

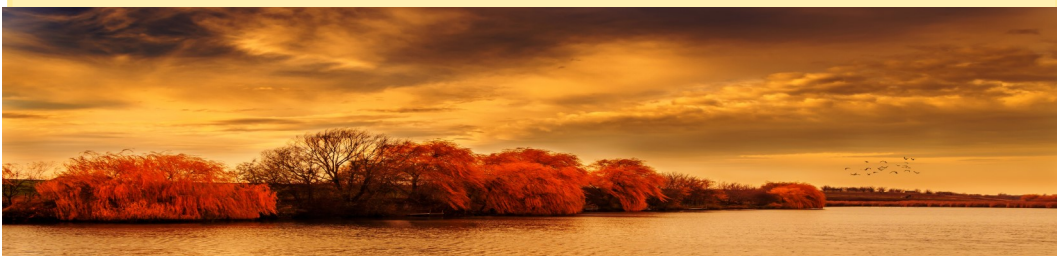
The Open Feedline

Finally, it's that time of the year when all of the sweltering Weather is behind us, and we can get to those last minute outside chores. Besides getting in the hoses, and clearing out the gardens, our thoughts turn to those last-minute antenna projects that we have been thinking about since spring.

Namely, now that the leaves are falling, we can now see where we want to shoot the lines for those dipoles, set up those last-minute new feed lines and other various antenna maintenance chores. It was an interesting summer with Field Day and several beam replacements. More on those and other events inside.

@#%\$^&! were the key words during the beam replacement project at Corey, KD8SZZ, QTH. It was quite the job as first the older Cushcraft Tri-bander had to be removed to make way for a Mosley TA-62N, 6 band beam. Helpers on-hand were: N8GS, K9BOJ, K8EB, W8MSK, K8OOK, and, of course, KD8SZZ. First on the agenda, after removing the tri-bander, was to play forest ranger to remove parts of two trees and remove a bush at the base of the tower. After loosening a guy wire and cutting down Corey's G5RV, this crew of "old guys" finally were able to pull the Mosley up to install height on the J-Pole. And then another problem became apparent. No matter how mild the breeze was, the Mosley proved to be a very efficient "Wind Catcher" and pulled itself away from the Mast and rotates vertical no matter how Corey tried. He finally concluded that two people were needed to hold the beam in place to bolt it down. The task was finally accomplished with the addition of Corey's son-in-law to climb up and secure the beam.

The last summertime antenna project was to install a new 440 MHz antenna on the N8GS tower. Carey again did the honors and now Gale is able to get into the W8USA 440 repeater. (Repeater hosted at KD8SZZ residence in NE Grand Rapids.)



MARA Repeater

145.230 Mz PL 94.8

WiresX

W8USA

Node 30382

Room 40382

Analog/Fusion

MARA

UHF Repeater

444.450/449.450

Analog/ Fusion -
PL 94.8

Daily Grouptalk
at 11 am!

2 Meter Net
Thursday Nights
7:30PM

W8USA

145.230 Repeater
(Analog)

6 METER AM NET
FOLLOWS ON 50.4
AND ALSO SUNDAY
MORNINGS AT 8
AM

If you don't see your name here, go to [www.W8USA.org/interact/Join MARA](http://www.W8USA.org/interact/Join%20MARA). Fill out the form, print and send with your check to W8MSK

