

# The Hertzian Herald



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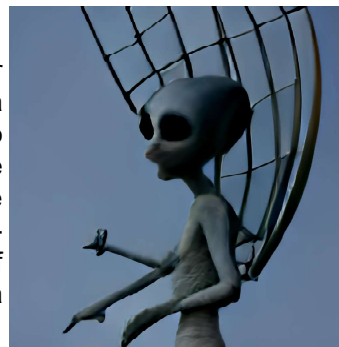
Hello everyone. It's a great time of the year for everyone who has been waiting for the summer weather to arrive and right away there will be a heatwave for us to contend with. Graduations are mostly over with and school is out. I hope you get some fun time with your family and friends too.

Testing will be at 9 AM Saturday June 15th and the testing crew will join the rest of you for Hamfest setup when we are finished. I hope you can make it 9 AM at the fairgrounds. The idiom "many hands make light work" goes back to ancient Greece and still applies today.



Solar cycle 25 is still going strong and 6 meters has had some activity. I'm soon to deploy my 6 meter antenna and hope to have some luck on 6 m. HF has very good at times and occasionally a harder to log country will pop up sometimes when other signals are below expected. There is occasional radio blackouts to contend with and lots of radio noise too but it soon recovers. Who would have thought such a thing could shut down farming. It makes me wonder about self driving cars during these events.

From CNN, Astronomers are expecting a "new star" to appear in the night sky anytime between now and September in a celestial event that has been years in the making, according to NASA. T Coronae Borealis is one of 10 recurring novae in the galaxy. We know from the last eruption back in 1946 that the star will get dimmer for just over a year before rapidly increasing in brightness. T Coronae Borealis began to dim in March of last year, so some researchers are expecting it to go nova between now and September.



I hope to see you all Sat. It's going to be in the 90's so please take precautions from the sun and stay hydrated.

73, Keith KJ8H

<http://mcrcra.org/>

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

## Club Officers

### PRESIDENT

Keith Hutchinson KJ8H  
[keithhutch999@gmail.com](mailto:keithhutch999@gmail.com)

### VICE PRESIDENT

Don Fritz N8BZN  
[donfritz56@gmail.com](mailto:donfritz56@gmail.com)

### SECRETARY

Brenda VanDaele KB8KQC  
[ka8ebi@yahoo.com](mailto:ka8ebi@yahoo.com)

### TREASURER

Fred VanDaele K8EBI  
[ka8ebi@yahoo.com](mailto:ka8ebi@yahoo.com)

### DIRECTOR

Paul Trouten W8PI  
[ptrouten@bex.net](mailto:ptrouten@bex.net)

### DIRECTOR

Mike Karmol N8KUF  
[mkarmol@bex.net](mailto:mkarmol@bex.net)

### DIRECTOR

**STATION TRUSTEE**  
Wes Busdiecker KC8SKP  
[busdiecw@netscape.net](mailto:busdiecw@netscape.net)

**We still need some ticket sellers and trunk sales guides for Sunday morning Hamfest at 6:15 AM. Please contact Don Fritz N8BZN.**

**Also we desperately need some one to watch the trunk sales area Saturday evening from 6 pm to 9 pm. You will have to collect from early arrivers and campers, and make sure they park in the correct area.**

**I also need someone to watch the Raisinville Rd worker's gate from 6 to 7:30am Sunday to make sure only workers get in.**

## Inside This Issue

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Minutes . . . . .   | 2 |
| ARPSC Report . . .  | 3 |
| Hamfest time . . .  | 4 |
| Tech Support. . . . | 5 |
| Tech Trivia . . . . | 6 |
| Field Day . . . . . | 6 |
| Renewal Form . . .  | 7 |

**MCRCA Meeting Minutes for May 16, 2024**

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm, by Keith KJ8H.

Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions: One new members, no upgrade and one guest.

MINUTES: Motion by Don N8BZN, supported by Mike N8KUF, to approve as written in the Herald. Approved.

TREASURER REPORT: Motion by Dale WA8EFK, supported by John WA8YZB, to approve the treasurer's report as passed out to the membership. Approved.

DX REPORT: Tom KG8P, The solar eclipse, shifted the time signal during the eclipse shown on 6m 7 band reports. FT4GL Glorioso Islands May 14 thru June 19<sup>th</sup> — Jarvis Island Dxpedition, N5J, been 35 years since last activation, very expensive Dxpedition.

