

# FEEDBACK

**VOLUME 53 ISSUE 2**

**FEBRUARY 2008**

## MASSILLON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OFFICERS

### PRESIDENT

Scott McCamish  
N3JJT

### VICE PRESIDENT

Rodger Trompower  
KA8FTS

### SECRETARY

Dan Anastis  
N8DZM

### TREASURER

Anne Ballinger  
N8GAF



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## -- SHORT SKIP --

A new major movie titled " Making Waves " features amateur radio as its central theme. It's a romantic comedy about a group of male and female hams who exaggerate their identities over the air. Love ensues. Watt excitement. A must see flick for all hams.

73 de WB80WM

## FEBRUARY MEETING

The meeting for the month of February will be held at the Massillon Senior Center on February 1st 2008 at 8:00 PM.

This is the first meeting being held by our newly elected officers, Scott N3JJT as President and Rodger KA8FTS as Vice President and of with the help from returning Officers; Dan N8DZM as Secretary and Anne N8GAF as Treasurer. And we have one new Trustee, Rich Ross KA8ZQH. Be sure to come to the meeting and support your new Officer's !

## PROGRAM FOR FEBRUARY

Vice President Rodger KA8FTS is working hard lining up some very interesting programs for us. The first one is for February with Mr. Tom Sly, WB8LCD, who is the President of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS) who will give us a "hands on" program / demonstration on the "amazing world of QRP " ! Mr. Sly will be showing and demonstrating QRP rigs and antennas designed specifically for QRP. Our own Rick, K8RIC will also bring his 817 for "show and tell." The evening promises to be very interesting to say the least ! Don't miss it! (will be held at the beginning of the meeting)

## MARC 2007 HAM OF THE YEAR



In the picture above Mike Sciarini, WA8MKH (right) receives his plaque from outgoing President Ralph Bugg, K8HSQ at the MARC Banquet. Congratulations Mike !

## DUES ARE DUE !

This will be your "next to the last notice" that your dues for 2008 are now due, if in fact you haven't paid them by now. The final deadline is the Club meeting in March. So while you are thinking about it, please send your dues to Anne Ballinger MARC Treasurer N8GAF , 268 Bellevue Ave SW, Massillon, Ohio 44647-7212. Only \$ 10.00 renewal fee for the entire year gets you a full membership ! Remember; "We don't want to loose a single member" !!

# MARC Minutes

## January 2008

Massillon Amateur Radio Club met Saturday evening January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008 for our annual awards banquet at the Otterbein United Methodist Church. We had over 60 members and guests present.

President Ralph K8HSQ was master of ceremonies and did a great job keeping the meetings down to just one.

Previous minutes were not read and a financial report was not given (we'll catch up at the next meeting).

**Old Business** – none

### New Business

After a wonderful dinner the following awards were presented by Ralph.

Ham of the Year Mike Sciarini WA8MKH  
 Special Recognition Award Michael Palmer KD8ENV  
 Public Service Award Wade Huthmacher WD8MIU  
 Technical Merit Award Rodger Trompower KA8FTS  
 New Life Member Robert Kiplinger K8KIP  
 New Life Member Randy Phelps KD8JN

Last order of business was the swearing in of our officers.

President – Scott N3JJT  
 Vice – President – Rodger KA8FTS  
 Treasurer – Anne N8GAF  
 Secretary – Dan N8DZM  
 Trustees – Rich KA8ZQH, Jim WA8GXM, Gene W8KXR

## CODE CLASS

To those licensed hams (or actual beginners) who are curious about the sense of satisfaction that comes from mastering the original “digital” mode, or wish to enhance their DX, Field Day, Traffic, Portable Emergency or Rag-Chewing ability, we offer our annual Code Class.

Beginning Friday evening, February 22, 7 p.m. at the Massillon Senior Center, classes will run at least ten weeks (or until you feel capable of using CW in your shack). No tests are involved so there is no pressure to achieve a certain speed to pass an exam. One recent graduate has progressed to near 30 WPM in a short time, and this is just a beginning.

So join with us Friday, February 22 and hear what you've been missing....



## TECHNICIAN CLASSES

Not to be “outdone” by Perry, we are scheduling Technician License Classes beginning March 3, 2008 at the Massillon Senior Center beginning at 7:00 PM. Classes will last for two hours and will be ending about one week before the scheduled exam on May 10th 2008 ( 8 weeks).

