

UPPER PENINSULA NET NEWS SERVING THE WESTERN GREAT LAKES



HAM OF THE YEAR
KC8NVI CLIFF ROSENBOHM
HARBOR SPRINGS MI

HAM OF THE MONTH
KC8RGO VANCE NELSON
HOUGHTON MI

JUNE 2010

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

Here we are, June already. The month of school is out and vacation time can start. I have noticed an increase of traffic on the road already. June is also the official month of Summer. Warmer than last year? We will see.

In the Ham Radio world June is the month for better conditions 10, 6, and even 2 meters, with some sporadic E and maybe even some F2 and double hop stuff. What helps these bands also hurts some others, namely our net band of 75 meters. So I think the Net Control stations maybe in need of some help with relays. I know I sure appreciate the help I get on Saturdays.

Also don't forget June is also the month of Field Day. Always a great time to get out and enjoy some time with fellows Hams, eat some great food, and help expose some people to this great hobby.

Well what ever you do in June, have fun and be safe.

NET STATS

2010 APRIL CHECKINS 1145 TRAFFIC 55

2009 APRIL CHECKINS 1267 TRAFFIC 60

APRIL HIGH CHECKINS N8NJA, WB8VOF 42

HIGH TRAFFIC N8BNC 6

UPPER PENINSULA NET WEBSITE www.michupnet.com

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

JUNE 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<i>1</i> <i>AA8SN & RON</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i> <i>W8NSH & MARSHA</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>13</i>	<i>14</i> <i>TOM WD8OSE</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i> <i>BILL N8NJA</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i> <i>LUE ANN XYL</i> <i>OF WD8DCA</i>
<i>20</i>	<i>21</i> <i>PETER SON OF</i> <i>AA8SN</i>	<i>22</i> <i>N8HBZ & LILA</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i> <i>WA8LT & SHIRLEY</i>	<i>26</i> <i>BILL W8CBH</i>
<i>27</i> <i>RON W8ILS</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>			

EXAMS

06/08/2010 | Livonia MI 48154 Sponsor: Livonia ARC Location: Livonia Civic Center Library Time: 7:00 PM (No walk-ins) [Learn More](#)

06/11/2010 | Grand Rapids MI 49503-1304 Sponsor: Grand Rapids ARA Location: Red Cross Bldg Time: 6:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed) [Learn More](#)

06/12/2010 | Port Huron MI 48060-4014 Sponsor: Eastern Michigan ARC Location: St Clair County Library Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) [Learn More](#)

06/12/2010 | Ann Arbor MI 48108-1516 Sponsor: ARROW Communications Assoc. Location: American Red Cross Building Time: 9:00 AM (No walk-ins) [Learn More](#)

06/12/2010 | Muskegon MI 49440-1233 Sponsor: Muskegon Area AR Council Location: American Red Cross Bldg Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) [Learn More](#)

06/12/2010 | Charlotte MI 48813-1031 Sponsor: Eaton County ARC Location: Eaton Cty Sheriff's Dept-EOC Time: 12:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed) [Learn More](#)

06/12/2010 | Flint MI 48507 Sponsor: The KD8NLP V.E. Team Location: Baker College of Flint-Tech Center Time: 9:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed) [Learn More](#)

06/12/2010 | Bay City MI 48708-5848 Sponsor: Bay Area Amateur Radio Club Location: American Red Cross Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) [Learn More](#)

06/19/2010 | Jackson MI 49204-9999 Sponsor: Cascades ARS Location: Jackson District Library Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) [Learn More](#)

06/19/2010 | Midland MI 48642-5940 Sponsor: Midland ARC Location: Salvation Army Time: 8:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) [Learn More](#)

06/19/2010 | South Lyon MI 48178 Sponsor: South Lyon Area ARC Location: Witch's Hat Depot Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) [Learn More](#)

06/19/2010 | Ionia MI 48846-8512 Sponsor: Ionia County RACES Location: Ionia Central Dispatch Time: 6:00 PM (No walk-ins) [Learn More](#)

06/24/2010 | Corunna MI 48817-1230 Sponsor: Corunna VE Team Location: American Red Cross Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed) [Learn More](#)

06/26/2010 | Taylor MI 48180-4298 Sponsor: Motor City Radio Club Location: Heritage Park Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed) [Learn More](#)

HAMFEST

06/19/2010 | Midland Amateur Radio Club

Location: Midland, MI
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Midland Amateur Radio Club
Learn More

06/20/2010 | Monroe County Radio Communications Association

Location: Monroe, MI
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Monroe County Radio Communications Association
Learn More

08/07/2010 | UP Hamfest 2010

Location: Escanaba, MI
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Delta County Amateur Radio Society
Learn More

Don't talk to my parrot .. From Jim, WB8IEH

Wanda's dishwasher quit working so she called in a repairman. Since she had to go to work the next day, she told the repairman, 'I'll leave the key under the mat. Fix the dishwasher, leave the bill on the counter, and I'll mail you a check. Oh, by the way don't worry about my dog Spike. He won't bother you.'

'But, whatever you do, do NOT, under ANY circumstances, talk to my parrot!'

'I MUST STRESS THIS TO YOU: DO *NOT* TALK TO MY PARROT!!!'

When the repairman arrived at Wanda's apartment the following day, he discovered the biggest, meanest looking dog he has ever seen. But, just as she had said, the dog just lay there on the carpet watching the repairman go about his work.

The parrot, however, drove him nuts the whole time with his incessant yelling, cursing and name calling.

