

# FEEDBACK

VOLUME 54 ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2009

## MASSILLON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OFFICERS

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MRN NET Tue, Thur, & Sun  
7:30 PM 3.600 MHz

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## -- SHORT SKIP ----

As you know by now, come February 17th analog TV will switch to digital. Will this have any effect on amateur radio? Well, yes and no. For complete info be sure to read W3ZZ's "World Above 50 Mhz" column in this month's QST, page 92.

Good reading Bunkey !

73 DE WB80WM

## FEBRUARY MEETING

The meeting for the month of February will be held on February 6th at 8:00 PM at the Massillon Senior Center.

This meeting will be the first meeting for our newly installed Officer's for 2009. President Rodger, KA8FTS will host the first gavel on what will be an all important year. The first order of business will be (besides the recap of last month's Awards Banquet) the last Safety Break we will hold at the Dover Exit of Interstate 77. What will replace this most valuable fund raiser? This and other jobs await the newly elected officers decision !

## 2009 DUES NOW DUE !

Just a reminder that the dues for 2009 are now due. You have only ONE month in which to complete this very valuable task !

As of last count only 58 (total) of the 111 registered members are either Life Members or Free (Officer's) which are paid up. Cost for a year's membership is still only \$10.00 for a single membership. The XYL is only \$ 5.00 and students living at home is merely \$ 2.50. REMEMBER ! WE do Not Want to Loose a Single Member !!!

## FEBRUARY PROGRAM NOTICE !

It is now 2009. The new officers have been installed.

And I feel honored that many of you selected me to be your vice-president and I hope that I serve you well.

I am honored to represent the Massillon Club. The January presentation will be by Frank WA8WHP on the digital revolution in the televised sector. I want to personally thank Frank for volunteering his first hand experience to this presentation. This leaves March open needing a program as well as the rest of the year of 2009. I want to know from you the club members what would interest you and I will do my best to get that set up for the club.

If you can give me your ideas along with any contacts and phone numbers, or if you would like to carry the ball and donate your time to a presentation please feel free to e-mail me at [ccunert@yahoo.com](mailto:ccunert@yahoo.com). The presentation need not be more then 30 or 45 minutes and can start before the business meeting by 1 hour or the traditional after meeting presentation. If the requests are long, all the better, a variety of selections can only add to the fun of future presentations.

73 DE AB8CC

**MARC MINUTES**  
**2009 Awards Banquet**  
**Jan 10<sup>th</sup> 2009**

**Menu**

Chicken, Swiss Steak  
Mashed Potatoes  
Green Beans  
Salad  
Rolls  
Pies

**Awards**

Ham of the year Mike Palmer KD8ENV  
Special Recognition Award "Excellence in Publishing" Gary Kline WC8W  
Public Service Award Igor Nikishin K8INN  
Technical Merit Award Mike Sciarini WA8MKH  
Contesting Award Rex Simmons NX8G  
Outstanding Service Award ' 9 Years Exemplary Service As Club Treasurer Anne Ballinger N8GAF  
Program Excellence Award Rodger Trompower KA8FTS

2 new life members Terry Russ N8ATZ & Donald Pernell WD8ROR

Peggy Phelps & Carol Sciarini for Fair Females of Field Day (GOTA)  
Mike Palmer for Parade TRAFFIC COP Award (including video evidence!)  
Perry Ballinger - Ooops We Cuda Had the Trophy Award

The 50/50 was won by Steve KD8ACF for \$36. He donated it back to the club.

**Newly Elected Officers Sworn In**

President - Rodger Trompower KA8FTS

Vice President - Carl Cunnert AB8CC

Secretary - Dan Anastis N8DZM

Treasurer - Joe Herrick WD8BGW

Trustee - Scott McCamish N3JJT

**Minutes by your Secretary Dan N8DZM**

## ... 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. The weather could have been a bit better, nearly five inches of snow fell between Friday and Saturday morning that almost caused us to cancel this annual event but thankfully the snow finally eased Saturday afternoon and conditions were pretty good for the banquet. I believe we only had a few that couldn't make it this year, not bad considering the weather. Overall attendance was down a bit this year but this always changes year by year.

