



# FEEDBACK

**VOLUME 61 ISSUE 8**

**AUGUST 2016**

**MASSILLON AMAATEUR  
RADIO CLUB OFFICERS**

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

**CONTENTS**

Secretary Report -----2  
N8ATZ Column -----3  
ARRL News -----4  
KC8RKU Obit -----5  
KC8RKU Estate Sale -----5  
Breaking News; AES -----6  
MAPS Event -----6  
KB6NU Column -----7  
More ARRL News -----8  
K8INN Calendar -----9  
MARC Back Page -----10

**AUGUST MEETING**

The meeting for the month of August will be held on August 5th, 2016 at The Affinity Hospital Conference room # 1 ( East side of hospital, main entrance) at 8:00 PM doors open at 7:30 PM

As promised here is the recap for this year's Field Day. The weather was great although a little warm with temps in the high 80's or low 90's with little rain this year. But that still didn't deter problems. First we needed a CW operator this year. Igor was absent because of family problems and Perry had all he could do to make contacts on poor band conditions. Only 40 meters proved reliable As a result the CW station remained empty alot of the time.

Then there was the problem with the phone station. It also had poor band conditions but it was a little better on 20 meters and 40 meters. Problems soon surfaced with the Icom itself. Seemed it lost contacts , stations were just not hearing us even on the beam. It was found out to be a bad jumper. After it was fixed, things worked a little better, but not by much ! I'm thinking it will require time in the repair shop ! Or simply replace it. We have two perfectly good rigs just sitting up in the shack at the Senior Center gathering dust . We sure could use them ! In the next column is the score for this year's Field Day .

**2016 FIELD DAY SCORES**

80 CW QSO'S ----- 23  
40 M -----71  
20M -----23

80 m PHONE -----16  
40M -----84  
20M -----85  
6M -----13  
2M -----1

**NO GOTA STATION THIS YEAR**

Total CW QSO's ----- 117  
Total Digital QSO's -----00  
Total Phone QSO's -----199

TOTAL QSO points -----433

X 2 Power multiplier -----= 866

Claimed Score = 866

Total Bonus Points claimed -----800  
(will explain at meeting)

Grand total Estimated Points -----1666  
(final determination by League)

Last year score -----2908

In spite of all the problems we had this year, we did not do all that bad , all things considered. We did come away with a decent score (thank goodness for Bonus Points !) and we are not "in the cellar" ! The Grand Total is not the final score. That is to be determined by the ARRL after checking over the paper work and the Bonus points as well. Final score will be printed in The December QST.

## MARC Minutes July 1, 2016

President Ralph K8HSQ, opened the meeting at 8:00 PM, and after the Pledge of Allegiance, there was a role call, with 33 persons present.

### Acceptance of last month's minutes:

Ralph asked if there were any changes or additions to last month's meeting notes. None being heard, a motion to accept the report was made by Mike WA8MKH and seconded by Don W8DEA. Motion passed.

### Treasurer's Report:

Gary WC8W then gave a detailed report on club finances. Gary asked any members who need reimbursed for Field Day expenses to turn them in ASAP or they may not be paid. Gary mentioned that he paid the final ATT bill due to control of the repeater now possible with a UHF link, so the telephone line has been disconnected. No financial questions being asked, a motion to accept the report was made by Tony KD8UXK and seconded by Mike Urban., KE8CKL. Motion passed.

### VP Report:

Terry mentioned that there were club flyers at the table from the Lake Erie ARC and the Dayton ARC for anyone to read. Birthdays this month were Dave KB8NKD, Gary WC8W, and Doris WD8IKC. Hamfests this month are 20over9 in Austintown Sunday, July 10<sup>th</sup>. Elyria NOARS on Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup> and Van Wert Sunday, July 17.

### Committee Reports:

Repeater report by Jim WA8GXM. No changes have been made to the repeaters. Mentoring program...Wade WD8MIU mentioned that if we continue to meet at Affinity, a program will begin in January. If we decide to move back to the Senior Center, plans will be made depending on the availability and cost of holding the meetings there.

