



FEEDBACK

VOLUME 57 ISSUE 12



DECEMBER 2012

**MASSILLON AMATEUR
RADIO CLUB OFFICERS**

PRESIDENT

Byron Berger
KF8UN
bberger@starkstate.edu

VICE PRESIDENT

TO BE DETERMINED

SECRETARY

Robert Keller
AC8GE
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TREASURER

Gary Kline
WC8W
wc8w@sssnet.com

MRN NET Tue, Thur & Sun
2030 ET 3.60 MHz

WEST STARK INFO NET
Fridays 8:00 PM 147.18
MHZ
(Except 1st Fri of month)

**... SHORT SKIP -.-
03/11/1941 – 11/14/2012**



PLEASE SEE OBITUARY ON PAGE 5 OF THIS ISSUE

**A NOTE ABOUT SHORT SKIP FROM
LONG SKIP..**

(after his passing November 14)

As the former editor of the Newsletter for 24 years, I thought about mentioning some fun things about our longtime "mini-column" provider.

It all started in the April 1973 issue when the first column appeared. In talking with Skip, I thought that making a pun out of his nick-name as it related to radio, including his height, might work. The first column was titled, "SHORT" SKIP, and after that the quotation marks were just dropped.

Skip was the perennial QRPer, always doing great things with low power. His original phonetics for OWM were "Ocean Wireless Man."

As his tendency leaned more toward satire and parody, he took off with a little quirk I had noticed about Ham DX calls... In the old days all began with a letter followed by a number, just like the USA.

But then, in the 70s smaller entities like islands showed up with number prefixes, like 6Y5 and 9Y4, etc.

I mentioned that callsigns were becoming like vacuum tube labels, like the 5Y3GT rectifier and the beloved 6L6GT amplifier. He took this one step further, noting that they had Octal bases (8 pins). The joking led to times when, hearing me on the air, he would call me and sign, "6L6GT, from Octal Base." :-). And the fun exchanges began. He even carried this through to QSL cards with the same labeling. (along with WB8OWM, of course)

In his 39 2/3 years of supplying the newsletter with a paragraph, he never varied from his typical witty and farcical commentary, copying "The Old Philosopher" comedy phrase... "is this what's troubling you, Bunkie?" Yet, contrary to this was his attendance at meetings where he was a "silent" observer along the back wall seating, talking only during the "break" time.

Skip, you became in institution at MARC, mainly through the written word, but also as an observer of the comical aspects of ham radio. As QST's (continue page 3)



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DECEMBER MEETING

The meeting for the month of December will be held on **Friday, December 7th** 2012 at 8:00 PM at the Massillon Senior Center.

This is an all important meeting as we must determine the new officer's for 2013. As you know we changed the Code of Regulations as to which we elect our new officers. No longer is the Office of President a two year affair. You can be elected to just one year now ; likewise the Office of Vice President. On the other "hand" you can run for multiple years as an officer !The rest of the Offices will remain the same.

To be eligible to hold an office you must be at least 21 years of age, be a member in good standing for at least 2 1/2 years membership and hold a current Amateur Radio License of any class. Election of Officers will be by secret ballot, unless we have only one candidate running. And then an acknowledgment from the members is required (usually by a show of hands).

Most of the Offices DO NOT REQUIRE A LOT OF YOUR TIME during the month with the exception of Secretary and Treasurer. But even at that, not much is required! Being an elected Officer of MARC is an HONOR and a PRIVILEGE. Please read the Code of Regulations regarding the duties of Officers in the MARC. If you do not have a copy, one will be provided for you or you can look them up on the Club's web site.

The elections will be conducted by our 3 current Trustee's . They will have the official list of eligible candidates.

JANUARY MEETING

The meeting for the month of January will NOT be held on the first Friday of the month. Instead it will be held on **January 2012 at 6:00 PM** (doors open at 5 PM). It will however be held AT THE SENIOR CENTER 2ND FLOOR !! It is our annual Awards Banquet! Many of you have never seen the second floor. It is a very nice facility. I'm sure you will enjoy the evening.

Please let me make one thing clear: the cost of the meal will be \$12.50 per person; NO OTHER CHARGES APPLY!! This is for a 2 meat buffet of baked chicken and baked ham with mashed potatoes green beans with bacon and sea shells with meat sauce with dinner rolls and a tossed salad with coffee and DESERT! .

