

# The Hertzian Herald



## Off The Kuf:

By Mike – N8KUF



YET ANOTHER month has come and gone, and again, it has happened so fast I am struggling to recall what month we are in, never mind what day it is. Applying some of the Human Performance principles that I learned about at my former place of employment – I realize that my mind has been deprived of certain key milestones that normally would help it to determine where I am at relative to the calendar. Those events – TMRA Swap, Monroe Swap, Vienna Park Field Day, 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade – are missing from my life this year causing my brain to have to work harder at recognizing how many pages of the calendar have been turned over so far. I am thankful that my analog watch includes the ability to tell me what day of the week it is, but I really need to replace the battery in my digital watch that also showed me what month we are in. Until then I need to get better at recognizing that I carry a smart phone fully capable of telling me the date – now I need to remember how to access the calendar function.

I hope many of you had an opportunity to take part in Field Day this year by making some contacts from home or, as some did while creating an opportunity to go portable by camping out at a nearby campground. Thanks to everyone who was able to accumulate some points for the club. While it seems like a contest (and it is) – the basic purpose of the event (just check the scoring criteria) is to encourage amateurs to exercise their ability to establish communications capabilities in the event of a large scale disaster / emergency situation (without commercial power or permanent antenna structures). Think aftermath of a major hurricane, blizzard, or other extreme weather event – ham operators are typically the first to be able to establish communications into/out of a stricken area. Eventually the resources to re-establish normal infrastructure-based communications/ power are rebuilt – until then Hams have been/ will be there to provide those critical communications paths.

I hope to see many of you for the July MCRCA meeting (via Zoom). I had hoped that by now we would be able to get back into the “social gathering” mode of monthly meetings. While video conferencing gives us the ability to come together without actually coming together – we miss the personal one on one meetings before and after the “meeting”. This month I plan to conduct a roundtable discussion so please come prepared to tell everyone a little about your interests and what you have been up to lately. Please remember the rules for Video Conference attendance are:

- 1: Be sure to wash your hands for 20 seconds prior to sitting down at your computer
- 2: Observe good Social Distancing practices, masks will not be required
- 3: Be prepared to tell everyone a bit about your radio interests and activities
- 4: Bring a smile (easy without the mask) and be prepared to have a good time

I’ll see YOU at the meeting (via video conference) and above all –

STAY HEALTHY, STAY SAFE – do your part to protect yourself AND OTHERS, it is the RIGHT THING TO DO

Mike Karmol – N8KUF 2020 President – MCRCA

<http://mcrca.org/>  
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[www.facebook.com/groups/1643856795878368/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1643856795878368/)

### Club Officers

#### PRESIDENT

Mike Karmol N8KUF  
mkarmol@bex.net

#### VICE PRESIDENT

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busdiecw@netscape.net

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# MCRCA Meeting Minutes for June 18, 2020

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm, by Mike Karmol N8KUF.  
Pledge of Allegiance  
Introductions: No new members, 3 upgrade and 1 guest.

MINUTES: Motion by Paul W8PI, supported by John N8DXR, to approve as written in the Herald.  
Approved.

TREASURER REPORT: Motion by Dale WA8EFK, supported by Wes KC8SKP, to approve the treasurer's report as passed out to the membership. Approved.

DX REPORT: Paul – Most activity has been on 6m with some good sporadic E using FT8 and some SSB. Worked Europe in the morning, South America in the afternoon and Japan in the evening.

FUTURE PROGRAMS: Fox Hunts

TESTING: Next session - Sat. June 20, 2020. **Appointment only and masks mandatory.**

HAMFEST: It was decided that, with regard for the safety of attendees, our members, hamfest staff, and enforcing CV19 cooperation, plus the fact that some vendors and attendees would probably still not come for safety reasons, this would cut back on profits, making it impractical to continue at this time.  
**Canceled.**

FIELD DAY: Paul wrote an article explaining how this year's FD will be worked from homes and all scores will be sent in and connected to the club for scoring. N3FJP FD logging software has a new update and with it we can link everyone's logs together on the internet. We will be able to see everyone's score in real time.

