

# The Hertzian Herald



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## D Fritz Bitz:

The hamfest is just a week away and it looks like things are coming together nicely. I would still like to see a few more people volunteer for setup, cleanup and general help during the event but the major positions have been filled in and I expect more people will step up. Please email me if you will be there that day and would like to help for an hour or so.



Next up is Field Day 2021. Saturday June 26<sup>th</sup> at Vienna Park in Temperance beginning at 9 AM we will start setting up radios and antennas for a 24-hour nationwide contest. Again, we will need volunteers to help get things set up and install temporary antennas, generators and radios. If you can be there Saturday morning to help out that would be great. Once everything is setup, operation starts at 2 PM.

There will be a potluck dinner at 6 PM on Saturday for the family and then it's an all-nighter on the radio. See the article later in the newsletter for more about Field Day.

We will have multiple radio stations set up and will need operators starting at 2 on Saturday until 2 on Sunday. I think this will be a great time for some of the old timers to teach the new hams some tricks they have learned over the years. We will especially need CW operators. If you work CW we need you to come out and help the new guys, see how to set it up and how it works. I only do 13 words per minute so I won't be a good example but I will be working CW as much as I can.

Remember to be there Sunday afternoon to work the radios and also to help take all the equipment down at 2 PM. Personally I am excited about the next 2 weekends. Please join us not only because we need the help, but also to share the enjoyment of this great hobby!

So, until next month, 73.  
Don Fritz  
N8BZN



**ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS  
THIS MONTH'S MEETING  
WILL RETURN TO THE RED CROSS BLDG.**

<http://mcrca.org/>

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

### Club Officers

#### PRESIDENT

Don Fritz N8BZN  
donfritz56@gmail.com

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## MCRCA Meeting Minutes for May 20, 2021

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions: One new members, no upgrades or guests.

MINUTES: Motion by Paul W8PI, supported by Larry KE8HCD, to approve as written in the Herald. Approved.

TREASURER REPORT: Motion by Mike N8KUF, supported by Wes KC8SKP, to approve the treasurer's report as passed out to the membership. Approved.

DX REPORT: Tom had technical difficulties

CONTESTS: Paul W8PI, Hamvention QSO Party will be held as a 12-hour event on Saturday of what would have been the Hamvention weekend: May 22, 2021 8am to 8pm EDT. - CQ WW WPX Contest, CW: 0000Z, May 29 to 2359Z, May 30. - Kentucky QSO party, June 5 - 6, 2021. - ARRL VHF Contest, June 12-14, 2021. - West Virginia QSO Party, 1600Z Saturday June 19, 2021 through 0400Z Sunday June 20, 2021.

TESTING: Next session - Sat. June 19, 2021. **3 examinees only, Masks required.**

HAMFEST: Fred K8EBI - The club held a board meeting last Saturday, and decided that with the reduction in Covid restrictions we would go ahead with the hamfest. - We still have a few restrictions to follow but I will let Don cover that info. He's in charge of that part. - I currently have 21 tables left, 64 tickets sold, and 18 Trunk spaces spoken for. I sent invoices to all the vendors that made reservations, I mailed out all of the paid registrations, and I emailed all of the past attendees on my list about 2000 people. I've been getting a few more registrations and a lot of emails stating they are glad to hear we are holding the hamfest. - Still waiting for replies from a couple of key workers but always need a lot of ticket sellers. We have one more meeting before the hamfest to get the workers needed. Contact Don N8BZN to get on the ticket sellers list.

ARPSC: Mike N8KUF, the May meeting, indoors, at the EMD went well. The following Saturday a training session, outdoors in the parking lot, was held to allow everyone to setup their Go-Kits and test them. Everyone was able to walk around and get ideas for their own Go-Kits.

ARRL: Dale WA8EFK, the FCC will be requiring an email address, and an FRN#, when applying for a license. These addresses will be protected and not available to anyone else.

RRRA: Mike N8KUF, the Repeater Association is encouraging anyone who is not a paid member to sign up and pay your dues. These funds are used for upkeep of the repeaters. 2021 is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the RRRA. Back in 1971, two guys sitting in the basement wanted to set up a better form of communications and that is how the repeater began. Mike reports all repeaters are 99-1/2% functional.

