

Volume 61 - Issue 1

January 2015

- [Next meeting Jan. 9](#)

- [Breakfast meeting - back to Taylor, MI.](#)

- Dues Are Due:
- See Dale WA8FRD

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MCRC WEBSITE
WWW.W8MRM.NET

Note: We are always looking for stories and photos for the Spark Gap.
 Please send them to the Editor.

k.williams@iecc.org



MCRC Spark Gap



Prez Says



Hi, Everyone!

Happy New Year!

As I write this, it feels a bit strange as Christmas is still two weeks away but, in fact, it will be 2015 when you read this. I have to laugh to myself as I remember writing the same thing to you last year at this time. This just proves that the older one gets the quicker the years go by. So, I want to wish a Safe and Happy New Year to each of you and your families.

With a new year upon us, many will make resolutions (yes, I will start another diet), and I hope you will put your support of our club on your list of resolutions.

The Motor City Radio Club needs your participation to continue to be successful. In that vein, please bring your membership dues up-to-date if you have not done so already.

I want to thank Linda Kirkman and her merry helpers that oversaw our Christmas/Holiday meeting party; the setup was great! I want to also thank all of those who brought the great foods. I had a great time getting to relax with friends and, of course, sampling all of the treats! It was a fantastic way to bring in the Holiday Season.

Please make every effort to attend our January 9th General Meeting. It promises to be very exciting as Jim KD8HFX will conduct a club auction. Please see Jim's article for the details of this event. I know you will not want to miss this meeting.

I am happy to report that we have a Skywarn Training date which will be held during our April General Meeting with a start time of 7:00 P.M. Please check out our club presentations for 2015 at the end of this Spark Gap.

We are fortunate that we have many club members that will give of their time to share their labor and talents. We have many interesting presentations set for this coming year, so please attempt to attend.

This coming year, the club has many activities that we have become used to participating in and, I am sure the chairpersons of these events would appreciate your help.

As I have already mentioned in past articles, we are looking for someone to step up and volunteer to lead this year's MGST. We need a volunteer soon or we will have to cancel our participation in this event.

If you have a burning desire to head up another event for the club to participate in, please let me or one of the board members know. YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Next month, we will have the Annual Club Dinner. Please refer to Ray's N8SLJ article and either submit your registration to Dale WA8FRD or sign up on the club website. It will be a great way for all of us to kick off another year of activities and wet our appetites for our New November Annual Dinner.

In closing, Happy New Year and thank you for all that you do for our club.

73.,
Bill AC8KO
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VE Examinations:

Next VE Examination

January 10, 2015

2015 VE Schedule:

Exams will start at 9AM and be at the **Glenwood United Methodist Church** in Wyandotte.
2130 Ford Ave,
Wyandotte, MI 48192

No advance registration is required.

Our exams are every other month the second Saturday at 9:00 AM beginning in January each year and at FD in June.

We also offer license renewal free for ARRL members, unless the license is a vanity call, in which case, the fee is \$20.

73, **Don Novak, K8THU**
k8thu@arrl.net



Don & XYL:

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Antennas & Laws

PRB-1 Update

Excerpted From: "ARRL Members Only Web site"

Sent: Monday, December 22, 2014 1:46:54 PM

Greetings to the Hams of Michigan:

As this is being written we are anxiously waiting for Governor Snyder to sign Senate Bill 493, otherwise known as PRB-1 into Michigan law.

The road to having our bill become law has been a long one. I am not sure exactly when the first efforts began to get PRB-1 placed into Michigan law, but I would guess at about 10 years or more. During that time, many individuals have been involved and each in their own way laid the groundwork for our successful campaign.

While I don't have the names and calls of all who were involved in the early project efforts, the hams of Michigan are very appreciative of your efforts.

Thank you to the hams of Michigan for the support that you have shown us in the many letter writing campaigns and for contacting your representatives when asked to do so. It is the hams of Michigan that made this project a success. Your leadership team is proud to have served you.

73, and best wishes to you and your families for the holiday season.

