

# UPPER PENINSULA NET NEWS SERVING THE WESTERN GREAT LAKES



HAM OF THE YEAR  
KD8KCV DAVE PECK  
GAYLORD MI

HAM OF THE MONTH  
AB8WR MARCUS RODGERS  
ST. HELEN MI

SEPTEMBER 2018

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

The month of September. Time for football, turning trees, and the first hunting seasons. Sorry this is so late, but between storms taking out computers and the internet, and me hurting my back September has not been a good month for me. I am six days into the back problems and it is not getting better at the same rate I remember it doing when I have had this problem before. Couldn't have anything to do with age could it? I will just suffer a little longer I suppose.

It is great to have Aileen back on the net! Just was not the same with out her. Thanks to Chris for taking over and sticking with it while Aileen gets back in tip top condition. Band conditions seem to be getting better also. Made a hint of a turn around of propagation, or maybe not. (See article in this newsletter) Just get ready to enjoy some good times on 160 meters this winter.

We have not had any U. P. Net Member Profiles lately for the newsletter so I have included a form in this month's newsletter. Fill it out and send it to Al. Have a good rest of the month, hope it improves for me.

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

NET STATS

JULY 2017 CHECKINGS 801 TRAFFIC 40  
JULY 2018 CHECKINS 821 TRAFFIC 44  
HIGH CHECKINS 28 ON JULY 22, 23, 30  
HIGH TRAFFIC JULY 27- 8 JULY 26- 6

# September 2018

## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<i>1</i>
<i>2</i> <i>RON OM OF AA8SN</i> <i>K8JRO GERRY</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i> <i>N9CE ALAN</i>	<i>12</i> <i>N8BNC BOB</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i> <i>WB8ZNO LINDA</i>
<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i> <i>KF8QW NORM</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>
<i>23</i> <i>W8GRI ROD</i> <i>K8DSS &amp; SUSAN</i>	<i>24</i> <i>AB8N JOE</i> <i>KD8KCV &amp; KIM</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i> <i>SUSAN XYL OF</i> <i>K8DSS</i>	<i>28</i> <i>W8ING &amp; SUE</i>	<i>29</i> <i>K8BLL AL</i> <i>K8IRC BART</i>
<i>30</i>	<b><i>OCTOBER 3</i></b> <i>K8SKY &amp; KATHY</i> <i>W8WOJ DON</i>	<i>4</i> <i>CORKY XYL OF</i> <i>W8RLJ</i>	<i>5</i> <i>NANCY XYL OF</i> <i>N8GPW</i>	<i>8</i> <i>KA8IQJ ED</i>	<b><i>10</i></b> <i>W8SAX GERRY</i>	<b><i>12</i></b> <i>K9RSK RON</i>

## EXAMS

- 09/10/2018 | Adrian MI 49221-8709 **Sponsor:** Adrian ARC **Location:** Building at Lenawee County Airport **Time:** 7:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Call ahead)
- 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)
- 09/15/2018 | Flint MI 48507-5516 **Sponsor:** The KT8Q & W8ACW VE Teams **Location:** Baker College of Flint-Tech Center **Time:** 9:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
- 09/15/2018 | Kalamazoo MI 49001-4156 **Sponsor:** Kalamazoo ARC **Location:** EOC of Kalamazoo County Sheriff Dept **Time:** 8:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
- 09/15/2018 | Union MI 49130-9622 **Sponsor:** Michiana VE **Location:** Around the Corner Café **Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
- 09/16/2018 | Adrian MI 49221-8709 **Sponsor:** Adrian ARC **Location:** Building at Lenawee County Airport **Time:** 9:00 AM (No Walk-ins / Call ahead)
- 09/16/2018 | Benton Harbor MI 49022-9999 **Sponsor:** NQ8A Testing Group **Location:** Church of God **Time:** 12:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
- 09/19/2018 | Livonia MI 48154-3045 **Sponsor:** Livonia ARC **Location:** Livonia Civic Center Library **Time:** 7:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Call ahead)
- 09/22/2018 | Allegan MI 49010-1524 **Sponsor:** Allegan County ARC **Location:** Allegan General Hospital - Basement Cafeteria **Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
- 09/22/2018 | South Lyon MI 48178 **Sponsor:** South Lyon Area ARC **Location:** Witch's Hat Depot **Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
- 10/02/2018 | Oak Park MI 48237-2085 **Sponsor:** Hazel Park ARC **Location:** Oak Park Community Center **Time:** 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
- 10/04/2018 | Lansing MI 48911-5322 **Sponsor:** Ingham County VE Group **Location:** Lansing Fire Station #44 (Community Room) **Time:** 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

