

The Hertzian Herald



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Hello to all and Merry Christmas,

It's Party Time! No meeting at the Red Cross this month. The December 19th

Christmas Party will be held in Monroe again. Details elsewhere in the Herald.

The 12 Days of QRZ is back again to get you on your radio and to foster goodwill to all in the hobby. This is the sixth year. All logged calls count. It's a fun thing you can find about here:



<https://forums.qrz.com/index.php?threads/12-days-of-qrz-2024.937420/>

Santa net is back on 3.916 mhz. For more information on The Santa Net go to <https://www.cgsanta.com/>. They like you to do a pre-check-in on the web. You can't start them too young in ham radio and the kids like it.

Are you a fan of early tv models? I'm a longtime fan of everything tube-type. Of course I have old radios and of course I have a history of radio listening including shortwave "back in the day". I was also fascinated with old TV's too. I ran across a well-made (if somewhat long) video of "Unboxing of an unopened Predicta TV from 1958. By the way, you might recognize that it's Jeff Dunham (the ventriloquist). No ventriloquism was used in the video. Well worth your time in my opinion. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4bW1VlnkkFI&t=12s>

Don will be holding a General class session Saturday Dec 14 and testing will follow around 3:30 pm. Wouldn't that be nice to add some generals to our ham radio ranks and what a nice thing for those folks to earn new privileges on the bands. Success depends on doing the homework too. I recommend the PDF's that you can download on the MCRCA.org website. Rumors are he will also prepare a study book for the Extra test too. Also rumors of his retirement from painting with his son are suspect, so the Extra study guide will take some time. Go Dad! Perhaps he will release a section at a time.

Looking to the future, we want you! It's been made clear that if I can do it you can too. Our club needs some of its very competent members to step up and consider a term as a club officer. You are guaranteed all the help you need to be successful. It's been fun for me and rewarding too. Better than expected. Give yourself a chance. I'm better for it, you will be too!

I want to thank everyone who made my 2-year stint as Prez fun and successful. Without naming names, thanks guys and gals for all the work that went into '23 & '24 MCRCA club. We are in good shape for the future. I'm pleased with the interest and attendance at our meetings. It's been on my mind to have something to offer for everyone at every meeting, that makes it worth the drive for everyone. Please feel free to speak up at the future meetings. It's YOUR club.

Warm wishes and good health to you all this holiday season, 2024
HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE PARTY.
Keith, KJ8H

<http://mcrca.org/>

[www.facebook.com/
groups/
1643856795878368/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1643856795878368/)

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MCRCA Meeting Minutes for November 21, 2024

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm, by Keith KJ8H.

Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions: No new members, no upgrade and one guests.

MINUTES: Motion by Paul W8PI, supported by John WA8YZB, to approve as written in the Herald. Approved.

TREASURER REPORT: Motion by Paul W8PI, supported by Tom KG8P, to approve the treasurer's report as passed out to the membership. Approved.

DX REPORT: Tom KG8P, there is a lot of DX out there. CQ WW Contest is a good place to pick up countries. Cocos Keeling – point North to get them. Last DXped there was 30-40 years ago. 6m has been having openings, other bands have been very open and closed at times. It's very easy to get South America. 6m Ducting.

CONTESTING: Paul W8PI, 23 Nov. CQ WW DX CW – biggest contest of the year. — 7 Dec. ARRL 180m Contest, — 14 Dec. ARRL 10m Contest, should be good. — 28 Dec. Stew Perry Topband Challenge. — End of year, not a lot on.

Paul also gave Field Day results – Arrow #1 we were 9th overall state. Did good in class 2.

TESTING: Paul - Next session - Sat. December 21, 2024. **Appointments Preferred - FRN and email req'd**

CLASSES: Sat. December 14, 2024 contact Don N8BZN – **GENERAL class** - 4 people signed up for class as of now. February will be a Tech class again. Don is writing an Extra class study book, 700 questions available for that class test.

ARPS: Jim WD8NWF, no special events coming up, next mtg. December 5th. Also on Zoom.

RRRA: Dale WA8EFK, everything running smoothly except for one glitch. Ida Repeater has a Gremlin. (don't feed it after midnight)

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS: Tuesday there is a meeting in Jackson, MI attempting to get clubs together to benefit all ideas. They are generating a pool of guest speakers, presidents get together. Nominating Committee – Paul W8PI. Also, we want to change Hamfest Chairman or divide it up into several jobs.

