

The Hertzian Herald



Off The KUF:

Here we are in September. The "official" summer vacation months have come and gone. It's been good so far, but I find that early autumn is also a very nice time of the year. Varsity sports are in high gear, the school busses are revving their engines, the grass growth is slowing, and we have the colorful leaves to look forward to. While we never did see much of the dog days of summer (you know ... those triple digit temperatures with humidity to match (well ... humidity doesn't go to triple digits, but I've seen days where it certainly felt that way)), the weather of autumn is upon us. Warm/hot days along with cooler nights frequently mean foggy conditions. I'm pretty sure most of you have seen some low lying fog in the early mornings.

I'm sure some of you may have heard about the not so famous prognosticator who once said ... "when the ground fog sees it's shadow, there are only six more weeks of summer". Many thought that Phil was the originator of the mildly popular weather predictor but, NOW, you know the rest of the story.

I say We need to make the best of the good weather while it lasts.

At the August MCRCA meeting Hank K8DD and Stan AC8W shared with us a great presentation about some of their 'most excellent' DX adventures. Lots of pictures were shown, and some great stories told. We saw photos from Nicaragua and Suriname. We saw info on costs related to putting together a DXpedition. Unfortunately, since Dale WA8EFK was able to attend the meeting, we did NOT get to hear all sides of what it's like to meet WA8EFK at a hamfest? Perhaps Hank & Stan will share those stories with us at some later date.

If you were at the meeting, you also heard the story of the local chess tournament attended by chess masters from around the country. You also heard how some are so nuts about chess, that they can't help but boast of their victories, sometimes to the point of becoming intolerable.

At the September 17th meeting, we expect a program around the basics of direction finding (DF'g) also known as Foxhunting. We'll hear about and perhaps see some simple equipment to have on hand, and some basic techniques that can be used to locate a hidden transmitter. In addition to Foxhunting, these skills can prove useful for locating the origin of a harmful signal. Think about intentional jamming, inadvertent transmissions, RF interference/noise, etc. These methods can be useful for problem solving AND for sport. As you will see, foxhunting is a popular form of contesting. The MCRCA hopes to get active in the foxhunting arena. The knowledge you will gain at the August meeting will prove to be extremely useful when it comes time to participate in "The Hunt".

Additionally, I'm CERTAIN you'll find the human interest story to be filled with inspirational thoughts that, if taken to heart, will help bring new meaning into your life.

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 see you at the meeting,

Mike - N8KUF President - MCRCA

Club Officers

PRESIDENT

Mike Karmol N8KUF
mkarmol@verizon.net

VICE PRESIDENT

Paul Trouten W8PI
ptrouten@aol.com

SECRETARY

Fred VanDaele KA8EBI
ka8ebi@yahoo.com

TREASURER

Brenda VanDaele KB8KQC
ka8ebi@yahoo.com

DIRECTOR

Wes Busdiecker KC8SKP
busdiecw@netscape.net

DIRECTOR

John Bills N8RWI
n8rwi@yahoo.com

DIRECTOR STATION TRUSTEE

Rita Baker WB8FBG
wb8fbg@chartermi.net

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MCRCA Minutes:**August 20, 2009**

Meeting called to order at 7:29 pm, by Mike N8KUF

Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions: one new members one new license and four guests.

PROGRAM: DX program by Hank K8DD and Stan AC8W

BREAK

DOOR PRIZE DRAWING: Joe KD8AAK, Tim Long, HankK8DD

50/50: Keith donated his winnings to the Scholarship

MINUTES: Motion by Wes KC8SKP, supported by Terry KC8RQI, to approve as written in the Herald. Approved.

TREASURER REPORT: Motion by Olimpio WB8SEZ, supported by Mike K8MLH, to approve the treasurer's report as passed out to the membership. Approved.

DX REPORT: Club Program is about DX

HERTZIAN HERALD: Looking for club member input.

TESTING: Next session October 17th.

ARPSC: Jerry announced the fun run was a success and looking forward to the S.E.T. in October.

RRRA: Dale announced everything is cool and working fine.

