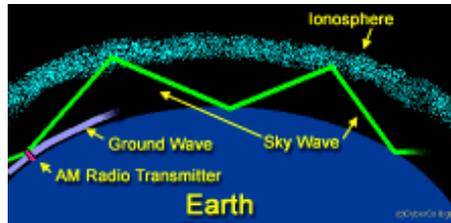


# The Hertzian Herald



## N8DXR's Ground Waves



The Winds of November have arrived and the end of year holidays are just around the corner. I think that this is an appropriate time to step back and ask a couple of questions about amateur radio.

Why do we participate in amateur radio? Even though there was the cessation of CW as a requirement to become a licensed amateur there are still exams that require ever increasing technical knowledge to successfully complete. Both those with and those without a technical background can find these exams not only challenging but also rewarding since they increase their knowledge base. After becoming licensed the new amateur begins the daunting task of putting together their first station. It starts with learning a specialized language that describes the functions and specifications of a laundry list of equipment. There are the basics that include antennas, transceivers, tuners, amplifiers, etc. It then moves on to more esoteric equipment with strange names such as Baluns and Ununs to name a few. The new initiate has started down a path familiar to those who have been around awhile. It's a journey of education and experiences that never can be completed since technology keeps extending the path. It's full of mental challenges and the rewards that go with learning from those challenges. It is also learning from the occasional failure and the associated disappointments that can accompany new endeavors.

So why do we do it? Why do we take on these challenges, the time involved and the expense? I do not believe that there is just one descriptive reason that fits all. It's an individual decision that varies from individual to individual. But I do feel that since the beginning days of radio with Maxwell, Marconi and Maxim there has grown a sort of mystic aura around amateur radio. Because of its ability to allow us to sit in one part of our world and communicate with others around the globe men, women and our youth have been drawn to amateur radio through the years. What do we get in return for our time and efforts? For one thing we are given the chance to participate in the founding fundamental of amateur radio; Public Service. It gives us chance to be of service to our community, our country and our others around the world in time of need with emergency communications. We are also given the opportunity to advance technology through radio experimentation and education and to expand the awareness and growth of amateur radio.

More than anything else we are given the chance to be the ambassadors of amateur radio. We can develop our own personal outreach program so that when we find those who ask that one question that we all have heard; "What do you do on the radio" we can respond with answers that stimulate the faintest interest the person might have in our avocation. With the arrival of so many new digital modes of communication we gain an opening to promote amateur radio to a new younger generation of potential participants. You will see a look of surprise on the faces of those when you explain our ability to communicate using satellites, to bounce signals off of the moon and talk to people on the space station in orbit. And when you discuss QRP and the ability to carry a radio station in a backpack to any location a person might wander with those who are adventurous, you might be finding a potential new amateur. So, as you travel down the path of amateur radio keep in mind that if each one of us could bring one person a year into the fold then a healthy future for amateur radio could be assured.

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

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goglen@gmail.com

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#### DIRECTOR

Paul Trouten W8PI  
w8pi@arrl.net

#### DIRECTOR

Rodney Haddix KD8ZNX  
rodhaddix@hotmail.com

#### DIRECTOR STATION TRUSTEE

Wes Busdiecker KC8SKP  
busdiecw@netscape.net

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## MCRCA Minutes:

October 18, 2018

Meeting called to order at 7:28 pm, by John Copeland N8DXR

Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions: 1 new member, Scott Burkey KE8KLY, no upgrades and no guests.

PROGRAM: None

DOOR PRIZE DRAWING: Mike Hall, John Copeland, and Mike Karmol

50/50: John Copeland donated winnings to scholarship.

MINUTES: Motion by Sandra KE8CQW, supported by John N8RWI, to approve as written in the Herald. Approved.

TREASURER REPORT: Motion by Paul W8PI, supported by Mike N8KUF, to approve the treasurer's report as passed out to the membership. Approved.

DX REPORT: Tom KG8P, CQ World Wide DX Contest SSB, Oct. 2-28. It's possible to earn your DXCC during this contest if you are diligent. There are a lot of countries working this contest. **An application for a DXpedition from Kure Atoll was denied. "The official position was that Amateur Radio 'cannot be conducted with adequate safeguards for the resources and ecological integrity' of Kure Atoll,"** If you are using N3FJP's logging software Scott put out a new version to fix a bug that caused trouble logging into LoTW. You can download the new version and delete your old one and simply install the new version. **VP6D - Ducie Island dxpedition will land on the island Oct 19 and will be using DXA software which shows a world map with contacts and allows you to check the internet site for your contact in real time.** <http://dxa3.org/vp6d/>. LoTW has 97 million QSOs logged so far.

