

# UPPER PENINSULA NET NEWS SERVING THE WESTERN GREAT LAKES



HAM OF THE YEAR  
KC8NVI CLIFF ROSENBOHM  
HARBOR SPRINGS MI

HAM OF THE MONTH  
KA8T STEVE DUTCHER  
WEIDMAN MI

MAY 2010

FROM THE EDITOR-----BILL, N8NJA bkn8nja@att.net

I know the newsletter is ridiculously late, and I am sorry for that. There just does not seem to be any time to do anything this month. Anyway, it is what it is. It was nice to see everyone at Cadillac and congratulations to our new Ham of the Year, Cliff, KC8NVI. He is very deserving of the honor and I will serve us well.

This being the month of Memorial Day, when we honor those men and women who have served our country, and given us the freedoms we enjoy we have a little different article in the newsletter. I just want to thank Leo, WD8DCA and his son for sharing this with us.

#### NET STATS

MARCH 2010 CHECKINS 1188 TRAFFIC 59

MARCH 2009 CHECKINS 1370 TRAFFIC 53

HIGH NET N8NJA 48

HIGH TRAFFIC K8BLL, KC8TBU, & N8BNC ALL HAD 4

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

CADILLAC 2010



ANNETTE KC8QII  
"MRS HAM OF THE YEAR"

GRANT W8GEP



ED K8DSS



NORM KF8QW

# BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES MAY 2010

| Sun       | Mon       | Tue       | Wed                                  | Thu       | Fri   | Sat   |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------------------|-----------|---|---|
|           |           |           |                                      |           |   | <i>1</i><br><i>JUDY XYL OF</i><br><i>WSHTK</i>      |
| <i>2</i>  | <i>3</i>  | <i>4</i>  | <i>5</i>                             | <i>6</i>  | <i>7</i><br><i>WSHTK JIM</i><br><i>WASUCS &amp;</i><br><i>VALERIE</i> | <i>8</i>  |
| <i>9</i>  | <i>10</i> | <i>11</i> | <i>12</i><br><i>WASDVD &amp; XYL</i> | <i>13</i> | <i>14</i>   | <i>15</i><br><i>KATHLEEN XYL</i><br><i>OF NSNJA</i> |
| <i>16</i> | <i>17</i> | <i>18</i> | <i>19</i>                            | <i>20</i> | <i>21</i>   | <i>22</i>   |
| <i>23</i> | <i>24</i> | <i>25</i> | <i>26</i>                            | <i>27</i> | <i>28</i><br><i>KCSOGC JEAN</i>                                       | <i>29</i>   |
| <i>30</i> | <i>31</i> |           |                                      |           |   |   |

PICTURES FROM CADILLAC  
MAY 2010



NO, HOPE YOU DON'T HAVE TO SIT IN THE  
CORNER BECAUSE YOU WERE LATE



DAVE W8NSH



DICK, K8LQV

AL KG9BI

MIKE KB8ZGL

## A LETTER.....

The following was written by Tim Woodward to his wife Diane, in August 2004 Tim is WD8DCA, Leo's son. Thank you Tim, Diane, and Leo for sharing this with us.

Diane,

I'll give you the news report you say everybody is after. I had meant all along to provide everybody an update but the 14 hour days have prevented me having time to create the email group I was going to build. The change from intelligence officer to Task Force Executive Officer is keeping me very busy.

August started as a very stressful and painful month. On 3 August I went on a combat patrol with our scout platoon. The enemy had apparently placed a small obstacle on a road, some fallen branches, nothing we couldn't drive over, just to see how we would respond. We were nervous. Two of our vehicles had already struck Italian made anti-tank mines. Fortunately, there were no injuries, just blown up wheels. We moved cautious around the obstacle and carefully checked the road. We got to a good place to stop and checked again. There was a layer of deep dust on the road. We moved off the road and put the HMMWVs in a position to cover us with their big 50 Caliber machine guns and 40mm automatic grenade launchers. I then went down with three other scouts to check the road. We took the mine detector. We joked nervously as we checked the area. A hit on the mine detector and Sergeant Murphy was on his knees moving sand away slowly to see what was there. He commented, "This is not as much fun when we're doing it for real. It looks so easy in the movies." One other sergeant commented that if we find anything "it will be a really tough day for the task force. We'll lose a platoon sergeant, a section sergeant, a team sergeant and the XO." I replied, "No, I am far enough away providing your flank security I'll just be walking wounded. I'll call for your Medavac helicopter." At that the man with the mine detector commented, "You're always saying things to cheer up the men, sir." We nervously cleared the area and this time did not find a mine. We continued the mission without further incident.