Still, it's always great to come together each year to celebrate another successful season in the club with family and friends, enjoy a great meal and to recognize club members accomplishments both serious and fun. That continues to be one of the best aspects of our great organization ! As soon as I get the pictures developed from the banquet I'll have them up on the website.

## .. DTV News ..

As most of you have probably heard by now, February 17th will be the official date that television broadcast stations change from analog to digital TV. If you're already a cable or satellite TV subscriber chances are that you may not need to change anything except maybe the installation of a simple converter box. If you are still using a traditional over-the-air TV antenna you will need to upgrade to either a TV containing a digital tuner or at least you will need to install a converter box.

A detailed article is currently posted on the club website that may help answer some of your questions about this change over and the club is lucky to have scheduled a timely program for our February 6th meeting covering the DTV change over. It will be presented by Frank Sanor, WA8WHP who is employed as a television broadcast engineer and is currently involved first hand in this conversion to DTV. Make sure you join us meeting night for what sounds like a very informative program to start out the 2009 season.

## .. Website Update ..

Dan, N8DZM and I are currently working on changing over the club website to a new hosting service and we hope to have it completed over the next few weeks. There shouldn't be any site interruptions during this time, the entire process should only take a few hours once everything is in place. The new hosting service will give us almost unlimited space and bandwidth plus a number of new enhancements that we would like to use as time permits.

We are also considering giving the site a new "look" during the year that we hope will make the site more user friendly and quicker. It should also make the site a bit more compatible to the different web browsers currently in use out there. This will be a time consuming project but still something we are planning to pursue during the year.

Best of all this new hosting will cost about the same including all the new enhancements. We will keep you up-to-date as we complete these new projects. Stay tuned !

## .. Skywarn News ..

I have some early dates for you to keep in mind concerning our Skywarn and ARES programs. I should have more on both by next month.

We are tentatively planning for our Annual Skywarn Spotter Training program on Wednesday, March 18th at Stark State College of Technology. The meeting will start at 6:30 PM as in previous years. Ohio has set the week of March 22nd to 28th as Spring Severe Weather Awareness Week with the Statewide Tornado Drill set for Wednesday, March 25th at 9:50 AM.

I am also currently planning on having our first quarter Stark County ARES general meeting on Thursday, March 5th from 7:00 to 8:30 PM at the Stark County EOC Office. Weather and schedules permitting, I hope to have a guest speaker for this meeting as well. Meeting topics are currently being considered, let me know if there is anything you would like to see included at this meeting.

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

**!**

**De Terry – N8ATZ**



# *A New Old Science Fair Project ?*

The Antenna Analyzer can be used with common items found around the house and the ham shack. Here is a way to use the Antenna Analyzer during the winter months. (When not being used on an outside antenna?)



The MFJ Model 259B Analyzer is the measuring instrument used with the following construction projects. The MFJ Models 259 or 269 or similar analyzer may be used.



Also needed is the construction of the WA8MKH design adapter shown in a previous article and above. This is about a one foot long RG58 coax with 3 inch leads. Optional, the MFJ Model 66 Dip Adapter is shown on the far right.

Additional items needed:

- About a 6 inch square piece of aluminum foil
- Card stock paper: Such as recipe cards or page cover of an old phone book or part of a tissue box
- Glue: Rubber cement or any type for gluing aluminum foil to paper
- Tape: Masking tape, or scotch tape, or electrical tape
- 3 feet of insulated wire: 14, 16, or 18 AWG house wiring wire, or enameled wire etc.
- 3 feet of 20 to 24 AWG stranded insulated wire: Removed from an old monitor cable, or telephone wire, etc. Best to use something flexible if possible.
- A 4 inch long piece of 1 to 1 1/2 inch PVC pipe or a screwdriver with a 1 inch diameter handle.
- 2 Clothespin clips or alligator clips, or wire nuts.