OLD BUSINESS: Field Day, Mike N8KUF talked about what happens at Field Day June 26 & 27<sup>th</sup>. Setup starts at 9 am Saturday, and operating begins at 2 pm Saturday and runs to 2 pm Sunday. Anyone can operate as an Extra license class operator on Field Day. At 6 pm Saturday comes the big event, the pot luck banquet. Everyone is asked to bring a dish to pass. The club will furnish hamburgers, hot dogs etc. along with condiments, paper plates, plastic ware, and drinks.

NEW BUSINESS:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Board meeting after the regular meeting on Zoom

PROGRAM: A video on electrical safety with a good demonstration of how powerful electricity can be.

ADJOURNED: 8:35 pm

ATTENDANCE: 24

## Committees

### Club Station

Wes Busdiecker KC8SKP

### DX Net

Soon

### Field Day

Jeff Breitrner KA8NCR

### Finance

Paul Trouten W8PI (chair)  
Fred VanDaele KA8EBI  
Dale Williams WA8EFK

### HamFest

Fred VanDaele KA8EBI

### Hertzian Herald

Fred VanDaele KA8EBI

### Historian

Paul Trouten W8PI

### Public Relations

Terry Kolton N8NYP  
Tom Imlach KE8KNZ

### Scholarship

Fred VanDaele KA8EBI

### Program Chairman

soon

### Membership

Terry Kolton N8NYP  
n8nyp@arrl.net

### Property Custodian

Paul Trouten W8PI

Set up will begin on Saturday morning June 19<sup>th</sup> at 9 AM. The fair people are setting up and taking down the tables again this year which will greatly reduce the heavy labor of years past. We still need to label all of the tables with numbers and vendor names, align them properly and string up 4 electrical cords so the vendors in the center can have electricity. We will need to spread chairs out according to the diagram so that each vendor that wants one will get a chair or two. Dale WA8EFK, will also need help running wires and installing the PA system throughout the trunk sales area and inside the building.

**Sunday morning** the early workers will enter through the Raisinville Road gate. It will be opened by 6:15 AM so that we can get in place in time to start letting trunk sales people in at 6:30 AM. Building captain, trunk sale guides and ticket sellers need to be in place by 6:30 AM. We will use **446.600 simplex** during the Hamfest but please don't announce this on the 72 repeater as the trunk sale people will harass us to no end.

We need about 8 to 10 people to sign up for ticket sales Sunday Morning hourly from 6:30 to Noon, so people won't have to spend all day out standing in the sun. If you can help out selling tickets, please contact Rodney Haddix KD8ZNZ as soon as possible.

If we get enough help and good weather we should have a pretty nice Hamfest again this year. We have only 5 tables left as of June 10<sup>th</sup>.

\_\_\_\_\_

The DeOxit products are excellent but plain DeOxit is just a cleaner. The DeOxit Gold has a protectant. The DeOxit Shield (\$29.00) is made for outside use and has a protective shield. I use the plain DeOxit to spray the light connectors on the four trailers I use every year for boats and trash. It just cleans the metal parts. There is a whole family of DeOxit products. I have another one I use for potentiometers and my roller inductor in my antenna tuner but can't remember the name of it. This one was highly recommended for the Buddipole and other connectors used in portable situations. WD40 was mentioned and seems to have worked but is not a cleaner or protectant, just a drying lubricant. Hope this helps as the out in the field weather is approaching. Field Day too! DeOxit products are not cheap but a little goes a long way. It has saved the day for years on my older rigs I was working on, especially audio equipment. Oh, the good old tube days.

[https://www.amazon.com/CAIG-LABORATORIES-SN5S-6N-CONTACT-PROTECTOR/dp/B005S3JW44/ref=asc\\_df\\_B005S3JW44/?tag=hyprod-208&Code=08&ad=22092678&ps=8&rdw=8&rd=54097386645515&pre=8&prw=8&prt=8&de=8&dm=8&rt=8&hpy=901568&agi=446064330210&psc=1](https://www.amazon.com/CAIG-LABORATORIES-SN5S-6N-CONTACT-PROTECTOR/dp/B005S3JW44/ref=asc_df_B005S3JW44/?tag=hyprod-208&Code=08&ad=22092678&ps=8&rdw=8&rd=54097386645515&pre=8&prw=8&prt=8&de=8&dm=8&rt=8&hpy=901568&agi=446064330210&psc=1)

## FIELD DAY 2021

MCRCA Field Day this year will be held at Vienna Park in Temperance during the 4<sup>th</sup> full weekend in June.

