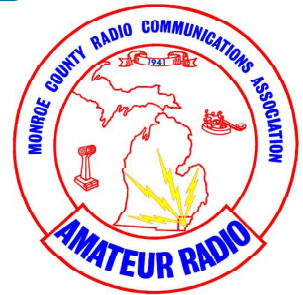
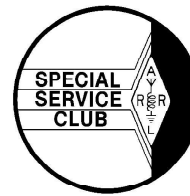


The Hertzian Herald



February 2020 • Volume 44, Issue 2 • Monroe, Michigan, U.S.A.

Off The Kuf:

By Mike – N8KUF

Having been re-elected for a second term as President, I'd like to thank the other 2nd term members of the board (see meeting minutes for detail) for their willingness to support myself and the membership for another year.

My mission remains essentially unchanged from last year (make the hobby fun and somewhere you WANT to be), and my goal is to increase opportunities for involvement of the board and of the membership in general. Together we will strive to offer educational / skill building opportunities.

Those that have known me recognize that I fully support and participate in the many training and public service communication activities conducted by the Monroe County Amateur Radio Public Service Corps (MC-ARPSC) and serve that organization as an Assistant Emergency Coordinator (AEC). You should expect that I will support and encourage your vital participation with that organization. In my spare time I serve in the elected positions of Secretary and Treasurer for the River Raisin Repeater Association (RRRA) and am part of that organization's technical committee. You should also expect that I will encourage your support of the RRRA. You can find (and are encouraged to pursue) more information about those 2 organizations on the MCRCA web pages.

Many have heard me say (more than once I might guess) that having four weeks in (dreary) February seems such a waste, and that two of those weeks should be relocated to June where we would make better use of them. I find myself now forced to rethink those words as THIS month of February has come on stronger than a "March Lion". I didn't believe it while I was still working but now that I am retired – I just can't seem to find the time to do 'nothing'. There is no doubt in my mind that a few weeks gone from THIS February (with no regard to the weather) would be missed and that a few extra weeks in February (although certainly NOT from June) might come in quite handy right now.

At this month's MCRCA meeting, the program topic will include a video about an early DX-pedition (3Y0PI). This video really points out the dedication of a small (multinational) group of Hams who were willing to lay it all on the line in the interest of serving the Ham radio community.

In closing, like I mentioned last year, those who know me recognize that my career path had required 'living by the rules' in a strict sense and as such I felt (and still feel) a need to establish rules for meeting attendance. These rules MAY have gotten a bit out of hand over the past year so – in order to "RESET THE RULES" let's just say:

- 1: All weapons of mass embarrassment MUST be checked at the door and,
- 2: All who are willing to have a good time are welcome

Much MORE to come I hope to see YOU at the meeting
Mike – N8KUF 2020 (re)President – MCRCA



<http://mcrca.org/>

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

Club Officers

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MCRCA Meeting Minutes for January 16, 2020

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm, by Mike Karmol N8KUF.

Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions: One new member (Larry Van Belle KE8HCD), no upgrades or guests.

MINUTES: Motion by Mike N8KUF, supported by Wes KC8SKP, to approve as written in the Herald. Approved.

TREASURER REPORT: Motion by Paul W8PI, supported by John N8DXR, to approve the treasurer's report as passed out to the membership. Approved.

DX REPORT: Sun spot cycle 25 has started.

FUTURE PROGRAMS: To Be Determined

TESTING: Next session - Sat. February 15, 2020. Extra question pool will change July 1, 2020.

MENTOR MOMENT: Terry N8NYP asked about different types of coax. After a discussion, several websites with a comparison chart of differences was pointed out to the group.

ARPSC: Meetings are the first Thursday of the month with a training session on the following Saturday.

ARRL: ARRL Great Lakes Convention March 14th and TMRA Hamfest March 15th at Owens Community College, tickets are \$ 10.00. Wouff-Hong Ceremony at 8:30 pm. <http://www.toledoglc.org/> ARRL's new books for 2020 are now online. <http://www.arrrl.org/shop/What-s-New/>

RRRA: Mike reports all repeaters are working fine.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Elections: Paul W8PI made a motion supported by Keith AD8EP, to accept the slate as posted and re-elect them to their current positions. Approved.

President	Mike Karmol N8KUF
V Pres	Paul Trouten W8PI
Secretary	Brenda VanDaele KB8KQC
Treasurer	Fred VanDaele K8EBI
Dir/Stn Trust	Wes Busdiecker KC8SKP
Director	Rodney Haddix KD8ZNZ
Director	John Copeland N8DXR

DOOR PRIZE DRAWING: Sandra KE8CQW

50/50: Sandra KE8CQW donated some back to the scholarship.