Larry Camp, WB8R
ARRL Michigan Section
Section Manager: Larry Camp,
WB8R
wb8r@arrl.org

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Dale Poblenz, WA8FRD, reminds us all that our dues are due. See Dale at the January meeting, or update your dues records and pay 'on-line' through the club website.

<http://www.w8mrm.net/>

Log into the site and in the white box with your name at the top, select "View Profile". Then click on the white box in the lower right hand corner of the first section with the message "'Renew until 01 Jan 2016'" and follow the instructions from there.

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2015 Annual Dinner Meeting

QST: MCRC members!

Winter certainly here! The good news is the Motor City Radio Club annual dinner is also just around the corner. Our annual dinner will be on **February 7th, 2015**, and we are going to Baldo's Restaurant in Brownstown.

Baldo's Restaurant
20051 Telegraph
Brownstown, MI 48174

We will gather around 6:00 PM and sit down for dinner at 6:30 PM. If you have not visited Baldo's in the past, you can get a 'taste' of the restaurant at: . <http://www.baldos.com/>

The cost of the dinner will be \$25/Person. This includes dinner and gratuity.

You may register on line at:

<http://www.w8mrm.net/event-1766627?CalendarViewType=0&SelectedDate=12/30/2015>

..using PayPal or a Credit Card...

...or bring a copy of the 'ticket' below to the January 9, 2015 MCRC meeting and pay by cash or check.

Get your reservations in the earlier the better. Please Register by the January 9th MCRC Meeting.

73, and see you at the annual dinner!

Ray N8SLJ

Motor City Radio Club 2015 Dinner

Name: _____

Call Sign: _____

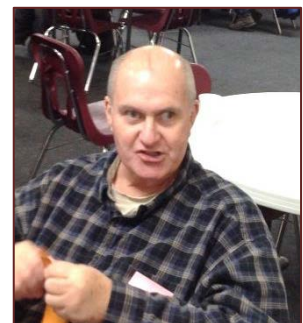
Number of people in party: _____

Cost is \$25/Person (This includes dinner and gratuity.)

Total amount enclosed: \$____.____

Menu:

*Broasted Chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Mostaccioli & Sauce,
 Meatballs, Italian sausage, Tossed salad, Garlic rolls,
 Soft drinks/ coffee/tea. Butter Pecan cake for desert.*



Meeting Minutes



*

Club Call W8MRM - Since 1934

**Motor City Radio Club
General Membership Meeting
December 5, 2014**

President – Bill Loeber, AC8KO
Vice President- W. Kirkman, N8MWQ
Secretary – Chuck Smith, KD8WFS
Treasurer – Dale Poblenz, WA8FRD
Custodian – John Roberts, N8KAM
Trustee – Jim Baksa, KD8HFX
Trustee - John Roberts, N8KAM
Parliamentarian – Ray Shovoly, N8SLJ

1. Call meeting to order at 7:30 PM.
2. Club Roll Call: Members: __38
3. Acknowledgement of Guests: Guests: ____9
4. Minutes from last meeting: Motion__Woody N8MWQ__ Second __John N8KAM__ Approved
5. President's Report: Brief overall greeting and welcome to the Holiday meeting.
6. Vice President's Report: How to become a member.
7. Secretary's report: Nothing to report.
8. Treasurer's Report: Without objection, accepted subject to audit.
9. Committee/Coordinator Reports:
 - Education/Fox Hunt - Dave KC8OBH.
 - Net Manager/Emerg. Comms/Custodian – John N8KAM.
 - Special Events/Publicity/ History – Anne K8AE.
 - V E program – Don K8THU.
 - Spark Gap - Kimball, N8FNC.
 - Webmaster – Jim KD8HFX.
 - Field Day 2015 - Bruce AC8KD. Brief overview, what is Field Day, expected activities
 - Librarian - Ray KD8DPZ.
10. Awards/Recognition:
11. Refreshments: Coffee: Dale. Donuts _John K8DHH_ Soda/Pop: Gary W8GPR.
12. New Members Announcements:
13. Unfinished Business:
14. NEW/Old BUSINESS:
 - Auction/January: Jim KD8HFX. Brief overview of auction, list of higher value items to be posted
 - Annual Dinner: Ray N8SLJ. (2015/February & November). Baldo's, February 7 @ 6:30 pm, \$25, great menu
 - The ARRL Centennial QSO Party!
 - Club Field Trip? Ideas? Volunteers?
 - Meeting Location Change effective 09/15!
 - November Sweepstakes. (W8MRM). Anne K8AE.
 - Program Presentations. (2015).
 - Christmas Celebration. Woody N8MWQ.
 - MGST. Linda KC8PKY.
15. Club/Board Announcements:

Board meeting: Thursday December 18th -1930 Big Boy, Wyandotte.
 Club Breakfast: Saturday December 20th - 0900 Leo's Coney Island, Taylor.
 Next meeting: January 9th - Club Auction. Jim KD8HFX.
16. Motion for a 15 Minute RECESS: no recess this meeting, will continue
17. Program: Christmas Celebration. Linda & Woody N8MWQ.
18. For the good of the club?
19. Close meeting : Do I have a motion to adjourn? Woody N8MWQ Linda KC8PKY unanimous approval (food!)



Excellent response to the Pot Luck - salads, fruit, cheese, and veggie plates, meatballs, lasagna, ham, chicken, Elk Sloppy Joe's, many desserts (cakes, pies, cookies, brownies). Thanks to all.

MCRC Auction!

GOOD NEWS!! The club auction is here!

The January 2015 meeting will be a member's auction to benefit the club.

John – N8KAM and Jim – KD8HFX will review the items first for items that could benefit the club.

The remaining items will go up for bid in January. To be clear, items you bring will be a donation to the club, and proceeds will go to benefit the club.. Proceeds of items of significant value (entire stations, radios etc.) will be shared with the owner and the club. (Terms to be negotiated with the owner)

We have some exciting items up for bid as well as some great individually priced table items.

Many of the members have asked if they can bring items the night of the auction. YES!! You sure can!

This is a "members' only" auction. Items are being donated to the club and the proceeds are going directly to the club. If you have an item that is more expensive, ext., (HF or mobile radio), the club is asking a reasonable auction fee.

Here are just a few of the excellent items up for bid

Item	Description	Starting Bid
Garmin 42 GPS	Includes carrying case and weighted dash mat	\$50
Yeasu FT252	NEW !!! Includes external power cable	\$40
Cordless Dremmel	Rechargeable	\$5
Astron RS 12A	Power Supply (Tested OK)	\$30
Waterman S11a Oscilloscope	Vintage pocket oscilloscope. Powered on!	\$5
APC UPS Battery Backup	USP ES 350 (missing battery cover)	\$5
MCRC Log Winter Hats	Two available	
S.A.M.E Weather Radio		\$10
Novelty Desktop Microphone		\$5
Power Supply	PR30 Regulated Power supply 30ma	\$3
Power Supply	Heathkit HWA 2036-3 w/ manual (Tested 14 V)	\$5
Power Supply	Heathkit HWA HP1175 w/ manual (Tested 14 V)	\$5
Microphone	Heathkit HDP121A	\$3
Malibu Outdoor Light Timer 12v		\$5
Antenna Tuner	Spectrum SPC 110 Antenna Tuner	\$5
Computer Router	Net Gear WG602 v4	\$3
Electronic Keyer	Heathkit electronic keyer HD1410	\$3
Webcam	Logitech webcam w/ software	\$3

73 and Good Bidding!

Jim: KD8HFX

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Amateur Radio Classes

Ann Arbor 'One-Day' Technician Classe:

One-Day Technician License Class - Saturday, January 17, 2015

at the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum, 221 E. Ann St., Ann Arbor, MI.

The class starts at 9:00 am and runs until 3:30 pm, at which time students are given the test.

Pre-registration is required, and there is a \$10 fee to take the class, but the fee will be waived for anyone under 18.

