

# UPPER PENINSULA NET NEWS SERVING THE WESTERN GREAT LAKES



HAM OF THE YEAR  
W8WR LARRY ALMAN  
GREENVILLE MI

HAM OF THE MONTH  
KE8AHK MICHAEL DRISCOLL  
WAYLAND MI

JANUARY 2016

FROM THE EDITOR-----BILL, N8NJA [bkn8nja@att.net](mailto:bkn8nja@att.net)

A new year has arrived!! January, the month of new beginnings, paying your Christmas bills, and making resolutions. I gave up the resolution business many years ago. Whatever will be will be. I guess I have no drive to change my way of life.

The old year ended great for those of us how are six meter operators. Some great propagation starting with Christmas night, and it continued right into the New Year. I managed to pick up a new state, RI. Now just three left to go. HI, ID, WV I have worked WV before and sent a card, no reply. That operator might get another request. This winter I will work on 160 meters looking for AK, HI, RI, NV, SD. The 160 meter SSB contest is in February.

I was very saddened to hear of the passing of Helen Rouman, wife of George W8OWN. She was such a great lady. I have known them both for a long time. They just fit together. I pray George can carry on alone, I know it will be hard for him. May God Bless Them both.

UPPER PENINSULA NET WEBSITE [www.michupnet.com](http://www.michupnet.com)

## NET STATS

NOV 2014 CHECKINS 1050 TRAFFIC 45

NOV 2015 CHECKINS 917 TRAFFIC 40

HIGH TRAFFIC 2 EA WB8VOF KC8ZMN WA8DHB W8WR

HIGH CHECKINS 39 EA WA8DHB W8WR N8BNC

# JANUARY 2016

## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSEARIES

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>3</i> <i>KATHY XYL OF</i> <i>K8SKY</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i> <i>N8DP DAVE</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i> <i>N9QPJ ANDY</i>	<i>20</i> <i>N8HLH &amp; XYL</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i> <i>NK8V &amp; LYNN</i>	<i>23</i> <i>W8OWN GEORGE</i> <i>K8NYT STAN</i>
<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i> <i>CINDI N8JSI</i>
<i>31</i>	<i>1 FEB</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i> <i>KD8CPG BILL</i>	<i>4</i> <i>N8KJC JOE</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i> <i>JORDON GRAND-</i> <i>SON OF WA8DHB</i>

## EXAMS

- **01/09/2016 | Ann Arbor MI 48108-1516 Sponsor: ARROW Communications Assoc.**  
**Location: American Red Cross Building Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)**
- 01/09/2016 | Lansing MI 48911-5322 Sponsor: Ingham County VE Group Location: Lansing Fire Station #44 (Community Room) Time: 11:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)**
- 01/09/2016 | Monroe MI 48161-9770 Sponsor: W8OTC Location: Good Shepherd Church Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)**
- 01/09/2016 | Port Huron MI 48060-4014 Sponsor: Eastern Michigan ARC Location: St Clair County Library Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)**
- 01/16/2016 | Flint MI 48507 Sponsor: The KT8Q & W8ACW VE Teams Location: Baker College of Flint-Tech Center Time: 9:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)**
- 01/16/2016 | Ionia MI 48846-8512 Sponsor: ICARPSC Location: Ionia Central Dispatch Time: 6:00 PM (No walk-ins)**
- 01/20/2016 | Prescott MI 48756-9108 Sponsor: Location: Mills Township Hall Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)**
- 01/23/2016 | Allegan MI 49010-1524 Sponsor: Allegan County ARC Location: Allegan General Hospital - Basement Cafeteria Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)**
- **01/23/2016 | Kalamazoo MI 49001-4156 Sponsor: Kalamazoo ARC**  
**Location: Kalamazoo County Sheriff Dept Time: 8:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)**
- **01/23/2016 | South Lyon MI 48178 Sponsor: South Lyon Area ARC**  
**Location: Witch's Hat Depot**  
**Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)**
- **02/04/2016 | Lansing MI 48911-5322 Sponsor: Ingham County VE Group**  
**Location: Lansing Fire Station #44 (Community Room) Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)**
- **02/06/2016 | Mount Clemens MI 48043-2217 Location: Mt. Clemens Salvation Army Corps (rear entrance) Time: 7:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)**
- **02/13/2016 | Ann Arbor MI 48108-1516 Sponsor: ARROW Communications Assoc.**  
**Location: American Red Cross Building Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)**
- **02/13/2016 | Monroe MI 48161-9770 Sponsor: W8OTC Location: Good Shepherd Church**

