

The Hertzian Herald



Off The KUF:

Now about 2 weeks after the return to Eastern Standard Time (from DST), I'm already disgusted with the "dark before it's time" syndrome (or as someone once asked in a very innocent question ... "why does it have to get late so early??"). I'm afraid that I am looking at what will play out as a long, dark, winter filled with cabin fever (don't get me wrong - each and every day is an important one and I count each and every blessing (although perhaps not as often as I should)), but I'm thinking Keith K8YKD figured out a better way by heading south about this time every year.

As those who were at the October meeting are aware, I missed another meeting and instead went to the soccer field to watch Kevin play soccer and to watch Bedford beat up on Whitmer (that shoe was frequently on the other foot back in MY high school rivalry days). What a GREAT feeling that was ... the rivalry AND a great match by Kevin.

I'm told that Rob did a great job with a presentation related to wind turbine generators. I heard from a number of folks who were there that the presentation was VERY thought provoking and informative. Being a part of the electricity business ... I wish I could have been in both places (soccer and meeting). Thanks Rob!!!

Also, the MCRCA hosted it's first (at least since I've been a member, which has been a while) foxhunt. There are additional details to be found elsewhere in this edition of the HH. My impression was that of a significant success. The event was well attended even though a number of our "regular participants" were tied up with other activities and were unable to join the hunt. I had a great time even though the weather was far less than favorable for an outdoor event and even though the fox avoided my grasp (so to speak). I enjoyed the company of my partner (Bill WB8JAI), and together we learned a few lessons and swore that we would be better prepared for the next hunt. My thanks go out to Fred KA8EBI for his persistence in pushing for the event (and for being the fox), and a HUGE thank you to Mike K8MLH who stepped forward to take the bull by the horns and drive the initiative to reality. There will be more hunts to come, along with some more opportunities for construction bees, etc. Since hunt teams are formed up as pairs, there is opportunity for less experienced to hook up with more experienced and perhaps better equipped so don't let either of those aspects keep you from joining in. I might also point out that we've already been challenged by a neighboring club to compete against them for trophy honors going to the victor. I'm **REALLY** excited about this new (/renewed) venture, the rediscovered rivalry, and the opportunity for participation that comes with it.

Before closing, I'd like to ask all of you to join me in congratulating Rita WB8FBG on a well deserved recognition. Rita received the 2009 TMRA 'Ham of the Year' Award at the October TMRA meeting. CONGRAT's Rita!!! Thanks for all you do for the community.

(cont'd next page)

Club Officers

PRESIDENT

Mike Karmol N8KUF
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The program for the November meeting will be a video of the Desecheo DXpedition. Come early to get a good seat and to take advantage of the snacks & comradery. As long as the creek don't rise (of course Basketball season is just around the corner) I'll be there with a human interest story (this one potentially life changing) to share.

Also, be sure to reserve the third Thursday in December for the annual MCRCA Christmas party This is an event that you shouldn't miss.

In case you've forgotten, allow me to remind you of the rules for meeting attendance:

1) All tomatoes (and other such overripe fruit/veggies) **MUST** be checked at the door, and 2) All who are willing to have a good time are welcome.

I'll look for you there,

Mike - N8KUF President - MCRCA

THIS IS MICHIGAN ...

Detroit is known as the car capital of the world.

Alpena is the home of the world's largest cement plant.

Rogers City boasts the world's largest limestone quarry.

Elsie is the home of the world's largest registered Holstein dairy herd.

Michigan is first in the United States production of peat and magnesium compounds and second in gypsum and iron ore.

Colon is home to the world's largest manufacturer of magic supplies.

The state Capitol with its majestic dome was built in Lansing in 1879.

Although Michigan is often called the "Wolverine State", there are no longer many wolverines in Michigan; however one was spotted in 2007, so there are still some left.

Michigan ranks first in state boat registrations.

The Packard Motor Car Company in Detroit manufactured the first air-conditioned car in 1939.

The oldest county (based on date of incorporation) is Wayne County in 1815.

Sault Ste. Marie was founded by Father Jacques Marquette in 1668. It is the third oldest remaining settlement in the United States

In 1817 the University of Michigan was the first university established by any of the states. It was founded by priests. Originally named Catholepistemiand and located in Detroit, the name was changed in 1821. The university then moved to Ann Arbor in 1841.

