

The Open Feed Line

A Publication of the Michigan Amateur Radio Alliance (MARA)

Volume 19, Issue 2 - Friendship, Community Service & Advancement of the Hobby - April -June-2010

West Michigan Ham of the Year 2010 Bill Zaidel N8VWI



(Above, Bill N8VWI holding his WMHOTY plaque)

On February 20, 2010, The New Hams Dinner was held at the Fire Mountain restaurant. The event, sponsored jointly by the Grand Rapids ARA, the Lowell ARC, the Michigan DX Association and MARA, is the time when we welcome new hams to the area and newly licensed hams. It is also the time when MARA present their special acknowledgement and achievement award: The West Michigan Ham of the Year award. This year, the award went to Bill Zaidel N8VWI. Bill has been instrumental in maintaining and starting "Operation Care Coffee's" "for two clubs. He has also helped maintain and install needed construction at the repeater site. Bill is one go getter! We thank you Bill N8VWI.

The Michigan DX Association presented their "Pillar of Society" award to Major Patrick McPherson WW9E He was instrumental in the creation and administration of S.A.T.E.R.N. The Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network. We thank Major Patrick for his fine efforts.

Great Lakes Award #290!



(L – to R Tom WD8RER, Larry KC8KVR and in front, Char WD8LGN)

During our March 5th, 2010 "Build Your Burger" fund raiser, our Awards Manager, Larry Dells KC8KVR, presents Tom, WD8RER with his Great Lakes Award certificate. Tom put a lot of effort into working all the stations required for the award and already has the award with a CW endorsement. This is a great way to test out your station while collecting contacts for this award. Tom also is an avid DX-er and can be heard passing DX locations to his partner in DX-ing, Carl WA8AAT.

Saturday Breakfast!

After several Saturday's of checking out the breakfast menu at different restaurants, the Breakfast crowd has settled on "The International House of Pancakes" for their early morning eats. IHOP, is located on the East Beltline and if you want a good place to sit with your friends, be there no later than 8:30AM! Sounds like a great way to start the day!

The Open Feed Line

The Open Feed Line is published quarterly. It is the official journal of the Michigan Amateur Radio Alliance, or MARA for short.

MARA, an American Radio Relay League affiliated club, was created to provide opportunities for friendship, community service, increasing technical knowledge, and upgrading our skills in the hobby of Amateur Radio.

You may freely reprint any material in the Open Feed Line, but please credit the Open Feed Line, the original author, and the original publication, if given.

Everybody is encouraged to submit original articles on topics relevant to the hobby of Amateur Radio to the editor. The deadline for submission is the end of January, April, July, and October, and the newsletter will be published within the following month.

Publisher

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Membership Information

Annual dues to MARA are \$20. Family memberships are an additional \$5. Persons aged 70 and over - \$5.00. Membership is free to students under 21. Memberships expire on December 31st, and club dues are due on January 1st. MARA membership is open to all interested persons.

Please send change of address information and membership applications to the club secretary.

Great Lakes Award

Send inquiries regarding the Great Lakes Award to the Awards Manager
Larry Dells KC8KVR c/o

MARA

P.O.Box 670

Comstock Park MI 49321-0670

E-mail- LLDGRD@netscape.net

MARA Club Officers

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Appointed Positions

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Open

k8ook@comcast.net

Operation Care

Chairperson

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Net Directors

Members **Ran**

Webmaster -- Richard M. Ranta K8JX

812 Graceland NE, Grand Rapids, MI, 49505 616-361-5975

rranta@sbcglobal.net

* Some of these positions become open occasionally. If you'd like to volunteer, contact one of the board members and let them know what your interested in. *

Club activities

MARA holds their weekly 2-meter Net, every Thursday, at 8 PM on the MARA W8USA repeater, 145.230 MHz -600Khz PL. 94.8. MARA holds their monthly meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7:30PM, at the Steepletown Building, located on the SW corner of 5th street and Davis NW, in Grand Rapids. This site is handicap accessible, with additional parking on the West side of the building. All are welcome to attend our meetings.



