

The Hertzian Herald



The Editor Says:

Welcome to a new year, and lots of snow. I don't know about everyone else but lately I feel like the line in the movie jaws, "I think I'm gonna need a bigger snow blower".

Last month's Christmas party was a success with everyone going home with a gift, maybe not exactly what they wanted, but a gift no less. We had a moderate turn out (17 members and 5 guests) considering the weather forecast for that evening, but everyone still enjoyed themselves. The snow held off and everything went smooth as silk. If you weren't there you missed a good party.

This being January means if you haven't paid your dues you need to pay them before voting in this month's annual election of officers. If you would like to run for an office or know someone who would, please contact our election committee, John N8RWI or Dale WA8EFK, ASAP to let them know.

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Perfume



GLASBERGEN

"I want my husband to pay more attention to me. Got any perfume that smells like a ham radio?"

Club Officers

PRESIDENT

Richard Kraatz N8YQW
rjkm1box-1@yahoo.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Bob Imber W8RRI
kc8qhn@msn.com

SECRETARY

Brenda VanDaele KB8KQC
ka8ebi@yahoo.com

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Fred VanDaele KA8EBI
ka8ebi@yahoo.com

DIRECTOR

Diana Lindner KB8VIU
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DIRECTOR

Paul Trouten W8PI
ptrouten@aol.com

DIRECTOR STATION TRUSTEE

Rita Baker WB8FBG
wb8fbg@chartermi.net

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MCRCA Minutes:

For December 18, 2008

Meeting called to order at 7:32 pm, by Trustee Paul Trouten W8PI

Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions: no new members or upgrades, 2 guests

MINUTES: Motion by Mike N8KUF, supported by Pete KD8DMJ, to approve with a correction in Bernie's call sign to read K8VLT instead of N8VLT.

Approved.

TREASURER REPORT: Motion by Martin KB8TMJ, supported by John N8RWI, to approve the treasurer's report as passed out to the membership.
Approved.

DX REPORT: By Olimpio, FT5WO is operating on Crozet Isl. for the next year, - Dec 1st 2008 until November 30th 2009. Antarctica KC4AAA (W6KDX) is staying on Amundsen-Scott South Pole station until Jan 5, 2009 and if time permits QRV on 20m SSB.

TESTING: Paul reported, Next session Dec 20th

ARPSC: Pete announced, a Regent 2 meeting scheduled for Saturday at Washtenaw EC. 50 people attended the Winter Storm Watch program.

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS: none

ADJOURNED: 7:38 pm

PROGRAM: Christmas Party

ATTENDANCE: 17 members, 5 guests

Nick	AF8CS	Timothy Landis
Ray	K8HEP	Phillip Bratcher
Fred	KA8EBI	Scott VanDaele
Neil	KA8PQH	Brian VanDaele
Brenda	KB8KQC	Kyle VanDaele
Martin	KB8TMJ	
Bill	KC8KFY	
Wes	KC8SKP	
Chris	KC8UFV	
Evan	KC8CPX	
Pete	KD8DMJ	
Tom	KG8P	
Mike	N8KUF	
John	N8RWI	
Paul	W8PI	
Dale	WA8EFK	
Olimpio	WB8SEZ	

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

open

Programs

open

Membership

open

Planning

open

Property Custodian

open

Legislative Action and the 111th Congress

As the New Year approaches so will the change in Washington. President elect Barack Obama will take office on January 20th. New Senators and members of the US House of Representatives also take office after the first of this year. Caucus totals are 233 Democrats and 202 Republicans in the U.S. House of Representatives and 49 Democrats, 49 Republicans and 2 Independents (who plan to caucus with Democrats) in the U.S. Senate.

With the changes in Congress and the House of Representatives we have our job cut out for us no matter how you look at it. With the changes in seat holders this means that a number of our LAAs will need to establish relations with the freshman Representatives or Senators or their aides who have taken over the offices. This will need to be done as soon as possible. The time is now to start making contact with these freshman Legislators and Congressman or their aides.

Incidentally, you are not expected to travel to Washington to perform your duties. Instead, the following discussion assumes your visits with Congressmen or their aides will occur "back home" in a local office.

Be aware that we often are unable to meet directly with a Congressman. Instead, we may meet with one of his/her aides. This is fine. The fact that you met and the legislative position you supported during your meeting will be forwarded to the Congressman. The support you show during your meeting will provide much assistance to the ARRL Legislative Advocate in Washington, DC. Your meeting will prove to the Congressman that voters back home are interested in the legislation.

