



THE SPARK GAP



Motor City Radio Club

The Longest ARRL Affiliated Club in Michigan
WWW.W8MRM.ORG

December 2010

Volume 56 Issue 12

Holiday Celebration

The holiday season is here. How do I know? 100.3 WNIC has been playing Christmas music for the past three weeks...

Join us for our annual holiday celebration, following a short business meeting, at the December meeting. Bring your holiday spirit and a dish to pass. (no holiday spirit in a bottle)



Prez Says --

Field Day results are in the December QST. Of the 474 entries in class 2A nation wide, Motor City Radio Club was 26th. In Michigan we were FIRST of 88 entries. To Ray Shovoly N8SLJ and the rest of the team leaders a special thanks and to all club participants a pat on the back. If this is the norm for The Motor City Radio Club, as per some board members, Then we are setting not chasing the bar and it time to toot our horn.



Thanks to Don Novak K8THU for his presentation of Care and Feeding of Quads

Be sure to be present as we will be voting for the Member of the Year at the December meeting. The current nominees are Jim Baksa, KD8HFX, Linda Metz KC8PKY, and John Roberts, N8KAM. Nominations will be taken from the floor before voting.

Stan Briggs, K8SB, will present a Memorial to George Schmalzel, W8PPG, who became a silent key 9 Oct 2010.

Then the Annual Holiday Feast to start getting us into the Holiday spirit

Circle February 5, 2011 for The Annual February Dinner. We will have a private room at Leon's Family Dining Restaurant, on Michigan Ave. East of Telegraph on the north side. Cost \$17.00 per person and reservations are required.

Membership Dues!

Your membership dues are is now officially over due. Be sure that you get your dues to the club officers at the November meeting. Just to remind you, any one who has not paid their dues by the end of the year will be dropped from the active club roster.

DUES

Students	\$10.00
Senior	\$20.00
Individual	\$25.00
Family	\$35.00

Mark Your Calendar

The fine folks from the Metro Grand Springs tour have asked the MCRC to once again provide radio support for their annual bike race. Mark May 1st 2011 on your calendar as the day of the event. The club will discuss our plans to participate at the January Meeting.

Happy Holiday's to All

Ken Lux N8TDF

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Join us at the next meeting
Friday, February 7th at 6:30 p.m. at
Sportsmen's Den, located at
15001 Sibley Rd, Riverview, MI 48193
Annual Dinner Starts at 7:00

Annual Dinner

Well, here we are in Fall. Seems like just yesterday we were having 93 degree days, with 93 percent humidity! With Fall comes some of the most interesting MCRC activities, the pre-DX competition spaghetti dinner, the Christmas dinner at the Westfield Community, and the annual Club dinner.

This year, the Motor City Radio Club dinner will be held on February 5, 2011, at the Leon's Family Dining Restaurant, 23830 Michigan Avenue, Dearborn, MI. The restaurant is on the North side of Michigan Avenue, 1/4 mile East of Telegraph Road (US-24). We will be using the private room, and we will be the only ones in it. The cost for the Club dinner will be the same as last year, \$17.00 per person. The menu will be banquet style, and will include:

- SOUP
- SALAD
- BREAD & BUTTER
- ROAST BEEF
- BAKED CHICKEN
- MOSTACCIOLI WITH CHEESE AND MEATBALLS
- MASHED POTATOES & GRAVY
- MIXED VEGETABLES
- HOT OR COLD BEVERAGE
- CAKE & ICE CREAM
- (yes, the famous Butter Pecan cake!)
- We will also have a vegetarian meal available.

Dinner will start at 7 PM, although club members are welcome to start arriving at 6:30 PM. The awards portion of the dinner will start at 8:30 PM, and will include the 2 member-of-the-year awards, 1 voted on by the board and 1 voted on by the general membership, as well as other awards.

Reservations are requested, reservation are being taken on the website under the EVENTS page or the coupon and money should be sent to:

MOTOR CITY RADIO CLUB, INC.
 P.O. BOX 337
 WYANDOTTE, MICHIGAN 48192-0337

COUPON

Name: _____

Number persons: _____

\$17.00 x ____ = \$_____

Number of regular meals: _____

Number of vegetarian meals: _____

Meeting Etiquette

As we get ready to start the new year and we bring in some new leadership, it is a good idea to review some basic etiquette for meetings. Many of the communications skills we use on the air should be used in the meetings.

