



FEEDBACK

VOLUME 55 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2010

**MASSILLON AMATEUR
RADIO CLUB OFFICERS**

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ddan@sbcglobal.net

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WC8W
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**MRN NET Tue, Thur & Sun
7:30 PM 3.60 MHz**

**CLUB REPEATERS
147.18 & 442.850 MHz**

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--- SHORT SKIP ---

Yep, April showers bring May flowers and lotsa earshattering QRN. Be smart, at the first sign of lightning disconnect everything - including all AC power cords. And remember, quick action prevents " woulda, shoulda, coulda " agony.

- Another safety tip from Skip !

73 DE WB8OWM

A VERY SPECIAL MEETING FOR APRIL

The meeting for the month of April will be a special one indeed. We will meet at 7:30 PM at the main studio for Radio Station WHBC, 550 Market Ave. South. In Jason's own words:

I have just gotten approval for the WHBC tour.

Please let me know if the club is still interested in a WHBC tour on Friday April 2nd, 2010. The club can hold a short regular meeting in the front lobby and then I can take smaller groups on a tour. Tours should not take more than 20 mins each.

People can start arriving at the studio at 7:30 PM The lobby is officially closed, however I will have the front door open and will be in the building. I will have a projector on hand for showing some pictures of the transmitter sites. Our studio is not where the RF 94.1 and 1480 transmitters are located. They are off site by a few miles, and currently access is not easy with all the snow.

I do not have to have an official head count, but so I can plan better, please let me know an approximately number of members that would be interested in attending.

Main studio is located at : 550 Market Ave. South
Canton, Ohio 44709

corner of 6th street and Market South, right next to Canton Repository. Please park on the 6th street side and the parking lot just south of the station on 6th street. Parking is free.

330-608-1723 KC8LIN's Cellphone

7:30 PM April 2nd WHBC lobby open

7:30 PM W8NP quick meeting

7:30 PM Power point presentation of WHBC history, transmitter pix, etc.

8:50 PM start tours

There will be limited staff members in the building during this time. Be sure to bring your cameras if you wish. Pictures are allowed.

Thanks, Jason Stroll Assistant Engineer / IT WHBC 94.1 1480 jstroll@whbc.com

(MORE ON PAGE 2)

MARC MINUTES

March 5th, 2010

The Massillon Amateur Radio Club monthly meeting was held Friday March 5th, 2010 with 37 members and guests in attendance.

Carl AB8CC was absent, all other officers were present.

Don W8DEF with a second by Mike KD8ENV made a successful motion to accept the minutes as printed in the Feedback.

Gary WC8W gave the treasurer's report.

Wade WD8MIU gave the V.P. report on various newsletters, thank you card, and the next program will be at WHBC studios for a tour and a meeting following at the studios.

Committees:

CW Class has three people.

Tech Class still needs help for Gary to teach the class.

Steering – The 147.18 net was discussed.

New Business:

A steering committee was formed consisting of the officer by a motion made by Mike KD8ENV and a second by Andrew WB8WFO. Motion passed.

MS Walk will be April 24th. Quail Hollow's walk has been moved to Price Park in North Canton.

The webserver for the club's website is down. A new server with a new domain name of W8NP.ORG is now the new club's website. The Club is now also on Facebook.

Stark County QSO Party sponsored by the Alliance Amateur Radio Club will be April 10th from 12 – 6 pm on 2 meter simplex FM.

50/50 was won by Steve KD8ACF for \$19.50. He donated it back to the club.

Minutes by Dan N8DZM

“SPECIAL MEETING”

It's been a long time since we “went on the road” for a meeting. So likewise a little surprise is in store for all who attend. The club plans to supply pizza & pop. Therefore we will need a head count. If you are planning to attend, please let VP Wade know **via email** to [wd8miu@ gmail.com](mailto:wd8miu@gmail.com) ASAP so we know how much pizza to order. For those of you who do not have email, please call Wade at Cell # 330/704-2100. Please leave a message on the answering machine if Wade is not available.

... SEVERE WEATHER TRAINING ...

Severe Weather Awareness Week here in Stark County unofficially started on Wednesday evening March 17th as countless Amateur Radio operators and other Public Safety workers participated in our annual Skywarn Spotter Training Seminar.

