

UPPER PENINSULA NET NEWS

SERVING THE WESTERN GREAT LAKES



HAM OF THE YEAR

KE8AHK – Mike Driscoll
Wayland, MI

HAM OF THE MONTH

D. Ted MacKinnon, Jr.
NW8W- Beverly Hills, MI

JUNE 2020

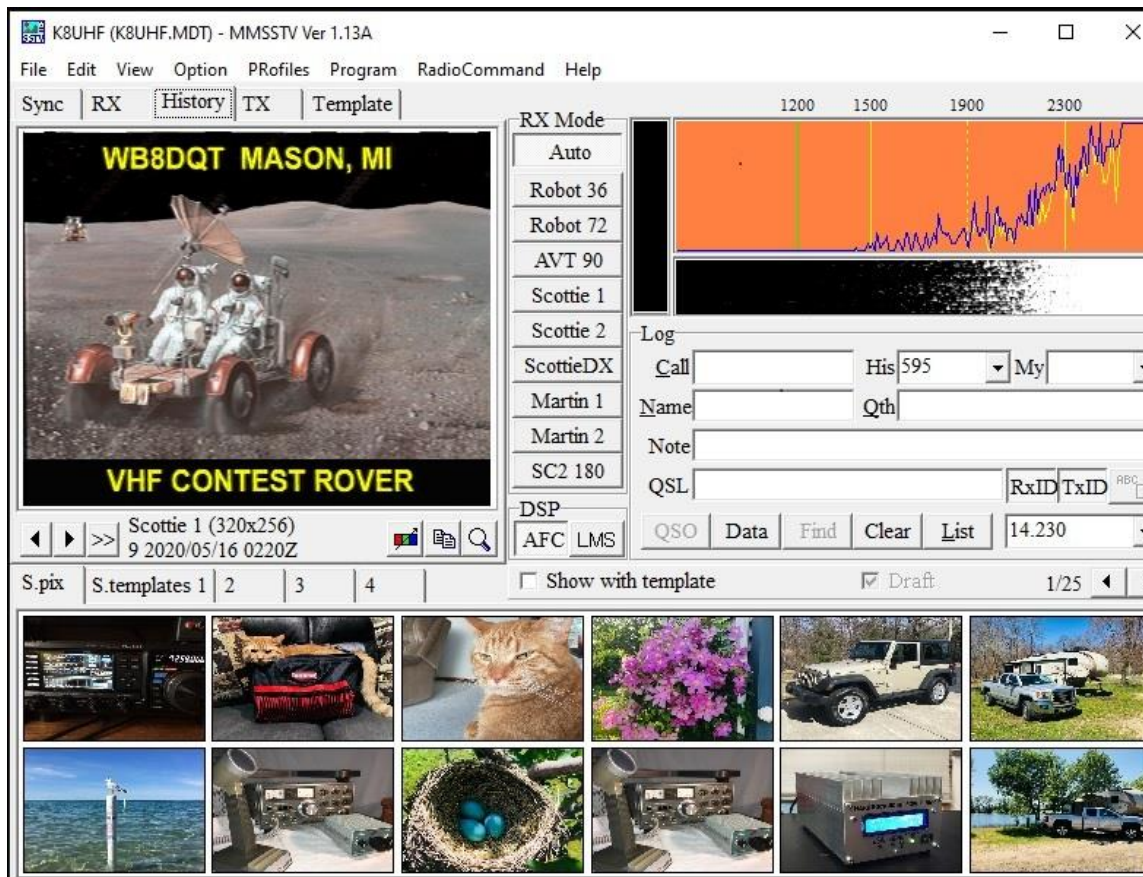
FROM THE EDITOR-----JIM - K8UHF k8uhf@sbcglobal.net

Can you believe it is already June? This means the June VHF contest is almost here, starting the second weekend in June. It begins at 1800UTC Saturday, runs through 0259UTC Monday (June 13-15, 2020). Click on <http://www.arrl.org/june-vhf> for more details. Good luck in the contest.

