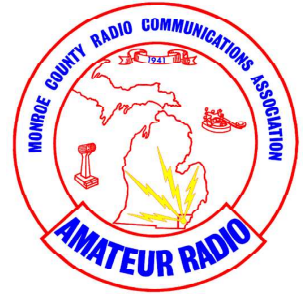


# The Hertzian Herald



September 2021 • Volume 45, Issue 9 • Monroe, Michigan, U.S.A.

## D Fritz Bitz:

### Hamfest season winds down.

The big hamfest season is winding down. Findlay was this weekend and Adrian is next Sunday. There are a few scattered around in the fall but the big ones will be done soon. This was my first hamfest as President and I think things went pretty smooth. We had a lot of people volunteer that knew what they were doing and that helped me a lot.

The 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary party for the MCRCA and the Christmas party are coming up at the end of the year and then we start a new year. With almost a year under my belt as President, I have a feel for how things are done and hope to use that experience to expand things in the future. I hope to be more involved in the fox hunts next year and would like to thank the team that has been doing it for the past few years.

I'm looking forward to the next year and helping the club grow and expand its service to the community

So, until next month, 73.

Don Fritz, N8BZN



<http://mcrca.org/>

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

### Club Officers

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### Inside This Issue

Minutes. . . . .	2
Foxhunt results . .	3
ARPSC & SET . . .	4
Misc. . . . .	5
Satellites lost. . .	6
ARRL DX News. . .	7



**MCRCA Meeting Minutes for August 19, 2021**

Meeting called to order at 7:32 pm, by Mike N8KUF.

Pledge of Allegiance Introductions: No new members, upgrades or guests.

MINUTES: Motion by Bob W8GMA, supported by Sandy KE8CQW, to approve as written in the Herald. Approved.

TREASURER REPORT: Motion by Paul W8PI, supported by Bob W8GMA, to approve the treasurer's report as passed out to the membership. Approved.

DX REPORT: Paul W8PI reported some DX out there, propagation generally poor (solar Minimum) 6m done for the Summer – Was just OK over the Summer but had some really good times. Two groups will support North Korea later this year.

CONTESTS: Paul W8PI QSO Parties on the slide.

TESTING: Next session - Sat. August 21, 2021. **Appointments Preferred** Paul, tests this Saturday 8:45 start at 9:00 am. Must have FRN to take the test – new change required now, must also have an email address as well.

FUTURE PROGRAMS: Mike N8KUF, Possible programs in the works, nothing firm yet. Also looking for ideas from other members.

ARPS: Mike N8KUF, Oct. 19 week of courses in Emergency items (300/400) in person at Monroe City Fire Dept. – Must register with EMD. Mike presented a slide with a lot of details. Three Skywarn activations – severe weather, some in top 10

ARRL: Dale WA8EFK, \$35 license fee coming but not before Jan 2022 – ARRL is asking for a charge (application fee) RF exposure calculator at [ARRL.org/rf-exposure-calculator](http://ARRL.org/rf-exposure-calculator)

RRRA: Mike – All working, but some issues with remotes needing reboots, examining the issue. Some power outages in County – Battery/generators worked – but failed after 4 days due to lack of fuel. Some increased monitoring being added for fuel and generator.

OLD BUSINESS: Field Day Paul W8PI – 2021 Field Day stats – 1476 contacts, 21 participants, 6288 points, ranking by points: ? Ranking by contacts: 12th

NEW BUSINESS: 80th Anniv/Christmas Party Mike N8KUF, not much to talk about – but still in the planning. Triple crown anniversary plus Christmas Party at the same time.

DOOR PRIZE DRAWING: John WA8YZB, Paul W8PI, and Dale WA8EFK

50/50: Tom KE8KNZ, returned all to scholarship so total \$68.00. Also, Jeff K9JP donated \$20 to the RRRA.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Fox Hunt #3 September 11th. 9:00 am at the EMD If you are coming please be there 15 minutes early to get your envelope and register. September has two hamfests: Findlay on the 12<sup>th</sup>, and Adrian on the 19<sup>th</sup> at the airport.

