



MCRC Spark Gap



The Longest ARRL Affiliated Club
in Michigan

February 2018

Volume 66 Issue 2



Silent Key
Ray
N8TYA

Ray Lewis Arnold Jr.

November 1, 1947 - January 17, 2018

Ray Lewis "Buddy" Arnold Jr., Age 70, of Wyandotte, Mi, has passed.

He was born in Wyandotte.

Beloved husband of Paula Fay, they were married, March 25th 1967 in Detroit. He is also survived by three Aunts: Joan Cervery of Baltimore, Md., Ida May Frausto of Mt. Vernon, Tx. and Carl Anna Lieb of Ft. Myers, Fl.

A U.S. Army veteran of Viet Nam. He was a member of the Civil Air Patrol for 35 Years. A VFW member of the Lincoln Park Post 552 and Wyandotte Post 1136.

Ray was a active member of the Motor City Radio Club. Paula and Ray attended every function and event. His participation will truly be missed.

73 to Ray.



Don's Ditherings

Don K8THU
MCRC President

This has been a good month for MCRC generally. Unfortunately, Ray N8TYA became a silent key. Our prayers go out to his XYL Paula N8ZLM.

The membership heard from Kimball N8FNC at the January meeting. The club's classes are well received at Bacon Library in Wyandotte and we are exploring the possibility of setting up a club station at the library. We are also looking at the Downriver Council for the Arts location on Chestnut in Wyandotte about availability there. Thank you to all who attended our January meeting and took part in our discussion about the club and its future.

The club is grateful that Bruce, AC8KD has agreed to be Co-chair for Field Day this year. Now we are looking for someone to share that responsibility with him. It is my hope to find our Field Day location within the next few weeks.

Our Board membership is again up to full strength as the appointed members have now all agreed to continue for another year and been confirmed by the whole board.

Our Vice President, Rick, KE8BPZ was able to rejoin us at our board meeting after his recent knee replacement. While he isn't yet fully recovered, he was able to make our board meeting. It was announced there that Jim, KD8HFX will do a presentation on Raspberry Pi at the February meeting. There was some discussion that the presentation should also include blueberry pie; we will have to wait to see how that turns out.

73. Don. K8THU

MCRC membership dues

- Family Membership \$35.00
 - Full Membership \$25.00
 - Senior (60+) \$20.00
 - Student \$10.00
- See Dale WA8FRD to pay your dues.



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 PL 100 Wyandotte Repeater, or use Echolink WY8DOT-R.

CW (QMN) Traffic Nets:

Net Name	MHz	Days	Time
Michigan Net	3563	Sn-F	18:30hrs
Michigan Net	3563	Sn-F	22:00hrs

Digital Traffic Nets:

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



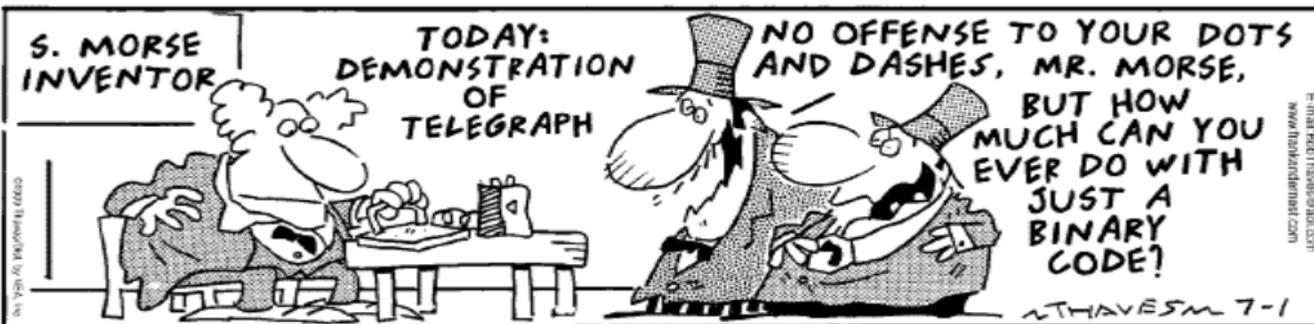
2018 Fox Hunts start in May

Perhaps you have heard club members talking about Fox Hunts. It's all about Amateur Radio operators doing a radio direction finding exercise. Special antennas are used to tell what direction a radio signal is coming from. The antennas, plus the other equipment in their vehicles, are used to track down the source of the radio signal. It's all part of a contest called a hidden transmitter hunt or simply a "foxhunt."

