

UPPER PENINSULA NET NEWS SERVING THE WESTERN GREAT LAKES



HAM OF THE YEAR
KD8KCV DAVE PECK
GAYLORD MI

HAM OF THE MONTH
W8LS LARRY SYNDER
MANISTIQUE MI

AUG 2018

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

Here we are in the month of August, the heart of summer, time for last minute vacations, and soon thoughts of the coming fall season. Time to get those antenna projects planned out for you to do as soon as the weather cools.

As most of you know Aileen has had some health problems. I stopped to talk with Patti after the U.P. Hamfest and Aileen is improving and hopes to be back home in a couple of weeks. She is thankful for all the cards and good wishes she has received from her ham friends. We all wish her the best, and look forward to hearing her on the net soon.

The U.P. Hamfest was great! There was a very good selection of ham radio equipment, parts, and accessories there for everyone's examination. We had a delicious great dinner at the Family Inn on Friday night, really like that whitefish! Saw a lot of friends at the hamfest and made some new ones too. The DCARS club has done a great job with that swap, making it better every year.

We should all thank Chris, KC8ZMN for stepping up and taking role of net manager while Aileen is recovering, he is doing a great job and the net is running smoothly.

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

NET STATS

JUNE 2017 CHECKINS 1218 TRAFFIC 4
JUNE 2018 CHECKINS 837 TRAFFIC 40
HIGH CHECKINS N8NJA 34 WA8DHB 34 K8BLL 31 W8WR 30 SUNDAY NOON KD8KCV 16
HIGH TRAFFIC KD8KCV 2 TWICE

August 2018

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 <i>W8WOJ & XYL</i>	3	4
5	6	7 <i>KD9TZ & GAIL</i>	8	9 <i>HELEN XYL OF WD8PRW W8IBT DEBBIE</i>	10	11 <i>WA8UCS CHUCK</i>
12 <i>KA8IQJ & RUTH</i>	13	14	15	16	17 <i>W8RAE & JOANN</i>	18
19	20 <i>N9QPJ & XYL</i>	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 <i>KC8MCR JIM</i>	29 <i>KC8ZMN CHRIS</i>	30	31	SEPT 2 RON OM OF AA8SN K8JRO JERRY

EXAMS

- 08/07/2018 | Oak Park MI 48237-2085 **Sponsor:** Hazel Park ARC
Location: Oak Park Community Center **Time:** 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
- 08/11/2018 | Ann Arbor MI 48108-1516 **Sponsor:** ARROW Communications Assoc. **Location:** American Red Cross Building **Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
- 08/11/2018 | Port Huron MI 48060-4014 **Sponsor:** Eastern Michigan ARC
Location: St Clair County Library **Time:** 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
- 08/11/2018 | Traverse City MI 49686-3103 **Sponsor:** Cherryland ARC
Location: Traverse City District Library **Time:** 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
- 08/13/2018 | Adrian MI 49221-8709 **Sponsor:** Adrian ARC **Location:** Building at Lenawee County Airport **Time:** 7:00 PM (No walk-ins)
- 08/14/2018 | Howell MI 48855-8703 **Sponsor:** Livingston Amateur Radio Klub
Location: Livingston County EMS **Time:** 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
- 08/18/2018 | Flint MI 48507 **Sponsor:** The KT8Q & W8ACW VE Teams
Location: Baker College of Flint-Tech Center **Time:** 9:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
- 08/18/2018 | Jackson MI 49201-2230 **Sponsor:** Cascades ARS
Location: Jackson Carnegie Library **Time:** 10:15 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
- 08/19/2018 | Benton Harbor MI 49022-9999 **Sponsor:** NQ8A Testing Group
Location: Church of God **Time:** 12:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
- 08/23/2018 | Battle Creek MI 49017-4867 **Sponsor:** SMARS **Location:** Maple United Methodist Church **Time:** 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
- 08/23/2018 | Corunna MI 48817-1448 **Sponsor:** SARA **Location:** James Captain Center EOC **Time:** 6:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
- 08/25/2018 | South Lyon MI 48178 **Sponsor:** South Lyon Area ARC
Location: Witch's Hat Depot **Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
- 09/08/2018 | Ann Arbor MI 48108-1516 **Sponsor:** ARROW Communications Assoc. **Location:** American Red Cross Building **Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
- 09/08/2018 | Lansing MI 48911-5322 **Sponsor:** Ingham County VE Group
Location: Lansing Fire Station #44 (Community Room) **Time:** 11:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

