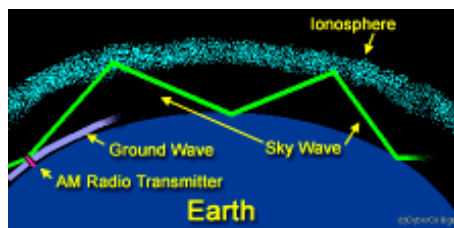


# The Hertzian Herald



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## N8DXR's Ground Waves



On the weekend of the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> we saw the first Great Lakes HamCon take place at the Michigan International Speedway. A week before the event the weather forecast was looking very dismal. But as the week progressed the forecast improved and we saw sunny weather on Saturday and Sunday for the HamCon. For its first outing the event went well and was held in a tremendous venue. The GLHamCon shows great potential to be an outstanding amateur radio event for Michigan and the Great Lakes region in the future.

Before we go any further I would like to sincerely thank those who donated their time and effort helping the MCRCRA with its assigned task of managing the drawings and prize distribution at the HamCon. Onboard was Bob - AC8DZ; Dave - AC8SI; Gary - W8GPR; Lance - KE8BYC; and Sandra - KE8CQW. In addition I also would like to recognize two members of another club who also came onboard to help us out; Al - NW8E and Art - W2EQX. Without the participation of these people it would have been extremely difficult, if not impossible, for the club to fulfill its assigned responsibilities. I also need to extend a thanks and "well done" to two other members of the MCRCRA who gave a great deal of their time and energy to the planning, organization and implementation of this event; Glen - K8GO and Dale - WA8EFK.

We are halfway through October with the first of winter only two months away. Now that most of my 2017 projects are completed or on hold till late spring I can start to look forward to the holidays with family and friends. The late fall and winter also finds me sheltering in the radio shack during the cold days and dark nights. This is my time for hunting new DX, playing in contests, logging the new contacts that they bring and continuing to hone my operator skills. But then when the end of December closes in I am reminded that in week or two a new radio season begins and I need to start planning a DX hunting schedule for the following year. There are several web sites I use to lay out my future radio schedule. Whether you are working on your first WAS award, logging DX for membership in the Century Club or DXing for the fun of it, you might find these sites helpful.

### Club Officers

#### PRESIDENT

John Copeland N8DXR  
[jcn8dxr@gmail.com](mailto:jcn8dxr@gmail.com)

#### VICE PRESIDENT

Glen Ohlemacher K8GO  
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[ka8ebi@yahoo.com](mailto:ka8ebi@yahoo.com)

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## MCRCA Minutes:

**September 21, 2017**

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions: No new members, upgrades and or guests.

PROGRAM: Glen K8GO Ham Con plans

BREAK

DOOR PRIZE DRAWING: Bob AC8DZ, Wes KC8SKP, Dale WA8EFK

50/50: Sandra KE8CQW Donated part to scholarship

MINUTES: Motion by Bob AC8DZ, supported by Sandra KE8CQW, to approve as written in the Herald. Approved.

TREASURER REPORT: Motion by Dale WA8EFK, supported by Dave AC8SI, to approve the treasurer's report as passed out to the membership. Approved.

DX REPORT: Not too much DX, Some good info in QST this month on DX issues. ARRL provides much good info.

TESTING: Next session - Sat. October 21, 2017. Cancelled due to Red Cross construction.

ARPSC: This weekend will be an Emergency Expo at The Mall of Monroe. Our group will have a table. Lance Charter KE8BYC will be the next Monroe County EC of the group.

ARRL: No info

RRRA: Dundee repeater has been re-tuned and sounding good. Ottawa Lake is being rebuilt after a major power supply failure. New antenna on Dundee tower.

GLHamCon: Glen K8GO, HamCon is Oct. 7 & 8<sup>th</sup>, setup will be Thursday and Friday, lots to do, anyone who can help please enter via the tunnel of Brooklyn Rd. Oversized loads enter off M-50, gates open at 8:00 am each day. Saturday night is the Great Lakes Convention, dinner and program, also several programs at various times throughout the day. ARRL will have a big presentation. Looking for help with setup, four hours will get free admission both days. Need banners from Red Cross for table at the race track. Once the HamCon makes money they will provide grants to the clubs that help out.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Christmas party being worked on, more news later.