Time: **10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)**

- **02/13/2016 | Port Huron MI 48060-4014** Sponsor: **Eastern Michigan ARC**  
Location: **St Clair County Library** Time: **10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)**

## HAMFEST

- **01/24/2016 | Hazel Park W8HP 50th Annual**  
**Swap Type:** ARRL Hamfest  
**Sponsor:** Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club **Website:** <http://hparc.org/>
- **02/06/2016 | HARA Shop and Swap** **Location:** Negaunee, MI **Type:** ARRL Hamfest  
**Sponsor:** Hiawatha Amateur Radio Association **Website:** <http://www.qsl.net/k8lod/index.html>  
TIME: 0900 TO 1400 WHERE: NEGAUNEE TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY CENTER  
DIRECTIONS: West on Hwy 41 then Left at Flashing Yellow Light to South on Hwy 35 for about ¼ mile on right. Come enjoy lots of Ham Stuff, Raffle Prizes, Door Prizes and Some Eats.
- **02/13/2016 | Cherryland ARC's 43rd Swap & Shop** **Location:** Traverse City, MI  
**Type:** ARRL Hamfest **Sponsor:** Cherryland Amateur Radio Club  
**Website:** <http://cherrylandarc.com>
- **02/21/2016 | Livonia ARC's 45th Annual Swap & Shop** **Location:** Livonia, MI  
**Type:** ARRL Hamfest **Sponsor:** Livonia Amateur Radio Club  
**Website:** <http://www.livoniaarc.com/index.php?page=swapshop>

## Important Facts to Remember as You Grow Older:

Death is the number 1 killer in the world.

Life is sexually transmitted.

Good health is merely the slowest possible rate at which one can die.

## Palmyra, South Sandwich/South Georgia Will Help Kick Off 2016 DXpedition Calendar..... from the ARRL letter

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Let the 2016 pileups begin! Two major January DXpeditions will be among other smaller efforts, with all aimed at providing a new one to the madding crowd. Look for the Palmyra Island and South Georgia Island/South Sandwich Islands activations, starting around mid-month.

The Pacific Islands DX Group's **K5P** DXpedition to Palmyra hopes to be on the air on January 12 and will continue until January 25. Palmyra ranks among the Top 10 most-wanted DXCC entities. Initially a 12-member team was set to depart and activate K5P. Due to a change of aircraft that will transport the team to the island, the team has been trimmed to nine operators. The team is planning to leave Hawaii for Palmyra on January 11. The Pacific Islands DXpedition Group has been awarded permission to activate Cooper Island in the Palmyra Atoll.

The Group notes that another Palmyra Atoll activation may not take place for many years, since access is severely restricted, and permission is difficult to obtain. The team said that without the cooperation and support of the Nature Conservancy and the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the DXpedition would not be possible. The DXpedition's co-leaders are Craig Thompson, K9CT, and Lou Dietrich, N2TU.

Meanwhile, the 14-member Intrepid-DX Group **VP8 DXpedition** team to the South Sandwich Islands and South Georgia will set out on January 9 from the Falkland Islands on the R/V (research vessel) *Braveheart* for a 37 day voyage. Both entities are rare. The team will use VP8STI from South Sandwich and VP8SGI from South Georgia.

"Our plans have us activating South Sandwich Island first, as it is the #3 most-wanted DXCC [entity] in ClubLog," the group said on its website. "We will be active on South Sandwich for 8 full days, weather and sea conditions permitting. We expect to start our activation of VP8STI on January 17." South Georgia is the 8th most-wanted DXCC entity, according to the ClubLog **Most Wanted DXCC List**.

