

The Hertzian Herald



June 2025 • Volume 49, Issue 6 • Monroe, Michigan, U.S.A.

D Fritz Bitz:



It's Monday morning after the Hamfest. I don't mind telling you, I had a long week and I am a little tired this morning. I thought everything went very good this weekend. The weather was picture perfect and except for a glitch in the Fairgrounds PA system, I don't think you could ask for a better day. I don't have the final numbers yet, but I'd say we had over 800 people and probably more trunk sale than I have ever seen. People told me all day what a great Hamfest it was. I was happy.

I would like to thank everyone who came out for setup and teardown. Things went very smooth and we were in and out in good time. I would also like to thank the people that sold tickets and helped with parking Sunday. These are the regular people who make the show itself run smoothly. Great job! Thanks to Mike, N8KUF, and Dale, KA8EFK, for working the club information table and the prize drawings, and to Paul, W8IP, for working the club sales tables.

Special thanks goes out to Fred, K8EBI, for everything he does for the Hamfest. Most people don't know but Fred starts putting this together in October. He works for 9 months getting ready for this. Without Fred's organization and planning, we would never be able to pull this off so special kudos to Fred.

I'm looking forward to seeing the final numbers but I think we did good this year. Again, thanks to EVERYONE who helped put together and work the Hamfest. And now, on to field day. See you at the meeting.

So, until next month, 73
Don Fritz, N8BZN

<http://mcrca.org/>

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

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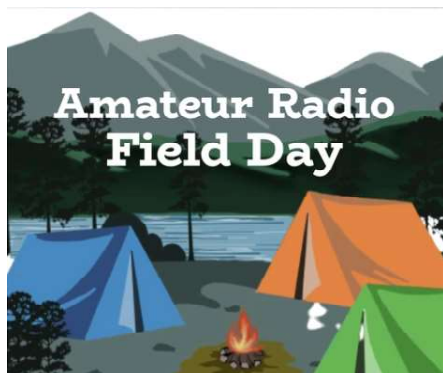
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ARRL FIELD DAY



JUNE 28-29

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MCRCA Meeting Minutes for May 15, 2025

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm, by Don N8BZN.

Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions: No new members, upgrades or guests.

MINUTES: Motion by Scott W8SMB, supported by Doug KF8CCH, to approve as written in the Herald. Approved.

TREASURER REPORT: Motion by Dale WA8EFK, supported by Tom KG8P, to approve the treasurer's report as passed out to the membership. Approved.

DX REPORT: Tom KG8P, A big event: Prince Edward and Marion Island, a Slavic was there for 2 weeks, a lot of contacts. USA made up 19% of them and Europe 40%. He worked 130 countries 11 out of 340 Entities. Spaceweather.com for more info on Solar Cycles.

CONTESTING: Paul W8PI, Paul won one of the state contests.

TESTING: Paul - Next session - Sat. June 21, 2025. **Appointments Preferred - FRN and email req'd**

CLASSES: Don - Next class - Sat. Aug. 9, 2025 contact Don N8BZN – **Technician class**

Hamfest – Don – Last meeting before hamfest. Don's post cards were sent May 23rd.

Field Day – Paul - Field Day Vienna park has been reserved for June 28 & 29th. Proof of Insurance sent.

ARPSC – Terry N8NYP, setting up at Vienna Park for field kit testing. Erie Race for the kids Saturday June 14th, sign up online.

RRRA: Mike N8KUF, the annual meeting went well. Repeater equipment for 220 to 440 restored, Cross link abandoned. May 31st 9 am clean up at Ida repeater site.

OLD BUSINESS: Club T-shirts, Barb NM8I

NEW BUSINESS: Scholarship vote. **William Ingels - Bedford**, and **Mitchell Kostoff - MC Middle College**.

Motion by Aaron KE8PUN and supported by Tom to approve the scholarship to William Ingles, approved.

DOOR PRIZE DRAWING: Jill Stein and Omar KF8AYH
50/50: Jill Stein

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Dayton Hamfest May 16-18th. Anyone having articles for the Hertzian Herald please email them to Fred K8EBI

PROGRAM: Learn how to insure your valuable radio gear. The regular guy was sick and replaced by a video on RF Exposure.

ADJOURNED: 8:15 pm

ATTENDANCE: 15

KE8PUN Aaron
K8EBI Fred
KF8AYH Omar
KG8P Tom

WA8EFK Dale
N8DXR John
W8SMB Scott
KC8SKP Wes

N8BZN Don
K8UMF John
WA8PYL Scott
Jill Miller

KF8CCH Doug
N8KUF Mike
N8NYP Terry

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

FreeDV 2.0.0 released

JUNE 4, 2025 BY K6AQ

FreeDV 2.0.0 has been released, containing the first official release of the RADE V1 mode previously trialled over several preview releases. Radio Autoencoder (RADE) technology is a new approach to sending speech over HF radio. It combines Machine Learning (ML) with classical DSP to send high quality speech over HF radio at SNRs as low as -2dB in a bandwidth of 1500 Hz.