If you have the opportunity to drop in to meet your Congressman's aide in a local office, consider introducing yourself. Tell them that later on you will doubtlessly contact them to make an appointment to visit the Congressman while he/she is at home, or to visit him (the aide) to discuss legislation that relates to Amateur Radio. Leave your Legislative Action business card and, if possible, a brief introduction to what Amateur Radio is and how it benefits the public.

Before the day of any meeting that is to promote the ARRL/Amateur Radio legislative agenda try to read a bio on the Senator or Representative. This can be found on the Internet, so you'll know about as much as possible of his or her background and issues as well. Get a list of the committees he/she serves on or chairs so you can familiarize yourself with your senator's pet projects or work. Get with your partner and go over the packet you have received from me. Make sure you know what's in it and a little about it. Make a plan on who is going to be the main speaker for the two of you and don't contradict one another. Be professional about what you want to talk about and to the point. Write a brief summary of the issue you will discuss with the Senator.

Day of the meeting; dress appropriately; depending on where you live, where you'll be meeting with the Senator or Legislator will depend on what you should wear. If you were meeting them in their primary home office then a pair of dress slacks and dress shirt and maybe a tie would be appropriate. If it is in a town hall then a casual pair of slacks and shirt would fit the bill, however do not wear jeans, shorts, tee shirts or muscle shirts to these meeting be professional as you can be without going over board, if your everyday dress is a suit that is okay just don't out do your partner try and go as a team. Do not wear a ham radio name badge unless the meeting will occur at an Amateur Radio event.

Arrive early to the location but don't go into the office until 5 to 10 minutes before your appointed time. Arriving early takes the guesswork out of making sure you're at the right place, that traffic wouldn't be a problem and that your nerves have a chance to calm down as these folks want to hear from you as you are the some of constituents that have put them there.

Deliver the program or subject you have practiced. Make sure they have your contact information. As a member of the ARRL legislative action team you will receive a legislative action business card with your name, address, telephone number and e-mail address. Be certain to thank the Congress member or aide for their time. It is also a good idea to send an e-mail "thank you" a day or two after your meeting.

73, John D. Meyers, NB4K

Great Lakes Division Legislative Action Coordinator

Alternative Communications: The Ham Radio

• The Oscoda County Monthly - December 2008

By Janice Miller

My cell phone bill just went up 30 dollars a month. Thankfully the price of gas went down or I would have a budget problem. Next month there will be more increases to deal with and more rearrangement of priorities in the budget. While lamenting my money woes, I turned to the internet to search out free or low cost communication. I was delighted and a little surprised to have found information on Ham Radios and their use in Northern Michigan. Let me introduce you to an interesting and available new hobby and communication tool: Presenting the Ham Radio.

What is Ham Radio?

A housewife in North Carolina makes friends over the radio with another ham in Lithuania. An Ohio teenager uses his computer to upload a digital chess move to an orbiting space satellite, where it's retrieved by a fellow chess enthusiast in Japan. An aircraft engineer in Florida participating in a "DX contest" swaps his call sign and talks to hams in 100 different countries during a single weekend. In California, volunteers save lives as part of their involvement in an emergency response. This unique mix of fun, public service and convenience is the distinguishing characteristic of Amateur Radio. Although hams get involved for many reasons, they all have in common a basic knowledge of radio technology and operating principles, and pass an examination

for the FCC license to operate on radio frequencies known as the "Amateur Bands."

Who's the Typical Ham?

Amateur Radio operators come from all walks of life - movie stars, missionaries, doctors, students, politicians, truck drivers and just plain folks. They are all ages, sexes, income levels and nationalities. They say Hello to the world in many languages and many ways. But whether they prefer Morse code on an old brass telegraph key, voice communication on a hand-held radio, or computerized messages transmitted via satellite, they all have an interest in what's happening in the world, and they use radio to reach out.

What's the Appeal of Ham Radio?

Some hams are attracted by the ability to communicate across the country, around the globe, or even with astronauts on space missions. Others may like to build and experiment with electronics. Computer hobbyists enjoy using Amateur Radio's digital communications opportunities. Those with a competitive streak enjoy "DX contests," where the object is to see how many hams in distant locations they can contact. Some like the convenience of a technology that gives them portable communication. Mostly we use it to open the door to new friendships over the air or through participation in one of more than 2000 Amateur Radio clubs throughout the country.

Why Do You Need a License?

