

# The Hertzian Herald



## Off the Kuf:

As I mentioned in last month's article, the month of February was unusually full of Ham Radio activities. The activity level was actually a very welcome change during the doldrums of winter.

The Muskrat Run on the 13<sup>th</sup> turned out to be a great event. There were a record number of runners this year. The temperature was moderate (for February), but the breeze near the lake made it seem much colder than it actually was. My thanks are extended to Mike K8MLH, John N8RWI, and Kevin KD8GVM for helping out with the communications efforts.

The Technician License - One Day Class held on the 27<sup>th</sup> was, by my estimation, a pretty big success. There were 13 who attended the class, and we had 11 pass the exam. You can do the math, but it's somewhere around 85% success. Not the 100% that I had set my sights on, but pretty respectable none the less. With some self searching and some course correcting (improved materials and slightly different strategies) .... 100% is certainly within reach for the NEXT time. My thanks go out to everyone who was there to be part of the training, and/or to help out with the exam, many were there for both and it turned out to be a long day .... (particularly for someone like me who doesn't like to talk too much).

As of this writing, I've not heard what the new call signs are, but please join me in welcoming, and congratulating, them when you hear them on the air.

The February MCRCA meeting featured a program dealing with the principles of HF communications. It was filled with interesting information for both new and old Hams. My thanks to Paul W8PI with a little help from Dale WA8EFK for putting that program together.

The March MCRCA meeting will be held on March 18<sup>th</sup>, same time same place. This month's program will be presented by Tom Jenkins KG8P and will feature the practical usage of some uhf & up frequencies, and he tells me he has titled his presentation 'EME'. Be sure to come to the meeting for what sounds like it will be a very interesting, and certainly thought provoking, presentation by Tom

Please remember the rules for meeting attendance:

- 1: All over-ripe fruits & vegetables **MUST** be checked at the door and,
- 2: All who are willing to have a good time are welcome
- 3: Please bring a dish of cheer to pass

I'll see YOU at the meeting

Mike - N8KUF 2010 President - MCRCA

### Club Officers

#### PRESIDENT

Mike Karmol N8KUF  
mkarmol@verizon.net

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ptrouten@aol.com

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wb8fbg@chartermi.net

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## MCRCA Minutes:

February 18, 2010

Meeting called to order at 7:34 pm, by Mike N8KUF  
Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions: 2 new members no upgrades 1 guest

PROGRAM: Paul W8PI and Dale WA8EFK Principles of HF communications program

BREAK

DOOR PRIZE DRAWING: Dale WA8EFK, Rita WB8FBG, Bill KC8KFY

50/50: Rita WB8FBG

MINUTES: Motion by Mike K8MLH, supported by Rita WB8FBG, to approve as written in the Herald. Approved.

TREASURER REPORT: Motion by Paul W8PI, supported by Olimpio WB8SEZ, to approve the treasurer's report as passed out to the membership. Approved.

DX REPORT: By Olimpio WB8SEZ, A lot of DX on 40m through 6m. CW contest this weekend

FUTURE PROGRAMS: Program on 6m and maybe a demo on AEDs (automatic external defibrulators...not bombs)

HERTZIAN HERALD: Thanks to those that filled out my questionnaire. Still looking for local articles of news.

CLASSES: One day class Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> in Bedford, 10 people signed up so far, fee is \$14 for test at 3 pm.

TESTING: Next session March 20<sup>th</sup> .

ARPSC: Muskrat run went pretty good, had 135 runners but shy on help, only 4 workers. Worked out OK. Skywarn class will be Wed. 24<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm at MCCC's La-Z-Boy center. ARPSC meeting March 11<sup>th</sup> 7pm at EMD register for RACES ID badges.

RRRA: Dale announced the Dundee repeater is temporarily down for cleaning and checking, but ready to go back in soon. All else is OK.

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS: none

ANNOUNCEMENTS: TMRA hamfest is moving to Owens Comm College March 21<sup>st</sup>.

