

# The Hertzian Herald



## Off The Kuf:

By Mike – N8KUF 2019 MCRCA President



As the recently elected MCRCA President, I'd like to start this article by thanking John N8DXR for his fine leadership over the last few years, and I would also like to thank the other members of last year's board for their efforts. I want to welcome the newly elected board members and thank them for their willingness to step forward. My mission for this year is to emphasize making ham radio activities somewhere you WANT to be. My primary goal is to increase opportunities for involvement of the board and of the membership in general. Together we will strive to offer educational / skill building opportunities. Those that have known me also recognize that I fully support and participate in the many training and public service communication activities conducted by the Monroe County Amateur Radio Public Service Corps (MC-ARPSC) and serve that organization as an Assistant Emergency Coordinator (AEC). You should expect that I will support and encourage your vital participation with that organization. In my spare time I serve in the elected positions of Secretary and Treasurer for the River Raisin Repeater Association (RRRA) and am part of the organization's technical committee.

Many have heard me say (more than once I might guess) that having four weeks in (dreary) February seems such a waste, and that two of those weeks should be relocated to June where we would make better use of them. I find myself now forced to rethink those words as THIS month of February has come on stronger than a "March Lion". With half of the month already gone, we are still looking at ARPSC support of the Muskrat Run, JNOS and Digital messaging training, MCRCA meeting, and a License Exam session, all after already having participated in a monthly ARPSC meeting and a Saturday training session on FL-Digi. I find myself thinking that a few weeks gone from THIS February (with no regard to the weather) would be missed.

At this month's MCRCA meeting, Tom KG8P will be doing a presentation he calls HF-101. The presentation will cover operating below 30MHz (the HF bands), and includes useful information on equipment, antennas, tips, techniques, modes, methods, and I expect a pinch of madness thrown in for good measure (ALL good reason to encourage you to upgrade to at least General class if you haven't already). Information in presentation will prove very useful if you are a newer ham, and may serve to reground you if you are an old timer that's been around the amateur block a few times already.

In closing, those who know me recognize that my career path required 'living by the rules' in a strict sense and as such I feel a need to establish the rules for meeting attendance. These rules (subject to future expansion) are:

- 1: All weapons of mass embarrassment MUST be checked at the door and,
- 2: All who are willing to have a good time are welcome

Much MORE to come ..... I hope to see YOU at the meeting Mike N8KUF

### Club Officers

#### PRESIDENT

Mike Karmol N8KUF  
mkarmol@bex.net

#### VICE PRESIDENT

Paul Trouten W8PI  
ptrouten@bex.net

#### SECRETARY

Brenda VanDaele KB8KQC  
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#### TREASURER

Fred VanDaele KA8EBI  
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#### DIRECTOR

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Rodney Haddix KB8ZLN  
rodhaddix@hotmail.com

#### DIRECTOR

Wes Busdiecker KC8SKP  
busdiecw@netscape.net

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# MCRCA Minutes:

January 17, 2019

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm, by John Copeland N8DXR  
Pledge of Allegiance  
Introductions: No new members, or upgrades one guest.

PROGRAM: Tom KG8P gave a talk on how to get info on DXing, along with getting QSL cards via the bureau and FT8.

BREAK

DOOR PRIZE DRAWING: Wes KC8SKP, Mike N8KUF, and Bob AC8DZ

50/50: Gary W8GPR donated part of his winnings to the Scholarship.

MINUTES: Motion by Bob AC8DZ, supported by Sandy KE8CQW, to approve as written in the Herald. Approved.

TREASURER REPORT: Motion by Sandy KE8CQW, supported by David KC8VJV, to approve the treasurer's report as passed out to the membership. Approved.

DX REPORT: Tom did with the program

TESTING: Next session - Sat. February 16, 2019.

ARPSC: 14th Annual Muskrat Run on **Saturday February 16th** from 11am until Noon at Sterling State Park. **Saturday February 9th** special session will be getting started and navigating the FLDigi/Winlink communications modes presented by Steve Bellner W8TER. **Saturday March 2nd** will feature a presentation on Packet/JNOS, the newly installed Ida HamGate and navigating packet connections. Jay Nugent WB8TKL, chairman of the State Digital Radio Group will be putting this presentation on for us.

ARRL: Dale, is in Connecticut working with the ARRL to write new rules, more next month.

RRRA: A regional power outage caused a glitch in the 220-repeater controller, causing it to remain locked on for a couple of days. This was fixed with a reset. A project to replace the Ottawa Lake site is in the planning. Also working on adding the internet to the Ida site. Annual RRRA meeting will be the first Saturday in May at the Red Cross, please consider joining the RRRA to help fund these repeater's maintenance.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Paul W8PI made a motion, supported by Bob AC8DZ, to accept the slate of officers as listed, to be the new officers for 2019 year. Approved.

