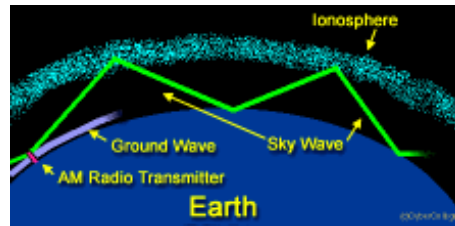


The Hertzian Herald



June 2017 • Volume 41, Issue 6 • Monroe, Michigan, U.S.A. • www.mcrca.org

N8DXR's Ground Waves



It's the middle of June, the weather is great, and we are close to two of our biggest events of the year. On Saturday, the 17th we will be setting up for our annual Hamfest event at the Monroe County Fair Grounds and then Sunday the 18th is the big day. We need all the help we can get to make this another successful Hamfest. Setting up on Saturday takes only a few hours and the more hands the quicker the work. On Sunday, we need as many people on deck as possible. The bulk of the help is at the entrance selling tickets, the trunk sales area and handicap parking. When we have enough people, we can rotate and relieve each other so everyone gets a chance to view the happenings. Gates open at 6:30 am so being at the fairgrounds by 6 am is preferred. Please remember that this event is our main source of income for the year and it only takes a few short hours to make everything go well for our guests and for us.

The June 1933 QST announced that on the second Saturday in June, for 27 hours starting at 4 pm local time, that hams would go into the "field" and set up portable stations. With the exception of the period of 1942 -1945, when all Ham activity ceased due to the war, the ARRL Field Day has been a yearly event.

Now 84 years later we will be holding field day at Vienna Park on Sunday June 25th. As in 1933 we will set up our field stations and operate 24 hours to make as many contacts with other stations as possible. This is not just an event to show our radio skills but also one where members can experience a portable multi station operation in the field. It also offers newer hams a chance to operate along with some more experienced hams. It is a time when we can demonstrate our abilities and purpose to the community and even possibility start someone on the path to amateur radio. And of course, Field Day is fun, food and a chance to share time and experiences with other members of our ham community.

The topic of the program at this month's meeting will be our hamfest and field day. More information and final plans regarding the two events will be discussed.

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

73

John - N8DXR

Club Officers

PRESIDENT

John Copeland N8DXR
jcn8dxr@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Glen Ohlemacher K8GO
goglen@gmail.com

SECRETARY

Fred VanDaele KA8EBI
ka8ebi@yahoo.com

TREASURER

Brenda VanDaele KB8KQC
ka8ebi@yahoo.com

DIRECTOR

Paul Trouten W8PI
w8pi@arrl.net

DIRECTOR

Rodney Haddix
rodhaddix@hotmail.com

DIRECTOR STATION TRUSTEE

Wes Busdiecker KC8SKP
busdiecw@netscape.net

Inside This Issue

Minutes	2
HF and FD.....	3
Sun's 11 yr cycle.....	4
Hams are friends.....	4
2017 Hamvention....	5
Oldest active ham....	6
ARRL DX	7

MCRCA Minutes:

May 18, 2017

Meeting called to order at 7:32 pm, by John Copeland N8DXR

Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions: One new members, no upgrades and no guests.

PROGRAM: Video on Propagation

BREAK

DOOR PRIZE DRAWING: Bob AC8DZ, Tom Schultz, and Gary W8GPR

50/50: No drawing lack of members due to Dayton

MINUTES: Motion by Bob AC8DZ, supported by John WD8QKJ, to approve as written in the Herald. Approved.

TREASURER REPORT: Motion by Tom KG8P, supported by Bob AC8DZ, to approve the treasurer's report as passed out to the membership. Approved.

DX REPORT: Tom KG8P, ERITREA, E3. Zorro, JH1AJT, PALESTINE, E4. Janusz, SP9FIH, there are also some special event stations and African stations, Marconi station Saturday. Midway and Kure Island Reinstated as DXCC entities. June QST has a story on the history of the VK islands. 6m is open for about the next 4 to 6 weeks.

HAMFEST: Fred KA8EBI everything is on schedule and we have 39 tables reserved. Trying to meet the new fairground manager Darryl Diamond but he has been very busy with an upcoming dog show setup. Contact John N8DXR if you can help sell tickets at the Hamfest.