### Old Business:

Chris KD8TNF offered to add Field Day pictures to the QRZ site. If you have any pictures that might be applicable, e-mail them to Chris. We can also add videos to our YouTube site as well.

Wade WD8MIU also mentioned that volunteers are needed for the annual Community Parade and the HOF parade. There can never be too many helpers at these large parades. Contact Wade if you can help with the HOF (Saturday in August 6), and Terry if you can help with the Community Parade (Sunday July 24).

Terry mentioned that we have made progress in getting permission to hold our annual hamfest at the Boys and Girls Club. This is great news, and thank you Terry for your efforts in getting this matter resolved. Now is also the time to start thinking about what prizes to offer at the hamfest. What we have done in the past seems to work well, but Terry asked that anyone with new ideas should contact him, and the hamfest committee can take them under consideration.

Some discussion of Field Day followed, with several pros and cons. The pavilion and the surroundings were good, but there is some power line noise from the nearby high tension lines. There are a lot of ideas in play for next year. One site that was brought up was the KOC site. There is a large pavilion, and the location is good. Before next year, there will have to be a good deal of work to decide where to have our Field Day. It looks like we have several good options to pursue.

Gary WC8W mentioned that the Icom-736 HF rig in the E. comm. Trailer doesn't seem to be working well. A lot of discussion followed about what the problem is. It could be the radio, or the antenna. This rig is not used except for field day, and the idea was made to exchange one of the rigs from the shack that is not being used. The executive committee will need to make a decision about exchange and/or getting the Icom serviced.

More discussion followed about the noise problem with the 147.18 repeater. There were many ideas about what the problem could be, and how to fix it. Ralph announced that a meeting of the executive board and the trustees will be held very soon, to decide on action.

### New Business:

No specific new items were brought up, but Ralph did ask the membership what they thought about our new meeting venue. There are pros and cons, one of them being the lack of kitchen facilities. A lot of discussion followed about the Senior Center and the shack that is located there. Nothing firm was decided, but this is definitely a concern to many members.

With business concluded Ralph asked for a motion to adjourn. First Mike WA8MKH, second Don W8DEA. Motion passed.

50:50 Raffle: The raffle was won by Tony, KD8UXK, who donated the proceeds back to the club. Thank you Tony!

After the meeting there was ice cream and toppings for everyone, with lots of good "eyeball" QSO's.

**Thank you Steve and Shirley and all the others who helped for providing refreshments!**

## ..... AUGUST MEETING UPDATE .....

The August meeting will be held on Friday, August 5th which is the night before the Hall of Fame Grand Parade. Again this year, many of our members will be assisting with parade communications very early on Saturday morning. To accommodate those folks, there will be no formal program this month. They will resume in September and we promise something fun !

## ..... KUDO'S ...

Time for a few thank you's from your Vice-President and Activities Director. First up Field Day. Thanks to solid planning by many people, this years Field Day exercise was another success. Yes, we had a few problems during the weekend but not many even considering our new location for this year. But I want to express my thanks to everyone who participated this year. From setup to operating and everything in between, I hope a great time was had by all.

The move to our new site just down the hill took a little getting used to but overall I think it went over pretty good. I heard lots of folks say it was a nice change and wouldn't mind holding it there again next year. A Field Day Site Selection Committee had been looking into other locations throughout the area and there were a few maybe's but for various reasons they didn't work out. We would prefer holding it in the Massillon area but we are open to all ideas. We did realize a new site needed to have a few a few must haves. 1.) A Bathroom, 2.) A covered pavillion and 3.) sufficient area for parking our trailer and antenna's. Just in case I have instructed Gary to again reserve Petros Park for 2017 in the event we don't secure a new location.

And lest we not forget the great Field Day Feast we enjoyed this year. Learning from last year thanks to Shirley we still enjoyed burgers, hot dogs and chicken that was prepared off site.

Lots of great side dishes and desserts thanks to the YL's and XYL's rounded out dinner. Give yourself a round of applause, you did a great job !