As part of this effort, deprecated modes (700C, 800XA, 2020 and 2020B) have been removed from the application. Additionally, this contains numerous bug fixes and non-RADE specific enhancements from the last official release (1.9.9.2).

It can be downloaded using the following links:

Windows: https://github.com/drowe67/freedv-gui/releases/download/v2.0.0/FreeDV-2.0.0-windows-x86_64.exe

macOS: <https://github.com/drowe67/freedv-gui/releases/download/v2.0.0/FreeDV.dmg>

More information about this release, including changelog, can be found on GitHub release page: <https://github.com/drowe67/freedv-gui/releases/tag/v2.0.0>

One Reply to “FreeDV 2.0.0 released”

JUNE 8, 2025 AT 7:12 AM

This news about 2.0, IS, FANTASTIC!!!! What I love is, hf digital voice that you can hear signals and copy hf digital voice at minus 2 DB, which is 2 db BELOW, the noise floor!!!! SSB cannot do that!!!! THAT message, is what will make hams adopt, and use freeDV!!!

73, Trippy, AC8S

June Club Program.

(If this sounds familiar, it should, it is the rescheduled program originally set for May)

So you park your car at the big box store and do some shopping. Upon return you find your passenger window shattered and your door scratched.

NUTS!

Some darned vandal got it. Wait!!! Your new Super Band-Banger XIV ham rig is gone and so is your Hand Held radio!

And they were not insured. You are out a Kilobucks for certain.

But this does not have to be you. Learn about how to insure your valuable radio gear at the June MCRCA meeting when Steve Orlowski KE8MFY gives us the full details on the ARRL Equipment insurance plan. We can all be safe and secure knowing that our equipment is adequately covered in case of loss.

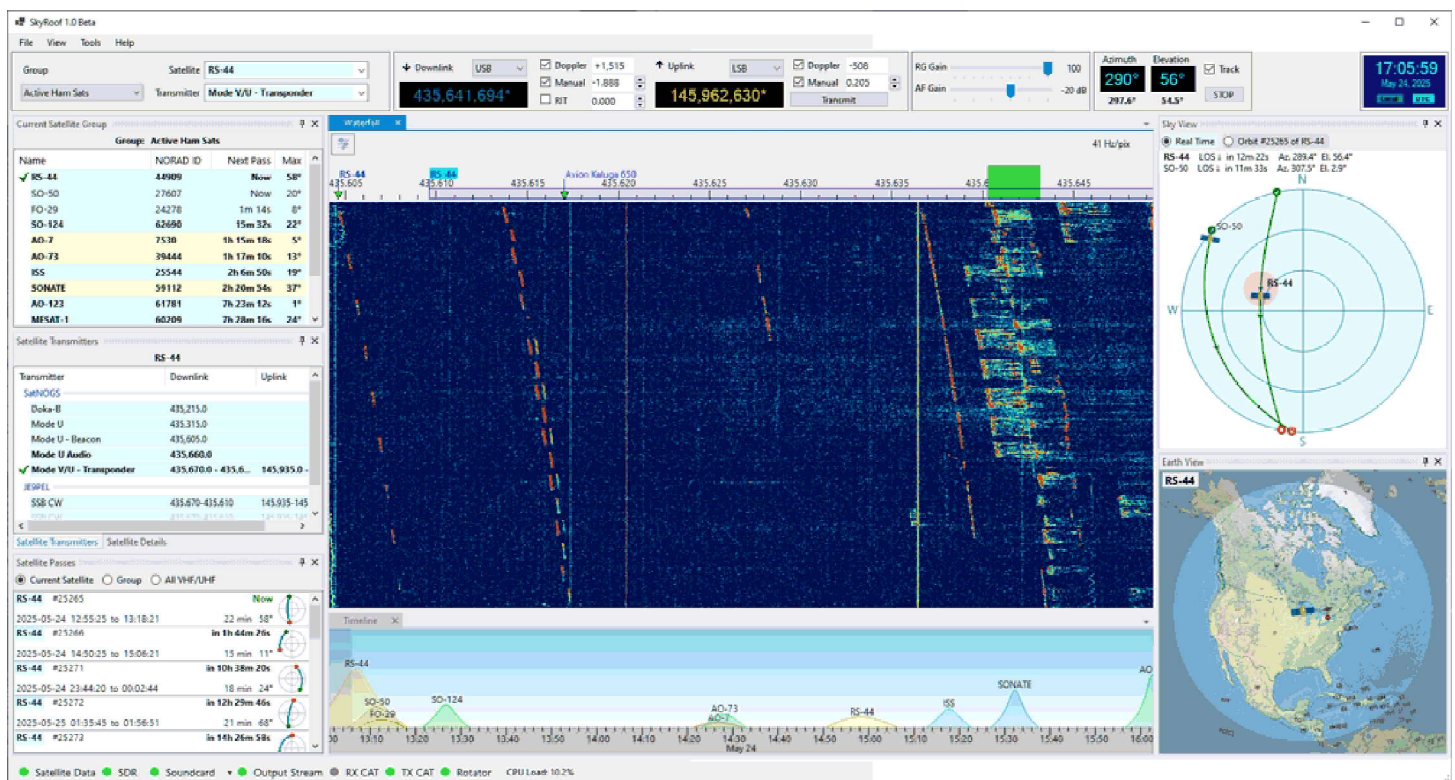
See you there.