FUTURE PROGRAMS: June meeting we will discuss Hamfest and Field Day plans

TESTING: Next session - Sat. June 17, 2017.

ARPSC: Dave's not here.

ARRL: Neither is Dale

RRRA: Ditto

GLHamCon: Glen K8GO no show

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

ADJOURNED: 8:24 pm

ATTENDANCE: 12

KA8EBI	Fred	KA8PQH	Neil
KA8YXB	Fred	KB8KQC	Brenda
KG8P	Tom	N8DXR	John 1
N8RWI	John 2	WD8QKJ	John 3
AC8DZ	Bob	KE8CQW	Sandra
W8GPR	Gary	Tom Schultz	



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

Monroe Hamfest 2017

Once again, it's time for our annual Monroe Hamfest. As in years past it will again be held at the Monroe County Fairgrounds at M-50 and Raisinville Road, on Father's Day, June 18, 2017.

Set up will begin on Saturday morning 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.

The fair people permanently installed the handicap parking signs out in the parking lot and since we allow them to park inside we need to cover 6 or 7 signs with bags. I have one we can use inside the fence to mark the handicap parking area. There are other miscellaneous jobs such as putting up banners and flags, changing locks on the gates and putting up signs. This usually is all accomplished by lunch time if we get enough help.

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 446.60 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.

After the Hamfest, about 1 PM we need people to go around and police up the area. We must clean up the fairgrounds and the building or they will charge us if they have to do it. If we get lots of help this won't take long.

We still need some more helpers for the Hamfest. We need 1 guard for an hour on the Raisinville Rd. gate and 2 people to direct trunk sales people as they enter the grounds and show them where to park so they don't end up blocking the walk and drive ways through the sales area. Please contact Fred KA8EBI if you can help out.

We need about 8 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 John Copeland N8DXR as soon as possible.

Phyllis, is doing the food this year from Holy Ghost Lutheran Church same as the last 4 years.

If we get enough help and good weather we should have a pretty nice Hamfest again this year.

We have 27 tables left as of Sunday June 11, last year we only had 8.

Fred KA8EBI, Hamfest Chairman for 21 years.

Field Day 2017

June 24 and 25 will be Field Day weekend this year. We will once again be holding our FD at Vienna Park down in Temperance Michigan. We will use shelters B and C in the front of the park as we did last year.

Set up will begin about 9 AM on Saturday with the contest beginning at 2 PM. We will have a phone station, a CW station and a GOTA station for new hams and those who haven't been active lately in radio use. Come on out and help set up several antennas and tents on Saturday morning. Everyone is welcome to come out and operate a radio.

At about 6 PM on Saturday we usually have a pot luck dinner, with the club furnishing hamburgers, hot dogs, sausages, buns and condiments. The club will also furnish coffee and a variety of soft drinks, water and the paper ware and plastic ware. We ask that you please bring a dish to pass, a dessert or bag of chips.

Hope to see everyone out there this year.

Our Sun's 11-Year Magnetic Cycle Destined to Disappear

The Sun's 11-year magnetic cycle appears to be ending, but that won't happen anytime soon. In a paper submitted on May 26 to the journal *Solar Physics*, two solar scientists are reinterpreting earlier evidence to hypothesize that the Sun's rotation rate and magnetic field are in a transitional phase that could lead to lengthening solar cycles, with the cycle ultimately disappearing altogether between 800 million and 2.4 billion years from now. Travis S. Metcalfe and Jennifer van Saders propose the scenario in their paper "Magnetic Evolution and the Disappearance of Sun-like Activity Cycles."

"After decades of effort, the solar activity cycle is exceptionally well characterized, but it remains poorly understood," the authors say in the paper's abstract. "Pioneering work at the Mount Wilson Observatory demonstrated that other Sun-like stars also show regular activity cycles and suggested two possible relationships between the rotation rate and the length of the cycle. Neither of these relationships correctly describe the properties of the Sun, a peculiarity that demands explanation."