ARPSC: Mike — Congratulations to Lance KE8BYC and the ARPSC organization for their outstanding performance in last years Simulated Emergency Test. The 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade was canceled in Dundee. The ARPSC participated in the National Red Cross Drill. Next meeting will be June 9<sup>th</sup> and may be held in a park.

ARRL: Dale reports the ARRL is looking for a new Chief Executive Officer. The search has been hard with the Covid-19 issues. They have managed to come up with several excellent candidates. Wauseon Ohio held their hamfest last week., and Auburn Indiana will be holding their hamfest July 11<sup>th</sup>.

RRRA: Mike reports most stuff is working – The weather receiver is not working and out of service for now.

OLD BUSINESS: Hamfest canceled at board meeting. — Scholarship – Sent to **Natalie Drew Harper** from Bedford Senior High School.

NEW BUSINESS: None

ANOUNCEMENTS: Mike announced that we might try and hold the next meeting at a park somewhere.

PROGRAM: 3 videos, one on lightening vs antenna and Amateur satellite communication basics.

ADJOURNED: 8:47 pm

ATTENDANCE: 16

K8EBI Fred	KA8NCR Jeff	KB8KQC Brenda
KB8OSU George	KC8SKP Wes	KE8DDM Dalton
KE8KNZ Tom	N8BZN Don	N8DXR John
N8KUF Mike	N8NYP Terry	W8PI Paul
WA8EFK Dale	WA8YZB John	Ron Duvall
Gina Braden		



## 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@arrl.net

Planning

open

Property Custodian

open

## Field Day Results

Field Day is over for another year. Thank you for helping the MCRCA to get through an unusual Field Day this time. As we did not get together in tents and parks this year, each of us worked FD from our home stations. The results look good so far, quite similar to our better years from the past. Final scores will not be announced until December.

We had nine members who worked Field Day from their home stations. They used several modes, CW, SSB, and Digital (FT-8 and FT-4). Here is a list of the final scores sent into ARRL by each participant.

Call Sign	Q's	CW	Phone	Digital	Raw Points	Summary Points
W8PI	658	658	0	0	1,316	2682
KG8P	300	18	42	240	558	1166
WA8YZB	269	0	17	252	521	1092
KA8NCR	106	84	22	0	190	530
N8DXR	267	0	267	0	267	317
KE8BYC	2	0	2	0	2	284
K8EBI	26	0	26	0	26	202
AD8EP	28	0	28	0	28	78
W8IIE	4	0	4	0	8	58
<b>Total</b>	<b>1656</b>	<b>760</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>2916</b>	<b>6409</b>

Raw points are based on the number of contacts and mode(s) used; CW and DIG are worth two (2) points phone worth one (1) point each. Summary points are calculated by the raw points and power level used and bonus points.

Based on the records from the past 24 years, this year we will be number 7 based on contacts and number 4 based on summary point score. This is very good based on how Field Day was done this year.

Hopefully next year we will be back to normal and we will all get together at the park for a good old fashion normal Field Day operation.

Again thanks for helping make Field Day 2020 one of our better years.

73,

Paul W8PI



## ARPSC Monroe County

Another month, another round of changes in this wacky year.

Thank you to everyone that has participated in the SKYWARN activations. We have up to now been very lucky, like we have been the past few years, that we haven't had any large storms or major damage. They say a "Quiet activation is a successful one". Here's to hoping our activations remain "Quiet" the rest of the year.

At this time, we are planning to have an August meeting and we will hold it at a local park and the topic will be using the packet network. Stay tuned for location updates and any changes dependent on state and local ordinances.

Everyone, stay safe and hope to see everyone in person soon.

73

Lance Charter KE8BYC  
Emergency Coordinator  
Monroe Amateur Radio Public Service Corps



## The Rebirth of HF

In his latest blog post ICQ Podcast presenter **Dan Romanchik KB6NU** looks at a paper produced by Rohde and Schwartz - The Rebirth of HF

The paper provides a good description of HF propagation that could be of great help to any newcomer, it also notes:

*"...in order to allow HF to meet the minimum requirements for a modern global communications technology, improvement or enhancements over "traditional" or "legacy" HF are required. The first and most important of these is improved data performance. Although HF will never match the throughput provided by satellites, a certain minimum data rate is necessary for making HF a viable choice in modern applications. Despite the dominance of data, voice is still a critical component in a global communications system, and here too there is substantial room for improvement compared to "legacy" analog HF voice."*

Modern communication techniques enable throughput rates of up to 240 kbps in a 48 kHz wide HF channel.

