MCRC Spark Gap

The Longest ARRL Affiliated Club in Michigan

January 2019

Volume 67 Issue 1

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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 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

Don's Ditherings
Don K8THU
MCRC President

Welcome to 2019.

A month or two ago I purchased two of the club's magnetic signs "advertising" amateur radio and our club. I put the signs on my car and didn't take them off. Interesting results so far. Some people seeing my car from afar think I'm selling something. Which is true, I guess. I'm selling ham radio. The reactions have been to say to me that they didn't know I was a ham. Others say that they didn't know that people still "did" ham radio. I reassure them that indeed ham radio as a hobby is very much alive. Still others talk about their previous efforts to become a ham. To these I can tell them about our classes and exams. So I think that the signs will stay on my car for the immediate future.

Secondly, the New year give us an opportunity to look back and reflect. During 2018 the club saw some of our members move on to our next life. Here I am recalling Ray N8TYA and John W8MIR.

2018 was a year when we recognized Ruth WB8AFO, Bob K8HV, and Kimball N8FNC for their 50 years of ham radio and awarded them with life membership.

But the New Year is not only about looking back but also about our future. This month at our membership meeting we will be discussing what we should do differently going forward into 2019 and beyond. Please bring some ideas to that meeting

Happy New Year,

Don, K8THU

AMSAT

Now is a good time to remind us all that AMSAT runs on your donations and membership. Join up and help Keep Amateur Radio In Space today at amsat.org/shop/

With the recent launch of the Fox 1 – Cliff satellite, it is a good time to remind everyone that AMSAT is not funded by the government, nor by the ARRL, but by hams like you and me.

The annual dues of $44/year, includes:

- a free copy of the AMSAT Satellite Frequency Chart
- a subscription to the AMSAT Journal
- voting rights for the AMSAT Board of Directors
- discounts on some of the items at the AMSAT Online Store
- free, digital download of Getting Started with Amateur Satellites (2018 Edition)

December Meeting and Christmas Celebration

At the December meeting, we met and we ate. Everyone had a great time. Lots of good food. Great time in fellowship laughing and talking.

Interviewer Needed for Spark Gap Articles

Looking for someone to interview club members for a monthly member profile in the Spark Gap. So far NU3D, K8HV and KE8BPZ have been gracious enough to be interviewed. It's pretty easy.

A few questions, a couple of pictures. Contact the Spark Gap Editor for more info. Either at the next meeting, or via email listed on Page 9 of this Spark Gap.

December 2018 General Membership Meeting Minutes

President Don K8THU - Welcome to all.
Vice President Rick KE8BPZ - Read the membership requirements.
Talked about upcoming 2019 programs.
Welcomed everyone to the December Christmas celebration.
Bob - Education report - Talked about the upcoming classes starting in March at the Bacon Library.
Also about the code practice on the repeater prior to the Tuesday night net.
Bruce AC8KD - 2019 Fox Hunt information was given and discussed.
Old Business - Magnetic signs for vehicles are still available.
2018 Foxhunt awards to Woody N8MWQ and Tony KE8CDD.
Kimball N8FNC awarded Life Membership.
Discussion about needing a short program for September and October.
Kimball attended CERT Preparedness and suggests the club should be part of the meetings.

Meeting adjoined for Christmas celebration and Pot Luck the rest of the night.

Submitted by Denise KC8HDX.

Please buy 50-50 tickets at the club meetings. This is what pays for the fine refreshments we all enjoy during the break.

Ralph KA8KGW will gladly accept your money. Ralph only ask that you have exact change if possible.

Michigan Antique Radio Club (MARC)

The Vintage Electronics Expo

Saturday, Jan 26, 2019 9am-4pm

Costick Center 28600 Eleven Mile Rd, Farmington Hills, MI.

Admission only $5. Kids 12 & under are free!

The largest vintage indoor electronics event in the USA

What's it all about ? Vintage audio, radios, televisions, gaming and computer devices, related items such as vinyl records, CD's, ephemera and parts all for sale by knowledgeable dealers and collectors.

The 2018 Expo had record setting attendance of over 800 and over 120 vendor tables !