Each year local amateurs involved in the Skywarn Spotter program provide countless hours of community service by providing severe weather spotter reports to the Cleveland National Weather Service (NWS). Thanks to this training, spotters provide actual visual confirmation to the potentially severe weather seen by the NWS. Forecasters depend on these reports to issue Watches and Warnings for our area. The reports are relayed via Amateur Radio directly to the Cleveland NWS forecast office.

Hosted again this year by Stark State College of Technology and moderated by Tim Warstler, Director of the Stark County Emergency Management Agency, the seminar was presented by Cleveland Weather Coordinating Meteorologist Gary Garnet, KC8TJI returning for his eleventh consecutive season.

The training seminar which covers the science of severe weather teaches spotters to observe cloud formations and the signs that severe weather is approaching. The course also covers spotter safety and how to report weather to the NWS. This year's program included some additional information from last year's severe weather season. Our appreciation to local Skywarn coordinators Mike Lackney, KB8MIB and Michelle Gill, KC8ZEJ for their assistance during registration including ARES member Mike Palmer, KD8ENV who also assisted with the registration.

This year's attendance was nearly 170 which was down from last year's training, with 91 first time guests who earned their Skywarn Spotter Certification. New spotters are issued spotter numbers which assist forecasters in locating the spotter's precise location. As usual nearly 30% of the crowd was comprised of area amateur radio operators. EMA Director Tim Warstler was also very pleased by the solid turnout and has been well aware of the local ham operator's support to both the Skywarn program as well as his office. "My experience is that they are extremely talented and very professional radio operators who have been a valuable asset to this office."

Cleveland WCM Gary Garnet was also impressed by the turnout. "The amateurs of Stark County have always been strong supporters of the Severe Weather Spotter program, Stark County always rates as one of the largest groups for our Spotter Seminars."

Marvin Secrest of M & K Engraving was also in attendance again this year. Marvin is our exclusive supplier for Skywarn ID badges and was very busy throughout the seminar. Our thanks to all of the presenters and those who took time out of their busy lives to support this important program.

... FAMILY PREPAREDNESS EXPO ...

On Saturday, March 20th, the MARC participated in the Family Preparedness Expo, sponsored by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and held at their Canton Ward in N. Canton.

During the March club meeting one of our guests was Barbera Markle, KB7KEV, a member of the Canton Ward who asked the club for assistance in participating in this event. Club VP Wade Huthmacher, WD8MIU volunteered his Saturday to participate and along with Terry, N8ATZ prepared a display for the event.

The purpose of this Expo was to raise awareness of the importance of being prepared for any and all local emergencies, something that ham operators are well aware of.

The club's display included literature about Amateur Radio and our club, a video from the League covering public service and various equipment examples. Along with Wade and Terry, the booth was also staffed by Barbera Markle, KE7KEV and her friend Mike Falk, KB7OHV who also provided some display materials used during his time in Oregon ARES.

Other displays included the American Red Cross, FEMA, Fire Safety & Prevention and Kid Fingerprinting courtesy of both the N. Canton Fire and Canton Police Department. Other displays included how to setup a 72 hour Emergency Ration kit, Water Storage and Purification and demonstrations on Alternative Cooking methods by the Boy Scouts of America Venturing Group.

Many visitors attended the Expo with lots of interest in our Amateur Radio Display. We also spoke to several attendees on obtaining their ham radio license including several scouts.

Our thanks to the Canton Ward for giving us the opportunity to promote our hobby and our club and how we serve the community when disaster strikes.

... MS WALK ...

While I haven't heard from our local MS Walk coordinator Jack Wade, N8LCS, we are certain to be asked to again assist with this year's MS Walk which is scheduled for Saturday, April 24th at the Massillon Recreation Center. It is expected to be similar to last year's event. About 8 to 10 volunteers will be needed to staff the busses and along several rest stops and dangerous inter-sections along the route.

A signup sheet will be available at the April Meeting, please consider helping us again this year at this important local community event.

That's it for this month.

**73's
Terry – N8ATZ**

MS WALK NEWS

Good Morning

Just a reminder that our next walk meeting is scheduled for Thursday March 25th at 6:30 at the Massillon Rec Center. Please try and attend if at all possible and bring a friend.

Also, please see registration numbers below. If you know of anyone who has not registered please urge them to do so (or if you would like to form a team yourself!)

Thanks. See you there!

