

# UPPER PENINSULA NET NEWS SERVING THE WESTERN GREAT LAKES



HAM OF THE YEAR  
KC8ZMN CHRIS HANSEN  
UNIONVILLE MI

HAM OF THE MONTH  
K2PM PETE MADSEN  
RAPID RIVER MI

SEPTEMBER 2016

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

Here we are, September, back to school, football, and the start of cool Fall weather! (It's 90 degrees and humid as I write this!!) Anyway, there is a sign of Fall, better propagation on 75 meters! I can now hear Danny, KB8W up in Laurium. Maybe soon we will start to hear from some of our friends in New York, Virginia, and other distant stations.

Of course of coming of Fall means you better get those antenna projects underway soon or you will be working with cold fingers and wading in the S N O W!!! I am sure looking forward to fall, my favorite time of the year. I will get in my last Hamfest for the year in October, Alpena on the 8<sup>th</sup> and Muskegon a week later. I did have a great time in Escanaba and picked some real unexpected bargains. One being a SX 99 Hallicrafters. It does make a little noise so I think can be put it into working order. It's added to the list of winter projects!!

I have not done much on the air lately. Six meters was a great disappointment for me this summer, not many openings and the few good ones there were I seemed to miss. The highlight of my six meter operating was working the Canary Island. Oh well, will hope for some new DX this winter.

Well enjoy the Fall colors which will be coming to a tree near you soon!

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

## NET STATS

JULY 2015 CHECKINS 815 TRAFFIC 45  
JULY 2016 CHECKINS 920 TRAFFIC 44  
HIGH CHECKINS 32 W8WR, KC8KCV 31  
HIGH TRAFFIC WB8VOF 3 N8BNC 3

# September 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 <i>RON OM OF AA8SN K8JRO GERRY KC8NVI CLIFF</i>	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 <i>KC8JLC &amp; RITA</i>	9	10	11 <i>N8CE ALAN</i>	12 <i>N8BNC BOB</i>
13	14	15 <i>WB8ZNQ LINDA</i>	16 <i>WD8DCA LEO</i>	17	18	19
20 <i>KF8QW NORM</i>	21	22	23 <i>KD8DNS ROD K8DSS &amp; SUSAN</i>	24 <i>AB8N JOE KD8KCV &amp; XYL</i>	25	26
27 <i>SUSAN XYL OF K8DSS</i>	28 <i>W8ING &amp; SUE</i>	29 <i>K8BLL AL K8IRC BART</i>	30			

## EXAMS

**09/10/2016 | Adrian MI 49221-8709 Sponsor:** Adrian ARC **Location:** Building at Lenawee County Airport **Time:** 9:00 AM (No walk-ins)

**09/10/2016 | Ann Arbor MI 48108-1516 Sponsor:** ARROW Communications Assoc. **Location:** American Red Cross Building **Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

**09/10/2016 | Lansing MI 48911-5322 Sponsor:** Ingham County VE Group **Location:** Lansing Fire Station #44 (Community Room) **Time:** 11:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

**09/10/2016 | Monroe MI 48161-9770 Sponsor:** W8OTC **Location:** Good Shepherd Church **Time:** 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

**09/10/2016 | Negaunee MI 49866 Sponsor:** Hiawatha ARA **Location:** Marquette Health Dept Bldg **Time:** 8:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

**09/10/2016 | Port Huron MI 48060-4014 Sponsor:** Eastern Michigan ARC **Location:** St Clair County Library **Time:** 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

**09/10/2016 | Wyandotte MI 48192-9999 Sponsor:** Motor City Radio Club **Location:** Glenwood Methodist Church **Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

- **9/17/2016 | Flint MI 48507 Sponsor:** The KT8Q & W8ACW VE Teams **Location:** Baker College of Flint-Tech Center **Time:** 9:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
- **09/17/2016 | Ionia MI 48846-8512 Sponsor:** ICARPSC **Location:** Ionia Central Dispatch **Time:** 6:00 PM (No walk-ins)
- **09/18/2016 | Saint Joseph MI 49085-8615 Location:** Church of Christ Bldg Rear **Time:** 12:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
- **09/21/2016 | Livonia MI 48154-3045 Sponsor:** Livonia ARC **Location:** Livonia Civic Center Library **Time:** 7:00 PM (No walk-ins)
- **09/21/2016 | Prescott MI 48756-9108 Sponsor:** none **Location:** Mills Township Hall **Time:** 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
- **09/24/2016 | Allegan MI 49010-1524 Sponsor:** Allegan County ARC **Location:** Allegan General Hospital - Basement Cafeteria **Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
- **09/24/2016 | South Lyon MI 48178 Sponsor:** South Lyon Area ARC **Location:** Witch's Hat Depot **Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
- **10/01/2016 | Muskegon MI 49440-1233 Sponsor:** Muskegon Area AR Council **Location:** American Red Cross Bldg **Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