Reservations are required. Please send me an e mail (wc8w@sssnet.com) to reserve your spot ! Sign up sheet will be passed around at the meeting as well.

Dues are Due

With the coming of the new year means that the fiscal year for the Club is ending and dues for the Massillon Amateur Radio Club are now due. Cost per member is \$ 15.00 for full membership.

Cost for the XYL and any licensed child of members (who wish to be members of the club) is just \$ 7.50 So see the Treasurer at the meeting and renew your membership now so you don't forget ! Remember, we don't want to loose a single member !!

MARC MINUTES November 2, 2012

The Massillon Amateur Radio Club monthly meeting was held at the Massillon Senior Center on Friday, November 2, 2012 with 19 members and guests in attendance.

Byron KF8UN called the meeting to order at 8 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a round of introductions.

Don W8DEF, with a second by Bud WA8KWD, made the motion to accept minutes from the October meeting as printed in the Feedback newsletter. Motion Passed.

VP Report: none

Committees:

Officer Nominating Election Committee comprised of Don W8DEA, Jim WA8GXM, Mike KD8ENV and Tom KI4QQQ to seek eligible candidates to run for office in the December election.

Old Business:

Hamfest – Terry N8ATZ reported that 69 of available 74 tables were used this year. Hamfest results should be available at the December meeting.

New Business:

Annual Budget meeting was set for Monday November 5, 2012 at Massillon Senior Center.

Gary WC8W is seeking nominations for the awards to be presented at the annual dinner in January.

Motions: none

Presentation: none

50/50: \$14, won by Don W8DEF

Mike WA8MKH, with a second by Don W8DEA, made a motion to adjourn. Motion passed at 9:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Robert AC8GE (notes provided by Mike KD8ENV)

CHANGES TO THIS MONTH'S FEEDBACK

long-time cartoonist, Phil Gildersleeve, W1CJD (SK), did it with cartoons, you did it with words. We will all miss you, but we will never lose the memories. ... _.-

Perry, w8au

I'm sure you have noticed the changes made to this month's Feedback. This was necessary to accommodate the announcement of Skip's passing. Therefore two "front" pages were necessary. We will return to the standard line up for next month's Feedback minus of course the "Short Skip" column. At this time we have nothing in mind to replace it. Any suggestions? Please let me know at the next month's meeting. Thanks

De WC8W Editor Feedback

... FIELD DAY RESULTS ...

The ARRL has officially released the scores from this years Field Day exercise and as submitted the clubs final score was 3,798 points on 973 QSO's placing us 98th in the US in Class 2A. A hearty congratulations to everyone involved in helping us achieve another great operating event. While our score was again from the year before (by nearly 500 points), it was still a successful event and I know everyone had a great time. The Canton club again scored very well garnering 9,228 points on 2,324 QSO's. This placed them 15th in Ohio. Well done guy's.

Class 2A is a tough category to compete in. It always has the most entries with 407 this year. The Ohio Section also has the most participation with 122 scores submitted this year. We are in good company and we placed very well considering we are in the toughest category in the US !. It won't be long before we will begin planning for next years event, lets work together to make it another great club event !.

... HAMFEST REPORT ...

Our annual hamfest is over for another year and I'm happy to report that we had another successful club event. Table rentals were solid, attendance was strong and everyone I talked to continued to say what a nice hamfest we continue to sponsor each year. While I would have liked to have seen higher attendance, we have to realize we are a smaller size hamfest compared to other clubs. Table vendors reported decent sales which was good to hear. We even had some new parts vendors attend this year and they reported decent sales. I hope to invite them back next year.

Thanks to all the club volunteers, YL's and XYL's who also helped to make this year's event another success.

... HOLIDAY PARADE ...

The club just finished assisting with the 58th Annual Massillon Holiday Parade sponsored by Massillon Main Street and the Downtown Massillon Association. This continues to remain the oldest public service event that is handled by the club and our responsibilities have grown over recent years to include many aspects of parade operation. The parade was rebroadcast over Massillon Cable TV and I hope some of you had a chance to view it. The club trailer looked great on the route with our new decorations and special thanks to Ralph Bugg – K8HSQ for pulling the trailer in the parade.