- 10/06/2018 | Hancock MI 49930-9999 **Sponsor:** CCRAA **Location:** Franklin Township Office  
**Time:** 9:00 AM (No Walk-ins / Call ahead)
- 10/06/2018 | Mount Clemens MI 48043-2217 **Sponsor:** SAROF **Location:** Mt. Clemens Salvation Army Corps (rear entrance) **Time:** 7:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
- 10/06/2018 | Muskegon MI 49440-1233 **Sponsor:** Muskegon Area AR Council  
**Location:** American Red Cross Muskegon **Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
- 10/08/2018 | Adrian MI 49221-8709 **Sponsor:** Adrian ARC **Location:** Building at Lenawee County Airport **Time:** 7:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Call ahead)
- 10/09/2018 | Howell MI 48855-8703 **Sponsor:** Livingston Amateur Radio Klub  
**Location:** Livingston County EMS **Time:** 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
- 10/13/2018 | Ann Arbor MI 48108-1516 **Sponsor:** ARROW Communications Assoc.  
**Location:** American Red Cross Building **Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
- 10/13/2018 | Charlotte MI 48813-9999 **Sponsor:** Eaton County Arc  
**Location:** Charlotte Church of Christ **Time:** 12:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
- 10/13/2018 | Port Huron MI 48060-4014 **Sponsor:** Eastern Michigan ARC  
**Location:** St Clair County Library **Time:** 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

## HAMFEST

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

**09/22/2018 | GMARC Fall Trunk Swap** Location: Shelby Township, MI  
Type: ARRL Hamfest  
Sponsor: General Motors Amateur Radio Club Website: <http://www.gmarc.org>

**10/06/2018 | Alpena Swap** Location: Alpena, MI Type: ARRL Hamfest  
Sponsor: Thunder Bay Amateur Radio Club Website: <http://ThunderBayARC.org>

**10/06/2018 | Michigan State Convention (Great Lakes HamCon) - CANCELLED**

## Top 10 Most Wanted DXCC Entities List Updated

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09/06/2018

Club Log's **DXCC Most Wanted** entities list has been updated as of August 28. The list includes 340 entities, and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), or North Korea, is the #1 most-wanted DXCC entity, as it has been for quite a few years.

The other top ten most-wanted entities, listed in descending order, are: 3Y/B Bouvet Island; FT5/W Crozet Island; BS7H Scarborough Reef; CE0X San Felix Islands; BV9P Pratas Island; KH7K Kure Island; KH3 Johnston Island; VK0M Macquarie Island, and FT5/X Kerguelen Island.

## Reverse-Polarity Sunspot Group Does Not Belong to Cycle 25, Observatory Says

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09/05/2018

The Royal Observatory of Belgium's Solar-Terrestrial Centre of Excellence (**STCE**) has **asserted** that the reverse polarity sunspot group 2720 observed in late August belongs to the current solar cycle — Cycle 24 — and does not represent the start of Cycle 25. "Because of its reversed polarity, some websites claimed sunspot group 2720 was possibly one of the first groups of new solar Cycle 25," the Centre said. "This is simply not true, in view of its very low 8° latitude. The next solar Cycle 25 sunspot group should have *both* reversed magnetic polarity *and* much higher heliographic latitude, typically 20° to 40° from the equator. Only two tiny, short-lived numbered sunspot groups are currently assigned to new solar Cycle 25, sunspot group 2620 in December 2016 and 2694 in January 2018."

STCE said that while both of those small sunspots have been assigned to Cycle 25, some uncertainty exists as to just which sunspot cycle they actually belong to. STCE said some additional sunspot groups that belong to Cycle 25 were so tiny and short lived that they were not assigned a sunspot number. "During each solar cycle, about 3% of all active regions have reversed polarity but do not belong to the previous or next solar cycle," the Centre said. "With 2,000 to 3,000 sunspot groups per solar cycle, this means that every solar cycle has a few dozen reverse-polarity sunspots that belong to the ongoing sunspot cycle despite their reverse polarity."

After examining magnetograms of the sun's surface, well-known Amateur Radio solar observer and propagation authority Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA, agreed that AR2720 is reversed in polarity from other sunspots in the northern solar hemisphere. What confuses the issue, he said, is its low latitude, as a Cycle 25 sunspot area should be at a much higher latitude.

The same weekend of sunspot group 2720, a radio blackout lasting about a day took place, affecting the HF amateur bands as well as GPS systems. Solar watcher Tamitha Skov, in her YouTube report, **called** the G3-level geomagnetic storm “one of the top five storms of the solar cycle.”