Although the main purpose of Amateur Radio is fun, it is called the "Amateur Radio Service" because it also has a serious face. The FCC created this "Service" to fill the need for a pool of experts who could provide backup during emergencies. In addition, the FCC acknowledged the ability of the hobby to advance the communication and technical

skills of radio, and to enhance international goodwill. This philosophy has paid off. Countless lives have been saved where skilled hobbyists act as emergency communicators to render aid, whether it's during an earthquake in Italy or a hurricane in the U.S.

Why Do They Call Themselves "Hams"?

"Ham: a poor operator. A 'plug.'"

That's the definition of the word given in G. M. Dodge's "The Telegraph Instructor" even before there was radio. The definition has never changed in wire telegraphy. The first wireless operators were landline telegraphers who left their offices to go to sea or to man the coastal stations. They brought with them their language and much of the tradition of their older profession. Frustrated commercial operators would refer to the ham radio interference by calling them "hams." Amateurs, possibly unfamiliar with the real meaning of the term, picked it up and applied it to themselves in true "Yankee Doodle" fashion and wore it with pride. As the years advanced, the original meaning has completely disappeared.

Do I Have to Learn Morse Code?

Not any more! While many hams LIKE to use Morse code, it is not required. (continued next page)



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How Much Does it Cost?

Basic study materials for passing the FCC test and getting your initial license usually cost less than \$40. There are also classes held by many local groups for people who want more interaction. It usually costs less than \$200 to get your own first radio. Many ham radio flea markets are held all over the country that sell good used equipment for even less.

What is the ARRL (Amateur Radio Relay League)?

Founded in 1914, the 150,000-member ARRL - The National Association for Amateur Radio is the national association for Amateur Radio in the USA. The ARRL not only reflects the commitment and many enthusiasms of American hams, but also provides leadership as the voice of Amateur Radio in the USA. The ARRL is the primary source of information about what is going on in the ham radio world. Being a member of the ARRL is important for hams! Check them out at <http://www.arrl.org/>

Where Do I Get More Information?

The best ways to learn about Amateur Radio is to talk to hams face-to-face. Hams take pride in their ability to "Elmer" (teach) newcomers the ropes to get them started in the hobby. There is probably an Amateur Radio club near you that will welcome your interest. You can find contact persons online at: <http://www.hello-radio.org/hello/clublist.html> What an interesting hobby for anyone: From a bored teenager to someone who is interested in technology and radio waves to the citizen looking for a way to help his neighbor and have a little fun, too. Amateur Radio may be the hobby for you. Next month watch for an article about how one man is using his radio right here in Oscoda County. Thank you to "Welcome to the World of Amateur Radio" for the content.

Visit them on line at: <http://www.hello-radio.org/>

(Thanks to Ted Pirolli KD8HYT, one of our new members, for finding this article.)

Space Shuttle Cycle

Here is a 31-photo look at one full cycle for one space shuttle, starting with the landing of Endeavour from its previous mission (STS-123) on March 26th, and ending with its return to Florida 9 months (and 6.6 million miles) later, after mission STS-126.

http://www.boston.com/bigpicture/2008/12/round_trip_with_endeavour.html

MCRCA Membership/Change of Address Form

Monroe County Radio Communications Association

was founded in May of 1941. Our Purpose is to further the cause of Amateur Radio, to teach fundamentals, code, and to hold classes for the same. To further the exchange of information and co-operation between members, to promote radio knowledge, fraternalism and individual operating efficiency, and to so conduct club programs and activities as to advance the general interest and welfare of amateur radio in the community. Fill out the form below and send it with a check or money order to MCRCA, PO Box 237, Monroe, MI 48162.

NAME: _____ CALL: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

ADDITIONAL FAMILY MEMBERS _____

DUES:

Regular member \$10.00

Add'l Family members (under 18) \$5.00ea.

Please Check All That Apply:

New Member [] Renewal [] Address Change []

ARRL member? Yes [] No []

RRRA member? Yes [] No []

If you would like to join the **River Raisin Repeater Association**, please include an additional \$15.00 and we will forward it along with your information to the RRRA .

Silent Key.

Edward A. "The Professor" Miller, Jr., N8AWJ, 59 of Monroe, died Wednesday 10:45 a.m. at Mercy Memorial Nursing Center. He had been seriously ill for 10 days.

Our sincere condolences go out to his wife Carlene N8BJE and family.

