

UPPER PENINSULA NET NEWS SERVING THE WESTERN GREAT LAKES



HAM OF THE YEAR

K8UHF – Jim Hein, Jr.
Dimondale, MI

HAM OF THE MONTH

KD8SBM – Kurt Karklin
Midland, MI

NOVEMBER 2023

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

Dawn and I will be retiring from doing the U.P. Net Newsletter. December 2023 will be the last issue we produce. It has been a privilege and a lot of fun to do, however, it is time for someone else to take over and continue to keep everyone informed of what is happening. Kelly, KC8GTE, will give you more details later in this issue of the Newsletter. Thank you for reading and sending us all the articles, your comments, and compliments. Jim and Dawn.

NET STATS

Oct 2022: Check-ins 1025 – Traffic 40

Oct 2023: Check-ins 906 – Traffic 40

High Check-ins: KC8ZMN 30,36; NS8S 32,35; WV8W 35;

KR8P 30,30; K8SKY 32,31; KC8GTE 34

Sunday Noon Net High Check-ins:

KD8KCV 8,10,8,14,11

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT
Kelly King – KC8GTE – McMillan, MI

The U.P. Net Website is closing at the first of the year..... WHAAT!!!!

Now the rest of the story:

I had questions about the pricing for the Website we were being quoted from Kelso Media, so I decided to give them a call and have a conversation to see what was up.

I called and talked with Amber and Michael on Tuesday Oct 24, 2023. What I found out was the Website was started by Bill (N8NJA) back in 2008 as a place where Newsletters and info about the Net could be seen worldwide. Amber and Michael did the Website as favor to Dad, but really have no interest in continuing it since Bill's passing.

After that conversation, I set up a conference call with Aileen (WA8DHB Net Manager), Chris (KC8ZMN 2nd in line Net Manager) and myself (somewhere farther down the line Net Manager) to explain the situation.

The results of that call are as follows:

1. The michupnet.com website will be closed after the beginning of 2024.

However, anyone wanting to peruse the Website and download any of the Newsletters or other content may do so for your own archives.

2. Jim and Dawn will be retiring from the U.P. Net Newsletter with the December 2023 Edition. Continuing forward, if anyone picks up the job of Newsletter editor, the Newsletter will be distributed by email, to do away with any costs involved for printing, postage, etc.
3. Any monies that are left over will go to Aileen for the fund she has for donations to SKs from the group.

Thanks

Kelly KC8GTE

OCTOBER'S HAM OF THE MONTH

Gary Cheek – KG8LB – Utica, MI

Gary Cheek / KG8LB

Born July 04, 1940 Highland Park, MI

Graduated 12th Grade Lamphere High

Madison Heights, MI 1968

Retired General Motors Technical Center Warren,
MI

Metal Model Maker

Prior: Harman Corp, Rochester, MI

Machine Designer

Prior: Sun Electric Corp, Troy, MI

Machine Build Supervisor

Prior: US Industries, Clearing & Press
Warren, MI Heavy Press Repair

Ham Radio: Began as SWL, 1960

Married since 1970. Two sons

Hobbies: Home Machine Shop, RC Flying, Bee
Keeping,
Photography, Motorcycles (Vintage)

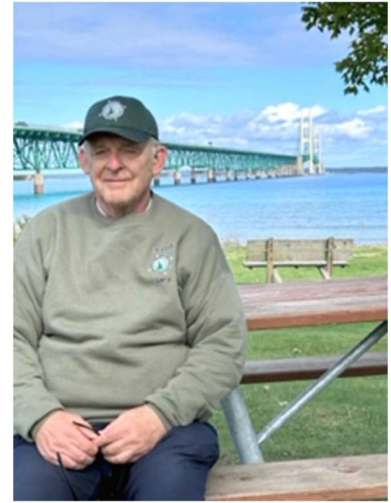
A GREAT SUMMER ADVENTURE

Larry Alman - W8WR - GREENVILLE, MI

September 13, 2023 Ray, K8RLE, left Dimondale for a POTA trip. First stop was Greenville, MI to pick me up and we were off about 8:30 in the morning and our first stop was Edmore State Game Area where we made our first activations. We left from there to head up to near Ewart, Mi to the Buckstop (Ray's camp) for the day.

