

# CURRENT NET ANNOUNCEMENTS

By Don McLain/KB8RAD (Sunday, [March 3](#), 2013)

## CMARC MEETING

The next monthly meeting of the “Central Michigan Amateur Radio Club” will be on Friday, [March 8<sup>th</sup>](#) at 7:30pm in the Salvation Army building, which is located at 701 W. Jolly Road in Lansing. The program speaker for March will be Ted Sadilek/WA8MFQ, who will give us an overview of “[CQ-100](#)” VoIP Virtual Ham Radio, which basically creates a simulated ionosphere for worldwide Amateur Radio communication! He will explain exactly what CQ-100 is, how we can get it, what you need to use it, and what it can do. He will also compare it with other options that are available to the Amateur Radio community such as SDR (Software Defined Radio) and traditional radio equipment, and will explain their differences. As always, we are sure to have a great time so come on out with your family and friends! By the way, it’s still the first part of the New Year and time to renew your membership, so be sure to bring your dues! For more information about this meeting or anything else Club-related, you can check out our website at [www.centralmiarc.com](http://www.centralmiarc.com), or just get a hold of our Club contact Don McLain/KB8RAD at (517) 694-0812 or [KB8RAD@arrl.net](mailto:KB8RAD@arrl.net). See you ALL there!!

## ARPSC MEETING

The next monthly meeting of the “Lansing Area/Ingham County Amateur Radio Public Service Corps” will be on Monday, [March 18<sup>th</sup>](#) at 7pm. This time we’ll be meeting at Fire Station #8, located on the corner of Marshall Street and Grand River Avenue in Lansing. As always, membership in the ARPSC is NOT required for attendance, so please feel free to join us at any session—and bring along a friend! For the dates and locations of future meetings please check out our website at [www.lansingarpsc.com/](http://www.lansingarpsc.com/).

## EATON COUNTY SKYWARN TRAINING 2013

The 2013 Eaton County SKYWARN Training has been scheduled for Saturday, [March 23<sup>rd</sup>](#) at 10am and will be held at the Olivet College Mott Auditorium, 406 East Street in Olivet. Please enter the Auditorium from the south side of the building on East Cottage Street. Everyone is invited so...see you there!!

## VE EXAMS

The next testing session of the “Ingham County VE Group” will be on Saturday, [March 9<sup>th</sup>](#) at the Ingham County Sheriff's Office in Mason. The exams will be given in the Sgt. Paul Cole Training Room and registration starts at 11:00am. Walk-ins are always welcome! If you need assistance you can check out the CMARC website at [www.centralmiarc.com](http://www.centralmiarc.com) to find travel directions and what to bring, or you can just get a hold of VE Team Contact Person Don McLain/KB8RAD at (517) 694-0812 or [KB8RAD@arrl.net](mailto:KB8RAD@arrl.net)

## HAMFESTS

Date: Saturday, **March 16**, 2013 - SMARS's 53rd Annual Marshall Hamfest (aka MI Crossroads)  
Location: Marshall, MI  
Sponsor: Southern Michigan Amateur Radio Society  
Website: [www.w8df.com/](http://www.w8df.com/)

Date: Sunday, **March 17**, 2013 - Toledo Hamfest (aka Maumee)  
Location: Perrysburg, Ohio  
Sponsor: Toledo Mobile Radio Association  
Website: [www.tmrahamradio.org/hamfest.php](http://www.tmrahamradio.org/hamfest.php)

Date: Saturday, **March 30**, 2013 - A.R.G.Y.L. Annual Hamfest  
Location: Lowell, MI  
Sponsor: Amateur Radio Group of Youth in Lowell  
Website: <http://www.argyl.org>

## RAD's COFFEE BREAK

Looking for something FUN to do on a Saturday night with your fellow Hams and their families? Well, "RAD's Coffee Break" is the place to be! It's a "family friendly", Ham Radio-related get-together that's fun for EVERYBODY. "RAD's" has met EVERY Saturday night without fail for FIVE YEARS (since June 30, 2007) and has seen as many as 55 in attendance!! Guests begin arriving around 7pm at Denny's Restaurant, 7330 W. Saginaw Highway on the West side of Lansing. It's just down the road from the Lansing Mall (out by Horrock's Farm Market), and you can easily get there by taking I-96 Exit 93B. An all-night commitment is NOT required—you can come and go as you please—and you DON'T have to belong to a particular Club to join in on the fun, either. As Don, KB8 "RAD" likes to say, "If you're a HAM, related to a HAM, wanna be a HAM, or just like to eat HAM...EVERYONE'S welcome at RAD's Coffee Break!!"

