

FEEDBACK

VOLUME 52 ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2007

MASSILLON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Ralph Bugg
K8HSQ

VICE PRESIDENT

Scott McCamish
N3JJT

SECRETARY

Dan Anastis
N8DZM

TREASURER

Anne Ballinger
N8GAF



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-- SHORT SKIP --

Hey Bunkey, interested in returning to the exciting rigs of yesteryear? Try www.rigpix.com/index.shtml. They are in all their glory, complete with photos and specs.

Have a nice visit.

73 de WB80WM

FEBRUARY MEETING

The meeting for the month of February will be held at the Massillon Senior Center in downtown Massillon on February 2nd 2007 at 8:00 PM.

This will be the first meeting conducted by our new Officers, President Ralph Bugg K8HSQ, Vice President, Scott McCamish N3JJT. We have a new Secretary, Dan, N8DZM and returning Treasurer, Anne N8GAF. Be sure to come to the meeting and really show them your support ! Picture below are the new officer's. They are (L-R): Secretary Dan N8DZM, Treasurer Anne N8GAF, Trustee Jim WA8GXM, Vice President Scott N3JJT, Presiden, Ralph K8HSQ, Trustee, Gene W8KXR, Trustee, Don W8DEF, and outgoing President Igor K8INN administering the Oath of Office.



DUES ARE DUE

This will be your "next to the last" notice that your dues for 2007 are now due, if you haven't already paid them. You will still receive a final notice in the March newsletter. And then, if not paid, I will be "forced" to delete you from the membership list . So please while you are thinking about it, send our Treasurer Anne Ballinger, N8GAF, the dues of only \$ 10.00 for the entire year ! The address is 268 Bellevue Ave. SW, Massillon Ohio 44647-7212. Remember, we do not want to loose a single member !

TECHNICIAN CLASSES TO START

Know anyone interested in getting into Amateur Radio ? Entry level Technician classes will start on March 6th at 7:00 PM. at the Massillon Senior Center. Classes will run each Monday until the week of the VE Exam on May 12th. Unless someone steps up to be an instructor, no General or Extra Class are planed at this time.

MARC Minutes January 2007

Massillon Amateur Radio Club met January 13th, 2007 for it's annual awards banquet at the Otterbein United Methodist Church. We had over 50 members and guests present. President Igor K8INN was master of ceremonies and did a great job. Previous minutes were not read and a financial report was not given

Old Business – none

New Business

After dinner the following awards were presented by Igor, K8INN

William J North ham of the year Joseph Herrick WD8BGW
Bob Rogers W8NWR Field Day Award Sarah McGill KC8ZCS
MARC Hamfest award Scott McGill, KC8ZCT, Sarah McGill KC8ZCS
MARC Hamfest Award Steve Hall KD8ACF
MARC Exceptional Recognition - Not presented yet
MARC Amateur Radio Community Service Award Terry Russ N8ATZ
MARC Special Recognition Club Service Award Lynnette Russ
MARC 7 years Outstanding Service as Club Secretary Linda Finley K8MOO

Perry W8AU then presented the following FUN Awards.

Sarah KC8ZCS: Hazardous Parade Assembly duty. (Fierce mask needed to achieve credibility)
Terry N8ATZ: Parade Assembly Sensitivity Award. (for harassing the WAGS Doggy group / his BARK was louder than theirs)
Kip K8KIP: Instant Recall Award. (Did not recognize his own grandson when he called Kip on the Massillon Repeater)
Michelle KC8ZEJ: Fantasy Fonetics Award. (suggestive phonetics used for W8NP field day 6 meters, causing blushing, comments, etc)
Scott, N3JJT: Fantasy Fonetics Award. (the mastermind behind this episode, suggesting Michelle use the particular words)
Sarah KC8ZCS: Marathon Fashion Statement Award. (Instead of her usual high heels, she was caught wearing tennis shoes at the MS walk)
Rodger KA8FTS Never Met a Microphone I Didn't Like Award. (Rodger's love of the microphone is exemplified by his telling "Mike Rophone," he loves him and Mike telling him the same thing.)
Rodger and Helen: The Repeater Entertainment Award. (for the Helen and Rodger show, the next in a long line of duo radio op users/entertainers on the repeater.)

