

# UPPER PENINSULA NET NEWS SERVING THE WESTERN GREAT LAKES



HAM OF THE YEAR  
W8KP BOB WITTLA  
BRUCE CROSSING MI

HAM OF THE MONTH  
AB8KO JOHN PONCHAUD  
CRYSTAL FALLS MI

JULY 2011

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

Sorry this is as late as it is, but I will explain below. July already, Summer is moving fast! Be sure you remember all those antenna projects you want to work on.

I have started on a course of chemotherapy for leukemia. My doctor is very optimistic and says 3 to 6 treatments ought to take care of it. I get a liquid chemo treatment every three weeks, and take some pills besides. . Well, I have had one so far with out any real bad side effects, except I am extremely tired all the time. I am still trying to keep working, but it is a challenge some days. So as far as ham radio stuff goes, I am not making any promises at this time. I hope to be able to continue the net control duties and this newsletter. If some one wanted to take over either one I would not protest. So just let me know.

I do hope to make Escanaba by getting the date of one of my treatments changed. They happen on Friday so if I get real sick I can be better to go to work on Monday. I plan on being around for a lot more years, just a little slow in what I do for the next six months.

## NET STATS

2010 MAY CHECKINS 1182 TRAFFIC 40

2011 MAY CHECKINS 1160 TRAFFIC 60

MAY HIGH CHECKINS WA8DHB 43

HIGH TRAFFIC N8GWN 3 WA8DHB 3

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

# JULY 2011

## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 <i>WA8DHB &amp; MELVIN</i>  <i>W8ING MIKE</i>	2
3	4	5 <i>WX8Y DON</i>  <i>KC8WKN MARY ANN</i>	6 <i>WB8IEH JIM</i>	7	8   <i>NK8V BOB</i>	9 <i>W8OWN &amp; HELEN</i>
10	11 <i>FRACIS XYL OF</i> <i>N8GWN</i>	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 <i>BETH XYL OF</i> <i>KC8TBU</i>	19	20	21 <i>AGNES XYL OF</i> <i>WB8IEH</i>	22	23 <i>N8HBZ JIM</i>
24	25 <i>W8DTB &amp; XYL</i>	26	27	28	29	30
31 <i>LYNN XYL OF</i> <i>NK8V</i>						

## **“THE TAIL OF TWO TAILGATES”**

### **TRUNK SALE AND TALEGATE PARTY**

THE STRAITS AREA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB IS HAVING A  
TRUNK SALE AT NORTH CENTRAL MICHIGAN COLLEGE  
LOCATED AT 1515 HOWARD STREET PETOSKEY

DATE JULY 16, 2011  
TIME 8:00A.M TO 11:00 A.M.  
TALK-IN 146.680 ( PL 110.9)

FOR MORE FUN THERE WILL BE A TAILGATE PARTY AT 11:00  
A.M. BRING SOME FOOD - GRILLS WILL BE PROVIDED

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT CLIFF ROSEBOHM  
[KC8NVI@ATT.NET](mailto:KC8NVI@ATT.NET) OR 231-5265645

### **TRUNK SWAP**

**SATURDAY JULY 16, 2011**  
**8:30 A.M. - - 1:30 P.M.**  
**REED CITY MI – OSCEOLA COUNTY EOC**  
**4325 220th Ave Reed City, MI 49677-8594**

**SPONSORED BY THE MECOSTA/OSCEOLA  
ARES/RACES GROUP**

**ADMISSION \$2.00 SELLING SPACE \$3.00**  
**SETUP 7:30 OPEN TO BUYERS 8:30**

**TALK-IN 146.74 (NO PL)**

**RESERVE A SPACE EMAIL [bkn8nja@att.net](mailto:bkn8nja@att.net)**  
**Call 989-326-1937**

FROM JIM, WB8IEH

Two Minnesota mechanical engineers were standing at the base of a flagpole, looking up. A woman walks by and asks what they were doing. "Ve're supposed to find da height of da flagpole," said Sven, "but ve don't haff a ladder."