PROGRAM: Several short videos, Radio Wave Properties – HF etiquette.

ADJOURNED: 8:48 pm

ATTENDANCE: 19

W8GMA Bob	WA8EFK Dale	K8ONZ Gary	KB8OSU George
K9JP Jeff	KF8LT Jim	WA8YZB John	KJ8H Keith
KE8OTG Larry	KE8HCD Larry	W8MCW Larry	N8KUF Mike
KA8PQH Neil	W8PI Paul	KE8OSX Ron	KE8CQW Sandy
N8NYP Terry	KE8KNZ Tom	KC8SKP Wes	

**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**

soon

**Membership**

Terry Kolton N8NYP

n8nyp@arrl.net

**Property Custodian**

Paul Trouten W8PI

## MCRCA Foxhunt #3 Sep 11, 2021

**Somber note:** Today's hunt took place on the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the terrorist attack of 9-11-01. A few planes passing overhead through the morning caused me to take pause and reflect on those sobering moments and days during and after the event. I remember EXACTLY where I was and what I was doing when news of the attack reached us locally

### On to the hunt

Larry KE8HCD and Bob K8HV (as winners from hunt #2) fulfilled the Fox Duties.

The FOX was located under the Macomb Street Bridge along the River Walk.

Shortest possible route per Google Maps = 4.5 Miles

### Hunters

#### Team 4 – First Place

Fred K8EBI and Brenda KB8KQC

Fox found at 09:46

Miles = 4.8 (Well done!)

#### Team 1 – Second Place

Mike N8KUF

Fox Found at 10:05

Miles = 6.0 (nice tour of downtown Monroe though)

#### Team 2 – Third Place

John KE8NKD and Rena KE8KNC

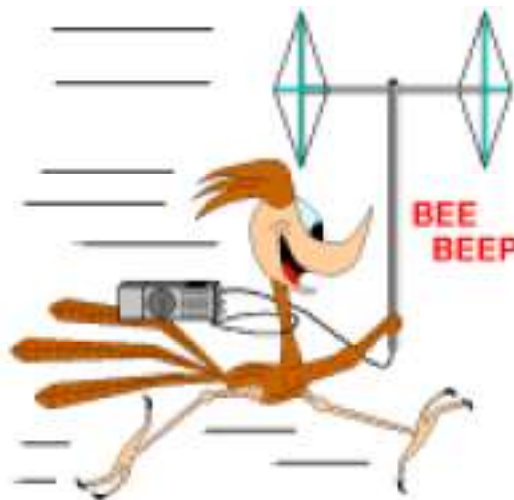
Fox Found at 10:40

Miles = 7.8 (hung tuff for non-Monroe folks)

#### Team 3 – DNF

Paul W8PI, Vickie, Glen K8GO

Miles = dnf (hunger won out)



Thanks to all who were able to participate in this last hunt of the season. The FOX was strategically located to present a challenging hunt given the multitude of streets (not to mention the reflections from numerous downtown buildings causing many conflicting headings). The fox was nicely located under the Macomb St. bridge across the River Raisin which turned out to be quite pleasant spot for the fox tenders. Between the steel under-decking and reflections off concrete understructure and the water – finding the fox was a bit tricky. The gorgeous weather, mostly sunny morning in the mid 60's at hunt time, really helped to elevate the mood. We will look forward to seeing lots more hunters at Hunt #1 in 2022 (tentatively planned for the second Saturday in May).

Respectfully submitted – Mike N8KUF 2021 MCRCA Foxhunt Chair

## ARPSC Monroe County

The September meeting and Saturday Sessions were focused on getting more operators trained and familiar with operating procedures at the county EMD radio room. This is an important step to be able to increase the number of folks who can respond there during activation and assist moving messages. A big Thanks to Dale WA8EFK and Mike N8KUF for passing along your knowledge and to Mike for doing check offs on Saturday.

A HUGE *Thank You* to all those folks who participated in the SKYWARN activations over the last month, including the big wind event/damage on the 11<sup>th</sup> and the pop up Tornado Warning this past Tuesday Evening. Luckily the Tornado Warning was just radar indicated and as far as we know there was not an actual Tornado or damage.