FUTURE PROGRAMS: RRRR repeater and satellite sites by Mike N8KUF

TESTING: Next session - Sat. October 20, 2018.

ARPSC: Mike N8KUF, The SET - Fox Hunt - Picnic was held Saturday Oct. 13 and everything went well. Lance reported a good score for the SET. Dalton KE8DDM was first in for the Fox Hunt with Dave coming in second. Dundee Spook Patrol will be Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> meeting at Burger King at 4:30 PM and starting at 5:00 PM.

RRRA: Mike N8KUF, all work I done at the main site and now focusing on the satellite receiver sites updating 25-year-old equipment.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Paul W8PI gave Scott Burkey KE8KLY a 6-volume set of the latest ARRL Handbook, he was the newest member in the club at the meeting. Chuck Tyrrell donated a large oscilloscope to the club.

ADJOURNED: 8:10 pm

ATTENDANCE: 15

KA8EBI Fred  
KG8P Tom  
W8PI Paul  
KE8KLY Scott

KA8PQH Neil  
N8DXR John  
WA8EFK Dale  
K8MLH Mike

KC8SKP Wes  
N8NYP Terry  
KE8CQW Sandra  
Chuck Tyrrell

KE8DDM Dalton  
N8RWI John  
W8GPR Gary

## 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

## November MCRCA meeting

For the November MCRCA meeting, Mike N8KUF will be doing a presentation on the Monroe area repeaters that are owned, administered, and maintained by the River Raisin Repeater Association, Inc. (RRRA).

Mike will be discussing the "5 W's" (what, where, why, when, and who) as related to several RRRA regional repeater systems.

The presentation will include some communications theory, block level functional information, and a guided tour of host facilities.

Questions are always welcome and Mike has assured us that if he doesn't know the correct answer he'll be happy to make one up.

As is customary with Mike's presentations he promises this one will be both educational and entertaining. Hope to see you there!!!

## Is it possible to be "over qualified" when enlisting in the US military?



Peter Josefsson, Senior Systems Developer (2011-present)  
24 year retired USAF Master Sergeant and Robert Whaley, former Sergeant at U.S. Marine Corps (1954-1958)

There once was a girl named Grace. Doctor in mathematics. She thought it would be a good idea to join the Navy, as the US entered the war. It was her duty, she felt.

Turned out she was too old and too petite. This girl, however, seldom ran out of resources, so she applied to the Navy reserves, which had more lenient height, weight, and age restrictions.

So, what were they going to do with this obnoxiously intelligent and educated woman? They scratched their heads.

Someone came up with an idea: Why not send her to that super-secret project in a basement at Harvard? The one with that calculator thingy?

That, they did.

You may google her yourselves. Her Wikipedia page is excellent, and there are lots of pearls on YouTube.



**Grace Hopper** [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grace\\_Hopper](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grace_Hopper)

Also look for the USS Hopper (a.k.a. Amazing Grace). Not many computer geeks get a warship named after them. Just Adm Hopper, as far as I know.

Yes, I'm a programmer. Every time I use the SQL language (strongly inspired by Cobol), I think of her.

## Q&A: ARES® Versus RACES

Q: I would enjoy reading an article about the similarities and differences between the ARES® groups and the RACES groups. I am part of an ARES® group, but I really don't know why ARRL has two organizations that seem to be doing the same thing. — Mike Sallee, KC9FWL, Bloomington, Illinois

A: After World War II, it became evident that the international situation was destined to be tense and the need for some civil-defense measures became apparent. Successive government agencies designated to head up such a program called on amateur representatives to participate.

In the discussions that followed, amateurs were interested in getting two points across: First, that Amateur Radio had a potential for and capability of playing a major role in this program; and second, that our participation should be in our own name, as an Amateur Radio Service, even if and after war should break out. These principles were included into the planning by the formulation of regulations creating a new branch of the amateur service, the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service, RACES.

