



MCRC Spark Gap



The Longest ARRL Affiliated
Club in Michigan
September 2019
Volume 67 Issue 9

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On-Air Activities

MCRC 2 Meter Net:

Join us every Tuesday night at 9PM for the Motor City Radio Club 2 Meter net on the 147.24 Wyandotte Repeater. 100 Hz tone. or use EchoLink WY8DOT-R.

CW (QMN) Traffic Nets:

| <u>Net Name</u> | <u>MHz</u> | <u>Days</u> | <u>Time</u> |
|-----------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| Michigan Net | 3563 | Sun-Sat | 18:30 hrs |
| Michigan Net | 3563 | Sun-Sat | 22:00 hrs |

Digital Traffic Nets:

| <u>Net Name</u> | <u>MHz</u> | <u>Days</u> | <u>Time/Mode</u> |
|--------------------------------------|------------|------------------|------------------------------|
| Michigan Digital Traffic Net (MIDTN) | 3583 | Tue, Thurs, Sat. | 20:00 hrs Olivia 8-500 |

Southeast Michigan Traffic Net:

2215 hours each night on the Spirit of 76 repeater. 146.76 with a 100 Hz pl.



Don's Ditherings
Don K8THU
MCRC President

It is now almost the Labor Day holiday weekend. Summer hangs on but the days are growing shorter. I am working to get my tower back in the air after too long. It needs a new remote antenna switch which is coming, and some more effort and special lubricant for crank-up towers but it will likely happen in the next week.

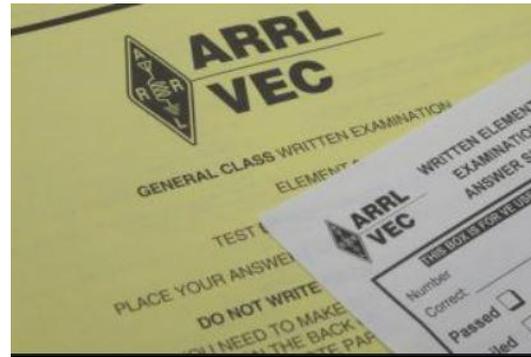
I have been thinking about our radio club. We are at a critical juncture in terms of our upcoming elections. This year both our current vice president and secretary will not be seeking reelection. Rick, KE8BPZ was in a recent car accident when he was rear-ended by another vehicle while he was stopped waiting to turn left. He will need good medical care to deal with the effects of the crash on his body, so he is not feeling able to run again. Secondly, Denise, KC8HDX is dealing with both the recent loss of her spouse and her own health issues, and has decided she is not up to running again.

I have served two years and will now step down as your president. So, the club needs to find interested members to run for office. Mike, W8MRA is currently serving as chair of the nominating committee and is waiting to hear from anyone interested in running for a position. Please contact him as soon as possible with your ideas about running or offer someone who you think would do a good job.

While I will be leaving the board after the October election, I intend to turn my attention to work even more on finding a new site for our Wyandotte repeater. I have recently retired from my career as a counselor and will be able to devote more time to that goal. I know that the members want a site that is accessible to most all of us with a HT. That is what we had before and hopefully will occur again.

Don K8THU

MOTOR CITY RADIO CLUB VE EXAMS



Our next Ham Radio Test Session will be held at the First United Methodist Church, 72 Oak Street in Wyandotte on Saturday, September 14th at 9AM.

Items to bring with you when taking the exams:

\$15.00 exam fee (Exact Amount Preferred)

Number 2 Pencil

An original of your current FCC license (if you have one)

A copy of your current FCC license (if you have one)

Two pieces of Identification (at least one photo)

Your PayPal Receipt if you choose to pay online

Your FRN number if you choose to pre-register



Although not mandatory, we strongly recommend you pre-register for your FRN number

at: <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls> to avoid using your Social Security number on the

NCVEC QUICK-FORM 605. Those interested can register for the exam ahead of time on the Motor City Radio Club's website. Go to w8mrm.net. Click on the "Operating and Events" tab on the top, then click on the exam announcement date. On that page, you can register for the exam and also pay beforehand using PayPal.