This national Ham Radio affair is an annual event that is sponsored/ championed by the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). The event is in the form of a contest where organizations (and individuals) around the country (US, territories, and Canada) operate for 24 hours straight, typically from a non-permanent location (as in a disaster situation) and with the goal of contacting as many other FD'rs as possible during the period. Points are awarded for each valid contact. Only one contact, per call, per band, per mode is allowed. Computer based logging programs are used to record contacts, report any duplicates, and track points accumulated.

Here in Monroe County, as with many other locations, antennas are strung up in trees, operating positions are assembled in tents, generators are connected and fired up, and attempts are made at establishing tolerable relations with area insects and the occasional frisbee golfer. We have placed remarkably high in the standings in recent years, and with everyone's commitment we can be serious contenders for top place in the region.

Setup begins at 0900 on Saturday. Anyone and everyone who is interested in helping with the effort while learning some tips and tricks on getting antennas into the trees and setting up tents / generators and operating stations while managing logistics of a semi cohesive field operation is plenty welcome to attend. When the operations begin at 2:00 pm local time Saturday, the action does not stop until 2:00 pm Sunday at which time help with de-constructing (note: NOT destructing) the site and packing up the gear will be greatly appreciated. Throughout the 24-hour period and especially during the nighttime hours we are always in need of both operators and loggers – please try to find a few hours (or more) to get active in at least one of these roles.

This year's operation will include a GOTA (Get on the Air) station where even non licensed persons (family members, friends, visitors) can get on the radio and make some contacts under the supervision of a licensed control operator.

A family potluck is conducted Saturday at 6:00 for the purpose of culinary delight, social interaction, and introduction of your family and friends to your newly established insect buddies. Your club provides soft drinks, burgers & dogs, condiments, etc. with the main course prepared by one of the area's premier field day chefs. You are asked to bring a dish to share (salads, sides, and desserts are popular) and please remember – all family members and interested friends are welcomed. See further details elsewhere on the MCRCA.org website. I hope to see you at Vienna Park on the 4th full weekend in June for this significant event.



### **River Raisin Repeater Association, Inc.**

A note to inform everyone that the current RRRRA membership info has been posted on the MCRCA web page. The RRRRA thanks all members very much for your participation in the River Raisin Repeater Association.

As for everyone else:

**We need and appreciate your continued support!!!**

It's not too late to join the RRRRA or to renew your membership – See Mike N8KUF at the Hamfest

Thanks for your continuing support and encouragement. Additional information can be found on <http://www.mcrca.org/RRRA/Index>



## ARPSC June Report

Hamfest, Field Day and Parades...Oh my,

It is so good to see everything rolling again and I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the upcoming events.

Hamfest will be here in just a few days (be sure you have contacted Don or Fred and give a few hours to help out make it go smooth), Field Day and Mike's cooking is the next weekend (again help for setup and tear down is appreciated)



Sunday July 4<sup>th</sup> will be the Independence Day parade in Dundee and ARPSC is looking for some help to lineup units, get their information recorded for Dale to announce and then help out if needed along the route. If you can come out for a few hours before your cookouts and fireworks, we could use 7-10 folks. We will meet at the WEST parking lot at Dundee High School between 11:00-11:15 am; we will have a briefing at 11:30 am, parade lines up at noon and steps off at 1pm. We should be wrapped up by 2:00-2:30 pm. If you can help out, please let me know in the next 10 days. [ke8byc@yahoo.com](mailto:ke8byc@yahoo.com)

We will Not be having the Saturday July 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday training session, with the Meeting on Thursday and the parade on Sunday.

Please make sure if you are working towards your county ID, keep working on your Position Task Book trainings.

If you are one of those folks that have recently received their license, Welcome to the hobby and if you are interested in the Public Service aspect, please contact me by email for more information on ARPSC.

