

## The Marinette and Menominee Amateur Radio Club

# GROUND WAVE

Repeater Frequencies 147.00MHz & 444.075MHz  
Club Net: Sunday 7PM 147.00MHz

Web Page <http://w8pif.com>



### Officers:

President: Bruce Conover N9CON  
Vice President: Pete Johnson, AB9PJ  
Treasurer: Mike Lemke, KD8FUE  
Secretary: Mark Erickson KD8ESH

The MMARC Newsletter

February 2015

### CLUB CALENDAR...

February 12 Club meeting NWTC Rm 127  
February 14 Ham Breakfast George Webb's

### FEBRUARY MEETING...

The February meeting will be held on  
Thursday February 12th at 7pm at NWTC  
Room 127. We hope you can attend.

### HAM BREAKFAST...

The February Ham Breakfast will be held at  
George Webb's in Peshtigo, at 9am on  
Saturday February 14 *Valentine's Day*.  
If you plan on attending, and we hope you  
do, send a short email to  
[bconover@centurytel.net](mailto:bconover@centurytel.net). We will  
continue our monthly breakfasts at George  
Webb's for the foreseeable future since they  
have a large private room, good service and  
prices. Our last get-together there in January  
was our largest with 12 in attendance. There

is plenty of room to accommodate even  
more. You can RSVP on the Kandy Net on  
Sunday as well. Reservations are  
recommended, but if you should find you  
can attend at the last moment, please drop  
by. Hope to see you there.

### AFTER CHRISTMAS PARTY...



The Club's annual After-Christmas Party  
was held on Saturday January 31<sup>st</sup> at  
Riverside Golf Club. Twenty-two club  
members and guests attended.



At the banquet, President Bruce Conover, N9CON presented a plaque of appreciation to Jim Callow, K8IR for his 8 years of service as club president (in his most recent stint in the office).

### **DAR PROGRAM TURNS 9...**



**K8DAR Observes 9th Year of Operation**  
 The Menominee D.A.R. Radio club station is now in its 9th year. Inception and planning started in the Fall of 2005, with the station being opened for local DAR youth members on Jan. 31, 2006. The M&M ARC and many members have been instrumental in setting up and maintaining the station. Since that time, 16 youth members received their ham radio licenses. One of those is Brett Borski KD8NAZ, who is now a regular staff member working in the gym program. He will enter UW-Marquette

in the Fall. Ed Engleman KG8CX has been the control operator and station trustee since its beginning. Several thousand QSO's have been made throughout the U.S. and the world, and many hundreds of local youth have been exposed to the magic of ham radio. The ham radio program has received several awards from Michigan and Wisconsin Chapter of Boys & Girls clubs for the most original new program offering. The local program is the only one of its kind in any Boys & Girls club in the United States.

Photo collage here shows some current youth enjoying K8DAR where they learn proper communication techniques, geography, current technology used in ham radio, and making new friends worldwide. Stop by and observe this unique activity for area youth.

The Menominee D.A.R. club is observing its 100th anniversary with special activities planned throughout 2015.

### **FCC GOES PAPERLESS...**

From the ARRL.

Starting February 17, the FCC no longer will routinely issue paper license documents to Amateur Radio applicants and licensees. The Commission has maintained for some time now that the official Amateur Radio license authorization is the electronic record that exists in its Universal Licensing System (ULS), although the FCC has continued to print and mail hard copy licenses. In mid-December the FCC adopted final procedures to provide access to official electronic authorizations, as it had proposed in WT Docket 14-161 as part of its "process reform" initiatives.

Under the new procedures, licensees will access their current official authorization

("Active" status only) via the ULS License Manager. The FCC will continue to provide paper license documents to all licensees who notify the Commission that they prefer to receive one. Licensees also will be able to print out an official authorization - as well as an unofficial "reference copy" - from the ULS License Manager.

"We find this electronic process will improve efficiency by simplifying access to official authorizations in ULS, shortening the time period between grant of an application and access to the official authorization, and reducing regulatory costs," the FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) said. According to the WTB, the new procedures will save at least \$304,000 a year, including the cost of staff resources.

The FCC said that applicants or licensees who include a valid e-mail address under "Applicant Information" in the ULS will receive an official electronic authorization via e-mail. New license applicants who do not provide a FCC Registration Number at the examination point will receive a printed license as well as an FRN and a temporary password to access the Commission Registration System (CORES).

WTB recently stopped using distinctive paper stock to produce hard copy licenses and has been printing these on "standard, white recycled paper." The Bureau noted that the distinctive paper stock it had used was six times more expensive than the plain recycled paper it now uses.

The ULS License Manager now includes settings that allow licensees to notify the WTB that they prefer to receive official authorizations on paper. Once the final procedures go into effect

designating electronic access as the default, licensees can change the ULS License Manager setting so that the Bureau will print and mail a license document. Licensees also may contact FCC Support via the web at, [http://esupport.fcc.gov/index.htm?job=contact\\_fcc\\_support](http://esupport.fcc.gov/index.htm?job=contact_fcc_support), or via telephone or mail to request paper licenses.

## **PRB-1 NOW THE LAW IN MI...**

From the ARRL.

Ten years of work within the ARRL Michigan Section have culminated in an Amateur Radio antenna bill that mirrors the "reasonable accommodation" provisions of the PRB-1 federal pre-emption policy. Michigan Gov Rick Snyder signed the measure, Senate Bill 0493, into law on January 15, creating Public Act 556. ARRL Michigan Section Manager Larry Camp, WB8R, said Michigan is the 31st state to have a PRB-1 bill on its books.

The most pertinent language in the new Michigan law, which comes directly from Part 97.15 of the FCC Amateur Service rules, states: "An Amateur Radio Service station antenna structure may be erected at heights and dimensions sufficient to accommodate Amateur Radio Service communications. Regulation of an Amateur Radio Service station antenna structure by a local unit of government must not preclude Amateur Radio Service communications. Rather, it must reasonably accommodate those communications and must constitute the minimum practicable regulation to accomplish the local unit of government's legitimate purpose." Wisconsin already has a PRB-1 law on the books.

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