Somewhere out there is another Amateur Radio operator with a transmitting setup. The "fox" might be in a car, out in the open in a park, or on a hill, or just about anywhere in a discreet, incognito location. 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.

Motor City Radio Club's first fox hunt is in May, and run once a month until October. Once you do it, you will be hooked.



100% of the operation of the Wyandotte Repeater is paid through financial contributions. You may support repeater in a couple of ways. You can give your donation directly to the club treasurer using this form, or mail the donation to the address on the form. Thank you so much for your support.

Wyandotte Amateur Radio Repeater Association	
1885 Pinetree Dr Trenton, MI 48183	
Name _____	Call _____
Address _____ _____	
E-mail _____	
Donation amount _____	

The MCRC has a library of valuable knowledge that is available for loan to all members. The library includes both books and audio tapes on various ham related subjects. Members are encouraged to take advantage of this valuable member benefit.

Below is a list of the resources currently in the library:

The ARRL- Operating Manual For Radio Amateurs	Troubleshooting Solid State Circuits - George Loveday, Arthur H. Seidman
The ARRL- RFI Book 2nd Edition...Practical Cures for Radio Frequency Interference	Getting started in Electronics -Forrest m. Mimms,III
The ARRL- Ham Radio Liscense Manual 1st Edition Level #1Technician	National Electrical Code 2005 -International Electrical Code
The ARRL- Handbook 2008...For Radio Communications.	Ham Antenna Construction Projects -J.A. Stanley
The comprehensive RF Engineering Reference 85th Edition	Beam Antenna Handbook -5th Edition Orr & Cowan
Simple, low cost Wire Antennas for Radio Amateurs	Amateur Radio Vertical Antenna Handbook -Capt. Paul H. Lee USN (ret) N6PL
The ARRL- Handbook 2001 78th Edition	
The ARRL- Spread Spectrum Source Book	Digital Interfacing with an Analog World 2nd ed -Joseph J. Carr
ARRL DVD Amateur Radio Today	Cassette Tapes for General Class Liscense study - 6 Tapes
ARVN DVD Digital Voice for Amateur Radio HF: AOR, WinDRM, DRMDV, FDMDV 25 Minutes VHF/UHF: D-Star P-25 35 Minutes	Cassette Tapes for Morse Code Practice - 2 Tapes
	CD's for Morse Code Practice - 2 Tapes

Members are encouraged to contact the club librarian, Ray - KD8DPZ, to reserve any of the materials they wish to borrow. Donations of new materials to the club library is also appreciated.



Motor City Radio Club

P. O. Box 1337
Southgate, MI 48195-0337
Est. 1932



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

JANUARY 12, 2018

SUBMITTED BY ADMIN DENISE KEELER, KC8HDX

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:28 P.M.

Members Present: 20 Guests: 3

President's Report: Welcome to the New Year. Discussion of club's priorities and goals will be addressed under New Business.

Admin: Motion to accept last month's minutes as printed. Kimball approved, Bill NU3D seconded. The 2018 Officers for the Motor City Radio Club are attached. They are also listed in the Spark Gap.

Treasurer's Report: Accepted as written.

Committee Reports

Fox Hunts – Off Season. Maintenance of equipment in progress.

Field Day 2018 – We need a Chairperson to volunteer for this event.

Spark Gap – Looking for a reporter who will interview club members for the paper.