ANOUNCEMENTS: None

ADJOURNED: 8:31 pm

ATTENDANCE: 12

AC8SI Dave	K8GO Glen	KA8PQH Neil
KA8YXB Fred	KC8SKP Wes	KD8ZNNZ Rodney
N8DXR John	N8KUF Mike	WA8EFK Dale
AC8DZ Bob	KE8CQW Sandra	W8GPR Gary

## 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

First there is the W1AW Bulletins Archive at <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-bulletins-archive-dx>. Then there is the State & Provincial QSO Party Calendar at <http://qsoparty.eqth.net/>. And lastly there is the WA7BNM Contest Calendar at <http://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html>. There are other schedules available on line but I have found these easy to use, accurate and a good start in scheduling future time on the air.

At this time it looks like we will continue to meet at the Monroe County Emergency Management Center for our October, November and December meetings. Meetings will be held at our regular time of 7:30pm. Please continue to check the newsletter and club web site for any possible changes to the meeting location.

Hope to see you at our meetings and on the air.

73

John - N8DXR

## More than 2,500 registered for JOTA-JOTI

ARRL are reporting Scouting's Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) has more than 2,500 signed up to take part in the 2017 event over the **October 20-22 weekend**. This is the 60th JOTA!

Two EchoLink conference nodes have been designated for Scout contacts - \*JOTA-365\* (node 480809) and \*JAMBO\* (node 832996).

JOTA participating stations should take special care to avoid conflicting

with any emergency response traffic activity under way in the Caribbean.

In general, steer clear of any net traffic you might encounter.

A potential conflict also exists between PSK and the new FT8 mode on

18.100 MHz, the frequency recommended for both modes. FT8 is the predominant activity at 18.1 MHz right now, and JOTA organizers suggest looking for PSK contacts on either side of 18.100.

"As always, a Scout is friendly and courteous,"

"Follow the Scout Law as you navigate the Amateur Radio bands during

JOTA-JOTI weekend."



## HAM? HAM radio? ham radio? Amateur Radio? amateur radio!

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

On the ARRL PR mailing list, we've been discussing the proper way to refer to amateur radio. What brought this up was an email from one list subscriber, Richard, WB6NAH, who was (rightfully) proud of the work that his club—the [Skagit Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Club](#)—was doing. He noted that they were even featured in the police department's emergency preparedness brochure:

As you can see, the brochure refers to "HAM radio" and "HAM radio operators."

Referring to amateur radio in this way just drives me crazy. "Ham radio" is just a nickname for amateur radio, and "HAM" is certainly not an acronym for anything. I congratulated Richard on getting his club included in the brochure, but noted, "...it's not HAM radio! It's either 'amateur radio' or 'ham radio' (ham is not an acronym). I hate to be nitpicky about this, but as a professional writer, this usage just drives me crazy." He replied, "I agree on Amateur Radio, that was the city's call."

That kicked off the discussion.

One ham replied to me privately, "Thank you...I am continually trying to explain that it is not an acronym or abbreviation."

Another replied to the list:

The most correct term is "amateur radio" or alternatively "ham radio", both written in normal case. If using "ham radio", it is a best practice to first write "amateur (ham) radio" in the first non-header/non-title occurrence.

Some will write "Amateur Radio" in proper noun format (first letters in caps) and while this may be acceptable to many and in certain venues, anyone using a style handbook will say it is incorrect. Less correct is to write "Ham Radio" in proper noun format as this is a slang term, albeit a popular one. Of course either term may be written as proper nouns when part of a title or name of an organization.

Least correct is to write "HAM" in all caps; as stated by others, ham is not an abbreviation or acronym. Writing it as "HAM" is completely wrong, will drive many people bonkers, and should be avoided at all costs.