DOOR PRIZE DRAWING: Aaron KE8PUN, David K8EKG, and Scott W8SMB

50/50: Jim Toomey WD8NWF, donated winnings to scholarship.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Anyone having articles for the Hertzian Herald please email them to Fred K8EBI

PROGRAM: Paul W8PI, Contesting for beginners.

ADJOURNED: 8:30 pm

ATTENDANCE: 18

KE8PUN Aaron	WA8EFK Dale	K8EKG David	KE8ZAR Dennis
N8BZN Don	K8EBI Fred	WD8NWF James	WA8YZB John
KJ8H Keith	KE8QGU Madonna	KA8PQH Neil	W8PI Paul
W8SMB Scott	KF8CLM Scott	KE8MFY Steve	N8NYP Terry
KG8P Tom	GUEST Rick Blakesley		

Committees**Club Station**

Wes Busdiecker KC8SKP

DX Net

Soon

Field Day

Jeff Breitner KA8NCR

Finance

Paul Trouten W8PI (chair)

Fred VanDaele K8EBI

Dale Williams WA8EFK

HamFest

Fred VanDaele K8EBI

Hertzian Herald

Fred VanDaele K8EBI

Historian

Paul Trouten W8PI

Public Relations

Terry Kolton N8NYP

Scholarship

Fred VanDaele K8EBI

Program Chairman

Dale WA8EFK

dale.wms1@frontier.com

Membership

Terry Kolton N8NYP

n8nyp@arrl.net

Property Custodian

Paul Trouten W8PI

ARPSC Report

Another busy year come and gone already.....

The Monroe team continues its successful run and with the success we continually get asked to do more by our partners and Served Agencies.... Never a bad problem to have I would say.

As we head to 2025 we already have several important and exciting events to look forward to:

-The week of March 17th, we will be participating in the Multi State and Country Operation Cobalt Magnet 2025, which will be a full week long event simulating the time period after a large scale release at the Fermi II plant. Federal groups and agencies of all levels from Michigan, Indiana, Ohio and Canada will be involved and amateur radio has already been informed this event will be communication intensive and we will play a MAJOR part in the drill. There should be participation needed from all county operators, even if you are not part of the ARPSC team... But why wouldn't this be the perfect time to find out what we do and join our ranks?

-The last week of April will be shelter drills for the normal bi-yearly Fermi preparedness drills

-We plan on participating yet again with the Erie Race 4 the Kids in June. This event is a large 5k run/walk which supports and helps out with medical expenses for seriously ill children in the county. This is a fun event every year and to see the hope in the faces of these kids and their families, along with the huge support of the community, makes it that much more special.

As far as upcoming training, I hope to have some very interesting sessions presented this year on topics that I think any operator will find informative and useful. We hope to be able to present a few with the MCRCA in order to share the knowledge widely. One session I think will be very informative is a session on Ham MESH networking which will be presented by our friends from the Northwest Ohio MESH operating team. The date is still in discussions but will hopefully be in January or February.

I also want to take this time to say THANK YOU to all of YOU for your time and assistance promoting and making Monroe ARPSC one of the best teams in the state this year!!

Best Wishes to everyone during this holiday season and as we look forward to an exciting 2025!!

Don't forget to participate in the weekly Monday night ARPSC net at 8pm on 72 Monroe, and be sure to tune in Monday Dec 23rd for a special annual Holiday announcement at the end of the net!!

If you are interested in honing your skills or building new ones, please feel free to stop in to any of our meetings or training sessions, or participate on our nets. We are here to help every operator learn and perform better. It doesn't matter if your call sign was just posted on the FCC database or you have had your ticket for decades, we are always looking for additional operators.

ARPSC meetings are usually the first Thursday of every month at 7:30pm at the EMD on Raisinville Rd. The next meeting is Thursday December 5th, That is our annual planning meeting, we would like to see everyone there to submit your ideas for next years training and events.

As always Thanks to the club and the club webmaster for linking our FB and webpage, and to Fred for his time getting this newsletter out.

Merry Christmas and have a safe and prosperous to everyone and their families!