ADJOURNED: 8:03 pm

ATTENDANCE: 25

Nick AF8CS	Ray K8HEP	Mike K8MLH
Fred KA8EBI	ClarenceKA8OAR	Neil KA8PQH
Brenda KB8KQC	Martin KB8TMJ	Peter KC8AZZ
Bill KC8KFY	Wes KC8SKP	Ed KD8BBF
Tim KD8KHX	Tom KG8P	Mike N8KUF
Paul W8PI	Dale WA8EFK	Rita WB8FBG
Bill WB8JAI	Olimpio WB8SEZ	Jim KF8LT
Dave N8ATC	Bob KD8KFV	ClarenceKD8MG T
Ernest KD8LQE		

## 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

## Iraq DXpedition

A group of multi-national ham radio operators are planning to operate from Northern Iraq (Kurdistan) and will be active between April 2-12th.

The team has received a ten day visa issued by the Government of Kurdistan.

A band/mode survey is available on their Web site at:

<http://www.yi9pse.com/survey.html>

Suggested frequencies are also published on their Web page.

The current updated **YI9PSE Team** consists of the following operators:

Paul N6PSE (Team Leader), Bob N6OX, David AH6HY, Krassy K1LZ, Bill N2WB, Dave K3LP, Al K3VN, Wayne W5KDJ, Jack WOUCE, Michel FM5CD, Jun JH4RHF, Heathem YI1UNH and Hrane YT1AD. Pilot stations are: Don/N1DG (East Coast),

Chuck AA6G (West Coast), Toshikazu JA1ELY (JA) and Col MMONDX (EU).

The group is still looking for donations to help fund their DXpedition. Donations can be made via PayPal or mail a check to: Kurdistan 2010 DXpedition, 3052 Wetmore Dr., San Jose, CA 95148, USA.

Online logs will be available during and after the DXpedition. QSL via N6NKT.

For more details and updates, visit: <http://www.yi9pse.com>

Also, you can now follow their activities (as well as regular updates) via Twitter at: <http://www.twitter.com/yi9pse>

### ADDED UPDATE:

**Bill, N2WB**, YI9PSE Team Coordinator, reports the following:

"Preparations continue for the multi-national YI9PSE, Kurdistan expedition, with departure for Erbil on March 31st.

"Last operators have been added to the team and the final pieces of equipment are being staged at their West Coast and East Coast staging sites. Organizers say all the pieces

are falling into place very well and the schedule remains intact. The last shipment of gear being sent on ahead goes out early this month, March.

"The team expects to be on the air April 2-12 with five stations on '24/7', emphasizing the low bands and targeting North America and Europe. Special attention will be done to beam to the US West Coast and beyond to ZL and VK.

The YI9PSE Website can be found at [www.yi9pse.com](http://www.yi9pse.com)

"Lastly, YI9PSE will send twitter "tweets" to announce activity on the General Class portions of the bands - so watch for [YI9PSE on twitter.com](http://www.yi9pse.com)

"All plans are moving ahead. Team is looking for additional Club and Individual Sponsors. Thank you for your help and SUPPORT...."



### Hamfests:

March 20, 2010  
Marshall, MI Hamfest  
Marshall Activities  
Center  
<http://www.w8df.com/hamfest.html>

March 21, 2010  
Toledo TMRA Hamfest  
Owens Community College  
<http://tmrahamradio.org>

April 17, 2010  
Milford Swap  
Milford High School  
<http://www.qsl.net/w8ydk>

### QSO Parties:

March 13 - 14, 2010  
Idaho QSO party

March 14 - 15, 2010  
Wisconsin QSO party

March 20 - 21, 2010  
North Dakota QSO party  
Oklahoma QSO party  
Virginia QSO party

April 10 - 11, 2010  
Georgia QSO party

April 17 - 18, 2010  
Michigan QSO party

April 24 - 25, 2010  
Florida QSO party  
Nebraska QSO Party

## One Day Tech class

February 27th saw the beginning of the One Day Technician Class License instructions.