Read the post by Dan Romanchik KB6NU at  
<https://www.kb6nu.com/the-rebirth-of-hf/>

Read the Rohde and Schwartz paper at  
<https://tinyurl.com/TheRebirthOfHF>

15 frames per second color video streaming can be achieved on HF using a bandwidth of 18 or 24 kHz. In a test in 2011 video was streamed over a 1,700 km path for 75 minutes without sync loss, see  
[https://web.archive.org/web/20160311153726/http://hfindustry.com/meetings\\_presentations/presentation\\_materials/2011\\_sept\\_hfia/presentations/3\\_rockwell\\_wbhf\\_high\\_order\\_gam\\_ota\\_results.pdf](https://web.archive.org/web/20160311153726/http://hfindustry.com/meetings_presentations/presentation_materials/2011_sept_hfia/presentations/3_rockwell_wbhf_high_order_gam_ota_results.pdf)

In 2012 successful trials took place in the UK with 24 kHz bandwidth high-speed data and video transmissions on 3.613 MHz in the 80m band, see  
[https://web.archive.org/web/20160826162928/http://www.hfindustry.com/meetings\\_presentations/presentation\\_materials/2012\\_sept\\_hfia/presentations/RC\\_WBHF\\_UK\\_Trial\\_2012.pdf](https://web.archive.org/web/20160826162928/http://www.hfindustry.com/meetings_presentations/presentation_materials/2012_sept_hfia/presentations/RC_WBHF_UK_Trial_2012.pdf)

# Will digital voice (on HF) ever be a thing?

May 30, 2018 by [dan kb6nu](#)

## FreeDV

A couple of days ago, Bruce, K6BP, tweeted:

*FreeDV radio digital voice 1.3 released as source, no packages yet. 700D mode reported to consistently outperform SSB, is loud and clear while SSB is inaudible, error-free transatlantic communication reported.*

For those not familiar with FreeDV, here's what the website has to say:

*FreeDV is a Digital Voice mode for HF radio. You can run FreeDV using a free GUI application for Windows, Linux and OSX that allows any SSB radio to be used for low bit rate digital voice. There are several reports of the new FreeDV 700D mode outperforming SSB at low SNRs. At high SNRs FreeDV 1600 sounds like FM, with no annoying analog HF radio noise.*

*Alternatively, you can buy a [SM1000 FreeDV adaptor](#) that allows you to run FreeDV (1600 mode) on any HF radio without a PC or sound card. If you are a hardware or software developer, you can integrate FreeDV into your project using the LGPL licensed [FreeDV API](#).*

*Speech is compressed down to 700-1600 bit/s then modulated onto a 1.25 kHz wide signal comprised of 16 QPSK carriers which is sent to the Mic input of a SSB radio. The signal is received by an SSB radio, then demodulated and decoded by FreeDV.*

*FreeDV was built by an international team of Radio Amateurs working together on coding, design, user interface and testing. FreeDV is open source software, released under the GNU Public License version 2.1. The modems and Codec 2 speech codec used in FreeDV are also open source.*

That all sounds good, but FreeDV has been criticized as sounding too robotic. I forwarded the tweet to my friend Rick, KA8BMA, who designed the hardware for the [SM1000 FreeDV adaptor](#). He said, "There are several male and female samples for the new 700D mode. Check it out at [rowetel.com](#)."

I listed to the sample QSO I found there, and I must admit that it did sound better than when I had investigated FreeDV a couple of years ago. Maybe these new improvements will make this a more enjoyable mode to operate. It certainly does have some distinct advantages over plain old single sideband. That being the case, perhaps FreeDV will actually become a thing sooner rather than later.