ARISS event -**Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA**

An International Space Station Expedition 18 ARISS school contact has been planned with participants at **Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum**, Ann Arbor, Michigan USA on 27 December. The event is scheduled to begin at approximately 1559 UTC.

The contact will be a direct between stations **NA1SS** and **WA2HOM**. The contact should be audible over most of

N. America. Interested parties are invited to listen in on the 145.80 MHz downlink. The participants are expected to conduct the conversation in English.

The Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum is 40,000 square feet of science, math and fun located in downtown Ann Arbor, Michigan. Opening in 1982, the Museum has welcomed over 3.5 million guests, averaging 200,000 guests annually.

The Museum has received national recognition by the National Science Foundation, the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the Association of Science and Technology Centers. Named Best Museum in 2003 by The Detroit Free Press, The Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum is consistently rated the Best Kids' Activity in the annual "Best of Ann Arbor" list.

Participants will ask as many of the following questions as time allows:

1. How long is day and night up in space?
2. How do you wash your clothes, bodies and teeth in space?
3. What type of food do you eat?
4. What work are you currently doing in space?
5. How do you exercise in space?
6. Have you gone outside the space station yet?
7. How long are your work shifts, and what do you do during your free time?
8. Do you make oxygen there? How do you breathe?
9. How does it feel to come back into the earth's atmosphere?
10. How long can one stay in the ISS?
11. Can the ISS function unmanned or is the continual presence of the crew essential?
12. Where do you get electricity from in the station?
13. What is the best part of your job?
14. What is the most amazing thing that you have seen from space?
15. How can you tell if it is day or night in space when you are inside the ISS?
16. Is there a limit of how many days a person can live on the ISS and stay in space?
17. What was the first thing you did when you got into space?
18. How long does it take to get from Earth to the ISS?
19. Is there a limiting age to become an astronaut?
20. Do plants grow differently in space and how do you water them?



Information about the upcoming ARISS contacts can be found at <http://www.ariss.org/upcoming.htm#NextContact>.

Next planned event(s): Technopolis, Mechelen, Antwerpen, Belgium, telebridge via VK4KHZ, Sat 2009-01-03 10:35 UTC

ARISS is an international educational outreach program partnering the participating space agencies, NASA, Russian Space Agency, ESA, CNES, JAXA, and CSA, with the AMSAT and IARU organizations from participating countries.

ARISS offers an opportunity for students to experience the excitement of Amateur Radio by talking directly with crewmembers on-board the International Space Station.

Teachers, parents and communities see, first hand, how Amateur Radio and crewmembers on ISS can energize youngsters' interest in science, technology, and learning.

Further information on the ARISS program is available on the website <http://www.ariss.org/> (graciously hosted by the Radio Amateurs of Canada).