September 14, 2023 Friday morning we left real early and headed to our first stop at the Otsego State Park, south of Gaylord, about 8:30 in the morning. We met the man at the gate and he let us right in. We set up and made our contacts on 40 meters. Our first contact was with Brad, KR8P. The officer at the park knew about Ham Radio because his uncle was a Ham. We left there and on our way up to Mackinaw City where our first stop was Fort Michilimackinac State Park where we made our contacts and moved on again to Historic Mill Discovery State Park. We made our contacts there and moved up across the Mackinaw Bridge and found our motel for the night and we went to our 4th park that day, Father Marquette National Memorial. We made contacts there and went for dinner.





September 15, 2023 We were up at 5:30 and had our breakfast at 6:00 and headed for the Star Line, Mackinaw ferry to take us to Mackinac Island.



We found a spot real close to the water, not too far from the Grand Hotel, on the Island and made several attempts at making contacts and found out our antenna had a serious problem, and we needed a soldering gun, which we did not have. There were not trees for us to throw a wire in so we went to the ferry boat and headed back to St Ignace. Before we left, I stopped at the fudge shop and bought the place out. We boarded the boat and after we left the island sank, hi hi. We were back at St Ignace and found our way to the bridge and got through the construction there and were southbound on I 75 and stopped at Grayling at Kirtland's Warbler Wildlife Management area. We made our contacts there on 20 meters because 40 was dead again. Then we headed south to the Buckstop near Evert.



September 16, 2023 We left Buckstop at around 7:00 and headed to Hay Marsh Lake State Game Land where we were to meet up with Brad, KR8P. Brad was out of uniform so we sent him back to his car. Ray had his antenna in the air and ready to operate. Brad arrived a little after 8:00 and he brought his soldering gun and tools and

he and Ray fixed my MFJ 2289 trapped coil and it was good to go again. Thanks Brad. Brad set up his station and antenna and began operating and I informed him that he was out of uniform.

He immediately left for his car and pulled out his POTA hat, was in uniform and made his contacts in a hurry. Ray and I bought a nice picnic lunch and after all the antennas were down and equipment put away, we had a



nice picnic lunch. Just after that we headed for a new park for Brad to activate, Mark Knee Memorial State Game area. We let Brad make his contact there and he then was shortly on his way home. Our day was not finished; we left for Osceola Missaukee Grasslands State Game area. We went there last year and there was no place to throw an antenna in the trees. We used my MFJ2289, and Ray was first in making his activation. Then I took a shot at it. I made a contact with F6 in France and that was the highlight of my day. Ray and I had that park under our belt and we headed back to the Buckstop again.

September 17, 2023 We put Ray's fold down camper to bed for the winter months and we drained fluids from his trailer and we headed home. It was a very successful and very fun long weekend. This had to be one of the biggest highlights of my 58 years of Amateur Radio and I have to thank Ray, K8RLE, for all of his entertainment. I will not mention why his scanner did not work for one whole day, you will have to ask him about that one, hi hi.