MOTOR CITY RADIO CLUB VE EXAMS

The next **Ham Radio License Exam** will be held on Saturday, January 12th, at the First United Methodist Church, 72 Oak St in Wyandotte. As always, please check w8mrm.net for changes or updates.

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

Kimball Williams N8FNC becomes life member at December meeting

Kimball with Life Time membership plaque and name tag presented by Club President Don K8THU

AMATEUR RADIO LICENSING COURSE

BECOME A HAM RADIO OPERATOR!

The Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club IS offering
A 10-week Course for

THE TECHNICIAN (entry) AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE Examination

(NO MORSE CODE REQUIRED)

WHEN: Every Monday, from January 14, 2019TO March 18, 2019—7PM- 9PM

WHERE: FOP Lodge 130, 2233 Burdette St., Ferndale, MI

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

We use the 2018-2022 Edition of the ARRL Technician Manual

FCC License EXAM WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE LAST SESSION (Mar. 18) FEE: $15

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

AMATEUR RADIO IS ALIVE AND WELL! WE ARE AT THE CUTTING EDGE OF TECHNOLOGY! JOIN OVER 2.5 MILLION HOBBYISTS AROUND THE WORLD--and in Orbit-- WHO ARE INVOLVED IN EMERGENCY RESPONSE, INTERNATIONAL FRIEND-MAKING, RADIOSPORT CONTESTS, DIGITAL SIGNAL PROCESSING, SATELLITE DESIGN/BUILDING. A GREAT PLAYGROUND FOR HACKERS/MAKERS.

QUESTIONS AND REGISTRATION—CONTACT Jerry: W9NPI@ARRL.NET

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

Motor City Radio Club Two Meter Net

The Motor City Radio Club Two Meter Net meets each Tuesday evening at 9pm on 147.84/147.24 MHz, the "Wyandotte Repeater".

The purpose of the net is to provide a regular opportunity for amateur radio operators to share news of interest. Membership in the Motor City Radio Club is not necessary for participation. All licensed radio amateurs operators are welcome to check in to the net.

The board of the Motor City Radio Club is pleased to announced that the **Garden City Repeater** owners have been kind enough to provide their machine as a backup in case the Wyandotte Repeater is not able to host the net.
The Garden City repeater is at 146.860 with a 100 Hz tone.

February Banquet

CW Sportsmen's Grill (formally the Sportsmen Den)
15001 Sibley Road, Riverview, MI 48193
February 9th, 2019 from 6pm to 8:30pm.

Cost this year is $23.00. Registration is now available online. Go to the club website www.w8mrm.net. Click on Operating Events, then February 2019 events. Click on February dinner.
Or give the order form, with your money, to Treasurer Dale WA8FRD at the December or January meeting.

Registration for February 2019 Dinner

1st name _____ **Call** _____

2nd name _____ **Call** _____

Please circle each item and place a #1 or a #2 by it:

New York Strip Steak

Las Vegas Chicken

Perch & Shrimp Combo

Shrimp Scampi

Chicken Parmesan

Register online, or at the December or January meeting.

As expected, baked potato, vegetable, salad, garlic bread, water, soft drinks, ice tea and coffee are included with your dinner.

Adult Beverages available through the wait staff only

The Motor City Radio Club **Spring Technician License Class** begins March 9, 2019 at 10:00 am.

Class will run to approximately 11:45 am for 9 consecutive Saturdays at the Bacon Memorial Library just off West Jefferson at 45 Vinewood in Wyandotte.
The VE test will be on the following Saturday May 11 at 9:00 am.

The manual for the class will be KB6NU's No-Nonsense Technician-Class License Study Guide.
Free pdf download of the book can be got at https://www.kb6nu.com/study-guides/

We are also planning a safe soldering class at the library to start a week earlier on March 2.
That class is at 1:30 pm.

Registration for these classes opens after January 3, 2019.
Register by calling the library at 734 246-8357.

Bob Lawrence
Class Coordinator
K8HV

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 the 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 _____

amazonsmile

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.