In the early years of the parade, we provided only communications support to the Massillon JC's organization who handled the staging of all the parade units. When they disbanded, the city struggled to find volunteers willing to take on this task. Since the MARC handled communications support, somehow we got nominated to take on this responsibility as well.

A few years later, Massillon Cable began filming the parade in

conjunction with the Massillon High School Communications Department and again the club was called upon to assist with this part of the parade also. Last minute omissions or changes to the parade line up are passed on to the production crew so that the announcers can follow along with the parade units. We had experience with this as well as amateurs routinely handle staging activities including TV production control relay duties at the Hall of Fame Festival Community Parade. The Holiday Parade has depended on this ever since.

Over the past several years the parade has been sponsored by the Downtown Merchants Association with President Donald Harwig serving as Parade Chairman. During this time and before the club has always been there to make sure the parade is properly staged and starts on time down the parade route. We have become an integral part of the parade and I wonder if they could pull it off without us.

I'm glad to report another successful public service event with very few problems thanks to our communications and parade skills. Over 45 years and counting Santa has arrived in the city in no small part thanks to the MARC.

Special thanks to the following club members for their assistance with this years parade. They are: PARADE ASSEMBLY- Perry - W8AU Communications Coordinator, Bob - N8KXO, Steve - KD8ACF, Bud - WA8KWD, Gary - WC8W, Anne - N8GAF, Robin - N8EBS, Tom - KC8QOD, Dan - N8DZM, Ralph - K8HSQ, Terry - N8ATZ, and Jeremy - KB8VHL.

As PARADE MARSHALLS - Charlie - KB8STV, Bill - KD8TKX, Wade - WD8MIU, Steve - KB8VHI, Dale - KB8LWP, Igor - K8INN, and Sarah - KC8ZCS. Handling TV Production interface was Joe - WD8BGW. Several volunteers handled both parade assembly and parade marshall duties. This event annually provides nearly 100 hours of community service to the city.

.... WEBSITE STATS

Again this year the club's website was a popular place with over 1,800 visits during the year, an increase of nearly 2 percent. This equals about 7 visits a day to the site which tells us that it continues to be a good source of information to the club and beyond. Maintaining the site continues to be an ongoing challenge with several hours devoted each week adding new material, removing old and archiving material and general maintenance. Our hosting service has continued to perform well with no site downtime reported this year as well as providing us with nearly unlimited storage space and bandwidth. Currently the site is about 300 MB in size including the many graphics, pictures and archive of newsletters that stretch back to 2000.

I hope you get a chance to check out the YouTube section of the homepage. Throughout the year we continued to post interesting video's relating to ham radio and other topics. We recently posted video's to celebrate the 237th Birthday of the United States Marine Corps and a special one to pay tribute to our Military on Veterans Day. Let me know if you find something interesting you would like to see posted, after all it is the club's website ! (Cont page 6)

IN MEMORIAM
CHARLES "SKIP" WESTRICH



It is with great sadness I inform the membership of the passing of Charles "Skip" Westrich, WB8OWM on November 14, 2012 at Mercy Medical Center. Skip was born in Canton, Ohio on March 11, 1941, he was 71 years old. The son of the late Charles and Irene (Teis) Westrich SR. He graduated from McKinley High School in 1961 and served in the U.S. Air Force from 1963– 1967. Skip retired from AT & T with 35 years of service. He was a Chief Union Steward with the Communications Workers of America. He was active with the previous Fairmount Park Presbyterian Church as a Sunday school teacher and vacation bible school teacher, deacon and elder. Currently he was an elder at the Church of the Covenant Presbyterian Church. Skip was a Life Member of MARC, didn't own a microphone (100% CW) and he was the "famous" columnist of his column " SHORT SKIP". In his time as a ham operator, he won many awards, including many DX awards and the 2000 MARC Ham of the Year Award.

Preceded in death by his wife of 42 years Linda Westrich and his son-in-law John Hagan. He is survived by his son David Westrich and daughter Karen Hagan of Minerva and one brother Donald Barson of Canton.

Funeral Services were held on Wednesday November 21st in the Waltner-SIMCHAK Funeral home with Dr. William R. Watt officiating. Burial was in North Lawn Cemetery.

All members of MARC will share in the loss of Skip. Our most sincere condolences to his family.