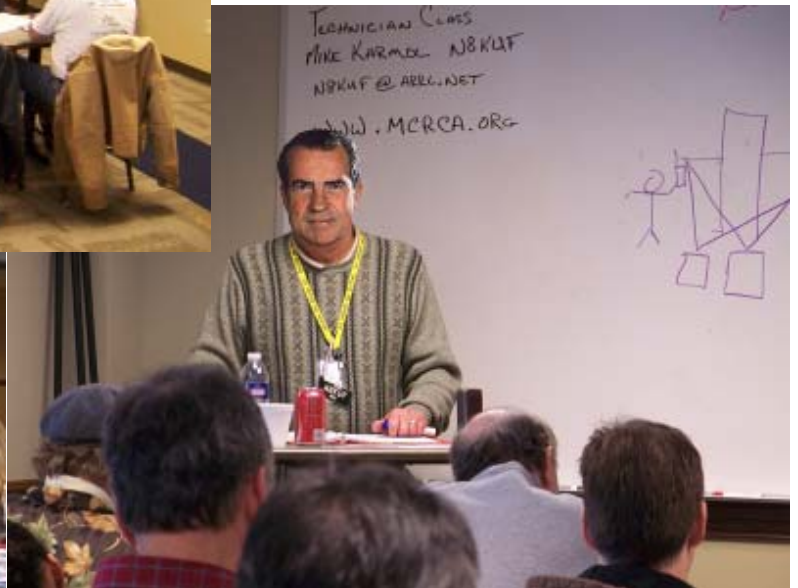
Thirteen people attended and 11 passed the test. The range of comments went from, "It's harder than I thought it would be," to "I didn't even know about the manual."

Mike Karmol, N8KUF, with the help of Paul Trouten, W8PI, lead the lessons. Bedford Township Hall was made available to the MCRCA for the class.



Please welcome 9 of the new amateur radio operators from the one day class.

- |        |                   |
|--------|-------------------|
| KD8NIH | Kurt W. Carrick   |
| KD8NII | Becki A. Rozansky |
| KD8NIJ | Thomas G. Tipton  |
| KD8NIK | Douglas J. Addis  |
| KD8NIL | Raymond J. Beaker |
| KD8NIM | Cecilia Henning   |
| KD8NIN | Nancy E. Remaklus |
| KD8NIO | Kenneth L. Kilman |
| KD8NIP | Wendy A. Kowalski |



## Get to know the club members questionnaire:

Dale Williams 12-21-09

### History:

How did you first learn about Amateur Radio? *From a friend who encouraged me to get my license.*

How old were you or in what year? *I really got serious about getting a license when I was about 20.*

Who introduced you? *Perry (then W8VCQ), now W1COW.*

Are they still active? *Absolutely, Perry and I have maintained a weekly sked for about 15 years.*

What were your first impressions? *I was fascinated by the technology.*

Did you become involved in AR right away or later? *I got my license about 2 years later.*

Which modes did you use? *SSB, FM, PSK31, Olivia, Packet, SSTV.*

Did you build your own equipment? What kind? *Yes, preamps, VHF converters, a transmitter plus a lot of test equipment.*

Did you join any clubs? What were they like? *I joined the MCRCA before getting my license. Dues were only 25¢ per meeting and I had absolutely no clue what was going on, but was really eager to learn. I am also a member of the River Raisin Repeater Assn.*

Did you help anyone else get into AR? *Most certainly!*

Are they still active in AR? *They are indeed, and a couple are regular MCRCA Members*

When did you join the MCRCA? *Around 1960.*

Have you ever been an officer of the club? Which and when? *MCRCA, I have held a couple of offices over the years.*

Have you held any other call signs? When? *Only my novice call WN8EFK, which I held simultaneously with WA8EFK, as you could do that in 1962.*