Woody N8MWQ

VE Liaison



With Casey Bielik at the wheel (of a Stroh's beer truck), the Theodore Roosevelt Amateur Radio Club participates in a parade many moons ago.

The club call for Roosevelt High School was W8RHF.

According to a response from his daughter to this photo, Casey was a ham. That's about the only info I could find about this picture.

Anyone interested in taking a General or Extra class? The Hazel Park Club is teaching both starting September 10th. Here is the info on both classes:

GENERAL CLASS LICENSING COURSE



TAKE THE NEXT STEP!

the Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club is offering a 12-week Course for

THE AMATEUR GENERAL CLASS LICENSE EXAMINATION

WHEN: Every TUESDAY, from September 10, 2019 TO November 26, 2019—7PM TO 9PM

WHERE: SOUTHFIELD PARKS & REC BUILDING (BASEMENT) 26000 EVERGREEN, SOUTHFIELD, MI

COST: INSTRUCTION IS FREE; LICENSE MANUAL IS \$25, AVAILABLE FROM THE INSTRUCTORS AT THE FIRST SESSION.

FCC License EXAM WILL TAKE PLACE IN OAK PARK (DEC 3) FEE: \$15

*****PRE-REGISTRATION IS NECESSARY*****

YOU'VE THOUGHT ABOUT IT—NOW, YOU CAN FINALLY GET AROUND TO IT! THERE'S NOTHING LIKE SEEING YOUR HARD WORK PAY OFF—HF PRIVILEGES WILL OPEN A NEW WORLD OF DXING TO YOU!

REGISTER: [W9NPI@ARRL.NET](mailto:w9npi@arrl.net)

SPONSORED BY THE HAZEL PARK AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, HPARC.ORG

AMATEUR EXTRA LICENSING COURSE



BECOME THE BEST YOU CAN BE!

the Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club offers a 12-week Course for

THE AMATEUR EXTRA CLASS LICENSE EXAMINATION

WHEN: TUESDAYS, from SEPTEMBER 10, 2019 TO NOVEMBER 26, 2019—7PM TO 9PM

WHERE: HAZEL PARK SCHOOLS ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE, 1620 E. ELZA AVE, HAZEL PARK, MI

COST: INSTRUCTION IS FREE; LICENSE MANUAL IS \$25, AVAILABLE FROM THE INSTRUCTORS AT THE FIRST SESSION.

FCC License EXAM WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE LAST SESSION (NOV 26) FEE: \$15

*****PRE-REGISTRATION IS NECESSARY*****

NOW, YOU CAN FINALLY GET AROUND TO IT! THERE'S NOTHING LIKE SEEING YOUR HARD WORK PAY OFF—OUR INSTRUCTOR IS INNOVATIVE AND THOROUGH, AND YOU'LL HAVE AN EXCELLENT CHANCE OF PASSING, IF YOU DO YOUR HOMEWORK.

REGISTER: [W9NPI@ARRL.NET](mailto:w9npi@arrl.net)

SPONSORED BY THE HAZEL PARK AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, HPARC.ORG



Both classes are about a half hour drive from Wyandotte. Pre-registration is needed.

Register by email: w9npi@arrl.net for either class.

The Wyandotte Amateur Radio Repeater Association maintains the repeater on 147.240. This group is all volunteer, and maintenance of the machine depends on contributions from users like you. If you use the machine, consider donating to the repeater fund. It's easy to do, just fill out the form below, clip and mail this form and your donation to the address on the form. Or give this form and your donation to any MCRC board member.

Checks and money orders can be made to the: "WYANDOTTE AMATEUR RADIO REPEATER ASSOCIATION".