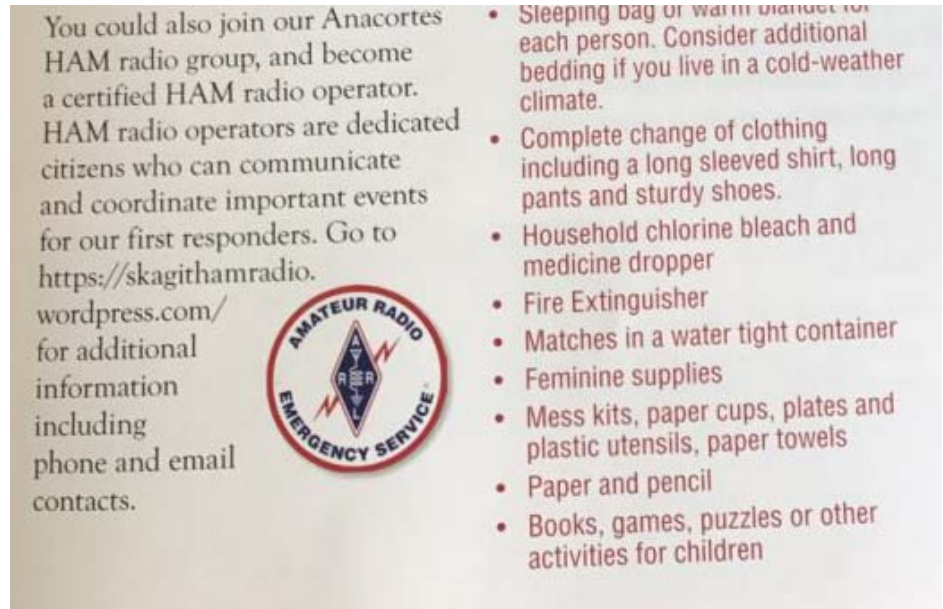
Ward, NOAX, offered this explanation:

To clarify where the capitalization originated, there is a long-standing ARRL Board Directive, decades old, stipulating that the words "Amateur Radio" be capitalized in ARRL publications and documents. Most non-amateur publications return it to the lower-case style that is used for non-proper nouns.

One guy got a little miffed that we were wasting our time discussing this at all:

You know, I've been reading this thread and I think people are getting too hung up on very minor details. The bottom line they got PR. So something wasn't spelled right or capitalized, so what. The message got out and IMHO that's the bottom line. Let's not waste any more bandwidth on this.

Cont'd next page





I agreed that it was great that they were included in the brochure, and that we were probably beating this topic to death, but I don't think these are minor details. I said that PR professionals pride themselves on getting the details right. So should amateur radio PR people.

I'll give the final word to Dan, AI4GK. He wrote:

I don't think that standardizing what we call ourselves qualifies as getting hung up on minor details. If we don't have a standardized way of referring to us, how can we expect a public, who already is confused, to understand who we are?

I don't think that you can argue with this. Let's avoid confusion by using "amateur radio" when writing about our hobby/service. I'd even urge the ARRL to rethink their use of "Amateur Radio." Sometimes, it may be OK to use "ham radio," but it's just not correct to use "HAM radio" or just "HAM."

—

Dan, KB6NU, is the author of the "No Nonsense" amateur radio license study guides and blogs about amateur radio at KB6NU.Com. When he's not picking nits about the name of our hobby, he teaches ham radio classes and operates CW on the HF bands. You can email him at [cwgeek@kb6nu.com](mailto:cwgeek@kb6nu.com).

## Parachute Mobile

Mission 29 is scheduled to take place October 21, 2017 in Conjunction with PACIFICON, ARRL's Pacific Division Convention. Make a contact with a skydiver and receive a one of a kind QSL card.

The mission will take place at Bay Area Skydiving in Byron, CA. <http://bayareaskydiving.com/>. Come on by and visit us.

If you are attending PACIFICON come by our table and say hi.

We hope to have our first jump soon after 10:00 A.M.

**FM QSO: 146.430 MHz**

**HF QSO: 14.250 MHz**

**D-Star: TBD**

**APRS: Track the individual skydivers by call sign: AF6IM, KC6TYD, W7BIG**

Streaming video: Several points of views will be available including air-to-ground. Log into: <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/mfwright>

Parachute Mobile will be acting as Net Control atop Mt Diablo. ETJs (estimated time of jump) will be announced periodically as well as other mission specific information. Updates will also be made on the W6CX repeater at 147.060 +100. Not in repeater range? No problem. Updates will be made here on the website and on our Facebook page.

We make every effort to record your QSO. To ensure that you receive your QSL card please email [KC6TYD@gmail.com](mailto:KC6TYD@gmail.com) indicating which jumper, the jump number, and the time you made your contact.

