

# UPPER PENINSULA NET NEWS SERVING THE WESTERN GREAT LAKES



HAM OF THE YEAR  
KC8ZMN CHRIS HANSEN  
UNIONVILLE MI

HAM OF THE MONTH  
W8WR LARRY ALMAN  
GREENVILLE MI

MARCH 2017

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

The month of March, St Patrick's Day, Spring, and rain, snow, freezing rain, and mud. Right now March 1<sup>st</sup> it is snowing so hard here I can not see one of the towers holding up my 160 loop, back to Winter for a while I guess.

We really can't complain about the weather here in Michigan. No big floods, no earth quakes, hurricanes, not many tornados or big fires. It just snows sometimes and is usually gone by the Fourth of July!!

Propagation on the Net has been good, some of the other bands up and down, some good DX at times. I listened a little during the 160 meter contest last weekend and it sounded like summer, way too much static. Did have some a couple of weekends ago, made 5 contacts with my Heathkit HW29A Sixer. All were close in to me, 27 miles is the record for the Sixer. About 1 ½ watts out, loss in the coax and some gain from the 3 element beam, can't wait for a good six meter opening to see what it will do.

Anybody have two meter SSB capability? I would like to try some QSO's. Let me know if we can make a schedule. Shake off Winter, get on the air, go to a swap, have some fun!

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

## NET STATS

JANUARY 2016 CHECKINS 1102 TRAFFIC 43  
JANUARY 2017 CHECKINS 1134 TRAFFIC 40  
HIGH CHECKINS 43 N8BNC 39 WA8DHB 37 WA8DHB N8BNC W8WR KC8ZMN  
HIGH CHECKINS SUNDAY 25 AND 23 KD8KCV  
HIGH TRAFFIC KC8ZMN 3 WB8VOF 2

# MARCH 2017

## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSEARIES

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<i>1</i>	<i>2</i> <i>W8IFI JIM</i> <i>WD8CUO &amp; XYL</i>	<i>3</i> <i>K8LQV DICK</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>5</i> <i>WT8G GERRY</i> <i>KB8TS KEN</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>12</i>	<i>13</i> <i>W8KIM KIM</i> <i>N8OSD DAN</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i> <i>VALERIES XYL OF</i> <i>WA8UCS</i> <i>N8NJA &amp;</i> <i>KATHLEEN</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>19</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>21</i> <i>WA8LT WALT</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i> <i>KATIE DAUGHTER</i> <i>OF AA8SN</i>	<i>24</i> <i>JERI DAUGHTER-</i> <i>IN-LAW OF</i> <i>WA8DHB</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i> <i>WB8FUW LEE</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i> <i>WA8DVD DENNIS</i>	<i>31</i>	<b><i>APRIL 1</i></b> <i>PATTI DAUGHTER</i> <i>OF WA8DHB</i> <i>MARSHA XYL OF</i> <i>W8PZ</i>

## EXAMS

- **03/11/2017 | Ann Arbor MI 48108-1516 Sponsor:** ARROW Communications Assoc.  
**Location:** American Red Cross Building **Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
  - **03/11/2017 | Lansing MI 48911-5322 Sponsor:** Ingham County VE Group  
**Location:** Lansing Fire Station #44 (Community Room) **Time:** 11:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
  - **03/11/2017 | Monroe MI 48161-9770 Sponsor:** W8OTC **Location:** Good Shepherd Church  
**Time:** 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
  - **03/11/2017 | Negaunee MI 49866 Sponsor:** Hiawatha ARA **Location:** Marquette Health Dept Bldg **Time:** 8:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
- 03/11/2017 | Port Huron MI 48060-4014 Sponsor:** Eastern Michigan ARC **Location:** St Clair County Library **Time:** 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
- 03/11/2017 | Wyandotte MI 48192-9999 Sponsor:** Motor City Radio Club  
**Location:** Glenwood Methodist Church **Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
- 03/12/2017 | Harrisville MI 48740-9999 Sponsor:** Alcona County AR Group  
**Location:** Alcona County EMS/EOC Building **Time:** 4:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
- 03/13/2017 | Adrian MI 49221-8709 Sponsor:** Adrian ARC **Location:** Building at Lenawee County Airport  
**Time:** 7:00 PM (No walk-ins)
- 03/14/2017 | Gaylord MI 49735-9822 Sponsor:** Top of Michigan ARC **Location:** Gaylord Regional Airport **Time:** 7:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
- 03/15/2017 | Livonia MI 48154-3045 Sponsor:** Livonia ARC **Location:** Livonia Civic Center Library **Time:** 7:00 PM (No walk-ins)
- 03/18/2017 | Flint MI 48507 Sponsor:** The KT8Q & W8ACW VE Teams **Location:** Baker College of Flint-Tech Center **Time:** 9:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
- 03/18/2017 | Ionia MI 48846-8512 Sponsor:** ICARPSC **Location:** Ionia Central Dispatch **Time:** 6:00 PM (No walk-ins)
- 03/18/2017 | Kalamazoo MI 49001-0805 Sponsor:** Southern Michigan ARS **Location:** Wings Stadium **Time:** 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