Current Club Roster

Paid Members as of November, 2022

Name	Call Sign	License Class		PAID	WHEN
Steve Baker	K8PZ	Amateur Extra		2023-2024	10/12/22
Richard Douglas	KC8NKA	Amateur Extra		2023	9/14/2022
Stewart Williams	KE8VPL	Technician		2023	9/10/22
Joe Januszka	W8JPJ	General		2022	2/1/2022
Erwin Beemer	K8EB	Amateur Extra		2022	3/24/22
Roger Day	W8DAY	Amateur Extra		2022	3/13/22
Larry Dells	KC8KVR	Amateur Extra		2022	1/22/22
Peg Dells				2022	1/22/22
Bill Dells	KG8PI	Amateur Extra		2022	2/14/22
Sue Dells	KB8WJW	Technician		2022	2/14/22
Roman Downer	N4SC	Amateur Extra		2022-2023	7/11/21
Michael Eilers	K8OOK	Amateur Extra		2022	8/13/21
Nancy Eilers	N8IPG	General		2022	8/13/21
Corey Grahn	KD8SZZ	Amateur Extra		2022	1/22/22
Erik Kliphuis	KE8TXK	Technician		2022	New
Thomas Lane				2022	8/13/31
Paul C Hummel	K9BOJ	Advanced		2021-2022	7/13/21
Dan Markowski	N8NIJ	General		2022-2023	12/21/22
Gale Scholten (thru 2026)	N8GS	Amateur Extra		2022-2026	1/22/22
Jerome Wittkoski	W8MSK	Amateur Extra		2022	12/21/22
Steve Biziorec	K8VOL	Amateur Extra		2022	3/10/22
Sandy Biziorec	K8VOJ	General		2022	3/22/22
Mike Hood	KD8JB	Amateur Extra		2022	4/15/22
Dave Snow	KD6RGX	General		2022	6/1/22
Monte MacFarlane	KE8IZW	General		2022	6/1/22
Life Members					
Name	Call Sign	License Class			
Samuel T Nabkey	K8SN	Amateur Extra		2022	LIFE
Dan Thompson	N8WKM	Technician		2022	LIFE
Evelyn Thompson	KB8ILI	Technician		2022	LIFE

MARA REPEATER NEWS

The M.A.R.A. Repeater is connected to the West Michigan Connect Repeater System. While the repeater continues to be available in the FM Analog mode when there is not a C4FM conversation in play.

Every third Thursday of the month, the Net will operate Simplex on the output Frequency of 145.230 Mhz. No PL tone is needed. This is being done to test the emergency preparedness in the advent of a power failure and the emergency battery source runs out of energy.

The MARA Net Director is Joe Januszka, W8JPJ. Joe is currently recruiting Net Control Operators.

MARA has tried many ways to keep the Net interesting, and fun to participate in, but they've found that the best way is to have different folks be Net Control. To help make it easier for you to be Net control, we've included just about everything you'll need on the club website at:

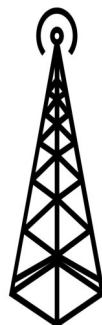
In the website you will find the latest MARA 2 meter Net operation script, which is a PDF file. We also have a simple Net Log to help you keep track of who checked in. (Print 2 of them-if you run out, you'll have one handy). Please contact Joe to schedule yourself as Net Control. Hopefully we can offer Internet sign-ups on the website in the future. For now, contact Joe, W8JPJ.

Immediately following the net is an Informal 6 Meter AM net on 50.4 Mhz. Please check your mode to be sure you are on AM before checking in. The 6 Meter net also meets on Sunday Mornings at 8 am, and many Holidays at 8 am as well.

And try to join us on our new 440 Mhz Repeater on 444.450 Mhz, Analog or Digital. This repeater is located on the NE side of Grand Rapids near 5 mile Road and Plainfield. You will find several club members on at 11 am daily when we host an informal "get together" on this repeater.

Several members do monitor the 440 machine and you can find us by giving a call on both Digital (Fusion) and analog modes. We are looking forward to hearing you on either repeater.

Recently it has been determined to move the 2 Meter Repeater antenna to a more North/South Orientation to better accommodate Grand Rapids.