The next day the same men were not so fortunate. 1LT Tim Ozmer, a dear friend and a great soldier was leading a patrol when his vehicle was destroyed by an Improvised Explosive Device. I mean the engine of the truck was completely gone. Three of the four crewmen were seriously wounded. One was the commander's gunner. Specialist McCune had provided security for men and Colonel Heslin on numerous missions. He told us we didn't go out on patrols enough so the colonel let him volunteer for this one. He was the gunner on top of the vehicle when the explosion took place. It took 45 minutes to stabilize Don. I met the helicopter at the Combat Support Hospital as they unloaded my men. Specialist John West was also very seriously wounded. John worked for Microsoft and was learning Arabic. McCune and West were immediately sent to surgery. Both came out on respirators. Tim was less seriously hurt was obviously in pain.

Don was evacuated the next morning to the hospital in Landstuhl, Germany. I was sure we were in the clear. Don was back at the best hospital in the Army. He'll be fine. It was like being kicked in the head when I received the call the next morning that he had died on the operating table. He lived down the hall from me in a building that used to be the Air Base Ba'ath Party Headquarters. He was my body guard on several missions. He was a smart aleck kid who had just turned 20. He was only three and a half years older than my own son.

I was devastated as were most of us. His memorial service was extremely hard. Being from Michigan my Dad was able to attend visitation for him and see his mother. We were incredibly shaken by this event.

John West went to Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington DC where he was treated by an old classmate of mine from Command and General Staff College. She was able to send me updates on his health and provide for his wife as he recovered. Tim is now back in Washington walking as many as two blocks down the street from his house. He will recover fully and if I know him he'll be begging to come back to Iraq in a month.

The task force was hurt, be we were also angry. So we attacked. In two separate raids we arrested six terrorists. The evidence was easily found. Unfortunately, they did not resist when we crashed into their homes at 0500 in the morning. We all wanted them to fight so we could kill them. They came peacefully but detailed searches found illegal weapons and other devices used for firing rockets and conducting attacks against American forces. They are in Abu Gariab prison now. I hope the enemy continues to mortar the prison as they have in past. We can let them feel the fear we felt under their attacks.

Finally the month drew to a close. One last major event remained. The colonel went on a pass and left it to me. We had been rebuilding a school in a very poor farming community south of our base. It was hard because we had received many attacks from that area. We had stopped construction. We had continuous helicopters overhead. We harassed the towns people and questioned them for no apparent reason. We were making life uncomfortable for them so they would pressure the enemy to leave their town. It worked. Soon the rocket fire from Al Shahabi ended. We continued the school project. Finally in dramatic ceremony, the city council members and I cut the ribbon on the school. Even though construction was not complete we did this to show the Americans and the new local Iraqi government were working together. We were concerned about this little farming town. We were going to do what was needed to improve their lives. Together, we would make Iraq free and prosperous. The message was heard. There has been no rocket fire from Shahabi for two weeks.

I will send photos under another email as this one is long enough. Our Public Affairs Team went with us and we learned the Iraqi children and women soldiers with cameras make for a wild scene. Many of the candy and other goods I had handed out. It was great to help the people.

August 2004. I will never, ever forget the events of that month.

Thanks for your prayers.

Tim

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At the time Tim was in Iraq his rank was Major, he retired as a Lt. Colonel and is working for the Army at Fort Huachuac in Arizona. While stationed in Hawaii he upgraded to Amateur Extra, WH6KC, which he has kept. While in Iraq he was YI9KC, and made several contacts in that area. I acted as his QSL manager. He did not get on the air right away in Iraq as every time he got on the roof of the building he want to put up his antenna, the bad guys fired at him. He had to wait until a patrol went out and attracted the fire.  
Leo WD8DCA



Title MAJOR TIM  
Comments IRAQ 2004



THANKS TO THOSE WHO ATTENDED THE MEETING IN CADILLAC

|              |              |             |                |
|--------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|
| N8NJA BILL   | WA8LT WALT   | WB8VOF DOUG | TERRY SMITH    |
| N8XX HANK    | K8SKY SKYE   | KC8NUR TONY | K8WLT WALT     |
| K8MXC BOB    | K8KZG RAY    | KB8MCR JIM  | WT8G GERRY     |
| N8ISV LINDA  | ED K8DSS     | HELEN       | W8OWN GEORGE   |
| KC8OAZ JOHN  | KC8ZMN CHRIS | N8IFY CHRIS | WB9JSR JOHN    |
| WD8LVZ DAVE  | WA8RNB LEE   | K8LQV DICK  | KG9BI AL       |
| KB8ZGL MIKE  | KF8QW NORM   | N8GWN JIM   | W8GEP GRANT    |
| KC8NVI CLIFF | AA8SN HOPE   | WD8DCA LEO  | KC8QII ANNETTE |
| W8CBH BILL   | K8BLL AL     | W8NSH DAVE  | MARSHA         |
| W8WM GEORGE  |              |             |                |



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