The woman took a wrench from her purse, loosened a few bolts, and laid the pole down. Then she took a tape measure from her pocketbook, took a measurement, announced, "Eighteen feet, six inches," and walked away.

Ole shook his head and laughed. "Ain't dat just like a voman! Ve ask for da height and she gives us da length!"

Sven and Ole are currently serving in the United States Senate!

Why is it that our children can't read a Bible in school, but they can in prison?  
A completely brilliant question!!!!!!

I saw a woman wearing a sweat shirt with 'Guess' on it.  
So I said 'Implants?' She hit me.

When I was young we used to go 'skinny dipping,' now I just 'chunky dunk

signed up for an exercise class and was told to wear loose fitting clothing. If I HAD any loose fitting clothing, I wouldn't have signed up in the first place!

Wouldn't it be nice if whenever we messed up our life we could simply press 'Ctrl Alt Delete' and start all over? AMEN, AMEN!

Why do I have to swear on the Bible in court when the Ten Commandments cannot be displayed outside?  
Another completely brilliant question!!!!6

Scott Hedberg, AD7MI FROM THE ARRL WEBSITE.

[ad7mi@arrl.net](mailto:ad7mi@arrl.net)

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*During the Great Depression, the Army finds ham radio an effective solution for communicating with remote CCC camps.*

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The Army Amateur Radio System (AARS) was an organization set up by the US Army Signal Corps in the fall of 1925 to accomplish the following:

*(a) To secure additional channels of communication throughout the continental limits of the United States that can be used in time of an emergency such that the land lines, both telephone and telegraph are seriously damaged or destroyed by flood, fire, tornado, earthquake, ice, or other causes.*

*(b) To provide channels of communication for the civilian components of the United States Army; National Guard and the Organized Reserve, such that they may carry on portions of their business through these channels.*

*(c) To provide a reservoir of radio operators trained in army methods of procedure and in the basic principles of the army's methods of using radio in the field.*

*(d) To provide a means of establishing considerable number of radio operators and popularizing the Signal Corps and its activities with them as well as the exchanging of views on experimental work.<sup>1</sup>*

The AARS met these goals with a domestic organizational structure based around the nine corps areas that the continental United States was divided into by the National Defense Act of 1920. These corps areas were designed to provide leadership and administration for all US Army activities within them. Each corps area, with its administrative staff, had a signal officer who was responsible for everything that involved communications. When the AARS was first established, it was up to the corps area signal officer to manage the program. That experience helped prepare the corps area signal officers to deal with arguably one of the Army's most significant challenges of the 1930s: the operation of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC).

### **Keeping Remote Camps in Touch**

President Franklin D. Roosevelt's immediate priority once taking office in March 1933 was to provide relief to the multitude of Americans impacted by the Great Depression. The Army was formally tasked in April to help run the CCC. The program gave responsibility to the Army to take in thousands of unemployed men around the country

for purposes of providing them housing and administrative management as the men supplied the labor for public works projects.

The implementation of the CCC put the corps areas under “war-time pressure” and the signal officers supporting CCC operations were fully engaged. “Radio stations capable of operating as amateur stations were highly desirable because of the possibility of enrollees sending and receiving messages from their folks and friends and because the operation as an amateur station would result in considerable interest among enrollees and enhance the possibilities of working up worth-while educational and recreational activities around the radio station, with a qualified radio operator as the keystone.”<sup>2</sup> Many of the camps existed well outside the reach of telephone service and radio was an able solution to fill the communications gap.

At the Third Corps Area headquarters in Baltimore, Maryland, the radio normally dedicated for the AARS nightly nets was used to support a daytime net with the CCC camps. By bridging the CCC and AARS nets, traffic originating from the CCC camps destined for family back home could easily (and with no cost) be passed to the AARS net for handling and delivery. This not only provided a valuable service to the members of the CCC but also provided training for the radio amateurs of the AARS net.