RACES is administered by local, county and state emergency management agencies, and supported by FEMA. It is a part of the Amateur Radio Service that provides radio communications for civil-preparedness purposes only, during periods of local, regional or national civil emergencies. These emergencies are not limited to war-related activities, but can include natural disasters such as fires, floods and earthquakes.

RACES operation is authorized by emergency management officials only, and this operation is strictly limited to official civil-preparedness activity in the event of an emergency communications situation.

### Operating Procedure

Amateurs operating in a local RACES organization must be officially enrolled in the local civil-preparedness agency having jurisdiction. RACES operation is conducted by amateurs using their own primary station licenses and by existing RACES stations.

The FCC no longer issues new RACES (WC prefix) station call signs. Operator privileges in RACES are dependent upon, and identical to, those for the class of license held in the Amateur Radio Service. All of the authorized frequencies and emissions allocated to the Amateur Radio Service are also available to RACES on a shared basis.

While RACES was originally based on potential use for wartime, it has evolved over the years, as has the meaning of civil defense (which is also called civil preparedness), to encompass all types of emergencies.

While operating in a RACES capacity, RACES stations and amateurs registered in the local RACES organization may not communicate with amateurs not operating in a RACES capacity. Such restrictions do not apply when such stations are operating in a non-RACES—such as ARES®—amateur capacity. Only civil-preparedness communications can be transmitted.

Test and drills are permitted only for a maximum of one hour per week. All test and drill messages must be clearly so identified. With the approval of the chief officer for emergency planning and applicable state, Commonwealth, district or territory, however, such tests and drills may be conducted for a period not to exceed 72 hours no more than twice in any calendar year.

### ARES® and RACES

Although RACES and ARES® are separate entities, the ARRL advocates dual membership and cooperative efforts between both groups whenever possible for an ARES® group whose members are all enrolled in and certified by RACES to operate in an emergency with great flexibility. Using the same operators and the same frequencies, an ARES® group also enrolled as RACES can "switch hats" from ARES® to RACES and RACES to ARES® to meet the requirements of the situation as it develops. For example, during a "nondeclared emergency," ARES® can operate under ARES®, but when an emergency or disaster is officially declared by a state or federal authority, the operation can become RACES with no change in personnel or frequencies.

This situation is still not well understood and accepted throughout the United States; both ARES® and RACES still exist, separately, in many areas.

Where there are currently no RACES, it would be a simple matter for an ARES® group to enroll in that capacity, after a presentation to the civil-preparedness authorities. In cases where both ARES® and RACES exist, it is possible to join both or to be involved in either. As time progresses, the goal would be the merger into one strong organization, with coordination between ARES® and RACES officials using the same groups of amateurs. In some sections of the U.S. today, the ARES® structure has also been accepted as the RACES structure.

## ARPSC Report for October

Members of both MCRPSC and MCRCA participated in the Michigan Section Fall Simulated Emergency Test (SET). 14 operators checked in or participated in the test or operated at a Served Agency location; County EOC (WA8EFK-Dale, KE8BYC-Lance), Red Cross EOC station (N8KUF-Mike), and Promedica Monroe Hospital EOC (AC8SI-Dave).

The SET components were two-fold; Monroe County had experienced a Simulated late season Tornado that had damaged a large apartment complex in Monroe and we were tasked with passing messages to the Red Cross and its Shelters, who had simulated shelter setup, and also passed messages to Promedica Monroe who had requested comms assistance due to the high numbers of patients. The State component required us sending an FLDigi produced ICS form via Packet to the SEOC, due to a simulated suspected electronics hack which had caused even hardened network based Public Service communications systems such as the MSPSC 800Mhz radio system and cell phones to become unstable and fail.

We also worked closely with Washtenaw EOC and Washtenaw Red Cross passing messages both by voice and packet between the two counties.

We compiled 529 points for the SET portion and 115 points for the NTS portion, we will find out in the July QST how we stacked up against the rest of the state and the Great Lakes Division.

At the same time everything else was going on, N8KUF activated a fox from his location to allow operators the chance to brush off their fox hunt skills, and find the location of the potluck which was held at Red Cross after the SET. After a quick fix of the fox by N8KUF and WA8EFK, it went on the air on the VHF Simplex Tactical frequency of 146.475 and there were 2 operators who tracked the fox, AC8SI and KE8DDM (Dalton). KE8DDM, who had never participated in an amateur fox hunt, was the first one to arrive at the fox. Great Job Dalton!