SkyRoof: New Ham Satellite Tracking and SDR Receiver Software

June 5, 2025

Recently VE3NEA has released a new Windows program called "SkyRoof". SkyRoof is both a satellite tracking and SDR receiver program. It supports the RTL-SDR as well as Airspy and SDRplay devices.

The software is designed for tracking and receiving ham radio satellites, and it can provide detailed information about all ham satellites, tracking them in real time, and provide pass prediction. It also shows a skymap and SDR waterfall display. The receiver software supports demodulation of SSB/CW/FM, and it automatically compensates for doppler. It can also interface with antenna rotators that support hamlib.



Over on YouTube Johnson's Techworld has also recently uploaded a video showing him testing out Skyroof, which may be of interest to some.

Brief review of SkyRoof, the latest satellite tracking software!

<https://www.rtl-sdr.com/skyroof-new-ham-satellite-tracking-and-sdr-receiver-software/>

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.

June 19, 2025

Call	Name	Exp date	Call	Name	Exp date
KE8PUN	Aaron Liske	2025	KJ8H	Keith Hutchinson	2025
NM8I	Barbara Wilson	2025	KE8LRD	Ken Grooms	2024
KE8TPU	Bill Mercer	2022	KE8BYC	Lance Charter	2020
KB8KQC	Brenda VanDaele	2025	KE8OTG	Larry Lenhart	2023
KF8AOL	Bob Morrison	2025	KE8QGU	Madonna Burkitt	2024
WB8GUN	Bob Van Klinger	2025	W8MCW	Mark Wheeler	2027
KE8WYY	Brian Paules	2025	KN6EYQ	Mark White	2022
W8BKT	Brian Tennyson	2020	KE8RCO	Matthew West	2021
KE8RCN	Brody Madlock	2021	KE8UWZ	Mike Courington	2024
WA8EFK	Dale Williams	2025	KE8TYC	Mike Isbell	2022
KC8BUD	Daniel Bain	2024	N8KUF	Mike Karmol	2025
KB8AQJ	Dan Kay	2025	AD8EV	Michael Mc Peek	2021
	Nancy Kay	2025	KA8PQH	Neil Remaklus	2025
AC8SI	Dave Buchko	2026	KF8AYH	Omar Metwally	2025
W8IIE	Dave Benoit	2023	W8PI	Paul Trouten	2025
K8EKG	David Hatfield	2024	KC8AZZ	Peter Forgacs	2025
KE8RXC	Debbie Bardoni	2022	KE8YQE	Phil Bardoni	2025
KC8CCR	Debbie Forgacs	2025	W8NBS	Randy Meyer	2022
KF8DZD	Delmer Taylor	2025	KE8UNH	Rick Wykle	2022
KE8ZAR	Dennis Hulvey	2025	KD8ZUI	Rob Howe	2026
N8BZN	Donald Fritz	2025	K8HV	Robert Lawrence	2022
KF8CCH	Doug Orr	2026	KE8OSX	Ron Duvall	2025
K8OF	Doug Wherry	2026	KE8CQO	Ron Hills	2025
WS8Y	Ed Keller Jr	2023	KD8ZNZ	Rodney Haddix	2026
KC8RQK	Fred Kinsey	2025	WO0O	Russ DeCrease	2025
K8EBI	Fred VanDaele	2025	KD8HYS	Sandra Burr	2026
KB8OSU	George Low	2026	W8SMB	Scott Burkey	2025
KE8VTT	Isaac Burkey	2025	WA8PYL	Scott Retzlaff	2025
KE8VLW	James Kiestner	2024	KE8MFY	Steve Orlowski	2025
WD8NWF	James Toomey	2025	N8NYP	Terry Kolton	2028
KN8CR	Jeff Breitner	2024	N8OSC	Tom Cooper	2024
K8OLV	Jeff Giles	2026	KE8UDH	Tom Hughey	2022
KE8WMY	Jefferson Mathews	2023	KE8KNZ	Tom Imlach	2022
K9JP	Jeff Peters	2025	KG8P	Tom Jenkins	2025
N8RWI	John Bills	2025	KE8NSU	Tony Griffin	2025
N8DXR	John Copeland	2026	KC8SKP	Wes Busdiecker	2025
K8UMF	John Miller	2025	N8MWQ	Woody Kirkman	2023
WA8YZB	John Turner	2025			

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

2025 Schedule:
February 15 April 19
June 21 August 16
October 18 December 20

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

June 19th 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

One Day Bi-Monthly Technician classes

Next class will be August 9th, 2025, due to hamfest in June

The Monroe County Radio Communications Association (MCRCA) is offering a one-day Amateur Radio course for the **Technician** 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.