The authors cite stellar evidence for the shutdown of "magnetic braking" in stars similar to our Sun. "The new picture of rotational and magnetic evolution provides a framework for understanding some observational features of stellar activity cycles that have until now been mysterious," they said.

Metcalfe explained their observations through a recent *Forbes* magazine article. "Our previous discoveries identified an unexpected transition in the rotation and magnetism of middle-aged stars," Metcalfe is quoted in the article, "The Sun's Magnetic Dynamo Is Weakening" by Bruce Dorminey. "We now have direct evidence that the stellar dynamo — the mechanism inside stars that sustains their magnetic fields — actually shuts down during this transition."

In their paper, the authors said that future observations with the Las Cumbres Observatory global telescope network "promise to probe the onset and duration of the magnetic transition that drives the evolution and eventual disappearance of Sun-like activity cycles."

A 2016 paper Travis co-authored — "Stellar Evidence that the Solar Dynamo May Be in Transition," published in *The Astrophysical Journal Letters*, concluded, "The Sun still exhibits a dipole component to its global field, particularly near magnetic minimum, but the solar analogs also suggest a gradual concentration of the field into smaller spatial scales, leading to weakened magnetic braking,"

Metcalfe is listed on the paper as being associated with the Space Science Institute and the White Dwarf Research Corp, both in Boulder, Colorado. Van Saders is listed as being associated with the Observatories of the Carnegie Institution for Science in Pasadena, California, and the Department of Astrophysical Sciences at Princeton University in New Jersey.

Sue Cauhape: How Ham Radio operators are your friends

Lahontan Valley News reports on the Sierra Intermountain Emergency Radio Association

A recent radio conversation between two HAMs raised a disturbing issue that surprised both of them.

The conversation involved the NTS (National Traffic Service) that uses amateur radio operators throughout the United States to relay information during large-scale emergencies, such as earthquakes.

When phone connections are down, residents in stricken areas want to contact relatives outside the area. HAM radio operators offer this volunteer service to anyone able to come to their locations

One of the HAMs in the above conversation stated that sometimes in calling people with such information, he is met with suspicion and even hostility. Is he a telemarketer? Is he a drug dealer? Or worse yet, is he a terrorist?

Surprisingly, most people haven't even heard of amateur radio. If they have, they consider it an obsolete technology. HAMs still perform many services for their communities by providing communications for large sports events, parades, and point-of-delivery vaccination operations.

In Carson Valley, SIERA (Sierra Intermountain Emergency Radio Association) has stepped in during last winter's floods. Many members also work through CERT, DCART and other emergency organizations to provide assistance, either at the 911 Call Center or in setting up the Red Cross shelter for residents of a Gardnerville mobile home park.

Read the full story at <http://www.nevadaappeal.com/news/opinion/sue-cauhape-how-ham-radio-operators-are-your-friends/>

2017 Hamvention Report (KONR)

After missing it for several years, I managed to attend the Dayton Hamvention this year. This is the largest amateur radio event in the world, so definitely an event to attend if you are into ham radio. I had some concern about going the first year in the new Xenia location, but frankly I was never a fan of Hara Arena so I figured I'd give it a try. I met up with best budd Denny (KB9DPF) in Fort Wayne and we drove down Friday night, attending the event on Saturday and Sunday.

We went early on Saturday morning, arriving at the fairgrounds around 8 AM (for a 9 AM start time). No traffic issues, easy access to parking. On Sunday, we left a little later, arrived at 8:30 AM, again no traffic issues. (I suspect the traffic problems we've heard about were associated with arriving from the west, coming from Dayton. Also, that problem seemed to be mostly on Friday morning.)

Positives:

- Most of the buildings were in good shape [insert disparaging comment about Hara].
- Most of the buildings are not air conditioned but it seemed to be comfortable enough.
- The usual vendors were there...I couldn't think of any didn't show.
- The food selection was very good...basically "county fair style" vendors. For example, I had Louisiana style chicken, red beans and rice for lunch on Saturday.
- The forum rooms were pretty decent, as in large and convenient [insert disparaging comment about Hara]
- I attended a few forums (all good): contesting, AMSAT, NPOTA
- Parking was convenient and no charge.