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS: none

ANOUNCEMENTS: none

ADJOURNED: 9:37 pm

ATTENDANCE: 23

Nick	AF8CS	Mike	K8MLH
Keith	K8YK	Fred	KA8EBI
Brenda	KB8KQC	Bill	KC8KFY
Terry	KC8RQI	Wes	KC8SKP
Joseph	KD8AAK	Tim	KD8KHX
Tom	KG8P	Mike	N8KUF
John	N8RWI	Dale	WA8EFK
Jerry	WB7RUM	Rita	WB8FBG
Bill	WB8JAI	Olimpio	WB8SEZ
Art	K8MVZ	Hank	K8DD
Stan	AC8W	Richard	Birman
Ernest	KD8LQE		

(note: we need more local news from our club members, please send me your news articles to: ka8ebi@yahoo.com - that is all)

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

Pete Hendrick KD8DMJ

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

NSC responds to ARRL: No evidence of 'significant crash risks' while operating mobile

ARRL President **Joel Harrison, W5ZN**, wrote a letter to National Safety Council (NSC) President **Janet Froetscher** in July expressing the ARRL's concerns that Amateur Radio not become an unintended victim of the growing public debate over what to do about distracted drivers http://www.arrl.org/news/files/NSC_Letter7-30-09.pdf.

Froetscher has now replied, saying the NSC does not support bans or prohibitions on the use of Amateur Radios while driving http://www.arrl.org/news/files/NSC_Response_to_ARRL.pdf.

Noting that there is significant evidence that talking on cell phones while driving poses crash risk four times that of other drivers, Froetscher observed that the NSC position calling for bans on the use of cell phones while driving is grounded in science. "We are not aware of evidence that using Amateur Radios while driving has significant crash risks," Froetscher wrote in her August 24 letter.

"We also have no evidence that using two-way radios while driving poses significant crash risks. Until such time as compelling, peer-reviewed scientific research is presented that denotes significant risks associated with the use of Amateur Radios, two-way radios or other communication devices, the NSC does not support legislative bans or prohibition on their use."

Froetscher said that while "the specific risk of radio use while driving is unmeasured and likely does not approach that of cell phones, there indeed is some elevated risk to the drivers, their passengers and the public associated with 650,000 Amateur Radio operators who may not, at one time or another, not concentrate fully on their driving." She points out that the "best safety practice is to have one's full attention on their driving, their hands on the wheel and their eyes on the road. Drivers who engage in any activity that impairs any of these constitutes an increased risk."

ARRL Chief Executive **Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ**, said the ARRL "appreciates NSC President and CEO Janet Froetscher's clear statement that the NSC does not support legislative bans or prohibitions on the use of Amateur Radio while driving. We applaud the NSC for taking positions that are grounded in science. At the same time, all radio amateurs should heed her call to concentrate fully on driving while behind the wheel. It is possible to operate a motor vehicle safely while using Amateur Radio, but if it becomes a distraction we owe it those with whom we share the road, as well as to our passengers, to put safety first."

On January 30, 2009, the ARRL Executive Committee adopted the ARRL's Policy Statement on Mobile Amateur Radio Operation <http://www.arrl.org/govrelations/MobileAmateurRadioPolicyStatement.pdf> that states "Amateur Radio mobile operation is ubiquitous, and Amateur Radio emergency and public service communications, and other organized Amateur Radio communications activities and networks necessitate operation of equipment while some licensees are driving motor vehicles.

Two-way radio use is dissimilar from full-duplex cellular telephone communications because the operator spends little time actually transmitting; the time spent listening is more similar to, and arguably less distracting than, listening to a broadcast radio, CD or MP3 player.

There are no distinctions to be made between or among Amateur Radio, public safety land mobile radio, private land mobile radio or citizen's radio in terms of driver distraction. All are distinguishable from mobile cellular telephone communications in this respect. Nevertheless, ARRL encourages licensees to conduct Amateur communications from motor vehicles in a manner that does not detract from the safe and attentive operation of a motor vehicle at all times."

In his letter, Harrison explained to Froetscher that Amateur Radio operators provide essential emergency communications when regular communications channels are disrupted by disaster: "Through formal agreements with federal agencies, such as the National Weather Service, FEMA and private relief organizations, the Amateur Radio volunteers protect lives using their own equipment without compensation. The ability of hams to communicate and help protect the lives of those in danger would be strictly hindered if the federal, state and local governments do not ensure that Amateur Radio operators can continue the use of their mobile radios while on the road."

Froetscher replied that she "appreciate[s] your focus of Amateur Radio for emergency communications during disasters. I encourage ARRL to adopt best practices for the safe operation of vehicles that confines use of Amateur Radios while driving only to disaster emergencies."

The Policy Statement asserts that the ARRL "is aware of no evidence that [mobile] operation contributes to driver inattention. Quite the contrary: Radio amateurs are public service-minded individuals who utilize their radio-equipped motor vehicles to assist others, and they are focused on driving in the execution of that function."