**Here is a list of the various VHF/UHF nets here in the southeastern Michigan area**

courtesy of kb6nu.com:

Toledo Radio Amateur Club Traffic Net (also heard in Clyde): Daily at 6:30pm on 147.375+ PL 103.5, 146.610- PL 103.5, 145.350- PL 110.9, and 442.950+ PL 103.5

Southeastern Michigan Traffic Net (Detroit): Daily at 10:15pm on 146.760- PL 100.0

Utica Shelby Emergency Communications Association Information Net: Sundays at 1pm on 147.180+ PL 100.0

University of Michigan Amateur Radio Club Net (Ann Arbor): Sundays at 8pm on 145.230- PL 100.0

South Lyon Area Amateur Radio Club Net: Sundays at 8pm on 147.040+ PL 110.9

Tin Lizzy Net (Dearborn): Sundays at 8pm on 145.270- PL 100.0

Adrian Amateur Radio Club Net: Sundays at 8pm on 145.370- PL 85.4

Utica Shelby Emergency Communications Association Traders Net: Sundays at 8pm on 147.180+ PL 100.0

Washtenaw County ARPSC Net (Ann Arbor): Sundays at 8:30pm on 145.150- PL 100.0

Toledo Mobile Radio Association Information Net: Sundays at 8:30pm on 147.270+ PL 103.5 and 442.850+ PL 103.5

Livingston Amateur Radio Klub Net (Howell): Sundays at 9pm on 146.680- PL 162.2

Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club Net (Oak Park): Sundays at 9pm on 146.640- PL 100.0

Lansing ARPSC Net: Mondays at 7pm on 145.390- PL 100.0

ARROW Communications Association Net (Ann Arbor): Mondays at 8pm on 146.960-

Clarkston Repeater Association Net: Mondays at 8pm on 146.840- PL 100.0

Michigan Specialized Communications Group ATV/Digital Net (Flint): Mondays at 8pm on 147.260+ PL 100.0

Monroe County ARPSC Net: Mondays at 8pm on 146.720- PL 100.0

Michigan VHF Traffic Net: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 9pm on 145.470- PL 114.8 for Jackson or 107.2 for Lansing

Chelsea Amateur Radio Club Net: Tuesdays at 8pm on 145.450- PL 100.0

Quarter Century Wireless Association Net (Lansing): Tuesdays at 8pm on 146.700- PL 107.2

Motor City Radio Club Information Net (Trenton): Tuesdays at 9pm on 147.240+ PL 100.0

Mid-Michigan Information Net (Lansing): Wednesdays at 7pm on 145.390- PL 100.0

Michigan Specialized Communications Group Traffic and Training Net (Flint): Wednesdays at 8pm on 147.260+ PL 100.0

Michigan State University ARC Friends and Info Net (Lansing): Thursdays at 7pm on 145.390- PL 100.0

Livonia Amateur Radio Club Net: Thursdays at 8pm on 145.350- PL 100.0

Oakland County ARPSC Net (Pontiac): Thursdays at 8pm on 146.900- PL 100.0

Macomb County ARPSC Net (Mt. Clemens): Thursdays at 8pm on 147.200+ PL 100.0

L'Anse Creuse Amateur Radio Club Net (Sterling Heights): Thursdays at 8:30pm on 147.080+ PL 100.0

Cascades Amateur Radio Society Net (Jackson): Thursdays at 9pm on 146.880- PL 100.0

Novi Amateur Radio Club Net: Thursdays at 9pm on 444.800+ PL 110.9

Utica Shelby Emergency Communications Association Hoot Owl Net:  
Saturdays at 11pm on 147.180+ PL 100.0

For a list of all repeaters in the southeast Michigan area,  
check out the [W8SRC Repeater Guide](#)

*The GM Club 440 and 2 meter  
repeater antennas on top of  
the RenCen.*





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 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.

**THAILAND, HS.** Champ, E21EIC will operate E2A in the IARU HF World Championship in a SOAB Mixed effort. QSL via E21EIC and LoTW.

**CROATIA, 9A.** Members of the Radio Klub Novi Bokanjac are operating as 9A164T from Zadar to mark the birthday of Nikola Tesla. QSL via bureau or eQSL.