- ◆ Conduct yourself like you are on the air.
- ◆ Allow the member with the "mic" to speak.
- ◆ Doubling with someone is just unpleasant for everyone else to listen to. Be sure you have the floor before pressing the transmit button.
- ◆ Members wishing to make a motion or announcement should call "net-control" by standing and ask the President to be recognized. Proceeding only after you are recognized by net-control and given the floor.
- ◆ While motions are pending on the floor, allow the President to work them properly. This will allow the Secretary to properly record the motion for the meeting minutes and members can be clear on what they are voting on. You may also bring a written copy of any new business to the meeting and submit it at the time of your motion.
- ◆ Members who wish to hold private QSOs should QSY themselves to the hall way until they are done with their QSO.

Using good radio etiquette during meetings will help everyone in the club be heard and for the conducting of business to run smoothly.

Don—K8THU has agreed to serve as the char of the program committee. He will be looking for members willing to present topics for some of the upcoming meetings. In January John N8KAM is going to be giving a presentation on something net related. He is keeping the details secret in hopes that everyone comes to

Reservations need to be received by January 28, 2011

New Officers



Pictured from Left to right: Ken - N8TDF, Neal - W8LYP, Dale - WA8FRD, Mike - KC8LPZ .

The club would like to welcome the new MCRC Officers. Welcome to the new officers and hopes this year will be another successful one.

At the December holiday meeting. Stan K8SB will be preparing memorial for George Schmalzel W8PPG. Gorge was a member of the MCRC and became a silent key earlier this year. Bring your memories of George with you to the December meeting and help us honor his memory.

Club Member of the Year

Over the last couple of months members have been asked to submit their nominations for this years club member of the year.

This year the following three names turned into the board for the membership to consider for the honor of Club Member of the Year.

- John Roberts – N8KAM
- Linda Metz – KC8PKY
- Jim Baksa – KD8HFX

The winner will be decided by a ballot vote at the November general membership meeting. The winner will be honored at the upcoming Annual dinner this February.

2010 - 2011 Club Officers

President	Ken Luz	N8TDF	president@w8mrm.org
Vice President	Neal Freeling	W8LYP	vicepresident@w8mrm.org
Secretary	Mike Ward	KC8LZP	secretary@w8mrm.org
Treasurer	Dale Poblenz	WA8FRD	treasurer@w8mrm.org
Custodian	John Roberts	N8KAM	netcontrol@w8mrm.org
Trustee	Charlie Romick	K8SAK	K8SAK@arrl.net
Parliamentarian	Jim Baksa	KD8HFX	webmaster@w8mrm.org

Committee Chairs

Education	Dave Metz III	KC8OBH	
Net Manager & Emergency Coms	John Roberts	N8KAM	netcontrol@w8mrm.org
Publicity	Anne Travis	K8AE	
V.E. Liaison	Don Novak	K8THU	
Refreshment Chair	Paula Arnold	N8ZLM	
Spark Gap Editor & Webmaster	Jim Baksa	KD8HFX	Webmaster@w8mrm.org
Historian	Sharon Bledsoe	KC8GMG	
QSL Manager	Charles Romick	K8SAK	
Distribution	Ralph Nagy Marv Weir	KA8KGW KC8DQJ	
Printer	Dale Poblenz	WA8FRD	Treasure@w8mrm.org
Librarian	Ray Olczak	KD8DPZ	
Metro Grand Springs Chair	Linda Metz	KC8PKY	
Membership			

Club Calendar

Would you like a 12 month calendar featuring full color photos of club activities and a listing of all the important MCRC event dates? If so contact Jim KD8HFX he is looking to put together such a calendar if enough members are interested. Price has not yet been established.

Nov 5th General Membership Meeting Minutes

MCRC Meeting Minutes

November 5, 2010, called to order at 7:33pm

Roll call: 32 members, 1 Assoc, 2 visitors present.

Officer Reports

President:

Don K8THU will be handling the programs for the meetings

Linda KC8PKY will be handling the refreshments for the meetings

Ray N8SLJ has volunteered to be Field Day chair for 2011.

The president reported the passing of George Schmozel (spelling may be wrong)

Vice President:

No present, but Ken N8TDF gave the usual "members wishing to join" speech.

Secretary:

No report.

Treasurer:

Copies given to attendees by Dale WA8FRD and accepted subject to audit.

Some issues were with the previous year's audit were mentioned by Ken N8TDF, who will be meeting with the audit committee at another time.

Committee Reports

Education:

Dave KC8OBH reports they're hoping for early 2011 classes

N8XZ working on room.

Fox Hunts:

Dave KC8OBH presented Bill W8KZP and Linda KB8TOO with the year's fox hunt awards.

Net Manager:

John N8KAM not present

Special Events and Publicity:

No report

VE Program:

Next session is November 13 at the usual Glenwood, at 9am.

