone that has one and is willing to lend it out for the weekend, please email me at wd8bcs@arrl.net. See you all at the June meeting!

73! Ron—WD8BCS



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www.arri.org

2015 ARRL FIELD DAY

HAM RADIO

Latest Site Pictures



A Trip thru Field Days gone by in Pictures...

Gregg Mulder, WB8LZG



2014 CW Station



What goes up? Ooops!



2010 Phone Station



2007 CW Station 5W Battery Pwr



Food Tent



The Latest FD Craze?

A Trip thru Field Days gone by in Pictures, cont'd...

Gregg Mulder, WB8LZG



Ken and Don at Camp Kiwanis 2003



Ken with a Cub Scout at Lake Lansing Park 2011



FD 2006 Phone Station Clint & Ron



Gardner Middle School



The 3 Dons talking strategy

“...Surely this is just a small sample of all the fun we have at Field Day. Come and be a part of Field Day 2015!”
73’ Gregg WB8LZG

Birthday & Anniversaries

MAY

Birthdays

5/2 Paul Keefer / KB8YQZ
 5/11 Eugene Brown / KK4DIY
 5/19 John Doornhaag / KD8NNQ
 5/19 Shannon Ranes / WA2NVK
 5/19 Thomas Davage / KB8J
 5/31 William Wing / W2PMH

Anniversaries

5/6 Roger / AB8RX and Deanna / KD8BDI Barnhill
 5/13 Jan / KC8BFK and Judy Bradfield
 5/15 Kim / WA8KIM and Barbara Sherman
 5/26 Jim Harvey / KA8DDQ

JUNE

Birthdays

6/7 Marie Watson / KC8NOI
 6/17 Jerry Waite / KD8GLN
 6/24 Ginny Hannahs / KD8HPG

Anniversaries

6/12 Roger Goodman / KB8YQX
 6/22 Ted Sadilek / WA8MFQ
 6/24 Garry / KC8MAD and Marie / KC8NOI Watson

CMARC Treasurer's Report

Jerry Waite KD8GLN—CMARC Treasurer

Bank Balances for May 2013

Primary Share Acct. (Humphreys Fund)	\$1,089.17
Business Checking	\$3,084.50
Net Worth	\$4,173.67
Youth Fund Balance*	\$229.98
Building Fund (Club Station)	\$9.09

* separate from CMARC Funds

Meeting Information

CMARC



The next monthly meeting of the "Central Michigan Amateur Radio Club" will be on Friday, **June 12th** @ 7:00 PM in the Salvation Army building, located at 701 W. Jolly Rd in Lansing. There will be no program speaker for June as we will be using the time for finalizing our Field Day plans. We still plan on having a great time, so come on out and join us! For more information, you can check out our website at www.centralmiarc.com or consult our Club contact Don McLain KB8RAD at (517) 694-0812 or KB8RAD@arrl.net. See you ALL there!!

ARPSC



The ARPSC meeting for the month of June is at 7:00pm on Monday, **June 15th**. We will be meeting at the Ingham County Sheriff's Office in Mason. For information about the ARPSC please check out our website at www.lansingarpsc.com

Upcoming Hamfests

Date: **6/6/2015** (IRA Hamfest)
Location: Hudsonville, MI
Sponsor: Independent Repeater Association
Website: www.w8ira.org

Date: **6/7/2015** (Chelsea Radio Swap 'n Shop)
Location: Chelsea, MI
Sponsor: Chelsea Amateur Radio Club
Website: www.wd8iel.com

Date: **6/20/2015** (Midland Hamfest)
Location: Midland, MI
Sponsor: Midland Amateur Radio Club
Website: w8kea.org

Date: **6/21/2015** (Monroe Hamfest)
Location: Monroe, MI
Sponsor: Monroe County Radio Comm. Association.
Website: www.mcrca.org

Date: **7/25/2015** (2015 CMARC Outdoor Hamfest)
Location: Lansing, MI
Sponsor: Central Michigan Amateur Radio Club
Website: www.centralmiarc.com

What's My Sign?

Julie McLain KB8ZXR

[Editor: This month's article is an updated "blast from the past"]

I was born on November 1, 1984 in Clinton, Maryland, the youngest of five with four sisters. My Dad served in the Army during the Vietnam conflict, and then worked many years at the US Post Office in La Plata where we later moved. (He was the youngest and last Postmaster to be appointed by Congress.) Dad passed away when I was only three years old, and that's when my Mom and I began moving around so she could find work. Besides Maryland and Louisiana, I've also lived in Parker, Arizona. Parker is where I finished the 8th grade and attend Parker High School, graduating in 2002 as Salutatorian of my class.

After High School, I attended Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, graduating with a Bachelors of Science degree in "Physical Science Extended and Secondary Education". I graduated in four years and taught my first year of school at Agua Fria High School in Avondale, Arizona. I've completed coursework for an additional endorsement and my professional teaching certification through Michigan State with some classes from LCC. I'm now certified to teach Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Earth Science.

My interest in Amateur Radio began when I was around 8 or 9 years old. My mom got me into Scouts (I'm an Eagle Scout!), and it just happens that a Leader and Scout there were avid Hams. I began working for the Radio Merit Badge and got on the air with what I think was RTTY, talking to an Amateur in Germany—and I was hooked! I was into CB then, but wanted something more professional and efficient. After some close calls with Michigan's severe weather, my wife and I became SKYWARN spotters. Soon after, I decided to get my license and on December 7, 2009 I got my Technician at an Ingham County VE Group testing session in Lansing, and then on January 12, 2010 upgraded to General there, as well. I am still planning to get my Extra, although my almost 3-year-old daughter has become my first priority!