**Minutes by Dan N8DZM
Secretary MARC**

... ARES News ...

Ohio SEC Frank Piper – KI8GW has some current news regarding Ohio ARES and it is currently posted on the Stark County ARES website. Included is some news about Multiple Amateur Radio Service Groups operating in the same area, something that currently happens here in Stark County. Frank also has some updates on Mutual Assistance, Red Cross Background Checks and the new District Realignment recently adopted here in Ohio. Have a look when you get a minute, I think you'll find it interesting.

.. ARRL NERPC Report ..

The ARRL Board of Directors will met during January and one item of business discussed was a report from the League's National Emergency Response Planning Committee. Among other items, the NERPC has been evaluating responses and actions of both the ARRL and the ARES during Hurricane Katrina. I will update you on their conclusions and game plan for the future in a later column. They also reviewed the responses from their request for clubs and groups on their emergency communications vehicle capabilities. I submitted a detailed report on our own EComm 1 trailer back in December.

.. Airmail Station installed at Mercy Medical ..

The Stark County Winlink Committee recently completed the installation of an Airmail station at Mercy Medical Center. This involved the installation of a TNC connected to the Yeasu Skywarn Radio in the Emergency Room. Cables have also been installed to complete the station. The TNC used for the project was the Kantronics KPC-2 that was firmware upgraded by Winlink Technical Director Ralph Bugg - K8HSQ. The Winlink Committee currently has about 10 upgraded TNC's that will be used to establish Airmail stations at most of Stark County area hospitals and other locations as part of the Winlink Initiative. This marks the first permanent Airmail station to be installed here in Stark County. All that is needed to establish a fully operational Airmail station is for the operator to connect up the TNC to a laptop serial input port and run the Airmail software program. This new emergency communications tool will allow E-mail style messaging directly to the hospital emergency room which will prove invaluable during disaster situations.

.. Skywarn News ..

The Cleveland National Weather Service has distributed the Fall 2006 Edition of its annual publication "Storm Chaser". This annual report includes a comprehensive review of the 2006 severe weather season as well as other Skywarn related news. This years edition also contains information on a move to storm-based warnings, the 2006-2007 Winter Outlook, new NOAA Weather Radio News as well as information on this years Severe Weather Awareness Week and the 2007 Skywarn Training Seminars. The 2006 Severe

Weather Season in Review has been posted on this website and is available on our Skywarn Page. The complete Fall 2006 edition is also available for download and is in Adobe Pdf format. There is lots of great information in this years edition and is being made available for those involved in the Stark County Skywarn Program.

.. Club Banquet News ..

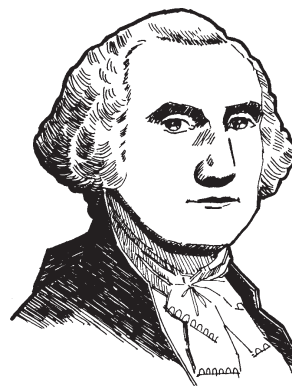
Did you make it to the now famous Annual MARC Awards Banquet ? I hope so, if not you missed another great club event. Second in attendance only to our Field Day, its great to get together with everyone and enjoy a great dinner and the presentation of our Service Awards and especially our Fun Awards. I hope to have a comprehensive wrap up from the evening completed soon and will post it as well as the pictures from the award recipients as soon as they are ready on the club website.

.. Website News ..

And speaking of the club website, I received the renewal notice from our provider and have paid for another year of hosting. We are billed separate for our Domain Name, we also must pay a yearly fee this as well. A full accounting will be provided at the next club meeting. They have proved to be pretty reliable, the site is always available except for some minor downtime when they complete server maintenance. Keeping up with the site keeps me busy, I try to provide updates on a weekly basis and post current news as soon as I can. Have you checked it out lately ? It averages about 10 visits per day and currently has over 17,500 hits on the web counter. I hope you find it both interesting and informative. Let me know if you have any ideas for the site, I'm always willing to add something that would of interest to the members.