- **10/02/2016 | Mount Clemens MI 48043-2217 Sponsor: SAROF Location: Mt. Clemens Salvation Army Corps (rear entrance) Time: 7:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)**
- **10/04/2016 | Oak Park MI 48237-2085 Sponsor: Hazel Park ARC Location: Oak Park Community Center Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)**
- **10/06/2016 | Lansing MI 48911-5322 Sponsor: Ingham County VE Group Location: Lansing Fire Station #44 (Community Room) Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)**
- **10/08/2016 | Adrian MI 49221-8709 Sponsor: Adrian ARC Location: Building at Lenawee County Airport Time: 9:00 AM (No walk-ins)**
- **10/08/2016 | Ann Arbor MI 48108-1516 Sponsor: ARROW Communications Assoc. Location: American Red Cross Building Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)**
- **10/08/2016 | Charlotte MI 48813-1031 Sponsor: Eaton County ARC Location: Eaton Cty Sheriff's Dept-EOC Time: 12:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)**

**10/08/2016 | Lowell MI 49331-9609 Sponsor: Lowell ARC Location: Flat River Outreach Ministries Bldg Time: 6:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)**

**10/08/2016 | Monroe MI 48161-9770 Sponsor: W8OTC Location: Good Shepherd Church Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)**

**10/08/2016 | Port Huron MI 48060-4014 Sponsor: Eastern Michigan ARC Location: St Clair County Library Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)**

## **HAMFEST**

- **09/10/2016 | GMARC September Trunk Swap Location: Shelby Township, MI Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: General Motors Amateur Radio Club Website: <http://www.gmarc.org>**

**09/17/2016 | GRAHamfest 2016 Location: Wyoming, MI Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association Website: <http://www.w8dc.org>**

**09/18/2016 | Adrian Hamfest Location: Adrian, MI Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Adrian Amateur Radio Club Website: <http://w8tqe.com>**

**10/08/2016 | Alpena Swap Location: Alpena, MI Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Thunder Bay Amateur Radio Club Website: <http://ThunderBayARC.org>**

**10/08/16 Straits Area Radio Club Swap ~ Petoskey, MI \$5.00 at Door 8:00 AM till 1:00 PM. Emmanuel Evangelical Church 620 Emmet St. (corner of Grove and Emmet).**



## John C. Wasmuth, W8BP Marquette MI

John at age 90 passed away on August 31, 2016 at the Jacobetti Home for Veterans in Marquette. He had been a Ham for many years and a lifetime member of the Hiawatha Amateur Radio Association. John had served on a bomber crew in WWII, B 17's I think. Quite an accomplishment to survive that duty.

He had worked and live in the Marquette most of his life and was an accomplished musician playing in several bands in the Marquette area.

He was well known in Michigan Ham Radio circles and was an excellent c.w. operator. He probably made tens of thousands of QSO's during his lifetime. I used to listen to John, Bud W8PLC, John W8AT and Helen W8GJX do c.w. on Sunday mornings. The QSO's were just a buzz of high speed c.w. Those 4 four copied words, not letters and they did it all in there heard!! I remember being in Bud's shack one time and he repeating back to me word for word what W8BP had sent.

You always knew where you stood with John, he did not suffer any fools and would tell you like it was. He was a great person and a real credit to the Ham Radio community. 73 my friend and we will miss you.

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FROM JOHN N8YSS



**Look at you—folding laundry. Last night it was the dishes! What part of "NO, you're not buying ANOTHER RADIO!" don't you understand?**

**HAVE YOU EVER TRIED A PLOY LIKE THIS TO GET A NEW PIECE OF EQUIPMENT, OR DO YOU JUST SNEEK IT IN THE SHACK LIKE I DO??**

## Three Companies Agree to Plead Guilty for Fixing Prices of Electrolytic Capacitors

From the ARRL Letter.....

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The US Department of Justice announced this week that three companies have agreed to plead guilty for their roles in a conspiracy to fix prices for electrolytic capacitors sold to customers in the US and elsewhere. The companies are Rubycon Corporation, Elna Co Ltd, and Holy Stone Holdings Co Ltd.