## THE BREAKFAST CLUB NET

"The Breakfast Club Net" meets EVERY weekday morning from 7am to around 1:00pm on the 145.39 repeater (PL 100 Hz), with Net Coordinator Don McLain/KB8RAD. This Net has been around now for well over THREE YEARS (since September 24, 2009) and averages around 95+ check-ins per morning, but the NEW all-time record is 114 people in one morning's Net (and that's NOT counting rechecks)!! So, if YOU are getting bored with just listening to Broadcast Radio during the morning commute, come and see what all the commotion's about—join Don and the rest of the gang every weekday morning on "The Breakfast Club Net"! They'll not only wake you up—they'll put a smile on your face, too! And thanks to Daniel Burk/NE8K, EchoLink is now available each morning via the \*DODROPIN\* Conference Server (ID# 355800), so it's never been easier to check in and join the fun! Whether you're somewhere throughout the United States (or world), or right here in the mid-Michigan area, you can now check in from your computer or cellphone at your convenience, so stop by in the morning and say, "Hello!" While you're at it, why not join "The Breakfast Club Net" Facebook Group!! We are already 225 members strong and we'd love to have YOU join us, too!!  
[www.facebook.com/groups/112208875498362](http://www.facebook.com/groups/112208875498362)

## WEEKLY NETS

(1.) The “Central Michigan Slow Scan TV Net” meets every **Sunday** evening from 7:00-8:30pm on the 145.39 repeater (PL 100 Hz), with Net Coordinator Carl Canfield/K8YHH. EVERYONE is welcome to join in and have fun learning and using this interesting and useful mode of communication. Other digital modes will be explored from time to time. For more information, call Carl at: (517) 755-6627.

(2.) The “Lansing Area/Ingham County Amateur Radio Public Service Corps Training Net” meets on the first **Monday** night of the month at 7pm on the 145.39 repeater (PL 100 Hz). Volunteer Net Control Operators are needed each week, as well as someone to provide Training, so if you are an ARPSC member and wish to sign up, contact Net Coordinator Don McLain/KB8RAD at (517) 694-0812.

(3.) The “Ladies Tea Time Net” meets every **Tuesday** evening at 7pm on the 145.39 repeater (PL 100 Hz), with Net Coordinator Julie McLain/KB8ZXR, and can now also be found on the \*DODROPIN\* EchoLink Conference Server (ID# 355800)! Everyone is welcome to check in—even all you guys!! This Net’s been around now since July 3, 2007 so let’s keep it going and growing!!

(4.) The “Quarter Century Wireless Association Net” also meets every **Tuesday** night but at 8pm and on the 146.70 repeater (PL 107.2 Hz), with Net Coordinator Don Tillitson/WB8NUS. Be sure to stop by after Julie’s Net and say “Hello!”

(5.) The “Mid-Michigan Information Net” meets every **Wednesday** evening at 7:00pm on the 145.39 repeater (PL 100 Hz), with Net Coordinator Don McLain/KB8RAD. This Net has been around now since November 11, 2009 and is still growing!! Be sure to join Don for a time of FUN, FELLOWSHIP, and INFORMATION!! There will be helpful Ham-related information to share from both Net Control and our check-ins, time for questions and answers, and on-the-air swapping of Ham-related equipment throughout the Net. Sounds like a good time to me!!

(6.) And finally, the “Michigan Radio Amateur Youth Net” (or MRAY) meets every **Thursday** night at 7pm on the 145.39 repeater (PL 100 Hz), with Net Coordinator Matt Miller/KD8OOS. In addition, EchoLink is available by searching for “KD8MJJ-R”, “MRAY”, or the \*DODROPIN\* Conference Server (ID# 355800). Although the Net specifically targets the Youth (who are the future of Ham Radio), ADULTS are welcome to check in, too!! Also, Third-Party check-ins are encouraged to join the Net as a way of introducing young people to the Hobby. In addition, EchoLink is available by searching for “KD8MJJ-R”, “MRAY”, or the \*DODROPIN\* Conference Server! So, EVERYONE be sure to check into the MRAY Net and show YOUR support for our youth!