

# UPPER PENINSULA NET NEWS SERVING THE WESTERN GREAT LAKES



## HAM OF THE YEAR

KE8AHK – Mike Driscoll  
Wayland, MI

## HAM OF THE MONTH

WA8OLD – David Deatrack  
Sault Ste Marie, MI

**MAY 2020**

FROM THE EDITOR-----JIM - K8UHF [k8uhf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:k8uhf@sbcglobal.net)

As everyone knows by now, the Cadillac Hamfest was cancelled for this year. So that means no U. P. Net meeting, no in-person announcement about the new Ham of the Year, no award presentation, no pictures and, worst of all, no eyeball contacts for a lot of us this year.

Instead, our past Ham of the Year, W8RLJ, Rick, did the honors of announcing our new Ham of the Year over the air at the beginning of the May 2, 2020 5:00pm Net. Thank you, Rick, for holding the Ham of the Year position for this past year and passing the privileges on to Mike, KE8AHK.

I don't know Mike very well except to say he is a very friendly, outgoing person and he does a great job as net control. I first met Mike in person several years ago while Dawn and I were camping at Gun Lake. Mike was riding his bike around the campground and spotted my HF antenna on my RV. He stopped to say hello, and we chatted a short time, then he was on his way.

Congratulations, Mike, from all of the U.P. Net members. You are certainly worthy of this great award.

## NET STATS

April 2019: Check-ins 863 – Traffic 39

April 2020: Check-ins 1274 – Traffic 36

High Check-ins: KC8ZMN 36,41,34,42; KC8GTE 39,38,40,43; KE8AHK 43,35,46,44,38  
WA8DHB 43,37,34,39,42; W8WR 34,33,37,37; N8BNC 35,38; NS8S 45,45,44,39,42

Sunday Noon Net High Check-ins: KD8KCV 21

## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY, AILEEN!**

**Photo submitted by Patti Weyandt, Aileen's daughter**

The U.P. Net would like to wish Aileen – WA8DHB – a HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY. Aileen turned the young age of 90 on April 28, 2020. Congratulations, Aileen!



## **NEW HAM OF THE YEAR**

**Mike Driscoll - KE8AHK – Wayland, MI**

The Michigan Upper Peninsula Net is happy to introduce the new Ham of the Year for 2020-2021, Mike Driscoll, KE8AHK.

Like many of us old timers, Mike is not a long time "well-seasoned ham", but he has become very dedicated to the hobby in a relatively short period of time. Mike has stepped up to be Friday net control, pre-net control and substitute net control anytime one is needed, plus he serves as a net control on Teenage Net. When Mike is not on the radio, he has been known to spend some time wetting a line in his favorite lake or stream.

Mike's dedication to the Upper Peninsula comes from his heritage. He was born and raised in the Marquette area. Being a true Yooper, he loves spending as much time as he can in the U.P. His favorite places seem to be the Deerton and Big Bay areas, and he has been lucky to be able to spend some extended time there in the past summers.

Besides all the accolades above, Mike is just a great guy to talk with and be around! Congratulations Mike!!



## MAY'S HAM OF THE MONTH

### David Deatruck – WA8OLD – Sault Ste Marie, MI

**Name and Call:** David Deatruck - WA8OLD

**Birthdate and Place:** April 30, 1951 in Wauseon, Ohio

**Education:** K-12 Ann Arbor; Western Michigan, Washtenaw CC

**Employer(s)/Type of Work:** MDOT 1971-2007; Chippewa County Road Commission 2008-2016. Highway Engineering. Retired as Project Manager for CCRC. Was honored with Project Manager of the Year by County Road Association of Michigan in 2015

**Military Service:** None

**How did you get into Ham Radio:** My Father gifted me with a Heathkit GR-81, 3 tube SW receiver in 1964, and I caught the bug... earned my Novice Ticket in 1964 under Elmering of Leo K8OKC. The call WN8OLD was sequentially assigned by the FCC in November of 1964. I used to love RTTY in the 60s and had a nice RTTY station with a Model 19.

**Spouse/Family:** Married to Patricia in 1976; we will celebrate 45 years next March (hopefully) Son, Barry - W8UOM - is a Pediatric Cardiac Surgeon in Baltimore, MD and son Ben, is at home.

**Other Hobbies & Interest:** Sailing in my 19' Sailboat. Golf. We like to Cruise and have been on 18 Cruises to the Caribbean. Gardening, reading.

**Any other interesting info or experiences:** I hold a Canadian License, VE3OPE and am Club Trustee for the local club stations W8EUP, W8ARS and KA8F. I am a VE, and for a long time was the VEC liaison for the club with the ARRL. It is the key to maintaining the hobby to have reliable testing available.



## APRIL'S HAM OF THE MONTH

### **Rob Kissel – W8KPU – Swartz Creek, MI**

Thank you for being selected Ham of the Month last month! I completed the U.P. Net member profile questionnaire. Have fun reading.