Then in July we enjoyed a great Family Night at the club with our now annual Ice Cream Social. Another strong attendance for a meeting and again thanks to the many club members who brought out more toppings. What is usually a stuffy business meeting turned out to be the social event of the summer !

Again my sincere thanks to everyone who assisted with this fun event. I say we do it again next year ! All in favor say aye !

## .....OHIO QSO PARTY .....

If you're in the mood for a little late summer contesting why not consider operating the annual Ohio QSO Party? This year's Ohio QSO Party (OhQP) is on Saturday August 27th. Mark your calendars and join the fun!

The 2016 OhQP will start on August 27th at 1600z and runs 12 hours until August 23th at 0400z - for Ohioans, that's local noon to local midnight, EDT. Some slight changes have been made for this years event, mostly in the exchange. Suggested frequencies are: CW: 3545, 7045, 14,045, 21,045, 28,045 kHz; SSB 3825, 7200, 14,250, 21,300, and 28,450 kHz.

Full details and an OhQP Operating Guide can be found on the OhQP website at: [www.ohqp.org/](http://www.ohqp.org/) Check the rules for some minor changes, and the addition of 2 new mults.

If there is enough interest, we will even consider opening up the club shack and operating part of the QSO Party from there. Let us know if you would like to operate from the shack !

## .... 2016 SET Report ....

The results of the 2015 ARRL Simulated Emergency Test were announced in the July issue of *QST* Magazine and the Ohio Section scored third in ARES activity in the US with 4,317 points. Ohio has always had strong participation in this annual event.

Stark County also participated in last years SET holding an emergency drill with other northeast Ohio sections on the 147.12 Mhz ARES Repeater placing us 17th in the state in scoring. The schedule for 2016 has not yet been posted but we hope to participate in this annual emergency exercise again this year.

That's it for this month. See you at the meeting !

**Terry, N8ATZ**

## ARRL NEWS

### Chatham Marconi Maritime Center Acquires "Creed Machine" from Georgia Radio Amateur

07/22/2016

ARRL member Gene Greneker, K4MOG, of Powder Springs, Georgia, recently fulfilled a dream for the [Chatham Marconi Maritime Center](#) museum — formerly WCC on Cape Cod — to add an important artifact to its collection. Greneker spotted a brief item in *QST* last year seeking a so-called "Creed machine" for the museum. While most ship-to-shore station traffic was conducted by skilled Morse operators at their keys, the Creed machine — or keyer — read a punched tape prepared in advance that generated one-way Morse code broadcasts to ships at sea.

"We have searched continuously for roughly 10 years for this artifact, following leads with historians, other museums, archivists, ham radio operators, collectors, and any other possible leads," said Chatham Marconi Maritime Center Operations Manager Dorothy Bassett. The mention in *QST*, resulting from a visit to the museum by ARRL Lab staffer Mike Gruber, W1MG, did the trick. Greneker spotted it and let Bassett know he had what she was seeking.

"Our members and supporters raised the funds, and we were

able to purchase the Creed machine, a custom table, and an entire exhibit to showcase this item and how it worked with our Kleinschmidt machine," Bassett recounted. The Kleinschmidt machine — or "Klein" — refers to the equipment used to create the punched "Wheatstone" tape, the narrow ribbon of heavy, perforated paper read by the Creed keyer.

Bassett said that once the exhibit is complete, the museum plans to install a button that visitors could push to start the machine, "so guests will get to hear the Creed working, see the tape move, and watch the pins and mechanics in action."

Greneker said the Creed machine is a rare find for a collector, and he obtained his when he and Fred Dorsey, WA4TDC, bought an entire lot of equipment that had been installed at WOE in Lantana, Florida. "Most of these stations only had one keyer to broadcast the traffic lists on the hour, and these were cut with the Wheatstone perforator," Greneker told Bassett. "Given that there were not that many shore-to-ship stations, not many Creed keyers were ever manufactured." Greneker said the machines were assembled by hand and expensive to purchase. He speculated that the Creed machine he donated may once have been at WCC.