73's For Now, De Terry – N8ATZ

PRESIDENT'S DAY FEBRUARY 19th



FATHER AND SON CW KEYERS



When I was 14 (a few days ago) I built a CW keyer from a schematic diagram given to me by another amateur. It was called a "TO" keyer, which included 6 vacuum tubes and a mercury wetted relay. (It took several months of delivering newspapers to purchase the parts). It featured a Low and High speed range and Hold. Also featured Weight and Sidetone adjustments. This was my 9th grade science fair project. The paddles was a converted Vibroplex Bug.

A number of years later when my son Stephen, KC8IDJ, was 14 we found a circuit board in a box of parts a friend had sent Stephen. I noticed it was a W B 4 V V F keyer board which was featured in the 1974 ARRL Handbook.

Stephen went to work homebrewing the necessary support circuitry, enclosure, hardware, sidetone oscillator, positive/negative keying circuit, and power supply.

Above is a picture of the Father and Son CW Keyers.

73's Mike WA8MKH

(Ed Note; Do you have any projects that you would like to share with club members, such as this one? Then submit them to your editor at wc8w@sssnet.com)

TAKE A LOOK AT THIS...

Drake TR4CW with a MS4 power supply, speaker and many accessories plus it comes complete with the Original manual !

Kenwood SP 230 Speaker in the Original Box

Kenwood AT 230 plus the manual and original Box !

Kenwood MB 100 mobile mounting bracket for the TS 130 or a TS 660.

Halicrafter S-4B Receiver works great !

Halicrafter S-40A - not working but still good for parts !

Yaesu FP 107E a 20 AMP power supply

Ten Tec Corsair 2 ABSOLUTELY IN MINT CONDITION with matching 961 power supply, and plenty of accessories !

Kenwood 922A Power amplifier ALSO IN MINT CONDITION, original owner comes complete with the manual plus the ORIGINAL Box !

ALSO have many miscellaneous pieces of equipment. (Capacitors, resistors, etc.)

Please call Don , K8DON, AT **330/832-2603**.

ALL ITEMS ARE NEGOTIABLE; CALL DAY OR EVENING.

currently licensed in the United States and an estimated 3 million worldwide. Many use Morse code, widely known when, in 1912, the luxury liner Titanic sent out the new international distress signal, "S-O-S," before sinking.

But the code — with its audible series of "dits" and "dahs" forming words — long ago ceased being a mainstay of communication.

One of its last commercial uses ended in 1999, when the code was officially retired by international maritime authorities in favor of satellite technology. Even the Boy Scouts no longer offer a merit badge for it.

That didn't keep the 158,000-member American Radio Relay League from trying to persuade the FCC to keep the Morse code requirement as part of qualification for the highest level of the three amateur radio license classes.

"We saw it as a skill worthy of people in the highest license class," said Allen Pitts, the league's media and public relations manager.

Pitts said the appeal of using an apparent anachronism of the airwaves lies in its long, historic legacy, plus its adaptability to various communicative tools such as flashing lights and semaphores. "You could send Morse code with a rock if you had to," he said.

Rick Wells, 62, of Brunswick, a ham radio operator since 1959, echoed some critics who faulted the FCC for "dumbing down" amateur radio by eliminating the code requirement. "Sometimes the harder you have to work for something, the more you respect it," Wells said.

Bob Check, president of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society, said he uses Morse code in 80 percent of his ham radio transmissions because "it's quick, easy, and I live in a place where there happens to be a lot of interference from local power lines, so it's a much better mode for working things in a bad environment."

But Check, 65, of Independence, believes that losing the code requirement will bring more people into the hobby, particularly those who may have been daunted by the task of learning a new language.