Don't forget the clubs Facebook page is always available where everyone, member or not can post items if interest or comment on club activities. Let us know how well you liked a recent program or event.

As I put the finishing touches on my last column for 2012, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Holiday season. Also a thank you to the club officers for their solid leadership this year and to the membership for their continued support of our great organization. We enjoyed fun meetings and many great programs again this year and I look forward to 2013 !

Very soon I will once again activate the Holiday Page on the club website. Again this year I found some fun new items to post including more holiday music, video's, gift ideas, great holiday food recipes and some neat Christmas gifts that any ham would like to see under the tree.

The Holiday Page is our gift to you, the members of the club and the many friends and visitors who regularly visit each holiday season.

Happy Holiday's to you and yours and I hope to see many of you at our January banquet !

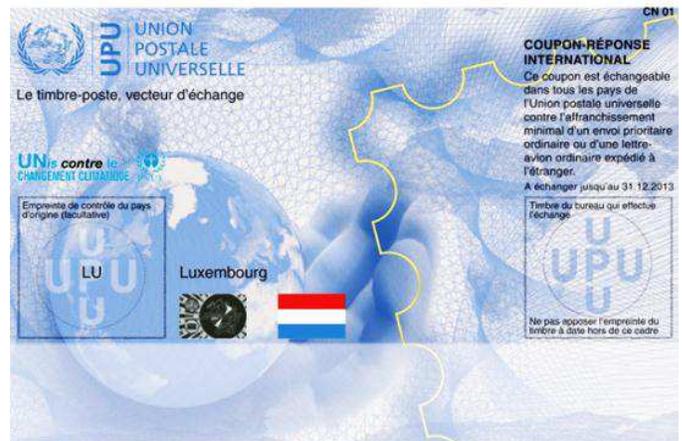
73's
Terry – N8ATZ

USPS Seeks to Phase Out IRCs from arrl.org

ARRL News 11/06/2012

If the US Postal Service (USPS) gets its way, it will no longer sell International Reply Coupons (IRCs) after January 27, 2013. According to the **October 23 edition of the *Federal Register***, there is not sufficient demand for the USPS to continue offering IRCs to customers; however, per the Universal Postal Union (UPU) **regulations**, the USPS must continue to exchange (redeem) IRCs that have been purchased in foreign countries and presented at USPS facilities. The current Nairobi model (above) is valid through December 31, 2013. **Comments on this proposed change will be accepted through November 23, 2012.** IRCs provide foreign addressees with a

prepaid means of responding to inquiries, solicitations or other types of communications -- such as QSL cards -- that are initiated by US senders. IRCs are exchangeable for postage stamps by postal administrations in member countries of the UPU. Each IRC is equivalent in value to the destination country's minimum postage price for an unregistered airmail letter. **The purchase price is in the US is currently \$2.20 per IRC.** -- *Thanks to The Daily DX for some information.* -AR-



(Thanks to ARRL.org for this copy)

**MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR
MEMBERS & FAMILY**



IN MEMORIAM

DERALD H. KRAFT WD8KPO

It is with great sadness that we inform the members of the Massillon Amateur Radio Club of the passing of another member. Derald H. Kraft has been a member of the club since 10/29/2000. Derald was 89 years of age. He was born on June 20, 1923 to Walter and Erma Kraft. He graduated from McKinley High School. After which he enlisted in the U.S Army and served our country during the World War II with the 328th Infantry Regiment 26th Division. , receiving a Purple Heart. (Derald Was featured in the Canton Repository "World War II: Then and Now: in the September 10, 2012 issue) After the war he graduated from Indiana Tech. He then began working for Morgan Engineering in Alliance, EW Bliss Company as Vice President of engineering and retired from Dyneer Corporation as a corporate Vice President. He holds 30 US Patents. Derald was a member of the Northeast Ohio Live Steam Club and the McKinley Stamp Club as well a 12 year member of MARC and a member of the Christ Presbyterian Church.



He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Lorna (Rinehart) Kraft. Children Timothy (Kathy) Kraft of San Diego, Calif., David (Debra) Kraft of Massillon, Ohio and Cheryl (Scott) Tullis of Hamilton, Ohio, 6 Grandchildren and 5 Great Grandchildren and many wonderful friends and neighbors. Derald was one of our "silent majority" he often was one of the "back row" gang!