**William Robert Shea,
KD8EQI, SK**

Though His Key Falls Silent, He
is Not Forgotten!

His Signals transverse the
Universe at 186,000 miles per
second.

In the vastness of the universe
our Creator is his loving guide.

We thank God for creating him,
and for the impact that he made
on all of our lives.

In memory of his service we
award him our Eternal Flame.

May the light of his service to
Amateur Radio and our
community forever shine in his
memory.

Rest in peace, our good friend,
Bill. Till we meet again, 73. We
will not forget you.

William Robert Shea, age 57, of
Jenison, passed away very
unexpectedly on Friday, March
19, 2010. He was preceded in
death by his mother, Emegene
Shea; He will be lovingly
remembered by his father,
William L Shea; and many Ham
friends.

(Submitted by Dave KC8PCL)

In Memoriam....

We have decided to honor those
member's who have become
Silent Keys. We have already
created a web page and have
included a write up about the
individual and a photograph. But,
we need your help. We need
photo's of

1. Donna Wild W8DMW
2. Lawrence Wahoski N8AFC
3. Harold Wisneski WD8EMD

I have gone through most of the
photo's I have of Mara members,
and could not find any that included
those listed above. If you have a
good photo of one of those folks
listed above, please let me know and
send it to

[MARANEWS@SBCGLOBAL.NET](mailto:MARANews@SBCGlobal.net) .

Mike K8OOK also suggested that if
any person wanted to write
something about the SK, that it
would be included in the listing on
the web site. If you would like to ad
something, please send it using the
above e-mail address.

Your help will be greatly appreciated.
These are the folks who will always
be remembered by us. Let's tell the
world how special they really were.
You can visit the "In Memoriam"
page by going to www.w8usa.org
and click on the menu bar, In
Memoriam.

“Build Your Burger!”

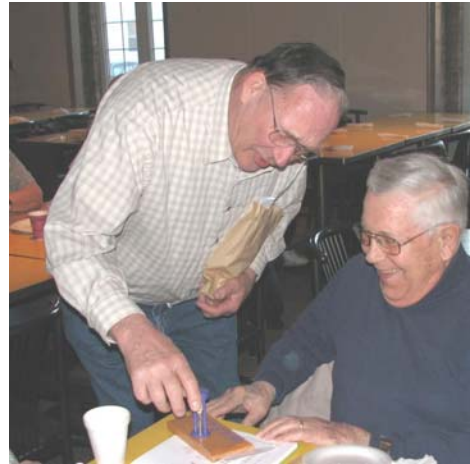


(Left to Right Nancy N8IPG, Wayne K8WMD)

“Build Your Burger” was held on March 5th, 2010. This was the 3rd time out for us trying our hand at taking our cooking on the road. We decided on hamburgers this time, because they shouldn’t be as much work as cooking spaghetti. We told ourselves! Ever try to clean a professional grill? It’s heavy and a lot of work. But it was worth it. This time, the menu included either a Hamburger or fishwich, chips, coleslaw, dessert, coffee or juice. We ran out of coleslaw, chips and hamburger buns! That’s a pretty good sign we succeeded. We’re already checking out a date to hold the next Burger night!

Club News

Not one to waste a golden opportunity, Larry Dells, KC8KVR, our Awards Manager, presented Carl, WA8AAT with his



Personal repeater time out timer. I know it looks like an egg timer mounted on a board, but it’s really a sophisticated piece of gear. (High Tech too!) First reports are that Carl is very happy with his timer and uses it whenever he gets on the Mara Repeater. This will probably stop once we install the new computer controller. It has a built in repeater time!