**Name and Call:** Robert “Rob” Kissel – W8KPU

**Birthdate and Place:** February 22, 1947 in Baltimore, Maryland

**Education:** Parkville High School (Maryland) 1965, Mott Community College 1973, Michigan State University 1975 BS in Criminal Justice

**Employer(s)/Type of Work:** Pharmacy, Land Surveying, Air Force Air Police, Flint Police Department (retired as Lieutenant), Mundy Twp Police, School Resource Officer at Genesee Skill Center. Emergency Management Office

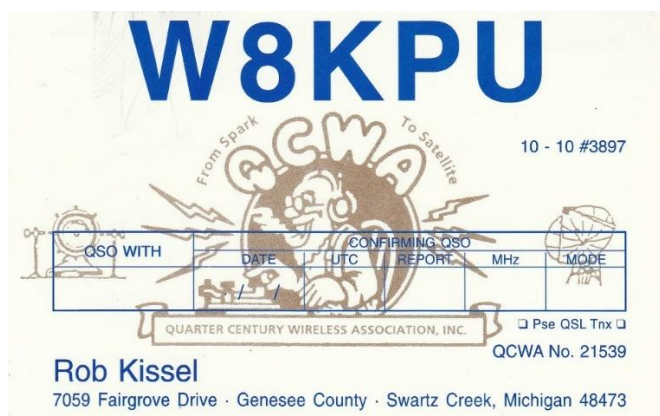
**Military Service:** US Air Force May 1966 to December 1969 Air Police; Security & Law Enforcement, then SAC Elite-Guard

**How did you get into Ham Radio:** Dad gave me a short wave receiver for Christmas about 1961. Got Novice February 1962 as KN3SGD, upgraded August 1962 to Tech, then General September 1962 K3SGD

**Spouse/Family:** Wife is Susan, WB8TTN, retired investigator for Macy’s. Son, Kevin, is N8ZNF, Burton Police. Son, Andy, is welder at Consumers Energy.

**Other Hobbies & Interest:** Motorcycle riding/touring on Harley Davison Road King or Limited Electra Glide. Also, shooting hand guns & rifles for target practice. Current state President of QCWA Chapter 10. Net Sundays at 0800 on 3.903.

**Any other interesting info or experiences:** Worked security for Strategic Air Command at the Underground Command Post at Offutt AFB, Nebraska (Home of “Red Phone”)



## 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](mailto: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.

# May 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 Judy XYL of W8HTK  K8MXC and Sandy	2
3	4	5	6	7  W8THK Jim  WA8UCS & Valerie	8	9
10 Mother's Day	11	12 WA8DVD & XYL	13	14	15 Kathleen XYL of N8NJA	16
17 W8WR Larry	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 Memorial Day	26	27	28 KA8OGC Jean	29	30
31						

Keep in mind when planning to attend a Hamfest or Exam Session to check ahead to verify the event is indeed going on. Many events are being cancelled at the last minute.

## HAMFESTS

For complete information, refer to the ARRL Hamfests

[www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)

### June 6, 2020

IRA Hudsonville Hamfest  
Hudsonville, MI  
Type: ARRL Hamfest  
Sponsor: Independent Repeater Association  
Website: <http://www.w8ira.org>

### July 25, 2020

Gladwin Area ARC Hamfest  
Gladwin, MI  
Type: ARRL Hamfest  
Sponsor: Gladwin Area Amateur Radio Club

### June 6, 2020

Luce Amateur Radio Society Hamfest  
Newberry, MI  
Type: ARRL Hamfest  
Sponsor: Luce Amateur Radio Society

### August 1, 2020

U.P. Hamfest 2020  
Escanaba, MI  
Type: ARRL Hamfest  
Sponsor: Delta County Amateur Radio Society  
Website: <http://k8pl.org>

### June 21, 2020

Monroe Hamfest  
Monroe, MI  
Type: ARRL Hamfest  
Sponsor: Monroe County Radio Comm. Assn.  
Website: <http://mcrcra.org/>

### July 11, 2020

Summer Eat, Greet and Swap Meet  
Temperance, MI  
Type: ARRL Hamfest  
Sponsor: Northwest Ohio Black Swamp Radio Society

## 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](http://www.arrl.org)

### May 9, 2020 - POSTPONED

Traverse City District Library  
Traverse City, MI  
1:00pm – No Walk-ins / Call ahead

### May 23, 2020

Martin Twp Community Building  
Martin, MI  
9:00am – Walk-ins allowed

### May 12, 2020

Livingston County EMS  
Howell, MI  
7:00pm – Walk-ins allowed

### May 23, 2020

Witch's Hat Depot  
South Lyon, MI  
9:00am – Walk-ins allowed

### May 23, 2020

Kalamazoo County Sheriff Dept.  
Kalamazoo, MI  
8:30am – Walk-ins allowed

### May 31, 2020

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

June 2, 2020

Oak Park Community Center  
Oak Park, MI  
7:00pm – Walk-ins allowed

June 4, 2020

Lansing Fire Station #44  
Lansing, MI  
7:00pm – Walk-ins allowed

June 6, 2020

Pentland Township Hall  
Newberry, MI  
1:00pm – Walk-ins allowed

June 6, 2020

Mt. Clemens Salvation Army Corps  
Mount Clemens, MI  
17:30pm – Walk-ins allowed

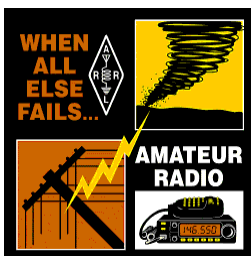
June 7, 2020

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

June 9, 2020

Livingston County EMS  
Howell, MI  
7:00pm – Walk-ins allowed

*Happy  
Memorial  
Day!*



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