**PHILIPPINES, DU.** Members of the Ham Society of the Philippines are operating as DZ30SH from Malolos City until August 29, supporting STAYHOME activities. QSL via LoTW or eQSL.

**BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, E7.** Vedo, E72U informs us that E7HQ will be the Headquarters Station of ARABH in the IARU contest. QSL via E70ARA or LoTW.

**BONAIRE, PJ4.** John, K4BAI will participate in the IARU HF World Championship as PJ4A. Before and after the contest he will sign PJ4/K4BAI. QSL via K4BAI.

**RUSSIA, RA.** Victor, RV3YR and Viktor, RN3YN will commemorate the first Soviet-American space flight in the Apollo-Soyuz program with the call sign UE45SA. They will be QRV from July 11 to 19. QSL via RV3YR (d/B) or ClubLog OQRS.

**POLAND, SP.** Special event station SN87LOT commemorates the transatlantic flight of the Lithuanian pilots Steponas Darius and Stasys Girenas 87 years ago. QSL via SP1PMY, direct or via the bureau.

**CANADA, VE.** VC3STYWELL, the third COVID-19 special event station run by The Seven Thirty Social Distancing Net, will be active until July 19. QSL via VE3ES.

**INDONESIA, YB.** Special event station 8A343CJR celebrates the 343<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the Cianjur District on Java. They will be QRV until July 12 on 80, 40, 20, 15 and 2 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, FT8 and FM. QSL via direct from info at qrz.com.

**GREENLAND, OX.** Bo, OZ1DJJ will be QRV from Aasiaat Island as OX3LX until July 30. Look for him on 40 to 4 meters. He will also try to activate other islands of this IOTA group. QSL via OZ0J.

**OGASAWARA, JD.** Tony, JD1/JH1FFW will be QRV from July 15 to 19 on 40, 20, 15, 10 and 6 meters using SSB and FT8. QSL via LoTW, eQSL or the bureau system.

**FAROE ISLANDS, OY.** Torsten, OY/DL4APJ and Udo, OY/DL2AQI will be QRV September 15 to 23, holiday style on 80 to 10 meters, using CW, SSB, RTTY, PSK and FT8. QSL to their home QTHs direct, or via the DARC bureau, eQSL or LoTW.

**KOSOVO, Z6.** German team Z66DX will be QRV from October 15 to 28, on 160 to 10 meters, including the newer bands. Look for them using CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8. Operators are DJ9KH, DL2AMD, DL2AWG, DL3APO, DL9GFB and DM2AUJ. QSL through Club Log OQRS for direct or bureau. The LoTW upload will come later.

**RUSSIA, R1.** The Russian Robinson Club announces that Milhail, R1MJ, Yulia, R1CBL and Vitalia, RA1AGJ will be QRV from Gogland Island (EU-133) from July 23 to 28. They plan to operate in the RSGB IOTA Contest with their individual calls. Activity will be on 160 to 15 meters. QSL via home calls.

**BULGARIA, LZ.** During this year's IARU HF World Championship the Bulgarian Federation of Radio Amateurs 80-meter HQ station will be transmitting as LZ0AA from The Vakarel Transmitter broadcasting facility which has been off the air since January 1, 2015. The transmit antenna, which was erected in 1937, is 215 meters high. After the contest the antenna will be taken down.

**CORSICA, TK.** Max, DL8UW is active as TK4VQO. He is QRV on 160 to 6 meters using CW and SSB. You can also find him every day on the Medical Assistance Radio (MAR) net on 14332 kHz at 0730z. QSL via home call.

**BURKINA FASO, XT2.** Max, DK1MAX will be active as XT2MAX sometime during November to December. Activity is usually holiday style on all bands using mostly CW and FT8. Look for more details to be forthcoming.

**THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO.** The IARU HF World Championship, FISTS Summer Unlimited Sprint, SKCC Weekend Sprintathon and the QRP ARCI Summer Homebrew Sprint will keep contesters busy this weekend. The 4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint is on July 13, the RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship, SSB is on July 15, and the NAQCC CW Sprint is on July 16. Please see July 2020 QST page 74 and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM Contest Web Site 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.

**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

July 16th 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