CONTESTING: Paul W8PI, QSOP - AR

TESTING: Paul - Next session - Sat. June 15, 2024. **Appointments Preferred - FRN and email req'd**

CLASSES: Sat. August 10, 2024 contact Don N8BZN – Technician class - **No class in June, Aug. and Oct. will be Tech classes and Dec. will be a General class.**

HAMFEST: Father's Day June 16, 2024. Set up Saturday before at 9:00 am see report in Herald

FOX HUNT: Mike N8KUF, Fox Hunt was Saturday and we had almost yucky weather. K8EBI was the fox and a bunch of hunters, and someone won.

FIELD DAY: Mike N8KUF, Setup Saturday the 22<sup>nd</sup> starts at 9:00am and we need lots of help. Pot Luck at 6:00 pm please bring a dish to pass. Event ends 2:00pm Sunday the 23<sup>rd</sup>. See article in Herald.

ARPSC: James WD8NWF, the group set up mobile stations at park to test equipment. Erie Race for the Kids will be held June 8<sup>th</sup> email Lance if you are available to help. The next meeting will be on Radiological Preparedness, June 6<sup>th</sup> at the EMD.

RRRA: Mike N8KUF, the 72 repeater is not up to par since the last down time and swapping out of transmitters. Echolink receiver sounds like an open squelch and not working now. Ida 440 is up and going through trouble shooting. RRRA has a new policy on crossband repeater use and this can be found online at the club website. Mcrca.org

OLD BUSINESS: Club T-shirts - Barb

NEW BUSINESS: Scholarship, **Abbi Zeller** of Dundee, and **Vincent Cole** of Bedford. 6 votes for Vincent, 2 non-voted Keith and Don. Mike gave a report on each candidate, and the scholarship was awarded to Vincent Cole.

DOOR PRIZE DRAWING: John WA8YZB, David K8EKG, and Brenda KB8KQC

50/50: Brian Paules KE8WYY, Brian donated his winnings to the scholarship.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Dayton Hamfest May 17-19<sup>th</sup>.

PROGRAM: Dale - Station grounds for Electrical safety, Lightning safety and RF

ADJOURNED: 8:57 pm

ATTENDANCE: 22

|             |               |              |             |
|-------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|
| NM8I Barb   | KB8KQC Brenda | KE8WYY Brian | WA8EFK Dale |
| KB8AQJ Dan  | K8EKG David   | N8BZN Don    | K8EBI Fred  |
| KJ8H Keith  | KB8OSU George | WD8NWF James | WA8YZB John |
| N8KUF Mike  | KA8PQH Neil   | KE8YQE Phil  | KE8OSX Ron  |
| W8SMB Scott | N8NYP Terry   | KG8P Tom     | KE8NSU Tony |
| KF8AYK Doug | Delmer Taylor |              |             |

**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

We had 11 operators participate in the Race for the Kids Erie 5k Saturday June 8<sup>th</sup>. The weather was perfect for our 3rd assist, cool Temps in the low 60's, sunny and a light breeze. Event organizers believe that they had their largest participation of runners and walkers. Operators monitored checkpoints along the race route to watch for medical issues, and track the end of the race. We also debuted the new to us communications trailer from the county. This trailer will be outfitted as a communications asset for our use. Big thanks to Ed WS8Y, Jim WD8NWF, Mark W8MCW, Rodney KD8ZNZ, Deb KE8RXC, Tom KG8P, Mike KE8CEH, Mike N8KUF, Terry N8NYP and Mikey KE8UWZ.



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](http://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.

**Thursday July 4<sup>th</sup>**- 9am Dundee Independence Parade-9am Dundee High School-Need 7-10 Operators

**July Meeting July 11<sup>th</sup>** \*\*NOTE NEW DATE DUE TO JULY 4TH HOLIDAY\*\* 7:30pm We will be discussing plans and operations for the new trailer

**Tuesday July 23<sup>rd</sup>** 8am-3pm Fermex Practice Exercise-Need 3-4 Ops MUST have REP101 Training

**August 1<sup>st</sup>** ARPSC Meeting 7:30pm

**Tuesday Aug 13<sup>th</sup>** 8am-3pm Fermex Practice Exercise-Need 3-4 Ops MUST have REP101 Training

**Tuesday August 27<sup>th</sup>** 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 July 11<sup>th</sup>. We will also have a Fall SET Planning meeting in person at 6:45pm before the ARPSC Meeting. Anyone interested in helping plan the SET is welcome to participate.