Cost for either course will be \$ 5.00 (for hall rental) and \$ 19.00 for the Technician Class Manual. Instructors will be: Gary WC8W, and we are currently soliciting help from any club member who may wish to help.

Both the code and license classes are tentative at this time as we will need to coordinate both classes to benefit time and space allowed.

So if you know anyone who would like to achieve their license or to enhance their code ability please contact: Perry Ballinger, W8AU @ 330/832-8612 or Gary Kline WC8W @ 330/837-2927.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS; Pictures on page 8 are from Ralph, K8HSQ (Banquet room) and the rest are from Terry N8ATZ (including page 1). We wish to thank them for their fine work.

## ... Another Great Banquet ...

**D**id you make it to the club's Annual Awards Banquet ? I hope so, if not you missed another great club event. I believe this years attendance was just over 60 making it one of the years best attended club social events of the year. It's great to come together each year to celebrate another successful season in the club with family and friends, enjoy a terrific meal and to recognize club members accomplishments both serious and fun. Thanks to a few folks including Don – W8DEF and Ralph – K8HSQ we should have some great pictures that Gary will have included in this months edition and as soon as I get a few free minutes I'll add them to the website along with a all the award recipients.

## .. Website News ..

Speaking of the club website, I have received and paid the annual renewal from our website provider for 2008. Our contract with our current provider expires in 2009 and at that time we anticipate moving the site to a new hosting service. While the site works well and is very reliable, we can get a better deal and realize better performance with another company called [GoDaddy.com](http://GoDaddy.com). We recently completed the domain registration of W8NP.COM and W8NP.ORG through GoDaddy.com that will preserve these names for the club. Thanks to Dan, N8DZM, a redirect is currently in place that will automatically send you to our main website by using either of the above addresses. Our site continues to receive a moderate amount of traffic, averaging about 25 visits per day with a total of over 22,000 visits to the site since its last upgrade. We hope you find it both interesting and informative, new items are added several times each week. As always, let me know if you would like to see something added that would be of interest to our members.

## .. Skywarn News ..

The Cleveland National Weather Service has released the Fall 2007 Edition of its annual publication "Storm Chaser". This annual report includes a comprehensive review of the 2007 severe weather season as well as other weather related information. The 2007 edition is currently available on their website in Pdf form. I plan to include a link to it on our website if anyone would like to download a copy for themselves.

We are also finalizing schedules for this years Skywarn Spotter Training that is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, March 19th at Stark State College of Technology. I will post complete details on both the Stark Co ARES and MARC websites as soon as we receive confirmation of the date from the Cleveland NWS.

## ... Amateur Skills ...

Last month I asked you to think about 5 basic skills that we as amateurs should be capable of performing. I received sev-

eral responses from a few club members covering areas such as emergency service operation, technical ability, operating skills, plus a few more on various skills. I have separated them into several common areas and over the next few months will cover them in order of interest.

One area that generated a lot of response was in general radio operation. Anyone who owns an automobile is expected to be able to operate it properly, in fact your ability to operate it must be tested before you are granted a drivers license. What if we had this kind of requirement in the Amateur Radio Service ? Demonstrate that you could operate your radios before you could get your license. This could be a problem for some of us. Lets talk first about the basic radios that most ham operators probably have, HF Transceivers, Mobile Radios and Handhelds.

I'd like to think that those hams that operate HF on a regular basis can certainly operate their radio properly. This includes setup, tuning the transmitter, split frequency operation, etc. Current HF equipment can be very complicated computer controlled with operating manuals over one inch thick !. But what about those folks who don't operate this mode ? If we were to sit you down in front of your average HF radio could you operate it in an emergency ? While I have owned many HF radios over the last 20 years, even I would need to call for assistance with some. Our annual Field Day exercise is a great way to gain some experience in radio operation and of course at our own club station.