"RCA was famous for taking old equipment from the flagship station (WCC) and sending it to the smaller stations (WOE) when they needed some item. The flagship station then got the new replacement equipment," he explained. Greneker explained that when shore station operators such as RCA closed those facilities, "the entire station was loaded up and carried to the dump, making the keyers almost impossible to find today."

Bassett said that museum volunteer Lewis Masson had worked for 35 years at the RCA station as a wireman, and the Creed machine was deeply important him. "Every time he came into work, he heard it running, and it was a tried and true part of the original atmosphere," she said. "This piece is very special to us, and I can't thank the ARRL enough for running the ad that secured procurement."



The Creed Machine (R)



The Creed Machine, a Closer look

## IN MEMORIAM

### LARRY SPENCER FIERSTOS

**KC8RKU December 23,1942—June 23, 2016**

It is with great regret we announce the passing of Larry Fierstos, KC8RKU, age 73 from Massillon, Ohio, passed after a lengthy illness while under the compassionate care of Altman Compassionate Care Center. He was born to the late Ethel (Humphrey) and Larry Fierstos. He was preceded in death by two brothers, Richard and William Fierstos and an infant son David Jude Fierstos.

Larry is survived by his wife, Paula (Podbielski) Fierstos to whom he has been married to for over 52 years. He is also survived by daughters Susan (Jerome) Markoch, Amy (Timothy) Ringley and son Mark (Megan) Fierstos. Four grandchildren; two sisters, and two brothers and many nieces and nephews. Larry is a retiree of over 40 years seniority at the Hoover Company where he enjoyed working as a technical group leader with engineers who launched the Elite automation project in 1988. He took real pride in overseeing operations of the automated front wheel assembly, brush lacing, agitator assembly, motor line and automate material handling systems. Larry was a member of St. Barbara's Roman Catholic Church; he loved singing in the choir and volunteering with the cleaning "Holy Dusters" committee. Larry was also a ham radio operator with the call sign KC8RKU and a dedicated member of the Massillon Amateur Radio Club. Larry also had a passion for wildlife, hiking, and photography.

Calling hours was held on June 26th for family and friends viewing. The Mass of Christian Burial was held on Monday June 27th, 2016 at St. Barbara's Roman Catholic Church. Viewing had taken place in the Narthex at St. Barbara's one hour before Mass.

The members of the Massillon Amateur Radio Club wish to extend their most sincere condolences to the Family of Larry Fierstos.

### FOR SALE From the Estate of KC8RKU



1 Yaesu FT 920 Transceiver NEW Condition HF + 50 MHz  
100 Watt, manuals . Asking \$ 890.00

1 Small MFJ antenna tuner Model MFJ 16010 & full limit MFJ  
Antenna tuner asking \$ 150.00 for both

1 Sony SW Radio \$ 240.00  
1 Sony SW radio \$ 140.00

1 Icom IC V8000 2 M radio \$ 100.00

1 Astron RS 35M Power Supply \$ 150.00  
1 Small 3 amp Power supply \$ 20.00

1 Radio Shack Frequency counter \$ 75.00

1 Uniden Handheld CB /W weather band \$ 60.00

2 Radio Shack 49 MHz FRS Radios \$ 30.00

1 Yaesu FT 60R 2M/ 440 Transceiver \$ 100.00 (note: ALL

Handhelds have not been used in some time & can't guarantee battery condition) .

1 MFJ 934 Antenna Tuner/ Artificial Ground New ! \$ 175.00

1 Radio Shack Light duty antenna rotator looks new ! \$ 75.00

1 13 B2 2 Meter Antenna beam /W all coax & connectors,  
chimney mount / W Extra hardware. Telescoping pole all  
looks new ! You take down! Asking \$ 270.00 for all! Will  
negotiate ! If you take all , will include Antenna rotator .

5 or 6 various size led-acid cell batteries. Will have grab bag of  
jumpers, PL 259 connectors, etc

Many more items too numerous to mention here.  
Please call Gary Kline WC8W [330/844-6371](tel:3308446371) or  
[330/323-3678](tel:3303233678) or e mail to : [wc8w@sssnet.com](mailto:wc8w@sssnet.com) .