After the SET, a potluck was held for MCRCA and MCRPSC members to enjoy fellowship and discuss the events. N8KUF pulled yet a 3<sup>rd</sup> duty as Chef Extraordinaire, and with the help of all those who attended and brought food, no one went home hungry. A huge Thanks goes out the MCRCA for hosting the potluck and providing the meat and drinks!

The next meeting of the MCRPSC is Thursday December 6<sup>th</sup> 730pm at the EMD Training room. Everyone is invited as we will be discussing the training and event calendar for 2019 and we would like everyone's input as to what training or learning sessions you would like to see AND participate in.

Happy Thanksgiving to all!

Lance Charter KE8BYC  
Emergency Coordinator  
Monroe County Amateur Radio Public Service Corp



## Cedar Point Wildlife Refuge

I had to wait to activate Cedar Point Wildlife Refuge, in Ohio in 2017. I know, you think of Cedar Point and the amusement park comes to mind. But a short distance away is this refuge along Lake Erie.

It is only open from June 1st to August 31st. There are private tours or you can fish from a bank. I now understand why I could not see the parking lot from google search. It is a gravel patch that holds about 4-5 vehicles.

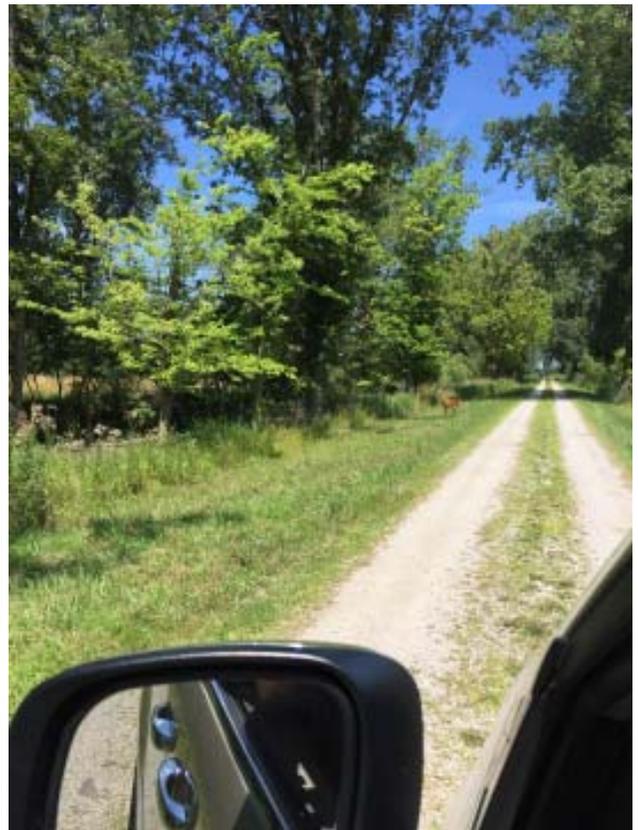


The park was closed for the first 6 weeks of the 3-month window, waiting for bald eagle chicks to leave their nest near the fishing area. The first local (a deer) is in a picture and I missed getting the fawn that was a bit more skittish.

This park is close to several other along the Lake Erie shoreline. It is a bird watcher's paradise.... One ham who noticed me and later made the comment; "this area is the Dayton of bird watching."

Set up was the usual. At all parks I visit, I follow the rule of no attaching to trees and no stakes in the ground. Basically, 100 watts to an end fed antenna.

Chatted with some of the fisher people and a park person. Then the feds showed up and I got another picture. Glad I was able to get to this park. I did have a park to park contact with California. All 26 contacts I made were CW and I used 3 bands. EU included Belgium, Czech Republic, France, and Croatia. De KG8P





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.

**SRI LANKA, 4S.** Peter, DC0KK is QRV as 4S7KKG from Moragalla, IOTA AS-003, until April 1, 2019. Activity is on the HF bands using mainly CW and various digital modes. QSL via LoTW.

**MADAGASCAR, 5R.** Andy, OE7AJH and Thomas, OE7KUT are QRV as 5R8UP from Antananarivo, IOTA AF-013, until November 13. Activity is holiday style on 40 to 10 meters, and possibly 80 meters, using CW and SSB, and mainly during their morning and evening hours. QSL via OE7AJH. In addition, Eric, F6ICX is QRV as 5R8IC from Saint Marie Island, IOTA AF-090, until mid February 2019. Activity is holiday style on 40 to 10 meters using mainly CW, with some SSB, RTTY, and PSK63. QSL to home call.