ANOUNCEMENTS: Sandra noted that the Motor City Radio Club will be holding a 13 week General Class starting February 22nd.

PROGRAM: Elections and a video

ADJOURNED: 8:54 pm

ATTENDANCE: 21

AC8WE Donald	AD8EP Keith	K8EBI Fred	K8GO Glen
K8OF Doug	KA8PQH Neil	KB8KQC Brenda	KB8OSU George
KC8SKP Wes	KE8DDM Dalton	N8BZN Don Fritz	N8DXR John
N8KUF Mike	N8NYP Terry	N8RWI John	W8BKT Brian
W8PI Paul	W8GMA Bob	K8ONZ Gary	KE8CQW Sandra
KE8HCD Larry			

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

Terry Kolton N8NYP
n8nyp@arrrl.net

Planning

open

Property Custodian

open

ARPSC Report

Welcome to February. The first month of actual winter this year apparently...

On the topic of weather...

Reminder, SKYWARN training is **Thursday March 12th 6:30-8:30pm** at Dundee Fire Dept, if you are attending you must register on the county EMD website under SKYWARN. NWS Cleveland is not hosting any SKYWARN training again this year and we could see many folks from Lucas County attending which means we could fill up and close registration. Attendance is mandatory every two years to maintain ARPSC certification and highly recommended for all.

The **15th Annual Muskrat Run** was held Saturday February 1st at Sterling State park. We had 7 operators that assisted in covering the checkpoints and making sure everyone was safe and accounted for. A huge THANKS to **N8RWI-John, KE8DDM-Dalton, KD8ZNZ-Rodney, N8KUF-Mike, N8NYP-Terry, W8BKT-Brian** for taking time and bundling up on a Saturday and coming out to help!

From Left: **KD8ZNZ-Rodney, N8KUF-Mike, N8NYP-Terry, KE8DDM-Dalton, W8BKT-Brian, N8RWI-John**

After the Monday Feb 10th ARPSC net we participated in an Intercounty practice Simplex net on 146.475. 20 Operators from Monroe, Washtenaw, Wayne and Lucas counties checked in with me and then WB8TKL-Jay, who is a Washtenaw AEC and State Digital AEC, passed along a Resource Request form for all stations to copy as practice. Simplex operations and relays to the State EOC will be the primary goals for the Michigan State SET in October, so this was a great practice for all to practice



Relays, Passing traffic and other skills used in Simplex/HF Nets. There will be a couple more Intercounty simplex nets conducted before the SET. Everyone is encouraged to participate. Watch the ARPSC Facebook and website for dates when they are announced.

The next ARPSC meeting will be Thursday March 5th 7:30pm at the EMD. The March Saturday session will be the 7th at EMD and everyone attending is encouraged to bring their 'in the middle of nowhere' field operating station to set up outside to get practice setting up and operating from a non-standard (i.e. a non-cozy, well sheltered building).

As always, you can keep track of us via the webpage which is linked though the MCRCA Website and the Facebook page, which is also linked via the club webpage. We thank the group and the club webmaster for doing this for us!

73 until next month

Lance Charter KE8BYC

Emergency Coordinator

Monroe County Amateur Radio Public Service Corp

Amazing GOOP for Ham Radio

You have probably seen Amazing GOOP® in your local hardware store. This product with the funny-sounding name has been around for decades. I've been using it for ham radio applications for the past 25 years or so.

I recently did some extensive research on Amazing GOOP. (Full disclosure: OK. I lied. My "extensive research" merely consisted of a quick Google search and reading a [Wikipedia article](#).) Back in 1972, a senior executive in the aerospace industry created a product called "Shoe GOO®." Shoe GOO was intended to repair rubber-soled shoes. In fact, I first used it many years ago to repair a pair of rubber fishing waders. The original Shoe GOO is still produced by [Eclectic Products](#). They also produce a wide variety of waterproof, flexible adhesives for a host of applications and environments. The Amazing GOOP® product line is what I've been using for ham radio applications.

Here are some of the uses I've found for it:

Sealing portable antenna connections. This was my original use for Amazing GOOP. After soldering the connections between the feedline and dipole elements, I seal them up with Amazing GOOP. I've never had any corrosion problems like you can run into with RTV.

This is the center connector of the doublet that I use for my "Up and Outer" antenna. I used Amazing GOOP to seal the soldered connections and help anchor the wires in place. This particular antenna was built about 15 years ago and is still holding up well.

Wire end loops. Instead of end insulators for my portable wire antennas, I just form small loops. I twist the wire to form a loop and use Amazing GOOP to hold the wire twists in place. (This works very well for my lightweight portable wire antennas but I would use end insulators for permanent antennas.)