I'm usually on the 145.39 repeater and have the most experience with VHF FM, although I do enjoy 70-cm as well and am starting to experiment with 6m. I've experimented with SSTV and look forward to expanding into other data modes, in addition to setting up APRS, an HF base station and getting more into ATV (especially as it applies to SKYWARN). I'm also interested in improving my CW as I have taken classes offered by Tom WA8WPI at CMARC, but need much more practice. My wife and I share our equipment and we currently have an Alinco DR-600 dual-bander in need of repair, a few FT-100s, an FT-2800 loaned as a mobile rig, and a few HT radios for local and service event use, including an Icom that covers 2m, 440MHz, and 6m. I also have a TenTec Rx10 that is an HF receiver on 15m through 80m (from the Scout Leader that got me into Ham Radio). It has a practice CW oscillator, but I haven't hooked it up recently. I look forward to getting up one of a couple of HF antennas that I have before the snows come to expand my current radio footprint and get some live CW practice.

As far as Ham activities go, I greatly enjoy SKYWARN and other ARPSC functions. I am currently the ARPSC Webmaster and look forward to doing more Public Service Events with the group in the future. I really enjoyed Field Day 2012 and hope to further my contesting opportunities in the coming year. I'm a member of ARPSC, CMARC, LCDRA, and the ARRL.

My wife and I were introduced to each other through a mutual friend who was my best friend in High School. Then, because I was living in Arizona and she in Michigan, we talked online for a while until we finally met in person in 2002. The rest is history! On New Year's Eve, December 31, 2007 we got married by my wife's cousin in our own living room! My wife is a great friend and happens to be a nerd just like me, because she also likes to travel and learn. Even though Ham Radio was something all new to her, she studied and got her Technician license on January 12, 2010 (the same day I upgraded to General). Our precious little daughter was born on February 20, 2010 and it looks like we might have another Ham in the making. She's already been a "Third Party" check-in, coo

CMARC Meeting Minutes

May 8, 2015

(Cont'd from Page 7)

ing on a couple of Nets (including the Ladies Tea Time Net) and has even done a little SKYWARN spotting with Mom and Dad, although she sleeps right through it all!

I work as a High School science teacher at Ingham Academy, the County's probate school where I teach Chemistry, Physics, Forensics, Biology and Earth Science. It's always a celebration when we see students that would have otherwise been forgotten, walking in their cap and gown with a High School Diploma! In addition to Ham Radio, I like traveling, playing with and repairing computers, as well as working on cars, bicycles, and ATVs. I also love to take pictures, with my Father-in-law's 35mm SLR and a new (to me) Fujifilm FinePix!

Some "words of wisdom" I'd like to share are, "Never stop learning. Life is a wonderful journey that is best lived with an open mind and while having fun. And a suggestion, if you're ever acting as Net Control, I would suggest making sure you don't blow your power supply or run out of battery power...unless you're a fast runner to your vehicle! Also, I think it's great that CMARC has a Club station and has offered various hands-on classes and is planning more into the future, and that we are also starting to use the club station more regularly. I'm grateful to be a member and honored to be a leader of CMARC at this time, when so much is going on and available! I also want to thank all of those Hams in this area and beyond that have made Ham Radio such a rewarding place to spend time, build friendships, and have fun! I only hope to add to this area's friendly and helpful atmosphere as I gain a better understanding of all the different aspects of the Hobby!"

There, now that we've become a little better acquainted, "What's My Sign?" My Callsign is WX8MOJ and my name is Daniel Beuchert. My wife is Dawn/KD8MWA and our daughter is Abigail Ann ("Miss Abby").

[Editor's Note: Dan is the former President of CMARC and the winner of the 2014 Ziegenbein Award. CONGRATULATIONS, Dan!! ~Julie/KB8ZXR]

In lieu of our regular meeting, we had our Ladies' Night Ziegenbein Award banquet. Julie/KB8ZXR/Club President and Event Coordinator welcomed everyone at 6:10 pm. There were 57 people in attendance. Julie/KB8ZXR thanked Leota/KD8SQD, Bob/KB8DQQ and John/KD8NNQ for their help with the Ladies' gifts. Julie/KB8ZXR also thanked Jane/KC8FSK for the place cards.

We enjoyed a delicious dinner, a cake from Sam's Club and entertainment from Jonathan Stars. Don/KB8RAD presented the Ziegenbein Award to Dan Beuchert/WX8MOJ. Congratulations Dan!

Silent Key Report: John Carter-Mark Carter's/KD8YUY Dad passed away. Ralph Chapman/WA8NHD passed away. Lee Gardner-DeAnna Barnhill's/KD8BDI Dad passed away.

Cards and Flowers: A sympathy card was sent to Mark Carter/KD8YUY and flowers were sent to the funeral of John Carter. A sympathy card was sent to the family of Ralph Chapman/WA8NHD and flowers were sent to his funeral. A sympathy card was sent to DeAnna Barnhill/KD8BDI.

Get well cards were sent to Mary Tillitson, Robert Mann/WD8OEV, Richard Stortz/K8JNZ and Roger Barnhill/AB8RX.

Motion to adjourn was made by Jerry/KD8GLN, seconded by Dan/KD8YDE and approved.

With all business concluded the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Hosford/KC8FSK-Secretary

2015 VE Exams

Sponsored by the "Ingham County VE Group"



ARRL VEC

To best accommodate the various schedules of those wishing to test, the Ingham County VE team meets on either a Saturday morning or a Thursday

evening, every other month. This year (2015) we will be testing at Lansing Fire Station #44 on 1435 E. Miller Road in Lansing, between Aurelius Road and Pennsylvania Avenue. Walk-ins are always welcome!! If you need assistance you can check out the CMARC website at www.centralmiarc.com/vetesting.php to find travel directions and what to bring, or you can just get a hold of VE Team Contact Person Don McLain/KB8RAD at (517) 694-0812 or KB8RAD@arrl.net

EVEN MONTH testing sessions are held on the first Thursday of the month at 7pm.

ODD MONTH testing sessions are held on the second Saturday of the Month at 11am.

Schedule of VE Sessions

First Thursday at 7pm.