Probably will do a session to go with the early 2011 class.

Librarian:

Library is open for business, no late charges, nothing to turn in

Accepting donations.

Webmaster and Spark Gap:

Jim KD8HFX Picture gallery has been added to the website - user-contributed pictures.

Working on getting calendar filled in on the website

Jim asks for feedback if anyone's interested in a club wall-calendar. Cost would be roughly \$16-\$19, maybe more after a small markup.

Awards and Recognition:

KD8MLJ was given his club badge

Sweepstakes lists were made available at the break.

Program

"The Care and Feeding of Quads", presented by Don, K8THU

Meeting adjourned at about 9pm.

Get your MCRC Wearable

Need a new hat? How about a nice jacket for these colder days? Wouldn't it be great if you can have that nice hat or jacket embroidered with the MCRC logo and your call?

Show off your MCRC pride at the next radio swap. Keep warm and promote the club and the hobby. Wearing MCRC on your back or head tells people you are part of something special.

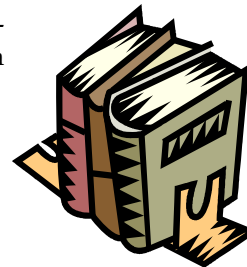
Want to be the best dressed radio club on field day? Well you can!!! See Dale WA8FRD at the next meeting and talk to him about all of the wonderful items for sale. Contact him about the special pricing for hats when you pick them up at the meeting. (Hats picked up at the meeting do not have your call)

Sweepstakes are over. But the fun is not! Be sure to submit your sweepstakes stories to Jim KD8HFX and he'll work them into future Spark Gaps.

Sweepstakes is a contest that everyone can enjoy. Do you have ideas for getting more members involved in sweeps? See John N8KAM or Jim KD8HFX

The Library is Open

In an effort to make some of the club resources more accessible to the members a library is being established. Books will be available to members in good standing for a check out period of one month. If you are interested in one of the book, contact the club librarian Ray KD8DPZ. Books will be available at the next club meeting and should be returned to the librarian one month later.



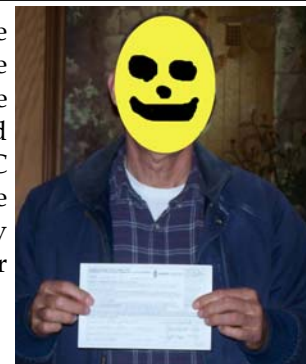
Books Currently Available

1. ARRL 2008 Hand book
2. ARRL Operating Manual 9th edition
3. ARRL RFI Book 2nd edition
4. Technician – Class License Manual
5. MORE wire Antenna Classics Vol2

If you have additional books or materials you would like to donate to the club, bring them with you to the next meeting and give them to the librarian. Your contribution will be much appreciated.

Photo Release Form

Not everyone likes to have their picture taken. So we want to make sure we have your permission to post and use your picture in MCRC materials. Be sure to complete a photo release form!! They are available on the website or at the monthly meetings.



**Test Sessions
Coming to a
Location Near You!**

Motor City Radio Club Test Session

Check www.w8mrm.org for upcoming test dates

Sponsor: MOTOR CITY RADIO CLUB

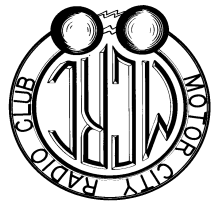
Time: 09:00 AM (Walk-ins Welcome)

Contact: DON F NOVAK
(734)281-7030

Email: K8THU@ARRL.NET
VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: GLENWOOD
METHODIST CHURCH
2130 FORD AVENUE (NORTHLINE)
WYANDOTTE , MI 48192

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED
WYANDOTTE, MICHIGAN 48192-0337
P.O. BOX 337
MOTOR CITY RADIO CLUB, INC.



FIRST CLASS MAIL

Save The Date!

Date(s)	Activity	Time
December 3rd	General Meeting— Christmas Party	7:30 p.m.
December 18th	Club Breakfast —Leo's Coney Island, Taylor	9:00 a.m.
December 16st 2011	Board Meeting — Leo's Coney Island, Taylor	7:30 p.m.
January 7th	General Meeting—Topic TBD	7:30 p.m.
January 15th	Club Breakfast —Leo's Coney Island, Taylor	9:00 a.m.
January 20th	Board Meeting — Leo's Coney Island, Taylor	7:30 p.m.

*Join us every Tuesday at 9 p.m. for the Motor City Radio Club Net on
the 147.24 Wyandotte Repeater. Or use EchoLink: K8UH/R*

The Spark Gap is published monthly as the official organ of the Motor City Radio Club, Inc.