

The Hertzian Herald



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Hi Hams and welcome to our newsletter!

There has been so many changes around us as winter heads for the exit. Got dandelions anyone? My grass is exploding towards the sky and it's still pretty wet-to-mow. It used to be easier mowing before I planted the antennas. I only mention these things because most of us have these things in common and if you are like me the "I'd rather be doing something else" syndrome is still with me even in my retirement. I have compassion for those who still have to go to work on top of all of the above.



I just got home from assisting Don Fritz with his most excellent technician class. This time I was wide awake. There were 4 who passed their technician license and 1 who also passed (with a perfect score), the general test. Kudos to Don and thanks to the crew who shows up when needed for the examinations. As an American freedom, I hope there will always be an easy path for any capable American to be "A Ham".

The solar eclipse was fantastic from my front yard and in my shack. I operated FT8 about 9 hours and made 136 contacts. I'll admit I also took minutes outside looking up and tending cameras. I already knew from a previous effort to photograph the eclipse that I would need better equipment to get good eclipse photos. Luck also helps! I hope you got to see the photo of a jetliner with vapor trails in front of the moon. Cool shot.

Field day and our hamfest is in the near future for us. Stay informed with the best information at our meetings!

Happening now and in our future: Space junk! Recently a piece of space junk just landed in the basement of someone's Florida house. Of course it had to punch through the roof and floors first. What's worse to me is what vaporized in the atmosphere. This time it was 7500 lbs. of nickel metal hydride batteries. According to Scientific American, the FCC is getting involved. It seems the "now" rule is they don't have de-orbit satellites for 25 years after useful life. The FCC wants a new 5-year de-orbit rule. Scientific American also warns of orbital collisions in the future. Others are warning of the pollution from the many nasty things rockets and spacecraft contain. I'm not chicken little but it is raining this stuff down on us, sometimes in chunks. Most of it is in dust form. Thanks to Scientific American I'm thinking it all over. Like is it going to mess with propagation? (probably not)

Thanks for the privilege and thanks for reading this far!

Let's see if we can exceed last meetings crowd of members which is enumerated in Fred's meeting minutes.

(He keeps it a secret until the Herald is published)

73 and turn the radio on

Keith KJ8H

<http://mcrcra.org/>

www.facebook.com/groups/1643856795878368/

Club Officers

PRESIDENT

Keith Hutchinson KJ8H
keithhutch999@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Don Fritz N8BZN
donfritz56@gmail.com

SECRETARY

Brenda VanDaele KB8KQC
ka8ebi@yahoo.com

TREASURER

Fred VanDaele K8EBI
ka8ebi@yahoo.com

DIRECTOR

Paul Trouten W8PI
ptrouten@bex.net

DIRECTOR

Mike Karmol N8KUF
mkarmol@bex.net

DIRECTOR

STATION TRUSTEE
Wes Busdiecker KC8SKP
busdiecw@netscape.net

Inside This Issue

Minutes	2
ARPSC Report	3
AI etc.	4
AI cont'd	5
RRRA & Fox Hunts	6
ARRL DX News	8

MCRCA Meeting Minutes for March 21, 2024

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm, by Keith KJ8H.
 Pledge of Allegiance
 Introductions: 4 new members, no upgrade and lots of guests.

MINUTES: Motion by Don N8BZN, supported by Aaron KE8PUN, to approve as written in the Herald. Approved.

TREASURER REPORT: Motion by Paul W8PI, supported by Tom KG8P, to approve the treasurer's report as passed out to the membership. Approved.

DX REPORT: Tom KG8P, May, Glorioso DX, long time since they have been on. Jarvis Isl. August 2 square miles not since 1990, part of Palmyra

CONTESTING: Paul W8PI, CQ WW WPX SSB Contest. – QSO Parties, Apr 6, LA, MS, MO, — April 13, NM. GA, — April 20, NE, MI, ON. ND, FL.

TESTING: Paul - Next session - Sat. Apr. 20, 2024. **Reservations Preferred - FRN and email req'd**

CLASSES: Sat. April 13, 2024 contact Don N8BZN – **Technician class**. 8 people signed up so far. There will be no Extra Class in the future. No classes in June due to HF and FD.

ARPSC: April 4th mtg at EMD 7:30 PM, Discuss professionalism. Following Saturday FLdigi. May 2nd Field Ops. May 11 - S.E.T. June 6th Radiological/Cobalt Emergency service test. June 8th Erie Race for Kids.