73
Lance Charter, KE8BYC
Emergency Coordinator
Monroe County Amateur Radio Public Service Corp

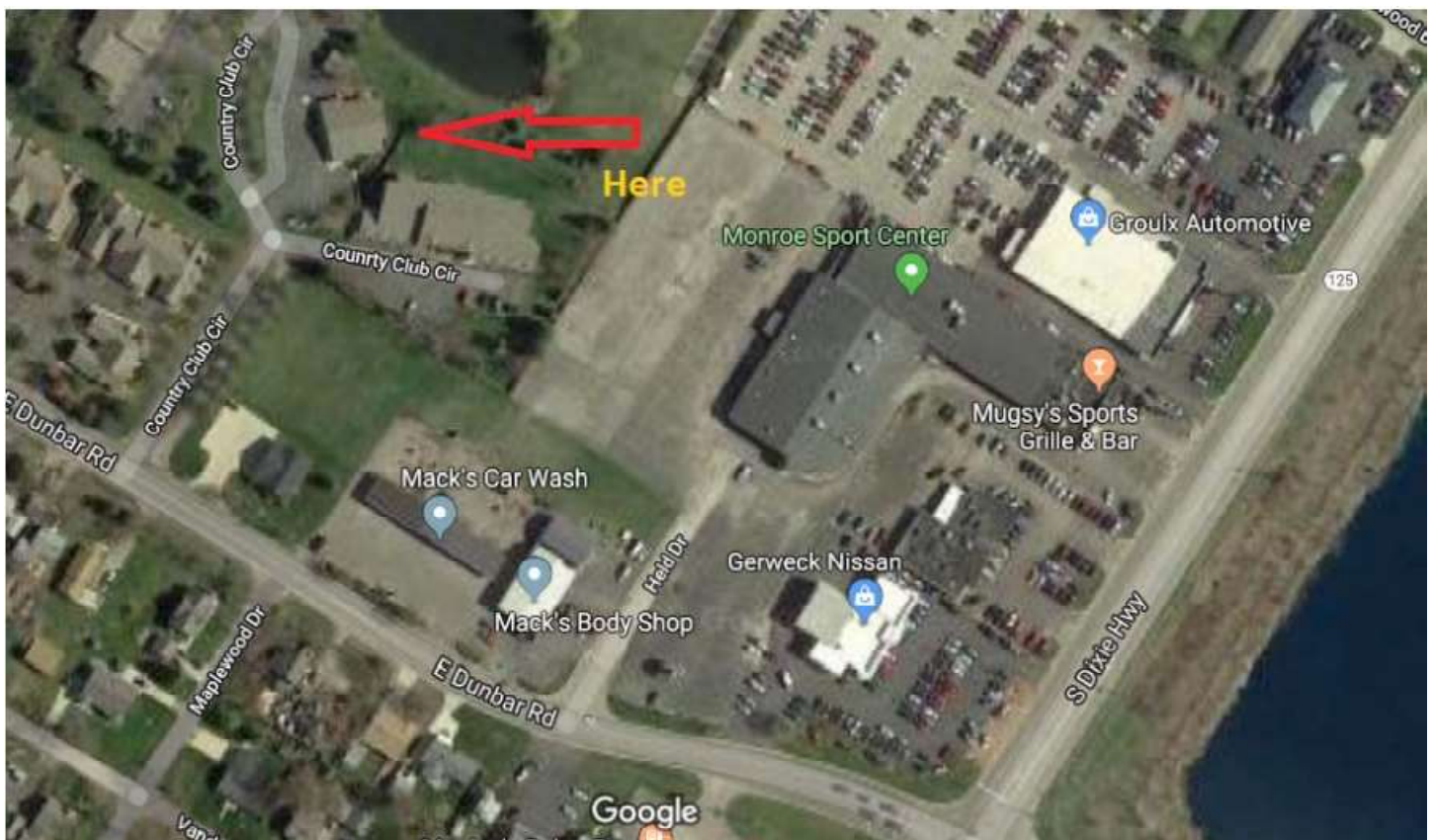


MCRCA Christmas Party Time

Thursday, December 19th is our annual Christmas Party, Potluck and Dirty Santa Swap.