Negatives:

- The flea market was a muddy mess, so we skipped that completely. Those that went out there came back with shoes covered with mud. (I saw one guy that came prepared with 18-inch high rubber boots. Smart move.) I've seen lots of comments on the web about "well, you can't control the weather so you just have to deal with the mud." Yes, you can't control the weather but even Hara had a paved parking lot for the flea market. Read: no mud.
- All of the food vendors were outside and there was little to no sheltered seating. If the rain had hit around lunch time, I am not sure where people would have eaten.

All in all, not too bad.

I'm sure they'll be getting lots of feedback and will be working on the problem areas. I think you have to accept the fact that on a weekend in May in Ohio, you will get some rain. So something has to be done about the flea market, else its mud city most years.

Seriously, I think the Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA) pulled off a minor miracle getting Hamvention moved to a new location without a major problem. They had a well-oiled machine that knew how to make it happen at Hara but everything had to be reworked this year.

People often ask "well, why do they even hold such a major event in Dayton?"

The answer: because that's where DARA is.

73, Bob KONR

Centenarian ARRL Member Claiming Oldest Active Radio Amateur Crown

A 105-year-old ARRL member, Cliff Kayhart, W4KKP, of White Rock, South Carolina, is claiming the title of "World's Oldest Operating Ham." No official record of such milestones exists, but ARRL is not aware of any radio amateurs senior to Kayhart, and he is now quite likely the oldest active ham at least in the US. Early this year, Charlie Hellman, W2RP, died at 106; he also may have been the longest licensed. Hellman outlived the former "oldest US ham," Harry Wolf, W6NKT, by 8 days. Wolf was a couple of weeks shy of turning 108. Kayhart now lives at The Heritage at Lowman Home.

"I have had to get help getting set up after moving here from Tennessee," he said in his QRZ.com profile. "Two local clubs, Dutch Fork Amateur Radio Group and Columbia Amateur Radio Club, have been there to help. It has been slow going. They tell me I may be the oldest operating ham." Kayhart is active on 80 meters as well as possibly other bands.



105 year-old Cliff Kayhart

Born in 1911, Kayhart was first licensed in 1937 as W2LFE in New Jersey. He then was W9GNQ before becoming W4KKP. Kayhart's interest in Amateur Radio began in the early 1920s, when he built a crystal radio. After modifying the inductor, he began hearing hams on AM.

Kayhart graduated from high school just a few months before the Wall Street Crash of 1929, and he worked as a runner and messenger on Wall Street for a short time. He then got a job with AT&T as a Morse operator. After the company told him he'd need a college degree to advance, he studied aeronautical engineering at Tristate University in Indiana. But by 1934, during the Great Depression, no jobs were to be had in the aeronautical industry.

"I found a job with RCA in electronics in 1934," Kayhart recounted. "With my interest in electronics as a hobby, I had practical experience, but the only way I was hired was to tell them, 'Hire me for a month, and if I don't work out fire me!'" He was there for 5 years, remaining until nearly everyone else had been laid off because of the continuing poor economy. He had other jobs with AT&T, Philco, and Bendix, but then Pearl Harbor occurred in December 1941, and his work days lengthened.

"In 1943 I saw an article in QST that the Army Signal Corps was forming a new group, so I thought I would be more useful joining up," Kayhart said. "Because of my electronics background, I was offered a lieutenant's rank." He said the Army sent him to MIT and Harvard for additional training, while he was stationed at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey.

Eventually he ended up in Hawaii, and from there shipped out to Iwo Jima, arriving the day of the iconic flag-raising on Mount Suribachi. "I was in charge of setting up commercial-type AM transmitters, so Iwo could talk with Washington, San Francisco, and China and Hawaii," he recalled. He and his fellow soldiers made open-wire feed line and set up fixed rhombics.

"I was at Iwo Jima for about 6 months," he continued. "One day, well after the airstrip was in, and B-29s were landing, we went on an aircraft alert, which was unusual. I saw a lone B-29 flying over. It turned out to be the Enola Gay, which dropped the atomic bomb on Japan. — Thanks to Pete Varounis, NL7XM, for some information.

From ARRL web site.





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 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.