The DXpedition's website describes the South Sandwich Islands as "a cold and inhospitable placem" and Southern Thule Island, where the group will operate, as "one of the most remote places on Earth."

Following the South Sandwich operation, the team will voyage to South Georgia and activate it for 8 days starting on or about February 1. Altogether, the VP8STI/VP8SGI team plans to spend 10 days on each island, including setup and teardown.

"Our goals are to operate fast and efficiently and to provide as many all-time new contacts with these rare entities," team co-leader Paul Ewing, N6PSE, said on December 31. "We will make the extra effort to work the most remote and difficult regions." Upon returning to Stanley in the Falklands, the team will operate as VP8IDX for 5 days with an emphasis on 160 meters, he added. Individual team members are covering much of the DXpedition's \$425,000 estimated cost, with the rest coming from club, foundation, and individual donations.

## **ARRL Again Complains to FCC about Illegal Marketing of Electronic Lighting Ballasts .....from the ARRL letter**

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The ARRL has again complained to the FCC to allege illegal marketing of electronic RF lighting ballasts, operating under Part 18 of the Commission's rules, on the part of two major retailers. Letters went out this week to the FCC Enforcement Bureau and its Office of Engineering and Technology claiming Part 18 marketing regulations violations by Lowe's and by Walmart stores. At issue is the sale of non-consumer RF lighting ballasts to consumers who, in several instances, were told by store personnel that it was okay to install these in a residential setting. In addition, non-consumer and residential-class ballasts are intermixed in store displays with inadequate signage to direct consumers to the correct choice. Both letters asked the FCC to investigate and commence enforcement proceedings with respect to the two stores' marketing and retail sale of RF lighting devices in the US.

"ARRL purports to show that the [retailer] is...marketing and selling to consumers (by retail sale) non-consumer Part 18 RF lighting devices which are *not* intended for residential deployment, to consumers who have specifically noted their intention to deploy the devices in residential applications," ARRL Chief Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, said in similar complaint letters to the Commission on December 28 and December 29 (attached below). Part 18 emissions limits for consumer devices are far lower than those allowed for non-consumer devices.