June 4th
August 6th
October 1st
December 3rd

Second Saturday at 11am

*June 27th (11am Field Day—Rayner Park in Mason)
July 11th
*July 25th (11am Hamfest—Holt Christian Church, 2424 S. Washington Rd. in Lansing)
September 12th
November 14th

VE Group's Volunteer Examiners

John Doornhaag KD8NNQ, *Head VE*
Don McLain KB8RAD, *Contact Person*
Julie McLain KB8ZXR
Ted Sadilek WA8MFQ
Ben Barker WD8OVL
John Hosford KC8QZB
Russ Fitzgerald N8FZ
Tom Rocheleau WA8WPI
Jim Lakin W8JRL

Practice Amateur Radio Exams

Sponsored by the "Ingham County VE Group"
VE Julie McLain KB8ZXR

[Editor's Note: Questions and Answers copied from ARRL's "Practice Amateur Radio Exams" found at <http://www.qrz.com/hamtest/>]

Techician Class 2014 Pool

1.) Question T1F09 - What type of amateur station simultaneously retransmits the signal of another amateur station on a different channel or channels?

- A. Earth station
- B. Message forwarding station
- C. Repeater station
- D. Beacon station

2.) Question T0C04 - What factors affect the RF exposure of people near an amateur station antenna?

- A. Frequency and power level of the RF field
- B. Distance from the antenna to a person
- C. Radiation pattern of the antenna
- D. All of these choices are correct

3.) Question T7B07 - Which of the following may be useful in correcting a radio frequency interference problem?

- A. Snap-on ferrite chokes
- B. Low-pass and high-pass filters
- C. Band-reject and band-pass filters
- D. All of these choices are correct

Practice Amateur Radio Exams

Sponsored by the "Ingham County VE Group"
VE Julie McLain KB8ZXR

[Editor's Note: Questions and Answers copied from ARRL's "Practice Amateur Radio Exams" found at <http://www.qrz.com/hamtest/>]

General Class 2011 Pool

1.) Question G6C17 - What is the general description of a DIN type connector?

- A. A special watertight connector for use in marine applications
- B. A special connector for microwave interfacing
- C. A family of multiple circuit connectors suitable for audio and control signals
- D. A DC power connector rated for currents between 30 and 50 amperes

2.) Question G3B05 - What usually happens to radio waves with frequencies below the Maximum Usable Frequency (MUF) and above the Lowest Usable Frequency (LUF) when they are sent into the ionosphere?

- A. They are amplified by interaction with the ionosphere
- B. They are bent and trapped in the ionosphere to circle the Earth
- C. They pass through the ionosphere
- D. They are bent back to the Earth

3.) Question G0B03 - Which size of fuse or circuit breaker would be appropriate to use with a circuit that uses AWG number 14 wiring?

- A. 30 amperes
- B. 60 amperes
- C. 100 amperes
- D. 15 amperes

Extra Class 2012 Pool

1.) Question E2E12 - Which type of digital communication does not support keyboard-to-keyboard operation?

- A. PSK31
- B. MFSK
- C. Winlink
- D. RTTY

2.) Question E4A09 - Which of the following describes a good method for measuring the intermodulation distortion of your own PSK signal?

- A. Transmit into a dummy load, receive the signal on a second receiver, and feed the audio into the sound card of a computer running an appropriate PSK program
- B. Multiply the ALC level on the transmitter during a normal transmission by the average power output
- C. Use an RF voltmeter coupled to the transmitter output using appropriate isolation to prevent damage to the meter
- D. All of these choices are correct

3.) Question E8B11 - Which of the following describes frequency division multiplexing?

- A. Two or more information streams are merged into a digital combiner, which then pulse position modulates the transmitter
- B. The transmitted signal is divided into packets of information
- C. The transmitted signal jumps from band to band at a predetermined rate
- D. Two or more information streams are merged into a "baseband", which then modulates the transmitter

ANSWERS Technician: 1-C, 2-D, 3-D General: 1-C, 2-D, 3-C Extra: 1-C, 2-A, 3-D

ARRL MI Section News

Courtesy of Larry Camp WB8R

Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015: 55 Co-sponsors — and Climbing

The Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015 — also known as H.R.1301 — has attracted 55 cosponsors as of May 12. The bill, introduced earlier this year in the US House of Representatives by Rep Adam Kinzinger (R-IL), would direct the FCC to extend its rules relating to reasonable accommodation of Amateur Service communications to private land use restrictions.

This weekend's Dayton Hamvention will offer an opportunity for ARRL to speak with individual radio amateurs and encourage them to seek their House member's support. ARRL Regulatory Information and Legislative Action Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, said those stopping by his booth at ARRL EXPO, in about a minute, can have a letter addressed to their representative and personalized with their contact information, printed and ready to sign.

"The ARRL will collect these signed letters and have them hand-delivered to the various Congressional offices by our DC legislative action team," Henderson explained. "This easy-to-use process has succeeded at several major hamfests already this year and helped generate several hundred letters."

The latest lawmakers to sign aboard H.R. 1301 include Representatives Pete Olson of Texas, Ed Perlmutter of Colorado, John Shimkus of Illinois, Dr Brad Wenstrup of Ohio, and Roger Williams of Texas.

Henderson said that the typically high number of attendees at Dayton Hamvention presents an excellent opportunity for Amateur Radio operators to get involved in the HR 1301 grassroots legislative effort.

Henderson said the League is also working on securing an original sponsor and co-sponsor for a companion Amateur Radio Parity Act bill in the US Senate. He encouraged all who may not be attending Hamvention to visit the ARRL's [HR 1301 page](#), where they can download a letter that can be personalized for your member of Congress. "Once you have printed and signed the letter, send it to ARRL Grassroots Letter program, 225 Main St, Newington CT 06111," Henderson said. "Once received these will be sorted and sent to the ARRL DC team for hand delivery on Capitol Hill."

"We have gotten off to a good start on H.R. 1301, but we have a long way to go," Henderson said. "We need every ARRL member to get involved with this important fight."

