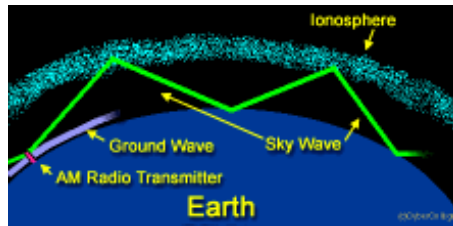


# The Hertzian Herald



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## N8DXR's Ground Waves



2018 is here and the MCRC will be having its first meeting of the year in our old haunts at the Monroe County Red Cross Building. We have a designated room for meetings and our radio room is as it was with the exception that it needs a thorough cleaning. I would like to extend a sincere thank you to the people at the County EOC for allowing us to use their facilities for our meetings and the Christmas party during the construction period at the Red Cross building last year.

Whether you are chasing DX, working on WAS or DXCC this is the time to do some planning and scheduling for the coming months ahead. The ARRL Log Book of The World, (LoTW), is a great place to start. Besides being a secure repository of your QSOs it can tell you what QSO's you have logged and which of them are confirmed plus it lets you download printable versions of each. There are many more useful and practical features of LoTW for any amateur and best of all it's free and easy to get started with. Its home page has an in depth set of instructions that gets you started and guides you so that you can get the full benefits of the program.

So where do you get the information to start planning radio opps for the coming months ahead? First there is the NG3K Announced DX Operations page at <http://www.ng3k.com/misc/adxo.html>. This site looks ahead six months or more and lists in depth information of coming DX ops. And of course there is the ARRL's DX Bulletin subscription that you can have delivered to your email address. Remember Bouvet Island, the number two most wanted entity is scheduled to come on the air January 25<sup>th</sup>.

Next there is the State & Province QSO Party Calendar maintained by N5NA at <http://qsoparty.eqth.net/>. The Calendar is comprised of several columns that can be sorted alphabetically or by date. If you are chasing WAS or playing in the new ARRL grid game then this site can be a useful asset.

There are also many special events each month through the year that can offer you a chance to find that one state or grid you might be missing. A coming special event that could be interesting and fun to work is the AM Rally Operating Event that takes place February 2<sup>nd</sup> to the 5<sup>th</sup> <http://www.amrally.com/>. If you have never worked AM the web site has a host of information on finding contacts and tuning them in.

Well now you can start your planning. And remember, it's not just how much you work but how smart you do it. Hope to see you at our meetings and on the air.

73 John - N8DXR

### Club Officers

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## MCRCA Minutes:

December 21, 2018

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm, by John Copeland N8DXR

Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions: No new members, upgrades or guests.

PROGRAM: Christmas Party

BREAK

DOOR PRIZE DRAWING: None because of party

50/50: None held

MINUTES: Motion by Bob AC8DZ, supported by Wes KC8SKP, to approve as written in the Herald. Approved.

DX REPORT: Bovet Isl. the second most wanted DX will be active at the end of January.

TESTING: Next session - Sat. February 17, 2018.

ARRL: Annual Board meeting will be held third week of January.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

ANOUNCEMENTS: None

ADJOURNED: 7:35 pm

ATTENDANCE: 16

AC8SI Dave	K8GO Glen
KA8EBI Fred	KA8PQH Neil
KB8KQC Brenda	KC8SKP Wes
KD8KHX Tim	KD8ZNZ Rodney
KE8DRP Hank	N8DXR John
W8PI Paul	WA8EFK Dale

MCRCA meetings will return  
to the Red Cross Building  
starting this month.

# January

### Committees

#### Classes

#### Club Station

Wes Busdiecker KC8SKP

#### DX Net

#### 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

Paul W8PI

#### Public Relations

Jeff Breitner KA8NCR

#### Scholarship

Fred VanDaele KA8EBI

#### School Liaison

open

#### Programs

open

#### Membership

open

#### Planning

open

#### Property Custodian

open

## Foundations of Amateur Radio #135

What is amateur radio? What's not part of the hobby and what is?

The more you dig into this, the deeper the rabbit hole goes. I'll start with an analogy to set the scene.

In aviation, Sir George Cayley was the first person to investigate heavier-than-air flying vehicles. He invented the aeroplane in 1799. The first full-sized glider, built in 1849 carried the first person in history to fly, the ten-year-old son of one of his servants. Since then the Wright brothers made their flight at Kitty Hawk. We saw the invention of commercial aviation, the turbo prop, the jet engine, the space-shuttle, helicopters, drones, rockets, hot-air balloons, the Hindenburg, the Goodyear blimps, hang-gliders, gyro-copters and many, many other contraptions.