Pitts said other countries that have eliminated the code requirement have experienced an increased interest in Morse code as a result.

"It's the Tom Sawyer effect. When Morse code was seen as a requirement and a task, it often was resented," he said. "But when the pressure is off and you can learn it for fun, at your own pace, more and more people turn to it as an adjunct to amateur radio work."

With so many amateur radio operators still around, the immediate future of Morse code seems secure.

"I don't think it will ever fade away," said Wells, who cited such enduring attributes as the artistry, like playing a piano, and "the politeness of transferring data" in transmitting the code.

And during visits to area schools to promote amateur radio, Check has noticed a growing interest in Morse code among young devotees of text-messaging — a process which, incidentally, came in second in code vs. text time trials on a recent "Tonight Show with Jay Leno."

"They love it, and the kids pick up on the code stuff really fast," Check said.

Plus, for secrecy buffs, the code is much more obscure. As Check noted, "You could be talking to a friend and nobody knows what you're talking about."

To reach this Plain Dealer reporter:

balbrecht@plained.com, 216-999-4853

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MORE ON THE MORSE SUBJECT CODE PROFICIENCY PROGRAM FIELD PILOT TEST

TO GREAT LAKES DIVISION ARRL VE TEAMS

If you are interested in learning about a pilot project that I am putting together to perform Field Code Proficiency testing, please get in touch with me. I have been authorized to develop a do-it-locally version of the ARRL Code Proficiency Program that has been a fixture on W1AW for decades. The purpose of this project is to determine if this voluntary program will help stimulate further interest in Morse code.

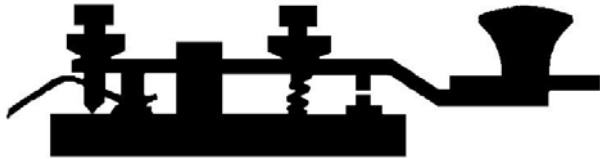
As I currently envision the project, ARRL VEs will manage the program in their home communities. I am responsible for selecting 3 or 4 ARRL VE teams that wish to participate, share the tentative outline of the project with them and enroll them into the Field Test.

The first step in identifying VE teams to participate in the program is to gather representatives of a number of interested teams into a telephone conference call (no cost to the participants) to discuss a variety of aspects of how the project will operate in their hands.

I am looking in particular for VE teams that cover fairly large ham populations and who might be expected to have a number of area amateurs wish to participate in Code Proficiency testing at a local site.

If your VE team is interested in discussing this pilot project, please send me the name, call, city and E-mail address of the person who would represent you in the teleconference. Send this information to k8je@arrl.org.

Tnx, 73, Jim, K8JE



AND FINALLY ON THIS SUBJECT OF MORSE CODE

CW MUSIC LESSONS

Now that the FCC has opened up our Phone bands to CB outlaws and test memorizers, the serious licensees and beginners among us must be wondering, "how do I experience REAL radio" and partake of satisfaction and achievement?...How can I fly like an Eagle with all these Turkeys cluttering up the airwaves?

Let us suggest, to you dyed-in-the-wool seekers of new higher levels of competence and enjoyment, our Annual CW MUSIC LESSONS. Just as those expert Bluegrass pickers and strummers amaze us with their fast finger-work and virtuosity resulting in beautiful instrumental music, so can you do the same in an even more select group....SMART (Serious Musical Artists of Radio Telegraphy). The first step in this lofty goal is to attend our SMIRK classes (Sweet Music Inherent in Radio Keying) which allow you to move up to GLOAT (Great Lovers Of Amateur Telegraphy). At this point you have earned your right to continue your progress as a member of MORON (Massillon Ohio Radio Operators Net) which meets tri-weekly.

No waiting for a test session to exhibit your prowess and skill...you can grab your musical instrument (key) and join the BAND (80 meters) any time you feel ready.

Unattainable, you say? Balderdash! Just ask any one of our present MORONS who have made the jump to real radio HARMONY. If they can do it, so can you!