I've checked in with the two meter SSB Sidewinders Net the past couple Sundays. Net time is Sunday 9:30pm local time on 144.155 USB. Everyone is preparing for the contest. You just never know who is hearing your signal. I received an email from Tony, a Ham in Fox Lake, IL. Tony said he heard me check into the Sidewinders Net but didn't get a chance to call me and just wanted to let me know he heard my signal about 180 miles away from Dimondale, MI. We are going to make an effort to make a two-way contact during the next net.

My friend Ralph, WB8DQT, who lives in Mason Michigan and I have been practicing our skills with MMSSTV and FLDIGI on two meters. We also made sure all is good to go on CW, SSB and FM. Ralph has been testing his new Icom IC-9700 with SignalLink interface and a set of stacked halos. Ray, K8RLE, also exchanged a few pictures with us. Looks like all stations are ready to go.

The picture of the Rover (below) was sent to me by Ralph with perfect copy. The other pictures are ones I have sent in the past to Ralph and Ray.



NET STATS

May 2019: Check-ins 800 – Traffic 37

May 2020: Check-ins 1139 – Traffic 38

High Check-ins: KC8ZMN 35,38; KC8GTE 31,33,37,37,41; KE8AHK 32,34,35,35,38

WA8DHB 33,37,39; W8WR 31,32; KD8KCV 36; NS8S 32,34,37,37,33

Sunday Noon Net High Check-ins: KD8KCV 22,22,22

HAM OF THE YEAR

Michael Driscoll – KE8AHK – Wayland, MI

Born in Marquette, Michigan, more specifically in Marquette Township, known as Trowbridge Park, which included Forestville. In Trowbridge Park, the Lions Club had a baseball field for summer baseball and during the winter the township would build an ice rink at the baseball field for skating and hockey.

We had Vandeenboom Elementary School to start kindergarten and then I went to St. Christopher's Catholic School which was just built at that time. Middle school was attended at Bothwell Middle School which required us to take the bus. Bothwell was located in South Marquette. Bothwell was a new school built for the growth of Marquette. Two years at Bothwell then we moved on to high school, M.S.H.S., Graduated 1979. I did attend NMU in criminal justice and received my corrections certificate.

At the age of 16, we needed to get a work permit to get a job and my first payroll job was as a dishwasher at the Villa Capri Italian restaurant. After about 6 months of washing dishes I moved across US 41 to the Holiday Inn and furthered my career as a Porter. Those two jobs got me through school with cash in the pocket. After graduating from school, I worked several jobs which included a grocery store known as Mike's on Washington St. in downtown Marquette. When I decided to spend time on Mackinac Island starting in 1988, I spent two

years there and that's when I met my wife. October 1990, I moved to East Lansing and eventually ended up in Branch County, Coldwater Mich. and started working in a hot dog plant for Armour Swift Eckrich owned by Conagra. Moved to the Grand Rapids area working in food manufacturing for the last 25 years which brought me to the Gun Lake area where I have lived for the past 21 years.

In 2015 I went through some life changing medical problems which, in turn, took me out of the work place and put into disability. It was then I had to change most of my hobbies and that is what brought me to Ham radio. I looked online and found I could take a test as a Technician in Ham radio and that's how I learned about Ham radio. I then followed up with my general ticket and put me to HF Ham radio. My first radio was a Yaesu FT 840 which I bought from W8KP, Bob, from Ontonagon, Mich. My first antenna was a G5RV and did some experimenting with the G5RV and decided to build a 120ft center fed dipole which I'm still using. Currently using an Icom 7300 into an Elecraft KPA 500 with a MFJ manual tuner out to the center fed dipole about 35 ft off the ground with each leg about 15 to 17 ft inverted from the ground; very limited for space. Ham radio has been a big part of my life since 2015 and have enjoyed the U.P. Net and Teenage Net.

Being from the U.P. I learned about the U.P. Net and became active almost every day with checking in. Started going to Hamfests, meeting a lot of the U.P. Net members. N8NJA, Bill, was one of the first who invited me to participate with filling in as "pre-net" when needed. As time went on WB8VOF, Doug, was doing the Saturday Net, and when Doug was no longer able to do the Saturday Net, I then took the permanent Saturday as net control. When the Friday net control position opened, I then took Friday's Net. KC8GTE, Kelly, took over with the Saturday Net.