W8USA

145.230— 94.8 pl Fusion

444.450— 94.8 pl Fusion

2022 Board and Current Officers.

No Changes from 2020

President Gale Scholten N8GS

Vice President Paul Hummel K9BOJ

Secretary Mike Eilers K8OOK

Treasurer Jerry Wittkoski W8MSK

Net Director Joe Januszka W8JPJ

Awards Manager Committee: (Larry KC8KVR and Paul, K9BOJ)

Club Trustee Gale Scholten N8GS

Membership Director Mike Eilers K8OOK

Education Director Larry Dells KC8KVR

Bereavement Director Jerry Wittkoski W8MSK

Newsletter Editor Paul Hummel K9BOJ Newsletter@W8USA.ORG

MARA

Michigan amateur radio alliance

MARA Contact Information

Mike Eilers K8OOK

MARA Secretary

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Newsletter Editor

PAUL K9BOJ

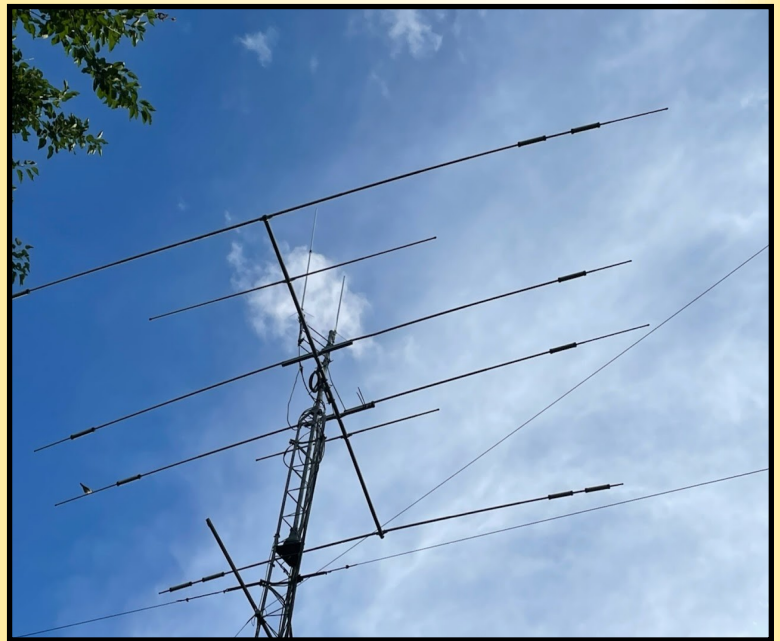
Webmaster@W8USA.ORG

Facebook Editor

Joe W8JPJ

Write us By Mail or log into
W8USA.Org and send your email
by selecting Menu Interact,
Contact W8USA

Antenna Projects



Upper Left: KD8SZZ & % ^ \$ # Breeze! Upper Right: Almost!
Lower Right: Finished! Lower Left: KD8SZZ on N8GS Tower,
440 Mhz in place. Gale can now get on 440!

.2022 Field Day

Well Folks, this year was a smaller turn-out for Field Day than in previous years. Due to various summer projects and trips, not many members were available to spend a weekend playing Radio!

We did, however, managed to make a few contacts.

146 CW

176 Phone/SSB

122 Digital (FT-8)

That's a total of **444** before any dupes that may have slipped in.

States missed were: NV, MT, ND, NE, HI, and AK.

Small but fun effort!

M.A.R.A. Membership

New Dues Structure:

Single Membership
1 Year \$25.00

Family Membership
1 Year \$30.00

MARA Meeting— 2nd Wednesday of each Month 7:30 PM at the Plainfield Township Fire Department Training Center—5 Mile and Plainfield Avenue

MARA Information

- ♦ **Make out Dues Check to M.A.R.A.** Mail to Jerry Wittkowski W8MSK, MARA Treasurer, 1025 Kendalwood NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49505-3231
- ♦ Net: 2 Meter - Thursdays at 7:30 PM On W8USA Repeater. (Analog)
- ♦ 440 Net Every Weekday M-F @ 11am on 444.450+ C4FM
- ♦ Thursdays, after 2 Meter Net, 6 Meters AM 50.4 Mhz
- ♦ Sunday mornings & Holidays 8AM on 50.4 AM—All are Welcome!
- ♦ Breakfast every Saturday morning, 8 AM, at New Beginnings Restaurant on Northland Drive.

