



FEEDBACK

VOLUME 60 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2015

MASSILLON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OFFICERS

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**MRN NET Sundays 8:00 PM
3599.5 MHz**

**WEST STARK INFO NET
Fridays 8:00 PM 147.18
MHz
(except 1st Fri of month)**

CONTENTS

Secretary Report	2
N8ATZ Column	3
SSCARS	4
Humor	4
KB2GSD Article	5
Repeater Article	6
ARRL News	7
MARC Picture Page	8
Calendar by K8INN	9
MARC Back Page	10

APRIL MEETING

The meeting for the month of April will be held on April 3, 2015 at the Massillon Senior Center at 8:00 PM. Doors will open at 7:00 PM.

Spring has finally sprung ?? As I write this it's the first day of spring. (March 20) and it's snowing outside. Temperature is about 32—33 degrees. The snow is sticking to the grass but not the roads. It's a wet , slushy type of snow. I can't see my daffodils sticking up as yet but they will be coming up real soon . Especially if it warms up a little ! And if it warms up that means a little antenna repair is in order, not only for me but for hams in general. My dipole need a little attention. The rope holding the end is becoming frayed and needs replaced. The rest of the antenna system looks good.

I've been hearing on two meters of other projects in the works so good luck to them and I hope it warms up real soon so they can get them going. If you have a project and would like to show it off let me know and I will be glad to print your pictures here in the pages of Feedback ! I am always looking for interesting pictures and stories to print for all to see ! See you at the meeting !

PROGRAM FOR APRIL

The program for the month of April will be a visit from our Section Manager Mr. Scott Yonally, N8SY.(From ARRL web site)

Hi, I'm Scott... I became licensed in January, 1979 as a Novice. I had one of those unusual new fangled KA8 calls that really stuck out. I was licensed as KA8DWI. Don't worry, I've heard it all. Yes, I did have a call letter plate with that call on it. It now resides in my garage. In 1980 I upgraded to General and in 1982 I upgraded again, this time to Advanced and became KC8SS. In January, 2000 I took and passed the exam for Amateur Extra.. I had retained my KC8SS call for a short time after that, but a few friends soon convinced me to change the call to my initials and hence the call of "N8SY". I feel really lucky to have had two elmers in my ham life. The first one inspired me to become a ham in the first place, my brother Gary, WA8BIW (SK). He and I would spend hours in his basement building all sorts of Heathkit equipment for our enjoyment. This became such a part of my life over the years that it fast became a family night for Gary and me and our wives as well. My Wife Janie is also licensed and her call is KB8YPW. She has decided to be one of those "quiet hams", you know, 100% listening to the radio occasionally, and "0" percent operating. The second elmer I had was Joe Phillips, K8QOE (SK), formerly Ohio's Section Manager who inspired me to become the best newsletter editor/publisher that I could be. I've held many positions both locally, as well as for the Ohio Section and Great Lakes Division over my 30+ years as being a ham operator. I currently serve as the Section Manager for Ohio. I have enjoyed serving in these many different capacities. I hope that you enjoy being a ham as much as I have and will give back a portion of your time and talents to the betterment of the Amateur Radio Art. For now, 73, Scott.. Want to contact me??

n8sy@n8sy.com

MARC Minutes March, 2015

President Ralph K8HSQ opened the meeting at 8:00 PM and after the Pledge of Allegiance, there was a role call, with 34 persons present. Ralph also acknowledged our newest member Dan Fouts, no call yet but soon to come. Welcome Dan!

Motion to accept last month's minutes:

Ralph asked if there were any corrections or additions to the January's Secretary's report that was sent to all members via e-mail. There was one correction to the callsign of Jerry, KC8BR which was incorrect in the original minutes. Ralph then asked for a motion to accept the report.

Motion by Lee KD8UEA, second by Dan Fouts (NC). Motion passed.

Treasurers Report:

Gary WC8W gave a detailed financial report for the club, and stated that our expenses this month were much less than for last month, since so many bills come due at the beginning of the year. There were no corrections that were needed to last month's report, and a motion to accept the report was made by Gene W8KXR and seconded by Lee KD8UEA. Motion passed.