Note to Michigan hams: Representatives Benishek (MI-1) and Walberg (MI-7) have signed on as co-sponsors. If you have not yet sent them a note thanking them, please do so.

New Michigan Section Affiliated Club Coordinator

I am pleased to announce that Joe Miller, KJ8O of Troy, MI has accepted the appointment as MI Section Affiliated Club Coordinator. Joe comes to us with a wealth of experience in a number of volunteer positions within his local club and the Michigan Section. Affiliated clubs, Joe is there to assist you in a number of ways. You can reach Joe at kj8o@arrl.net.

I would like to thank Joe's predecessor, Chip Locke, WB8ALW from Portage for his excellent work during his term as ACC. Chip is on to bigger and better things and we wish him well.

Michigan Section Traffic/ARPSC Nets (All times Local)

MACS - MI Amateur Communications System 3.952 1000 Daily

UPN – Upper Peninsula Net 3.921 1700 Daily; Noon Sunday

MIARPSC – MI Amateur Radio Public Service Corps 3.932 1700 Sunday

QMN – The Michigan Net 3.563 1830 and 2200 Daily

MITN – MI Traffic Net 3.952 1900 Daily

MIDTN – MI Digital Traffic Net 3.583 (Olivia 8/500) in waterfall 2000 Tues, Thurs, Sat

MIADS – MI ARES D-Star Net Reflector 24A Mon 2000

D8EN - District 8 Emergency Net 3.909 Wed 2100

GLETN – Great Lakes Emergency and Traffic Net 3.932 2000 Daily

MVTN – MI VHF Traffic Net IRA Link System 2100 Mon, Wed, Fri, Sun

NLEUP - Northern Lower Eastern UP Net 146.64- 18:30 Daily

SEMTN – SE MI Traffic Net 146.76- 2215 Daily

TMMTN – Thumb Mid-Michigan Traffic Net 147.30+ 2130 Mon - Sat

More information is available at <http://nts-mi.org/>. Come join us on our traffic and public service nets. *Amateur Radio Public Service Corps (ARPSC) Activities*

Green Radio? - We Do That!

Larry D. Barr, K5WLF

Larry D. Barr, K5WLF, is a long-time proponent of renewable energy use, has lived off-grid in the past and is the owner of Rebel Wolf Energy Systems, a renewable energy (RE) consulting and design company. So, it was only natural that he'd look for ways to combine his passion for RE sources with amateur radio emergency communications.

One of the problems at any remote location where radios are set up is the need for reliable power. If hams are deployed in response to an emergency such as a fire, flood or tornado, there is no guarantee the power grid will be functioning, so the hams must provide their own power. As Larry tells students at license and EmComms classes, "You can't count on the infrastructure being in place. So the safest way is to figure that if we don't bring it with us, it doesn't exist."

What's become known locally as the "Solar Powered Ham Station" started out in response to a need for an autonomous station to serve as Net Control for the bicycle races that the Tarleton Area Amateur Radio Club (TAARC) in Stephenville, TX provides comms for each year. "We couldn't count on being within reach of an AC power source," says Larry. "A generator would do the job, but they're noisy, require refueling and can be a fire hazard. Besides, I wanted to use some kind of renewable source."

Larry had a pair of Uni-Solar US-64 photovoltaic (PV) panels "sitting at the house collecting dust when they could be collecting sunshine", so it was an easy decision to put them in the pickup and carry them to the bike races, then stand them up in the truck bed for the event. However, it took a couple folks to load them and there was no room to carry anything else in the pickup when the PV panels were being transported. The next logical step was to devise a way of carrying the panels on the truck all the time, so that it would always be ready for use. Not only would it be more convenient but, as Larry says, "Having the panels ready in the pickup all the time is really what Amateur Radio EmComms is all about. If we need to deploy somewhere at a moment's notice, the panels are already on the truck and my Go-Kit is behind the seat."

Larry and his friend Robert Taylor, K5HIX, designed and built the rack that supports the panels in the pickup. The panels ride below the top surface of the rack, so that it can be used to haul lumber or pipe without removing the PV panels. There are two antenna mast sockets in the front members of the rack enabling the erection of an antenna approximately 30 feet in the air without the need for a separate tower or guying. "Our goal was to make the pickup a self-contained EmComms response station, and I think we met that goal quite well, Although there are always things you think of after the fact that you'd like to add. So it's subject to modification at any time." Larry said.

The two PV panels, at 64 watts each for 128 watts total, are capable of providing almost eight amps to the two 12 volt, 100 amp-hour AGM batteries which power the radios. For larger radio systems, such as operating not only a transceiver or two, but also a repeater, four batteries are used instead of two. "We've left to do a bike race with less than a full charge in the batteries, run a net control radio for about five hours and come home with the batteries fully charged," Larry says. "It's amazing what Mother Nature will do for you."

The batteries are PowerSonic PS-121000 AGMs, the charge controller is a Trace (now Xantrex) C12 and all the 12 VDC power is interconnected with Anderson Power-Pole connectors. Power distribution is handled by either a West Mountain Radio RigRunner or distribution devices by Red-Dee-2-Connect (sold by Powerwerx).

Borrowed with permission by Larry D. Barr, K5WLF. Larry is an Amateur Extra class licensee, ARRL NTX District 3 PIO, ARES AEC and RACES CLO (Alt). Robert Taylor, K5HIX, is an Amateur Extra class licensee and ARES NTX District 3 DbEC.

Attention All AMAZON Shoppers!!

If you shop on Amazon, and want to help support the ARRL, check out Amazon Smile.

Amazon will make a donation to the non-profit of your choice.

Visit <http://www.arl.org/Amazon> for more information.

Modern Radios, Are They Too Complicated?

Gregg Mulder, WB8LZG

As Ham operators we are constantly exposed to many of the latest and greatest inventions and gismos to enhance our communications hobby.