**03/25/2017 | Allegan MI 49010-1524 Sponsor:** Allegan County ARC **Location:** Allegan General Hospital - Basement Cafeteria **Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

**03/25/2017 | Kalamazoo MI 49001-4156 Sponsor:** Kalamazoo ARC **Location:** Kalamazoo County Sheriff Dept **Time:** 8:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

**03/25/2017 | Midland MI 48640-4474 Sponsor:** Midland ARC **Location:** Salvation Army Building **Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

**03/25/2017 | South Lyon MI 48178 Sponsor:** South Lyon Area ARC **Location:** Witch's Hat Depot **Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

**04/01/2017 | Muskegon MI 49440-1233 Sponsor:** Muskegon Area AR Council **Location:** American Red Cross Bldg **Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

**04/04/2017 | Oak Park MI 48237-2085 Sponsor:** Hazel Park ARC **Location:** Oak Park Community Center **Time:** 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

**04/06/2017 | Lansing MI 48911-5322 Sponsor:** Ingham County VE Group **Location:** Lansing Fire Station #44 (Community Room) **Time:** 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

**04/08/2017 | Ann Arbor MI 48108-1516 Sponsor:** ARROW Communications Assoc. **Location:** American Red Cross Building **Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

**04/08/2017 | Charlotte MI 48813-9999 Sponsor:** Eaton County Arc **Location:** Charlotte Church of Christ **Time:** 12:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

**04/08/2017 | Monroe MI 48161-9770 Location:** Good Shepherd Church **Time:** 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

**04/08/2017 | Port Huron MI 48060-4014 Sponsor:** Eastern Michigan ARC **Location:** St Clair County Library **Time:** 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

## HAMFEST

**03/11/2017 | Lowell Amateur Radio Youth Club Hamfest Location:** Lowell, MI **Type:** ARRL Hamfest **Sponsor:** Lowell Amateur Radio Youth Club **Website:** <http://k8lhs.club>

**03/18/2017 | Michigan Crossroads Hamfest and Radio Swap Location:** Kalamazoo Township, MI **Type:** ARRL Hamfest **Sponsor:** Southern Michigan Amateur Radio Society **Website:** <http://www.w8df.com/index.php?content=hamfest>

**04/22/2017 | Chassell Michigan Hamfest Location:** Chassell, MI **Type:** ARRL Hamfest **Sponsor:** Copper Country Radio Amateur Assn. & Keweenaw County Repeater Assn. **Website:** <http://kcra-mi.net/>

**05/06/2017 | Cadillac Amateur Radio and Computer Swap Location:** Cadillac, MI  
**Type:** ARRL Hamfest **Sponsor:** The Wexaukee Amateur Radio Club  
**Website:** <http://www.wexaukeearc.org>

## **RST-Suffix Special Event is Back..... From ARRL News**

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Members of the North Country DX Association (**NCDXA**) are on the air for the entire month of March from locations in Alaska, Yukon Territory, Northwest Territories, Nunavut, and Greenland using RST-suffix fixed-station call signs. Expected to be active are KL7RST, VY1RST, VE8RST, VY0RST, and OX7RST. The goal is to promote Amateur Radio in *northern* North America.