Oregon hams install new state-wide WinLink system

This month, Oregon ARES members will complete the state-wide installation of **Winlink**, thanks to a \$250,000 grant from **Governor Ted Kulongoski**.

In 2007, the governor was impressed by the hams' ability to handle emergency communications when severe winter storms wreaked havoc on Oregon's North Coast and flooded the City of Vernonia, knocking out 911 services, Internet and phone service for an extended period of time.

The Oregon Office of Emergency Management said that during the storms, the radio operators were *"tireless in their efforts to keep the systems connected."* When even state police had difficulty reaching some of their own troops, ham

radio worked, setting up networks so emergency officials could communicate and relaying lists of supplies needed in stricken areas.

"I'm going to tell you who the heroes were from the very beginning of this... the ham radio operators," the governor said at the time. *"These people just came in and actually provided a tremendous communication link to us."*

Because of the service rendered by Amateur Radio operators

in providing communications support, the governor allocated funds for the installation of a Winlink system to integrate Amateur Radio with the Internet.

The equipment will be installed in the Emergency Operating Center in each of Oregon's 36 counties. Once the monies were distributed, ARES members researched and purchased the equipment that would be needed, formalized and signed contracts between the state, counties and ARES, and allocated space to install the antennas and equipment within each EOC. The project is scheduled to be completed in time for the 2009 ARRL Simulated Emergency Test (SET) scheduled for October 3-4.

"Using Winlink equipment and other amateur equipment already in place at the EOCs, ARES teams will have to quickly create a communications network, in some instances without depending on other infrastructure such as telephones or Internet," said ARRL Oregon Section Public

Information Coordinator **Steve Sanders, KE7JSS**.

"Many will not use commercial electric power. Despite these limitations, the ARES teams should not only be able to quickly pass local messages, but also communicate with other regions of the country. The ability to pass information in and out of disaster areas is crucial to the effectiveness

of emergency responders."

When Oregon's State Office of Emergency Management was activated on December 3, 2007, hams over the course of the next four days used Winlink to pass message traffic. "The Winlink system performed perfectly, and the ARES team at

the OEM was able to pass approximately 200 messages into and out of the State of Oregon Emergency Operations Center," said Marion County ARES Emergency Coordinator **Dean Davis, N7XG**. "The only mode of communications for several Oregon counties for the first two days of the storm was the Winlink system."

ENFORCEMENT: HAM EXPLAINS WHY HES QUITTING EMMCOMM AT WORK

A ham who posted on an Internet website that he had assisted in an emergency communications drill at work has come forward to explain why he was contacted about his action by FCC ham radio rules enforcer Laura Smith. Amateur Radio Newsline's Norm Seeley, KI7UP, has more:

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In his posting to the QRZ.com website, Jeffery Casselberry, WOWLS, says that last July he volunteered to take part in a state sanctioned communication drill which was backed by the Missouri Hospital Association. At that time he was the only licensed amateur in the facility so he said yes.

According to Casselberry this drill took place during business hours while he was on the clock. He explained that he had built the amateur station for the hospital and with it the facility better than most in communicating locally and to the state capital.

WOWLS went on to say that he was so thrilled about the drills success that what he made what he terms as the mistake of posting his excitement on the QRZ website. Someone who read it decided to cut and paste his comments and send them off to the FCC. As a result, WOWLS says that he received an informal email from the FCC's Smith acknowledging his violation and requesting a response.

Casselberry says that he responded to Smith and explained in detail the events of his alleged violation. Smith responded with the following e-mail which reads as follows and we quote:

"Jeff: Again, just so we are clear, Section 97.113 (a)(3) of the Commission's rules specifically states that "no amateur station shall transmit: communications in which the station licensee or control operator has a pecuniary interest, including communications on behalf of an employer." This means that if you are an employee of the hospital you may not operate the amateur equipment on their behalf even after hours or while you are on a break. The operation of the amateur equipment must be conducted strictly by volunteers." — end quote.

Casselberry went on to say that he does not want to become a poster child for some emergency communications cause on QRZ.com. He says that he is done with this type of ham radio activity and it will never happen again. He's even gone so far as to tell his employer that he is done with this type of radio activity and will take no further part in it's emergency communications program.

WOWLS ends by noting that he is a hobbyist and don't need this sort of turmoil in my life. As such, he will make no further comments on this issue.

I'm Norm Seeley, KI7UP, in Scottsdale, Arizona, reporting for the Amateur Radio Newsline.