My main hobbies now are Ham radio, the U.P. Net and Teenage Net on 3945. I'm the Net Manager for the Teenage Net. Other hobbies are fishing on the Kalamazoo river below the Allegan dam where Lake Michigan steelhead spend a lot of time running that river. Since I left the U.P. it has been my vacation spot for the last 30 years. I still spend a lot of time in the U.P. between Deerton and Big Bay.

My first U.P. Net Ham of the Month was January 2016. I was named Ham of the Month again in August 2019. And now, I've been named the Ham of the Year 2020-2021.

Thank you for taking the time to read my bio and also a special thank you to all for the recognition for the Ham of the Months and Ham of the Year for the U.P. Net. Quite an honor!

Thanks Mike, KE8AHK



JUNE'S HAM OF THE MONTH

Donald J. MacKinnon – NW8W – Beverly Hills, MI

Name and Call: Donald T MacKinnon (Ted) NW8W

Birthdate and Place: Detroit, Michigan 10/25/1931

Education: BS Mechanical Engineering, U-M

Employer(s)/Type of Work: GM-Truck Chassis Design, and Assembly Production Engineering

Military Service: US Army Signal Corps

How did you get into Ham Radio?: Always was intending to get licensed—and Army experience fueled that desire until 1981 when I heard CW coming from a boat as I was walking the dock in Presque Isle, MI. Conversation with the Ham operating the CW station led to licensing and where I am now.

Spouse/Family: Widower since 2009

Other Hobbies & Interest: Ham Radio, Photography, Boat Building, and observation of the Political Scene.

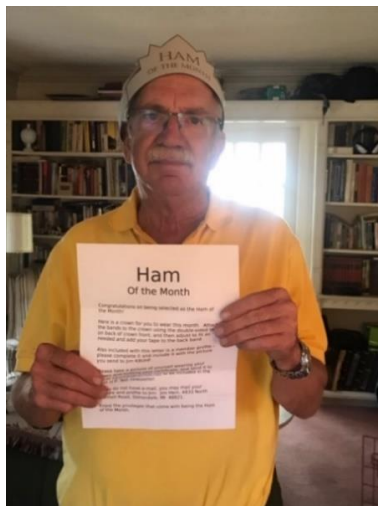
Any other interesting info or experiences: Flew on the Concord to the UK; saw the earth's curvature.

MAY'S HAM OF THE MONTH

David Deatrick – WA8OLD – Sault Ste Marie, MI

David's member profile was in last month's U.P. Net Newsletter. He wanted to share some pictures of his old shack. Interesting, eh?

David said: I was first licensed in November 1964. My call sign, I get a lot of inquiries, it was sequentially assigned by the FCC when I was first licensed as WN8OLD. I had no input into it at all.



ALL HAMS OF THE MONTH/YEAR

When you receive your certificate from Chris, KC8ZMN, and your crown from Kelly, KC8GTE, please take a “selfie” holding your certificate and sporting your crown. E-mail it to Jim, K8UHF, at k8uhf@sbcglobal.net. Please include a short bio about yourself or use the updated Member Profile Questionnaire. We will include this information in the next Newsletter; that way we all can get to know you a little better.

What is ARRL Field Day?

ARRL Field Day is the single most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada. On the fourth weekend of June of each year, more than 35,000 radio amateurs gather with their clubs, groups or simply with friends to operate from remote locations.

Field Day is a picnic, a campout, practice for emergencies, an informal contest and, most of all, FUN!

It is a time where many aspects of Amateur Radio come together to highlight our many roles. While some will treat it as a contest, other groups use the opportunity to practice their emergency response capabilities. It is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate Amateur Radio to the organizations that Amateur Radio might serve in an emergency, as well as the general public. For many clubs, ARRL Field Day is one of the highlights of their annual calendar.

The contest part is simply to contact as many other stations as possible and to learn to operate our radio gear in abnormal situations and less than optimal conditions.