Some of our new radios have features only dreamed of when I was first licensed in the early 1970's. Many of these features are wonderful additions to enhance our ability to pull out a weak signal from the other side of the globe. But something happened the other day which lead me to question the advantages of these new radios with all their "bells and whistles".

I am one of the advisors to the MSUARC station W8SH. The college is fortunate to have some of the best radios and accessories available and we enjoy operating many of the popular contests.

As we all gathered to operate the Michigan QSO Party this year, it was discovered that the main radio, a Ten Tec



Orion II, was not working properly. We had quite a few new Hams and some experienced ops there also.

Somehow the rigs "brains" got scrambled and would not work right. It was then that the extent this problem was realized. I was the only one who knew how to operate the rig. With all of the menus, sub menus, and sub-sub menus, the radio is just "electric junk" when it's brains get scrambled.

Everyone took a turn "punching buttons". One by one they took their place in front of the rig, and commenced to pushing buttons. Each convinced that "they" would be able to bring the rig out of it's limbo. All to no avail. Another interesting observation. None of these "instant wizards" bothered to consult the operators manual. Needles to say, computers are a boon to mankind, yet they can also be the scourge of the earth. A quick "reset" of the main CPU brought the radio back to life, albeit without all of the stored parameters from the previous operator settings.

This normally isn't a big issue, but we were competing against U of M for fame , glory, and bragging rights. This cost us precious time and loss of many potential QSOs in the log. We did get the radio to operate properly in the end, but lost to the Wolverines.

Dare I say "our radios are getting too complex" ? This got me to wondering why there are not more "entry level" radios without all those bells and whistles.

The Ten Tec Orion II has over 70 front panel knobs and buttons, many having multiple functions. A new ham can easily "get lost". Even after reading the "novel" sized manual. It's still a complicated radio.



When I was 1st licensed, radios had fewer knobs. My Heathkit HW-16 had only 6 knobs (*above, left*). My Ten Tec Argonaut 509 had just 9 knobs and buttons. Only 3 or 4 were ever turned. RF gain, AF gain, RIT, and the tuning dial (*above, right*). Simple. Anyone could sit down in front of the radio and operate it, without ever having to read the manual. Without all those knobs and gismos to turn, the only thing to do was "MAKE CONTACTS" . I believe It was a more fun , less stressful way of operating. Now don't get me wrong. Some of those new gismos, (like noise reduction) have helped to put some QSOs into the log that would have not made it otherwise. I know that we are all living in an age of "miracle and wonder", yet I can't help wondering if an "Entry Level" rig is just what Ham Radio needs.

Here at W8SH we will be seriously considering using older radios for some of the future contesting, simply because of the "ease of operation".

I do look forward to seeing what the latest new radios will do every year when the new product lines are introduced, but 40 some odd years later I still get the biggest thrill with the ol' TT Argonaut. Snagging that DX with a handful of watts and a piece of wire is a feeling that none can compare ! What do you think?

The DX Corner

Col McGowan MMONDX



VP8STI / VP8SGI—S. Sandwich & S. Georgia

The last major operations from South Sandwich and South Georgia Islands were in 2002. Since that time, these islands have steadily climbed the most wanted list. South Sandwich is currently the #3 most wanted DXCC entity, while South Georgia is the #8 most wanted entity. Our goal is to conduct two 8-10 day DXpeditions to each of these top ten entities. To effectively do that, we need your support.

The fourteen members of the VP8STI/VP8SGI team have committed to paying \$210,000 of the \$425,000 needed to carry out this Dxpediton. To date, we have raised \$315,000 which includes our team contribution. We still have a significant deficit of \$110,000. The VP8STI/VP8SGI team needs the support of the worldwide DX Community to help us make this Dxpediton a success.

While donations from North America were strong initially, we would greatly appreciate more support from North America, Europe, Asia and South America. To date, North America Clubs & Foundations have provided 87% of our support, while 12% comes from Europe and less than one percent from Asia.

Both David (K3LP-Co Team Leader) and I think our plans for the low bands, which include a four-square for 40 meters, 2 phased verticals for 80 meters and 2 phased verticals on 160 meters plus a robust 4 station beverage system warrants a higher level of commitment from the DX community in general.

A dual rare Dxpediton like this warrants the same level of financial contribution as other recent major DXpeditions. We are all in financially at this point and need your assistance no matter what level of donation you can make.

So, please consider a generous contribution to this project. To have your club or organization's logo included with the QSL card, please contribute \$250 or more. Individual contributions of \$150 or more will be listed with the QSL card. All donors of \$25 or more will receive an early LoTW upload. Everyone who supports the Dxpediton will be listed and properly recognized on our website.

Our plans are moving forward in all aspects. We have just made our second installment of \$113,000 to the Braveheart. Next month, we will ship a container to Auckland, New Zealand where its contents will be loaded about the Braveheart in October. In March, we will ship our equipment home when the Braveheart arrives in Cape Town, South Africa. The shipping of our equipment is our second greatest costs behind the vessel charter.

We encourage you to visit our website (www.intrepid-dx.com/vp8) and donate via the PayPal link. It's easy and free to donate. Alternatively, you can mail a check or money order to the address listed below:

Payable to:

Intrepid-DX Group

**C/O David Jorgensen-WD5COV, CFO/Treasurer
18645 Cortez Rd SE, Deming, NM 88030 USA**

Thank you,

The Intrepid-DX Group VP8 Team

EP2C—Iran



From early in the morning (of June 7th) until late in the afternoon, three members (EP3MIR, EP2LMA and EP2LSH) of the new ALBORZ RADIO CLUB in the I.R. of Iran will activate the EP2C callsign.

This activity will be their first attempt in field-day style operation to learn skills and pile-up management. Look for them on 20m using homebrew antennas. Please be patient and help them to discover our wonderful hobby. **QSL manager for this activity is ON4AMX.**

KL2HD / KL7NWR – Amchitka Isl & Adak Isl.