- 09/08/2018 | Negaunee MI 49866 **Sponsor:** Hiawatha ARA
Location: Marquette Health Dept Bldg **Time:** 8:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
 - 09/08/2018 | Port Huron MI 48060-4014 **Sponsor:** Eastern Michigan ARC
Location: St Clair County Library **Time:** 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
 - 09/08/2018 | Wyandotte MI 48192-9999 **Sponsor:** Motor City Radio Club
Location: First United Methodist Church **Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
- 09/10/2018 | Adrian MI 49221-8709 Sponsor: Adrian ARC Location: Building at Lenawee County Airport Time: 7:00 PM (No walk-ins)**
- 09/11/2018 | Gaylord MI 49735-9822 **Sponsor:** Top of Michigan ARC
Location: Gaylord Regional Airport **Time:** 7:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
- 09/11/2018 | Howell MI 48855-8703 Sponsor: Livingston Amateur Radio Klub
Location: Livingston County EMS Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)**

HAMFEST

08/12/2018 | Seaway Trunk Swap Location: **Port Huron, MI**
Type: **ARRL Hamfest** Sponsor: **Eastern Michigan Amateur Radio Club**
Website: <http://qsl.net/ke8bit>

09/08/2018 | **GRAHamfest** **Location:** Wyoming, MI **Type:** ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association
Website: <http://w8dc.org/file/club/2018GRAHamFestFlyer.pdf>

09/16/2018 | Adrian Hamfest Location: **Adrian, MI** Type: **ARRL Hamfest**
Sponsor: **Adrian Amateur Radio Club**
Website: <http://w8tqe.com>

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Only in This Stupid World.....**FROM DAVE NS8S**

Why is lemon juice made with artificial flavor, and dishwashing liquid made with real lemons?

Why isn't there mouse-flavored cat food?

Why didn't Noah swat those two mosquitoes?

ARRL Board Adopts Volunteer Monitoring Program; Official Observer Program to be Retired.....FROM ARRL LETTER

The ARRL Board of Directors has adopted the recommendations of the Official Observer Program Study Committee, which would retire the venerable Official Observer (OO) Program and institute the Volunteer Monitoring (VM) Program. The Board took the action at its July 20 - 21 meeting in Windsor, Connecticut, instructing that the transition "be implemented as soon as practicable." Under the terms of the new program, current Official Observers will be invited to apply for appointment as Volunteer Monitors. The Board expressed its appreciation for the OOs and their dedicated volunteer service over the years. The Board said the action is expected to re-energize enforcement efforts in the Amateur Radio bands and was undertaken at the request of the FCC in the wake of several FCC regional office closures and a reduction in field staff. Coordination of cases and evidence gathering would become the responsibility of ARRL Headquarters staff, while the FCC will retain the responsibility for final decisions regarding action in specific cases.

The study committee report spelled out the additional steps necessary to launch the Volunteer Monitoring Program. Among them would be the appointment of a dedicated Headquarters staff member or an independent contractor working under the direction of ARRL Headquarters to administer the new program and interface with its participants. The Volunteer Monitoring Program administrator would, among other duties, create a vetting and accreditation process for prospective Volunteer Monitors. The authority to accredit, appoint, and dismiss Volunteer Monitors would be assigned to ARRL Headquarters staff. Section Managers will continue to be a part of the vetting process for VMs, although they will not have appointment or dismissal authority.

Volunteer Monitor accreditation would be limited to a 3-year term, renewable by satisfying requirements necessary to ensure competency. A new *Volunteer Monitoring Training Manual* is in the final stages of development.

The administrator will create a target for the number of geographically distributed Volunteer Monitors. Preliminary plans would include up to five Volunteer Monitors per ARRL Section and up to 250 Volunteer Monitors overall.

The administrator would also "develop a rubric or other aid for program participants to highlight offenses and other criteria that the FCC considers a priority," the motion said. The administrator also would be charged with organizing periodic webinars, highlighting technologies, techniques, and other continuing education topics that would assist, motivate, and better enable Volunteer Monitors. The FCC will be actively involved in the development and presentation of these training opportunities.