ARRL: Check the ARRL webpage as Dale has retired.

RRRA: Annual meeting will be May 4th at the Red Cross Building. WinLink in Ida went in and is functioning well. Two people paid their dues at tonight's meeting. Membership dues runs from May to May so please update your dues if you haven't already.

OLD BUSINESS: Club T-shirts Barb NM8I brought in some shirts for those that ordered them and took more orders for other members.

NEW BUSINESS: Hamfest – Tower Electronics not coming (14 tables) Can we do anything? They were contacted and said they would not be coming.

DOOR PRIZE DRAWING: Dennis KE8ZAR, Madonna KE8QGU. and Aaron KE8PUN

50/50: Wes KC8SKP, donated his winnings to the scholarship

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Solar Eclipse April 8th.

PROGRAM: Dale WA8EFK, did a program on slow scan TV. Next month will be Fox Hunting

ADJOURNED: 8:59 pm

ATTENDANCE: 30

KE8PUN Aaron	NM8I Barb	KB8KQC Brenda	WA8EFK Dale
N8BZN Don	K8EBI Fred	KB8OSU George	WD8NWF James
WA8YZB John	KJ8H Keith	KE8ZAR Dennis	KE8QGU Madonna
N8KUF Mike	KA8PQH Neil	W8PI Paul	KC8AZZ Peter
KE8YQE Phil	KE8OSX Ron	W8SMB Scott	N8NYP Terry
N8OSC Tom	KG8P Tom	KC8SKP Wes	KE8LRD Ken
KE8WDM Dave	K9JR Jeff	KC8DCR Debbie	KF8AOL Bob
K8EKG David	Debbie Forgacs		

Committees**Club Station**

Wes Busdiecker KC8SKP

DX Net

Soon

Field Day

Jeff Breitner KA8NCR

Finance

Paul Trouten W8PI (chair)
 Fred VanDaele K8EBI
 Dale Williams WA8EFK

HamFest

Fred VanDaele K8EBI

Hertzian Herald

Fred VanDaele K8EBI

Historian

Paul Trouten W8PI

Public Relations

Terry Kolton N8NYP
 Tom Imlach KE8KNZ

Scholarship

Fred VanDaele K8EBI

Program Chairman

Dale WA8EFK
 dale.wms1@frontier.com

Membership

Terry Kolton N8NYP
 n8nyp@arrl.net

Property Custodian

Paul Trouten W8PI

ARPSC Report

The Michigan Spring Simulated Emergency Test is Saturday May 11th from 8am-12pm. We will be participating partially from Nike Park in Newport. This will be an opportunity for members to bring out your field stations, set them up, find out what you forgot to bring and operate from the park. It is also a great opportunity to stop by if you do not have a field kit or are not part of the ARPSC team to see everyone's ideas to help you put together your go kit. There will be several parts to the SET, we will be participating with the Washtenaw and Wayne county teams in preparation for the CM25 event next March and information will be forthcoming via email, Facebook and on the weekly nets.



Speaking of weekly nets, don't forget to tune in every Monday Night at 8pm on the 72 Monroe Repeater, 146.720 MHz with a PI of 100 on both Tx and Rx. You do not have to be a member of ARPSC to participate, and it is a great way to catch up with everything going on and to regularly test your equipment. We have had several new participants recently and we want to welcome them and encourage everyone to take 20 minutes and join us weekly. Please especially join us on Monday April 29th when we will do Simplex range testing during the net to practice that skill and see who everyone can hear without repeaters. We will use 147.540MHz if it is clear and possibly 446.600 if time allows. Please have these frequencies ready or take the time to practice programming these into your radios on the fly (a very important skill). We may also do some practice using the FLDigi NBEMS software platform if there is interest after the net.

While I am still on the topic of weekly nets, I would like to take this opportunity to convey a HUGE Thank You out to the folks that operate as Net Control Stations for the weekly nets. These operators have taken the leap of getting behind the microphone and directing the nets, which can be daunting in itself, but allows them to become more proficient operators and hone many skills. Several of these Operators also step up and fill the important roll as SKYWARN Net Controls when bad weather threatens the county. If you talk with any of these folks, please thank them for their time in helping out the county. Better yet, ask them what it takes to become a NCS and consider volunteering one Monday.

Tom Imlach KE8KNZ

Mark Wheeler W8MCW

Ed Keller WS8Y

Jim Toomey WD8NWF

We have many upcoming events upcoming that we have been invited to participate in due to our track record.