As always, we do not have control over Drop Zone, aircraft, and the weather, so this event is subject to delay or cancellation.



## Puerto Rico Amateur Radio Volunteer Force Deploys New Equipment, Groceries

As their efforts continue to help Puerto Rico recover from the effects of hurricanes Irma and Maria, ARRL Force of 50 volunteers on the island distributed more new Amateur Radio gear to places where it will do the most good. Puerto Rico Section Emergency Coordinator Juan Sepulveda, KP3CR, is better prepared to assist, now that volunteers have delivered a radio and antenna to him in Lares.

"This now gives us a local ham covering the Lares Medical Center and the hospital, so our ARRL American Red Cross Amateur Radio operator can cover the Casteñel hospital nearby," ARC volunteer Valerie Hotzfeld, NV9L, noted in the team's October 8 report. Sepulveda has been coordinating the ARES efforts on the west side of the island since the start of the recovery.

Hotzfeld; Puerto Rico Section Manager Oscar Resto, KP4RF; ARRL Emergency Preparedness Manager Mike Corey, KI1U, and Amateur Radio liaison to the FEMA ESF-2 Communications Task Force Gary Sessums, KC5QCN, traveled to Arecibo, Lares, and the Guajataca dam.

The team, all deployed as ARC volunteers, delivered spare VHF radios and bottled water to Guajataca Dam, to permit direct communication between Isabela and the dam, where infrastructure repairs are under way. The Yasme Foundation is funding the cost of a Yaesu DR-X2 VHF/UHF repeater, which has been delivered to Arecibo Observatory. The team visited a grocery to stock up on powdered milk, peanut butter, water, rice, canned fruits and vegetables, and bags of fresh apples, all delivered this to people living in the vicinity of Arecibo Observatory.

The volunteers continue to handle traffic and relays for support from hospital to and from K1M, the call sign designated for the Amateur Radio relief effort in Puerto Rico. "As an example, we received a message from a hospital administrator that the workers at the hospital and other area businesses need temporary housing," Hotzfeld explained. "Their homes were destroyed, and they cannot leave, as their employment is critical on the island."



The fire station in Guayama reported a complete lack of water, with people being turned away. One of the Amateur Radio volunteers was able to assist from the fire station in Juncos.

Volunteer Joe Bassett, W1WCN, worked via relay with local operator Al Medina-Ramirez, NP3MR, to reestablish contact with an Army task force on Vieques Island. Army MARS operators were unable to get in touch with the task force, which had been dispatched to the island to assist the hospital. Medina

Ramirez responded to a call from W1WCN to travel to the hospital to contact the task force. Uris Monge-Vives, NP4WW, assisted with translation. The task force was found safe and well awaiting transport via helicopter, which had been delayed due to the weather.

Amateur Radio operators at the Emergency Operations Center in San Juan assisted Samaritan's Purse in providing a generator to power a repeater near Juyaya. Contact was provided to have local radio amateur WP4PNS meet Samaritan's Purse personnel to exchange the generator. — Thanks to Valerie Hotzfeld, NV9L; Puerto Rico Section Manager Oscar Resto, KP4RF, and Amateur Radio FEMA ESF-2 Liaison Gary Sessums, KC5QCN

From the ARRL



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 NT5V, QRZ DX, the OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX News, The Daily DX, DXNL, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.

**MAURITIUS, 3B8.** Flavio, IW2NEF will be QRV as 3B8/IW2NEF from October 16 to 23. Activity will be holiday style on the HF bands. QSL to IK2DUW.

**SWAZILAND, 3DA.** A group of operators are QRV as 3DA0MB until October 18. This is an EME DXpedition, with activity on 6 and 2 meters, and 70, 23, 13, 9, 6, and 3 cm using CW and JT65. QSL via PA3CMC.

**UGANDA, 5X.** Kazuo, 5X2B is QRV from Kampala until July 2019. Activity is on 30 to 12 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL direct to JA1PBV.

**BHUTAN, A5.** Steve, N6SJ is QRV as A52SJ from Paro until October 19. Activity is on the HF bands with a focus on 160 meters. QSL to home call.

**SOUTH COOK ISLANDS, E5.** Steve, KL7SB is QRV as E51RAT from Rarotonga Island, IOTA OC-013, until October 18. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL direct to NI5DX.