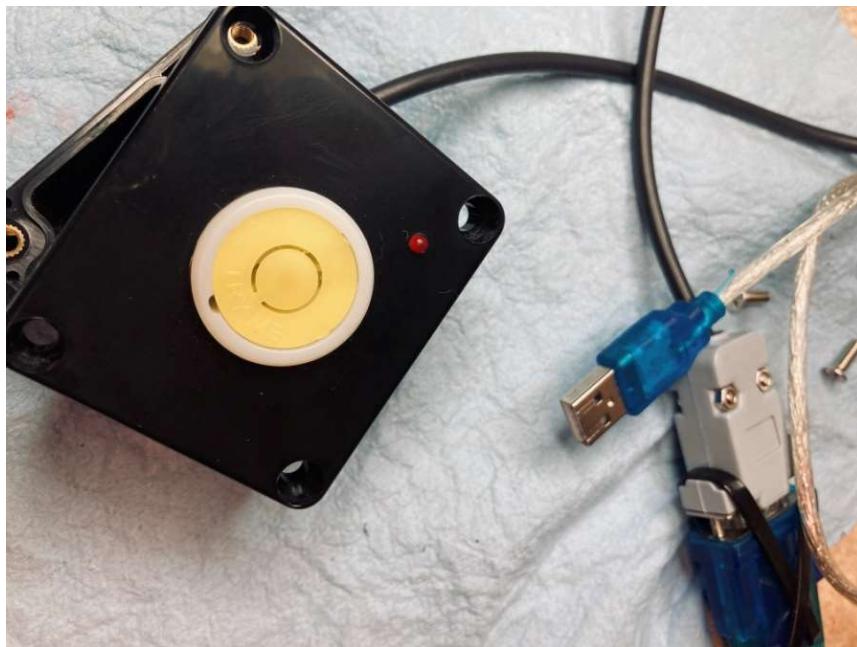
73,
Larry W8WR

THE BUTTON INVENTION

Jim Hein – K8UHF – Dimondale, MI

Everyone knows I like to build little projects. The need in this case was for Larry, W8WR, to be able to operate my RCforbs Remote Hams System. In the past Larry was able to use his mouse to push the TX button on the Client software on his computer screen. Larry is no longer able to do this and we needed a way for him to talk with us. We have important stuff to talk about you know, HI HI. I setup VOX on his Client software but that turned out be a disaster. In this case VOX is very sensitive to voice levels and delays and just was not reliable.

I decided to build this little PTT switch with USB interface to connect to his PC and work with RCforbs Client. I had most of the parts on hand except the box itself. I quickly ordered the right size box I needed to fit this project. You might recognize the button. It is a button found on demonstrator trinkets at the store to push to play a song or turn on a light. I saved these buttons from some of the trinkets I purchased over the years. It seemed like the perfect button for this project because it has a distinct click for feedback when pushed. The box has a momentary PTT switch and an LED indicator that lights when the button is pushed or flashes if the interface driver is not installed properly on the PC or the Client software control device settings are not correct.





Here is Larry, W8WR, with his new-to-him Kenwood TS-2000 HF radio. Ray, K8RLE, and I went to Larry's house to get him all setup with some new equipment. Ray was doing some custom programming on the PC to make it easier for Larry to operate while I installed the VS-3 Voice Synthesizer board in his TS-2000. I made all the necessary connections to antenna, microphone, code key, power supply, ground. Then I changed some programming options and general settings in the TS-2000 to fit Larry's operating needs.

We spent some time training Larry on the operation and location of the buttons on the radio. Larry was a very quick learner. Larry immediately made two CW POTA contacts and I made an SSB contact to test it out. All working good.

We are excited to say Larry is back on the air! He is making POTA contacts (look out Brad, KR8P, he may catch up with you on POTA) and talking on the U. P. Net. and working CW like a monster. You can also see he is demonstrating his new custom made Push-To-Talk button for RCForbs Remote Hams Client. Now he can easily push the button without a mouse to talk with Ray and Monty, N8OBV, and myself on my two meter remote. We use the remote everyday to keep in touch. Ray and Larry like to chase POTA spots and exchange contact information.

We all like to chat and I like to keep their equipment running. It's a never ending task, HI HI, but still fun.



Ray didn't want to be left out, so I built another custom PTT Button for him. Ray operates his Remote Hams Client from Florida during the winter so this will make it very easy for him to lay back in his easy chair in Florida and keep in touch with Larry and myself and others on my 2-meter remote here in Dimondale.

Naturally I had to make a Button for myself too. We call ourselves the Three Buttoneers! I think this is what Amateur Radio is all about. Helping each other and just having fun!



HAMFESTS

For complete information, refer to the ARRL Hamfests
www.arrl.org

HAMFEST/CONVENTION
 11/18/2023 - 11/19/2023

[Fort Wayne Hamfest & Computer Expo, ARRL Central Division Convention](#)

Location: Fort Wayne, IN

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

Website: <http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com>

Learn More

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

12/03/2023 - [LCARC Amateur Radio Swap/Hamfest](#)

Location: Troy, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: L'Anse Creuse Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.n8lc.org>

Learn More

EXAM SESSIONS

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

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

EXAM SESSION

11/11/2023 | [Ann Arbor MI 48104](#)

Sponsor: Arrow Communications Assoc

Location: Fellowship Bible Church

Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

EXAM SESSION

11/11/2023 | [Lansing MI 48911-5322](#)

Sponsor: Ingham County VE Group

Location: Lansing Fire Station #44 (Community Room)

Time: 11:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

EXAM SESSION

11/11/2023 | [Midland MI 48640-8367](#)