“The Antitrust Division has now charged five companies and one individual for their participation in this international price-fixing conspiracy,” Deputy Assistant Attorney General Brent Snyder of the Justice Department’s Antitrust Division, said in an August 23 Justice Department **news release**. “The electrolytic capacitors conspiracy affected millions of American consumers who use electronic devices containing capacitors every day.”

The division filed one-count felony charges against each of the three companies in US District Court in San Francisco. In addition to pleading guilty to the charges against them, each company has agreed to pay a criminal fine and to cooperate with the Division’s ongoing investigation. The plea agreements are subject to court approval.

NEC TOKIN Corp and Hitachi Chemical Co Ltd already pleaded guilty earlier to participating in the same worldwide conspiracy. NEC TOKIN was sentenced to pay a \$13.8 million fine in January, while a \$3.8 million fine was levied on Hitachi Chemical in June. In March of 2015, a grand jury indicted Takuro Isawa, a former Global Sales general manager for one of the capacitor manufacturers, for his alleged participation in the conspiracy.

This week’s charges resulted from an ongoing federal investigation by the Antitrust Division’s San Francisco Office and the FBI’s San Francisco Field Office into price fixing, bid rigging, and other anticompetitive conduct in the capacitor industry. Anyone with information on price fixing, bid rigging or other anticompetitive conduct related to the capacitors industry should contact the Antitrust Division’s **Citizen Complaint Center**, tel (888) 647-3258, or or call the FBI tip line, (415) 553-7400.

The Justice Department released court documents on **Elna**, **Holy Stone**, and **Rubycon**.

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A married man should forget his mistakes. There's no use in two people remembering the same thing!

## UNIQUE REPAIR EXPERIENCE .....By Bill, N8NJA

My friend Tony, KC8NUR from Perkins was having problems with his antenna system. He just could not make any headway with it. So, I told him when I came up for the U.P. Hamfest (great swap by the way) I would bring some test equipment and take a look and see what we could figure out.

So Thursday I loaded up two antenna analyzers, a watt meter, dummy load, 949E MFJ antenna tuner, digital VOM meter, extra coax and a hf radio. As we were traveling across U.S. 2 (we, is me and my friend Jim W8OFC) I get a call from Tony. He had to make an unplanned trip to the Lower Peninsula. So no trouble shooting on the antenna system. I told him to bring his tuner and I would give him mine. We made arrangements to meet on U.S. 2. So we meant in Manistique said hi and I let him take my tuner and he gave me his 949E.

Now the rest of the story. I got the tuner home and hooked it up to my full wave 160 meter loop fed with 450 ohm ladder line, like Tony's dipole is. I then hooked up the MFJ antenna analyzer to it and tried to tune the antenna to 75 meters. The needle just jumped all over the place. I finally got it tune to about 1.3 to 1, but as soon as I would touch the tuner the needle on the analyzer would to crazy.

So, off came the cover to see what I could see. No loose connections, no burned 4 to 1 balun, and no arc over marks on the variable caps. In this tuner the coil is mounted vertical in the case, no loose wires, no wire touching. I did notice that one of the plastic separators for the coil stuck up higher than the others. I checked to see if it was hitting the top of the cabinet, it was. So I cut this off with an x-acto saw and in the process noticed that the cover for the cabinet was painted on the inside. No good contact with the bottom part that the ground is attached to. So I took the Dremel tool and got rid of some paint around the screw holes and also decided to put some washers under the screws just to make things tighter. If you have ever seen a Johnson kilowatt match box tuner you will notice there is like 40 plus screws that hold that top on. Johnson wanted good contact. MFJ uses 8 screws total on a 949E. Anyway, put the screws in, tightened them well, and tried again. It did make a difference.

Then I took a long plastic tuning tool I have and started touching the tuner to see if any specific location on the tuner made more of a difference. Touching the knobs for the inductor switch and knobs for both tuning caps got a big reaction. Took the knobs off and found all three of the nuts holding these in the chassis were loose. Tightened those up, put everything back together and guess what problem solved!! I have used it on the air several times great performance.

THANKS TO THOSE WHO ATTENDED THE MEETING IN ESCANABA

AILEEN WA8DHB

BILL N8NJA

MIKE KE8AHK

BOB N8BNC

CINDI N8JSI

JIM KC8NNX

BOB W8KP

RICK WA8JSF

MIKE KD9TZ

LARRY W8WR

JUDY GYURNEK

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