The city of Novi was named from its designation as Stagecoach Stop #6 or No.VI.

Michigan State University has the largest single campus student body of any Michigan university. It is the largest institution of higher learning in the state and one of the largest universities in the country. Michigan State University was founded in 1855 as the nation's first land-grant university and served as the prototype for 69 land-grant institutions later established under the Morrill Act of 1862. It was also the first institution of higher learning in the nation to teach scientific agriculture.

The largest village in Michigan is Caro.

Committees

Classes

Rita Baker WB8FBG

Club Station

Rita Baker WB8FBG

DX Net

Olimpio Varsogea WB8SEZ

Field Day

Jeff Breitner KA8NCR

Finance

Paul Trouten W8PI (chair)

Fred VanDaele KA8EBI

Dale Williams WA8EFK

HamFest

Fred VanDaele KA8EBI

Hertzian Herald

Fred VanDaele KA8EBI

Historian

Nick Peth AF8CS

Public Relations

Jeff Breitner KA8NCR

Scholarship

Fred VanDaele KA8EBI

School Liaison

Eric Worstell KC8QAH

Programs

open

Membership

open

Planning

open

Property Custodian

open

MCRCA Minutes:

MCRCA Meeting Minutes for October 15, 2009

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm by Paul W8PI

Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions: No new Members or upgrades. Guests: Rob Giebel KJ3C and Yvonne Hall.

Minutes : Motion by Olimpio WB8SEZ, supported by Terry KC8RQI, to approve as written in the Herald. Approved.

Treasurer's Report: Motion by Mike K8MLH, supported by John N8RWI, to approve the treasurer's report as passed out to the membership. Approved.

Dx Report: by Olimpio WB8SEZ, lots of DX out there. By Tom KG8P If you worked FT5GA check and make sure it is the right one - a pirate was using the call. Midway was 3 days late starting and will operate until the 19th, 24hrs/ daily on 20M. They must stop on the 19th due to the annual bird migration. Tridati hams are currently sailing to their location. 10 & 12M are opening up.

Classes: A one day class in Ann Arbor Nov 7th at the Hands on Museum.

Testing: Oct 17th at the Red Cross Bldg.

ARPS: Jerry EB7RUM reported he received notice that there will be a Winter Skywarn class in the northern counties but not here in Monroe County. Mike K8MLH reported on what he saw and heard at the District 2 Meeting.

RRRA: Dale WA8EFK says the 220 machine is back up and running.

Old Business: Both Olimpio WB8SEZ and Neal KA8PQH have donated the fox hunt items they won at the last meeting to Mike K8MLH.

New Business: Mike K8MLH is spear heading a fox hunt on October 24th at 9 AM to start at the Red Cross Bldg. The Fox will be Fred KA8EBI.

Announcements: Dale WA8EFK brought 3 boxes of parts for the hams to go thru and take what they want. The parts are from a silent key's inventory. October 31st will be the annual "Spook Patrol" in Dundee. Meet at Wendy's at 5PM for food, maps and a briefing. Mark your vehicles. Several areas will be marked for more intensive surveillance.

Fort Wayne IN Hamfest donated 2 tickets. John W8RWI said he could use them.

Door Prizes: The attendees had a choice of taking a bag or a shirt (Donated by the Rob Giebels' Employer). Shirts were won by Rita WB8FBG, Nick AF8CS, Wes KC8SKP, Mike K8MLH, Dale WA8EFK, and Yvonne Guest. Bags by Olimpio WB8SEZ, Terry KC8RQI, and John N8RWI.

50/50 was won by Terry KC8RQI. Value \$9.00.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:04 pm.

After a ten minute break, Rob KJ3C gave an informative and very interesting slide presentation on Wind Energy. During the Pop Quizzes both Jerry WB7RUM and Wes KC8SKP answered the questions correctly and won the 2 remaining shirts.

Attendance:

Mike K8MLH	YL Yvonne	Paul W8PI	Keith K8YKD
Wes KC8SKP	Tim KC8ZTI	Rita WB8FBG	Neal KA8KQH
Bill KC8KFY	Dale WA8EFK	Nick AF8CS	Bill WB8JAI
Jerry WB7RUM	Terry KC8RQI	Bill N8RWI	Tom KG8P
Olimpio WB8SEZ	Chuck K8CDW	Rob KJ3C	

Respectfully submitted by Rita WB8FBG

Well, we finished our Foxhunt.