For you lifers, what do you think of the changes over the years? *Most of the changes I have seen are both sensible and logical changes. I am somewhat concerned that testing requirements are less technical than I remember them being years ago.*

### Now:

How much time do you spend involved with AR? Doing What? *I spend a couple of hours a day with ham radio. Much of it listening with some operating. I try to get on the air every day, on some band somewhere.*

Which is your favorite mode of operation? Why? *I am not sure I have a favorite mode, I think we are fortunate that we have so many mode choices and can operate a given mode based upon one's interest or band conditions. Yet, I have probably had the most fun on 6 meters, also called the "Magic Band", because every known type of propagation appears there at sometime. I remember a band opening into the southwest US from the north end of W8TZZ's driveway. It was nowhere else, just there in about a 20 foot circle. It was probably a duct into Texas, but never-the-less there were great signals.*

Do you DX? *Yes*

Do you operate using CW? *Not really.*

( continued next page )

Do you operate weak signal? *Some, on VHF/UHF. I am getting ready to try WSJT6 soon.*

Do you work the satellites? *Yes*

Do you use Log Book of the World or E-QSL? *I do use LoTW and really like it.*

Do you work QRP? *Very little.*

Do you remember your first contact? Where from? *Yes, it was 6 Meters mobile and I worked WA8DTA in Trilby, Ohio from K8ENY's driveway in Petersburg. He had only been licensed a few weeks longer than me. My hand was so wet with perspiration that I could hardly hold the mic.*

What was your most memorable QSO? *I was a PFC in the Army and spent part of my tour of duty at Ft Bragg, N.C. I was rag-chewing from my mobile rig with some GI buddies at the nearby AF MARS station. They put a ham named Joe on the radio to say hello to me. We talked for a while and then signed off as he had to leave. I was getting close to the MARS station so I stopped by and found I had just missed him. I inquired who Joe was and found out that he was Brigadier General Joe Stillwell. It just shows you that while we all are hams and as such we share a unique and equal footing.*

Do you have any other interesting DX stories? *I was attempting to work JY1, Jordan's King Hussein, and Fred N9AF (then W8ROC) in Monroe beat me to him, so I politely relaxed and listened to a delightful QSO. Then, as I was getting ready to make the call to JY1, Hussein broke in and said he had to leave because there was gunfire in the Palace. NUTS!*

Have you ever done RDF or Foxhunting? *A little bit of both, back when the MCRCA had several active fox hunters in the 1980s.*

Have you ever built an antenna or a kit? *Both, but I found the most fascinating kit to build was a M3 low power digital wattmeter.*

Do you operate mobile? What bands? *Yes, I run 80, 40, 20, 10, 6, 2 and 75 cm.*

Do you have a station at home? What bands? *Yes, I operate 80, 60, 40, 20, 17, 15, 12, 10, 6, 2, 1.25 and 75cm.*

Were you on the air today? *Yes indeed.*

Do you go to hamfests? How often? *Yes I attend about 25 hamfests a year. The number is relatively high, because of my duties as ARRL Section Manager.*

Do you have any family members that are AR operators? *No*

Have you been involved in any public service during a disaster? When? *Several tornados, fires, floods, and an aircraft disaster.*

Do you have any interesting stories about your involvement in AR? *Yes, a few. Probably too many to relate here.*

What do you like about AR? What do you dislike? *I really like the technical aspects of ham radio. There is room for nearly everyone who wants to get into this hobby. I have a great dislike of individuals who basically do not adhere to the Radio Amateurs' Code, are disrespectful and rude.*

What changes would you like to see in AR? *Stronger enforcement.*

What would you like to learn more about in AR? *Absolutely, and I try to learn something every day.*

What programs would you like to see at the MCRCA meetings? *Guest speakers on DX, propagation, radio astronomy, high tech devices.*