Librarian – Discussion of what format will be used moving forward.

Refreshments: Coffee – Dale Soda – Rick

Program Presentations: Volunteers and ideas needed.

Motion for 15 minute recess

New Business: Discussion of how the club is meeting your needs.

It was decided that 2 dinners (November and Christmas) do not work together. A change will be made in 2019.

Financial – does our current status allow us to do all the things we want to do?

Club radios - Should we acquire/done/have HF, Digital, Dstar,

Fusion

The Spring Grand Bike Tour will be the First Sunday in May.

Club/Board Announcements:

The next General meeting will be Friday February 9th – 1900-21:30.

The next Board meeting will be Thursday, February 15 at 19:30.

The Livonia Swap will be on February 18th from 9-12 a.m.



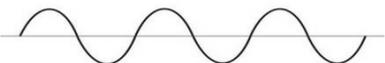
Heinrich Hertz Birthday Special Event Station.

Heinrich Rudolf Hertz (22 February 1857 – 1 January 1894) was a German physicist who first conclusively proved the existence of the electromagnetic waves theorized by James Clerk Maxwell's electromagnetic theory of light.

The unit of frequency — cycle per second — was named the "hertz" in his honor.

The Nashoba Amateur Radio Club will have a Special Events Station on the air to honor his birthday. **February 24, 1600Z-2200Z, W4NRC**, Germantown, TN.. 14.255 21.355. QSL to:

Fred Miller, 8265 Green Holly Cove, Germantown, TN 38138.



Ham radio links Cyprus students to ISS

On Wednesday, January 24, 2018, thanks to an amateur radio telebridge link students of The English School in Nicosia, Cyprus were able to talk live to an astronaut in space

It is the first time pupils from a school in Cyprus have been able to communicate live with an astronaut on the International Space Station.

The ISS ham radio. Kenwood D700 2M/440 dual band transceiver in the Russian Service Module.

The telebridge link to astronaut Mark Vande Hei KG5GNP was provided by the Santa Rosa Jr. College Amateur Radio Club W6SRJ ARISS ground station in the United States.



Astronaut Mark Vande Hei KG5GNP



Expedition 25 commander Doug Wheelock KF5BOC making a contact on the International Space Station's ham radio. The VHF handheld radio model that has been used by the ARISS program to connect students worldwide with astronauts on board the International Space Station (ISS) for over 16 years has given an error message and is unusable at this time. While the ARISS technical team evaluates the best path to restore operation from the Columbus module, ARISS contacts will be supported using the Kenwood radio in the Russian Service Module.

MOTOR CITY RADIO CLUB VE EXAMS

Our VE team was very busy on January 13th when ten applicants showed up to take their exams. All ten were successful in either obtaining their new license or an upgrade.

Lawrence Stec, KE8IJI and Christopher Schwimer, call pending, both upgraded from Tech to General. Jonathan Pickard passed both his Tech and General exams. Paul Korbal, Michael Harm, Thomas Valerio, Charles Wilder, Gary Trudeau, Paul Boike and William Latarski all earned their Technician license.

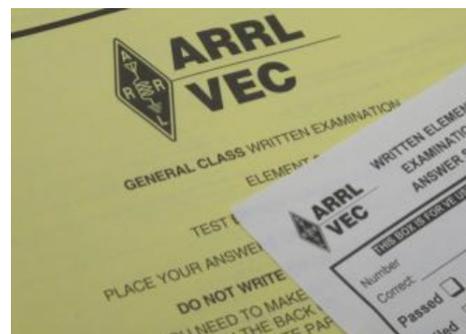
Many thanks to Don Novak K8THU, Bill Loeber NU3D, Ralph Nagy KA8KGW and Dean McKinney KE8HVA for their help in making this happen.

Dean McKinney had just received his General class upgrade at our November exam session and was inspired to obtain his VE Credentials. He asked if he could sit in and observe this session to see what the other side looked like. Well, he more than observed, I put him to work! He did a great job and I told him he was welcome to help out anytime. Hopefully he will become our newest MCRC member soon!