Each of those are considered aviation and the person controlling the device is considered a pilot.

In amateur radio we talk on the radio.

We also create repeaters and talk on them. We link them together using what ever technology is available. We make it possible to connect to such networks using software such as Echolink, AllStar Link, IRLP and other internet based systems. We create digital networks with DMR, use WSPR to exchange information, make contacts using CODEC2, have contests using CW and Morse code.

We build software defined radios where we use computers to decode and encode radio signals, test back scatter using all manner of signal processing, use packet radio, RTTY, Hellschreiber and bounce signals off the moon and nearby meteors or an overflying aircraft.

We make auto-tuners with a Raspberry-Pi or an SWR meter with an Ardiuno. We build valve based amplifiers and program mp3 voice-keyers, GPS lock radios, map propagation using the internet and have a rag chew on the local 2m repeater.

We investigate 13cm propagation, do experiments with amateur television and we set up radio stations on top of mountains, in light houses and on remote islands.

All of this is amateur radio, and frankly I've only just scratched the surface.

There are heated discussions about if a linked repeater using the internet to create the link is real amateur radio or not, whether using your mobile phone as a node on the Echolink network is real amateur radio or not, if using a computer to create contacts on a digital mode such as JT65 is real radio or not.

Each of these questions highlights a misconception about our hobby.

There are no boundaries in amateur radio. We're a bunch of inventors, mavericks, people who attempt the unthinkable, try the impossible and make progress.

There are people who are passengers on planes, and there are people who fly them. There are people using technology and there are people who invent it. We have a unique perspective as a community. We have the ability to imagine something that doesn't yet exist. Why would you spend any energy on whether that thing is real amateur radio or not?

Amateur radio is a myriad of things, some of them related to antennas and radio spectrum, some not. This hobby is what you make of it, so go forth and invent something, try something, get on air and make some noise!

I'm Onno VK6FLAB

## Radio ham gets 'invisibility cloak' patent

December 26, 2017

Radio amateur Nathan "Chip" Cohen W1YW, founder of Fractal Antenna Systems Inc, has been granted patent 9,847,583 for Deflective Electromagnetic Shielding

Business Wire reports on December 19 Fractal Antenna Systems, Inc. announced its new patent 9,847,583 covering electromagnetic cloaking/deflection of satellites, rockets, towers, antennas, vehicles, body coverings, people, ships, spacecraft, and many others, each uniquely recognized as novel inventions.

The new patent uses close-packed arrays of little fractal antennas to produce an evanescent surface wave that deflects around objects, including people, rockets, antennas, satellites, and so on.

Read the full Business Wire story at <https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20171219005842/en/Uncloaked-New-Patent-Illuminates-Applications-Invisibility>

Watch BEYOND THE WALL: Front Scatter, Cloaking, & Fractal Metamaterials  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xmdRLeksRgA>

US patent number 9,847,583 Deflective electromagnetic shielding  
<http://patft.uspto.gov/netacgi/nph-Parser?Sect1=PTO2&Sect2=HITOFF&p=1&u=%2Fnetacgi%2FPTO%2Fsearchbool.html&r=1&f=G&l=50&co1=AND&d=PTXT&s1=9,847,583&OS=9,847,583&RS=9,847,583>

QRZ <http://forums.qrz.com/index.php?threads/ham-patents-harry-potter-cloak.592880/>

2011 Revolutionary military antenna approach unveiled  
[http://www.southgatearc.org/news/june2011/fractal\\_antennas.htm](http://www.southgatearc.org/news/june2011/fractal_antennas.htm)

2011 Fractal antennas get great reception [http://www.southgatearc.org/news/november2011/fractals\\_get\\_great\\_reception\\_with\\_do\\_it\\_yourself\\_tv.htm](http://www.southgatearc.org/news/november2011/fractals_get_great_reception_with_do_it_yourself_tv.htm)

## Funny Stuff

There was an elderly couple who in their old age noticed that they were getting a lot more forgetful, so they decided to go to the doctor. The doctor told them that they should start writing things down so they don't forget.

They went home and the old lady told her husband to get her a bowl of ice cream "You might want to write it down," she said. The husband said, "No, I can remember that you want a bowl of ice cream."