The annual Simulated Emergency Test will be held Saturday Morning October 2<sup>nd</sup> in conjunction with the National SET. Please see the article elsewhere in the newsletter for information.

The October meeting will be on October 7<sup>th</sup> 7:30pm at the **RED CROSS** building on Dixie Hwy. Please note the change of location. We will be going over operations from the radio room there.

Please make sure if you are working towards your county ID, keep working on your Position Task Book trainings. If you are interested in becoming trained for activations and need a copy of the National Position Task Book, please contact me or stop in to any of the monthly meetings, they are open to anyone.

If you are one of those folks that have recently received their license, Welcome to the hobby and if you are interested in the Service aspect, please contact me on email for more information regarding ARPSC.

As always, you can keep track of us via the ARPSC webpage which is linked though the MCRCA Website and the Facebook page, which is also linked via the club webpage. We thank the group and the club webmaster for doing this for us!

73 until next month  
Lance Charter KE8BYC  
Emergency Coordinator  
Monroe County Amateur Radio Public Service Corp  
Ke8byc -at- yahoo.com



## **FALL Simulated Emergency Test**

As fall creeps up on us, so does the big training event of the year, the annual Simulated Emergency Test or S.E.T. which will be held on Saturday October 2<sup>nd</sup>, from 8am-12pm.

### **From the ARRL:**

The S.E.T is a nationwide exercise in disaster response and emergency communication, administered by ARRL emergency coordinators and net managers, in which volunteers respond to a mock emergency or disaster, such as an earthquake or hurricane. Members of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (**ARES**), the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (**RACES**), the National Traffic System (**NTS**), **SKYWARN**, the ARRL Field Organization, and other groups work together to plan and develop simulated emergency and disaster scenarios, in consultation with the various served agencies that rely on radio amateurs during emergencies.

The S.E.T gives volunteer public service communicators the opportunity to focus on their capabilities, strengths, and weaknesses while interacting with NTS nets. It also provides a public demonstration to served agencies such as the Red Cross, state and local emergency managers, and the news media of the value that Amateur Radio provides. The S.E.T helps radio amateurs gain communication experience using standard procedures and a variety of modes, under simulated disaster-response conditions. Participating groups earn points toward an overall S.E.T score, adding a competitive component to the activity.

(cont'd next page)



For 2021 the Monroe exercise scenario will be a large water supply disruption to the northern and central part of the county that relies on the Monroe Water System. We will need participants to respond to 2 in field locations to set up and operate portable stations, along with folks to help operate at the EMD and Red Cross. Operators may also participate from your home stations. Participant numbers are a big part of the S.E.T experience and the scoring, so we need all the help we can get. Please also talk up S.E.T participation with other operators, we will need lots of folks to help out!

To brush up on your National Traffic System skills, all stations that check in are asked to have at least 1 Radiogram prepared to be moved into the system. This is another big skill practice and points area. So pull out your address books and send well wishes to a family member in Colorado, an, It's been too long message to a former high school classmate in Louisiana, or a Let me tell you about this great hobby of Amateur Radio to a colleague in Maine.... The sky is the limit, it will help bring us points, help you keep the rudimentary skill of Traffic Passing alive and it's a lot cheaper than a stamp!

If you can't participate all morning, even checking in from home or on the road, will help us fill our objectives. Have generator or battery backup? Even better as this will add to our points... and assure that you have your batteries charged and your generator runs before the winter storms and power outages arrive.

You do NOT need to be a part of ARPSC, any amateur operator is welcome to participate. If you wish to participate, e-mail me at [KE8BYC@yahoo.com](mailto:KE8BYC@yahoo.com). Participant guidebooks will be going out soon.