Thanks to Fred, KA8EBI and Brenda KB8KQC for being our fox. They did a wonderful job at creating the Fox's Hideout at the back of Munson Park near the soccer fields - although I cannot personally vouch for them being there as my team did not find the fox. According to my map, the shortest route from the Red Cross office to the Fox's Hideout would be 5.25 miles.

Congratulations to our friends from Toledo, Chris, KC8UFV and Leif, KC8RWR who found the fox in just 8.8 miles!!! These gentlemen will be the fox at our next hunt.

Second place, Paul, W8PI and Bob, W8RRI found the lair in 13.9 miles and third place was Bob, WB8GUN and Brian, W8PH who took 28.3 miles.

Looks like the rest of us need to hone our foxhunting skills.

Thanks to all who participated. Looking forward to more joining us in future hunts.

73s,
Mike K8MLH

p.s. If I got any names wrong, please let me know.

	Total	Hunt 1	Hunt 2	Hunt 3	Hunt 4	Hunt 5	Hunt 6
Team 1	1	1					
Team 2	4	4					
Team 3	1	1					
Team 4	3	3					
Team 5	7	7					
Team 6	3	3					
Team 7	0						
Team 8	0						
Team 9	0						



Paul W8PI hard at work searching for the fox

Place	Points
Fox	3
1st	7
2nd	4
3rd	3
4th & up	2
DNF	1

Team	Members	
1	Mike N8KUF	Bill WB8JAI
2	Paul W8PI	Bob W8RRI
3	John N8RWI	Jason KD8KFT Mike K8MLH
4	Bob WB8GUN	Brian W8PH
5	Chris KC8UFV	Leif KC8RWR
6	Fred KA8EBI	Brenda KB8KQC

Get to know the members questionnaire.

This is something I have been wanting to start for quite some time. I thought it would be nice to get to know more about the members we have in this club and how they got started in amateur radio. This will also help get local information in our newsletter.

This isn't mandatory but would be wonderful if everyone could take and copy and paste these questions into a word file, then click between each one, and simply answer the questions. I will try to form it into an article format making it easier to read. It would be even better if you could make it into a story format yourself and make it much more interesting. You can email the results to me at "ka8ebi@yahoo.com" and I will put one or more, depending on how many I receive back, into the newsletter each month. You don't have to answer all the questions either just the ones you feel comfortable with. Thanks, Fred KA8EBI. Who wants to be first?

History:

How did you first learn about Amateur Radio?
 How old were you or in what year?
 Who introduced you?
 Are they still active?
 What were your first impressions?
 Did you become involved in AR right away or later?
 Which modes did you use?
 Did you build your own equipment? What kind?
 Did you join any clubs? What were they like?
 Did you help anyone else get into AR?
 Are they still active in AR?
 When did you join the MCRCA?
 Have you ever been an officer of the club? Which and when?
 Have you held any other call signs? When?
 For you lifers, what do you think of the changes over the years?

Now:

How much time do you spend involved with AR? Doing What?
 Which is your favorite mode of operation? Why?
 Do you DX?
 Do you operate using CW?
 Do you operate weak signal?
 Do you work the satellites?
 Do you use Log Book of the World or E-QSL?
 Do you work QRP?
 Do you remember your first contact? Where from?
 What was your most memorable QSO?
 Do you have any other interesting DX stories?
 Have you ever done RDF or Foxhunting?
 Have you ever built an antenna or a kit?
 Do you operate mobile? What bands?
 Do you have a station at home? What bands?
 Were you on the air today?
 Do you go to hamfests? How often?
 Do you have any family members that are AR operators?
 Have you been involved in any public service during a disaster? When?
 Do you have any interesting stories about your involvement in AR?
 What do you like about AR? What do you dislike?
 What changes would you like to see in AR?
 What would you like to learn more about in AR?
 What programs would you like to see at the MCRCA meetings?

Field Day 2009 Results

It is now November and the 2009 Field Day results are now official and published in QST. MCRCA participated in Field Day once again this year and due to the efforts of our stalwart operators, we finished very good both nationally and in Michigan section.

Weather and band conditions were decent this year, no rain with the bands fairly good even though the sunspots were not in our favor.