Sponsor: Midland ARC

Location: Homer Township Fire Station

Time: 9:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

EXAM SESSION

11/11/2023 | [Muskegon MI 49445](#)

Sponsor: Muskegon Amt Radio Club

Location: Muskegon Area Amt Radio Council Clubhouse

Time: 10:00 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

EXAM SESSION

11/11/2023 | [Port Huron MI 48060-4014](#)

Sponsor: Eastern Michigan ARC

Location: St Clair County Library

Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

EXAM SESSION

11/11/2023 | [Traverse City MI 49686-3103](#)

Sponsor: Cherryland ARC

Location: Traverse City District Library

Time: 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

EXAM SESSION

11/11/2023 | [Wyandotte MI 48192-9999](#)

Sponsor: Motor City Radio Club

Location: First United Methodist Church

Time: 9:00 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

EXAM SESSION

11/15/2023 | [Livonia MI 48154-3045](#)

Sponsor: Livonia ARC

Location: Livonia Police Department

Time: 7:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

EXAM SESSION

11/16/2023 | [Livonia MI 48152-3932](#)

Sponsor: Garden City Amateur Radio Club (GCARC)

Location: Schoolcraft College

Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

EXAM SESSION

11/18/2023 | [Kalamazoo MI 49009-1860](#)

Sponsor: Kalamazoo ARC

Location: American Red Cross

Time: 8:30 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

EXAM SESSION

11/18/2023 | [South Lyon MI 48178](#)

Sponsor: South Lyon Area ARC

Location: Witch's Hat Depot

Time: 9:30 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

EXAM SESSION

11/25/2023 | [Martin MI 49070-5102](#)

Sponsor: Allegan County ARC

Location: Martin Township Community Building

Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

EXAM SESSION

12/02/2023 | [Grand Blanc MI 48439-8961](#)

Sponsor: Genesee County Radio Club W8ACW

Location: Holy Spirt Lutheran Church

Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

Learn More

EXAM SESSION

12/02/2023 | [Lake City MI 49651-8865](#)

Sponsor: Wexaukee VE Team

Location: Missaukee Cty District Library

Time: 11:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

EXAM SESSION

12/03/2023 | [Troy MI 48083](#)

Sponsor: L'Anse Creuse Amt Radio Club

Location: Balkan American Community Center

Time: 8:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

EXAM SESSION

12/05/2023 | [Oak Park MI 48237-2085](#)

Sponsor: Hazel Park ARC

Location: Oak Park Community Center

Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

EXAM SESSION

12/07/2023 | [Lansing MI 48911-5322](#)

Sponsor: Ingham County VE Group

Location: Lansing Fire Station #44 (Community Room)

Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

EXAM SESSION

12/09/2023 | [Ann Arbor MI 48104](#)

Sponsor: Arrow Communications Assoc

Location: Fellowship Bible Church

Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

EXAM SESSION

12/09/2023 | [Charlotte MI 48813-9999](#)

Sponsor: Eaton County Arc

Location: Charlotte Church of Christ

Time: 12:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

EXAM SESSION

12/09/2023 | [Jackson MI 49201-2230](#)

Sponsor: Cascades ARS

Location: Jackson Carnegie Library

Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

EXAM SESSION

12/09/2023 | [Muskegon MI 49445](#)

Sponsor: Muskegon Amt Radio Club

Location: Muskegon Area Amt Radio Council Clubhouse

Time: 10:00 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

EXAM SESSION

12/09/2023 | [Port Huron MI 48060-4014](#)

Sponsor: Eastern Michigan ARC

Location: St Clair County Library

Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

November 2023

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 WA8THK Perry and Kotchko	2	3	4
5 Daylight Saving Time Ends	6	7	8	9 Shirley – XYL of WA8LT	10	11 Veterans Day
12	13 KD9TZ Mike	14	15 Rich – son of WA8DHB W8DW Dave	16 AA8SN Hope KG8GP Mel	17 K8KZG Roman	18
19 KB3KCJ Wayne	20 Gilbert – son of AA8SN	21 N8DAD Barry	22 NS8S Dave	23 Thanksgiving Day	24 Mona – XYL of WA8YLZ	25
26	27	28	29	30 Terri – Friend of K8BLL		



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UPPER PENINSULA NET WEBSITE www.michupnet.com