Reverend Wendy Gray officiated the gravesite service on Wednesday November 21, 2012 at the North Lawn Cemetery, North Canton, Ohio . Donations may be made to Christ Presbyterian Food Ministry, 530 Tuscarawas Street West, Canton, Ohio 44702. For those wishing to share a fond memory of their condolences may sign the Reed on-line guest book at www.reedfuneralhome.com.

The members of the Massillon Amateur Radio Club send our most sincere condolences to the family of Derald H. Kraft.

ZCZC AX16
QST de W1AW
Special Bulletin 16 ARLX016
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT November 21, 2012
To all radio amateurs

Former "How's DX?" Conductor Rod Newkirk, W9BRD (SK)

Rod Newkirk, W9BRD/VA3ZBB, of Ottawa, Ontario, Canada -- who penned the QST column "How's DX?" from 1947-1978 -- passed away on Monday, November 19 after a long illness. Newkirk was credited with coining the term "Elmer," as well as for his humorous take on DX in his column, especially with limericks in his DX Hoggery and Poetry Depreciation Society and the accompanying cartoons of Jeeves by Phil "Gil Gildersleeve, W1CJD (SK).

In March 1991, QST Associate Editor Jim Cain, K1TN, profiled Newkirk in "How's Rod?" in the pages of QST. "Newkirk wrote 'How's DX?' through the Korean War, through the Fabulous '50s, the Vietnam war, incentive licensing and the W9WNV DXpedition controversy," Cain wrote. "While six American presidents moved in and out of the White House, 'How's DX?'

documented the rise of SSB in Amateur Radio and DXing, saw the birth of DX lists and nets and the growing number of 2 meter spotting groups."

The term "Elmer" -- meaning someone who provides personal guidance and assistance to would-be hams -- first appeared in QST in Newkirk's March 1971 "How's DX?" column, where he wrote that "too frequently one hears a sad story in this little nutshell: 'Oh, I almost got a ticket, too, but Elmer, W9XYZ, moved away and I kind of lost interest.' Sure, the guy could have burned through on his own, maybe, but he, like others, wound up an almost-ham. No more Elmer.

We need those Elmers. All the Elmers, including the ham who took the most time and trouble to give you a push toward your license, are the birds who keep this great game young and fresh." Newkirk was probably not trying to coin a term at the time, but the name stuck, becoming a general term for the mentors Newkirk called "the unsung fathers of ham radio."

(Cont next page)

Beginning in May 1951 (and appearing each May after that), Newkirk wrote about the annual meeting of the DX Hoggery and Poetry Depreciation Society. The DXHPDS featured such notables as Noyes E. Tester, Loda Watts, Harry Uppensign, Lotta Chassis and Hal R. Lauder- as well as limericks that skewered deserving lids:

Splashy-voiced Boomboom MacSwine When told that his gain's out of line, Is prompt to reply, If '8' is too high Then why is it numbered to '9'? (May 1970)

First licensed in 1937 as W9BRD at 14, Newkirk was involved with radio all his life. After graduating from high school, he became a civilian radio operator in Washington, DC with station WAR; when World War II broke out, he joined the US Army as a member of the Army Signal Corps where he served in Florida, Papua-New Guinea and the Philippines. He remembered these times in his first QST article, "Christmas, 1944," which recounted a "heart-warming yarn involving the combination of the Amateur and the Christmas Spirit in far-off Hollandia."

After a stint as a radio operator with the Illinois State Police, Newkirk moved to Connecticut in 1947 where he worked at ARRL Headquarters as a W1AW Station Operator with a new call sign, W1VMW. It was while Newkirk was in Newington that then-ARRL Communications Manager Ed Handy, W1BDI, asked Newkirk to take over the "How's DX?" from Byron Goodman, W1JPE. A few years later, Newkirk returned to his home state of Illinois to go to college. While in Illinois, he regained his W9BRD call sign and resumed his job with the Illinois State Police. He continued to write "How's DX?" from Illinois. Newkirk's last "How's DX?" column was published in February 1978. Newkirk retired from the State Police in 1986. In 1984, he was inducted into the CQ DX Hall of Fame as its 23rd member, and in 2002, he was the 87th inductee into the CQ Hall of Fame.

