



The Open Feedline

M.A.R.A
Michigan Amateur
Radio Alliance

2016 FIELD DAY

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and pictures

2016 – Field Day

This year setup started right after a breakfast at the New Beginnings restaurant.

Our planning did not go as expected as there were several variations on the antennas we were not planning for, but the result was better than expected. Some difficulties in not having a clearly defined plan were encountered, but in the end were overcome.

Our planning to operate 2A, with three complete stations at the ready was quite successful. Only two operated at any given time, with the third station as a “Hot Swap” spare pulling in some 6 meter and CW contacts.

We Greg’s terrific KX3 station again, and also Gale’s Yeasu station and Larry’s old but reliable Yeasu. A wireless router was setup to connect all station laptops. Several “glitches” were encountered in the logging.

1. We all forgot that Gregg's system needed a "hard wire" connection for internet. Could not find the cable we used last year and had to build a new one. Thanks to Craig Otto, KD8KZE, coming to the rescue and building a new one.
2. We operated with the router attached to the internet. Unfortunately, a Windows update came through on the K9BOJ laptop and the laptop rebooted. This resulted in incomplete data on what was supposed to be the master. As we were breaking down to make room for the next renting group we discovered this issue and unfortunately were unable to recover all of the databases stored on each individual machine. We eventually got the files. (More on this later)
3. What was NOT a glitch was the use of the tuned stubs to eliminate interference from the other stations. These are being stored at the repeater site for next year.
4. For Power we again used Gale's, N8GS, Honda EU2000i generators. We had excellent results again having the two generators connected in parallel. This allowed us to run one generator at a time then when the running generator got low on fuel we started the second generator to take the load and then shut down the first unit so that it could be refueled. Using this method there was zero down time for the station operators



Larry, KD8KVR, operating the 3rd station with Craig, KD8KZE looking on.

And Here is what was well done. "Breakfasts by Jerry" was again provided by Master Chef W8MSK on the Sunday morning. Most everyone that attended was well fed for the tasks of the upcoming day.

Setup and take down went smoother due to operating as 2A and having some of our window feedthrough setups already made up from last year.

We had a very good turnout of operators and a good score. Unfortunately, the final computation and merging of logs did not take place until well after the deadline due to some unforeseen circumstances involving illness of some members (mainly me. Ed.)

So, without further ado, here is the breakdown in the following report:



Day	Hr	3.5	7	14	50	Tot	Accum
2016-06-25	18		48	14	1	63	63
2016-06-25	19		21	4		25	88
2016-06-25	20		14	22		36	124
2016-06-25	21		25	20		45	169
2016-06-25	22		4	4	1	9	178
2016-06-25	23	30	5			35	213
2016-06-26	00	28	5			33	246
2016-06-26	01	22	5			27	273
2016-06-26	02	22	30			52	325
2016-06-26	03	20	29	10		59	384
2016-06-26	04		8	4		12	396
2016-06-26	05		3			3	399
2016-06-26	07		4			4	403
2016-06-26	08		4			4	407
2016-06-26	09		3			3	410
2016-06-26	10	6	19			25	435
2016-06-26	11	76	60			136	571
2016-06-26	12	34	8		2	44	615
2016-06-26	13	20	6			26	641
2016-06-26	14	18	30			48	689
2016-06-26	15	6	61			67	756
2016-06-26	16		41	16		57	813
2016-06-26	17		68	2		70	883
2016-06-26	18		2			2	885
Total		282	503	96	4	885	885

2016 Club Officers

President

Barton Bechtel N8XQH

Vice President

Corey Grahn KD8SZZ

Secretary

Mike Eilers K80OK

Treasurer

Jerry Wittkoski W8MSK

Field Day Chairperson

Gale Scholten N8GS

Net Director

Larry Dells KC8KVR

Awards Manager

Larry Dells KC8KVR

Club Trustee

Gale Scholten N8GS

Membership Director

Mike Eilers K80OK

Education Director

Larry Dells KC8KVR

Bereavement Director

Jerry Wittkoski W8MSK

Webmaster

Erin Ammonds KD8NSU

Webmaster@W8USA.ORG

Newsletter Editor

Paul Hummel K9BOJ



**Format Problems – More one-page
down – Not sure why!**

UpComing Events

09/17/2016 | [GRAHamfest 2016](#)

10/15/2016 | [Muskegon Color Tour Hamfest](#)

Location: Muskegon, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Muskegon County Emergency Communication Services

Website: <http://mcecs.net/Hamfest.htm>

10/16/2016 | [2016 Kalamazoo HamFest and Amateur Radio Swap & Shop](#)

Location: Kalamazoo, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Kalamazoo Amateur Radio Club & Southwest Michigan Amateur Radio Team

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

03/11/2017 | [Lowell Amateur Radio Youth Club Hamfest](#)

Location: Lowell, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Lowell Amateur Radio Youth Club

Website: <http://k8lhs.club>

Board Announcements

President Barton Bechtel, N8QXH, has announced this will be his last term as president. Interested parties are encouraged to consider running for President or another board position for the 2017 term. Elections and nominations will begin at the November meeting.

Trustee Gale Scholten, N8GS, has also asked that members consider becoming the club trustee. Now that Donna has also retired, Gale and Donna are planning some "retirement expeditions", and would like to be free of the trustee obligations as soon as practical. This position is appointed and can be approved by the membership at any time.