**UGANDA, 5X.** Alan, G3XAQ will be QRV as 5X1XA from November 15 to 27. Activity will be on the HF bands. This includes being an entry in the upcoming CQ World Wide DX CW Contest as a Single Band/Unassisted on 20 meters entry. QSL to home call.

**ALGERIA, 7X.** Some members from the Algerian Radio Amateur Union are QRV with special event station 7V1N from Djelfa until November 20. QSL via operators' instructions.

**MALDIVES, 8Q.** Braco OE1EMS, will be QRV as 8Q7DX from South Male Atoll, IOTA AS-013, from November 10 to 25. Activity will be holiday style on 160 to 10 meters. This includes being an entry in the upcoming CQ World Wide DX CW contest. QSL to home call.

**FRANCE, F.** Special event station TM100ARM is QRV until November 12 in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I. QSL via F5IQG.

**ENGLAND, G.** Members of the Royal Navy Amateur Radio Society are QRV with special event station GB100ARM until November 28 in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I. QSL via G0TOC.

**ITALY, I.** Members of the Amateur Radio Club at the United Nations Global Service Centre in Brindisi are QRV as 4U73B until November 23 to commemorate the 73rd anniversary of the founding of the United Nations. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters. QSL via 9A2AA.

**US VIRGIN ISLANDS, KP2.** John, KE4PLT and Ernesto, KN4PUD are QRV as KP2/home calls from St. John Island,

IOTA NA-106, until November 16. Activity is on 40, 20, 17, 15 and 10 meters using mainly SSB with some FT8. QSL to home calls.

**NETHERLANDS, PA.** Bob, PA5V is QRV as PA1918PAX until the end of November to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I. QSL via operator's instructions.

**EUROPEAN RUSSIA, UA.** Special event stations R130ANT and R130TU are active until the end of November to celebrate the 130th birthday of pioneer aircraft designer Andrei Nikolayevich Tupolev. QSL via UA3IIZ.

**MICRONESIA, V6.** Toru, JH0CJH will be QRV as V63YAP from Yap Island, IOTA OC-012, from November 13 to 18. QSL to home call. In addition, Janusz, AK4JK is QRV as V6JBVS from Kolonia, Pohnpei Island, IOTA OC-010. Activity is on 20 meters using CW. His length of stay is unknown. QSL direct to home call.

**CHRISTMAS ISLAND, VK9X.** Michael, DF8AN is QRV as VK9XQ until November 17. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, RTTY, various digital modes, and FT8 in DXpedition mode. QSL to home call.

**BERMUDA, VP9.** Georg, DK7LX is QRV as VP9/DK7LX from St. David's Island until November 20. Activity is holiday style on 80 to 10 meters using CW. QSL to home call.

**SOUTH AFRICA, ZS.** Special event station ZS100WWI is QRV until November 30 in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I. QSL via operators' instructions.

**THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO.** The Worked All Europe RTTY DX Contest, Japan International DX Phone Contest, NCCC RTTY Sprint, QRP 80-Meter CW Fox Hunt, NCCC CW Sprint, PODXS 070 Club Triple Play Low Band Sprint, 10-10 International Fall Digital Contest, SARL VHF/UHF

Analogue Contest, SKCC Weekend CW Sprintathon, OK/OM CW DX Contest, CQ-WE Contest and AWA Bruce Kelley 1929 CW QSO Party will certainly keep contesters busy this upcoming weekend.

The RSGB 80-Meter Autumn Data Series and 4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint are scheduled for November 12.

The CWops Mini-CWT Test, Phone Fray and QRP 40-Meter CW Fox Hunt are scheduled for November 14.

The ARRL International Grid Chase runs during all of 2018. Please see November QST, page 90, and the ARRL and WA7BNM Contest Web Sites for details.

# 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, PO Box 237, Monroe, MI 48161**. 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 – PACKET - RTTY - FM - DX - MOBILE - QRP - SSTV - ATV - EME - SAT

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

Walk-ins are always welcome.

**2018 Schedule:**

February 17    April 21  
June 16        August 18  
October 20    December 15

### 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

November 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