MALTA, 9H. Haru, JA1XGI is QRV as 9H3XG until June 12. Activity is on 40 to 15 meters using CW and RTTY. QSL direct to home call.

BAHAMAS, C6. Operators Kenny, K2KW, Russ, K6KLY and David, K8CC are QRV as C6ATA, C6ALY, and C6ACC, respectively, until June 16. Activity is on 6 meters, 2 meters, 70 cm and 23 cm, including possibly some HF activity. QSL to home calls.

SOUTH COOK ISLANDS, E5. Shirley, VK5YL will be QRV as E51XYL from Rarotonga Island, IOTA OC-013, from June 10 to 17. Activity will be on 20 meters using SSB. QSL to home call.

BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA, E7. Members of the radio club from Zenica are QRV as E770BAB until the end of 2017 to its 70th anniversary. QSL via E71EZZ.

FRENCH POLYNESIA, FO. Operators Didier, F6BCW, Dominique, F6DTZ, Serge, F6IPT, Pascal, F1MNP and Pierre, F1TCV will be QRV as TX5EG from Atoll Ahe, King George Islands, IOTA OC-131, from June 11 to 19. Activity will be on 80 to 12 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via F6BCW.

REUNION ISLAND, FR. Thomas, F4HPX is QRV as FR/F4HPX from various locations on Reunion Island until June 16. Activity is on 40 to 15 meters using possibly CW, with SSB, RTTY, PSK31, JT65 and JT9. QSL to home call.

SCOTLAND, GM. Graham, MM0GHM is QRV as either MM0GHM/p or MM0GHM/m from Arran, IOTA EU-123, until June 17. Activity is holiday style on the HF bands. QSL to home call.

BELGIUM, ON. Special event station OS500RD is QRV until the end of June to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the birth of Flemish physician and botanist Rembert Dodoens. QSL via bureau.

FAROE ISLANDS, OY. Bill, K2HVN will be QRV as OY/K2HVN from June 13 to 26. Activity will be on 40 to 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL to home call.

GREENLAND, OX. Bo, OZ1DJJ will be QRV as OX3LX from Tasiilaq Island, IOTA NA-151, grid square HP15eo from June 12 to 26. Activity will be in his spare time on 6 and 4 meters, and possibly HF as well during his morning and evening hours. QSL to home call.

ST. MAARTEN, PJ7. Operators K9UK, KK9N, W9AEB and W9KXQ will be QRV as PJ7/home calls from June 14 to 28. Activity will be on 80 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY with two stations active. Look for PJ7/W9DR to be QRV on 6 meters as well. QSL to home calls.

GREECE, SV. Oliver, DK7TX will be QRV as SV8/DK7TX from Ereikoussa Island, IOTA EU-052, on June 10 and 11. Activity will be on 40 to 6 meters. QSL to home call.

PALAU, T8. Ryosei, JH0IXE is QRV as T8CW from Koror Island, IOTA OC-009, until June 18. Activity is on 80 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, PSK31 and JT65. QSL direct to home call.

COSTA RICA, TI. A group of operators are QRV as TE8DX from Chira Island, IOTA NA-116, until June 12. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters, including 6 meters. QSL via TI2CDA.

MALI, TZ. Fredo, TZ4PR is QRV until October. Activity is casual on the HF bands. QSL direct to F1UIJ.

UKRAINE, UR. Special event station EO25P is QRV until December 31 to celebrate the 25 years of the Volyn Amateur Radio League. QSL via operators' instructions.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The ARRL June VHF Contest, NCCC RTTY Sprint, NCCC CW Sprint, HA3NS Sprint Memorial CW Contest, DRCG World Wide RTTY Contest, VK Shires Contest, Asia-Pacific SSB Sprint, SKCC Weekend CW Sprintathon, Portugal Day Contest, GACW WWSA DX CW Contest, REF DDFM 6-Meter Contest and Cookie Crumble QRP Contest will certainly keep contesters busy this upcoming weekend.

The 4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint is scheduled for June 12.

The RSGB 80-Meter Club CW Championship, Phone Fray, CWops Mini-CWT CW Test and NAQCC CW Sprint are scheduled for June 14.

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.

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

June 15th 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