We use these same skills when we help with events such as marathons and bike-a-thons; fund-raisers such as walk-a-thons; celebrations such as parades; and exhibits at fairs, malls and museums — these are all large, preplanned, non-emergency activities.

But despite the development of very complex, modern communications systems — or maybe because they ARE so complex — ham radio has been called into action again and again to provide communications in crises when it really matters. Amateur Radio people (also called “hams”) are well known for our communications support in real disaster and post-disaster situations.

What is the ARRL?

The American Radio Relay League is the national association for Amateur Radio in the USA, representing over 170,000 FCC-licensed Amateurs. The ARRL is the primary source of information about what is going on in ham radio. It provides books, news, support and information for individuals and clubs, special events, continuing education classes and other benefits for its members.

What is Amateur Radio

Often called “ham radio,” the Amateur Radio Service has been around for a century. In that time, it’s grown into a worldwide community of licensed operators using the airwaves with every conceivable means of communications technology. Its people range in age from youngsters to grandparents. Even rocket scientists and a rock star or two are in the ham ranks. Most, however, are just normal folks like you and me who enjoy learning and being able to transmit voice, data and pictures through the air to unusual places, both near and far, without depending on commercial systems.

The Amateur Radio frequencies are the last remaining place in the usable radio spectrum where you as an individual can develop and experiment with wireless communications. Hams not only can make and modify their equipment, but can create whole new ways to do things.

For More Information visit: www.arrl.org

Updated 2/2020



June 2020

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	1 AA8SN & Ron	2	3	4 N8OYR Rich	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 WD8OSE Tom	15	16	17 N8NJA Bill	18	19	20
21 Father's Day Peter son of AA8SN	22 N8HBZ & Lila	23	24	25 Shirley XYL of WA8LT	26	27 W8ILS Ron
28	29	30				

Happy Father's Day

HAMFESTS

For complete information, refer to the ARRL Hamfests

www.arrl.org

July 11, 2020

Summer Eat, Greet and Swap Meet

Temperance, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Northwest Ohio Black Swamp Radio Society

July 25, 2020

Gladwin Area ARC Hamfest

Gladwin, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Gladwin Area Amateur Radio Club

August 1, 2020

U.P. Hamfest 2020

Escanaba, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Delta County Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://k8pl.org>

EXAM SESSIONS

Please verify the Exam Session has not been cancelled before going.

For complete information, refer to ARRL – Licensing, Education and Training

www.arrl.org

June 6, 2020

Mt. Clemens Salvation Army Corps (rear entrance)

Mount Clemens, MI

7:30pm – Walk-ins allowed

June 13, 2020

American Red Cross Muskegon

Muskegon, MI

9:00am – Walk-ins allowed

June 9, 2020

Livingston County EMS

Howell, MI

7:00pm – Walk-ins allowed

June 13, 2020

Marquette Health Dept Bldg

Negaunee, MI

8:30am – Walk-ins allowed

June 13, 2020

Washtenaw Red Cross Building

Ann Arbor, MI

9:00am – Walk-ins allowed

June 13, 2020

St Clair County Library

Port Huron, MI

10:00am – Walk-ins allowed

June 13, 2020

Charlotte Church of Christ

Charlotte, MI

12:00pm – Walk-ins allowed

June 20, 2020

Jackson Carnegie Library

Jackson, MI

10:15am – Walk-ins allowed

June 25, 2020

Maple United Methodist Church
Battle Creek, MI
7:00pm – Walk-ins allowed

June 25, 2020

Shiawassee EOC
Sponsor: ARRL VEC D08
7:00pm – No Walk-ins/call ahead

June 25, 2020

Shiawassee Co. EOC
Corunna, MI
Sponsor: SARA
6:30pm – No Walk-ins/call ahead

June 27, 2020

Garden City Park
Garden City, MI
3:00pm – Walk-ins allowed

June 27, 2020

Raynor Park
Mason, MI
11:00am – Walk-ins allowed

June 28, 2020

Church of God
Benton Harbor, MI
12:30pm – Walk-ins allowed

July 5, 2020

Liberty Lanes Bowling Alley
Sandusky, MI
3:30pm – Walk-ins allowed



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