The 2017 event, the second annual RST operation, features the addition of OX7RST, as well as more rovers and fixed stations, new QSL cards, and certificates. Plans call for operation from a Canadian research station near the North Pole on Ellesmere Island, a diamond mine in Northwest Territories, an Alaskan bush school, and many other locations. Activity will be on all modes, 160 through 6 meters, including 30, 17, and 12 meters. SWLs may participate too.

The object is to work or log as many NCDXA RST stations as possible from their various locations. NCDXA RST stations will send a signal report and location. Receiving stations should send signal report and state, province, or DXCC entity.

Logs will be uploaded to Logbook of The World (**LoTW**). **More information** is available on the K7ICE QRZ.com profile page. NCDXA is also on **Facebook**.

## **HAARP Goes Classical During New Experimental Campaign**

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The just-concluded run of ionospheric investigations conducted from Alaska's High Frequency Active Auroral Research Program (**HAARP**) observatory — quite likely the most powerful HF transmission facility in the world — revived the latent short-wave listener (SWL) lurking within most radio amateurs. Operating under Part 5 Experimental license WI2XFX, HAARP this month even aired some classical music as it conducted its first scientific research campaign since being taken over 18 months ago from the military by the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) Geophysical Institute.

UAF Space Physics Group Assistant Research Professor Chris Fallen, KL3WX, focused on two experiments — one called “airglow” that literally aimed to light up the ionosphere, and another to demonstrate the so-called “Luxembourg Effect,” first noticed on a 1930s Radio Luxembourg broadcast. Public engagement was part of his plan, and Fallen this week said the **Twitter** and e-mail feedback from his transmissions had been “fantastic,” and that his science campaign had become “quite an event.”

“Thank you for making a difference and advancing Amateur Radio as well,” Doug Howard, VE6CID, tweeted. Another Twitter follower enthused, “You’re running the coolest DX station in the world.” Fallen said he also received “a lot of great waterfalls,” as well as video and audio recordings from hams and SWLs.

Fallen started and stopped each experiment block with DTMF tones, transmitted in AM on or about 2.8 and 3.3 MHz, each channel fed with audio tones of different frequencies or, in the case of music, as a separate stereo channel. If the “Luxembourg Effect” is present, skywave-signal listeners would hear both channels combined on a single frequency; Fallen said the effect is easier to detect with tones. In addition to tones, he transmitted “a ‘dance track,’ a Pachelbel Canon arrangement, and a variation of ‘Row, Row, Row Your Boat.’” Jeff Dumps, KL4IU, composed some of the music, and he arranged and performed all of it.

The CW “airglow” artificial aurora experiment followed the Luxembourg Effect transmissions. All week, Fallen despaired that the “ratty” ionosphere and cloud cover were diminishing his hopes for success with the artificial aurora experiments. But on the last night, he tweeted, “Seeing artificial airglow with the spectrometer. Film at 11.”

Fallen is now evaluating the results of his HAARP efforts. He said one listener posted “a most excellent” YouTube clip. He was not specific; several have been posted that document this week’s experiments, including **this one** from Stephen Oleson, VE6SLP. Laurence Howell, KL7L, in Wasilla, Alaska, posted an **audio file**. “The miracle of crowd sourcing!” Fallen said. “If only the Luxembourg Effect was more pronounced, but it is in the 3,300 kHz recording.”

Fallen has been working under a \$60,000 National Science Foundation **grant**. “During campaigns, significant expenditures for fuel and personnel are required,” the grant abstract said. “Large start-up costs make HAARP experiments largely inaccessible to individual researchers unless multiple experiments and funding sources can be bundled together during a campaign of up to two-week duration.” According to the abstract, public participation would maximize “the broader impacts of the investigations.” “HAARP again...perhaps sometime this summer!” Fallen tweeted on February 23. He has posted additional information on his “Gakona HAARPoon 2017” **blog**.