VP Report by Terry, N8ATZ

Terry reminded everyone that there are several flyers from various clubs available at the table to read. The Cuyahoga Falls ARC will be sponsoring a "2 Meter FM Simplex Squares Contest" on April 25 and 26. Flyers were available at the table for more information. Hamfests will be held by the Toledo (TMRC) Sunday, March 15th at Owens Community College, Student Health and Activity Center, 8:00AM until 2:00PM.

Gallipolis MOVARC (Mid Ohio Valley Amateur Radio Club) will hold a hamfest on Saturday, March 28 at the Gallipolis Christian Church from 8:00 AM until 2:00 PM.

Skywarn training this year will be held at the Emergency Operations Center on Monday, March 23rd and Thursday, March 26th. Registration at 6:00PM and webinar starts at 6:30PM. Reservations must be made in advance. Contact Terry N8ATZ if you plan to attend.

VE testing will be held Saturday, March 7th at the Stark County EOC, with registration starting at 8:00AM and testing at 9:00AM.

Terry then announced birthdays for the month. There were 5 people having birthdays in March.

Gene W8KXR donated that latest QST Magazine with the annual Antenna Special to the club.

The mentoring program will hold its next session Saturday, March 7 here at the club, with people building their tape-measure beams. Doors open at 8:00AM and class starts at 9:00AM. The theme of the mentoring sessions is directed towards "fox-hunting" using the attenuators and beams that have been built.

The next mentoring program is scheduled for April 11th. Don Wade W8DEA is planning to give a presentation about how fox hunting is related to search-and-rescue operations after which a fox hunt will be conducted.

Gary WC8W mentioned that the Tech Class is scheduled to start Friday, March 20, and will be held at the same time as Perry's W8AU code class. Cost is about \$20/person. Contact Gary if you plan to attend.

Old Business:

There were no old business items to discuss, but Terry mentioned that the club's Special Service Club status paperwork has been filed with the ARRL, and he expects it to be approved.

New Business:

Gary WC8W mentioned that the club's copy machine is not working, and a lot of discussion followed about whether to purchase a used machine from the Senior Center or pursue some other way to make copies. It is felt that a laser scanner/copier might be the best way to go, since the machine will sit idle for long periods. James KD8VT will work with Gary to get some prices and options.

Jennifer Andrews KB3GXB and Melody Mulhair then made a short presentation about their efforts to organize a "Fun Run" to generate interest in and funds for establishing an Amateur Radio Club at Stark State. They are looking for volunteers to help with communications as well as generate interest for the run, which is scheduled for Thursday, April 30th. Jennifer is going to e-mail additional info to Wade WD8MIU.

50:50 Raffle:

The 50-50 was won by Mike, KD8OTK

With business concluded, Ralph asked for a motion to close the meeting. 1st Jim WA8GXM, Second by Joe WD8BGW. Motion passed.

Ralph closed the meeting at approximately 8:40PM.

After a break for coffee and snacks, John N8CD gave an excellent and informative discussion regarding cross-band operation. John demonstrated the techniques involved with a portable unit that he set up at the club. John emphasized that there are a lot of pitfalls that you must be aware of when using cross-band, and offered a lot of good advice to prevent interference to or from others using the bands. Good job John! The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:40PM.

Many thanks to those who helped in the kitchen with the coffee, soda and snacks!

Submitted by Fred KD8SMO

... WELCOME TO DIGITAL RADIO ...

The April edition of QST Magazine includes a very informative article that covers the current technology formats used in digital VHF communications today. Most of you know by now that the club recently upgraded our repeater technology by purchasing two of the new Yaesu System Fusion repeaters. We know have one operating on the club's 147.18 Repeater and the other on our UHF System on 442.85.

Over the last several months, the repeater technical committee has been learning this new technology, making adjustments as needed to get the best results we all enjoy. We believe the 2 meter system is working as good if not better than our old GE analog system. The coverage pattern is even better than expected and should provide superior reliability. Of course one of the reasons to upgrade was so that we could enter the realm of digital communications, both in voice and data. Amateurs have always been at the for front of new technology and thanks to incentive pricing for clubs, we are also moving forward in digital voice technology. But we always know we didn't want to abandon our rock solid analog systems entirely. That was the main reason for choosing the Yaesu system. The Fusion repeater is the only available system that supports both digital and analog voice technology. We enjoy the best of both.