Elections' Slate:

President	Mike Karmol N8KUF
V Pres	Paul Trouten W8PI
Secretary	Brenda VanDaele KB8KQC
Treasurer	Fred VanDaele KA8EBI
Dir/Stn Trust	Wes Busdiecker KC8SKP
Director	John Copeland N8DXR
Director	Rodney Haddix KD8ZNZ

ANOUNCEMENTS: Hazel Park swap January 27<sup>th</sup>. Livonia swap February 17

ADJOURNED: 7:45 pm

ATTENDANCE: 17

KA8EBI Fred	KA8PQH Neil	KB8KQC Brenda
KC8SKP Wes	KD8ZNZ Rodney	KE8DDM Dalton
KE8KLY Scott	KF8LT Jim	KG8P Tom
N8DXR John	N8KUF Mike	N8NYP Terry
W8PI Paul	AC8DZ Bob	KE8CQW Sandra
W8GPR Gary	KC8VJV David	

## 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

# ANNOUNCING

The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual

2019

# NOVICE RIG ROUNDUP!

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CQ NRR CQ NRR  
CQ NOVICE  
RIG ROUND UP  
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Warm up your filaments, check your filter caps, dust off your J-38, and join us March 2-10, 2019, for nine days of operating fun. Relive the glory years of 75 watts input and crystal frequency control. Novice-type equipment encouraged, but not required to participate.

*Novice Rig Roundup  
Guaranteed to Include:*

*Whoops*

*Chirps*

*Drift*

*Clicks*

*... and a Whole Lot of Fun!*

**WHEN:** March 2, 2019, 00:00 UTC to  
March 10, 2019, 23:59 UTC

**WHERE:** 80m, 40m, 15m, 10m, 2m

**MORE INFO:** <http://novicerigroundup.com>

## A Morse Code Story

Back when the telegraph was the fastest method of long-distance communication, a young man applied for a job as a Morse Code operator.

Answering an ad in the newspaper, he went to the office address that was listed. When he arrived, he entered a large, busy office filled with noise and clatter, including the sound of the telegraph in the background. A sign on the receptionist's counter instructed job applicants to fill out a form and wait until they were summoned to enter the inner office.

The young man filled out his form and sat down with the seven other applicants in the waiting area.

After a few minutes, the young man stood up, crossed the room to the door of the inner office, and walked right in.

Naturally the other applicants perked up, wondering what was going on. They muttered among themselves that they hadn't heard any summons yet. They assumed that the young man who went into the office made a mistake and would be disqualified.

Within a few minutes, however, the employer escorted the young man out of the office and said to the other applicants, "Gentlemen, thank you very much for coming, but the job has just been filled."

The other applicants began grumbling to each other, and one spoke up saying, "Wait a minute, I don't understand. He was the last to come in, and we never even got a chance to be interviewed. Yet he got the job. That's not fair!"

The employer said, "I'm sorry, but all the time you've been sitting here, the telegraph has been ticking out the following message in Morse Code: 'If you understand this message, then come right in. The job is yours.'"

None of you heard it or understood it. This young man did. The job is his."

We live in a world that is so full of Busyness and clatter, like that office.

We are distracted and unable to hear the still, small voice of God inside of us, as He speaks to us.

It may be awake upcall. - Author Unknown • - • - • •

## MCARPSC

**Training Outline-Meetings and Supplemental Sessions**  
**Monthly Meeting 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday 7:30pm EMD Training Room**  
**Saturday Sessions 9am-12pm Training Room or EOC**

**March Meeting March 7th: Digital Traffic Handling**  
**Goal: Overview of FLDigi, WinLink, Outpost**

### **Special upcoming training:**

**Saturday March 2<sup>nd</sup>** will feature a presentation on Packet/JNOS, the newly installed Ida HamGate and navigating packet connections. **Jay Nugent WB8TKL**, the chairman of the State Digital Radio Group will be putting this presentation on for us.

Training will start at 9am in the EOC and are planned to wrap up around noon unless there is a lot of good discussion going on.

**SKYWARN** Training presented by **NWS Detroit/White Lake, Monroe EMD** and **ARPSC**, will be **Tuesday April 2<sup>nd</sup>** 6:30-8:30pm at the **Bedford Library on Jackman Rd in Temperance**. It is highly recommended every amateur radio operator take this class at least every 2 years and ARPSC members must take the class every two years to maintain their certification status.