How about mobile and or handheld radios. Most of us active on VHF probably own both a mobile radio and one or more handhelds. Just like most average hams, I make use of rig memories to keep track of the frequencies I use the most. This works great unless you find yourself in a situation where you need to move to a frequency not included in your memory. Do you know how to move from a memory location to VFO mode and dial up a new frequency ? What if it needed a special PL tone access ? Uh Oh, now things are getting complicated. This is exactly what you may be asked to do during any communications exercise. In fact, most of us own several different types or brands of radios but can we truly use them without an in depth study of the manual. You still have the manual, right ?

As simple as this sounds, it still remains one of the more difficult things to do. With the myriad of features that are now offered on even the most basic models, we all need to sit down and really learn how to use them. Maybe this would make a good club program sometime.

At any rate, yes I believe this certainly counts as one of the most basic skills that all ham radio operator should know. How about you ? Time to rate your own skill level with this one.....

**That's all for this month,  
de Terry – N8ATZ**

## THE MASSILLON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB ACTIVITY WORD PUZZLE

Below is a list of words that relate to MARC club activity throughout the year. The words are located in the word puzzle vertically, horizontally, diagonally, forward, or reversed. Letters are sometimes used more than once.

**Puzzle continues on the next page.**

AIR	DIPOLE	MORSECODE	SETUP
AM	DIT	NET	SHACK
AMP	DONATIONS	NOISE	SIGNAL
ANALOG	DUES	ON	SKIP
ANTENNA	DX	OPERATORS	SSB
ARRAY	EDITOR	PA	SWR
ARRL	ELECTIONS	PARADE	TEACH
AWARDS	EMERGENCY	PHONE	TECHNICIAN
BAKERS	EXTRACLASS	PHOTOGRAPHERS	TEST
BALUN	FCC	POLE	TICKETS
BAND	FEEDBACK	POWER	TRAILER
BANQUET	FIELD DAY	PRESIDENT	TRAINING
BATTERY	FM	PSK	TREASURER
BNC	FOOD	QRT	TRUSTEES
CALL	GENERALCLASS	QSY	TUBE
CHEFS	GROUND	RADIO	TUNER
CLUBMEETING	HAMFEST	REPAIR	UPGRADE
COAX	HEADSET	REPEATER	VFO
COMMUNITY	IDENTIFY	REPORT	VICEPRESIDENT
CQ	KEYER	RESISTOR	VOLUNTEEREXAMINER
CW	LICENSE	RIG	VOX
DAH	LOG	RTTY	WEBPAGE
DE	MARC	RUN	WINLINK
DIGITAL	METER	SAFETYBREAK	WIRE
DIODE	MOBILE	SECRETARY	WORKERS