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## **GREEK LEGAL SYSTEM - DIVORCE CASE HEARING !**

**A man and his wife were getting a divorce at a local court in Greece, but the custody of their children posed a problem. The mother jumped to her feet and protested to the judge that since she had brought the children into this world, she should retain custody of them. The man also wanted custody of his children, so the judge asked for his side of the story. After a long moment of silence, the man rose from his chair and replied: "Your Honor, when I put a coin into a vending machine, and a Coke comes out, does the Coke belong to me or to the machine?" DON'T LAUGH..... HE WON!!**

## MICROPHONE PROBLEMS .....FROM BARRY N8DAD

As some of you have heard, Barry, N8DAD has been having a problem with a Heil Microphone. A Gold Elite with a 4 pin XLR Plug. It only caused him problems on 75 meters, would not do it with a dummy load. He tried many different things to figure out what was going on, chokes on the antenna cable, ferrite beads on both the antenna cable and microphone cable, etc. After much research, tearing his hair out and getting to the end of his rope this is what he learned. The first paragraph is from Heil and the rest he learned from the Universal Radio website.

From Heil.....

Yaesu has recently had several reports that the 950 is VERY sensitive to RF. No apparent reason but it is true. Many calls a day come through the Heil Sound facility with RF issues. We have recently come up with the perfect 'fix' for that. Use one of our PR series professional balanced output microphones with the 3 pin XLR. All of the new Yaesu series 9000, 5000, 2000 and the FT 950 have a balanced audio input on the audio board but they do not use it. They unbalance that 8 pin round mic connector input with their typical Pin 8, pin 7 connections. Sad. Our new cable CC-1 XLR-BAL (with an ORANGE, not traditional Yellow boot) connects our balanced output microphone into the balanced input and has solved 100% of the RF issue for so many FT 950 as well as other new model Yaesu users.

The **Heil CC-1 XLR Y-BAL** is a special optimized microphone cable for these transceivers: Yaesu FT-950 FT-1000MkV FT-2000 FTDX5000 FTDX9000 Each of these transceivers have a balanced microphone circuit just like commercial broadcast and Heil PRO Audio gear, but Yaesu mic connections unbalances that balanced input and does NOT ground the mic shield to the chassis. So you end up with a nice floating antenna called a microphone cable that in some cases cause RFI and distortion when using 3 pin XLR balanced microphones.

This cable is expressly for the Yaesu models listed above, when using the **Heil PR** series microphones that use three pin XLR connectors such as the balanced 600 ohm PR781, PR20, PR30, PR31BW, PR40, etc. This only works on the late model FTDX9000, FTDX5000, FT-2000, FT-1000MkV and the FT-950. You should continue to use the CC-1 XLR-Y (Yellow Top) cable for all other Yaesu models with any Heil 3 pin balanced output PRO microphones.

The Heil CC-1 XLR Y-BAL has an orange cover on the 3 pin XLR and terminates to the standard round 8 pin Foster connector and has a 2" PTT pig tail.

Thanks to Barry for fighting the battle and learning the solution because it might save some of us from a lot of grief.



**IN CELEBRATION OF ST. PATRICK'S DAY.....  
(WARNING POLITICALLY INCORRECT, IF YOU CARE)**

**An Irish man is sittin in a pub one night when 3 Englishmen walked in. The men sit down, and start to talk about how they can anger the Irishman... The first man says, "Watch this..."He gets up, walks over to the Irishman, and says, "Hey man, I hear your St. Patrick was a faggot."The Irishman just replies, "Oh, is that so now?"**

**The Englishman, goes back to his seat perplexed, when his friend jumps up and says, "Here, lemme try that." So he goes over to the Irishman and says, "Hey man, I hear your St. Patrick was a transvestite faggot!" The Irishman only replies, "Oh, is that so now?" So the Englishman, frustrated goes and sits down with his friends.**

**When the 3rd Englishman jumps up and says, "Well, now, I gotta try that!" So he walks over to the Irishman and says, "Hey, I hear your St. Patrick was an ENGLISHMAN!"**

**And the Irishman replies, "Aye, that's what your friends were sayin."**



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