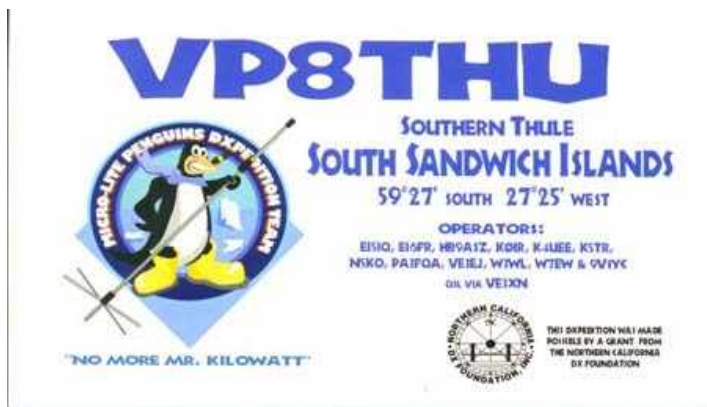
According to the KL2HD and KL7NWR QRZ pages, Jeff KL2HD, states that he hopes to be active from the very rare Amchitka Island (Rat) NA-070 during June 9-11, 2015 and Adak Island NA-039 between June 18-21, 2015.

Both activations are dependent on his working schedule but hopes to QRV during his evenings on 17 or 20m SSB. **QSL via KL2HD.**

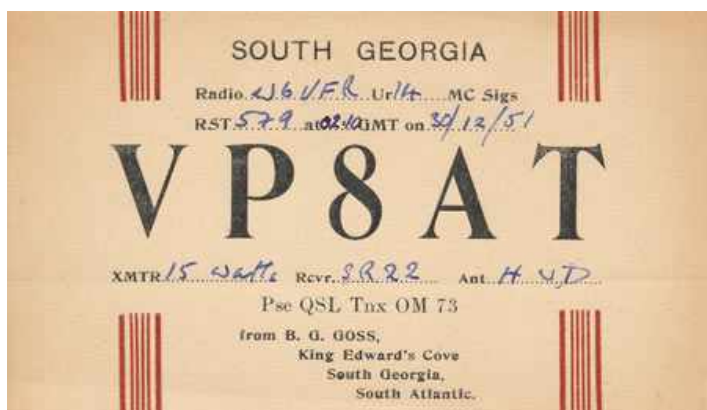
The DX Corner

Tom Roscoe K8CX

QSL Cards from past DXpeditions to the DXCC entities featured in The DX Corner.



VP8THU 2002 South Sandwich Islands



VP8AT 1951 South Georgia Island



9D0RR 1992 Iran

The images and articles about current and/or upcoming DX operations are published here with permission by Col McGowan MM0NDX as made available on www.dx-world.net.

Images for the QSL cards are published with permission from Tom Roscoe K8CX and the QSL Card Museum at www.hamgallery.com/qsl.

Contesting at W8PLP

Chris Ranes NS8Q

On Saturday, April 18, 2015, Jerry KD8GLN, John KC8QZB, Tom WA8WPI, and I activated W8PLP for the Michigan QSO Party. We operated ten out of the twelve hours allotted for the contest.

You may be thinking, what is the Michigan QSO Party (MQP)? Well the MQP is an online operating event with the sole purpose of allowing amateurs outside the state of Michigan to make contact with as many Michigan stations as possible. While Non-Michigan stations may only work Michigan stations, Michigan stations may work anyone. If you are into county hunting, a QSO party can be an easy way of logging multiple counties in a very short amount of time.

There are four ways you can operate a contest. One is as a Single-Op. A Single-Op is typically someone who wants to operate from home. The second way is to operate Multi-Op, where there are multiple amateurs operating under one call sign, which we did under W8PLP. If you are brave enough to venture out into the elements, you can operate Portable at a park or campground. The last way to participate is Mobile. You may hear the same station driving from county to county, operating as he or she goes.

Jerry met me at the Salvation Army to let us in the building, and stayed for a little while, learning how the N1MM logging software worked. John joined us shortly thereafter, and we were up and running on 20m. It was a little slow going at first with some minor computer issues, but we were able to fix them rather quickly. Tom joined us during the afternoon, and Ken W8AAX stopped by to say hello and to see how things were going. Of course, Shannon WA2NVK stopped by with pizza and breadsticks for everyone and to make sure we were all set for the evening. 20m quickly faded away, and all the action moved to 40m. The majority of our contacts were on 40m and 80m.

Everyone who operated and logged did a fantastic job of keeping the contacts rolling in. The bands were not that crowded, so that allowed us to pick a spot and start calling CQ. We had some good rolls going for a while. The most we had at any given time was about 27 contacts in a 26-minute period.

20m	9 QSOs	6 Sections
40m	145 QSOs	67 Sections
80m	46 QSOs	35 Sections

Thank you to everyone who participated and hope to see you all again at a future event!

MAY-JUNE

May 19th – Shannon Ranes WA2NVK's B'day!

May 27th – Marie Watson KC8NOI's B'day!

June 2nd – Stacey KC8ZSR & Michael KC8ZLQ Bofysil's 13th Anniversary!

June 2nd – Mary KC8RME & Gary N8JVT Rue's 44th Anniversary!

June 5th – Ann Berger's B'day!

June 9th – Stacey Bofysil KC8ZSR's B'day!

June 14th – Dawn Beuchert KD8MWA's B'day!

June 24th – Ginny Hannahs KD8HPG's B'day!

June 24th – Marie KC8NOI & Garry KC8MAD Watson's 48th Anniversary!



LADIES TEA TIME LUNCHEON

Because we'll be busy for the next few months with all the extra Ham-related events coming up, we will **NOT** be having our "Ladies Tea Time Luncheon" during the months of May, June and July. (May 8th is the Ladies Night/Ziegenbein Award Banquet; June 27th and 28th is Field Day Weekend; and July 25th is our Outdoor Hamfest!!) Please watch for the date and location of our August Ladies Tea Time Luncheon in the July SCOPE! Remember, you don't need a Ham License to join us for these fun get-togethers and you can always know what's going on with the Ladies Tea Time Group by looking at our monthly Club newsletter, the "SCOPE", or by checking out the "Ladies Page" on CMARC's Club website at <http://www.centralmiarc.com>



LADIES TEA TIME NET!

