

FEEDBACK

VOLUME 57 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2012

MASSILLON AMATEUR
RADIO CLUB OFFICERS

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**MRN NET Tue, Thur & Sun
8:30 PM 3.60 MHZ**

**WEST STARK INFO NET
FRIDAYS 8:00 PM
147.180 MHZ
(except 1st Fri of month)**

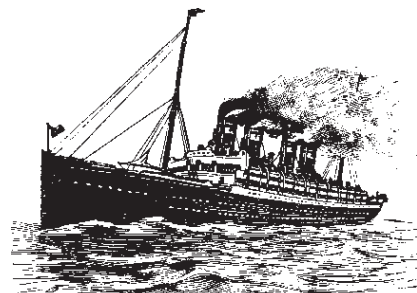
Contents

Secretary Report -----	2
N8ATZ Column -----	3
KB6NU Column -----	4
EC 100 Training Notice -----	4
KF8UN Report -----	5
Article by KB8STV -----	6
BUS TRIP TO DAYTON -----	8
Calendar by K8INN -----	9
MARC Back Page -----	10
Byron: pictures from Peru --	11

---- SHORT SKIP ----

10 April thru 15 April give a listen for GR100 MGY a british special event station honoring the radio operator on the Titanic, Jack Phillips. Should you work'em a very special QSL is yours via the G3SXW.

Spring has finally sprung and Q R N will soon be here. Be smart Bunkey, as with any storm unplug and disconnect everything.



73 de WB8OWM

APRIL MEETING

The meeting for the month of April will be held on April 6th 2012 at 8:00 PM at the Massillon Senior Center in downtown Massillon Ohio.

This meeting is starting to look like a very busy night for members. We have several Public Service events on the table that we need to discuss and plan for.

Starting with the Alliance VHF QSO Party coming up on the 7th, the day after our meeting. We are planning to operate from the W8NP Shack for this event. We need operators ! If we have enough people, each one would have to operate for one hour only! The event starts at 12:00 PM and ends at 6:00 PM. There is two very good reasons to operate from the club shack. Number one is we will become a "bonus" station for the contest. Number two is obviously the club shack gets some very needed use! Not to mention that it is a very FUN type of event and everyone will enjoy themselves!

Next we have the upcoming MS Walk to discuss and plan for. This event will take place on April 28th, 2012. We will need

at least 8 to 10 volunteers to man the various stations and the E- Com trailer. Starting time is around 9:00 AM.

Up Next for discussion is the Safety Fest. This year they have been invited to join the downtown Kid's Fest this year slated for August 13th in downtown Massillon. We also have been invited to join in on the "fun"! This event really needs some palnning as this kind of event draws a lot of people to downtown Massillon.

What are your thoughts? Have any ideas? Please join us for the meeting and help plan these most worthwhile events. This helps the club get some public exposure.

APRIL PROGRAM

At this time no program is planed for April, so we will have an "old fashioned" eyeball QSO'S !

MARC MINUTES

March 2, 2012

The Massillon Amateur Radio Club monthly meeting was held at the Massillon Senior Center on Friday, March 2, 2012 with 27 members and guests in attendance.

Byron KF8UN's called the meeting to order at 8:01 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

After the round of introductions, Carl AB8CC, with a second by Mike WA8MKH, made the motion to suspend the reading of the minutes and accept them as printed in the Feedback. Motion passed.

Carl AB8CC, with a second by Don W8DEA, made the motion to accept the treasurer's report as presented by Gary WC8W. Motion Passed.

VP's Report:

Mike KD8ENV passed around the Lake Erie ARA Newsletter.

Committees:

New Radio – Mike KD8ENV reported on a lightly used radio that was available from club member Scott N3JJT, a Yaesu model FT-950. It was stated that this model was one of the radios on the committee's approval list. Mike KD8ENV, with a second by Carl AB8CC, made the motion to purchase the radio. After a discussion period, the motion passed with 19 votes for and 3 against.

Hamfest – Terry N8ATZ announced the hamfest is now ARRL approved and the 2012 hamfest flyers have been designed. He also noted that the first printing is already being distributed.

Old Business:

Club SSC status is due to expire March 14, 2012. Terry N8ATZ stated that the renewal paperwork is submitted and in process, as reported by ARRL Ohio Affiliated Club Coordinator E. Mike KC8YLD.

New Business:

The Massillon Senior Center had requested the clubs basement storage be straightened up to allow for required building maintenance. One work day had been completed before the meeting, with another to follow on March 3, 2012.