Finally the repairman couldn't contain himself any longer and yelled,

'Shut up, you stupid, ugly bird!'

To which the parrot replied,

'Get him Spike!'

See.....Men just don't listen!

Surfin': Got Batteries? FROM THE ARRL WEBSITE

TAGS: [available today](#), [battery technology](#), [Contributing Editor](#), [Stan Horzepa](#)
06/04/2010

Stan Horzepa, WA1LOU
Contributing Editor
June 4, 2010

This week, Surfin' solves the mystery surrounding our little friend -- the battery.

When I was a kid, I had a love-hate relationship with batteries. I loved those circa-1959 D- and C-cells when I powered up a toy and that toy performed as expected. I hated them when I powered up a toy and nothing happened.

I hated them even more when I popped the battery cover of my immobilized toy to find that not only had the battery died, but that it had taken the toy with it, spilling its rust-colored guts all over the inside of the battery compartment and beyond!

As an adult (also known as a "big kid"), not much has changed. I still have a love-hate relationship with batteries, but instead of D- and C-cells, AA-cells, AAA-cells and oddly-shaped mystery-cells power my current collection of toys.

In addition to a cornucopia of battery shapes and sizes available today, there have been improvements in battery technology since the "good ole days." Some of the batteries I use are one-shots, but many are rechargeable and I can recall none that have leaked since an errant cell ruined my favorite toy, [Robby the Robot](#).

Although I have been a battery consumer for more than a half-century, their workings were a mystery to me. Truth be told, as long as they worked, I did not care *how* they worked. But recently I needed to learn how batteries worked, so I turned up a couple of excellent Web sites that educated me on the matter.

[Battery University](#) rightly claims to be "an online resource that provides practical battery knowledge for engineers, educators, students and battery users alike. The papers address battery chemistries, best battery choices and ways to make your battery last longer."

The [Electropaedia](#) of battery and energy technologies "contains a comprehensive knowledge base about energy supply and battery technologies, battery applications, chargers and ancillary equipment."

Whether you are a battery novice or veteran, both Web sites are worth a visit. Until next time, keep on surfin'.

Editor note: Stan Horzepa, WA1LOU, wonders if someday he can revive Robby the Robot. To contact Stan, send him [e-mail](#) or add comments to his [blog](#).

Tech Test Gets a Little More Technical From John, N8YSS

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

Ever since the FCC dropped the code requirement and the Novice license exam, the Technician Class license has really been misnamed. Being the first license that most hams obtain, it really should have been called the Novice license. The question pool was arguably at the appropriate level for newcomers to amateur radio, being heavy on rules and operating practices, and perhaps a little light on technical topics.

That's about to change. On July 1, 2010, the question pool for the Tech test changes, and this version has noticeably more technical questions than the previous test. You could say that the Tech test is getting, errrr, a little more technical.

For example, the new question pool contains more questions about electronics components and their functions. In addition to that, examinees must also be able to identify the symbols for these components on a schematic diagram. This is a big change from the previous test, which had no diagrams at all. There are also more detailed questions about transistors and how they work.

There are also questions on how to make basic measurements with a multimeter how to troubleshoot basic problems that Technicians are likely to encounter. One question asks, "What two measurements are commonly made using a multimeter"? Answer: voltage and resistance. A follow up question asks, "What is the correct way to connect a voltmeter to a circuit"? Answer: in parallel with the circuit.

To make room for these questions, the committee dropped questions on operating practices and rules and regulations. In general, these are not big losses, but two questions that I was sorry to see go are the questions on the "basis and purpose" of amateur radio. I think these are very important for new amateurs to learn and keep in mind. (If you don't recall them, go to <http://www.arrl.org/part-97-amateur-radio> and review them.)

By the time you read this--or shortly thereafter--the new version of my No-Nonsense, Technician Class License Study Guide should be available. You can download it free of charge from my website, www.kb6nu.com. Look for the link in the right-hand column. It's currently in the hands of more than two dozen reviewers, who are proofreading it right now.

While it may not be in the initial release, I plan to include a section that contains links to websites that cover topics included in the study guide. That way, students can find more information on a topic, if they choose to do so. If you have any favorite websites that discuss making measurements with voltmeters or how to read schematic diagrams, I'd love to hear from you.

U. P. NET MEMBERS 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 EMAIL k8bll@comcast.net

NAME AND CALL _____

_BIRTHPLACE AND DATE_____

EDUCATION_____

EMPLOYERS/TYPE OF WORK_____

MILITARY SERVICE (IF ANY)_____

HOW DID YOU GET INTO HAM RADIO_____

SPOUSE AND FAMILY_____

OTHER HOBBIES AND INTEREST_____

ANY OTHER INTERESTING INFORMATION OR EXPERIENCES_____

1st & 4th Rarest Grids in USA to be Activated on 6 Meters Next Weekend

I will be activating a pair of "Rare Ones" in next weekends VHF contest. According to this extensive survey, [http://www.arri.org/files/file/Most ...rid_Survey.pdf](http://www.arri.org/files/file/Most...rid_Survey.pdf) the pair rank #1 & #4 on the most needed grids in the entire USA.

#1 Most Needed is DN67.

#4 Most needed is DN64.

One of the joys of living in western North Dakota is living very close to both of these grids.....My mobile seems to be working pretty well on 6 meters as the 370+ 6 meter QSO's over the past week will bear out.

Keep your fingers crossed that we will have the same great 6 meter propagation in the contest that we have been experiencing for the last week.

"Good Luck in the Contest",

TOM KCOW



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