## ***THE CAPACITOR***

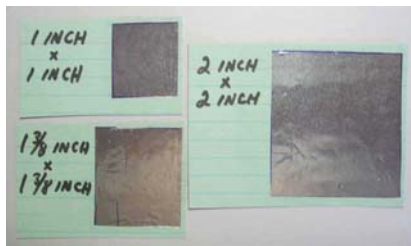


Construction of the capacitor:

This is a good project to have the spouse and children involved. They may be future ham radio operators and this project could be a path to the ticket. The construction of the components in this article is not critical.

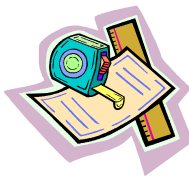
## THE CAPACITOR, CONTINUED

- Using aluminum foil, cut 2 of each of these pieces:
  - 1 inch by 1 inch, 1 3/8 inch by 1 3/8 inch, 2 inch by 2 inch
- Using 3 recipe cards or equivalent, glue the same size pieces to opposite sides of the cards as shown.



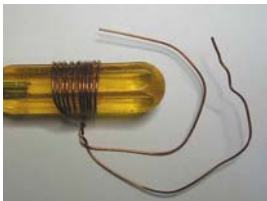
Note: Directly behind each aluminum foil, on the opposite side of the card is the other same size piece of aluminum. It is recommended to let the glue dry overnight; otherwise the capacitance value will drift while the glue is drying. Capacitance will vary due to different glues and different thickness of paper stock.

Prepare 6 stranded wires of 6 inch lengths each. (Old CRT monitors have a lot of hookup wire in the video cable). Strip 1 inch insulation from each end of the 6 wires. Tape one end of each wire to each of the 6 aluminum pieces as shown.



## THE INDUCTOR (COIL)

Using 1 to 1 1/2 PVC is more stable for holding and winding wire. If PVC is not available, the wire can be wound on a screwdriver handle. Wind 10 turns of number 14 or 16 or 18 AWG solid (not stranded) wire around the screwdriver handle. Twist the leads several times to keep the coil from unwinding then slide coil off the screwdriver. Leave 6 inches of lead length. Strip 1 inch of insulation from the ends of the 2 wires as shown.



## THE FUN PART, MAKING IT WORK

Connect the 2 leads of the coil to the 2 leads of the 1 3/8 inch capacitor as shown. After the capacitor wire is tightly twisted around the coil wire, then (using standard items around the house), clothespin clips were used to hold the wire. The circuit is now a parallel, coil and capacitor combination, and is a resonant circuit. But where is it resonant? The next step will find out.



While this circuit does not look like much at this time, it is equivalent to a working antenna trap. This trap will not withstand the outside weather conditions but the principle is the same, that is, a coil in parallel with a capacitor, but the capacitor will need to be rated for high voltage.

## THE FUN PART, CONTINUED



Testing resonant frequency using the WA8MKH adapter on left and top. The MFJ Model 66 Dip Adapter on the right works best slightly inside of a coil. Start with the lowest frequency on the analyzer. Rotate TUNE slowly higher in frequency until a dip in the SWR meter is noticed. Note:

The TUNE adjustment rotates about 3 3/4 turns and then will free slip without damage. Move adapters away about 1/4 inch each time then readjust TUNE until the SWR lowest reading is about 1/2 of the upper red scale. This is the resonant frequency of the circuit.

Try using the other 2 capacitors and notice that the resonant frequency changes significantly. The tests using the 3 capacitors and the coil constructed for this article indicates resonance of around **13.2 MHz for the 1 inch capacitor** , **9.4 MHz for the 1 3/8 inch capacitor** , and **6.3 MHz for the 2 inch capacitor** . Also, spreading the coil apart will raise the resonant frequency and squeezing the coil turns together will lower the resonant frequency. Give it a try. Readings vary slightly when moving wires as noted on the display.