As usual we operated in class 2A, which means we had two transmitters on the air using gasoline powered generators. All the antennas were installed at the site, Vienna Park, on the day of Field Day, tents and campers set up, generators tested and transmissions started promptly at 2:00 PM. Using the call sign W8PI we had one transmitter on phone bands and the second on CW bands. A special third transmitter called a GOTA (Get On The Air) station using the call sign W8DWL was also used by those operators that were new to the hobby and/or have not been on the air recently.

After 24 hours of non-stop operations we made 1,129 contacts combined both with phone and CW. This placed us in the fourth place for class 2A in the Michigan section, with a total of 4,056 points. In the 15 years that I have been keeping records of MCRCA Field Day operations, this was our seventh best year. 2002 was best year and in 2007 we only had 601 contacts and 1452 points. This was a so-so year for us, but we only had six operators, compared with other years with up to 20 operators. It really takes lots of work to keep on the air for 24 hours, so we need to have more operators ready for next year. Hopefully we can have some operator training classes at club meetings before the next field day.



Oh my gosh, is Dale hiding in the balloon?

Nationally, there were 2,612 club/individual entrants in the Field Day operations, with 37,709 amateurs working these stations. In the Michigan section we had 88 stations on the air. Many of these groups had up to 15 transmitters on the air simultaneously. In the Michigan section we placed number 13 overall even against the bigger clubs with many more operators and transmitters. On a country wide basis, MCRCA placed in the top 14% nationally.

Now we have to start thinking of how we can do even better next year. The more members we can get to help out with Field Day, the better we can finish. Remember, even if you do not want to operate one of the stations, there are plenty of other ways to help with this extremely fun program in your club. We always need help with putting up and taking down antennas and equipment, working the public service table, showing the non-amateurs that stop by the Field Day site how amateur radio actually works, and most importantly helping with the food for the operation.

Hope to see everyone again next year at Field Day 2010, the last weekend of June.

Paul Trouten W8PI

DX Net, Tues. 8:30pm
Olimpio Varsogea
WB8SEZ



The editors of 425 DX News Mauro and Valeria Pregliasco (I1JQJ and IK1ADH) are the first Italian inductees into the CQ DX Hall of Fame (May 07)