As ARRL Propagation Reporter Tad Cook, K7RA, noted in his August 31 edition of *The K7RA Solar Update*, “For HF operations, we want to see high solar flux and sunspot numbers and low A index, a measure of geomagnetic instability. On Sunday, August 26, we saw high A index numbers from an unexpected crack, opening in Earth’s magnetic field. Solar wind spewed forth, and the planetary A index rose to 76. During this period the planetary K index — a component of the A index — rose to 7 over a 6-hour period. Seven is a big K index number.”

Cook went on to note that Alaska felt the full force of the geomagnetic storm, with an A index in Fairbanks of 90 — a very high number.

## An Amazing Recovery: ARISS Packet System Revives

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08/27/2018

Similar to the AO-7 satellite resurrection several years ago, the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (**ARISS**) packet radio system on the International Space Station (ISS) has begun working again. NASA ISS Ham Radio Project Engineer Kenneth Ransom, N5VHO, said over the weekend that reports he’d received indicated that the NA1SS packet signal returned in mid-August. “It appears it indeed has started working as of about 11 days ago,” Ransom said. “No idea how long it will last, given the degrading state of the current hardware. The longer it lasts, the better.” Ransom said the revived system will fill the gap until a replacement packet module goes up later this year on a *Progress* supply vehicle and is installed by the crew on a time-available basis. Satellite enthusiast Patrick Stoddard, WD9EWK, in Arizona reported via the ISS Fan Club site that the ISS packet system was operating on August 25 at 1915 UTC during an 8° pass over the continental US. “I got my position packet through once, no QSOs this pass,” he said in a post.

The packet signal on 145.825 MHz has been copied in Europe, South America, India, and elsewhere. In another August 25 post, Mark Pisani, KK6OTJ, reported copying the packet system during an 18° pass over southern California and said he worked KB6LTY through the system. “Heard over Patagonia Argentina!” Francisco Rodriguez, LU2WBA, enthused in a post on August 24 at 2323 UTC. “Welcome back!” An August 17 post from Marco Antonio, PU2MUS, in Brazil indicated that the system was not active at that time.

Earlier this summer, ARISS hardware team members on the ground reported that they were able to locate a functional duplicate of the ISS packet module that had been in use on the ISS for 17 years before it failed more than a year ago. The packet module has been manifest on the *Progress* 71P spacecraft launch now set for October 31, with docking on November 2.

ARISS said the subsequent installation will depend on the crew’s busy schedule, but expressed hope that the new packet system hardware could be online again by the end of November.

George Washington insisted his continental army be permitted a quart of beer as part of their daily rations.

## U. P. NET MEMBER PROFILE QUESTIONNAIRE

Profiles of members have proven to be one of the most interesting items in the U.P. Net Newsletter. However, it has been difficult to get members to write and submit their own profiles. This simple form makes it easy to gather the basic info. While voluntary, please answer these few questions about yourself and return to: K8BLL AL  
ROBERTSON 2822 VILLA LANE BENTON HARBOR MI 49022

Name and Call \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate and Place \_\_\_\_\_

Education \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Employer(s)/Type of Work \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Military Service (If Any) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How did you get into Ham Radio \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Family \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Other Hobbies &  
Interest \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Any other interesting info or experiences \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Fall 2018 Classic Exchange (CX) Rules Classic Exchange

"CX" CW Sunday Sep 23 1300Z to Sep 24 0700Z Tuesday Sep 25 1300Z to Sep 26 0700Z

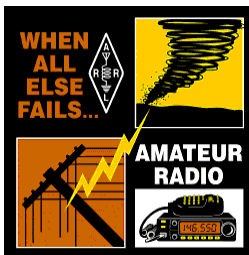
Phone Sunday Sep 30 1300Z to Oct 1 0700Z Tuesday Oct 2 1300Z to Oct 3 0700Z

Bands 160-80-40-20-15-10-6-2 Modes CW, AM, SSB, FM

The CX is a no-pressure contest celebrating the older commercial and Home Brew equipment that was the pride and joy of ham shacks many decades ago. The object is to encourage restoration, operation and enjoyment of this older Classic equipment. You need not operate a Classic rig to participate in the CX. You may use any rig in the contest although new gear is a distinct scoring disadvantage as your multipliers are directly related to the age of the equipment you use! However, you can still work the "great ones" with modern equipment.

Complete rules, frequencies, scoring tips, etc can be found at their website:

[http://www.classicexchange.org/sep18/Fall\\_2018\\_CX\\_Rules.pdf](http://www.classicexchange.org/sep18/Fall_2018_CX_Rules.pdf) click on the top right box with yellow background. Sounds like a fun time to me. Thanks to Dave NS8S for passing along the information.



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