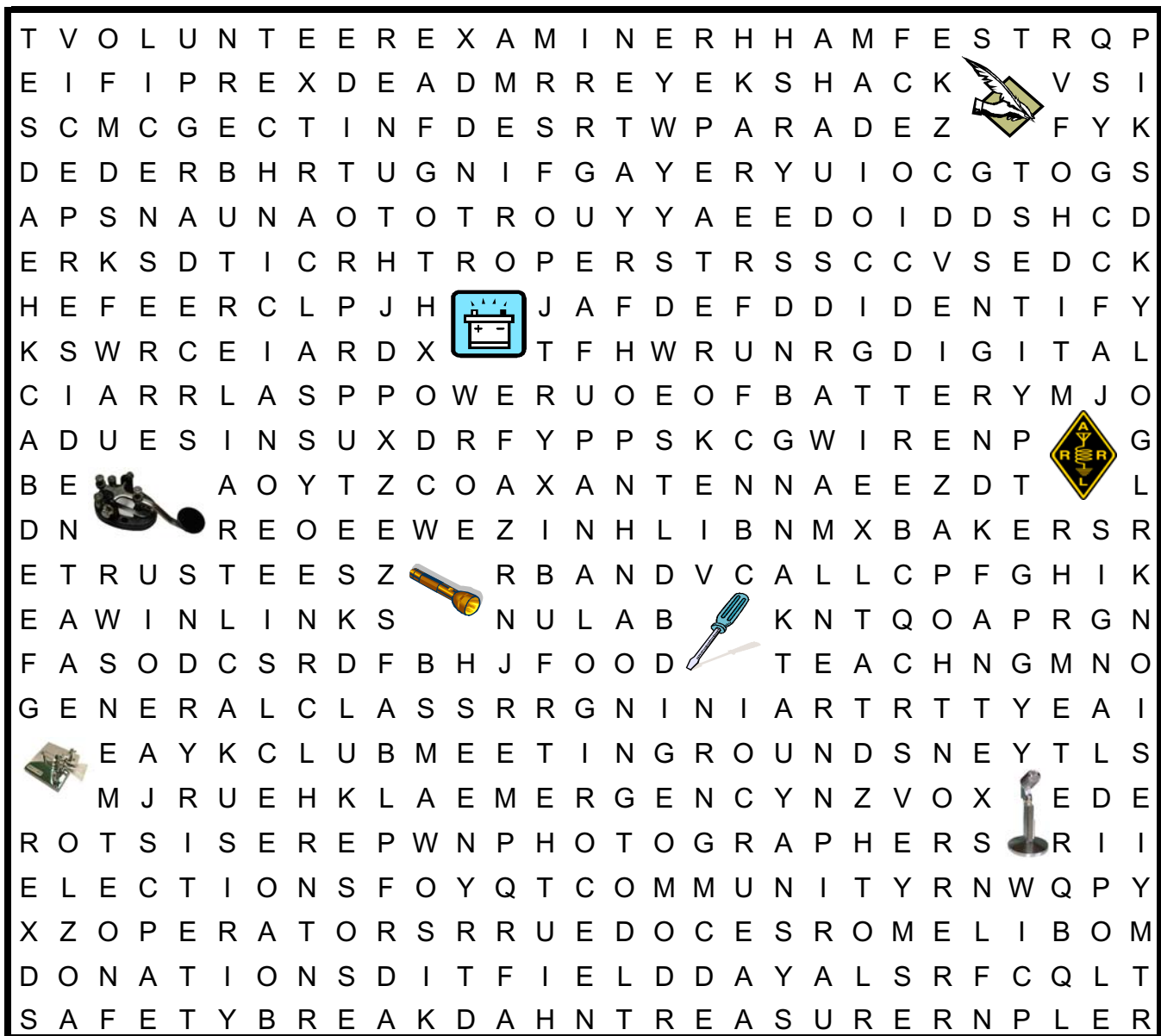
**BONUS POINT:** The word "POWER" is in the puzzle twice.

**73, de Mike WA8MKH, Carol KB8IMH, Stephen KC8IDJ**

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# Before Repeaters





73 de Mike WA8MKH, Carol KB8IMH, Stephen KC8IDJ

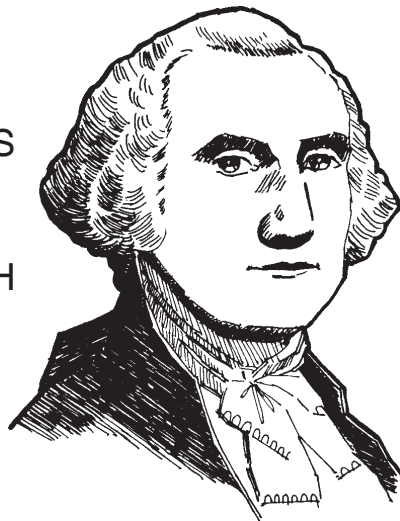
## THE PREZ SEZ

Hello once again one and all!!! Well, we had a very nice Awards Banquet! It was very nice seeing everyone there! I would first of all like to congratulate the award winners: Mike, WA8MKH, Ham of the Year 2007, Rodger, KA8FTS, Technical Merit, Mike, KD8ENV, Special Recognition, and Wade, WD8MIU, Public Service. Also would like to recognize the Life Members: Kip, K8KIP, and Randy, KD8JN. And it was nice to do a little ribbin with the fun awards this year, I enjoyed handing those out to those who received them. Again, congratulations to all!! In just a few weeks we will start off our new year with our first official meeting. I hope to see everyone there. In the past, a handful of us have been going to Smiley's Restaurant up the street. I am inviting everyone once again to join us after the meeting for some additional fellowship. I have had some brief discussions with a couple of the members who have been running the Friday Night Net. Gary and I have talked, and I am going to take over the Net Manager's Position. With that in mind, it looks like we have about 4 or so folks to take check-ins. I am looking for some additional net controllers for Friday night. The more we have, the less any one person will have to take a net. I will have a calendar at the meeting for sign ups. I hope to see the blocks get filled. Well, that is enough from my desk. I hope to see you at the meeting. Lets make this a fun 2008!!