## “MyPanadapter”

I finally ordered the “MyPanadapter” from Steve after a little hesitation over the past few months. I wish I had purchased it earlier! It is installed in my Yaesu FT-950. It took longer to remove and replace the 18 screws on the bottom of the radio than to make the mod. The install was fairly straightforward. I am using Omni-Rig with the dongle and HRD for the spotting and logging. When I have some additional time, I will perfect the integration with the dongle into HRD. I actually had it running but other issues unrelated to the dongle forced me to run it independently. But those issues are now resolved so it should integrate easily. I did have one installing issue concerning the baud rate and figured it out before Steve was able to reply to my email. But he did reply fairly quickly and that’s a big plus! I did find I had to move the dongle further away from the computer via a second USB extension to keep it further away from the transmission line. I did install an RF choke on the USB line and that made a tremendous difference and everything settled right down when transmitting. Overall, this is a must have for the radios it is offered for, and the price cannot be beat. I highly recommend this accessory. It really improves the operational aspects of the hobby and brings radios like the FT-950 and FT-2000 up to the current generation for real short money.

Steve, W10D

A pan adapter for my HF station was one of those toys that I’ve wanted for some time but for reasons centering primarily on cost, kept me from pursuing it. The Yaesu DMU-2000 is a very pricy accessory for my FT-950 station. Other solutions were either still too complicated or too expensive. Then I found Steve’s offering. For \$70 (FT-950 version) you get what you need to get the job done. Software and hardware install easily and after about 20 minutes, I had the system working without trouble.

One note: Using my AL811H caused either the software or hardware to lock up, apparently due to RF overload. Three turns of the supplied coax cable around a ferrite core took care of the problem immediately.

I’m very satisfied with this product. <https://www.mypanadapter.com/>

## Toledo man reflects on 50 years in radio business

The Toledo Blade interviews radio amateur Jerry O’Reilly W8JOR

What other people might call a museum, Jerry O’Reilly calls a hobby.

Mr. O’Reilly has been fixing, building, and collecting radios for nearly his entire life.

Now, at 73 years old, he owns thousands of models, spread across three stories in a brick building in downtown Toledo. CB radios. Ham radios. Heathkit radios, which he started building as a cub scout in the 1950s.

For 50 years, he has operated a radio repair business in the city for individuals and organizations alike. He’s still in business, kind of, though he’s semi-retired. He’s also in all likelihood the only game in town when it comes to his line of work, meaning the police, the fire department, local hospitals — anyone who uses radios and scanners — comes to him when they need a tune up.

“Right now, I’m just having fun,” he said.

Read the full story at:

<https://www.toledoblade.com/business/technology/2019/02/08/toledo-jerry-o-reilly-reflects-on-50-years-in-radio-business/stories/20190201004>

Jerry has been coming to our hamfest for many years.



Jerry O'Reilly uses an oscilloscope to begin a repair to a CB scanner. Mr. O'Reilly has been in the scanner business for 50 years. (The Blade/Jetta Fraser)

## Tough day at the park.

Leelanau State Park, Leelanau County, Grid EN75.

The plan was to head up north to celebrate a birthday the end of January, stopping and staying at casinos and working a little radio on the way.

Another ham in Florida needed some Michigan counties, so a stop was made in Isabella and Kalkaska County and contacts made. The drive from I-75 to Kalkaska was good except for the snow mobile trails that constantly crossed M-72. You can see the rolling terrain in the picture. Used the mag mount set up to quickly make the county contacts. You can see Soaring Eagle casino in the picture of the mag mount with 20 and 40-meter coils. The big fish is in downtown Kalkaska.



Passing thru Traverse City, we continued to Leelanau Sands Casino. The next morning would be to activate Leelanau State Park and then some bingo at the casino. The weather and forecasts had gotten worse and we would have gone back south if we only knew.



Got up to find 6 inches of new snow and the 20-minute drive to the park took 45 minutes. When we got close there were no tire tracks in the road the last half mile and you can see that in the photo of the park sign. The temperature had dropped to 3 degrees with high winds off Lake Michigan.

Got past the park's front gate shack to find the parking lot plowed shut and exit drive shut with snow. Went up to the lighthouse for a picture and then set up along the entrance roadway.

Things do not work the same in the cold.....the coax even though the thinner RG8x, would not cooperate and ended up in the snow with the connectors full. The Spiderbeam pole extends up to 41 feet but I stay around 30 feet. You simply pull up

each four-foot section, twist to lock and go to the next. At almost 30 ft, it collapsed inside itself and the end fed wire broke. So, cutting insulation off in the cold came next. I am happy to report no injuries...

After set up, it was apparent time would be limited, but cell service was good for spotting. Got into a good run on 20 meters CW working more stations from Europe than the US. Debated going to SSB when the road crews could be seen clearing sections south of me. Managed a quick take down so not to be in the way and headed south to the hotel.



The next morning got up to more snow and wind. Wind and whitecaps coming from the East which is not good on the Leelanau peninsula. Took twice as long to get back to Traverse City. The 4-hour drive to our next stop took 7 hours with white outs and knuckle driving. Originally wanted to activate another park in Manistee but the lake effect snow was too much. Saving grace was we took the Jeep this time.