Wyandotte Amateur Radio Repeater Association
1885 Pinetree
Trenton, Michigan 48183

Name _____ Call _____

Address _____

Email _____

Donation Amount _____

Findlay Radio Club 77th Annual Hamfest

The Findlay Radio Club will be hosting its 77th annual Hamfest on September 8, 2019. Location: Hancock County Fairgrounds 1017 E Sandusky St, Findlay, OH 45840 FREE PARKING! Tickets at the gate only \$10. Camping only \$15/night. Hourly Prize Drawings! Drawing for three major prizes (valued \$350+) at the end of the day. Outdoor Flea market Gates open at 6:30 A.M. Indoor Vendors Buildings open at 8 A.M.



Boat Anchors for sale

In last month's Spark Gap, there was an article about Larry KE8HCD and Bob K8HV meeting with a ham who's not active anymore. The ham is interested in selling some equipment at best offer.

The equipment included:

Two Johnson Viking Valiant amateur transmitters. Cover 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters in AM, CW modes.

Hammarlund HQ-180 general coverage receiver. Tunes from 540 to 30000 kHz in six ranges: 0.54-1.05, 1.05-2.05, 2.05-4.04, 4-7.85, 7.85-15.35 and 15.35-30 MHz.

Hallicrafters S38 receiver.

Heathkit audio generator.

Two Heathkit DX-35 transmitters, designed for the 80 to 10 meter ham bands, including 11 meters.

Sencore TC-142 tube tester.

Various tubes.

Drake W-4 directional through-line wattmeter for 1.8 to 54 MHz.

Larry and Bob are also trying to get this ham back on the air. If anyone has a gently used dual band mobile we can give this inactive ham, it would be greatly appreciated. Either donation, or a very nominal fee. Also open to swapping one of these pieces of vintage equipment for the dual band mobile. Contact Bob or Larry for to donate or barter.

Brazilian Students Building QO-100 Ground Station

- from AMSAT-UK:

High school students in Brazil are building a ground station for the amateur radio transponder on the QO-100 geostationary satellite as part of a STEM education project.

A group of eight students from Colégio Embraer Casimiro Montenegro Filho in Botucatu state of São Paulo, are participating in all steps of the project with the help of teachers and amateur radio volunteers from LABRE/AMSAT-BR (Edson PY2SDR, Demilson PY2UEP, José PU2MJR).

The station consists of a 1.2m offset dish antenna, an Amiko L-104 LNBF, a home-made bias-t, a RTL-SDR receiver and SDRsharp software running on a dedicated computer. During the project students were exposed to hands-on activities during the station assembly and configuration. The students were able to successfully receive test transmissions in morse code kindly made by Roland PY4ZBZ and Fábio PY4AJ. The next step of the project is to introduce digital communication concepts, decode the BPSK engineering beacon and finally to add transmission capability to the station. In the near future, besides making contacts with other stations on QO-100, the students would also very much like to contact other schools and students in the QO-100 footprint.

Here is a demonstration off YouTube by Gedas W8BYA showing SWR measurement differences using four different instruments on a 2m antenna.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ui7fP9W4RhI>

Contest University

The day before the 2019 Dayton Hamvention, Contest University ran a full day of training and knowledge enhancement, for both beginners and advanced contesters, and taught by veteran Contesters. Videos from the May 2019 Contest University held at Dayton are now on line. Here are the videos that are available:

<https://www.contestuniversity.com/videos/>

**NOMINATIONS
NOW OPEN**

If you ever wanted to run for an MCRC officer position, now is the time. Our Club President Don K8THU has asked Mike W8MRA to head up the nominating committee this year. See W8MRA to get your name on the list. Every member of the club is welcome to run for any office. Being an officer of the club is a whole lot of fun. Everyone who has done it has said it was one of their fondest memories. So contact Mike W8MRA to be involved in the club.

MCRC Proxy Form:

General Elections for Club Officers class of 2019-2020

This official proxy will allow the person designated here to act as my authorized agent for the purpose of voting in the Motor City Radio Club's general elections. These elections are scheduled to take place on at the General Membership Business meeting, to be held on October 11, 2019.