Lance Charter  
Monroe Emergency Coordinator

## Antarctic Treaty special event stations

To celebrate the 60th anniversary **Antarctic Treaty Signature**, the Russian Robinson Club will activate the following special event stations (each representing a country that initially signed the Antarctic Treaty) between October 1st and December 31st during this event:

R60ANT - Russia RG60ANT - Argentina RN60ANT - Norway  
RA60ANT - South Africa RJ60ANT - Japan RT60ANT - Australia  
RB60ANT - Belgium RK60ANT - United Kingdom RU60ANT - USA  
RC60ANT - Chile RL60ANT - France RZ60ANT - New Zealand  
Plus a special callsign from Antarctica RI60ANT

The Worldwide Antarctic Program (WAP) has already issued a "Reference Number" for each of the above Special Event Callsign.

Check (<http://www.waonline.it/60ats-anniversary/>) to download the whole WAP reference numbers issued for this event. QSL info is also included. Details about the special "60th Anniversary of the Antarctic Treaty" award is also available at the above Web page.

## Software Defined Radio Academy talks on YouTube

The **Software Defined Radio Academy** SDRA 2021 took place June 26-27 and the talks are now available on YouTube

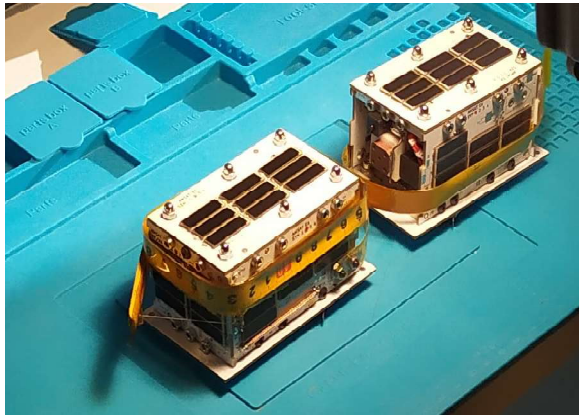
The description of talks can be seen at  
<https://2021.sdra.io/pages/programme.html>

The videos are available at  
<https://www.youtube.com/c/SoftwareDefinedRadioAcademy/videos>

## GENESIS ham satellites among payloads lost in launch failure

The ARRL report the **GENESIS-L** and **GENESIS-N** ham radio satellites were among several carrying amateur radio payloads lost following the failure of the Firefly Alpha rocket during its first launch on September 2 from the Vandenberg Space Force Base in California. An anomaly occurred about 2 minutes into the mission, causing controllers to destroy the launcher in flight. The anomaly has yet to be explained.

This was sad news for AMSAT-EA (Spain), as GENESIS-L and GENESIS-N were the first satellites they had built themselves.



According to the AMSAT-EA website, the GENESIS satellites were destroyed after the Firefly Alpha vehicle presented an anomaly as it hit a velocity of Mach 1 and reached Max Q, a point of maximum aerodynamic pressure on the vehicle. The launch had been halted a few seconds before takeoff, but the countdown was subsequently resumed.

GENESIS-L and GENESIS-N were to conduct a series of telecommunications-related experiments, while a ground-station analysis of the received signals would try to attain Doppler variations in order to perform orbit determination and satellite identification from radio amateur stations around the world.

Also lost in the launch failure were the Serenity, Hiapo, the Cresst Dream Comet, and QUBIK-1 and QUBIK-2 satellites, and

Spinnaker-3/Firefly Capsule 1. All were designed to use amateur radio frequencies for telemetry and/or communication.

Serenity, a 3U CubeSat, was developed by Teachers in Space (TIS) to provide low-cost opportunities to test educational experiments in space. TIS has previously guided high schools and other academic institutions in developing and flying sub-orbital experiments using high-altitude balloons, stratospheric gliders, and rockets. This was the first orbital satellite mission for TIS. Serenity carried a suite of data sensors and a camera to send data back to Earth using amateur frequencies.

Hiapo was an educational 1U CubeSat developed by the Hawaii Science and Technology Museum (HSTM). The Hiapo project was intended to provide hands-on STEM curriculum for Hawaii students in grades K – 12. Part of this curriculum involved obtaining data about solar flares, solar particle events, and disturbances in Earth's magnetic field. Data would be available for amateur operators to download directly from the satellite.