Our next exam session will be held on Saturday, March 10, 2018 at the First United Methodist Church, 72 Oak St., Wyandotte, MI. 48192

Items to bring with you:

1. \$15.00 exam fee (Exact Amount Preferred)
2. Number 2 Pencil
3. An original of your current FCC license (if you have one)
4. A copy of your current FCC license (if you have one)
5. Two pieces of Identification (at least one photo)
6. Your PayPal Receipt if you choose to pay online
7. 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 Event tab on the left, then click on the exam announcement. On that page, you can register for the exam and also pay beforehand using Paypal.

Woody N8MWQ
V.E. Liaison



**2018 November
Dinner**

**CW Sportsmen's Grill
(formally the Sportsmen Den)
15001 Sibley Road, Riverview, MI 48193
November 10th, 2018
6pm to 8:30pm**

UPCOMING HAMFESTS

Livonia Hamfest

Sunday, February 18, 2018 from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Civic Park Senior Center
15218 Farmington Road
Livonia, Michigan
(on the SE corner of Farmington Road and 5 Mile Road)



Toledo Hamfest

Sunday, March 18th, 2018 from 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Owens Community College - Student Health and Activity Center (SHAC)
30335 Oregon Road, Perrysburg, OH 43551

It's Metro Grand Spring Tour Time May 6th



Once again the Motor City Radio Club has been asked by the Downriver Cycling Club to provide communications for the 35th Annual Metro Grand Spring Tour (MGST). MGST is one of Michigan's oldest, continually recurring rides and is generally acknowledged to be the start of the ride season in SE Michigan. We need as many operators as possible, hopefully 20 or more, to cover all the routes. More details will be coming as plans are finalized. Please contact Dale WA8FRD for more information.

Motor City Radio Club General Membership meetings are held at the Copeland Center at 2306 4th Street in Wyandotte at 7pm. Meetings are the second Friday of each month, except there is no meetings in August and November. August is the Club Picnic, and in November, there is the 2018 Annual Banquet.





Skywarn Training March 9th.



At the Motor City Radio Club **March General Membership meeting**, Skywarn Training will be provided by the National Weather Service Forecast Office for the Detroit/Pontiac area.

SKYWARN® is a National Weather Service (NWS) program developed in the 1960s that consists of trained weather spotters who provide reports of severe and hazardous weather to help meteorologists make life-saving warning decisions. Spotters are concerned citizens, amateur radio operators, truck drivers, mariners, airplane pilots, emergency management personnel, and public safety officials who volunteer their time and energy to report on hazardous weather impacting their community.

Although, NWS has access to data from Doppler radar, satellite, and surface weather stations, technology cannot detect every instance of hazardous weather. Spotters help fill in the gaps by reporting hail, wind damage, flooding, heavy snow, tornadoes and waterspouts. Radar is an excellent tool, but it is just that: one tool among many that NWS uses. We need spotters to report how storms and other hydro meteorological phenomena are impacting their area.

SKYWARN® spotter reports provide vital “ground truth” to the NWS. They act as our eyes and ears in the field. Spotter reports help our meteorologists issue timely, accurate, and detailed warnings by confirming hazardous weather detected by NWS radar. Spotters also provide critical verification information that helps improve future warning services. SKYWARN® Spotters serve their local communities by acting as a vital source of information when dangerous storms approach. Without spotters, NWS would be less able to fulfill its mission of protecting life and property.

NWS encourages anyone with an interest in public service and access to communication, such as HAM radio, to join the SKYWARN® program. **The March 9th monthly meeting of the Motor City Radio Club will be at the Copeland Center at 2306 4th. Street in Wyandotte, starting at 7pm.** If you are unable to make this training session, two other ham clubs in Wayne County are also hosting SKYWARN training in March:

Saturday, March 10th from 10:00am to Noon

Garden City Presbyterian Church 1841 Middlebelt Road in Garden City 48135.