The new Volunteer Monitor Program would continue to send notices recognizing good on-the-air operating practice. Under the new program, positive or negative operator

notices eventually would be sent from ARRL Headquarters, not by individual Volunteer Monitors, in part to maintain their anonymity.

The action further authorized ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, to terminate the standing *Amended Agreement* between ARRL and the FCC Field Bureau regarding the use of amateur volunteers and execute a new *Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)* between ARRL and the FCC Enforcement Bureau. The *MOU* is under final review.

Some ARRL Contest Award Certificates Now Available for Download

The ARRL Contest Branch has announced that some contest award certificates now are available for download from the ARRL website in PDF and JPEG formats. Just enter the call sign. (<http://contests.arrl.org/certificates.php>)

ARRL Contest Branch Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, credited “the extraordinary efforts of Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, together with Trey Garlough, N5KO; Ward Silver, N0AX, and the ARRL IT team,” for making this a reality.

Currently available certificates are for the 2017 IARU HF Championship, the 2017 ARRL 222 MHz and Up Distance Contest, and the 2017 ARRL September VHF Contest.

“Future certificates for more current events, as well as past events going back well over a decade, will be made available in the next few weeks,” Jahnke said. “This new online certificate feature will offer enhanced content over what has been offered previously on ARRL certificates, and makes certificates available to a greater number of participants. New recognitions have been added for Top 10 participants in a broader number of geographical (country, Division, Section) or categorical entries.”

New online event certificates will be announced as they are released

TRIVIA

Miniskirts are illegal in Uganda. (I knew I didn't want to go there!)

The US retail industry makes US\$6.8 billion a year from gift cards that no one redeems. (they should donate it to charities)

The sun evaporates about a trillion tons of water a day. (But then it rains and it comes back)

THANKS TO THOSE WHO ATTENDED THE
NET MEETING IN ESCANABA

DAVE, KD8KCV

SKYE, K8SKY

BOB, N8BNC

CINDI, N8JSI

RICK, WA8JSF

GARY, W8CJ

PETE, K2PM

JIM, KC8NNX

MIKE, KE8AHK

DAVE, NS8S

LARRY, W8LS

BILL, N8NJA

RICK & CORKY W8RLJ

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The FCC has issued a Citation and Order (**Citation**) to **Amcrest Industries, LLC**(formerly Foscam Digital Technologies, LLC), an importer and marketer of popular and inexpensive Baofeng hand-held transceivers, alleging that the company violated FCC rules and the Communications Act by illegally marketing unauthorized RF devices. The FCC asserts that Amcrest marketed Baofeng model UV-5R-series FM hand-held radios capable of transmitting on "restricted frequencies." The Baofeng models UV-5R and UV-5R V2+ were granted an FCC **equipment authorization** in 2012 to operate under Part 90 Private Land Mobile Radio Service (Land Mobile) rules.

(SURE TOOK THEM LONG ENOUGH!!...EDITOR)

FULL STORY CAN BE FOUND ON ARRL WEBSITE

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Significant changes in store for FT8 and MSK144 with WSJT-X Version 2.0

WSJT-X co-developer **Joe Taylor, K1JT**, has announced that major changes are coming to the FT8 and MSK144 digital protocols when **WSJT-X version 2.0** arrives in a few months.

Taylor said version 2.0 should be ready for prime time by January 2019. "Much of the necessary programming is finished," Taylor said in a post to the Packrats reflector. "Many of the new features have been tested on the air and we find them to work well."

Taylor was quick to point out that the new capabilities are not yet publicly available, not even in beta form. He said that he, Steve Franke, K9AN, and Bill Somerville, G4WJS, have been developing "enhanced versions of the MSK144 and FT8 protocols that extend the message payload to 77 bits."

"Do not rush to download something," he cautioned. "There is more testing and code optimization to do." He said current plans call for a beta-testing period "probably starting in mid-to-late September," with a full release "possible a couple of months later."



CAUTION!!!! 48 HOUR CONTEST AND HUGE DX PILEUPS CAN BE HARMFUL TO YOUR HEALTH.



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