Thank you & 73,

Kenneth - N5VHO

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 03/01	TM5WRC: special event station (France)	03/01-08/01	UE1RFF/4 and UE9WFF/4: World Flora Fauna Award 922
till 03/01	W4/VA3RA: Sanibel Island (NA-069) 921		
till 03/01	ZF2VQ and ZF2NN: Cayman Islands (NA-016)	03/01-17/01	P40CG: Aruba (SA-036) 917
till 04/01	N2OB/150 & N2OB/LH: Barnegat Lighthouse special event 920	04/01-12/01	HR9/IK2QPR: Roatan Island (NA-057) 919
till 04/01	PJ4/WO0Z: Bonaire (SA-006) 920	05/01-05/02	HI7/IZ5JNQ: Dominican Republic (NA-096)
till 05/01	9N7DMI or 9N7RY: Nepal 919	08/01-18/01	T57C: Kerkennah Islands (AF-073) 922
till 05/01	JS6RRR/JS6 and JI3DST/JS6: Miyako Islands (AS-079) 920	09/01-11/01	ED7TV: Rota lighthouses 922
till 05/01	KC4AAA: Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station	09/01-14/01	C56KR: The Gambia 919
till 05/01	T80W: Palau (OC-009) 921	09/01-15/01	HK3/KC2LSD: Colombia 922
till 06/01	4A1DXXE: special callsign (Mexico) 920	10/01-28/04	H44MS & H40MS: Solomons Islands and Temotu 917
till 06/01	JD1BMM: Minami Torishima (OC-073) 920	11/01-27/01	8Q7AK: Maldives (AS-013) 922
till 06/01	PA6FUN: Schiermonnikoog Island (EU-038)	12/01-27/01	ZD8N: Ascension Island (AF-003) 911
till 09/01	ZD8UW: Ascension Island (AF-003) 915	12/01-28/01	P40PZ: Aruba (SA-036) 922
till 10/01	E44M: Palestine 922	16/01-18/01	T88SM, T88CP, T88HK, T88HS: Koror Island (OC-009) 919
till 11/01	TM2LBR: special event station (France)	16/01-19/01	K1HP/KH2: Guam (OC-026) 922
till 20/01	CT1/ON4LO/p: Portuguese lighthouses 917	16/01-22/01	S21DX: St. Martin's Island (AS-127) 922
till 22/01	GB2HLB: special callsign (Scotland) 921	17/01-18/01	TC2SLH: Sile Lighthouse 920
till 26/01	TR8CR: Gabon 907	17/01-20/01	AA8LL/4: Cedar Keys (NA-076) 922
till 30/01	KC4/K2ARB, CE9/K2ARB, VP8DKF: Antarctica 918	17/01-31/01	VP8YLx: Falkland Islands (SA-002) 899
till 31/01	CN89NY: special callsign 919	21/01-28/01	5KOCW: San Andres Island (NA-033) 919
till 31/01	K3Y: special event call 921	22/01-26/01	CV5A: Flores Island (SA-030) 919
till 31/01	XU7ACY: Cambodia 919	22/02-06/03	S79JF: Praslin Island (AF-024), Seychelles
till 01/02	9A2009OS, 9A2009PO, 9A2009PU: special event calls 922	23/01-04/02	C56KR: The Gambia 919
till 01/02	9A2009ST, 9A2009VZ: special event calls	24/01-01/02	VI2BV90: special callsign 922
till 01/02	9A2009ZD, 9A2009ZG: special event calls	24/01-25/01	TC2ALH: Anadolu Lighthouse 920
till 03/02	EA8/ON5JV and EA8/ON6AK: Canary Islands (AF-004) 911	27/01-17/02	FW5RE: Wallis Island (OC-054) 922
till 06/02	9M2MRS: Penang Island (AS-015) 891	28/01-04/02	XR5L: Santa Maria Island (SA-070) 922
till 15/02	OPOLE: "Princess Elisabeth" Antarctic station 917	31/01-07/02	VP8DLQ: Falkland Islands (SA-002) 919
till 28/02	CF, CG, CH, CI: special prefixes (Canada) 921	January	3D2HC: Fiji Islands 922
till 28/02	FM/F5IRO: Martinique (NA-107) 906	January	T30HC: Western Kiribati 922
till 28/02	TU8/F4EYS: Ivory Coast 917	January	T33HC: Banaba Island 922
till February	OD5/F5TLN: Lebanon 908	12/02-26/02	KP5: Desecheo Island (NA-095) 917
till 07/03	VK0BP: Davis Base (Antarctica) 912	21/02-22/02	TC1ALH: Ahirkapi Lighthouse 920
till 31/03	6W2SC: Senegal 915	26/02-05/03	FH/G3SWH: Mayotte (AF-027) 919
till 31/03	J5UAP: Guinea-Bissau 915	07/03-12/03	S2: Bangladesh * by Korea DX Club 921
till 01/04	C6ANM: Nassau (NA-001), Bahamas 922	21/03-22/03	TC1RLH: Rumeli/Turkeli Lighthouse 920
till April	OD5/IV3YIM: Lebanon 915	04/04-05/04	TC2FLH: Fenerbahce Lighthouse 920
till April	VK2LNX and VK2FSNJ: Maatsuyker Island (OC-233) 909	09/04-13/04	C91FC: Mozambique 919
till April	VQ9JC: Diego Garcia (AF-006) 921	19/06-05/07	5J0M: San Andres (NA-033) 911
till 31/08	VR2/F4BKV: Hong Kong Island (AS-006) 908	22/07-29/07	V31UR and V31WL: Caye Caulker (NA-073)
till 30/11	FT5WO: Crozet Islands (AF-008) 916	24/07-27/07	MMONDX/p: St. Kilda Islands (EU-059)
till November	HFOAPAS: South Shetlands (AN-010) 921		
till November	OD5/W5YFN: Lebanon 915		
till 31/12	GB40WAB: special callsign 922		
till 31/12	HE8 and HB8: special prefixes (Switzerland)		

Genesee County Swap and Shop

Saturday, January 17, 2009

8:00 am / 12:00 pm WWW.GCARESINC.ORG

Hazel Park Swap

Sunday, January 18, 2009,

8:00am to Noon WWW.HPARC.ORG

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

January 15 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.