CW Code Practice - Tuesday Nights

Beginning January 8th, 2019 Bob K8HV will begin holding CW (Morse Code) practice sessions fifteen minutes before the regular scheduled 2-Meter Information net.

The sessions start from the basics. Sessions will cover learning the SOUNDS of each letter.

Anyone interested in learning CW is welcome to tune in.

Here's a couple of links provided by Kimball N8FNC. Articles that many have found helpful in learning code. Enjoy:

http://www.kl7kc.com/FistsCodeCourse/withtheflow.pdf

http://www.kl7kc.com/FistsCodeCourse/instant.pdf

MCRC Officers

President
Don K8THU
president@w8mrm.net

Vice President
Rick KE8BPZ
vicepresident@w8mrm.net

Secretary/Admin
Denise Keeler KC8HDX
secretary@w8mrm.net

Treasurer
Dale Poblenz 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

Committee Chairs

V.E. Liaison
'Woody' Kirkman N8MWQ
N8MWQ@arrl.net

Net Manager
John Roberts N8KAM
netcontrol@w8mrm.net

Education
Bob Lawrence K8HV
rbtlaw@att.net

QSL Manager
Jim Baksa KD8HFX
k8sak@arrl.net

Webmaster
Jim Baksa KD8HFX
webmaster@w8mrm.net

Associate Webmaster
'Woody' Kirkman N8MWQ
N8MWQ@arrl.net

Spark Gap Editor
Mike Antio W8MRA
w8mra1@gmail.com

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PARTS, and any Standard Line equipment at usual Ham discounts.
We will check your modulation, free, with R. C. A. Oscilloscope,
if you call us by phone, Trenton 526

Complete Transmitters and Receivers on easy terms.

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HAZEL PARK HPARC W8HP AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club

53rd SWAP & SHOP

January 27th, 2019 **8AM to 12PM**

Vendor load-in Saturday the 26th 11-3PM

$5 Entry, $15 table

Join us in January for a the annual HPARC Swap. Come socialize with old friends and make some new ones.

Come enjoy a Southeast Michignan swap as it should be, with good food and good friends.

VENDORS

DOOR PRIZES

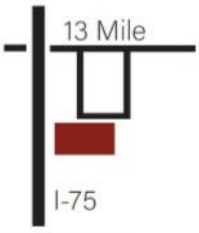
RAFFLE

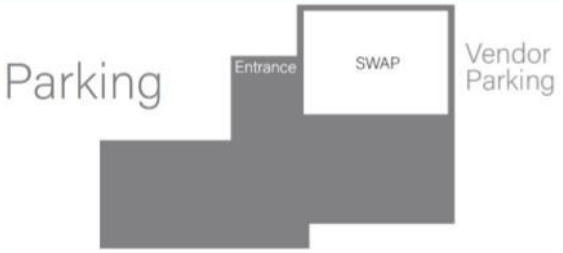
Talk-in on W8HP

146.640 (100Hz PL) DART Repeater

HPARC.org facebook.com/HPARClub

ARRL SANCTIONED HAMFEST





UFCW Local 876
876 Horace Brown Dr.
Madison Heights, MI 48076

MOTOR CITY RADIO CLUB, INC.
P.O. BOX 1337
Southgate , Michigan 48195

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Coming Events

1/11/2019 General Membership Meeting at 1900 hours. Copeland Center 2306 4th Street Wyandotte 48192

1/12/2019 VE Exam at 09:00 hours. First United Methodist Church, 72 Oak St, Wyandotte 48192

1/17/2019 Board Meeting at 19:30 hours. Coney Island 19230 Fort Street in Riverview.
Everyone welcome to all board meetings.

1/19/2019 Club Breakfast at 09:00 hours. Leo's Coney Island 19230 Fort Street in Riverview.

2/9/2019 General Membership and 2019 Banquet. 1800 hours.
CW Sportsmen's Grill (Formally Sportsmen's Den) 15001 Sibley Rd. Riverview, MI 48193.
See page 6 for more details.

3/8/2019 Skywarn Meeting. 1900 hours. Mark your calendar now for the yearly Skywarn Training Meeting.
The training will start promptly at 1900 hours, followed by the business meeting.