**DE..The Prez..N3JJT..Scott**

PRESIDENT'S  
DAY

FEBRUARY 18TH



## Tubs of Tubes

by Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

The other day I got a call from a guy whose website I'm working on. He says he's calling from the Ann Arbor Reuse Center and that they have two tubs full of vacuum tubes there. He asked, "Do you know anyone who might want them"?

"How much are they asking for them"? I reply.

"Ten cents a piece."

"How many are there"?

"I'd guess about two hundred."

"Well, tell them I'll give him 20 bucks for all of them."

He tells them that I'll give them \$20 for the lot. I hear some mumbling. He comes back on the line and says they're negotiating. After a minute or two, he says, "OK. You got them. How do I get to your house"?

I gave him directions, and in about 15 minutes, he pulls up to my house, gets out, opens the hatch, and pulls out two plastic tubs and a cardboard box with vacuum tubes in them. I can tell he was way off in his estimate. There must be at least 400 tubes in all.

There's nothing really exotic—most of them seem to have been taken out of old TV sets—but I did find a couple of 6J6s. These are the tubes used for the single-tube transmitter I have been thinking about building (see [http://wv7g.home.mindspring.com/jones\\_6j6.html](http://wv7g.home.mindspring.com/jones_6j6.html) for more info). In one of the tubs, there was even a socket for the 6J6.

There are also a bunch of 6KS7s. According to the RCA tube manual, these tubes were often used as RF or IF amplifiers. That sounds like the beginning of a receiver project, doesn't it? In fact, 6SK7s were used in the receiver section of the ParaSet (<http://www.mines.uidaho.edu/~glowbugs/paraset.htm>), a "spy radio" used during WWII.

And, of course, there are a bunch of rectifiers to make a power supply. Now, all I have to find some cheap transformers. Anyone know a good source for them?

When he's not wondering what he's going to do with more than 400 vacuum tubes, KB6NU works CW and PSK on the HF bands and blogs about ham radio at [www.kb6nu.com](http://www.kb6nu.com). You can reach him by e-mail at [cwgeek@kb6nu.com](mailto:cwgeek@kb6nu.com).

[[NOTE: A photo of one of the tubs can be had off my website at <http://kb6nu.com/wp-content/uploads/2007/12/tuboftubes.jpg> ]]

## ARRL NEWS

ZCZC AX02  
 QST de W1AW  
 Special Bulletin 2 ARLX002  
 From ARRL Headquarters  
 Newington CT January 17, 2008  
 To all radio amateurs

### ARLX002 Lunar Echo Experiment looking for Amateur Radio Participants

The HF Active Auroral Research Program (HAARP) in Alaska and the Long Wavelength Array (LWA) in New Mexico are planning an additional lunar echo experiment for January 18-19.

Interested radio amateurs are invited to participate in this experiment by listening for the lunar echoes and submitting reports.

On January 19, listen on 6.7925 MHz from 0500-0600z, and on 7.4075 MHz from 0600-0700z. On January 20, listen on 6.7925 MHz from 0630-0730z and on 7.4075 MHz from 0730-0830z (depending on frequency occupancy at the time of operation, it may be necessary to adjust the frequency slightly).

Based on previous experiments, investigators believe it should be possible to hear the lunar echoes with a standard communications receiver and a simple 40 meter dipole antenna. The format for the transmissions will follow a five second cycle beginning on the hour and repeating continuously.

The HAARP transmitter will transmit for the first two seconds. The next three seconds will be quiet to listen for the lunar echo. Then HAARP will transmit again for two seconds, repeating the cycle for one hour. In the second hour, this five second repetitive cycle will be repeated at a different frequency. All transmissions from HAARP will be CW (no modulation).

Depending on ionospheric conditions, it may or may not be possible to hear the HAARP transmission directly via skywave propagation. Since HAARP will not be using any modulation, set your receiver on to CW mode to hear HAARP and the lunar echo. Investigators are interested in receiving signal reports from radio amateurs who may be able to detect — or not detect— the lunar echo or the transmitted skywave pulse from HAARP.

Submit reports via e-mail to mbreport@haarp.alaska.edu and list your call sign and the type and location of your receiving equipment and antennas.