Below are the registration numbers by site. Do you know someone who isn't registered – a family member, friend, work contact, etc?

SITE	10 REG	09 REG	DIFF
Akron	504	851	-41%
Athens	77	61	26%
Cleveland	867	1283	-32%
Columbus	1449	1755	-17%
Lancaster	239	194	23%
Mahoning Valley	205	214	-4%
Massillon	208	299	-30%
McConnelsville	68	118	-42%
Mentor	420	645	-35%
Newark	109	78	40%
N.Canton	139	152	-9%
Virtual	11	21	-48%
Wooster	90	47	91%
TOTAL	4386	5718	-23%

Dick Kulick
 The Shamrock Companies
 330-904-5010
 Fax 877-886-6254
www.shamrockcompanies.net
 Deliver Plus One

Here is the latest on the MS Walk.
 I don't know if I will be in Massillon to help. If you can get someone to go to the meeting I'm sure Dick would appreciate it.

wadejack@sssnet.com will shut down April 1.

n8lcs@verizon.net or n8lcs@att.net should work.

From Jack N8LCS

(Editor: Looks like Jack won't be available for this years MS Walk. Needed : Someone to take over for Jack. any volunteers??)

FCC News: FCC Issues Notice of Proposed Rule Making on Government Disaster Drills and Amateur Radio



On March 24, the FCC released a *Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM)* proposing to amend the Commission's Amateur Radio Service rules "with respect to Amateur Radio operations during government-sponsored emergency preparedness and

disaster readiness drills and tests." While current rules provide for Amateur Radio use during emergencies, the rules prohibit communications where the station licensee or control operator has a pecuniary interest, including communications on behalf of an employer. In October 2009, the FCC released a *Public Notice* clarifying the Commission's rules relating to the use of Amateur Radio by licensed amateurs participating in drills and exercises on behalf of their employers. To date, the FCC has granted several dozen waivers under this new policy.

The FCC notes that while there are some exceptions to this prohibition, "there is none that would permit amateur station control operators who are employees of public safety agencies and other entities, such as hospitals, to participate in drills and tests in preparation for such emergency situations and transmit messages on behalf of their employers during such drills and tests." Based on that, the Commission proposes to amend the rules to provide that, under certain limited conditions, Amateur Radio operators may transmit messages during emergency and disaster preparedness drills, regardless of whether the operators are employees of entities participating in the drill.

Background

Per [Part 97.1\(a\)](#), one of the fundamental principles underlying the Amateur Radio Service is the "[r]ecognition and enhancement of the value of the Amateur Service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications." The rules, in [Section 97.403](#), also state that "[n]o provision of these rules prevents the use by an amateur station of any means of radio communication at its disposal to provide essential communication needs in connection with the immediate safety of human life and immediate protection of property when normal communication systems are not available."

In the *NPRM*, the FCC recognized that Amateur Radio operators provide essential communications links and facilitate relief actions in disaster situations:

(continued on page 6)

Stark County VHF QSO Party



Make as many contacts as you can on 2 Meter FM Simplex!

Stark County contacts are worth **2 Pts**,

all others are worth **1 Pt!**

36 Multipliers!

3 Bonus Stations Will Be On The Air!

Download Entry forms, Rules, and Information at:

www.w8lky.org,

or

e-mail: 2mcontest@w8lky.org!

Sponsored by:

The Alliance Amateur Radio Club

2mcontest@w8lky.org

www.w8lky.org

“While land mobile radio services are the primary means of conducting emergency communications, Amateur Radio plays a unique and critical role when these primary facilities are damaged, overloaded, or destroyed.” The FCC gave Amateur Radio operations during 2005’s Hurricane Katrina as an example, saying that Amateur Radio operators “volunteered to support many agencies [and]...provided urgently needed wireless communications in many locations where there was no other means of communicating and also provided other technical aid to the communities affected by Hurricane Katrina.”

The FCC acknowledged that since Amateur Radio is often an essential element of emergency preparedness and response, many state and local governments and public safety agencies incorporate Amateur Radio operators and the communication capabilities of the Amateur Service into their emergency planning. In this regard, some entities, such as hospitals, emergency operations centers and police, fire, and emergency medical service stations have encouraged the participation of their employees who are Amateur Radio operators in emergency and disaster drills and tests.