Newkirk was a former member of the ARRL and a member of the Radio Amateurs of Canada, the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club, FISTS, the Morse Telegraph Club and the Quarter Century Wireless Association and QCWA Chapter 70. In May 2007, he was presented with the QCWA "70 Years Licensed" Golden Certificate and lapel pin, and in May 2010, with the QCWA Century Certificate.

In 1997, Newkirk married Betty, VE3ZBB, and moved to Canada, where he got the matching Canadian call sign VA3ZBB. A private family funeral will be held. Friends are invited to join the Newkirk Family at the Garden Chapel of Tubman Funeral Homes on Thursday November 22 from 2-4 PM for a celebration of Newkirk's life.

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KB6NU's November Column

KB6NU builds an end-fed, half-wave antenna

I've always been interested in end-fed, half-wave antennas before, but until this recently, I'd never built one. One of the reasons for this is that most designs are for QRP antennas and not made to handle more than 5 - 10 W of power.

A couple of months ago, though, I ran across a design rated at 100 W (http://earchi.org/proj_homebrew.html). The design seemed relatively simple to build, requiring only a single toroid and a capacitor made with a short length of RG-174 coax. Well, it just so happens that I bought 100-ft. of RG-174 at Dayton this year, and I found the toroid cores online from the "Toroid King" for a very reasonable price, so I decided it was high time to build one.

All told, the parts cost about \$10, the biggest part of that being a 4-in. x 4-in. x 2-in. plastic junction box (Carlson E989NNJ-CAR) I got from Lowe's for \$6.41. Compare that with the \$60 that LNR wants for their end-fed antenna.

I put up the antenna about three weeks ago, on a beautiful fall Sunday, running 34 feet of wire up a trellis attached to a small deck in my backyard, then out to a tree near the back of my lot. With more than a little anticipation, I put the antenna analyzer on it, only to be somewhat disappointed with the readings. The SWR was 2.6:1 at 14.000 MHz, dropping to about 1.5:1 at 14.900 MHz.

Since the internal tuner on my IC-746PRO is supposed to be good to 3:1, I did use it and made a couple of contacts. A guy in MA even gave me a 599 signal report. So, while I was a little uncomfortable with an SWR so close to the limit of my tuner, it did seem to radiate pretty well.

I e-mailed the guy who published the design and asked why he thought the resonant frequency was so high, and he said that all I had to do was add a couple feet of wire to the antenna. I also did some more reading about end-feds and several websites suggested that adding a counterpoise might be a good idea, too.

A week later, I finally got back to playing with the antenna. I added 24-in. of wire to it, and it did indeed bring down the SWR of the antenna to below 2:1 in the CW portion of 20m. I'm happier with this. I made a couple of contacts that day, too, with both stations giving me good reports.

I still do plan to try a counterpoise. Not so much to improve the SWR, but to see if it makes the antenna a little more efficient.

Overall, this has been a fun project. I learned something about end-fed, half-wave antennas and saved a bunch of money by rolling my own. Isn't that what ham radio is all about?

When he's not messing with antennas, Dan, KB6NU publishes the "No-Nonsense" series of amateur radio license study guides. The latest in this series is the No-Nonsense Extra Class License Study Guide. For more information, go to KB6NU.Com or e-mail cwgeek@kb6nu.com.

NOTICE ANYTHING DIFFERENT? by WC8W, Editor

For sometime now I have been using Microsoft Publisher to do the chores of printing the monthly newsletter. I have had somewhat good results with it. However when I received articles from members using a PDF file, something happened with the "transition" Quality was lost. Sure the layout was not disturbed but the image came out "fuzzy" ! This was quite disturbing. Other items were not bothered such as a word file (go figure, it's a Microsoft program as well !) or even plain text such as the N8ATZ column. When it came time to install these items Publisher just accepted them without hesitation and "wham bam" they were installed plus I could edit them anyway I wanted to or needed to ! Nice!

Not so with a PDF file. This is the main purpose of using a PDF file so you cannot change it's layout —or quality. But something happens with the PDF file. Microsoft doesn't "like" it! Plus it was really hard to transfer it into publisher.