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





## Monroe Hamfest 2024

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 16, 2024.

Set up will begin on Saturday morning June 15<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.

The fair people usually put the handicap parking signs out in the parking lot and since we allow them to park inside we need to cover 14 signs in the parking area with brown bags. There are other miscellaneous jobs such as putting up banners and flags, 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 6:00 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.

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.

### Still Needed:

**Just a reminder that we need at least 12 to 15 people Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup> to help set up for the hamfest from about 9AM to noon at the fairgrounds. I need 3 or 4 more people to help with trunk sales parking from 6:30 to 9 on Sunday also. Sunday clean up starts at about 1PM and we need all hands on deck for that too. If you would be available to help out for any of these three things, please email me at the address below so I can make sure we have enough people. Remember, this is a volunteer organization.**

As of May 12<sup>th</sup> we have 54 tables reserved, a little lower than last year. We have sold 75 tickets, 21 trunk spaces and 0 camping spots. Less than last year.

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

**Don Fritz, N8BZN, [Donfritz56@gmail.com](mailto:Donfritz56@gmail.com)**

## First Car Phone

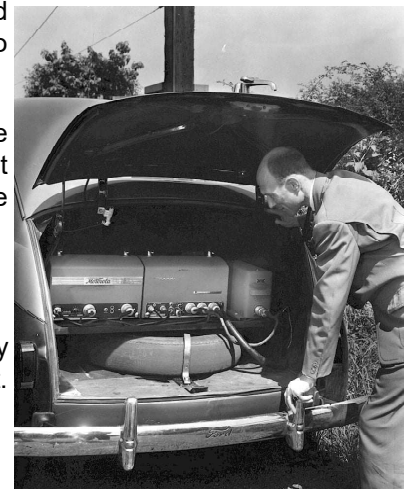
May 13: On this day in 1946, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) granted Southwestern Bell a license for radio-telephone service, which enabled those in St. Louis to be the first in the nation to make and receive phone calls in their car.

Covering a 75-mile radius of downtown calls to an auto had to be placed through a mobile operator at 2654 Locust. This was transferred over normal telephone lines to the office at 1010 Pine, where the call went out over VHF radio from the 250-Watt transmitter on the building's roof.

Service cost \$15 a month, after a \$25 installation fee.

There was an additional charge per call, depending on time. As seen in this photo, necessary equipment took much of the trunk space. The first radiotelephone call was placed in St. Louis on Jun 17, 1946.

[sources: John Sarkis & Missouri Life]



## Tech Support

The young woman who submitted the tech support message below (about her relationship to her husband) presumably did it as a joke. Then she got a reply that was way too good to keep to herself. The tech support people's love advice was hilarious and genius!

### The query:

Dear Tech Support,

Last year I upgraded from Boyfriend 5.0 to Husband 1.0 and noticed a distinct slowdown in overall system performance, particularly in the flower and jewelry applications, which operated flawlessly under Boyfriend 5.0.

In addition, Husband 1.0 uninstalled many other valuable programs, such as Romance 9.5 and Personal Attention 6.5, and then installed undesirable programs such as: NBA 5.0, NFL 3.0 and Golf Clubs 4.1. Conversation 8.0 no longer runs, and House cleaning 2.6 simply crashes the system. Please note that I have tried running Nagging 5.3 to fix these problems, but to no avail.

What can I do?

Signed: Desperate

### The response (that came weeks later out of the blue)...

Dear Desperate,

First keep in mind, Boyfriend 5.0 is an Entertainment Package, while Husband 1.0 is an Operating System.

Please enter command: I thought you loved me.html and try to download Tears 6.2. Do not forget to install the Guilt 3.0 update. If that application works as designed, Husband 1.0 should then automatically run the applications Jewelry 2.0 and Flowers 3.5. However, remember, overuse of the Tears application can cause Husband 1.0 to default to Grumpy Silence 2.5, Happy Hour 7.0, or Beer 6.1. Please note that Beer 6.1 is a very bad program that will download Snoring Loudly Beta version.