The FCC said that its rules “expressly permit operation of amateur stations for public service communications during emergencies, as well as on a voluntary basis during drills and exercises in preparation for such emergencies.” But since the Amateur Radio Service is primarily designated for “amateurs, that is, duly authorized persons interested in radio technique solely with a personal aim and without pecuniary interest,” and rules expressly prohibit amateur stations from transmitting communications “in which the station licensee or control operator has a pecuniary interest, including communications on behalf of an employer,” the FCC has mandated that public safety entities seeking to have employees operate amateur stations during government-sponsored emergency preparedness and disaster drills presently must request a waiver.

Discussion

The FCC is seeking comments on whether to amend the rules to permit Amateur Radio operators to participate in government-sponsored emergency and disaster preparedness drills and tests, regardless of whether the operators are employees of the entities participating in the drill or test. The Commission’s rules already recognize the importance of Amateur Radio in emergencies, and permit participation in such drills and tests by volunteers (defined by the FCC as “non-employees of participating entities”).

The FCC recognizes that based on experience, it knows that amateur operations “can and have played an essential role in protecting the safety of life and property during emergency situations and disasters. And as evidenced by recent waiver requests, state and local government public safety agencies and other entities often conduct disaster and emergency preparedness drills to be best-prepared for such eventualities.”

The proposed rule would preclude the need for a waiver in such instances by allowing employees of public safety agencies and other entities to operate amateur stations for testing and drilling of emergency communications preparedness. The FCC “tentatively conclude[s] that employee status should not preclude or prevent participation in government-sponsored

emergency and disaster tests and drills. Further, we tentatively conclude that extending authority to operate amateur stations during such drills will enhance emergency preparedness and thus serve the public interest.”

In reaching these “tentative conclusions,” the Commission asserts that it agrees with the core principle of the Amateur Radio Service as a “voluntary, non-commercial communication service carried out by duly authorized persons interested in radio technique with a personal aim and without pecuniary interest.” Per the NPRM, the FCC believes that the public interest will be served by “a narrow exception to the prohibition on transmitting amateur communications in which the station control operator has a pecuniary interest or employment relationship, and that such an exception is consistent with the intent of the Amateur Radio Service rules.” As such, the FCC proposes that amateur operations in connection with emergency drills “be limited to the duration and scope of the drill, test or exercise being conducted, and operational testing immediately prior to the drill, test or exercise.”

The FCC also proposes that the emergency tests and drills must be sponsored by federal, state, or local governments or agencies “in order to limit the narrow exception to ensure that drills further public safety.” The Commission does understand, however, that there may be circumstances where conducting emergency drills for disaster planning purposes, even if not government-sponsored, would serve the public interest. Accordingly, the FCC seeks comment on whether it should permit employee operation of amateur stations during non-government-sponsored emergency drills “if the purpose of the drill is to assess communications capabilities, including Amateur Radio, in order to improve emergency preparedness and response.”

According to the FCC, a large number of agencies and organizations at the state and local levels coordinate with their local volunteer Amateur Radio operators to conduct drills and exercises in concert with other modes of communication: “This joint activity is essential to allow for a practiced response on the part of the first responder community. Because some of those drills and exercises include transmission of amateur communications by employees of participating entities, we believe the proposed rule changes would be in the public interest, consistent with ongoing national emergency preparedness and response priorities. We therefore seek comment on the tentative conclusions contained herein.”

(Editor Note: This article is just an excerpt of the article that appears in the ARRL Letter. To receive the entire article and more, please read the ARRL Letter 03/25/2010)

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North Bass Island Expedition

The wheels are still in motion but we are making head way in our quest to qualify North Bass Island for the U.S. Islands Award Program. We are aware that not every member can go on this expedition and the team would like every member of the club to be a part of this expedition.

M.A.R.C. is providing some pieces of equipment and registered the special callsign of N8B.

As a member, you too can help. We are seeking donation to help defray the cost of this expedition. No donation is too small and all donations are welcome.

If you would like to donate please make a check payable to M.A.R.C or Massillon Amateur Club.

Mail your donation to: WD8MBE (Tom Phelps)

Attn: N8B

235 Leonard Ave NW

Massillon, Ohio 44646

The North Bass Island Expedition team Thank You!