End loop on one of my (many) wire antennas for portable use. I attach my throwing line directly to the loop, foregoing an insulator. With smaller diameter wire, I sometimes put some shrink wrap over the GOOP.

Powerpole® connectors. I'm a "belt and suspenders" kind of guy. So, I crimp and solder my Powerpole connectors. After I assemble and test them, I apply some Amazing GOOP where the wires enter the connector housing. This provides strain relief and makes them very rugged. I also place a dab of GOOP on both ends of the roll pin. This keeps them from popping out in the field.

Miniature audio connectors. I'm hard on the little 1/8" audio plugs I use on my CW keys. So, after soldering and testing them, I put some GOOP on the connections before screwing on the plastic housing. Then, I put some GOOP on the wires where they enter the connector to add strain relief. I also apply GOOP to spade/ring lugs after they are crimped and soldered.

A 3.5mm plug and Anderson Powerpole connector after I have applied GOOP as a strain relief. Sure, they look a bit ugly but these connectors are pretty much bomb-proof. These items have seen heavy use in the field over the past 3 or 4 years.

(Cont'd next page)



My CW Clipboard. I used GOOP to attach the steel washers to the [clipboards](#) I use in the field. The washers are how I attach the magnetic bases of my portable paddles and [straight key](#) to the clipboard.

I used GOOP to attach the steel washers to the clipboards I use in the field. The washers are used to attach the magnetic bases of my portable paddles and straight key.

My rainspout antenna. I use a liberal amount of GOOP to seal the connection to [my trusty rainspout antenna](#). GOOP holds up well to the continuous exposure to the elements.

Hopefully, the pictures will clarify my descriptions.

If I can find it, I use one of the GOOP varieties intended for outdoor use for my rainspout and portable wire antennas. Right now, I'm using [Amazing GOOP Max](#). Regular old household variety of Amazing GOOP is fine for most uses, though. For all applications, I like to let the GOOP cure overnight before use.



A few disclaimers are in order:

- This stuff is permanent. Be sure whatever you're using it on works before sealing it up with GOOP.
- This stuff works for me, as described. I don't know what you're using it for or how you're using it, so your results may vary.
- I have absolutely no financial interests in this product. I'm just a satisfied consumer.

So, that's it. I hope you found it useful.
73, Craig WB3GCK

THE WOUFF-HONG

"The Wouff-Hong is amateur radio's most sacred symbol and stands for the enforcement of law and order in amateur operation." - The Radio Amateur's Handbook, 1930, page 11



Beginning in 1917, stories by an anonymous writer using the pseudonym "The Old Man", or "T.O.M." began to appear in the American Radio Relay League's (ARRL) monthly publication QST. Titled the "Rotten Radio" series, they harshly assailed and exposed the poor operating practices of the day with caustic satire and humor. It was in one of these stories, entitled "Rotten QRM", that T.O.M. blasted the gibberish he'd overheard in one particular QSO, citing as an example the words "wouff hong", which apparently was either a concocted abbreviation, or someone's poor attempt at sending.

At the time of the articles T.O.M. did not know what a Wouff-Hong was, but he later adopted it as a disciplinary object with which to both flail bad operating practices and inflict punishment on the perpetrators. It is said that in the following era he had, tongue in cheek, proposed its use as an instrument of torture and discipline, to maintain decency and order in the ham radio community.

It was early in the year 1919 that T.O.M. contributed an article to QST called "Rotten Starting", criticizing the slow progress of the United States government to allow hams to operate again after World War I. It finished with "I am sending you a specimen of a real live Wouff-Hong which came to light when we started to get our junk out of cold storage. Keep it in the editorial sanctum where you can lay your hands on it quickly in an emergency. We will soon be allowed to transmit, and then you will need it." Accompanying this article was a misshapen, wooden, wire-bound two-pronged tuning fork-like object. Yes, the Wouff-Hong.

It was in the July 1919 issue of QST that the portrait of the Wouff-Hong first appeared. At each meeting of the Leagues Board, the Wouff-Hong stood on display, to the humbled looks of the Directors."

Only after his death, was it was revealed to all that T.O.M. had actually been Hiram Percy Maxim, the founder and first President of the ARRL. It is said that he took the secret of the origin of the first Wouff-Hong to his grave.

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 _____ RRRA 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 (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 _____



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, HK6O, N3BNA, W1UE, W2GD, The Daily DX, the OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX News, DXNL, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.

MALDIVES, 8Q. Juan, HK4A is QRV as 8Q7AR until February 17. Activity is on FM Satellites AO-91, AO-92, IO-86, and with APRS via the ISS from Grid Square MJ64. QSL via LoTW.