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A link to the complete on-line discussion about this topic can be found at:
<http://forums.qrz.com/showthread.php?t=216670> (QRZ)

RESCUE RADIO: ARRL SECTION EMERGENCY TEST OCTOBER 3 - 4

The 2009 ARRL Simulated Emergency Test or SET takes place the weekend of October 3rd and 4th. SET is an ARRL Field Organization event that will actively involve members of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service, the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service, the ARRL National Traffic System and many other ham radio related emergency response groups. More information on this years Simulated Emergency Test is on line at the ARRL website. You can find the exact U-R-L is <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/setguide.html> (ARRL)

SEARCHING FOR WALDO THE ROBOT

Scientists along Florida's Gulf Coast are trying to find a radio controlled underwater robot that has mysteriously vanished. Jerry Gaul, KE7GGV, has the details:

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Scientists at Mote Marine Laboratory have lost a bright yellow submersible research robot somewhere in the Gulf waters off Venice, Florida.

The sea going remote control research device from laboratory in Sarasota has been missing since Monday, August 31st. Scientists aren't sure what happened to the robot, which is nicknamed Waldo. Some think that it might have sprung a leak or suffered a malfunction and sunk. Others believe that it also could be on the surface, but its communication beacon or E-L-T has malfunctioned and that it cannot signal its location.

Waldo the sea going robot is 6-foot-long, weighs about 115 pounds, has short wings midway up its cylindrical body and cost about \$100,000. He was also equipped with a detector to find a toxic algae bloom called red tide that was valued at another \$30,000.

If you live along the Gulf Coast and see something bright yellow strange floating off shore, that could be the missing robot.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Jerry Gaule, KE7GGV.

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If you find Waldo or even hear his radio signal you may be eligible for Mote Marine Laboratory's no-questions-asked reward. Their contact number is area code 941-388-4441. Ask for extension 271. (ScienceOnLine, Daily-Tech, others)

Gracie,

After a hard day
chasing DX,
also guarding her
chew bone.