**SAINT BARTHELEMY, FJ.** Damien, F4AZF is QRV as FJ/F4AZF until October 20, or possibly until October 27, while working here. Activity is on the HF bands in his spare time. QSL to home call.

**MINAMI TORISHIMA, JD1.** Take, JG8NQJ will be QRV as JG8NQJ/JD1 beginning October 15 and will be here for two months. Activity will be in his spare time on the HF bands using CW and RTTY. QSL direct to JA8CJY.

**ALAND ISLANDS, OH0.** Look for OH0B to be QRV in the Scandinavian Activity SSB Contest. QSL via OH2BH.

**MARKET REEF, OJ0.** Henri, OH3JR is QRV as OJ0JR until October 14. Activity is on 40 to 4 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL to home call.

**BELGIUM, ON.** Special event station OP36CLM will be QRV from October 16 to November 15 to commemorate the liberation of the town of Knokke by Canadian forces in November 1944. QSL via ON3AIM.

**BONAIRE, PJ4.** Operators Vernon, NN5E and Jim, NT5V will be QRV as PJ4/NN5E and PJ4/NT5V, respectively, from October 15 to 22. Activity will be on all HF bands using CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8. QSL to home calls.

**BANGLADESH, S2.** A group of operators are QRV as S21ZDC from Bhola Island, IOTA AS-140, until October 18. Activity is on 40 to 15 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via G3KHZ.

**SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE, S9.** Jose, EC5AC is QRV as S9CQ from Sao Tome, IOTA AF-023, until October 21. Activity is on 80 to 6 meters using SSB and RTTY. QSL to home call.

**CRETE, SV9.** Mirko, DJ1AA is QRV as SV9/DJ1AA/p from Sisi, IOTA EU-015, until October 13. Activity is holiday style on the HF bands. QSL to home call.

**PALAU, T8.** Operators JH7IPR, JA6EGL and JQ6FQI are QRV as T88UW, T88SM, and T88WM, respectively, until October 18. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL to home calls.

**ST. KITTS AND NEVIS, V4.** Bill, W5JON will be QRV as V47JA from Calypso Bay, IOTA NA-104, from October 15 to November 7. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters, including 60 meters, using SSB. This includes being an entry in the upcoming CQ Word Wide DX SSB contest. QSL direct to home call.

**BRUNEI, V8.** Special event station V84K50GJ is QRV until October 15 to mark the present Sultan's Golden Jubilee. QSL via operators instructions.

**INDIA, VU.** Special event stations AT1FI, AT2FI, AT3FI and AT4FI are QRV until October 28 during the FIFA U-17 World Cup. Activity is on 40, 20 and 15 meters using SSB and various digital modes. QSL via VU2SMS.

**LAKSHADWEEP ISLANDS, VU7.** A group of operators are QRV as VU7T from Kavaratti, IOTA AS-011, until October 20. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and various digital modes, with up to three stations active. QSL via VU2CPL.

**ST. HELENA, ZD7.** Bill, 6OVDE plans to be QRV as ZD7VDE for one week beginning October 14. Activity will be on the HF bands using SSB and various digital modes. QSL via G3SWH.

## THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO

The Oceania DX CW Contest, NCCC RTTY Sprint, NCCC CW Sprint, Makrothen RTTY Contest, Scandinavian Activity SSB Contest, QRP ARCI Fall CW QSO Party, Pennsylvania QSO Party, Arizona QSO Party, FISTS Fall Unlimited CW Sprint, PODXS 070 Club 160-Meter Great Pumpkin Sprint, Asia-Pacific Fall CW Sprint and the UBA ON 2-Meter Contest are all on tap for this upcoming weekend.

The ARRL School Club Roundup runs from October 16 to 20.

The Run for the Bacon QRP CW Contest is scheduled for October 16.

The Telephone Pioneers QSO Party is scheduled for October 16. The Phone Fray, RSGB 80-Meter Autumn Data Series and CWops Mini-CWT Test are scheduled for October 18.

Please see October QST, page 94, and the ARRL and WA7BNM contest web sites for details



## 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.

### 2017 Schedule:

February 18	April 15
June 17	August 19
October 21	December 16

### 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

October 19th 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