## PUTTING THE KNOWLEDGE TO USE IN THE REAL WORLD



An easy to construct type of coaxial antenna trap uses RG58 (stranded center) or RG174. The coax does double duty as the Capacitor in parallel with the Inductor. This system behaves the same as the experiments in this article. The coax is around 30 pF per foot length and therefore is the Capacitor. The outside coil of coax is the Inductor. By connecting the center conductor on one end of the coil to the shield on the other end of the coil, the Capacitor is now in parallel with the Inductor. Permission has been granted by the ARRL to email the following PDF articles on antenna trap design and construction, to the Massillon Amateur Radio Club Newsletter list: Robert C. Sommer N4UU QST December 1984, and Al Buxton W8NX QST August 1994. Thank You ARRL, Mr. Sommer and Mr. Buxton.

**73 DE MIKE, WA8MKH**

## Tectopics 25 Of Globe Kings, Barker & Williamson and Heavy Metal Autopsies and Surgery

Well, it has come to this, the year's end board meeting here at the Big KXR; an event much anticipated, and yet approached with perhaps some apprehension. It is the time for looking back at what was planned, what was left unfinished, and plans for catching up 'next year.' So, in this vein, here is a summary of this year's end board meeting, taken from detailed notes of proceedings by my Chief of Staff, Missy Marilyn.

The Official Report recorded that much has been accomplished here at the ever-growing Big KXR. Many Fests were attended, including the Shelby Fest in North Carolina, an outstanding event at their new QTH; Fort Wayne, provided an excellent range of gear from new to Heavy Metal; Cambridge, a new Fest needing your support; Findley, true to tradition, a great fest and the source of my B&W; Cleveland, traditional and lots of friends, and stuff old and new to list of a few of the events attended this past season. I can report that the spirit of our unique hobby continues and was especially apparent in Shelby, and Fort Wayne. Traditional Ham flavored hospitality, gear to trade, good friends, and general good will was there to savor by anyone accustomed to real Ham Radio at it's best.

The Big KXR Lab has also been intensely busy this year with autopsies and corrective surgery on several pieces of Heavy Metal. Completed gear included a pristine Viking Valiant, its companion 6N2 transmitter and its VFO; an E.F. Johnson 6N2 receive converter; a Hammurlund HQ110A-VHF rcvr; a cosmetically excellent Barker & Williamson 5100, a classic Hallicrafters HT-20 and its companion VFO. These rebuilds are now fully operational and on the air in Area 52. As has been detailed in Tectopics past, rebuilding includes replacing all electrolytics, plastic by-pass caps and rewiring where needed. Mechanical problems are re-engineered along with any other items needed to bring a veteran QRO rig back to life.

Each of these rigs had routine, yet often unique, problems to correct depending on its previous life. Such questions and problems solved would fill many pages, with the Chief Engineer here at the Lab...(yes, you know him...he's the really great guy who writes this stuff!) often reflecting on questions of where were these rigs in their prime, what QSOs were made and to where and with whom, who paid high dollars for them when they were new and how have they survived until we find them? What stories they could tell of their operators, our traditions and lore!

And then, there are so many unfinished projects still waiting for their return to life, those yet to be savored and analyzed for repair and to bring back from spidery dark and dusty places. This summer's quest was good, with gear such as a B&W 5100 in near mint condition that probably never ran well from the day it was purchased... a story in itself; a Collins designed, Motorola built R390A with an immaculate chassis and matching sub

modules and original meters; a Hammurlund SP600 JX-6 in very excellent cosmetic condition still running, but in desperate need of a rebuild and a Hallicrafters SX-28 in pristine cosmetic condition, also needing renovation. These rigs, and others, are in the Lab awaiting their turn for analysis and rebuilding... so many projects, so much to learn. The Chief Engineer and his staff are sometimes overwhelmed at so much to do, to learn and understand!

Also antenna work was good this year...the inverted V for 80 and 40 was up for rebuilding, taking nearly six weeks of steady work to scrap the old version, and construct new components and install the new antenna...it features 600 ohm feeders, and hardened guys, hardware and masting...but, a low noise receive antenna for 160 meters and the planned 160 meter inverted L ran out of time for install...all parts are assembled and built for installation, but winter closed in a bit early this year. Yet, there is a good chance for the low noise EWE rcvr antenna to be installed, once the Holidays are history and some sense of routine returns to the Labs.