NEPAL, 9N. Yuris, YL2GM and Eugene, EA5EL are QRV as 9N7AM until February 16. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8 in DXpedition mode with two stations active. QSL direct to YL2GN.

CUBA, CO. Members of the Punta Maya DX Group are QRV as T45FM until February 16 from the Punta Maya Lighthouse, ARLHS CUB-032. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using mainly SSB and FT8. QSL via RW6HS.

PHILIPPINES, DU. Pres, N6SS will be QRV as DU6/N6SS in the ARRL International DX CW contest as a Single Op/Single Band on 80 meters entry. QSL via LoTW.

PALESTINE, E4. Members of the Radio Club de Provins are QRV as E44CC until February 17. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, PSK, FT8 and FT4. QSL via F5GSJ.

MARTINIQUE, FM. Yuri, VE3DZ will be QRV as TO4A in the ARRL International DX CW contest as an All Band entry. QSL to home call.

FRENCH POLYNESIA, FO. Will, AA4NC and Ron, AA4VK are QRV as TX4N and TX4VK, respectively, from Tahiti until February 17. Activity is on all HF bands using CW, SSB, FT8 and FT4. This includes being active as TX4N in the ARRL International DX CW contest. QSL TX4N via EA5GL and TX4VK direct to home call.

HONDURAS, HR. Dennis, W1UE will be QRV as HQ9X from Roatan Island, IOTA NA-057, in the ARRL International DX CW contest as a Single Op/All Band entry. QSL via KQ1F.

US VIRGIN ISLANDS, KP2. Brian, ND3F is QRV as KP2/ND3F from St. Croix, IOTA NA-106, until February 18. This includes being an entry in the ARRL International DX CW contest. QSL via EA5GL.

GREENLAND, OX. Bo, OZ1DJJ is QRV as OX3LX from Aasiaat Island, IOTA NA-134, for the new few weeks. He may also be active from Disko Island, IOTA NA-134. QSL via LoTW.

ARUBA, P4. John, W2GD is QRV as P44W until February 17. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters. This includes being an entry in the ARRL International DX CW contest. QSL direct to N2MM.

NETHERLANDS, PA. Special event station PA75OV is QRV from Gennep until February 16 to commemorate Operation Veritable that took place in February and March 1945. QSL via bureau.

CURACAO, PJ2. Thilo, DL9NBJ is QRV as PJ2/DL9NBJ until February 19. Activity is on the HF bands using CW, SSB and FT8. QSL via Club Log.

CONGO, TN. Konstantin, UA9FGR is QRV as TN/UA9FGR from Brazzaville until February 29. Activity is on 40 to 17 meters, and possibly 6 meters, using CW, SSB and FT8, all with low power. QSL to home call.

MALI, TZ. Ulmar, DK1CE is QRV as TZ1CE from Bamako until February 20. Activity is on the HF bands using CW, SSB and some FT8. QSL to home call.

ST. KITTS AND NEVIS, V4. Laurence, K3VX and William, W3WH are QRV as V4/home calls from St. Kitts Island, IOTA NA-102. They will be active as V4/K3VX in the ARRL International DX CW contest. QSL to home calls.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS, VP5. Bill, AC0W and Pat, K0PC are QRV as VP5/AC0W and VP5/K0PC, respectively, from Providenciales, IOTA NA-002, until February 17. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using mostly CW. They will be active as VP5K in the ARRL International DX CW contest. QSL VP5K via K0PC and others to home calls.

NEW ZEALAND, ZL. Mark, ZL3AB, Geoff, ZL3GA and Phil, ZL3PAH will be QRV as ZL3X in the ARRL International DX CW contest. QSL via LoTW.

PARAGUAY, ZP. Dale, N3BNA, Bud, N7CW and Edgar, KC2RG will be QRV as ZP0R in the ARRL International DX CW contest. Look for ZP/KC2RG and ZP/N3BNA to be active using CW and various digital modes, respectively. QSL via operators' instructions.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The ARRL International DX CW Contest, American Lighthouse Activity Weekend, PODXS 070 Club Valentine Sprint, NCCC RTTY Sprint, QRP 80-Meter CW Fox Hunt, NCCC CW Sprint, Russian PSK World Wide Contest, Feld Hell Sprint and the AWA Amplitude Modulation QSO Party are all on tap for this weekend.

The Run for the Bacon QRP CW Contest is scheduled for February 17.

The CWops Mini-CWT Test, AGCW Semi-Automatic Key Evening, QRP 40-Meter CW Fox Hunt and Phone Fray are scheduled for February 19.

Please see February QST, page 81 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 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.

2020 Schedule:

February 15	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

February 20th 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