The December Christmas party will be held once again at the Monroe Country Club Estates, 5840 E. Dunbar Rd. just West of S. Dixie Hwy. Guests start arriving at 6:00 pm and the party starts at 6:30 pm.

The club will provide Hi Lite's Chicken, Mostaccioli, and AuGratin Potatoes, along with pop, water, coffee, paper and plastic ware. We ask that you bring a dish to pass or favorite treat or goodie, and join us in all the fun. You may even get lucky and take home one of the fabulous gifts

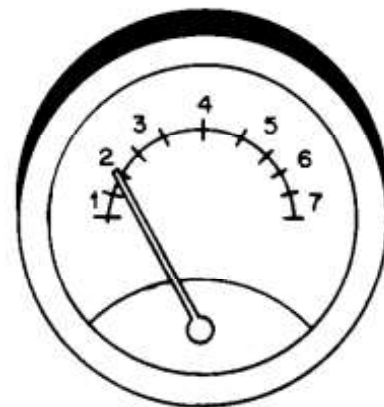


Tech Trivia 7: Ten Tech Tips

Here are my favorite Ten Tech Tips. If you have a favorite, perhaps you could send it along, and we'll do a second column of reader Tech Tips in a month or two.

1. If you store a car battery over the winter, don't store it on the floor of your garage. The air temperature changes by 20 or 30 degrees from night to day, while the floor temperature holds constant. Temperature differences between the top and bottom of the battery cause differences in generated EMF, which produce internal currents, which discharge the battery. Place the battery on a Styrofoam sheet for thermal insulation from the floor.
2. If you have to wind an RF coil, don't use PVC insulated hookup wire. PVC has severe dielectric losses at certain frequencies which depend on temperature. I once fought an 80-meter homebrew rig for two weeks before I replaced the PVC wire in the tank coil with enameled magnet wire.
3. Cheap panel meters with no zero adjust can often be rezeroed by holding a soldering gun close and turning it on and off. Several tries may be necessary to get the residual magnetism right.
4. Plastic-face meters may accumulate a static charge, making the pointer stick. Simply breath moisture on the face to drain the charge.
5. When measuring resistances below 10 ohms, be sure to short the leads first. If the meter cannot be made to read zero, subtract this lead resistance from your reading.
6. Pencil lead is conductive. Never mark a circuit board with a pencil.
7. Torn loudspeaker cones can be repaired with tissue paper soaked in nail polish.
8. Most DVMs lose accuracy above a few kilohertz, and are completely useless above 10 kHz. Analog VOMs are generally reasonably accurate into the megahertz range.
9. The tip bolts on a soldering iron loosen with time. If the gun won't heat, tighten the bolts.
10. Operator error is far and away the most common cause of service calls. If you are called upon to service an instrument, don't operate it yourself; have the person who called operate it so you can spot improper operation.

Until next month - 73 de Dan, K8JWR



QSL Cards from Keith KJ8H



MCRCA Dues run from January 1st to December 31st.
Please check your name on the sheet below to see where you stand.
You can fill out the form on the next page to pay your dues.