## BREAKING NEWS



### Amateur Electronic Supply (AES) Going Out of Business

Amateur Electronic Supply (AES) has announced that it is ceasing operations as of the end of July, 2016.

The Milwaukee-based retailer has four locations around the country, including Milwaukee; Cleveland (Wickliffe), Ohio; Las Vegas, Nevada and Orlando, Florida. It has long been the nation's second-largest ham radio dealer, after Ham Radio Outlet. No reason was given for the decision to close the business.



**AES FOR THE WONDERFUL YEARS YOU SERVED US !**

This event is coming up very soon.



Please plan on visiting MAPS Air Museum during this very special event.

Friday August 12 through Sunday August 14, 2016 will be a very special weekend at MAPS Air Museum. We will host the Collings Foundation Wings of Freedom Tour for the second year in a row.



## KB6NU REPORT

### Readability Reports

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

I'm big on Twitter. It connects me to a lot of interesting amateur radio operators, and I find a lot of food for thought there. Yesterday, I saw the following Tweet:

Charlie M0PZT @M0PZT

Blog updated: RST and Speed Matters <http://www.m0pzt.com/blog/rst-and-speed-matters/>  
#hamradio

Being a CW geek, of course I was interested. Charlie's point is that if you get a bad report, you probably should send more slowly. I certainly have no argument with that. What I do take a little bit of an issue with is that Charlie says, "A Readability 4 report should really make it known that information needs to be brief, but repeated". Certainly no ANT/RIG/WX waffle!

According to most sources, Readability 4 means, "Readable with practically no difficulty." When I receive an R4 report, I might slow down a little, but it doesn't mean to me that I have to cut the contact short or repeat information over and over. I replied on Twitter that if the operator at the receiving station is having so much trouble copying, then the report should probably be 319 or even 219.

Of course, RST reports are open to interpretation. With that in mind, I thought I'd explain a little more fully how I decide what Readability report to give:

R5: Perfectly readable. To me, this means that copying a signal is no work at all, and that it sounds like it's coming out of a code practice oscillator. I can put my feet up on the desk or putter around the shack while I'm ragchewing with the other operator.

R4: Readable with practically no difficulty. "Practically no difficulty" is the key phrase here. There may be some QRN or QSB on this signal, and I have to pay some attention while copying. An R4 is still solid copy, though, and ragchewing is definitely possible.

R3: Readable with considerable difficulty. A signal that rates an R3 needs my full attention. I have to work at copying the signal, and even then, might miss characters here and there. Even though I don't copy every single character, I'm able to fill in the gaps. An R3 signal might not be good enough for a ragchew, and repeating information is probably a good idea.

R2: Barely readable, occasional words distinguishable. A signal that rates an R2 is usually so weak that it's below the noise level or drops below the noise level occasionally. At this level, the contact will definitely be brief and any important information, such as the call-sign needs to be repeated.

R1: Unreadable. Generally, I would never give out this report, as I would never attempt making contact if a signal was truly unreadable.

Although my explanations above reflect the fact that I'm primarily a CW operator, I think they also apply to phone or even digital contacts. For example, an R5 for a phone contact

would mean that the signal sounds like it could be coming from just down the street or coming through the local repeater.

What do you think? How do you decide what Readability report to give?

=====

Dan, KB6NU, is the author of the "No Nonsense" amateur radio license study guides, and blogs about amateur radio at KB6NU.Com. You can contact him by e-mailing [cwgeek@kb6nu.com](mailto:cwgeek@kb6nu.com). If you want an honest Readability report, look for him most evenings on 40m CW.

## MORE ARRL NEWS

### Amateur Radio Alive and Well in Turkey

07/23/2016

Contrary to erroneous reports making the rounds on various Internet sites, *no* Amateur Radio licenses were suspended or revoked in Turkey in the wake of the failed July 15 coup.