73 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 CO3JK, EA4NF, W1UE, 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.

**MONACO, 3A.** Philippe, EA4NF is QRV as 3A/EA4NF until February 18. Activity is on 20 meters, and mainly on various FM and SSB satellites. QSL via LoTW.

**BURUNDI, 9U.** Shabu, M0KRI is QRV as 9U4RI until February 25. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and PSK31. QSL direct to home call.

**TAIWAN, BV.** Yosuke, JJ1DQR will be QRV as BW/JJ1DQR from Taipei, IOTAAS-020, until February 19. Activity is on the HF bands. QSL to home call.

**THE GAMBIA, C5.** Alan, G4DJX will be QRV as C5DX from February 16 to 23 while here with a group of students. Activity will be in his spare time on 40 to 10 meters using only CW. QSL direct to home call.

**CUBA, CO.** Members of the Group CW of Cuba will be QRV as CO9AAA from Pinar del Rio in the ARRL International DX CW contest. QSL via CM1WM.

**CAPE VERDE, D4.** Philip, HB9HFD will be QRV as D44TAQ from Sao Vicente, IOTA AF-086, from February 17 to 22. Activity will be on 40 to 10 meters using various digital modes. QSL via LoTW.

**CEUTA AND MELILLA, EA9.** Jorge, EA9LZ will be QRV as EF9Z from Ceuta during the ARRL International DX CW contest as a Single Op entry. QSL via LoTW.

**HONDURAS, HR.** Dennis, W1UE is QRV as either HQ9X or W1UE/HR9 from Roatan Island, IOTA NA-057, until February 26. He will be active as HQ9X in the ARRL International DX CW contest and the upcoming CQ World Wide 160 Meter SSB contest. Activity includes being on 160 and 80 meters during his evening hours, as well as 60 meters. QSL via KQ1F.

**OGASAWARA, JD1.** Nobu, JA0JHQ is QRV as JD1BOW from Chichijima, IOTAAS-031, until February 18, with a focus on the ARRL International DX CW contest. QSL to home call.

**SABA, ST. EUSTATIUS, PJ5.** Operators K4UEE, K5AC, NM1Y and WC4X are QRV as PJ6/home calls from Jolieville, Saba Island, IOTA NA-145, until February 18. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and possibly FT8. They will be active as PJ6A in the ARRL International DX CW contest as a Multi Single/Low Power entry. QSL to home calls, and PJ6A via N4NX.

**FERNANDO DE NORONHA, PY0F.** A group of operators are QRV as PY0F until February 18. Activity is mainly on the low bands using CW, SSB and FT8. This includes being an entry in the ARRL International DX CW contest. QSL direct to PY7RP.

**CENTRAL KIRIBATI, T31.** A group of operators will be QRV as T31EU from Kanton Island, IOTA OC-043, from February 16 to March 5. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and various digital modes with three stations active. QSL via DL2AWG.

**VIET NAM, XV.** Andy, DL3YM plans to be QRV as XV9YM from Ho Chi Minh City from February 16 to March 18. Activity will be in his spare time on 40 to 10 meters using only CW. QSL to home call.

**NEW ZEALAND, ZL.** Jacky, ZL3CW will be QRV as ZM1A from Tauranga in the ARRL International DX CW contest as a Single Op entry. QSL to home call.

**SOUTH AFRICA, ZS.** Uli, DM5EE plans to be QRV as ZR2A from Port Elizabeth in the ARRL International DX CW contest as a Single Op/All Band entry. QSL to home call.

**THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO.** The ARRL International DX CW Contest, NCCC RTTY Sprint, QRP 80-Meter CW Fox Hunt, NCCC Sprint CW Ladder, SARL Youth Day 40-Meter SSB Sprint, Russian PSK World Wide Contest, Feld Hell Sprint and the AWA Amplitude Modulation QSO Party will certainly keep contesters busy this weekend.

The Run for the Bacon QRP CW Contest is scheduled for February 18.

The CWops Mini-CWT Test, Phone Fray and QRP 40-Meter CW Fox Hunt are scheduled for February 20.

The AGCW 80-Meter Semi-Automatic CW Key Evening is scheduled for February 21.

The Canadian National Parks on the Air, CNPOTA, operating event runs for the entire year of 2019, with special stations active from Canada's parks and historic sites.

Please see February 2019 QST, page 91, and the ARRL and WA7BNM Contest Web Sites for details.

## Amateur Radio Examinations Monroe, MI

Monroe County Radio Communications Association Amateur Radio examinations are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every even numbered month at:

**American Red Cross Chapter Bldg.**  
1645 North Dixie Highway  
Monroe, MI 48161

Walk-ins are always welcome.

**2019 Schedule:**

February 16    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

February 21st 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