By completing and signing this proxy, I authorize my agent to receive and cast the ballots reserved for me.

The proxy vote cast by my agent will be counted as if I cast it myself.

Full Name of Voting Member: _____
Voting Member Call: _____

Full Name of designated proxy agent: _____
Call Sign of designated proxy agent: _____

I, _____, affirm that I authorize the above named as my official agent for the purpose of voting in the Motor City Radio Club 2019-2020 General Election

Signed _____ Date: _____

.....



If you are unable to make the October meeting, your voice still counts. Just fill out this form, give it to any board member, and whoever you designate will vote for you. Such a deal !

Fox Hunting

Come and check out Foxhunting. Teams of "Hunters" using radio direction finding equipment try to sniff out the fox. Every one of the teams are trying to find the fox by figuring out where their radio signal is coming from. The winner is the team that finds the fox with least mileage.

It's a lot of great fun, and is a challenging contest.

Transmitter hunting also has lots of practical uses.

Amateur radio operators have been called on to use direction finding equipment to locate downed airplanes, boaters in distress, and sources of radio interference. It can also be used to find illegal and unlicensed radio transmitters. Hams use contests like fox hunting to test their equipment and practice their skills in preparation for more serious searches.

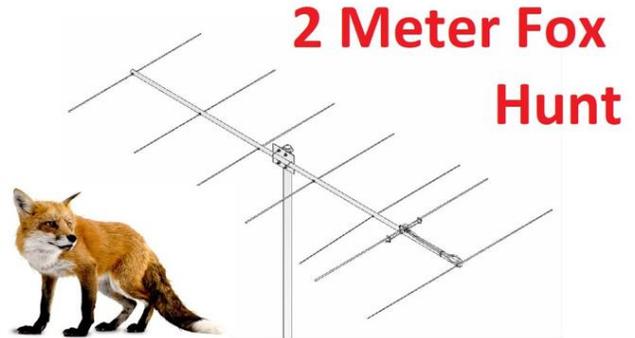


photo courtesy SevenFortyOne

Motor City Radio Club's Fox Hunts start at 1030 hours from the parking lot of the Riverview Leo's Coney Island at Fort and Sibley Road. The Fox Hunts run once a month until October. Once you do it, you will be hooked. Before the hunt at 1030 hours, most meet for breakfast at 0900 at the same restaurant.

Here's a list of the Fox Hunt dates for 2018:

May 25th - Congratulations to Bruce AC8KD for finding the elusive Fox.

June 15th- Winner was Mike KE8AQW. Fine job.

July 20th - Second win for Bruce AC8KD this season.

August 17th - Great job to Woody N8MWQ and Linda for finishing first this month.

September 14th

Season Finale October 19th.

2019 ARRL/TAPR Digital Communications Conference

**September 20-22
Detroit, Michigan**

Make your reservations now for three days of learning and enjoyment at the Marriott Detroit Metro Airport Hotel. The Digital Communications Conference schedule includes technical and introductory forums, demonstrations, a Saturday evening banquet and an in-depth Sunday seminar. This conference is for everyone with an interest in digital communications—beginner to expert.

Call Tucson Amateur Packet Radio at: 972-671-8277, or go online to www.tapr.org/dcc

Marriott Detroit Metro Airport Hotel

On Pages Seven and Eight of this month's Spark Gap is printable information on the upcoming classes in September at the Wyandotte Bacon Library.

Please print, share and post this information to anyone and anywhere you like.

Every class brings up a couple new members. Be a part of bringing folks to Amateur Radio and The Motor City Radio Club.

AMATEUR RADIO LICENSING CLASS

The Motor City Radio Club presents a 9 part series of Amateur Radio License Classes finishing with an exam on the 10th to obtain your Amateur Radio License. The class is free, but the license exam fee is \$15.00.

Class runs for 9 weeks beginning Saturday, September 7 @ 10AM. The exam is on the 10th week, Nov 16th.