As always, you can keep track of us via the ARPSC webpage which is linked though the MCRCA Website <http://mcrca.org/> 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  
[ke8byc@yahoo.com](mailto:ke8byc@yahoo.com)

## Amateur (Ham) Radio on a Budget

### Eric Sok

I'm buying a radioddity gd77 on ebay is a great investment if you install open gd-77. Talker alias on non-motorola repeaters and you can use it as a hotspot through windows 10 using bluedv or a raspberry pi using pistar. I was running my open gd-77 hotspot on 3 watts. Going to set it up with a mag mount antenna when i go camping or visit a hotel.

### Irwin Goldstein

I have been a ham for 60 years and I have no idea what you are talking about.



Thanks to Jeff Peters K9JP for these articles

## Radio Amateurs are called ham

At the turn of the 20th century, the terms "ham" and "plug" were used by landline [telegraphers](#) to describe an operator "who lacks ability" or who had poor or "ham fisted" skills. By 1881, it had been alleged by telegrapher unions and trade groups that companies were employing "ham" operators who were negligent or incompetent. These unskilled operators were described as either drinking alcohol while working, irresponsible teenage boys, or merely having very little ability. Their miscommunication was blamed for causing severe train wrecks. Railroad executives during this era were also accused of hiring unskilled operators to save money and were said to be accepting bribes from telegraph schools to hire unqualified students. These disreputable telegraph schools were referred to as "ham factories."

Early radio (initially known as [wireless telegraphy](#)) included many former wire telegraph operators, and within the new service "ham" was employed as a [pejorative](#) term by professional radiotelegraph operators to suggest that amateur enthusiasts were unskilled. In "Floods and Wireless" by Hanby Carver, from the August 1915 *Technical World Magazine*, the author noted "Then someone thought of the 'hams'. This is the name that the commercial wireless service has given to amateur operators..."

This pejorative usage continued into at least 1940, as evidenced in the January 1940 issue of *The APCO Bulletin*, where it was written "Rumors of citations by the FCC for violation of the superfluous traffic regulation on the part of certain of our radiotelegraph stations have resulted in a sudden decrease in 'hamming' on the police frequencies..."

Even among amateur radio operators, the term was used pejoratively at first by serious experimenters. For example, in December 1916 [QST](#) magazine, an amateur operator working on long distance message passing describes one way to avoid interference was to send messages "...on Thursday nights, when the children and spark coil 'hams' are tucked up in bed" (a spark coil was an unsophisticated radio transmitter, made from an automobile ignition coil, that produced noisy interference).

But only a few months later, in an indication of the changing use of the term among amateurs, a *QST* writer uses it in a clearly complimentary manner, saying that a particular 16-year-old amateur operator "...is the equal of a ham gaining five years of experience by hard luck."

Use of "ham" as a slur by professionals continued, however. A letter from a Western Union Telegraph Company employee, printed in the December 1919 edition *QST*, showed familiarity with the word's negative connotations, expressing concern that "Many unknowing land wire telegraphers, hearing the word 'amateur' applied to men connected with wireless, regard him as a 'ham' or 'lid'."

But many other amateurs increasingly adopted the word "ham" to describe their hobby and themselves during this period, [embracing](#) the word that was originally an insult, similar to the way [Yankee Doodle](#) evolved, as seen, for example, in Thomas F. Hunter's exuberant "I am the wandering Ham" from the January 1920 issue of *QST*.

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## Benjamin Franklin

The most common use of the word battery in the modern age is in reference to small series of electrical cells strung together to store energy—the tiny wonders that power everything from our flashlights to smart phones.

In centuries past, however, a battery was not a compact energy cell but a collection of military artillery. By the time Benjamin Franklin was dabbling in electrical studies in the mid-18th century it was used to describe groupings of cannons.

It was with this construction in mind that, when Franklin came across a demonstration of a grouping of large Leyden Jars—an early and very simple electrical capacitor—he was reminded of a grouping of cannons and referred to the array as similar to a battery of cannons.

Thanks to the very slow rate of electrical cell miniaturization, the arrays of electrical cells maintained their canon-battery like appearance for some time and Franklin's use of the term stuck. Nearly three centuries later, battery as a catch all term for electrical cells shows no sign of falling out of favor.