Students can reserve a spot by sending a check or money order to:

Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

1325 Orkney Drive

Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Or: pay by sending money via PayPal to cwgeek@kb6nu.com.

Students should download the study guide IMMEDIATELY, (<http://www.kb6nu.com/study-guides/>), read through it a couple of times, and take some online practice tests (URLs for practice test websites can be found in the study guide) before coming to class. Studying beforehand greatly increase the chances that they will pass the test.

Students can e-mail Dan, KB6NU at cwgeek@kb6nu.com or phone him at [734-930-6564](tel:734-930-6564) with any questions.

Southfield Classes – All Licenses:

The General and Extra Class amateur radio license classes:

Mondays, January 12, 2015 to May 4, 2015—7pm to 9 pm (Pre-register by December 29, 2014)

The Technician Class amateur radio license

Mondays, February 9, 2015 to April 27, 2015—7pm to 9 pm (

Lawrence Technological University

21000 West ten mile rd.

Southfield, MI 48075

Engineering building E-200

Costs:

Instruction is free / License manual is \$25, available from the instructor / Fcc exam fee (at final session): \$15

****limited room! **Pre-registration is necessary** ****

Instructor: Ron Miotke, WD8MNX ([Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club](#))

Contact: Jerry Begel, hparc education coordinator. W9NPI@arrrl.net

Dearborn & Dearborn Heights Technician Classes:

Monday Evenings at Caroline Kennedy Library 6:30 pm until 8:30 pm

March 2 / March 16 / March 30 / April 6, and April 20.

These free classes are offered by the [Motor City Radio Club](#) and will help teens and adults who wish to prepare for the Technician Amateur Radio License Examination.

Caroline Kennedy Library

24950 George Street

Dearborn Heights, MI 48127

Phone: 313-791-3800

[Web dhcl.michlibrary.org](http://www.dhcl.michlibrary.org)

On May 9 all students are invited to take the MCRC bi-monthly License Examinations in Taylor, MI. (The license examination fee is \$15.00 paid at the exam site on the day of the exam.)

We will be using **The No-Nonsense Technician Class License Study Guide** by Dan Romanchik.

It is a free download of 58 pages in PDF format available at www.kb6nu.com. Printed copies will be available at cost of \$6.00.

The ARRL license guide can also be purchased from the instructor at a cost of \$22.50.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED,

Stop at the Library Circulation Desk or call (313) 791-3802

2015 Meeting Schedule:

The following is the overall plan for Motor City Radio Club Meetings, Activities and Presentations for 2015.

Note: Some meeting plans are subject to change and we may take advantage of special opportunities to make changes if particularly interesting options present themselves.

January 9 – Club Auction – Jim: KD8HFX will be our Auctioneer

February 7 – Annual Dinner Ray N8SLJ (No Meeting)
Note: No Membership Meeting in February. Join us for the Dinner!

March 6 – "History of Ham Radio". Ray N8TYA

April 10 – "Skywarn". START TIME 7:P.M

May 1 – "Coast Guard & Ham Radio". Ray N8SLJ

June 5 – Field Day Bruce AC8KD

July 10 – EMI/RFI Part 2: Prevention – N8FNC - kw

August 8 – Club Picnic / Rain Date August 22.

September 11 – Officer Nominations

October 2 – Elections + "Hints & Kinks" w/Stan K8SB

November 14 – Annual Dinner! Ray N8SLJ (No Meeting)

December.4 -.Christmas Celebration & New Year Goals

Members with suggestions for meeting topics and presentations should contact our President with details.

Bill Loeber, AC8KO
president@w8mrm.net

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Our 'Usual Suspects':
President-Bill Loeber,
V-P- 'Woody' Kirkman
Secretary- Chuck Smith
Treasurer: Dale Poblenz.