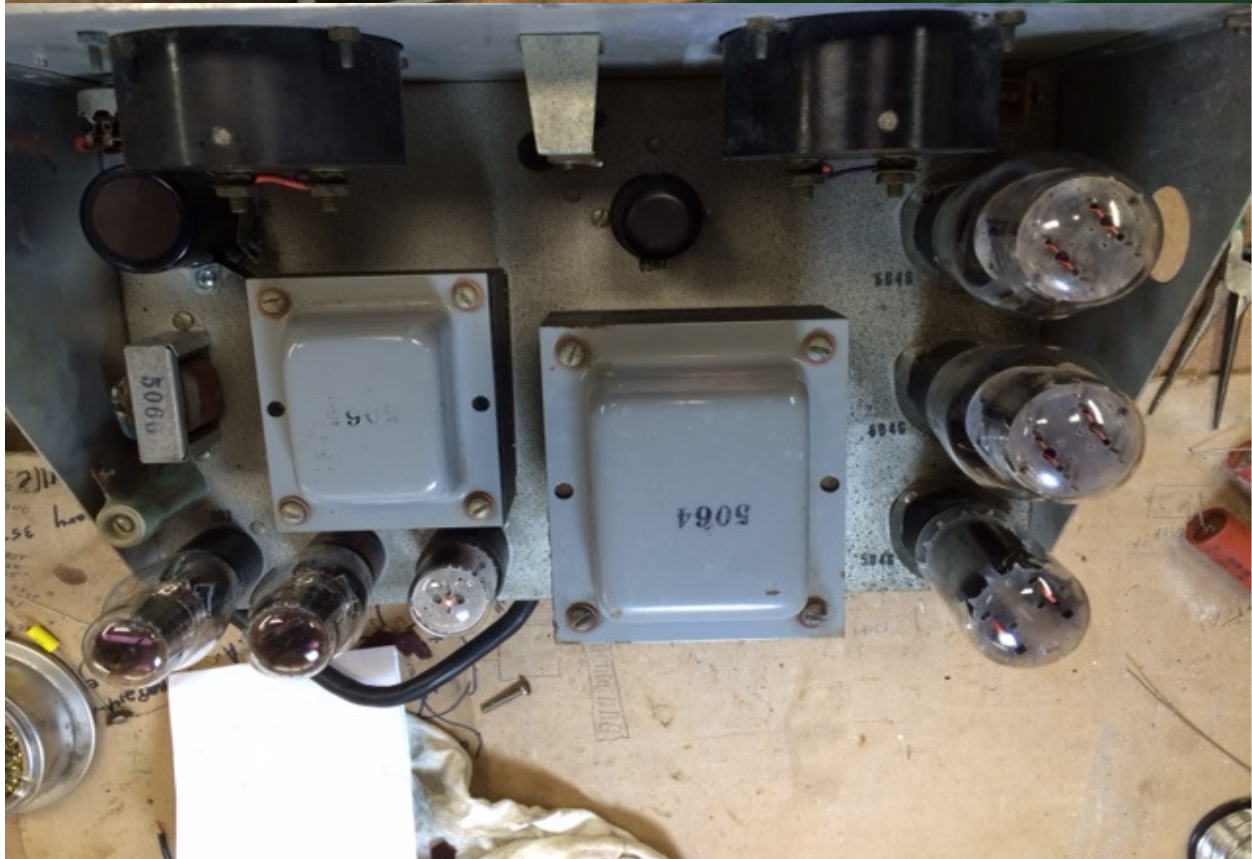
"ARRL has received numerous complaints from Amateur Radio operators of significant noise in the medium (MF) and high frequency (HF) bands between 1.8 MHz and 30 MHz from 'grow lights' and other Part 15 and part 18 RF lighting devices," Imlay continued. "These devices are easily capable of emitting RF noise sufficient to preclude Amateur Radio MF and HF communications (and, as well, AM broadcast station reception) throughout entire communities."

Supporting both complaints are extensive and detailed reports by ARRL Laboratory EMC Specialist Mike Gruber, W1MG. The reports recount incidents of actual purchases of Part 18 RF lighting devices intended for commercial use to consumers who made clear to store personnel that they intended to use the devices at home. Gruber's report includes multiple photographs that depict in-store displays of the products in question and showing signage that does not adequately explain which devices may be sold to whom.

The ARRL has asked that all non-consumer devices be removed from retail sale and marketing at the stores and to track and recall non-consumer devices already sold to consumers.

In his report, Gruber concluded that retailers should require purchasers of non-consumer Part 18 RF lighting devices to provide a valid contractor's number. He also advised that the stores improve display signage to make it clear that non-consumer Part 18 devices may not be used in residential settings.

Earlier this year, the ARRL sent similar complaint letters to the FCC regarding the marketing of Part 18 RF lighting devices by The Home Depot. The League also has complained about specific RF lighting "grow light" devices that it has alleged exceed Part 18 emission limits.



THIS IS THE LATEST PROJECT FOR DAVE, NS8S. A REFAB OF AN OREGON VARIABLE HIGH VOLTAGE POWER SUPPLY. GREAT FOR EXPERIMENTING WITH TUBES AND TO POWER THAT TUBE EQUIPMENT. DAVE SAYS, "WORKS GREAT"

FROM JIM, WB8IEH

**On a Septic Tank Truck:  
Yesterday's Meals on Wheels**

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**At an Optometrist's Office:  
"If you don't see what you're looking for,  
you've come to the right place."**

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**On a Plumber's truck:  
"We repair what your husband fixed."**

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**On another Plumber's truck:  
"Don't sleep with a drip. Call your plumber."**

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**At a Tire Shop in Milwaukee :  
"Invite us to your next blowout."**

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**On an Electrician's truck:  
"Let us remove your shorts."**

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**In a Non-smoking Area:  
"If we see smoke, we will assume you are on fire and take appropriate action."**

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**On a Maternity Room door:  
"Push. Push. Push."**



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