Park on south side of building, session in basement.

Location website: <http://www.gardencitypresbyterian.org/>

Sponsored by the Garden City Amateur Radio Club and Wayne County ARPSC.

Club website : <https://www.gcarc.net/>

Wednesday, March 28th from 6:00pm to 9:00pm at the Livonia Civic Center Library Auditorium.

32777 Five Mile Road in Livonia 48150.

Park in rear of building, session in Auditorium.

Location website: <http://livoniapubliclibrary.org/civiccenter>

Sponsored by the Livonia Amateur Radio Club and Wayne County ARPSC.

Club website: <http://www.livoniaarc.com/>

National Weather Service - White Lake Michigan office: <http://www.crh.noaa.gov/dtx/>



February Program to feature Raspberry Pi.

The Raspberry Pi is a very capable minicomputer that's small enough to fit in your pocket (even though you'd probably never keep it there). For about \$35-40, you get a case less computer with HDMI and analog composite video output. You can add up to two USB devices (which, in most cases, will be a mouse and keyboard) and connect it to the internet via wired Ethernet. The Raspberry Pi is powerful and inexpensive, allowing you to create a home media center, internet radio, or even your own VPN server on the cheap.

At the February General Membership meeting, Jim KD8HFX will show how to get a Raspberry Pi set up so you can start using it for a variety of purposes.

Don't miss this great presentation. The February meeting is on Friday February 9th, starting at 7pm.

Ronnie Milsap holds the callsign WB4KCG, Joe Walsh holds the callsign WB6ACU, and Jim Croce was WN3OQW.

KB2GSD, Walter Cronkite obtained his amateur radio license after he retired from CBS news, primarily to have another form of communication while on his sailboat.

Renewing MCRC membership, on-line:

Open the MCRC website at: <http://www.w8mrm.net/>

Log into the site using your e-mail and password.

- 'Click' on the 'Member Application' button.
- You will see the Notice: "You are already a member. [Edit your member profile](#)"
- Click on the 'Edit your member profile' and you will be taken to the "My profile" page.
- Notice the first section titled 'Membership details' with the Renew to [mm/dd/yyyy](#) button in the lower right hand corner of that first section.
- Click on the Renew to [mm/dd/yyyy](#) button and you will be taken to the 'Membership renewal' page.
- If you need to renew, you may click on the 'Update and next' button to go to the page where payment method may be chosen.

From there on, the system branches, depending on your chosen method of payment. (mm/dd/yyyy is the format for the date code in the website.)

MCRC Officers

President

Don K8THU
president@w8mrm.net

Vice President

Rick KE8BPZ
vicepresident@w8mrm.net

Secretary

Denise Keeler KC8HDX
secretary@w8mrm.net

Treasurer

Dale Poblentz WA8FRD
treasurer@w8mrm.net

Custodian

John Roberts N8KAM

Trustee(s)

Jim Baksa KD8HFX for W8MRM
John Roberts N8KAM for W8GTZ

Parliamentarian

Bill Loeber NU3D
nu3d@arrl.net

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V.E. Liaison

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Net Manager

John Roberts N8KAM
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Coming Events

February 9th. General Membership meeting. 7pm. Topic: Raspberry Pi.
Copeland Center 2306 4th. St, Wyandotte. The **Raspberry Pi** is a tiny and affordable computer that you can use to learn programming through fun, practical projects.

February 15th Board meeting. 7:30pm. Leo's Coney Island, 19230 Fort St., Riverview.

February 17th 9:00 Club Breakfast. Leo's Coney Island, 9845 Telegraph Road, Taylor, MI

March 9th. General Membership meeting. 7pm. Topic:
SKYWARN TRAINING provided by the National Weather Service Forecast Office
Detroit/Pontiac.
Copeland Center 2306 4th. St, Wyandotte.

March 13th Ham Radio Exam. 9am. First United Methodist Church, 72 Oak St,
Wyandotte.