“There is no ham radio license revoked in Turkey, and ham radio operators are operating normally,” said Aziz Sasa, TAIE, the president of Turkey’s International Amateur Radio Union member society [TRAC](http://TRAC). “The reports on ham radio licenses being revoked by the Supreme Council of Radio and Television (RTUK) are unconfirmed and speculative. RTUK is not a regulatory body of ham radio,” Sasa added. His entire statement has been posted to the TRAC website.

The erroneous reports cite a release from RTUK, which oversees broadcasting. Amateur Radio and other wireless industries are regulated by BTK, a separate agency. Three stations in Turkey were reported heard on 10 meters during an opening to Central Europe on July 21 — TA1BM, TA1PB, and YM7TEN/B.

The erroneous story said the revocation information had come from TRAC, but gave a URL belonging to an altogether unrelated organization with a similar URL. The same false story included a concocted “warning” to radio amateurs attributed to President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan.

TRAC the IARU member society has not been closed, nor has its website been blocked or shut down.



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# August 2016

## W8NP Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																	
	1	2 BD N8DJD Stark County ARES Net on 147.12 at 7:00 PM	3	4	5 Massillon Amateur Radio Club Meeting, Senior Center, Massillon, 2000	6 <b>Pro Football Hall of Fame Grand Parade - 0800</b>  Columbus Hamfest, Ohio State Convention, Aladdin Shrine Center, 0800, Ctc: Jim 614-264-8566  VE Test Session, Portage Cnty ARS, 1000, Ctc: Robert 330-607-3833, Ravenna																																																	
7 Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5 kHz, 2000	8	9 Stark County ARES Net on 147.12 at 7:00 PM	10	11	12 West Stark Info Net - 147.180 at 2000	13 MARA's 5th Annual Swapmeet, Ctc: Dale 937-866-7630, Miamisburg, OH  Tri-State ARA Hamfest, Ctc: Theresa 740-550-3811, Huntington, WV																																																	
14 Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5 kHz, 2000	15	16 Stark County ARES Net on 147.12 at 7:00 PM	17 VE Test Session, Pioneer AR Fellowship, 1830, Ctc: Leonard, 330- 608-2267, Firestone Park Community Center	18	19 West Stark Info Net - 147.180 at 2000	20 <b>VE Test Session, Stark County VE Team, 0900, Ctc: Rex 330-904-6066, American Red Cross, Alliance, OH</b>  West Virginia State Hamfest / Convention, Ctc: Bob 304-672-6381, Weston, WV																																																	
21 Cuyahoga Falls Tailgate Fest, 08:00, Robert Pinn Armory, Stow, Oh, Ctc: Frank 330-928-4048  Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5 kHz, 2000  Warren Amateur Radio Association Tailgate Swapmeet, Ctc: Larry, 330-553-9579, Cortland, OH	22	23 Stark County ARES Net on 147.12 at 7:00 PM	24	25	26 West Stark Info Net - 147.180 at 2000	27																																																	
28 Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5 kHz, 2000  Skyview Amateur Radio Swap 'n Shop, Ctc: John 724-339-4945, New Kensington, PA	29	30 Stark County ARES Net on 147.12 at 7:00 PM	31	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-right: 10px;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Jul 2016</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr> <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></td><td>1</td><td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td> </tr> <tr> <td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </div> <div> <p><b>Upcoming Events:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sep. 11 - Findlay Hamfest</li> <li>Sep. 11 - Butler SwapFest</li> <li>Sep. 18 - Adrian Hamfest, MI</li> <li>Sep. 24 - Akron Marathon</li> <li>Sep. 25 - Cleveland Hamfest and Computer Show</li> </ul> </div> </div>			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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Please contact K8INN for updates, changes, or additions.

**MASSILLON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
P.O. BOX 73  
MASSILLON, OHIO 44648**

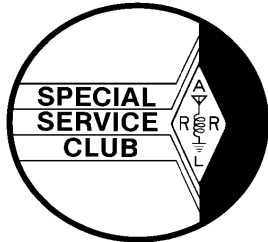
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**Published by the Massillon Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 73, Massillon Ohio 44648. The Club meetings are the first Friday of every month (except January) at 8:00 PM at the Massillon Senior Citizens Building at 39 Lincoln Way West, Massillon, Ohio**