Planned, but not yet finished, is a two hundred and seventy pound transmitter, known to the Faithful as a Globe King 500B, a big guy from the late '50's capable of 350 watts out on key down sigs as long as you want to pay the electric bill. This transmitter came from the local area, but the owner is unknown...it traveled to Iowa some years ago, with the help of my good friend, Bob K8MGC, another story to be told someday. I'd started its return to life in Iowa, then with a major QTH change back here to Ohio, the third time we've lived here, nearly fifteen years ago, it was crated for shipment and has just come up in the Lab's rehab priority list.

I'd hoped for an easy rebuild, but the poor beast has had more than a few problems discovered upon serious preparations for its eventual return to 160, 75, and 40 meters. It is built on three standard rack chassis, and lives in a Bud cabinet. It includes two HV power supplies, low voltage, bias, and ptt supplies...using gas rectifiers, glass rectifiers, and selenium types. Like all rebuilds here at the Big KXR Labs, safety issues are up graded...(3KV on the 4-250 final, no mistakes allowed), recapping, wiring clean up, improved cooling, and in the case of the Globe Kings, chassis inter connect cables have proven to be an issue, with the older cables developing intermittents, probably due to flexing over the years...this transmitter is about fifty years old, so such problems are expected and up graded with modern components where needed.

I wonder if any of the current 'rice boxes' will live for fifty years, and still be coveted and rebuilt to better than original? Curious thought, and symptomatic of the often-shallow nature of our hobby these days...

But, the King is progressing...and with some more effort...it will be a great experience to operate it and hear it with its original audio line up, on the air again cranking out 350 watts with full modulation. Note, this translates to 4 x 350 peak audio, or 1400

watts to the antenna. Oh, and btw, it is able to perform as a linear amplifier too, just in case someone is jaded enough to run SSB with it.

Ham Boy has been asking what receiver will it be paired with? The plan is to mate it to a Collins 75A3 that is in superb condition, making this heavy metal station a real classic. Yet, in Area 52, other receivers are easily patched for pairing. And, if you ask why? Just because the Big KXR can provide interconnection with many combos of equipment new and old...and because it's fun; and I can ...

Of course the Big KXR is really an eclectic station...(that means a real mix of Modern and Heavy Metal gear, for the button pushers). Yet, it is really about the heavy gear, and the chance to be 'hands on' with our hobby.

So, these excerpts from the official report to the CEO was, as you can see, highlighted with many successes this year, with several rigs rebuilt and on the air, some great new acquisitions by the Scrounging, Trading and Deal Making Department. And yet, a few were left on the lab bench waiting their turn for a chance to return to the air waves and live once more where they once were the joy of those Hams who knew our hobby well. Those operators and these 'best of the best' of the premier electronics of the era near the end of the tube age represent our heritage as Amateur Radio Operators and natural experimenters.

For any who are drawn to our hobby in modern times, experiencing what Ham Radio was, can still visit those times with the rescue, rehabilitation and operation of a classic Heavy Metal rig, large or small as suits your curiosity. Parts are available, data and huge amounts of experience are just a keyboard away, or better yet, search out a group that is doing such research and rebuilding on the air. Anyone who wants to savor the essence of real Ham Radio...taste the excitement of moving beyond 'just a button pusher' with a 'plug and play' view of our hobby...can try their hand. For those who know the excitement and fascination of doing 'real radio,' we welcome you.

Finally, this Tectopics is number 25, a nice number, not especially unique among numbers, with no special magic, but it seems a natural benchmark. These experiments in writing, and spoofing a bit on my favorite past time, are fun, and represent about one hundred pages of text since the beginning, depending on how they are formatted. So with the end of this year, looking back on it as a great year, with many projects unfinished and yet to start, I wish those of you who might enjoy this experiment in words, a Happy New Year from all the staff at the Big KXR.