PERIOD	CALL		
till 07/11	LU/PY2TJ: Tierra del Fuego (SA-008)	till 31/12	HF35PEA: special event station (Poland)
till 07/11	ZK2DL: Niue Island (OC-040)	till 31/12	IA3GM: special callsign
till 08/11	9M6DXX/p and 9M6XRO/p: Labuan Island (OC-133)	till 31/12	II2RAI: special callsign
till 08/11	IC8/I8LWL and IC8/IK8GQY: Procida Island (EU-031)	till 31/12	IY7GM: special callsign
till 08/11	IC8ATA, IC8/IK7JWX, IC8/IW8EHK: Procida Isl (EU-031)	till 31/12	IY7NGM: special callsign
till 08/11	TM1TJV: special callsign (France)	till 31/12	LZ50BNT: special event station
till 08/11	VI50LZ: special event callsign	till 31/12	VR2009EAG: special event callsign
till 08/11	YU9JJS, YU9NL, YU9PL, YU9PS, YT36QRP: Serbia	till 31/12	YL90AIR: special callsign
till 09/11	GD4FDM and MD/PA3EWP: Isle of Man (EU-116)	till 31/12	Z30MCWG: special callsign
till 09/11	P29NI: Woodlark group (OC-205)	till December	P29CW: Papua New Guinea (OC-034)
till 09/11	YW5F: Farallon Centinela (SA-058)	till December	T6YA: Afghansitan
till 11/11	FK/F5NHJ: New Caledonia (OC-032 and OC-033)	till 31/01/10	IY2M: special event callsign
till 11/11	KP2/K1ZE, KP2/N3XF, KP2/W1EQ: US Virgin Islands	till April 2010	T6AG: Afghanistan
till 11/11	PB65BP: special callsign	till 30/06/10	GB50ATG: special event callsign
till 13/11	HB0/DL2SBY, HB0/HA4DX, HB0/HAOHW: Liechtenstein	till 12/07/10	ZS10WCS: special callsign
till 13/11	HL9QST: Korea	07/11-16/11	6W/EI6DX: Senegal
till 15/11	FT5WO: Crozet Islands (AF-008)	07/11-08/11	ES1/OZ5IPA: Estonia
till 15/11	VP2MUM, VP2MXO, VP2MNK: Montserrat (NA-103)	07/11-08/11	F4ELJ/p: Wrac'h Island
till 15/11	XR0Y: Easter Island (SA-001)	07/11-15/11	FP/KV1J and FP/W8TOM: Miquelon Island (NA-032)
till 17/11	VK7ACG: Tasmania (OC-006)	09/11-10/11	CE/F6BFH and CE6TBN: SA-085
till 17/11	XV4D: Phu Quoc (AS-128)	09/11-20/11	SI#GM: special callsigns (Sweden) 10/
till 18/11	VP9KF: Hmilton Parish, Bermuda (NA-005)	10/11-16/11	T30KI and T30IW: West Kiribati (OC-017)
till 20/11	JU75BSI: special event station (Mongolia)	11/11-18/11	5W: Upolu (OC-097) * by DJ5IW, DJ7JC
till 22/11	PW2SIDC: special callsign	11/11-18/11	5W: Upolu (OC-097) * by IK1PMR, PA0BWL and PA3LEO
till 23/11	TC1YLH: Yesilkoy Lighthouse	11/11-13/11	P29VCX: Hastings Island (OC-117)
till 23/11	TZ6JA: Mali	11/11-16/11	PW6C: Coroa Vermelha (SA-062)
till 25/11	E51TLA: Raratonga (OC-013), South Cooks	12/11-19/11	OX/EA4BT and OX/EA4NA: Greenland (NA-018)
till 28/11	GB4RN: England	12/11-19/11	OX/EA7AAW and OX/EA7SB:
till 29/11	D2PJB: Angola	13/11-27/11	9G5TT: Ghana
till 30/11	2A, GA, MA: Scotland (special prefix)	13/11-27/11	9G5XX: Abokwa Island (AF-084)
till 30/11	ER650M and ER650MD: special callsigns	13/11-23/11	D68F: Comoro Islands (AF-007)
till 30/11	SN40DVP: special callsign	13/11-14/11	P29VCX: Normanby Island (OC-116)
till 30/11	VG7V: special callsign	14/11-21/11	VP8BUH and VP8BUG: Falkland Islands (SA-002)
till 06/12	TX3A: Chesterfield Islands (OC-176)	15/11-20/02/10	KC4USV: McMurdo Station, Ross Island (AN-011)
till 31/12	9A09P: special event station	15/11-16/11	P29VCX: Loloata Island (OC-240)
till 31/12	9A48IFATCA: special event station	16/11-22/11	II0TRM: special callsign
till 31/12	9A800VZ: special event callsign	17/11-30/11	5W0KH: Samoa (OC-097)
till 31/12	GB250RB: special event call (Scotland)	19/11-01/12	A31IW, A31JC, A31LEO: Tongatapu (OC-049)
till 31/12	GB40WAB: special callsign	19/11-01/12	A31MR, A31SN and A31WL: Tongatapu (OC-049)
till 31/12	HE8 and HB8: special prefixes (Switzerland)	19/11-23/11	PW2IO and PW2TA: Cabras Island (SA-071)
		20/11-10/02/10	EA8/ON5JV and EA8/ON6AK: Tenerife Island (AF-004)
		21/11-05/12	VK9XX and VK9XW: Christmas Island (OC-002)

Amateur Radio Examinations Monroe, MI

Monroe County Radio Communications Association Amateur Radio examinations are held the 3rd Saturday of every even numbered month at:

American Red Cross Chapter Bldg.
1645 North Dixie Highway
Monroe, MI 48161

Walk-ins are always welcome.

2009 Schedule:

February 21	April 18
June 20	August 15
October 17	December 19

TESTING BEGINS PROMPTLY AT 9:00 AM

Applicants are expected to have all forms filled out and be ready to take tests at that time. Coffee and doughnuts are available at 8:30 AM. For more information or to make reservations, call Paul Trouten - W8PI at 734-854-2224

Join us at the next meeting

November 19th at 7:30 pm
American Red Cross Chapter Bldg.
1645 North Dixie Highway
Monroe, MI 48162

Local Nets

ARPSC Net - Every Monday evening on '72-Monroe (146.72 Mhz) starting at 9:00pm.

DX Net - Every Tuesday evening on '72-Monroe starting at 8:30pm.