Please join me every Tuesday evening at 7pm on the 145.39 (100 Hz PL) Lansing-area repeater for the "Ladies Tea Time Net". The Net can also be accessed via the EchoLink "DODROPIN" Conference Server (Node ID# 355800). The main purpose of this Net is to get our Lady Hams out on the air each week, having fun as they visit together. And for those Ladies without a Ham license...you can still check in "Third Party", as long as your licensed husband or friend checks in first. Remember, we always look forward to having our Gentlemen join us for a fun time, too... **AFTER** the "Ladies Only" portion of the Net!! So, pour yourself a nice cup of tea, key up the mic and join me for the "Ladies Tea Time Net"...I'll be listening for you!!

~Julie McLain, KB8ZXR~
Ladies Tea Time Net & Luncheon Coordinator
(517) 694-0812 or KB8ZXR@aol.com
www.centralmiarc.com

2015 CMARC "OUTDOOR" HAMFEST

(We've got EVERYTHING but the ROOF!!)



ARRL
Sanctioned

Sponsored by the
Central Michigan Amateur Radio Club

Saturday, July 25, 2015
8:00 AM to 1:00 PM
(Setup Saturday 6-8AM)
at the

Holt Christian Church
2424 S. Washington Rd.
Lansing, MI 48911-7207



Talk-in 145.390
(100Hz PL)

ADMISSION: Public = \$3.00 each, Kids 15 and under FREE!! (Handicap Accessible!!)
Vendors/Sellers = \$3.00 each (includes 1 trunk space). Additional spaces \$5.00 each. RSVP today to secure the number of spaces you need! Also, please remember to bring your own tables, chairs and canopies and be prepared in case of inclement weather.

For Reservations or Questions contact Julie McLain KB8ZXR (517.694.0812 or KB8ZXR@aol.com)



DON'T FORGET to enjoy a Sweet Roll and Coffee--then later on grab a BBQ Pulled Pork Sandwich or a Dog or Brat "Hot Off The Grill" with all your favorite trimmings!!

"RF ADAPTER GUY"
will be here, offering RF connectors, adapters, antennas & accessories for your Ham, Commercial, GMRS or CB needs.



VE TESTING at 11am.
Sponsored by the "Ingham County VE Group". Walk-ins are Welcome!!



"TYCHO AUSSIE"
CMARC's 6' 3" Mascot will be back again this year for kids of all ages!!

"AMSOIL"
~The First in Synthetics~
Harold Taylor,
Independent Dealer
Selling synthetic lubricants and filters



"LARRY CAMP WB8R"
Visit with our ARRL Great Lakes Division Michigan Section Mgr.

DOOR PRIZES!

We will have hourly prizes with our GRAND prize being a Yaesu FT-60R Dual-Band HT drawn at 1pm!!

FORUM

“APRS FOR YOU and ME!”
With time for Q&A
(9am-10:30am)

G.O.T.A. STATION

Don't have a license? Come
Get On The Air with the Youth of CMARC!!

Holt Christian Church, 2424 S. Washington Rd, Lansing, Talk-in 145.39-100Hz PL



BE SURE TO JOIN US FOR THIS YEAR'S
“OUTDOOR” HAMFEST!! COME “RAIN OR SHINE”
YOU'LL HAVE A GREAT TIME!!

NETS in the Greater Lansing Area

“The Breakfast Club Net” meets EVERY weekday morning from 7am to 11am on the 145.39 repeater (PL 100 Hz), with Net Coordinator Don McLain/KB8RAD. This Net has been around now for over FIVE YEARS (since September 24, 2009) and averages around 90-100 check-ins per morning, but the NEW all-time record is 118 people in one morning’s Net (and that’s NOT counting rechecks)! So, if YOU are getting bored with just listening to Broadcast Radio during the morning commute, come and see what all the commotion’s about—join Don and the rest of the gang every weekday morning on “The Breakfast Club Net”! They’ll not only wake you up—they’ll put a smile on your face, too! And thanks to Daniel Burk/NE8K, EchoLink is now available each morning via the *DODROPIN* Conference Server (ID# 355800), so it’s never been easier to check in and join the fun! Whether you’re somewhere throughout the United States (or world), or right here in the mid-Michigan area, you can now check in by repeater, your computer, your cellphone or other EchoLink device—at your convenience! So, stop by in the morning and say, “Hello!”...and while you’re at it, why not join “The Breakfast Club Net” Facebook Group! They are already 435 members strong and would love to have YOU join them, too! www.facebook.com/groups/112208875498362

The “Central Michigan Slow Scan TV Net” meets every Sunday evening from 7:00- 8:30pm on the 145.39 repeater (PL 100 Hz), with Net Coordinator Carl Canfield/K8YHH. EVERYONE is welcome to join in and have fun learning and using this interesting and useful mode of communication. Other digital modes will be explored from time to time. For more information, call Carl at: (517) 755-6627.

The “Ladies Tea Time Net” meets every Tuesday evening at 7pm on the 145.39 repeater (PL 100 Hz), with Net Coordinator Julie McLain/KB8ZXR, and can now also be found on the *DODROPIN* EchoLink Conference Server (ID# 355800)! Everyone is welcome to check in—even all you guys!! This Net has been around now for over SEVEN YEARS (since July 3, 2007), so let’s keep it going and growing!!

The “Quarter Century Wireless Association Net” also meets every Tuesday night but at 8pm and on the 146.70 repeater (PL 107.2 Hz), with Net Coordinator Don Tillitson/WB8NUS. Be sure to stop by after Julie’s Net and say “Hello!”