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.

**UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, A6.** Adrian, 2E0MMU is QRV as A65IX from Dubai. Activity is on 40 and 20 meters using CW and SSB. QSL to home call.

**BAHRAIN, A9.** Members of the Bahrain Amateur Radio Society are QRV with special call sign A91BFA until June 15 for the Bahrain Football Association in support of the national football team in its progress in the 2022 FIFA World Cup Qualification process. QSL via EC6DX.

**BALEARIC ISLANDS, EA6.** Andreas, DK5ON will be QRV as EA6/DK5ON from Cala Ratjada on Mallorca, IOTA EU-004, from June 12 to 20. Activity will be on 40 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, FT8 and FT4. QSL to home call.

**GUADELOUPE, FG.** Michel, F6GWV and Gildas, F6HMQ will be QRV as TO11A from June 12 to July 5. Activity will be holiday style with a focus on 6 meters. This includes being an entry in the IARU Region 1 50 MHz Contest. QSL via F6HMQ.

**DOMINICA, HI.** Special event station HI95RCD will be QRV from June 12 to 23 to celebrate the Radio Club Dominicano's 95th anniversary. QSL via LoTW.

**REPUBLIC OF KOREA, HL.** Special event station D721LP is QRV until June 30 to celebrate IARU HF QRP Day. QSL via LoTW.

**ITALY, I.** Operators IK5RUN and IK5MES will be QRV as IG9/home calls from Lampedusa Island, IOTA AF-019, from June 12 to 25. Activity will be holiday style on the HF bands using mainly SSB. QSL to home calls.

**OGASAWARA, JD1.** Makoto, JI5RPT is QRV as JD1BLY from Chichijima Island, IOTA AS-031, until June 13. Activity is on 40 to 6 meters using CW, SSB and FT8. QSL to home call.

**HAWAII, KH6.** Special event station K6K is QRV until June 12 to celebrate King Kamehameha Day. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, FT8 and other modes. QSL via LoTW.

**PERU, OA.** Members of the Asociacion de Radioaficionados del Peru are QRV with special calls OC4B, OC6B, and OC7B until December 31 to celebrate the bicentennial of Peruvian independence. Activity is on 40, 20, 17 and 15 meters using SSB and FT8. QSL via LoTW.

**MARKET REEF, OJ0.** A group of operators will be QRV as OJ0C from June 12 to 21. Activity will focus on 6 meters using FT8. This may include activity on 10 meters and higher bands. QSL via OH3JR.

**EUROPEAN RUSSIA, UA.** Special event station R21EURO is QRV for the 2021 European Football Championship. QSL via R1II.

**BURKINA FASO, XT.** Harald, DF2WO will be QRV as XT2AW from Ouagadougou beginning June 13 and here for three weeks. Activity will be on the HF bands using mostly CW, FT8 and on Satellite, and with SSB as conditions permit. QSL via M0OXO.

**INDONESIA, YB.** Beginning June 12, look for Ram, YD9KNX to be QRV as YD9KNX/p from Bendungan Meninting on Lombok Island, IOTA OC-150. QSL to home call.

**THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO.** The ARRL June VHF Contest, NCCC RTTY Sprint, Annual USI Special Event Week, NCCC CW Sprint, K1USN Slow Speed CW Test, VK Shires Contest, DRCG World Wide RTTY Contest, Asia-Pacific SSB Sprint, SKCC Weekend CW Sprintathon, Portugal Day Contest, AGCW VHF/UHF Contest, GACW WWSA CW DX Contest and REF DDFM 6-Meter Contest will keep contesters busy this upcoming weekend.

The 4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint and K1USN Slow Speed CW Test are scheduled for June 14.

The Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest and RTTYOPS Weeksprint are scheduled for June 15.

The RSGB 80-Meter Club CW Championship, CWops Mini-CWT Test, SARL Youth 40-Meter SSB Sprint, Phone Fray and NAQCC CW Sprint are scheduled for June 16.

Please see June QST, page 72, 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

Testing by appointment only.  
Call for information.  
Masks or better to open.

2021 Schedule:  
February 20    April 17  
June 19        August 21  
October 16     December 18

### 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 17th 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