Mike KD8ENV discussed options for future 50/50 drawing money. Mike KD8ENV, with a second by Carl AB8CC, made a motion to set the money aside as "Club Shack Fund." Motion passed.

Dan N8DZM has donated three laptops for the club to use in replacement for obsolete club equipment. He stated that someone will have to set them up for field day and general ham radio use.

Field day will be at Petros Park this year.

Carl AB8CC, with a second by Mike KD8ENV, made a motion to celebrate the clubs 85th Anniversary. Motion passed. A committee of Carl AB8CC, Robert AC8GE, Mike KD8ENV and Don W8DEA was formed to coordinate the celebration.

The Massillon Senior Center is collecting International stamps for a fund raising project. Please do not throw them away.

50/50: Won by Bud WA8KWD for \$14.50.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m. A brief break was taken before the presentation.

Presentation:

Terry N8ATZ played a video called "The Last BIG Field Day" by Amateur Radio Video News, which is a documentary about the W3AO 2004 50A Field Day station.

Respectfully submitted by Robert AC8GE

... FL DIGI WORKSHOP ...

Ralph, K8HSQ and I attended an FL Digi Workshop in February that covered a new digital software package called FL Digi. The workshop was held in Mansfield and sponsored by the Richland County ARES. FL Digi is a computer program for digital mode operation and is one of a new slate of multi-mode programs that support multiple operating protocols that are quickly finding their way into emergency communications on both HF and VHF. It's also great just for operating digital modes in general even if you aren't involved in public service communications. The program is free and available for either Microsoft or Linux operating systems.

The workshop was very interesting and included setup and operation of the program. One unique aspect of the program is it's ability to automatically generate standardized message forms currently in use in the National Traffic System, MARS operations and is compliant with the Incident Command System and NIMS.

Ralph and I have discussed about having our own workshop perhaps at the club on a Saturday morning to assist with the installation, setup and operation of this digital program. If any of you are interested in participating in this workshop drop me a call or email and we'll see how much interest it generates.

... ANNUAL MS WALK ...

This year's Annual MS Walk is on Saturday, April 28th and the club will once again provide communications support for this important community event. Last year we used 11 volunteers to cover rest and aid stations and transport busses. Operations will take place at the Massillon Recreation Center and will run from 8:00 AM until about Noon.

We will pass around a sign-up sheet at the April club meeting but please let us know if you would be willing to help out with this event. Give me a call at 330-837-3091 or an email to Truss@sssnet.com. We can always use your help !.

... STARK CO VHF QSO PARTY ...

The 3rd Annual Stark Co VHF QSO Party sponsored by the Alliance Amateur Radio Club is scheduled for Saturday, April 7th and will run from Noon to 6:00 PM. Last year's event was a lot of fun with quite a few operators participating from all three area radio clubs. The MARC will once again operate a club station during the event. It will take place completely on 2 meter simplex and is a great way to check out your station and enhance your skills in a fun event.

I operated last year throughout the afternoon and had a blast. With just my modest station, I was honored to receive First

Place - Fixed Station Class in the event. My Certificate and commemorative hat both proudly grace my hamshack !.

Complete details are available on the Alliance ARC website at www.w8lky.org and I plan on posting them on the club's site as well and our facebook page.

Why not take a little time on a Saturday, fire up the shack radio's and have some fun ! I'll be listening for you !

... SKYWARN SPOTTER TRAINING ...

Stark County held their annual Skywarn Spotter training at Stark State College of Technology on Monday, March 12th and was well attended again this year. Over 160 received the training with nearly 40 first time spotters earning a spotter number.

Cleveland NWS again conducted the training with Gary Garnet, KC8TJI presenting the material, a lot of which was part of a brand new program Gary had developed that covered the latest updates in the spotter program. Both Gary and Stark Co EMA Director Tim Warstler were impressed by the continued solid attendance we receive each year for this training.

Severe Weather week this year will run from March 25th to the 31st with our annual Tornado Drill on Wednesday, March 28th at 9:50 AM. A weather net will be conducted on the 147.12 Repeater to accept check-ins from area stations. Please report information on warning sirens you hear from your location. The report will be forwarded to both the Cleveland NWS and Stark County EMA.

My thanks to all who attended this year's training, I saw many ham radio operators renewing their spotter information. Also thanks to Mike Lackney - KB8MIB, Michele Gill - KC8ZEJ and Mike Palmer - KD8ENV who handled the registration duties again this year.