Thanks to Dale for responding to my Questionnaire. I hope this will be a regular column for the Hertzian Herald. Next month will be Paul 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	REF
till 06/03	9U1KI, 9U1RSI, 9U1VO, 9UXEV:	Burundi 979
till 08/03	HGOWFF:	Ferto-Hansag National Park 982
till 08/03	HSOZJF:	Thailand 975
till 08/03	PD/ON3TD/p:	Schouwen Duiveland (EU-146) 982
till 08/03	TO2T:	Guadeloupe (NA-102) 979
till 09/03	D44AC and D4C:	Sao Vicente (AF-086), Cape Verde
till 09/03	YN2EA, YN2MG, YN2TKI, YN2UO:	Nicaragua 97
till 10/03	5W5A:	Samoa (OC-097) 981
till 10/03	C6ALT:	Eleuthera (NA-001), Bahamas 981
till 10/03	GB75RDF:	special event station (England) 981
till 10/03	VK9CF:	Cocos (Keeling) Islands (OC-003) 982
till 11/03	J68JA:	St. Lucia (NA-108) 971
till 11/03	J7N:	Dominica (NA-101) 979
till 11/03	VP2MPL:	Montserrat (NA-103) 973
till 12/03	FG/F6BFH:	Guadeloupe 983
till 12/03	FS/KT8X:	St. Martin (NA-105) 982
till 12/03	V63MY and V63TO:	Oroluk Atoll (OC-260) 983
till 13/03	VP2MPR:	Montserrat (NA-103) 973
till 14/03	6Y9V:	Jamaica (NA-097) 982
till 14/03	P40A:	Aruba (SA-036) 982
till 15/03	J88DR:	St. Vincent (NA-109) 980
till 16/03	J6/G3PJT:	St. Lucia (NA-108) 979
till 17/03	SV5/DJ7RJ:	Dodecanese (EU-001) 975
till 20/03	5X1NH:	Uganda 975
till 24/03	C56KR:	The Gambia 971
till 27/03	PJ5NA:	St. Eustatius (NA-145) 974
till 31/03	6W2SC (Senegal) and J5UAP (Guinea-Bissau)	975
till 31/03	J79XBI:	Dominica (NA-101) 975
till 31/03	LY11BY and LY2ONX:	special stations 982
till 31/03	LZ132GO:	special callsign 981
till 31/03	VG, VX, XJ, XK:	special prefixes (Canada) 978
till 31/03	V67G:	special callsign 963
till March	FG/F6AUS and TO4D:	Guadeloupe (NA-102) 967
till March	PJ4/PE1MAE:	Bonaire (SA-006) 973
till March	VP6AL:	Pitcairn Island (OC-044) 968
till 02/04	3B9WR:	Rodrigues Island (AF-017) 982
till 04/04	HK3JCL:	Colombia 981\
till 20/04	H44MS:	Solomon Islands 974
till 29/04	LY20INDP, LY11MM, LY20AM, LY20J:	special 982
till 29/04	LY20W, LY20PSK, LY11A, LY11GV, LY11QT:	special
till 30/04	C6ANM:	Bahamas (NA-001) 974
till 30/04	PI65RTD, PA65xx, PD65xx, PH65xx:	special callsigns 977
till April	T6AG:	Afghanistan 964
till 11/05	5Z4/LA9PF (Kenya) and 7Q7PF (Malawi)	980
till 18/05	8Q7IA:	Maldives (AS-013) 981
till 31/05	YU140Z:	special event station 983
till May	VK9WBM:	Willis Island (OC-007) 970
till 30/06	3ZOFCH:	special event station (Poland) 975
till 30/06	GB50ATG:	special event callsign 957
till 12/07	ZS10WCS:	special callsign 956
till 31/12	3ZORADIO:	special event callsign 974
till 31/12	DR2010L, DR2010O, DR2010N:	special callsigns 977
till 31/12	HA2010S:	special callsign 976
till 31/12	LM50NRK:	special event station 976