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	REF
till 12/09	OH0JWL, OH0/DF6FL, OH0/DL9ZE: Aland Islands (EU-002) 956	till 31/12
till 13/09	FS/W6IZT: St. Martin (NA-105) 957	till 31/12
till 13/09	TK/DL2JRM/p: Corsica (EU-014) 957	till 31/12
till 14/09	T30GM: Western Kiribati (OC-017) 948	till 31/01/10
till 15/09	B/LZ2HM and C4I: Cyprus 957	till 30/06/10
till 15/09	CT9/DJ8OG and CR3L: Madeira (AF-014)	12/09-20/09
till 16/09	FO/G3BJ: Austral Islands (OC-050 and OC-152) 956	12/09-22/09
till 16/09	PJ4/PG4M and PJ4/PE2MC: Bonaire (SA-006) 957	12/09
till 16/09	US0KFF/p: Rivnenskiy Nature Reserve 958	12/09-22/09
till 17/09	P41USA: Aruba (SA-036) 957	12/09-13/09
till 18/09	F5KAQ/p: Saint-Nicolas Island (EU-094)	12/09-13/09
till 18/09	TK/F5TGR: Corsica (EU-014) 957	133) 958
till 19/09	TM9CDX: special event station 952	13/09-19/09
till 20/09	TM15ORPC: special station (France) 956	(EU-170) 958
till 22/09	CT8/DK5FT: Sao Miguel (EU-003), Azores	14/09-04/10
till 25/09	5Q5NA: Romo Island (EU-125) 957	14/09-26/09
till 25/09	T31AA: Central Kiribati (OC-043) 957	14/09-15/09
till 26/09	V5/DJ2HD, V5/DK1CE, V5/DH3WO: Namibia 956	14/09-02/10
till 27/09	9H3S, 9H3X, 9H3YM, 9H3ZR: Malta (EU-023) 955	15/09-16/09
till 27/09	9H9PA, 9H3AB, 9H3DZ, 9H3FD, 9H3ON: Malta (EU-023) 955	16/09-03/10
till 28/09	K3GV/VY2: Prince Edward Island (NA-029)	17/09-23/09
till 29/09	PH75AJU: special station 956	18/09-27/09
till 30/09	LZ8WHST and LZ17ARDF: special event stations 924	18/09-20/09
till 02/10	CE73RG: special callsign 950	18/09-25/09
till 03/10	4W6AL: East Timor (OC-148) * by CT16PQ	18/09-25/09
till 05/10	SV9/WB2GAI/p: Crete (EU-015) 945	18/09-30/09
till 06/10	HF70NMW, SN70NMW, SO70NMW: special stations 956	19/09-23/09
till 06/10	HF70x, SN70x, SO70x: special stations	19/09-24/09
till 10/10	IY1NGM: special callsign 952	Corsica 958
till 10/10	SV0XAN/5: Dodecanese (EU-001) 949	19/09-02/10
till 15/10	Z29KM: Zimbabwe 958	19/09 WC5C:
till 31/10	4W6FR: East Timor (OC-148) 948	20/09-27/09
till 31/10	SN120OSP: special event station 953	22/09-21/10
till 13/11	HL9QST: Korea 957	24/09-27/09
till 30/11	2A, GA, MA: Scotland (special prefix) 954	24/09-27/09
till 30/11	FT5WO: Crozet Islands (AF-008) 916	032) 949
till November	OD5/W5YFN: Lebanon 915	24/09-27/09
till 31/12	9A09P: special event station 932	24/09-26/09
till 31/12	9A48IFATCA: special event station 926	25/09-02/10
till 31/12	9A800VZ: special event callsign 933	25/09-26/09
till 31/12	GB250RB: special event call (Scotland)	26/09-02/10
till 31/12	GB40WAB: special callsign 922	26/09-27/09
till 31/12	HE8 and HB8: special prefixes (Switzerland)	27/09-15/10
till 31/12	IA3GM: special callsign 927	27/09-28/09
till 31/12	II2RAI: special callsign 924	29/09-12/10
till 31/12	IY7GM: special callsign 953	29/09
till 31/12	IY7NGM: special callsign 944	29/09-01/10
		September
		September
		September
		Sep-Dec
		Sep-12/07/10
		01/10-10/10
		LZ50BNT: special event station 940
		VR2009EAG: special event callsign 947
		YL90AIR: special callsign 948
		Z30MCWG: special callsign 928
		IY2M: special event callsign 955
		GB50ATG: special event callsign 957
		5R8UO: Madagascar (AF-013) 958
		JD1BLP and JD1BLY: Chichijima (AS-031)
		OZ7AEI/p: Roedvig E Mole lighthouse
		PA09MONUMENT: special event station
		TM2NN: special event station (France)
		TM85NI: Noirmoutier Island (EU-064)
		UE1CDX/1 and UE1RLH/1: Kotlin Island (EU-9A/DG7XO and 9A/DL7CB: Ugljan Island
		FT5GA: Glorioso Islands (AF-011) 958
		OZ/DL8AAV/p: Laeso Island (EU-088)
		TK/DL2JRM/p: San Cipriano (EU-164)
		SV8/PA1FJ/p: Samos Island (EU-049)
		3D2GM: Fiji Islands (OC-016) 947
		TK/DF6ZY: Corsica (EU-014) 953
		T2G: Tuvalu (OC-015) 948
		ON65POL: special callsign 949
		OZ/DL2JRM/p: Romo Island (EU-125)
		ZK2BJ: Niue (OC-040) 956
		ZK2NX: Niue (OC-040) 957
		ZL7/N7OU: Chatham Islands (OC-038)
		TC3BLH: Balyos Lighthouse 958
		TK/I2FUG, TK/IK2AQZ, TK/IK2JYT:
		TMORPC: special station (France) 956
		Greer Island (USI TX058L) 957
		GM0ORH: Isle of Arran (EU-123) 957
		TO7RJ: Mayotte (AF-027) 949
		3D2GM: Fiji Islands (OC-016) 947
		FP/MOTDG and FP/G3ZAY: Miquelon (NA-032) 949
		IL7T: San Domino Island (EU-050) 955
		XV6RRC: Ngu Island (AS-185) 958
		5B/HG3IPA: Cyprus (AS-004) 955
		M0OVL/p: Farne Islands (EU-109) 957
		MS0WRC: Island of Barra (EU-010) 945
		OH0Z: Aland Islands (EU-002) 958
		J79ZG: Dominica (NA-101) 955
		XV7RRC: Cham Island (AS-162) 958
		TX5SPA: Tubuai (OC-152), Austral Islands
		VE1/G3ZAY: McNutt's Island (NA-126)
		XV3RRC: Tam Island (AS-157) 958
		H44MY: Rennell Island (OC-127)
		HB9VELO: special event callsign
		VY00: Ottawa Islands (NA-230) 957
		P29CW: Papua New Guinea (OC-034) 956
		ZS10WCS: special callsign 956
		3D20CR: Conway Reef (OC-112) 953

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

September 17th 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.