She then told her husband she wanted a bowl of ice cream with whipped cream "Write it down," she told him, and again he said, "No, no, I can remember: you want a bowl of ice cream with whipped cream"

Then the old lady said she wants a bowl of ice cream with whipped cream and a cherry on top. "Write it down," she told her husband and again he said, "No, I got it. You want a bowl of ice cream with whipped cream and a cherry on top."

So, he goes to get the ice cream and spends an unusually long time in the kitchen, over 30 minutes. He comes out to his wife and hands her a plate of eggs and bacon. The old wife stares at the plate for a moment, then looks at her husband and asks, "Where's the toast?"



## Philosophy of Ambiguity

Suggested by Ted / NW8W

1. Don't sweat the petty things and don't pet the sweaty things.
2. One tequila, two tequila, three tequila, floor....
3. Atheism is a non-prophet organization.
4. If man evolved from monkeys and apes, why do we still have monkeys and apes?
5. The main reason Santa is so jolly is because he knows where all the bad girls live.
6. I went to a bookstore and asked the saleswoman, "Where's the self-help section?" She said if she told me, it would defeat the purpose.
7. What if there were no hypothetical questions?
8. If a deaf person swears, does his mother wash his hands with soap?
9. If someone with multiple personalities threatens to kill himself, is it considered a hostage situation?
10. Is there another word for synonym?
11. Where do forest rangers go to "get away from it all?"
12. What do you do when you see an endangered animal eating an endangered plant?
13. If a parsley farmer is sued, can they garnish his wages?
14. Would a fly without wings be called a walk?
15. Why do they lock gas station bathrooms? Are they afraid someone will clean them?
16. If a turtle doesn't have a shell, is he homeless or naked?
17. Can vegetarians eat animal crackers?
18. If the police arrest a mime, do they tell him he has the right to remain silent?
19. Why do they put Braille on the drive through bank machines?
20. How do they get deer to cross the road only at those yellow road signs?
21. What was the best thing before sliced bread?
22. One nice thing about egotists: They don't talk about other people.
23. Does the Little Mermaid wear an algebra?
24. Do infants enjoy infancy as much as adults enjoy adultery?
25. How is it possible to have a civil war?
26. If one synchronized swimmer drowns, do the rest drown too?
27. If you ate both pasta and antipasto, would you still be hungry?
28. If you try to fail, and succeed, which have you done?
29. Whose cruel idea was it for the word "Lisp" to have "S" in it?
30. Why are hemorrhoids called "hemorrhoids" instead of "assteroids"?
31. Why is it called tourist season if we can't shoot at them?
32. Why is there an expiration date on sour cream?
33. If you spin an oriental man in a circle three times does he become disoriented?
34. Can an atheist get insurance against acts of God?



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The American Radio Relay League's round-up of the forthcoming week's DX activity on the amateur radio bands

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by AA4NC, K1ZZ, WB2TJO, the OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX News, DXNL, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.

**FIJI, 3D2.** Jim, WB2TJO is QRV as 3D2JS from Taveuni Island, IOTA OC-016, until March 13. Activity is on 80 to 6 meters using CW, SSB and some digital modes. QSL to home call.

**VIET NAM, 3W.** Trung, W6TN is QRV as 3W9T until January 11. Activity is on 40 and 20 meters using CW. QSL via LoTW.

**SAMOA, 5W.** Atsu, 5W1SA is QRV with special call 5W20SAMOA during all of 2018. QSL via LoTW.

**SOMALIA, 6O.** Operators Ken, LA7GIA and Adrian, KO8SCA are QRV as 6O6O until January 16. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8. QSL via MOOXO.

**BHUTAN, A5.** Pat, N2IEN is QRV as A52PD until January 14. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using mostly CW and various digital modes. QSL via NR6M.

**MOZAMBIQUE, C9.** Daniel, CT2GXZ is QRV as C81DL from Maputo. His activity of late has been on 40 and 20 meters using SSB. QSL via operator's instructions.

**FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, DA.** Special event station DQ800HRO is QRV until July 31, and then from September 1 to December 31, during the celebration of the founding 800 years ago of the Hanseatic city Rostock. QSL via DL5KVV.

**GUADELOUPE, FG.** Burt, F68OJ is now QRV on 160, 80 and 40 meters. QSL via F4AVX.

**REPUBLIC OF KOREA, HL.** During the Winter Olympic Games, until February 28 all South Korean licensed stations and operators may change the number in their callsigns to 23.