73s, de Tom, WD8MBE

North Bass Island

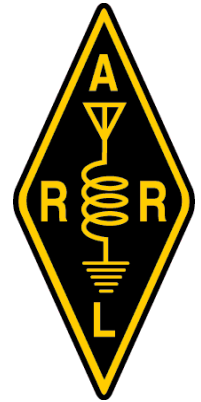
From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

North Bass Island is an island of the [U.S. state](#) of [Ohio](#) located in [Lake Erie](#). A small unincorporated community, [Isle Saint George](#), is on the island. The North Bass Island Post Office was established on May 25, 1864, and the name changed to Isle Saint George Post Office on March 2, 1874. The Isle Saint George ZIP code 43436 provides PO Box service. The 688.6-acre (2.786 km²) island is one of few islands that has not been commercially developed. The state of Ohio purchased 589 acres (2.4 km²) of the island to preserve it from development. Historically, North Bass was mainly used as a [vineyard](#). According to the [2000 census](#) the island had 13 permanent residents. As of January 2007, there were roughly two dozen permanent residents residing on the island's 12 privately owned properties



You may ask, Why are club members so interested in this Island? Well I guess the old adage says” because it’s there” and the fact that Island has never been qualified as a US Islands ON The Air. We will be the first to do this. We will need to make just 25 contacts of which two must be DX (countries). The Islands designation is (US Islands) OH006. After Qualification it will become “ OH006L “. As expected, the club will receive national publicity from this. ALL Club members can be proud of this achievement !

All club members can participate in this by either donating funds (see note from Tom WD8MBE above) or by helping by making contacts (HF) with the team on the Island (please see flyer next page for times, frequencies & modes) We are scheduling the event for July 24th & 25th 2010. At present we have 8 members going on the Expedition and have room for 10; anyone interested in going on this once-in -a -lifetime event? Contact Tom. WD8MBE at WD8MBE@sbcglobal.net .



U.S. Freshwater Island On The Air

Grid EN81



Lat: 41.716715
Long: 82.816576

Massillon Amateur Radio Club - Massillon, OH

BANDS / FREQUENCIES

PHONE:

7.250 mhz
14.250 mhz — 14.260 mhz
28.450 mhz

Note: 14.260 be reserved for and given way to IOTA operations.

CW:

3.530 mhz
7.025 mhz (may need to scan the band to find the frequency in use.)
14.040 mhz
18.098 mhz
21.040 mhz

On July 23, 2010 the Massillon Amateur Radio Club will depart on their first expedition that will take them to North Bass Island. MARC will setup world wide radio communications and attempt to qualify this island for U.S. Islands Award Program. This expedition will coincide with I.O.T.A (Saltwater Islands). North Bass Island will be the home for some 15 amateur operators who will on July 24, 2010 begin on-the-air operations commencing at 1200 UTC until July 25, 2010 1600 UTC. During this period they will attempt to make as many world wide contacts on many frequencies and modes.

North Bass Island is located on Lake Erie, north of Port Clinton, OH and 8 nautical miles from the Canadian border. Without the generosity and hospitality of the islanders this event would not be possible.

If you would like to make a donation to help defray costs, please make checks payable to 'M.A.R.C.' or Massillon Amateur Radio Club. Mail to: WD8MBE (Tom) 235 Leonard Ave NW, Massillon, Ohio 44646. Thank You

April 2010

W8NP Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																									
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<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.2em;">18</p> <p>Cuyahoga Falls ARC Hamfest Ctc: Ted, W8TTS @ 330-□88-2013</p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.2em;">19</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.2em;">20</p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930</p> <p>Stark County ARES Net on 1□7.12 at 7:00 PM</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.2em;">21</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.2em;">22</p> <p>BD KC8IU BD KC8NSE</p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.2em;">23</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.2em;">24</p> <p>MS Walk - Massillon and North Canton</p>																																																																																																									
<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.2em;">25</p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930</p> <p>Two Rivers ARC Hamfest, at The Spectrum in Boston, PA., hamfest@ tworiversarc.com</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.2em;">26</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.2em;">27</p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930</p> <p>Stark County ARES Net on 1□7.12 at 7:00 PM</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.2em;">28</p> <p>BD K8XAF</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.2em;">29</p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.2em;">30</p>	<p>Upcoming Events: May 8 - Canton / Massillon ARC VE Test</p> <p>May 14 - 16 - Dayton Hamvention</p>																																																																																																									

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