Analog voice repeaters have been the gold standard since the technology was introduced in the 1970's. We all have radio's that operate this way, both in hand-helds and mobile's and base radio's. But now we can take the next step and experiment with digital audio. Yes, this means purchasing new radios and currently Yaesu is the only provider of compatible C4FM digital radio's and are somewhat expensive. But like all new technology, I'm sure prices will fall as new compatible radios are developed.

by the membership.

The new repeaters are catching on, we know that the Wooster radio club has several and the Canton ARC has upgraded their 146.79 Repeater as well. I also hope to upgrade the county ARES Repeater on 147.12 Mhz as well this summer. Many club members have already purchased new Yaesu radio's. I recently went with the new FTM-400 mobile radio.

Using digital C4FM is different and takes a bit to get used to. Digital voice sounds like a buzzing sound on analog equipment. To help with this problem, placing your radio in full PL Tone encode and decode will mute the noise. To also keep noise to a minimum, all of our digital communications will take place on simplex and using the clubs UHF Repeater.

I encourage you to have a look at the article in QST to learn more about this new communications technology and make up your own mind. We know it won't be for everyone, but the future of communications is here and we hope you will join us and have some fun with this new repeater system !

... HAMFEST UPDATE ...

I have already completed the process to seek ARRL approval of our annual hamfest this October. Once the application is reviewed by our Great Lakes Director and the Ohio Section Manager, we should hear back from the League. ARRL approval will include our hamfest listing in QST Magazine and we will receive some very nice hamfest gift certificates to give away as prizes.

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

73's
Terry – N8ATZ
HAMFEST !



On Fri, Mar 20, 2015 at 4:27 PM, jennifer andrews
<jandrews0322@starkstate.net> wrote:

Good afternoon Gentlemen,

Here is the information i discussed with you earlier this month at the monthly club meetings that myself and my VP, Melody Mulhair had attended.

S.S.C.A.R.S. is the radio club at Stark State. We are having a color run at Stark State main campus on April 30th. There are 7 water stops that need attended. There are also two color blasting areas that need covered as well. We, as the licensed few, will be covering these positions. I, myself, will be in constant contact with the water stations, the color blaster stations, and the non-licensed crew that will be assisting as well.

As it looks at the moment, I am in need of several volunteers. I am going to need roughly 2 licensed people for the color blasting positions. I am going to need roughly 7 for the water stations. I am going to be also needing someone to sit at our Registration Table and man the "Base Station" we are going to have set up.

Whatever help I receive from both clubs will be greatly appreciated... Plus, there will a special meeting after the event at 1600hrs for those who will have come and helped out.

PLEASE BLAST THIS THROUGH BOTH OF YOUR CLUBS!!

THANKS IN ADVANCE!

Also, please email me a list of call signs and names of those members who are wishing to volunteer and help us out!

Jennifer Andrews, President of S.S.C.A.R.S.
330-907-4957
jla2015@outlook.com
jandrews0322@starkstate.net

HUMOR

He comes into the office from nobody knows where
where,

Without an introduction, but why should he care;
Pulls off his coat and hat and sits in the agents chair,
And from his pill inhales some smoke to purify the air;
A letter from the chief he holds to present To Mr. Agent,
In the politest way he can, saying was sent there to act as –
The Ham.

A couple days have passed away – he knows the force
from A to Z.

And says to himself: “this job suits me.”

He makes change from the money drawer that’s in the op-
erator’s care.

And sells tickets to the ladies, then brushes back his hair;
He doesn’t care when the check is made, if it happens to
come out short,

For he knows the “Op’s” a sport, and and wouldn’t lay
such a trifle

On the head of – The Ham.

He pounds on the brass, and turns at the screws
To adjust the sound and rattling and the key so he can use.
The operator’s busy and of sudden comes a call which
says: “I want your 89 and you’re now behind them all.”
Which the operator succeeds in sending after readjusting
all the screws.

Next, the dispatcher calls and you have to stand to the
fone:

He starts out with an order, hardly giving you time to
think;

Your reach for and order blank and over goes the ink.
The instrument’s going “clickety click” and you can
hardly hear;

Then you each for your chair and finally succeed in get-
ting it after pulling Ham by the ear.

You break the dispatcher and he crabs for a farewell,
And you sit like a dove and take the blame,

Which really should go to – The Ham.