The calendar for the spring and summer is filling quickly and we have a lot of events scheduled with more in the process being added. Watch the calendar at MCARPSC.org for events and sign up under the "Upcoming Public Service Events" by clicking on the Event Sign up link at the top of the page. Please read description of each event before you sign up as some events may require specific training or authorizations. You will receive an email with the events you sign up for, please save the included link in case you want to participate in additional events or need to withdraw.

May 2nd ARPSC Meeting 7:30pm-Field Operation

May 4th- RRRRA Meeting Red Cross 10am

May 11th- Michigan Spring SET

June 6th ARPSC Meeting 7:30pm-Radiological Emergency Preparedness (REP 101) Training—This training is required for anyone that wishes to participate in the Fermi Drills this year or the Cobalt Magnet Exercise in 2025.

June 8th Erie Race for the Kids 5k 8am St Joseph Church Erie—Need 13 Operators

June 11th Fermi RDCC Practice Drill Bedford High School-Need 2-3 Ops

Thursday July 4th- 9am Dundee Independence Parade-9am Dundee High School-Need 7-10 Operators

July Meeting July 11th **NOTE NEW DATE DUE TO JULY 4TH HOLIDAY** 7:30pm

Tuesday July 23rd 8am-3pm Fermex Practice Exercise-Need 3-4 Ops MUST have REP101 Training

July 30th-Aug 3rd Monroe County Fair- Assist for IMT Operations- Must have county ID

August 1st ARPSC Meeting 7:30pm

Aug 9th-11th Dundee Bicentennial Event***New Event** Unsure on days/times needed-Stay Tuned

Continued Next Page

Tuesday Aug 13th 8am-3pm Fermex Practice Exercise-Need 3-4 Ops MUST have REP101 Training

Tuesday August 27th 8am-3pm Fermex Federal Evaluated Drill-Need 3-4 Ops MUST have REP101 Training and County ID

If you are interested in honing your skills or building new ones, please feel free to stop in to any of our meetings or training sessions, or participate on our nets. We are here to help every operator learn and perform better. It doesn't matter if your call sign was just posted on the FCC database or you have had your ticket for decades, we are always looking for additional operators.

ARPSC meetings are usually the first Thursday of every month at 7:30pm at the EMD on Raisinville Rd. The next meeting is Thursday May 1st

As always Thanks to the club and the club webmaster for linking our FB and webpage, and to Fred for his time getting this newsletter out.

73, Lance Charter, KE8BYC
Emergency Coordinator
Monroe County Amateur Radio Public Service Corps

It All Began in 1935

Tom Langer, KD9FPC

In 1935 we saw the introduction of the beer can, men's briefs, Hoover Dam started, the first car over 300 MPH, and Social Security. It was also the year AJ Foyt was born. And in Western Europe the beginnings of WWII were stirring.

At the same time a British guy described a future machine of limitless memory, it could scan and read back and forth. His name was Turing, the guy who described what would be known as the Turing Machine. He was also one of the scientists of Bletchley Park fame that broke the Nazi codes.

Along comes 1943 when Turing discussed a "machine that could learn from experience... letting the machine learn from experience"... and become an amazing new technology to help mankind. He called it Intelligent Machinery.

Now after all of these years we know his Intelligent Machinery as generative Artificial Intelligence, or AI. We went through the history in order to make the biggest point. AI is not a new concept and is nothing more than a machine that is loaded with newspapers, videos, you name it, all from this moment back. Then, it looks to create what seems to be an "intelligent machine" that does many things.

We must look at AI in that light. It really is an old idea that takes the information and history it is fed to provide many useful tools. However, in this crazy time we must be very careful. As a business application it generally works fine. Used with social media, election campaigns, disasters and the rest it may be very dangerous. Whoever controls AI controls what goes in it. If they wish to create social media for example they are able to slant the AI output by slanting the AI input. Garbage in = garbage out.

By now you are asking yourself what has all of this have to do with ham radio? A lot, really. When you consider that every picture you see on the internet is likely altered from the original. That may be Photoshop. But today it is more likely AI. Or, a letter may be altered. Or a so-called experts report may not be all that expert. Communications may be altered. Or your kid or grandchild may write a dandy thesis and never crack a book. At the heart of AI is the ability to alter communication to suit the developer's whims.