Whatever you do, DO NOT, under any circumstances, install Mother-In-Law 1.0 as it runs a virus in the background that will eventually seize control of all your system resources.

In addition, please do not attempt to re-install the Boyfriend 5.0 program. These are unsupported applications and will crash Husband 1.0.

In summary, Husband 1.0 is a great program, but it does have limited memory and cannot learn new applications quickly. You might consider buying additional software to improve memory and performance. We recommend Cooking 3.0.

Good Luck

Tech Support



## TECH TRIVIA 2: The Lowly Resistor

Reprint from (Feb, 2003)

We all know how to read the resistor color code - but do you know what it means when the first color band is double width? That indicates that the resistor is not carbon, it's wire-wound. Sometimes wire windings can produce enough inductance to cause real trouble at high frequencies. I recently measured a 5-ohm, 37-W wire-wound that had 14 uH of inductance. At frequencies above 57 kHz that 'resistor' has more inductive reactance than resistance.

Some manufacturers reverse the winding direction half-way through to cancel the inductance. A 10-ohm, 20-W square wirewound I checked had less than 0.3 uH. Still, you should never use a wire-wound resistor as a dummy load. Even 0.3 uH has over 50 ohms at 28 MHz.

Have you noticed that 1/2-W and 1/4-W resistors have changed shape in the last decade or so? They used to be perfect cylinders, but now they're dog-bone shaped, with little bulges at the ends. The cylinders are carbon composition types. They have a central core of carbon mixed with clay. Best tolerance with these rascals was about 5%. The dog bones are carbon film types. They have a thin film of carbon deposited on the surface of a ceramic cylinder, and easily hold a tolerance of 2%. You may see some of them with a red fourth band, indicating a 2% tolerance.



Getting back to color codes, the companies had a fit about 15 years ago of putting out resistors with a fifth color band, almost always yellow. This was just hype, crowing that the resistors pass a military-specified test with less than 0.001% failures per 1000 hours. And speaking of military, you may see resistors with values stamped on them - for example, 24R9. The R is the military decimal point, so it's a 24.9-ohm resistor. Why 'R' for 'decimal'? Hey, it's the government - Go figure.

When is a resistor not a resistor? When it's a capacitor. Half-watt carbon-film resistors have typically 0.3 pF of stray capacitance between their leads. Half-watt carbon comps may have 1 pF, and 2-W comps may have 3 pF. Try to use a 91-kohm and a 10- kohm carbon comp to make a 10-to-1 voltage divider at 14 MHz, and you'll get a division closer to 2-to-1, from the 11-kohm stray capacitance across each resistor. Try to make a 20-W, 75-ohm dummy load from ten 750-ohm, 2-W carbon comps in parallel, and you'll get 30 pF of capacitance shunting the resistance. That's 37 ohms of reactance at 2 meters, and a 3-to-1 SWR!

Until next month - 73 de Dan, K8JWR

**ARRL Field Day 320 W Vienna Rd, Temperance, MI 48182**

**June 22 & 23, 2024**

Vienna Park in southern Monroe County will again be the site of the MCRCA Field Day (FD) activities. FD is the nation-wide event sponsored by the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) to test the mettle of ham operators – are we prepared for a true communications emergency?

The manner in which the test is conducted has made FD THE operating event of the ham radio calendar each year for time immemorial. FD is a challenge – a contest if you will, where teams of hams across the country and Canada set up temporary sites and portable stations just to see who can make the most contacts. The MCRCA event will begin Saturday morning around 9:30am when we will gather at the park for set up. The operating event begins at 2:00pm and will run 24 hours until 2:00pm Sunday.

At 6:00pm we will have a potluck cookout in the shelter. The club will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, and Sausages, along with the buns and condiments. We will also provide various pops and water, and have coffee available. Plastic ware and paper plates will be provided. Please bring a dish to pass, favorite goodie, or dessert.

The public is invited to come out and operate the radios.

**Vincent Cole will be attending our meeting to receive his scholarship and have pictures taken.**

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_ RRRRA 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 \_\_\_\_\_



## 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

**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

June 20th 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](mailto:Donfritz56@gmail.com)

## New MCRCA Members

Please welcome recent new members to the club. **Doug Bouldin KF8AYK**