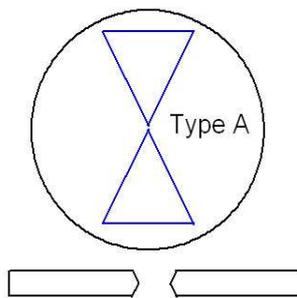
Aha! There is a solution to this dilemma ! Mike, WA8MKH did research (and you know Mike likes to research!) and he found a program that "fixes" this problem. It's called : PDF Split & Merge. All you need to use it is a master's degree in computer technology and it a snap! No not really, if I can use it, anybody can. It takes all the PDF files in your newsletter or whatever your doing and places everything in "apple pie" order and merges them into really Quality images. The lettering even comes out bolder and nicer to look at ! No more "fuzzy edges!

I cannot tell you what the "mechanics" of the program are, Mike can do this better than I can. All I know is that it works and I like the results. I'm sure you will to. Anything to make a more pleasant and pleasing images !

73's de Gary WC8W Editor MARC

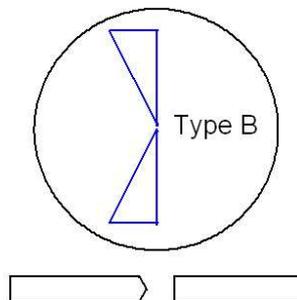
TOOL BOX ADDITION OR CUTTING EDGE TECHNOLOGY?

There are several types of wire cutters in use. The focus of this article is the Pliers-type of cutters. There is also a Scissor-type of wire cutters.



Type A (Depending on size) is noted for cutting wire such as mild steel of larger diameter or bolts. The cut wire from this design will leave a pointed end that can tear skin if scraped against it. An option is to file the end of the cut wire to remove the sharpness. Higher quality models for cutting wire offer a cleaner cut than others. Make sure the cutters will close completely without light showing thru. Dull cutters will not cut cleanly.

Example of wire ends after the cut.



Type B blade style is not as strong since basically 1/2 of the metal surface is not there. Wire cut from this design will leave a sharper end on one piece of the wire but a flush cut on the other piece of wire. The flush-cut type is good for trimming wire from a printed circuit board and for any cut that needs a smooth end. Another use is trimming plastic wire ties where a smooth flush cut is safer to work around.

Example of wire ends after the cut.

Type B has been around for a few decades but more recently one model is additionally marketed as a Model Train track cutter. While there are other brands of wire cutters, the author has experience with the Xuron model 2175B. This model can be used for cutting Copper, Plastic, and Aluminum of light gauge. **Do not use this item on steel or it will permanently ruin the cutting edge.** It is important to read the manufacturers information (available on the internet) before using this item. Also remember to use safety glasses and keep wire pieces from falling into the carpet.

This item can be found at some of the model train supply stores or some of the electronic supply distributors. Year 2012 price estimate is \$17.00.



73 DE MIKE, WA8MKH

December 2012

W8NP Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																		
<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr> <th colspan="7">Nov 2012</th> <th colspan="7">Jan 2013</th> </tr> <tr> <td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td> <td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td> <td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td></td><td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td> <td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td> <td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td> <td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td> <td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </table>						Nov 2012							Jan 2013							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5			4	5	6	7	8	9	10	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	25	26	27	28	29	30		27	28	29	30	31			<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">1</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; margin: 0;">VE Test Session, Portage County ARS, 1000, Ctc.: Robert 330-607-3833, PCARS, Ravenna</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; margin: 0;">VE Test Session, Silvercreek ARC, 0930, Ctc: Barry Youmans, 330-925-1706, Rittman Public Library</p>
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<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">2</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; margin: 0;">L'anse Creuse Amateur Radio Club Swap/Hamfest, Harrison Township, MI, N8GEO@arrl.net</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; margin: 0;">Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 2030</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">3</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">4</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; margin: 0;">BD KD8BCA Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 2030 Stark County ARES Net on 147.12 at 7:00 PM</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">5</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">6</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; margin: 0;">Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 2030</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">7</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; margin: 0;">Massillon Amateur Radio Club Meeting, Senior Center, Massillon, 2000</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">8</p> <p style="font-size: 8px; margin: 0;">BD K8FUN</p>																																																																																																		
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Please contact K8INN for updates, changes, or additions.

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

FIRST CLASS MAIL

TO:



VISIT US ON THE WEB AT: <http://>

85 Years in existence 1927-2012



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Vice President	TO BE DETERMINED	
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