The “Mid-Michigan Information & Trader’s Net” meets every Wednesday evening at 7:00pm on the 145.39 repeater (PL 100 Hz), with Net Coordinator Julie McLain/KB8ZXR. This Net has been around now for over FIVE YEARS (since November 11, 2009) and is still growing!! Be sure to join Don for a time of FUN, FELLOWSHIP, and INFORMATION!! There will be helpful Ham-related information to share from both Net Control and our check-ins, time for questions and answers, and “Trader’s Net” style on-the-air swapping of Ham-related equipment throughout the Net. Sounds like a good time to me!!

**ALL are welcome on these nets,
so be sure to check in to show your support.
And as with all Nets, 3rd party check-ins are welcome, but
must have Control Operator present at check-in time.**

The SCOPE is published by the CENTRAL MICHIGAN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB in association with the LANSING CIVIL DEFENSE REPEATER ASSOCIATION



SINCE 1921



Our CMARC Officers and Appointees

President	Julie McLain KB8ZXR	Ph: (517) 694-0812
Vice President	Tom Rocheleau WA8WPI	
Secretary	Jane Hosford KC8FSK	
Treasurer	Jerry Waite KD8GLN	Ph: (517) 882-5406
Director	Donald McLain KB8ZXR	Ph: (517) 694-0812
Director	Chris Ranes NS8Q	
Under 22	Sam Fitzgerald N8FPR	
Cards/Flowers	Jane Hosford KC8FSK	
Photographers	Kenneth Hazlett N8BVV Phillip Woodward KD8ZZK	Ph: (517) 348-5513 Ph: (517) 803-7081
Club Contact	Donald McLain KB8ZXR	Ph: (517) 694-0812
Salvation Army Liaison	Jerry Waite KD8GLN	Ph: (517) 882-5406
QSL/Awards Mgr	Don DeFeyter KC8CY	Ph: (517) 641-4533
Scope Editor	Chris Ranes NS8Q	Ph: (517) 487-8376

** email address: cmarcscope@gmail.com **

Deadline for SCOPE: 20th of month

Meetings are held the second Friday of every month at:
Salvation Army-Capital Area, 701 W. Jolly Road, Lansing
at 7:00pm. Board Meeting begins at 6:30 pm.

Club Calls: W8MAA & W8PLP



Lansing Civil Defense
Repeater Association



Our LCDRA Officers and Appointees

President	John Imeson N8JI	Ph: (517) 449-1517
Vice President	Don Tillitson WB8NUS	Ph: (517) 321-2004
Secretary	Ron Harger WD8BCS	wd8bcs@arrl.net
Treasurer	Jeff Oberg KB8SXX	
Director	Jan Bradfield KC8BFBK	Ph: (517) 202-1779
Director	Donald McLain KB8RAD	Ph: (517) 694-0812
Director	Jim Harvey KA8DDQ	Ph: (517) 882-5796
Membership Chair	Julie McLain KB8ZXR	Ph: (517) 694-0812
Repeater Trustee	Dennis Boone KB8ZQZ	drb@msu.edu

LCDRA Call: W8BCI

Meeting: Quarterly on the third
Thursday of the month, beginning at
7:00 pm. Meetings are held at

***** Fire Station #8, Marshall St, Lansing *****

Show Your Support for Amateur Radio and Join CMARC & LCDRA Today!

JOIN TODAY!



Central Michigan Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

As a licensed Amateur, you can **sign up today** as a Full Member. As a Full Member of CMARC, you will receive voting rights and an annual subscription to 'The SCOPE'.

This newsletter is filled with Club News, special interests and events.

Sign up today as an Associate Member and it includes an annual subscription to 'The SCOPE'. (no voting rights as an Associate Member)

New licensees are now eligible for a *one FREE year membership* at CMARC and **Under 18** licensees are *eligible for FREE membership!*

JOIN TODAY!



Lansing Civil Defense Repeater Association

Lansing Civil Defense Repeater Association

As a licensed Amateur, you can **sign up today** for only \$15. As a member of LCDRA, you will receive an annual subscription to 'The SCOPE', as well as voting rights in the Association.

LCDRA oversees the operation and maintenance of all Lansing Area repeaters. Use of the repeaters does NOT require LCDRA or CMARC membership, but your support is welcome and appreciated.

Name		Callsign	
Address		City	State
ZIP	Phone	Lic. Class	
ARRL Member?	Birthday	Wedding Anniversary	
Year 1 st Licensed	Please supply email for SCOPE mailing		
Full <input type="checkbox"/> Associate <input type="checkbox"/> New Licensee (1 yr free) <input type="checkbox"/> Under 18 (free) <input type="checkbox"/>			
<p style="text-align: center;"> Full Membership \$15 per calendar year (must be a licensed Amateur to obtain a Full Membership) Associate Membership \$5 per calendar year. <i>Please make checks payable to CMARC</i> </p> <p style="text-align: center;"> Mail Your Check or Money Order To: Jerry Waite KD8GLN 2816 Cabot Dr Lansing MI 48911 </p>			
Name		Callsign	
Address		City	State
ZIP	Phone	Lic. Class	
ARRL Member?	Birthday	Wedding Anniversary	
Year 1 st Licensed	Please supply email for SCOPE mailing		
<p style="text-align: center;"> LCDRA Membership is \$15 per calendar year (add a family member for only \$7.50 per person, per year.) LCDRA maintains our local repeaters and your support is appreciated. (Membership not required to use repeaters.) Mail Your Check or Money Order To: Lansing Civil Defense Repeater Association P.O. Box 4, Eagle, MI 48822-0004 </p>			

Central Michigan Amateur Radio Club
 P.O. BOX 27321
 Lansing, MI 48909-7321

Central Michigan Amateur Radio Club



THE SCOPE



Lansing Civil Defense Repeater Association

centralmiarc.com

Serving Our Community Since 1921

lcdra.net

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<p>www.centralmiarc.com/</p>	<p>www.lansingarpsc.com/</p>	<p>www.lcdra.net</p>