You ask him to work the train when you’re as busy as can
be,

Or ask him to bring in some coal which is for your good as
he;

But he won’t turn a hand and says; “Why ask such foolish
thing of me

When is was sent here as – The Ham

How Walter Cronkite, KB2GSD, became an Amateur Radio Operator

Steve Mendelsohn, W2ML, was Cronkite's radio engineer at CBS for many years. "I had many chances to discuss my favorite hobby, ham radio, with the world's most



trusted anchor man," Steve reported. "Gradually, his interest increased, but on finding that he had to pass a Morse code test, he balked, saying it was too hard for him; however, he told me he had purchased a receiver and listened to the Novice bands every night for a few minutes."

At the CBS Radio Network, Walter would arrive 10 minutes before we went on the air to read his script aloud, make corrections for his style of grammar and just 'get in the mood' to do the show. In those days Rich Moseson, W2VU, was the producer of a show called "In the News," a 3 minute television show for children voiced by CBS Correspondent Christopher Glenn. On this day, Rich was at the Broadcast Center to record Chris' voice for his show and had dropped by my control room to discuss some upcoming ARRL issues." At the time, Mendelsohn was the ARRL Hudson Division Director.

"When Walter walked into the studio, I started to set the show up at the behest of our director, Dick Muller, WA2DOS," Mendelsohn recalled. "In setting up the tape recorders, I had to send tone to them and make sure they were all at proper level. Having some time, I grabbed "The New York Times" and started sending code with the tone key on the audio console. For 10 minutes I sent code and noticed Walter had turned his script over and was copying it.

We went to air, as we did every day, at 4:50 PM and after we were off, Walter brought his script into the control room. Neatly printed on the back was the text I had sent with the tone key. Rich and I looked at the copy, he nodded, and I told Walter that he had just passed the code test. He laughed and asked when the formal test was, but I reminded him that it took two general class licensees to validate the test and he had just passed the code. Several weeks later he passed the written test and the FCC issued KB2GSD to the most trusted anchorman in

America."

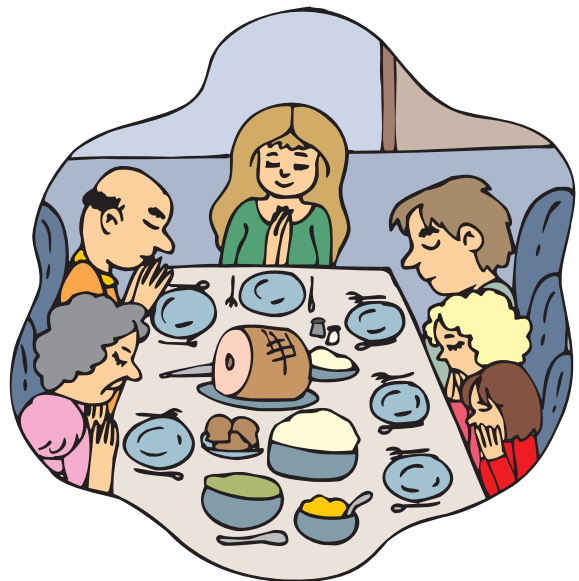
Mendelsohn helped Cronkite make his first Amateur Radio contact:

"Having passed the licensing test, Walter was now ready to get on the air. His first QSO was on 10 meters about 28.390 MHz. He was nervous and I called him on the phone to talk him through his first experience.

As we talked on the air, a ham from the Midwest came on and called me.

Acknowledging him, I asked the usual questions about where he was from, wanting to give Walter a bit of flavor of what the hobby was about. I turned it over to Walter, and following his introduction, the gentleman in the Midwest said, 'That's the worst Walter Cronkite imitation I've ever heard.'

I suggested that maybe it was Walter and the man replied, 'Walter Cronkite is not even a ham, and if he was, he certainly wouldn't be here on 10 meters.' Walter and I laughed for weeks at that one."



+++ How the ARRL Repeater Directory is Developed +++

There is quite a bit of confusion and misunderstanding among amateurs about how ARRL Repeater Director listings of repeaters are developed and who develops these. To begin this brief discussion, I will say that ARRL has nothing to do with developing repeater listings that appear in The Directory. So how is it developed?

To sum the process, it is repeater frequency coordinator groups that provide the information to ARRL. For example, in Ohio, it is the Ohio Repeater Council that provides the information. So what does ARRL do to the information in publishing it in the Directory?

