

A Youth Lounge at State Convention!

For the first time ever at a Michigan Section ARRL State Convention, there will be a Youth Lounge for young ham operators. There will be information, a place to meet other young hams and have a great time! The convention will be held at the Kalamazoo County Fairgrounds on October 12 starting at 8 a.m.

The conference report

The final report of the 2008 ARRL First Annual Michigan Youth Conference can be found at:

http://www.arrl-mi.org/files/youth_conf_report.pdf

Thank you once again for all those who helped make the conference happen and those who attended. We hope to hold many more in the future.



Contact!

Please email your Assistant Section Manager for Youth, Simon Boehme at KC8ZYD@arrl.net regarding ideas, upcoming events or anything else.

Editor: Simon, KC8ZYD

Contributors: Dale Williams, Corey Bullock

Layout idea provided by Microsoft,

Welcome to the YRM Newsletter

By: Dale Williams, WA8EFK

Michigan ARRL Section Manager

Greetings and welcome to the first issue of a new newsletter series for the Michigan ARRL Section. We expect this e-mail newsletter to be posted on a regular basis and open some new doors for the young radio amateurs in our area.

Our thanks go out to Simon KD8ZYD for his efforts in pulling this together and to all of the contributors who are working to make this successful. We do invite our teen readers to consider contributing their thoughts, ideas, criticisms and suggestions. This will be YOUR newsletter and we are counting on your guidance to see that things of interest to you are included.

Parents, mentors and sponsors are also encouraged to share their contributions. Don't worry about the readability of what you may choose to contribute; we'll make it fit and readable. Let's just make it happen!

We do expect to hold our second Michigan Section Youth Conference in 2009. Next year, we will be planning the date slightly later in the year. What are your thoughts for the best time to hold it? Before school closes for the summer or after? Let Simon know, as we will need to reserve the facility soon.

73 for now and I look forward to working you on the bands.

Success and Determination

By: Corey J. Bullock KD8BOQ

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April came around a couple months ago and I was filled with motivation and incredible ideas from the 1st Annual Michigan Youth Conference up in Gaylord on April 12th. Unfortunately due to bad weather conditions a couple of large groups including the YACHT group in Wisconsin, were not able to make it. It was a bummer to hear about this, but that didn't stop 16 year old Simon who organized and prepared for the conference. With a great discussion on the current condition of the hobby and what we as young hams can do, a special event station, a tour of the Civil Air Patrol mobile communication trailer, and some door prizes, the conference was helpful and a lot of fun. I left there with more ideas of what Tyler and I can do to get more youth involved in our great hobby. The turnout was not incredible because of weather but we all had fun anyway.

In the club that I am the Under 22 Director for, we are having great success currently with getting more youth involved! The Central Michigan Youth net that I run every Thursday night on our local repeater has been doing really well.

We receive regular youth check ins, and our record of total check ins (including people who are "young at heart" ha ha) was 48! The club at my high school is very close to being started and the approval of our superintendant and principal have been granted. We are just seeking the sponsorship of a teacher. We hope to have this club up and running before the next addition of this new and amazing newsletter.

I am very excited with the growth Amateur Radio is seeing with the youth, and I know with our new ARRL Michigan Section Youth Director, Simon, we are all in good hands. This newsletter is just the beginning of the great youth community we can create. I would just like to say, on behalf of Central Michigan youth, THANK YOU SIMON!!!! Everything you are doing is wonderful.

I hope everyone who reads this newsletter will enjoy it!

Thanks and 73.

A youth website?

Do you think a website would be cool? Would you use it? Would it be something to tell your friends about? If you think so, please email Simon at kc8zyd@arrl.net to let him know. And what should the URL be? Here are a few ideas.

www.youthradioinmichigan.com

www.michiganyoungams.com

www.michigansectoryouth.com

If you like any of those ideas, or any new ones, email Simon.

More importantly, if you would like to help with the creating and managing of the website, please let Simon know.

We are the future of ham radio.

Now is our time.

By: Simon Boehme, KC8ZYD

ARRL Asst. Section Manager for Michigan Youth

When I first entered ham radio at my former elementary school through the ARRL Big Project, I always wanted more young people to talk to at club meetings and functions. Year after year, I would try to get more of my friends to sign up. It never worked. But now, I have been granted the wonderful opportunity by Dale to change that. But alone, this cannot be done.

Every young ham radio operator has a responsibility. This responsibility is to promote and get more kids our age into ham radio. It thrills me to hear what the YACHT club under the direction of the Wisconsin Asst. Section Manager Ed is doing. Over 50 members and growing, the youth are connected through contesting. And the magazine *CQ* naming my friend Brittany, the New Hampshire

Asst. Section Manager for Youth the Youth Editor. The ham radio world is beginning a movement to get the youth involved. And as the youngest ham radio operators, we can't let this time pass up. The Michigan Section has many things planned for this upcoming year of 2009. But as many of you know, participation is always low. Turning that around is a worthy goal, but there are many other goals each one of us would like to accomplish. My suggestion- think big and take action. Don't keep an idea locked in your head, talk to your club president and ask for help. Ask me for help, or anyone you can talk to.

We have so much we can accomplish and we need to accomplish to further push this great hobby. On my part, I want to provide unlimited assistance in any way I can help. Together, we can get things done.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