Classes begin Friday evening, February 16, from 6-8 p.m. at the Senior Center club headquarters, next to Chase Bank on Lincoln Way West in Downtown Massillon. Call 330-832-8612 to register in advance. Tell your friends.

BITTING THE "BULLET"



MARC President Ralph Bugg, K8HSQ (L) presents the Field Day Trophy back to CARC President Scott Mathews - W8JT

Jan 20, 2007) — The CARC held it's Annual Banquet on Wednesday, January 17th with several MARC members attending. As winners of Field Day 2006, Ralph Bugg - K8HSQ officially presented the Field Day Trophy to CARC President Scott Mathews - W8JT at the conclusion of the banquet.

The CARC has finished first in the Great Lakes Division in 2A Category the past 4 years. The Field Day Trophy was originally called the Sweepstakes Trophy created during the era when both clubs were active Sweepstakes participants. When this era ended the trophy was forgotten until both clubs had the idea to transform it into a Field Day Trophy to generate renewed interest in this annual operating event.

The first several years it remained in Massillon until the CARC decided to rise to the challenge and put fire to key and they have been the recipient of the trophy ever since. Both club President's agree that nothing is more important than for both clubs to work together to keep the spirit of the Amateur Radio Service alive and we believe the Field Day Trophy has helped to do just that.

Also attending the CARC banquet with Ralph was his XYL Mary - WD8CRL, MARC VP Scott McCamish - N3JJT, Terry Russ - N8ATZ & XYL Lynnette, past President Igor Nikishin - K8INN with XYL Stephanie and Ed Clinger - WA8DRT.

(from MARC website; www.marcradio.org)

MARC PICTURE PAGE, THE 2006 AWARDS BANQUET

MARC HAM OF THE YEAR WD8BGW



Picture above is outgoing President Igor, K8INN (Left) presenting Joe Herrick, WD8BGW the coveted Ham of the Year Award. CONGRATULATIONS JOE !

A FAMILY AFFAIR



Pictured above Igor (L-R) , congratulates Scott and Sarah McGill, KC8ZCT, KC8ZCS, and Sarah's Father Steve Hall KD8ACF with the MARC Hamfest award for exceptional service at the Hamfest.

THANK YOU LINDA !



Igor presents our "retiring" Secretary Linda Finley K8MOO a bouquet of flowers and a plaque for outstanding service the Massillon Amateur Radio Club for over seven years. CONGRATULATIONS LINDA !

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD



Our Master of Ceremonies Igor (L) presents Terry Russ N8ATZ, a plaque for outstanding community relations including the clubs website, Assistant Emergency coordinator for Stark ARES and Terry was instrumental in establishing Winlink capability in area Hospitals.

(all pictures thanks to Terry N8ATZ)

February 2007

W8NP Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
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4 NOARS Winter HAM Fest, Ctc: Tom Porter, W8KYZ (440)930-9115, Lorain	5	6 BD KC8ZCT VE Test Session, Pioneer AR Fellowship, 7:00 PM, Ctc: Ronald D. Lieving, (330)724-5981, Akron Baptist Temple	7 BD KA8MMN	8	9	10																																																																																				
11 Mid*Winter Hamfest, InterCity ARC, Mansfield, Richland County Fairgrounds, Ctc: Dean Wrasse, 589-2415 (after 10:30 AM) - VE Test Session (Pre-Register)	12 Lincoln's Birthday	13	14 Valentine's Day	15	16	17																																																																																				
18	19 BD K8LBZ President's Day	20 BD N8DZM	21	22 Washington's Birthday	23	24 VE Test Session, Canton ARC / Massillon ARC, 0900, Ctc: Gary Kline, (330) 837-2927, Emergency Preparedness Center, Stark County Sheriff Office/EOC, Canton																																																																																				
25 WASHfest 2006, Castle Shannon (Pittsburgh), PA, Ctc: Steve Lane, 412-341-1043	26	27	28 BD WD8BGW	Upcoming Events: March 18 - Toledo Hamfest and Computer Fair																																																																																						