till 31/01/11	DT8A:	King Sejong Base, South Shetlands (AN-010) 977
till March 2011	AT10BP:	Maitri Base, Antarctica 967
06/03-21/03	II0IDP, II0IDR, II1ICS:	special stations 982
06/03-21/03	II1IGG, II3ICZ, II7ICT:	special stations 982
06/03-21/03	II8ICN, II9ICF, IQOFM/IGU:	special stations
06/03	MMODGR/p:	Whitlaw Mosses National Nature Reserve
07/03-14/03	P40D:	Aruba (SA-036) 982
08/03-22/03	7P8AO:	Lesotho 981
09/03-18/03	V25WY and V25OP:	Antigua (NA-100) 983
09/03-22/03	V7/N4XP:	Kwajalein (OC-028) 983
10/03-17/03	VP2MCC:	Montserrat (NA-103) 977
11/03-25/03	CT9/DL3KWR and CT9/DL3KWF:	Madeira (AF-014) 983
11/03-25/03	J38SW and J38CW:	Grenada (NA-024) 983
11/03-15/03	K4T:	Dry Tortugas (NA-079) 983
12/03-02/04	A3:	Tonga (OC-049, OC-123 and OC-064) * by K6HFA 981
12/03-20/03	TM7CC:	Ouessant Island (EU-065) 980
12/03-14/03	TP60CE:	special station (France) 983
12/03-23/03	ZL4TY and ZL4M:	Stewart Island (OC-203) 971
13/03-21/03	8Q7NC:	Maldives (AS-013) 983
13/03-23/03	TO5SM:	Saint Martin (NA-105) 983
16/03-23/03	5C2J, 5C2L, 5C2P, 5C2Q:	Morocco 983
16/03-23/03	5C2SG, 5C2W, 5C2Y:	Morocco 983
16/03-25/03	CEOZ/LA9SN:	Juan Fernandez (SA-005) 977
16/03-04/04	V21ZG:	Antigua (NA-100) 983
17/03-29/03	CT8/SP5UAF and CT8/SP5ES:	Sao Miguel (EU-003) 983
17/03-20/04	T32CI:	Caroline Island (OC-281) 982
17/03-20/04	T32MI:	Malden Island (OC-279) 982
17/03-20/04	T32SI:	Starbuck Island (OC-280) 982
17/03-20/04	T32VI:	Vostok Island (OC-282) 982
18/03-01/04	PJ4/OK7MT, PJ4/OK5MM, PJ4L:	Bonaire (SA-006) 983
19/03-21/03	YP1WFF:	Cheile Bicazului - Hasmas National Park 983
20/03-30/03	E51COF:	Rarotonga (OC-013), South Cook Isls
20/03-28/03	EA8/G7COD:	Gran Canaria (AF-004) 983
21/03-29/03	EJ8GQB:	Bere Island (EU-121) 979
21/03-25/03	K1HP/KH0:	Saipan (OC-086) 983
24/03-11/03	YS3CW:	El Salvador 983
26/03-31/03	VY0V:	East Pen Island (NA-231) 975
28/03-03/04	OZ1BLO and OZ/LA8DW:	Laeso Island (EU-088) 981
31/03-07/04	MJ/OP9X/p:	Les Minquiers (EU-099) 973
March	ON30ON:	special event station 981
March	ZK3OU and ZK3YA:	Tokelau (OC-048) 983
03/04-11/04	YI9PSE:	Iraq 973
06/04-12/04	FW:	Wallis Island (OC-054) * by K6HFA 981
06/04-09/04	MJ/ON4DN/p:	Jersey (EU-013) 983
09/04-17/04	FR/F5UOW:	Reunion Island (AF-016) 983
10/04-18/04	3W6C:	Con Co Island (AS-185) 959
10/04-11/04	TM4FFU:	Radio Maritime Day (France) 983

## Amateur Radio Examinations Monroe, MI

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

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

Walk-ins are always welcome.

### 2010 Schedule:

February 20	April 17
June 19	August 21
October 16	December 18

### 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

March 18th 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.