That's it for this month, see you at the club meeting.

73's
Terry - N8ATZ



KB6NU's Column for February 2012

The Extra Class Question of the Day

by Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

As many of you already know, I have written study guides for the Tech and General Class license exams (www.kb6nu.com/tech-manual). Until now, however, I've shied away from writing an Extra Class study guide. The two main reasons for this is that the material is much more complicated and there's a lot more of it.

This year, however, the NCVEC is updating the Extra Class question pool, and I've decided to bite the bullet and do it. So, I'm now in the process of writing a No-Nonsense Extra Class Study Guide.

After I got started on this, I had a D'oh! moment. It occurred to me that instead of just publishing this material in the study guide, I could also post some of it to my blog (www.kb6nu.com). So, now I have the "Extra Class question of the Day" feature on KB6NU.Com.

In reality, it's usually more than just a single question because many of the questions are on the same topic. That's OK, though, because in reality, I don't post these every day. So, it all works out. Having said all that, here's an example. The correct answer to the question is in bold.

Extra Class question of the day: meteor scatter Amateur radio operators use many different ways to get signals from one spot to another. Perhaps one of the most interesting is meteor scatter propagation.

Meteor scatter propagation is possible because when a meteor strikes the Earth's atmosphere, a cylindrical region of free electrons is formed **at the E layer of the ionosphere.** (E3A08) **28 - 148 MHz** is the frequency range that is well suited for meteor-scatter communications. (E3A09)

Unfortunately, these ionization trails are relatively short-lived, so to communicate via meteor scatter, you need to either be able to detect when these paths are available or be transmitting when the paths are available.

All of these choices are correct when talking about good techniques for making meteor-scatter contacts (E3A10):

- 15 second timed transmission sequences with stations alternating based on location
- Use of high speed CW or digital modes
- Short transmission with rapidly repeated call signs and signal reports

For more information on meteor scatter, go to:

- G3WZT's Meteor Scatter page (www.qsl.net/g3wzt/g3wzt_ms.html)

- RSGB's Meteor Scatter page (www.rsgb.org/psc/meteor-scatter.php)

For more Extra Class questions of the day, go to www.kb6nu.com.

When he's not trying to figure out how he'll be able to finish writing the No-Nonsense Extra Class License Study Guide, Dan, KB6NU is station manager at WA2HOM (www.wa2hom.org), the ham radio station at the Hands-On Museum in Ann Arbor, MI. If you have a particular question that you'd like him to make a "question of the day," e-mail him at cwgeek@kb6nu.com

EC-001 Class Room training to be held April 21st and 22nd, 2012 in Zaneville, Ohio

The Muskingum County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) has agreed sponsor a local, classroom based version of the ARRL's Introduction to Emergency Communications course. This was previously known as the Level I course and it has traditionally only been available on-line through the ARRL.

This local course will be taught by Dr. David Dilbeck, W8ACE, who is a registered Field Instructor and Field Examiner for the ARRL, as well as a Professor of Advanced Computer Science at The Ohio State University. That means that this class will qualify you to take the written exam at the end of the course in order to obtain your ARRL certificate of completion.

The class will meet on April 21st and April 22nd from 8AM - 8PM each day, we will have a long lunch break. The class will be held at the Muskingum County EMA Office located at: 2215 Old Adamsville Road, Zanesville, Ohio 43701. Attendance on both days of classes is mandatory. No Excuses from a class session will be accepted.

Anyone wishing to take the class must register prior to the class so that we can ensure that sufficient seating is available. The number of students may be limited. If you wish to attend you must pre-register by sending a note to W8ACE at W8ACE@arrl.net, also feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the class. (cont next page)

Operating Amateur Radio From Peru

I spent almost a month in Peru during July and August of 2011. My goal was to see and photograph the birds of the Manu cloud forest and rain forest, the ocean about 20 miles off shore, and an Andean Condor. I also wanted to try to devote a day to amateur radio and try some mobile operations while traveling to and from birding locations. The daytime mobile conditions were not conducive. However, I had a wonderful afternoon and early evening operating from the radio club in Lima (San Isidro).

The local club is active and meets every Wednesday at 8 PM at Los Ruisenores 245 in San Isidro.. They have a good operating station and are happy to have guest operators. It is easy to get an IARP license through the ARRL. The club operates a very good restaurant (Caplina) with a wide selection including seafood. I really enjoy their local rocoto peppers stuffed with octopus or shrimp along appetizers and a good dark Peruvian beer or pisco sour. Peruvians eat their main meal at midday and the restaurant is open from about 11 to 4. I also ate supper there on club night.