Field Day 2010

This year, if we want to hold Field Day, we’re going to need several spots filled. Mike, K8OOK, is going to be out of town that weekend, so we’re going to need somebody to step forward and take charge of setting up the event. I believe we’re aiming for 2A again, so we’ll need antennas and gear, but more importantly, operators. Please volunteer your skills. E-mail

Maranews@sbcglobal.net

ARGYL Hamfest

Saturday, April 3rd, 2010

AMATEUR RADIO GROUP of YOUTH in LOWELL

Need any info E-Mail Al at

al.eckman@sbcglobal.net

Admission:

Adults- \$5.00

Elementary, Middle School, and High School Students- Free

Advanced Sale Special: Two 5' tables & Admission- \$12.00

One 5' table & Admission- \$9.00

At the door: Two 5' tables & Admission- \$15.00

One 5' table & Admission- \$10.00

Advance Sales/ Information:

Al Eckman WW8WW

725 Bowes Rd Apt K6

Lowell, MI 49331

616-450-4332

al.eckman@sbcglobal.net

Hamfest Location

Lowell High School



Independent Repeater Association, Inc.

Good Old Days Hamfest

Hudsonville, Michigan

Saturday, June 5, 2010 -- 8 AM until 2 PM



West Michigan's Largest Hamfest and Computer Fair !
Proceeds Support the W8HVG/R Linked Repeater System

- ◆ Convenient, spacious facilities at the Hudsonville Fairgrounds
- ◆ Indoor Sales Floor with 22,000 Sq Foot of Display Area
- ◆ Convenient Access and Free Parking for All - Handicapped Parking and Access
- ◆ Children under 12 admitted FREE (when accompanied by a paying adult)
- ◆ Food and drinks available in comfortable indoor facilities

<p>DEALERS - HAMS - COMPUTER HOBBYISTS SHOW - TRADE- SELL All ham equipment, radios, coax, antennas, accessories, software, hardware, books, parts, alternate energy equipment, ham related clothing, and all other ham related gear.</p>	<p>Vendor Setup Friday 4:30 - 10 PM and Saturday 6 - 8 AM Main Gate General Admission Open 8 AM</p>
<p>ARRL FORUM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Jim Weaver, KBJE, Director ARRL Great Lakes Division will speak on recent ARRL activities; ➤ Dale Williams W8EFK, Section Manager, ARRL Great Lakes Division will speak on the Michigan PRB-1 Program 	<p>VE AMATEUR LICENSE EXAMS 9 - 10:30 AM All License Class Exams. Bring original and a copy of your license, any C.S.C.E.'s with photo ID and a \$15 check made payable to "ARRL /VEC".</p>
<p>HDTV SEMINAR - 10:30 AM Michigan PRB-1 Forum 11:30 AM FOX HUNTING SEMINAR - 12:15 PM 2-METER FOX HUNT 1 PM - Info at www.RookieFox.com</p>	<p>Famous "Roadkill-Chili" Potluck Friday Night - 6:30 PM Bring a main dish to pass and join in the fun Friday at 6:45 P.M. after helping with setup.</p>
<p>Questions? Reservations? Call Don (616) 532-7769 after 4 PM ira-hamfest@w8hvg.org</p>	<p>Talk-In on IRA Link Repeater System Grand Rapids 147.160 Link System (94.8 PL)</p>

Cut Here

Name _____ Call _____ Date ____ / ____ 2010
 Address _____ Company _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone (____) _____

<i>Inside Table Space</i>	<i>Outside Trunk Space</i>	<i>Camping</i>	<i>Tickets/Donations</i>
Number of tables _____	Number of _____	\$10 / site \$ _____	Number of tickets _____
Tables x \$5 \$ _____	Spaces _____	Elec hookup _____	Tickets \$5 each \$ _____
Elec hookup \$5 \$ _____	Elec hookup \$5 \$ _____	\$5 / site \$ _____	Donation to I.R.A. \$ _____
Sub Total \$ _____	Sub Total \$ _____	Sub Total \$ _____	Sub Total \$ _____
Kind of Merchandise _____			TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Please make check out to: **Independent Repeater Association, Inc.** Include a Self Addressed Stamped Envelope and mail to:
IRA Hamfest, 562 92nd Street SE, Bryon Center, MI 49315

Thank You For Your Support !