In order to avoid the issues of AI and communication there needs to be some type of unfettered, open and reliable form available. This is why the future of ham radio is so very important. Our "hobby" is quickly becoming the most important medicine against control of social media, government and industry by the few with the tech and money. Only real people describing real situations and real issues will beat the altering of communication with AI.

As I write this it is not lost on me that this all sounds pretty grim. But ham radio is an answer to the problem of warped AI. Remember,

Continued Next Page

AI can only create by referencing the past. A bit like trying to drive ahead using only the rearview mirror. And it has already proven quite helpful in streamlining industrial processes, developing new medicines and more. The greatest risk of misuse is communication. We have the secret antibiotic. AI cannot replace the human being when it comes to communication. Oh, no doubt they will try. But machines aren't developers, thinkers, creatives.

There are just a few AI companies. They run the main systems, all of which take a lot of people, money and electrical power along with very sophisticated software and coding. We're talking in the many billions of dollars. One of the first, ChatGPT (Open AI) introduced in 2022. Then there is Microsoft Bing, Meta, Google (Gemini), Deepmind, Amazon, GitHub, Perplexity, Claude, A121 Labs, Stability, Jasper, Midjourney, and with an estimate of this market growing into the trillions of dollars, more to follow. At this point you may as well add Tesla/Elon Musk to the list.

So, what does this mean for all of us? Here are a few thoughts of mine;

- 1 The need to bring in younger people and involve youth.
- 2 Efforts renewed in bringing a very reliable form of communication back to where it has been lost.
MARS radio would not be consolidating if the airways were packed with operators.
- 3 Enhancing our emergency services. Connect with police, fire, National Guards, EMS and more. Support community activities along with them. One way to really show our support is if we all get certified for CPR and basic first aid. After all, depending on the day, we may be the first responder.
- 4 Not doing a field day just twice a year. Rather, local clubs could augment that with their own "field days", fox runs, poker runs and the like all year.
- 5 There are plenty of swap meets. Offer training at them in regards to emergency power, digital tech and more. The EMT/fire/police meeting on the south side is a perfect example.
- 6 Lose our "old guy and a radio" image. Yes, I am an old guy and a radio, but that doesn't define me. Use our events and club meetings to keep communication alive. Really keep the club secretary busy making notes!
- 7 Commit to bringing at least one new ham into the fold this year.

In 2024 we must lose our "hobby" and all it something else. Call it for what it is and will mean for the future. Instead, we could call it Amateur Radio Communication maybe. Whatever. AI is an old technology that was looking for the equipment and money to thrive. It is here now. Realize that one of the few things that separate people from a future of possible lies, proven manipulation and more is Amateur Radio Communication and what we do with it right now. • —• —••

ELMER by Rich Regent, K9GDF

Copied from Hamtrix, West Allis Radio Amateur Club

After reading Tom Langer's excellent article on AI and talking to Mike WO9B about it, I decided to let ChatGPT at <https://chat.openai.com/> do my editorial this month. Below you can see the result. . . .

AMAZING!!

Frank KA9FZR

Computer "Hello! How can I assist you today?"

Me "Make a 4 paragraph editorial on ham Radio"

Title: Embracing the Timeless Resilience of Ham Radio

In an era dominated by digital communication platforms and high-speed internet, the enduring charm and resilience of amateur radio, affectionately known as ham radio, continue to captivate enthusiasts worldwide. Ham radio, with its roots stretching back over a century, represents a unique intersection of technology, community, and adventure. Unlike its modern counterparts, ham radio operates independently of terrestrial infrastructure, making it a vital communication lifeline during emergencies and natural disasters when conventional means of communication falter. Its reliability in times of crisis underscores its enduring relevance in an increasingly interconnected yet fragile world.

Continued Next Page

Beyond its utilitarian role, ham radio fosters a vibrant global community bonded by a shared passion for exploration and experimentation. Enthusiasts, young and old, converge on the airwaves to exchange ideas, forge friendships, and push the boundaries of communication technology. The amateur radio spectrum serves as a playground for innovation, where operators experiment with antennas, radio circuits, and propagation techniques, constantly pushing the envelope of what is possible. This spirit of innovation not only enriches the hobby but also contributes to advancements in telecommunications and radio engineering.

Moreover, ham radio transcends geographical and cultural barriers, offering a platform for cultural exchange and mutual understanding. Through on-air conversations, operators bridge divides, sharing experiences, traditions, and perspectives across continents. In an age characterized by polarization and division, the inclusive and collaborative ethos of the ham radio community serves as a beacon of unity and cooperation. It exemplifies the power of technology to bring people together, fostering connections that transcend borders and ideologies.