The radio shack can be opened whenever someone is in the office. The office usually closes about 4:00. Often the propagation is limited then and it would be best to find a day when they are open later. I was lucky to be there on a Tuesday and operated until 7:45. I operated on 20 meters using ssb and cw (Bencher), making about 200 qso's between 4 and 8 pm. They have a good antenna farm on the roof, modern transceiver and an amp. At noon I got 3/3 reports from the state but by evening they were 5/9plus. I worked over 30 different dx entities enjoying the pileup from the other end. If one arrives early in San Isidro, they can enjoy the Parque Olivar. I got some good birding and photography in there also.

I found a great place to stay in Miraflores not far from the ocean and a taxi to the radio club was not hard to get. However, it is good to have a map and know where the club is. Many drivers do not know where Ruisenores is. It is a small street. The radio club's hospitality was outstanding and I would recommend as part of anyone's visit if for nothing else but the good food. The birding was great there also.

Thanks to all of those that worked me. The card was design by Sandy-K8FUN

Byron-KF8UN/OA4

(ED Note: Byron sent more pictures that appear on page 11 of this issue. Enjoy!)



There is great deal of material to cover for this class and all students should purchase the course

manual from the ARRL, <http://www.arrl.org/shop/The-ARRL-Introduction-to-Emergency-Communication-Course/>. The book is item #7303 and costs \$24.95.

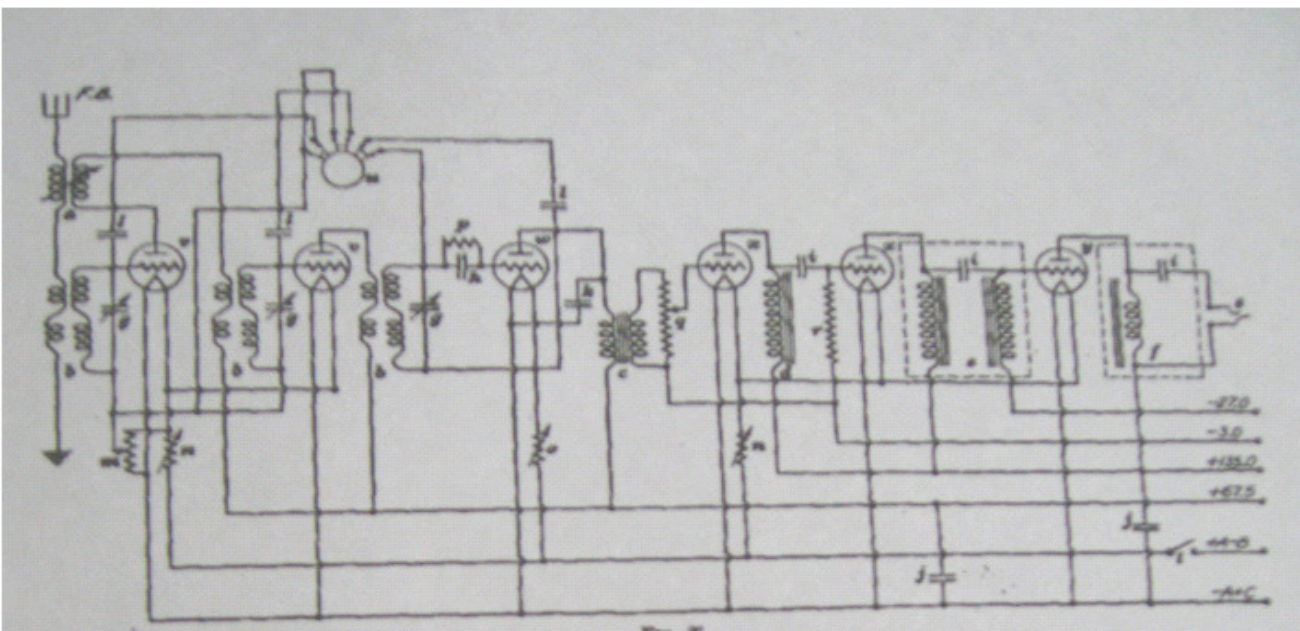
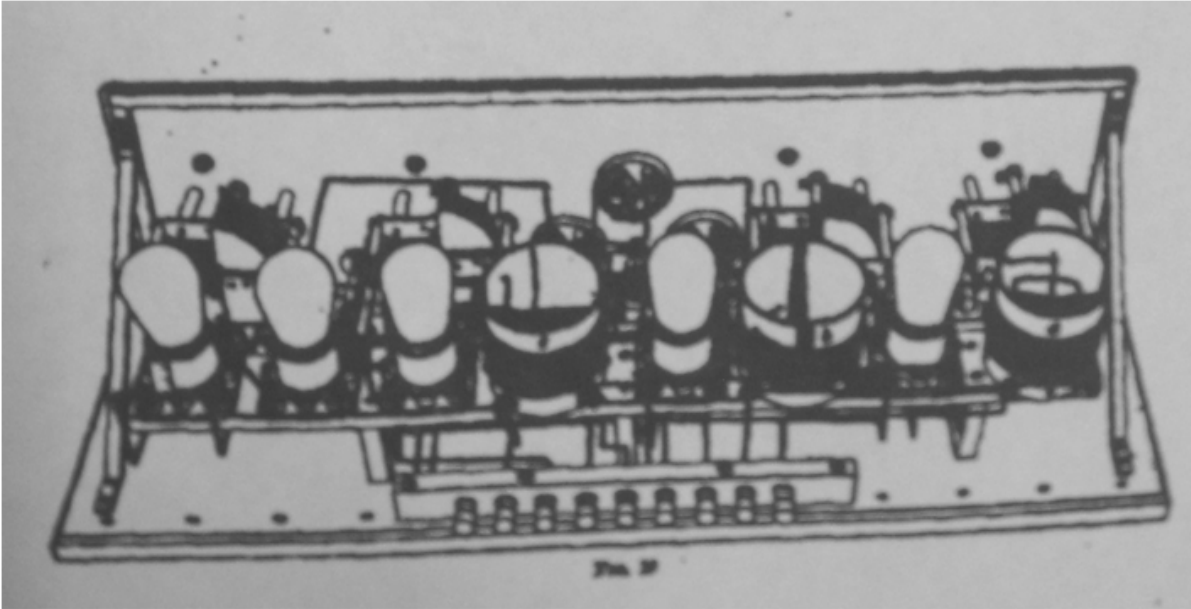
There will be no charge for the class and you do not have to be an ARRL or ARES member to participate, we welcome anyone for our served agencies to attend. ¯There is a \$15.00 fee, payable to the ARRL, to take the final exam.

DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN ?

Remember when the Radio's we used looked like this inside and the schematic is as shown below?

OK, So it was a little before MY time, but I know some of you DO remember. I did take apart several of these types of radios to see what was "inside" in my youth. I Wish I had them back.

I remember the wood cabinetry was always of excellent quality.



They were a bit simpler to trouble shoot but you had to have A, B and C batteries on hand and a collection of tubes.

You remember, the A batteries were used to heat up the filaments, the C Batteries were to provide Grid Bias and the B batteries were all connected to the Plates and powered the radio. Watch out, the B batteries were usually 135volts or higher and could give you a zap. Tube types were almost always triodes. You could tell which tubes were working by looking at the glow of the filaments.

Watch out, the tubes get HOT in normal use.

By the way the radio depicted above has a two stage RF amplifier, a detector stage followed by three stages of audio amplification. It used a UX – 201 for the RF amplifier stages and the 1st two stages of audio amplification.

The detector was a UX - 200 and the final audio amplifier is a UX -171. I must confess these part numbers are “before my time” , but the question to ask, do ANY of YOU REMEMBER?

The service manual to repair these radios suggested you look as these common failures in the order of probability.

- | | | |
|----|------------------------|--|
| 1. | Defective tube | They would leak and gradually burn out |
| 2. | Defective battery | Check electrolyte using a hydrometer |
| 3. | Loudspeaker connection | Intermittent connection |
| 4. | Burn out transformer | |

You must remember the cloth covered insulation they used in those days does not compare with modern wiring. They neglected to remind the serviceman to visually check the capacitors, often of wax paper construction and these can fail in either an open or short. They also suggest you check the wiring to the aerial, and ground connection (water pipe) as these may be broken. Tubes may light up but still be defective. Sometimes the wrong tube type may be used in a circuit. Homeowners would often remove and replace the tubes and not install them in the correct position.

I hope this bit of nostalgia brings back a few memories and perks an interest to “Tinker / Repair” that radio gem you find at the next Hamfest.

You take care

Charlie Scherger
KB8STV

NOTE: Schematic and drawing of radio from:
“*Radio Receivers and Servicing*“, International Textbook Company, 1928.