For all intents and purposes, ARRL does nothing to the information. It is published, in essence, as it is received from the coordinator. This includes using the format in which the information is presented to ARRL. This is the reason that information for some states is published by regions of the state and others by the city. ARRL does not tamper with the information that is presented to it. This also means that states that have an active repeater council are typically as up-to-date as practical; whereas, the information for other states may often be somewhat out-of-date.

What ARRL does add; however, is useful information including the names and contact information of frequency coordinators, discussion of good operating practices and amateur radio band plans that relate to repeaters.

The message is that any inquiries or comments about which repeater is coordinated for which frequency, how to coordinate a repeater and obtaining correction of outdated information should be directed to the relevant repeater coordinator. This person can be found at www.arrl.org/frequency-coordinators -- provided the repeater council has kept ARRL up-to-date on he identity and contact information for the repeater coordinator.

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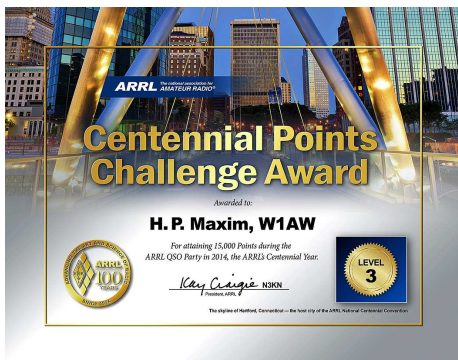
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ARRL Centennial Points Challenge, W1AW WAS Awards Application Window Open

03/25/2015

The [window](#) to apply for ARRL Centennial Points Challenge and W1AW Worked All States [awards](#) is now open! The ARRL Centennial operating events were hugely successful, with participation way beyond anyone's expectations.



"This was the biggest on-the-air operation in the history of Amateur Radio," ARRL Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer, WJ1B, said. More than 5.5 million Centennial event contacts were recorded in Logbook of The World ([LoTW](#)) during 2014. That number includes contacts with W1AW portable operations as well as those with individual ARRL members and Field Organization volunteers. W100AW completed about 70,000 contacts.

For most applicants, the process will be simple and largely automated, explained Norm Fusaro, W3IZ, Assistant Manager, Field Services and Radiosport Department.

"The form will auto-populate, if we have your information on file, and the form can be edited to update name and address information only," Fusaro said. "The system will select the awards for which you qualify. Certificates will be printed daily, so fulfillment will be ongoing, while plaques will be shipped directly from the supplier." Fusaro said ARRL Headquarters has hired extra staff members to handle the added workload.

Certificates will be available for the Centennial Points Challenge Award, while W1AW WAS Award participants will have the option of a certificate or a plaque. Certificates are \$16, and plaques are \$60.

Fusaro said the task of checking and double-checking electronic logs, entering paper logs into LoTW, and resolving various anomalies put an unexpected burden on staff resources and delayed the opening of the awards window. ARRL Headquarters also had to recalculate all submitted scores to come up with final tallies.

"It's been a very time and staff-intensive process, researching busted call signs and running down claimed contacts and mode discrepancies for operators," Fusaro said.

Centennial Points Challenge logs must have been submitted through LoTW by January 22, but participants may apply for Centennial operating awards indefinitely. The system automati-

cally looks for points-qualifying QSOs from submitted logs and applies them to each participant's Centennial Points Challenge total. While most Centennial QSO Party participants entered their contact information into LoTW, operators do not have to use LoTW to apply for Points Challenge certificates or W1AW WAS awards.

Qualifying for the Top Level Award requires 15,000 points. The Third Level Award requires 7500 points, while the Second and First Level awards require 3000 and 1000 points, respectively. Point totals will be printed on certificates.

US stations that worked W1AW/p and W100AW during the Centennial may request QSL cards via the [Incoming QSL Service](#) on the Centennial QSO Party web page. This is a one-time only use of the QSL Bureau for this purpose, and those who want to receive cards via the Bureau should ensure that their accounts are sufficiently funded, because cards will not be held. Cards destined for stations outside the US will be sent via the QSL Bureau. Participants also may request cards directly, providing one SASE for up to six cards per envelope.

W1AW/p and W100AW will not confirm every contact on the traditional paper QSL cards, but will confirm QSOs for each mode and on most bands on a single card for each weekly operation

Vibroplex Purchases Bencher Amateur Radio Product Line

03/19/2015

Bencher Inc has announced the sale of its Amateur Radio product line to [Vibroplex LLC](#) of Knoxville, Tennessee, owned by Scott Robbins, W4PA.