Sign-In Sheet
 December 19, 2024

Call	Name	Exp date	Call	Name	Exp date
Ý KE8PUN	Aaron Liske	2024	Ý KJ8H	Keith Hutchinson	2024
Ý NM8I	Barbara Wilson	2023	Ý KE8QGU	Madonna Burkit	2024
Ý KE8TPU	Bill Mercer	2022	Ý W8MCW	Mark Wheeler	2022
Ý KB8KQC	Brenda VanDaele	2025	Ý KN6EYQ	Mark White	2022
Ý KF8AOL	Bob Morrison	2024	Ý KE8RCO	Matthew West	2021
Ý KE8WYY	Brian Paules	2025	Ý KE8UWZ	Mike Courington	2024
Ý W8BKT	Brian Tennyson	2020	Ý KE8TYC	Mike Isbell	2022
Ý KE8RCN	Brody Madlock	2021	Ý N8KUF	Mike Karmol	2024
Ý WA8EFK	Dale Williams	2023	Ý AD8EV	Michael Mc Peek	2021
Ý KC8BUD	Daniel Bain	2024	Ý KA8PQH	Neil Remaklus	2022
Ý KB8AQJ	Dan Kay	2024	Ý KF8AYH	Omar Metwally	2025
Ý W8IIE	Dave Benoit	2023	Ý W8PI	Paul Trouten	2025
Ý K8EKG	David Hatfield	2024	Ý KC8AZZ	Peter Forgacs	2024
Ý KE8RXC	Debbie Bardoni	2022	Ý KE8YQE	Phil Bardoni	2024
Ý	Delmer Taylor	2024	Ý W8NBS	Randy Meyer	2022
Ý KE8ZAR	Dennis Hulvey	2024	Ý KE8UNH	Rick Wykle	2022
Ý N8BZN	Donald Fritz	2024	Ý K8HV	Robert Lawrence	2022
Ý AC8WE	Donald Saathoff	2020	Ý KE8OSX	Ron Duvall	2025
Ý KF8CCH	Doug Orr	2025	Ý KE8CQO	Ron Hills	2025
Ý K8OF	Doug Wherry	2023	Ý KD8ZNZ	Rodney Haddix	2024
Ý WS8Y	Ed Keller Jr	2023	Ý WO0O	Russ DeCrease	2025
Ý K8EBI	Fred VanDaele	2025	Ý W8SMB	Scott Burkey	2024
Ý KB8OSU	George Low	2025	Ý KF8CLM	Scott Retzlaff	2025
Ý KE8VLW	James Kiester	2024	Ý KE8MFY	Steve Orlowski	2025
Ý WD8NWF	James Toomey	2024	Ý N8NYP	Terry Kolton	2028
Ý KN8CR	Jeff Breitner	2024	Ý N8OSC	Tom Cooper	2024
Ý K8OLV	Jeff Giles	2022	Ý KE8UDH	Tom Hughey	2022
Ý KE8WMY	Jefferson Mathews	2023	Ý KE8KNZ	Tom Imlach	2022
Ý K9JP	Jeff Peters	2025	Ý KG8P	Tom Jenkins	2024
Ý	Jill Miller		Ý KE8NSU	Tony Griffin	2024
Ý N8RWI	John Bills	2024	Ý KC8SKP	Wes Busdiecker	2025
Ý N8DXR	John Copeland	2026	Ý N8MWQ	Woody Kirkman	2023
Ý K8UMF	John Miller	2025			
Ý WA8YZB	John Turner	2023			
Ý KE8LRD	Ken Grooms	2024			
Ý KE8BYC	Lance Charter	2020			
Ý KE8HCD	Larry Van Belle	2021			
Ý KE8OTG	Larry Lenhart	2023			

Additional and Visitors please sign below:

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, 4 Carl Dr, Monroe, MI 48162.

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 _____ RRRRA 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 – DIGITAL - PACKET - RTTY - FM - DX - MOBILE - EME - SAT - ATV - SSTV

Interests: Traffic - DX - Contests - Foxhunts - Satellites - Nets – Antennas - Computers
Emergency - ARES/RACES - Skywarn - Classic Radios (circle all that apply)

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 3rd Saturday of every even numbered month at:

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

Registrations preferred
Call for information.
email address and FRN required

2024 Schedule:
February 17 April 20
June 15 August 17
October 19 December 21

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

December 19th 6:00 pm
Monroe Country Club Estates,
5840 E. Dunbar Rd.
Monroe, MI 48161

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

One Day Bi-Monthly Technician classes

Next class will be December 14, 2024

The Monroe County Radio Communications Association (MCRCA) is offering a one-day Amateur Radio course for the **GENERAL** class license. The class will run from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM on the **second Saturday of every even numbered month**. The cost is \$10 and includes lunch, snacks and beverages. The test will be conducted immediately following the class and has a separate fee of \$14. These classes will be held at the Red Cross building, 1645 N Dixie Hwy, Monroe, MI 48162.

There is a maximum class size of 10 people on a first come first served basis and you should sign up no later than 1 week before the class. All study material and testing paperwork will be provided at the time you sign up and you should plan on doing some pre-class studying to make things easier in the class.

If you are interested in becoming a Ham Radio Operator, please call or email me to get signed up for the next class.

N8BZN Don Fritz / (419) 345-4495 after 6PM / Donfritz56@gmail.com

New MCRCA Members

Please welcome recent new members to the club.