As society hurtles towards an increasingly digital future, the enduring appeal of ham radio serves as a poignant reminder of the value of simplicity, self-reliance, and human connection. Amidst the noise of modern life, the crackle of the radio and the thrill of making contact with distant lands offer a welcome respite, grounding us in a tradition that predates the internet age. Ham radio enthusiasts embody the spirit of exploration and resilience, preserving a time-honored tradition while embracing the possibilities of tomorrow. In an ever-changing world, the timeless allure of ham radio endures, reminding us of the enduring power of human ingenuity and connection.

River Raisin Repeater Association, Inc.

April 14, 2024

The RRRRA thanks all members very much for your participation in the River Raisin Repeater Association. **We need and appreciate your continued support!!!**

As many already know, the RRRRA is an association of ham operators that initially gathered in 1971 and formed an association for the expressed purpose of promoting FM and repeater operation, offering a technical base on the subject, providing a useful communications facility for emergencies, and to develop friendships through a common goal. The same mission statement applies to this day as the association strives to accomplish the above stated goals.

At the 5/6/23 Annual Meeting RRRRA officers were established as follows: Mike Karmol N8KUF (Pres), Don Fritz Jr N8BZN (VP), Rodney Haddix KD8ZNZ (Sec/Treas), Paul Trouten W8PI (Director), Dale Williams WA8EFK (Director/ Trustee). Summary of Association business was reported, and updates were given regarding efforts completed as well as development projects currently underway.

Once again we will be holding our annual meeting on May 4th 2024, at the Red Cross Building on N. Dixie Hwy. The meeting starts at 10 AM. everyone is invited and you can update your dues for the year.

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

Rodney Haddix KD8ZNZ
RRRA Secretary / Treasurer
email: kd8znm@hotmail.com



MCRCA Annual Fox Hunts

This month's meeting program will be on Fox Hunting. If you are new to Fox Hunting you won't want to miss this meeting. They are sure to teach you how to properly engage in Fox hunting.

The first hunt of this year will be the **Second Saturday of May, the 11th**. We will meet at the **EMD parking lot** on Raisinville Rd. about **8:45 AM** and the hunt will begin at 9:00 AM or when the fox gets his gear running.

If we have a number of people showing an interest, we will hold future hunts in the coming months.

This is an enjoyable event and everyone should attend. If you have no equipment you can ride along with others at the hunt and learn the ropes.

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, 4 Carl Dr, Monroe, MI 48162.

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 _____ RRRR 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 – DIGITAL - PACKET - RTTY - FM - DX - MOBILE - EME - SAT - ATV - SSTV

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 ZL3GAV, The Daily DX, 425 DX News, DXNL, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.

VIET NAM, 3W. Alex, KU1CW is QRV as 3W9A and has been active on 15 meters using FT8 around 1800z. QSL to home call.

BHUTAN, A5. Janusz, SP9FIH and Leszek, SP6CIK will be QRV as A52P and A52CI, respectively, from April 19 to May 4. Activity will be on 40 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, and various digital modes. QSL via Club Log.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, A6. Member of the Emirates Amateur Radio Society will be QRV with special call sign A60WARD from April 15 to 24 in recognition of World Amateur Radio Day. In addition, look for various A60WARD stations to be active with the suffixes /0 to /9 during this time. QSLA60WARD via EA7FTR and all others via operators' instructions.

EASTER ISLAND, CE0. A group of operators will be QRV as CD0Y from April 18 to May 6. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL via DJ4MX.

MOROCCO, CN. Special event station CN99HR will be QRV on April 13 and 14 to celebrate World Amateur Radio Day and the 99th anniversary of the founding of the International Amateur Radio Union. QSL direct to CN8RAH.

NIUE, E6. Gavin, ZL3GAV will be QRV as E6SP from April 16 to 28. Activity will be holiday style on 160 to 6 meters using SSB, SSTV, FT8, and FT4 in DXpedition mode, with the possibility of CW and RTTY. QSL via LoTW.

LIBERIA, EL. Members of the Czech DXpedition Team are QRV as A8OK until April 16. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, PSK, FT8, FT4, and on various Satellites. QSL via OK6DJ.

MAYOTTE, FH. Marek, FH4VVK is QRV as TO4VV until April 14. Activity is on the HF bands using SSB and FT8. QSL direct to home call.