**PANAMA, HP.** Will, AA4NC will be QRV as HP1/AA4NC from January 10 to 24. Activity will be holiday style on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and possibly other digital modes. QSL direct to home call. In addition, look for operators HP1MAC, HP1RIS, HP1YLS and HP1DRK to be QRV as H91IT from Taboga Island, IOTA NA-072, from January 6 to 9. QSL via HP1RCP.

**THAILAND, HS.** John, ZB2JK is QRV as HS0ZIQ from Phuket Island, IOTA AS-053, until January 10. Activity is on the HF bands. QSL to home call.

**JAPAN, JA.** Take, JA8DKJ is QRV as 8J8SSF from Hokkaido, IOTA AS-078, until February 12 during the Sapporo Snow Festival. QSL via bureau.

**PERU, OA.** Members of the Radio Club Peruano are QRV with special event callsign 4T18PAX during all of January to commemorate the Apostolic visit of Pope Francis. Activity is on all HF bands using CW, SSB, CW, RTTY, PSK31 and FT8. QSL via OA4O.

**ANTIGUA, V2.** Randy, WW6RG will be QRV as V25RA from January 8 to 10. Activity will be holiday style with QRP power on 20 meters using SSB. QSL to home call.

**BELIZE, V3.** Jim, W2JHP is QRV as V31TA from Turneffe Atoll, IOTA NA-123, until January 10. Activity is in his spare time on the HF bands using mostly SSB, and possibly some digital modes. QSL direct to EA5GL.

**CHAGOS ISLANDS, VQ9.** Jim, ND9M is QRV with special call VQ920JC. He is generally active on 17 meters using CW. QSL to home call.

**LAOS, XW.** John, KK4FB is QRV as XW4FB from January 9 to 23. QSL via LoTW.

**COUNTRY NAME CORRECTION.** As reported in 2017 DX News Bulletin ARLD052, the correct country for the RI50ANO operation from Bellingshausen Base on King George Island, IOTA AN-010 is South Shetlands, not Antarctica.

**THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO.** The ARRL RTTY Roundup, Kid's Day SSB Contest, NCCC RTTY Sprint, QRP 80-Meter CW Fox Hunt, NCCC CW Sprint, PODXS 070 Club PSKFest, World Wide PMC Contest and EUCW 160-Meter CW Contest are all on tap for this upcoming weekend.

The CWops Mini-CWT Test, Phone Fray and QRP 40-Meter CW Fox Hunt are scheduled for January 10.

The ARRL International Grid Chase runs during all of 2018.

Please see January 2018 QST, page 89, and the ARRL and WA7BNM Contest Web Sites for details.

## Monroe County Radio Communications Association

Dues run from January 1st to December 31st of each year. As a current / Past Member, you are invited to attend our monthly meetings to find out the latest plans for our club. You may pay your dues at any regular meeting or by filling in the form below and mailing it to: **MCRCA, PO Box 237, Monroe, MI 48161**. Your membership and support will help with the continued success of our club. Thank you.

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

**Regular – \$10 — Add'l Family – \$5 each**

DATE \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL MEMBER? Y \_\_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_\_ RARRA Member? Y \_\_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

CALL \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL Family Members: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Circle All That Apply:

Active Bands: 160 80 75 40 30 20 17 15 12 10 6 2 220 440 higher

Modes: CW - SSB – PACKET - RTTY - FM - DX - MOBILE - QRP - SSTV - ATV - EME - SAT

Interests: Traffic - DX - Contests - Foxhunts - Satellites - Nets – Antennas - Computers  
Emergency - ARES/RACES - Skywarn - Classic Radios

Do you plan to upgrade your license? Y \_\_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, what class? \_\_\_\_\_

What kinds of meeting programs would you like to see?

\_\_\_\_\_

Other activities you would like to see the Club offer \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

General Comment's \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## 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.

### 2018 Schedule:

February 17	April 21
June 16	August 18
October 20	December 15

### 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

January 18th at 7:30 pm  
American Red Cross Chapter Bldg.  
1645 North Dixie Highway  
Monroe, MI 48162

### Local Net

**ARPSC Net** - Every Monday evening on '72-Monroe  
(146.72 Mhz) starting at 8:00pm.

**ARPSC Meeting** first Thursday of every month at the  
EMD office on Raisinville Rd.. 7:00 PM