**NNNN**  
**/EX**

ZCZC AX01  
 QST de W1AW  
 Special Bulletin 1 ARLX001  
 From ARRL Headquarters  
 Newington CT January 16, 2008  
 To all radio amateurs

### ARLX001 Hiram Percy Maxim II Passes Away at 72

The grandson of ARRL co-founder Hiram Percy Maxim, W1AW, died at home in Lyme, Connecticut on Saturday, January 12 after a lengthy battle with prostate cancer. Hiram Percy Maxim II — called HPM just like his grandfather — was 72.

Not a ham, Maxim told the Newington Amateur Radio League at an October 2002 meeting that he doesn't feel he shares the inventive talents of his grandfather and great-grandfather, who held many patents between them; Maxim's great-grandfather invented the machine gun.

He told the club audience that his grandfather took on radio and filmmaking as diversions from inventing — an endeavor he considered extremely hard work. He also thought of Amateur Radio as a means to “bring together” individuals from distant locations and believed that communication was a key to better understanding other people and cultures.

The elder Maxim — often referred to as “The Old Man,” or “TOM” — was an amateur film buff, and a highlight of his grandson's 2002 presentation was a short 16 mm film that showed the elder Maxim and some of his friends working, relaxing and frolicking on the grounds of the family's summer home in Lyme, Connecticut, where HPM II lived until his death.

His son, Merritt Maxim, told the ARRL, “Even though he didn't have an Amateur Radio license, he was aware of the importance of his family's role in founding the League. Through his father, my grandfather — an active engineer — he continued to maintain an interest in all things mechanical.”

A memorial service will be held at the Lyme Public Hall at 11 AM on Monday, January 21. Burial will be private. Memorial contributions may be made to the Lyme Public Hall Association, 249 Hamburg Rd, Lyme, CT 06371.

**NNNN**  
**/EX**

## MARC 2007 AWARDS BANQUET PICTURE PAGE



The Banquet room beging to fill up. This year the club filled nearly every seat in the Banquet room!



The "serious" Awards gets underway with **Mike, KD8ENV** (right) getting his "Special Recognition Award" for his service to the club in 2007.



**Wade WD8MIU** recieves his Public Service Award from Ralph K8HSQ. Wade recieved the award for his tireless effort in helping the club with Public Service activities.

CONGRATULA-  
TIONS  
TO ALL !!!



**Rodger KA8FTS** recieves the MARC Technical Merit Award.



**Passing the Gavel.** Outgoing President Ralph K8HSQ passes the gavel to Incoming President Scott N3JJT.



**Meet the new Officer's for 2008** ( L-R) Rich, KA8ZQH Trustee, Anne N8GAF, Treasurer, Scott N3JJT President, Rodger KA8FTS, Vice President, and Dan N8DZM Secretary. Outgoing Prez Ralph K8HSQ, congratulates all.



# February 2008

## W8NP Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																									
					<b>1</b> West Stark Info Net - 147.180 at 2000	<b>2</b> <b>Groundhog Day</b>																																																																																																									
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<b>3</b> NOARS Winter HAM Fest, Ctc: John Schaaf, K8JWS 216-696-5709, Lorain	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> VE Test Session, Pioneer AR Fellowship, 7:00 PM, Ctc: Ronald D. Lieving, (330)724-5981, Akron Baptist Temple	<b>6</b> BD KC8ZCT	<b>7</b> BD KA8MMN	<b>8</b> West Stark Info Net - 147.180 at 2000	<b>9</b>																																																																																																									
<b>10</b> Mid*Winter Hamfest, InterCity ARC, Mansfield, Richland County Fairgrounds, Ctc: Dean Wrasse, 419-589-2415 (after 10:30 AM)	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> <b>Lincoln's Birthday</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> <b>Valentine's Day</b>	<b>15</b> West Stark Info Net - 147.180 at 2000	<b>16</b>																																																																																																									
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<b>24</b> WASHfest 2006, Castle Shannon (Pittsburgh), PA, Ctc:Kevin Smith, N3HKQ, 724-258-4153	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> BD WD8BGW	<b>29</b> West Stark Info Net - 147.180 at 2000																																																																																																										

Please contact K8INN for updates, changes, or additions.