(Editor Note: This article submitted by Charlie was the second in a series. It was sent to me in a Word file. I have since found out Adobe doesn't particularly like Word and therefore I had a very difficult time “converting” it! Last month I tried to include his first in the series and totally “destroyed” the second page! This month the newsletter is being produced on the new computer and so far it's been OK! I hope to “master” the new publisher program in the next few months and hopefully I won't experience this problem again.)

Pioneer Amateur Radio Fellowship, Inc.



W8CTT



2012 DAYTON HAMVENTION BUS TRIP

Bus & Entrance ticket: \$65* before April 24, 2012

Bus Only: \$50* after April 24, 2012

(You will need to get your own Hamvention Entrance Ticket at gate \$25, or order by phone & have held at Will Call--possibly getting Advance \$20 price.)

Funds must be received by Club Treasurer by April 24th deadline:

Joy Spencer, KA8TDF
2101 Bigelow Street
Akron, OH 44314-2521

Name _____ Call Sign _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____

Email Address _____

(Email confirmation will be sent you upon receipt of your check.)

The charter bus company requires that we have emergency info on hand for each of our riders. After speaking with emergency personnel about "best case" info to have on hand, this is what they look for: (If carry such info with you or you prefer not to answer, please so note below.)

Emergency Contact Person _____ Their Phone # _____

Meds you are on _____

Allergies _____

*******For Office Use Only*******

Date Received _____ Amount Received _____ Confirmation Sent _____

April 2012

W8NP Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p style="font-size: 1.5em; color: #c00000;">1</p> <p style="color: #c00000;">April Fool's Day</p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; color: #c00000;">2</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; color: #c00000;">3</p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930</p> <p>Stark County ARES Net on 147.12 at 7:00 PM</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; color: #c00000;">4</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; color: #c00000;">5</p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; color: #c00000;">6</p> <p>Massillon Amateur Radio Club Meeting, Senior Center, Massillon, 2000</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; color: #c00000;">7</p>
<p style="font-size: 1.5em; color: #c00000;">8</p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; color: #c00000;">9</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; color: #c00000;">10</p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930</p> <p>Stark County ARES Net on 147.12 at 7:00 PM</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; color: #c00000;">11</p> <p>BD KC8QOC</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; color: #c00000;">12</p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; color: #c00000;">13</p> <p>West Stark Info Net - 147.180 at 2000</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; color: #c00000;">14</p> <p>Cuyahoga Falls ARC Hamfest Ctc: Ted, W8TTS @ 330-688-2013</p>
<p style="font-size: 1.5em; color: #c00000;">15</p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; color: #c00000;">16</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; color: #c00000;">17</p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930</p> <p>Stark County ARES Net on 147.12 at 7:00 PM</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; color: #c00000;">18</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; color: #c00000;">19</p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; color: #c00000;">20</p> <p>West Stark Info Net - 147.180 at 2000</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; color: #c00000;">21</p> <p>Jackson County Amateur Radio Club Hamfest, Jackson, OH, CTC: Darrell 740-229-9653</p>
<p style="font-size: 1.5em; color: #c00000;">22</p> <p>BD KC8HU BD KC8NSE Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; color: #c00000;">23</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; color: #c00000;">24</p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930</p> <p>Stark County ARES Net on 147.12 at 7:00 PM</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; color: #c00000;">25</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; color: #c00000;">26</p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; color: #c00000;">27</p> <p>West Stark Info Net - 147.180 at 2000</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; color: #c00000;">28</p> <p>BD K8XAF MS Walk - Massillon</p>

<p style="font-size: 1.5em; color: #c00000;">29</p> <p>Athens Hamfest Ctc: William, WD8RIF @ 740-593-7176</p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930</p> <p>Two Rivers ARC Hamfest, at The Spectrum in Boston, PA., www.trarc.net</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; color: #c00000;">30</p>	<p>Upcoming Events: May 6 - Jackson Hamfest, Ripley, WV</p> <p>May 12 - Canton / Massillon ARC VE Test</p> <p>May 18 - 20 - Dayton Hamvention</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">Mar 2012</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; font-size: 0.7em;"> <thead> <tr style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;"> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">May 2012</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; font-size: 0.7em;"> <thead> <tr style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;"> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		
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MASSILLON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P.O. BOX 73
MASSILLON, OHIO 44648

FIRST CLASS MAIL

TO:



75 Years in existence 1927-2002



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