AUSTRAL ISLANDS, FO. Jeff, K5WE and Craig, W5CCP will be QRV as TX7W from Raivavae, IOTA OC-114, from April 16 to 30. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, FT8, and FT4. QSL via K5WE.

HONDURAS, HR. John, AD8J will be QRV as HR9/AD8J from Roatan, IOTA NA-057, beginning April 14. Activity will be on 80 to 6 meters using CW, FT8, FT4, and possibly SSB. QSL via LoTW.

DENMARK, OZ. Dieter, DF2SD will be QRV as OV9R from Fano Island, IOTA EU-125, on April 13 and 14 for the IG-RY World Wide RTTY Contest. QSL to home call.

BONAIRE, PJ4. TJ, PE1OJR will be QRV as PJ4TB from April 13 to 28. Activity will be on 40 to 6 meters using SSB, FT8, and FT4. QSL via LoTW.

GREECE, SV. Several operators will be QRV with special call sign SX100D to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Second Hellenic Republic. Activity will be on 160 to 2 meters using CW, SSB, and various digital modes. QSL direct to SV2GWY.

SOMALIA, T5. Alex, IT9HRK plans to be QRV as T5/IT9HRK from Mogadishu. Activity will be in his spare time on 80 to 10 meters using mainly SSB, with some CW, RTTY, FT8, and FT4. He is here for several months. QSL via operator's instructions.

PALAU, T8. Nobu, JA0JHQ will be QRV as T88PB from Koror, IOTA OC-009, from April 12 to 15. This includes being an entry in the Japan International DX CW Contest. QSL direct to home call.

NAMIBIA, V5. Gunter, DK2WH is QRV as V51WH near Omaruru until April 30. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters. QSL to home call.

MICRONESIA, V6. Kevin, N4DVR plans to be QRV as V6DVR until April 20. Activity is on 20 to 10 meters using SSB. QSL via LoTW.

SERBIA, YU. Members of the Amateur Radio Union of Serbia are QRV with special event stations YT100R and YU100R until December 1 to celebrate 100 years of Amateur Radio in Serbia. QSL via bureau.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. Japan International DX CW Contest, OK/OM DX SSB Contest, IG-RY World Wide RTTY Contest, NCCC FT4 Sprint, Weekly RTTY Test, NCCC CW Sprint, K1USN Slow Speed CW Test, QRP ARCI Spring QSO CW Party, SKCC Weekend CW Sprintathon, Yuri Gagarin International DX Contest, DIG QSO CW Party, New Mexico QSO Party, Africa FT4 DX Contest, Georgia QSO Party, North Dakota QSO Party and the Hungarian Straight Key CW Contest will keep contesters busy this upcoming weekend.

The 4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint, K1USN Slow Speed CW Test, ICWC Medium Speed CW Test, OK1WC Memorial, Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest, ZL 80-Meter Sprint, 222 MHz Spring Sprint, Phone Weekly Test, A1Club AWT, CWops Test, VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest, Mini-Test 40 CW, Mini-Test 80 CW and the RSGB 80-Meter Club SSB Championship are on tap for April 15 to 17.

Please see April QST, page 76, and the ARRL and WA7BNM contest websites 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

Registrations preferred
Call for information.
email address and FRN required

2024 Schedule:
February 17 April 20
June 15 August 17
October 19 December 21

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

April 18th st 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

One Day Bi-Monthly Technician classes

Next class will be August 10, 2024 -- NO CLASSES IN JUNE

The Monroe County Radio Communications Association (MCRCA) is offering a one-day Amateur Radio course for the entry level Technician class license. The class will run from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM on the **second Saturday of every even numbered month**. The cost is \$10 and includes lunch, snacks and beverages. The test will be conducted immediately following the class and has a separate fee of \$14. These classes will be held at the Red Cross building, 1645 N Dixie Hwy, Monroe, MI 48162.

There is a maximum class size of 10 people on a first come first served basis and you should sign up no later than 1 week before the class. All study material and testing paperwork will be provided at the time you sign up and you should plan on doing some pre-class studying to make things easier in the class.

If you are interested in becoming a Ham Radio Operator, please call or email me to get signed up for the next class.

N8BZN Don Fritz / (419) 345-4495 after 6PM / Donfritz56@gmail.com

New MCRCA Members

Please welcome recent new members to the club.

Dennis Hulvey KE8ZAR, -- Bob Morrison KF8AOL, -- David Hatfield K8EKG, -- Ken Grooms KE8LRD