The Sixth Corps Area (Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan) was an exception — the development of a radio net to support the CCC was not necessary due to the existing communications infrastructure in the area. Yet, the demand by the CCC members to have Amateur Radio stations at the camps led to the creation of a CCC network of radio stations in the Sixth Corps Area. The Army quickly saw the vocational applicability of having the stations despite no real operational requirement being fulfilled.

The Seventh Corps Area (North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas) had a different approach. Amongst their CCC camps were radios that initially allowed for a dedicated daytime net to support CCC operations. To expand the existing usefulness of these radio stations, the Seventh Corps Area signal officer provided each with an additional crystal that allowed the radio stations to operate at night in state specific nets using AARS frequencies.

### **A Frugal Approach for the Great Depression**

Using radio to support CCC camp operations and integrating CCC radio nets with AARS nets proved to be effective in reducing communications (telephone and telegraph) costs. In the Seventh Corps Area the average cost was \$3842.83 per month between September 1934 and August 1935. After the introduction of radios, monthly costs dropped by almost half to \$1984.25.

In January 1936 the Fourth Corps Area (Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida) fielded 13 radios to support the CCC camps in their area. Growing to a total of 37 radio stations supporting CCC camps across the Fourth Corps Area, the signal officers realized in addition to the cost savings accrued

through the use of radio as compared to telephone and telegraph, the men who manned the CCC radio stations were in effect becoming experienced Army radio operators.

### Civilian Operators Gain Army Skills

The CCC radio operators use of Army radio procedure during the CCC nets as well as participation in the nighttime AARS nets quickly caused them to develop a high level of proficiency. The Regular Army Signal Corps officers assigned to provide instruction to the CCC members also greatly benefited from the high operational tempo of the CCC operations to hone their own skills in the field of radio as well as those of an instructor.

Although each corps area met the challenges posed by the CCC based on the conditions present in their respective locations, the overall experience helped prepare the Signal Corps across the Army to become more adaptive and innovative in how it set up communications networks. For many civilian participants in the CCC, it was their first introduction to Amateur Radio. The CCC was disbanded in 1942 and some CCC graduates went on to become radio operators in World War II . The CCC and AARS cooperation is a great historical example of Amateur Radio getting the message through.

*All photos courtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration*

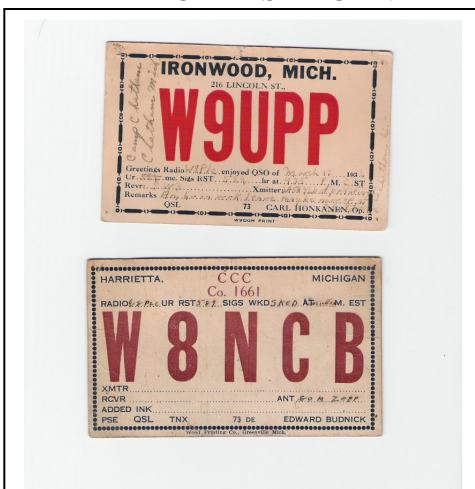
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*Scott Hedberg, AD7MI, a Life Member of the ARRL, is a 1991 graduate of The Citadel, with a Bachelors of Arts in Political Science. He has served in the US Army for the past 19 years. His previous education includes a Master of Arts in International Relations from Webster University. In May 2010 Scott graduated from the School of Advanced Military Studies, Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas with a Master of Military Art and Science degree. His next assignment will be in South Korea with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division where he hopes to obtain an HL call sign for some recreational HF contacts during his year-long tour.*

*Scott's interest in Amateur Radio stems from his father, Larry, KD6EUG. Scott was licensed in 2001 and his Amateur Radio highlight so far was operating from Iraq as YI9MI during his 2007-2008 tour. Scott can be reached at 3008 Gatewood Ct, Leavenworth, KS 66048.*

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### CARDS RECEIVED BY BUD, W8PLC WHILE HAS WAS AT CAMP CADILLAC



*“The Constitution is not an instrument for the government to restrain the people; it is an instrument for the people to restrain the government - lest it come to dominate our lives and interests”.*

**- Patrick Henry -**



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