The Cresst Dream Comet was a 3U CubeSat developed by the University of Cambridge as a small satellite for technology demonstrations.

QUBIK-1 and QUBIK-2 were picosatellites developed by the Libre Space Foundation, a nonprofit association developing PocketQube picosatellite technology. They were built following the 1P PocketQube form factor. The mission of these satellites was similar to that of the GENESIS-L and GENESIS-N satellites.

Spinnaker-3 was a collaboration between the Cal Poly CubeSat Laboratory, Purdue University, and NASA. It was designed to provide rapid de-orbit capability for the second stage of Firefly Alpha's launch vehicle, using frequency shift keying (FSK) on 70 centimeters for communications. Firefly Capsule 1 consisted of nontechnical items from around the world, including photos, artwork, and books.

Source: <http://www.arrl.org/news/genesis-ham-satellites-among-payloads-lost-in-launch-failure>





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.

**GUINEA, 3X.** Jean-Philippe, F1TMY, expects to be QRV as 3X2021 from Conakry beginning in mid-September, and here for a few years. He plans to be active on 160 to 6 meters, and Satellite QO-100. He also plans side trips to the Los Islands, IOTA AF-051. QSL via Club Log.

**NIGER, 5U.** Adrian, F4IHM will be QRV as 5UAIHM from Niamey from September 11 to October 22. Activity will be on 40 and 20 meters using CW and SSB. QSL to home call.

**MALAWI, 7Q.** Vasco, 7Q7CT is currently active mainly on 40, 20, and 15 meters using SSB and FT8. QSL via JH1AJT.

**RWANDA, 9X.** Harald, DF2WO will be QRV as 9X2AW from Kigali from September 13 to 28. Activity will be on the HF bands using CW, SSB, RTTY, and FT8. QSL via M0OXO.

**COMOROS, D6.** Janusz, SP9FIH, and Leszek, SP6CIK will be QRV as D60AC and D60AD, respectively, from Moroni later in September. QSL to home calls.

**SAUDI ARABIA, HZ.** Members of the Saudi Amateur Radio Society are QRV as 7Z91ND, 8Z91ND, and HZ91ND until September 23 to commemorate their country's national holiday. QSL via operators' instructions.

**MINAMI TORISHIMNA, JD1.** Take, JG8NQJ expects to be QRV as JG8NQJ/JD1 at the weather station there beginning in mid-September. He will be there for about three months and active in his spare time. QSL direct to JA8CJY.

**GREECE, SV.** Special event station SX021IEEE is QRV until September 15 during the 26th IEEE Symposium on Computers and Communications taking place in Athens. QSL via SV1IW.

**EUROPEAN RUSSIA, UA.** Special event station R875TULA is QRV until the end of September to celebrate the 875th anniversary of the city of Tula. QSL via RA3P.

**MEXICO, XE.** Special event station 6I1M is QRV until September 27 to celebrate 200 years of Mexican independence. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, FT8 and FT4. QSL direct to XE1SPM.

**KOSOVO, Z6.** Rene, DL2JRM is QRV as Z68XX until September 13. Activity is on the HF bands using mostly CW. This includes being an entry in the Worked All Europe SSB DX contest. QSL to home call.

**THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO.** The ARRL September VHF Contest, NCCC RTTY Sprint, NCCC Sprint Ladder, K1USN Slow Speed Test, Worked All Europe SSB DX Contest, FOC QSO Party, SARL Field Day Contest, YB7-DX Contest, SKCC Weekend Sprintathon, Ohio State Parks on the Air, Alabama QSO Party, Russian Cup Digital Contest, and the North American CW Sprint are all on tap for this upcoming weekend.

The 4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint and the K1USN Slow Speed Test are scheduled for September 13.

The Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest and RTTYOPS Weeksprint are scheduled for September 14.

The RSGB 80-Meter Autumn CW Series, Phone Fray and CWops Mini-CWT Test are scheduled for September 15.

Please see September QST, page 94, 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

**Registrations preferred  
Call for information.**

### 2021 Schedule:

February 20	April 17
June 19	August 21
October 16	December 18

### 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

September 16th 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