Please register by phone, in person or online at baconlibrary.org



Saturday, September 7 @ 10AM
Class Runs for 9 Weeks. There is no class Oct, 26

Please register by phone, in person or online at baconlibrary.org



45 Vinewood
Wyandotte, MI 48192
734-246-8357
www.baconlibrary.org





HAM Radio Kit Building

**1st class: Saturday
September 7, 1 PM**

Amateur Radio operators are leading 9 weeks of workshops to help students learn safe and effective methods for soldering electronic kits. The series of kits will assemble into the student's first, low power, Morse code, Amateur Radio station.

NOTE: Students must either have their Amateur Radio License, or be attending the Saturday morning Amateur Radio License class.

Please register by phone, in person or online at baconlibrary.org



45 Vinewood
Wyandotte, MI 48192
734-246-8357
www.baconlibrary.org

Stay Connected!





AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support the Motor City Radio Club every time you shop, at no cost to you. And Amazon Smile works with Prime just the same as it does on regular Amazon. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to the Motor City Radio Club

On your first visit to AmazonSmile smile.amazon.com, you can select the MCRC to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. Amazon will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation to the club.

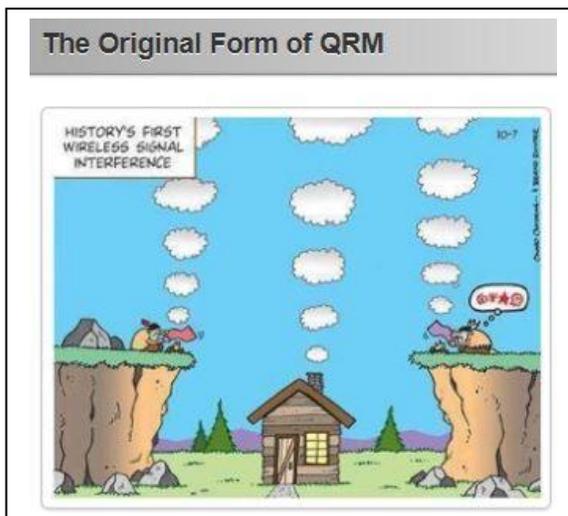
The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the Motor City Radio Club. The club is happy to report that we have already had money donated to the club due to purchases made on Amazon.

Tuesday Night Code Practice

Tune into the Wyandotte at 2045 hours to learn Morse Code. Every Tuesday night, 15 minutes before the Motor City Radio Club Two Meter net, Bob K8HV runs code practice. A great way to learn.



The Utica-Shelby Emergency Communications Association has a slow code net each Monday on the USECA Repeater. 147.180 with a 100 Hz pl tone.



MCRC Officers

President
Don K8THU
president@w8mrm.net

Vice President
Rick KE8BPZ
vicepresident@w8mrm.net

Secretary/Admin
Denise Keeler KC8HDX
secretary@w8mrm.net

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treasurer@w8mrm.net

Custodian
John Roberts N8KAM

Trustee(s)
Jim Baksa KD8HFX for W8MRM
John Roberts N8KAM for W8GTZ

Parliamentarian
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MOTOR CITY RADIO CLUB, INC.



FIRST CLASS MAIL

Coming Events

September 13th at 1900 hours. September general membership meeting.

Topic: Nominations for the board of the club.

September 14th at 0900 hours. VE Exam at First United Methodist Church, 72 Oak St, Wyandotte, MI 48192.

September 19th at 1930 hours. Board meeting at Leo's Coney Island at Fort and Sibley in Riverview.

Everyone is welcome to all board meetings.

September 21st at 0900 hours. Club breakfast at the same place we have the board meetings.

Leo's Coney Island, 19230 Fort St, Riverview MI.

September 21st at 1030 hours. Fox Hunt #5. Leave from the parking lot of the Leo's Coney Island after the club breakfast.

October 11th at 1900 hours. September general membership meeting.

Topic: Elections.