"This sale ends Bencher's presence in the Amateur Radio field, thus allowing the principals, Jere Benedict, President, and Bob Locher, W9KNI, to move towards retirement," the announcement said.

Product lines included in the sale include the Bencher BY series of iambic paddles as well as the ST series of single-lever paddles, the Bencher Hex Paddle, the N2DAN Mercury Paddle, and the Bencher RJ series hand keys. The sale also includes the HK-1 Universal Hook-up kit and the YA-1 Low Pass Filter.

Vibroplex has agreed to honor the manufacturer's warranties and to provide parts and support, and it will continue offering Bencher products through existing marketing channels.

Benedict and Locher expressed "gratitude to the Amateur Radio community for its interest and support since the sale of the first Bencher Amateur Radio products in the early 1970s."

MARC MENTORING ANTENNA BUILDING PROJECT



Picture above shows Dan N8DZM leading the way for the tape measure antenna building project



Picture above is Wade WD8MIU working on his tape measure antenna project. Soldering the elements look hard but Wade makes it look easy !

NEXT MENTORING CLASS MAY 4, 2015; 9:00 am AT THE SENIOR CENTER



The final Test. Here Tomas, KC8ZEH, (L) gets his tape measure antenna tested to make sure it is operating to an optimum degree.



Finished ! The group pauses for a final picture with their instructor Dan, N8DZM, Pictured from L- R is: Wade WD8MIU, Dan N8DZM, Tomas , KC8ZEH, Jeff K8JAG and Alan , AC8RY

(Pictures Thanks to John N8CD)

April 2015

W8NP Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																										
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<p style="font-size: 2em; color: #800080;">5</p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5 kHz, 1930</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: #800080;">6</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: #800080;">7</p> <p>Stark County ARES Net on 147.12 at 7:00 PM</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: #800080;">8</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: #800080;">9</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: #800080;">10</p> <p>West Stark Info Net - 147.180 at 2000</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: #800080;">11</p> <p>BD K8GMG</p> <p>Cuyahoga Falls ARC Hamfest Ctc: Ted, W8TTS, 234-206-0270</p> <p>Two Rivers ARC Hamfest, Boston, PA, Ctc: Roger, 412-203-2015</p>																																																																																										
<p style="font-size: 2em; color: #800080;">12</p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5 kHz, 1930</p> <p>Two Rivers ARC Hamfest, Boston, PA, Ctc: Roger, 412-203-2015</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: #800080;">13</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: #800080;">14</p> <p>Stark County ARES Net on 147.12 at 7:00 PM</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: #800080;">15</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: #800080;">16</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: #800080;">17</p> <p>West Stark Info Net - 147.180 at 2000</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: #800080;">18</p> <p>Drumlins ARC Hamfest, Palmyra, NY, Ctc: David, 315-597-4293</p>																																																																																										
<p style="font-size: 2em; color: #800080;">19</p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5 kHz, 1930</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: #800080;">20</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: #800080;">21</p> <p>Stark County ARES Net on 147.12 at 7:00 PM</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: #800080;">22</p> <p>BD KC8IUU</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: #800080;">23</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: #800080;">24</p> <p>West Stark Info Net - 147.180 at 2000</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: #800080;">25</p> <p>Jackson County ARC Hamfest, Jackson, OH, Ctc: Roman, 740-710-0174</p>																																																																																										
<p style="font-size: 2em; color: #800080;">26</p> <p>Athens Hamfest Ctc: Eric, 740-593-7176</p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5 kHz, 1930</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: #800080;">27</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: #800080;">28</p> <p>BD K8DA</p> <p>Stark County ARES Net on 147.12 at 7:00 PM</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: #800080;">29</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: #800080;">30</p>	<p>Upcoming Events:</p> <p>May 2 - Jackson Hamfest, Ripley, WV</p> <p>May 9 - Canton / Massillon ARC VE Test</p> <p>May 15 - 17 - Dayton Hamvention</p>																																																																																											

Please contact K8INN for updates, changes, or additions.

**MASSILLON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P.O. BOX 73
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Published by the Massillon Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 73, Massillon Ohio 44648. The Club meetings are the first Friday of every month (except January) at 8:00 PM at the Massillon Senior Citizens Building at 39 Lincoln Way West, Massillon, Ohio