MCRC Officers

President

Bill Loeber, AC8KO
president@w8mrm.net

Vice President

Woody Kirkman, N8MWQ
vicepresident@w8mrm.net

Secretary

Chuck Smith KD8WFS
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

Ray Shovoly N8SLJ

Committee Chairs

V.E. Liaison

Don Novak K8THU
k8thu@arrl.net

Net Manager

John Roberts N8KAM
netcontrol@w8mrm.net

Education

Dave Metz III KC8OBH

QSL Manager

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Associate Editor

Vacant

WebMaster

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Associate WebMaster

'Woody' Kirkman, N8MWQ
webmaster@w8mrm.net

Publicity

Anne Travis K8AE
k8ae@arrl.net

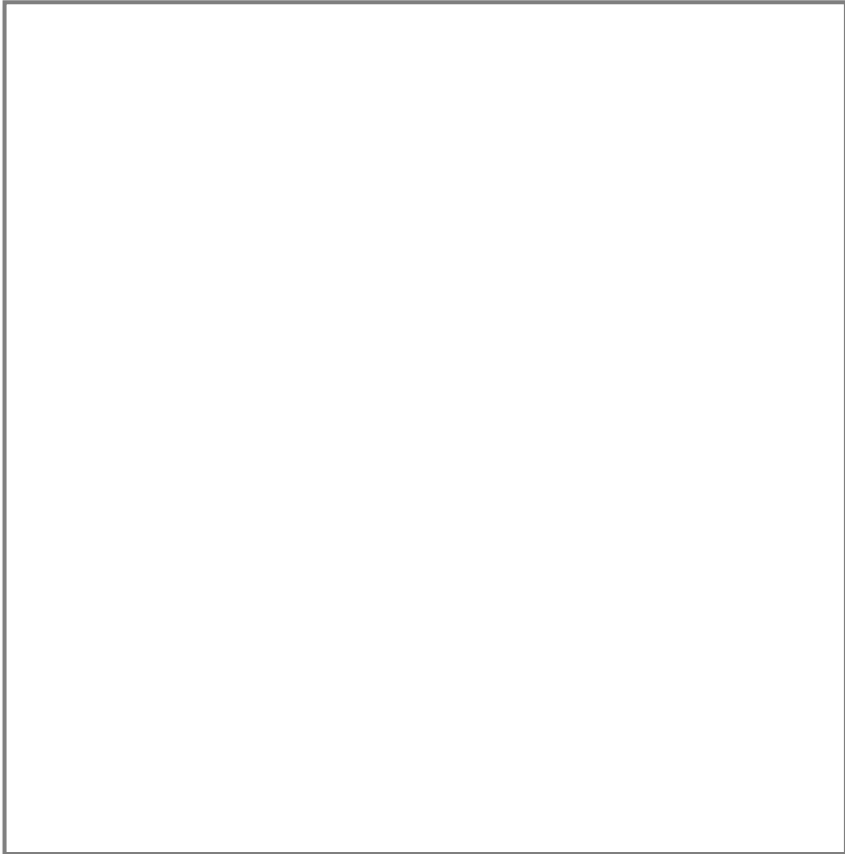
See W8MRM.NET for the full listing

The Longest ARRL Affiliated Club In Michigan



Motor City Radio Club
 P.O. Box 1337
 Southgate, MI 48195

Visit Us on the Web at:
www.w8mrm.net



Forwarding Services Requested

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

2015 Fox Hunts:

Spring is coming! Get your gear ready!

Join us for an 'eye ball' QSO

MCRC Membership Meeting:

- **January 9, 2015 @ 7:30PM**

Westfield Center
 2700 Westfield Road
 Trenton, MI 48183-2443

MCRC Club Breakfasts

- **January 17, 2015 @ 9AM:** (3rd Saturday of Each Month)

Leo's Coney Island Restaurant
 9845 Telegraph Road
 Taylor, MI 48180-3332

MCRC Board Meetings:

- **January 15, 2015 @ 7:30PM** (3rd Thursday of Each Month)

Big Boy Restaurant
 3366 Biddle Ave.
 Wyandotte, MI 48192

MCRC Special Events:

- Announced on the MCRC web site at www.w8mrm.net