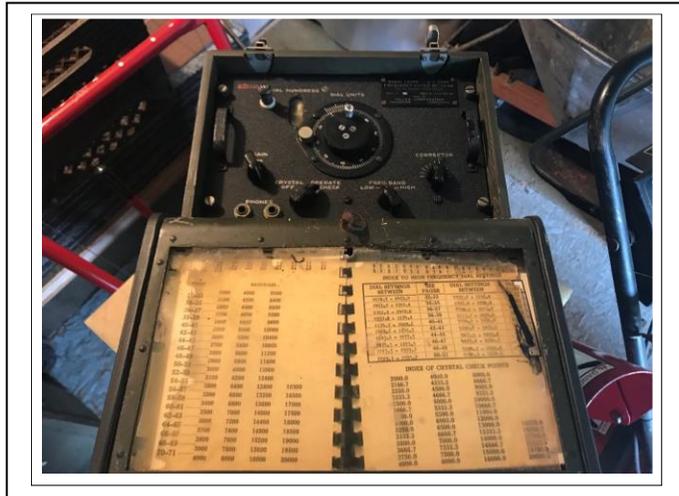
The Club has been contacted by Lisa Zawaski of Royal Oak. She has WW II gear for sale.

Here's some pictures of the equipment she has for sale.

This is a link to the Facebook post. If anyone is interested please contact the seller directly.

<https://t.ly/kMnX5>





The first one was so great, we're doing it again!
FLYING BEERS INTERNATIONAL

SWAP MEET

Sunday September 22, 2019

11:00AM to 4:00PM

- Amateur Radio and electronics BUY / SELL / TRADE
- Bring your HAM-related projects to show & tell
- HF special event station K8FBI on 40 meters
- BBQ & beverages available on site
- Patio seating on the W8VYZ Memorial Veranda
- ARRL VE Session for new licenses & upgrades

(Contact Jim to pre-register for an exam (586)758-0764 / W18W.VE@gmail.com)

FREE PARKING and FREE TO ATTEND

Vendor Fee: 1 six-pack of Miller Highlife or comparable brew
(Vendors set up 10am, provide own tables and canopies as needed)

Contact Bob for vending & exhibit registration (248) 321-4929 / W8SDF@arrl.net



*This is a FUN raiser, not a fund raiser.
We're not in it for the money, we're in it for the beer!*



Talk-In on K8FBI 442.6+ & 442.075+ repeaters

Connect with the FBI online: <http://www.FlyingBeers.org>



The next KB6NU One-Day Tech Class will take place on Saturday, September 28, 2019 at the University of Michigan – Ann Arbor, in the EECS Building, [1301 Beal Ave.](#), Ann Arbor, MI (room to be determined). The class will start at 9:00 am and run until 3:30 pm, at which time the license exam will be given.

There is a \$25 charge to take the class, but high school and college students can attend for free. Please register in advance. There are three ways to register:

- If you're a high school or college student, all you have to do to register is send an email to cwgeek@kb6nu.com stating that you want to take the class.
- All others, go to <https://www.kb6nu.com/product/one-day-tech-class-ann-arbor-20190928/> to register online.
- Send a check for \$25 to Daniel M. Romanchik, [1325 Orkney Dr., Ann Arbor, MI 48103](#). When paying by check, please include a note with your e-mail address so that I can send you logistical information for the class.
- In addition, there is a \$15 fee to take the test. This fee is payable directly to the Volunteer Examiners on the day of the class.
- When your registration is received, you will be put you on another e-mail list and sent more details a week or two before the class.
- **Free study guide**
- The study guide for this class is the No Nonsense Technician Class License Study Guide. You can download the PDF version for free from <https://kb6nu.com/study-guides/>. Before the class, read through the study guide a few times, then take some online practice tests. If you don't study before the class, I can guarantee that you'll have a hard time passing the test.
- **Need more info?**
- For more information, contact Dan Romanchik, KB6NU: 734-930-6564, cwgeek@kb6nu.com

73, <--ham radio lingo for "best regards"

Dan KB6NU