One last non-radio major accomplishment this year, that has been a several years project, is the completion of a main line novel, about six hundred pages in length, needing only proper page numbers now. This project, 'Jackie Tone Chronicles' has run in parallel with so many projects, but the writing is done and the story told; a huge, but exciting self-imposed goal to write and finish a full-length novel, but one I would do again.

Now, I see Missy Marilyn coming into the boardroom, actually our family room, with steamy cups of hot chocolate, and of course, you already know...a large plate of freshly baked 'Sticky Buns'. And so, from close to our quietly flickering fireplace, Missy Marilyn and I both wish all who might take time for a Tectopics or two, a Merry Christmas and hope you are already dreaming and planning for your New Year; and for great new adventures in our world of electronics, communications, history, and camaraderie.

From all the staff at the Big KXR, 73 es Happy New Year!

**De W8KXR**

**End ...  
Dec/08 ...**

Date: Wednesday, January 14, 2009 9:19 AM

## PREZ SAYS:

Well, here is the first column from your new Prez. I want to thank all the old board members for a "wonderful year" and with putting up with me as VP.

Scott, N3JJT did an amazing job as President and Ann, N8GAF for her many years as Treasurer.

I know the new staff will be just as efficient. Thanks to Joe for taking over the Treasurer's duties. I know it will make my job a lot easier with him there to ask questions about meeting procedures and the like.

I happen to know we are having a program for the February meeting, but I will not spoil it for the new VP.

Thanks again all for your support and electing me your Club President.

**73's de KA8FTS >(ô¿ô)<**





## IN MEMORIAM

### LINDA WESTRICH

Linda Westrich, wife of Charles "Skip" Westrich, age 59 passed away on December 31, 2008 following a lengthy illness. Linda was born in Ramsgate England on October 15, 1949. She was a longtime member of Fairmount Park Presbyterian Church where she was a Sunday and vacation bible school teacher, a current Church of the Covenant of Canton. Linda loved animals and was a member of the Stark County Humane Society. Employed at Sumer's Nursing Home as a nurses aid and later worked at Walmart in Alliance. She is survived by husband Charles "Skip" Westrich (WB8OWM) to whom she was married for 41 years, a son David Westrich of the home, a daughter and son-in-law, Karen and John Hagan of Minerva, Brothers, Malcolm and "Stephen of Bedfordshire, England, sisters Margaret Mock of Canyon Country, California, Pauline Lolley of Gillete, Wyoming, and several sisters in England.

Linda was laid to rest on January 5th 2009 in the North Lawn Cemetery. The family requests memorials be made to the Stark County Humane Society. Members of the Massillon Amateur Radio Club wish to extend their most sincere condolences to Skip and his Family.



Date: Friday, December 12, 2008 1:40 PM

### FCC Requests Ham's Technical Aid in Education on DTV.

We have received a request by the FCC for members of the ARRL to provide technical educational assistance to their communities during January and February in accomplishing the digital TV conversion. Clubs are being asked to develop and implement plans to provide information about the DTV conversion in their areas in ways they think best fits their community. Each community is a little different, so your plans may vary. Let your Section Manager know your group is willing to help out.

Hams should \*not\* make "house calls," sell any equipment or do actual installations — the request is only to distribute technical information and their materials. As we all know, some folks just never get the message until too late. Materials for presentations, education and many other activities are available at <http://www.dtv.gov/outreach.html>. Beginning early January, FCC staff will contact Section Managers and leaders of interested clubs and, where possible, arrange to meet for sharing even more information, A/V and printed materials and training aids with the clubs in this effort.

We know the time is short and problematic, (not our choice) but your aid in this now will be appreciated.

### WEB SITES

From time to time I get a lot of interesting web sites to go and look at. Some are very interesting and some are not, but that's because I have no interest in them where someone else might and it would be very useful to him. I will list them and you can be the judge yourself !

<http://images.google.com/images?hi=en&g=ham+radio+source3Alife>  
Life magazine ham radio pictures

<http://support.anywheremap.com/pdfs/wiresize.PDF>  
to help select different wire sizes

<http://www.spaceweather.com/> Ah a real good one on predicting propagation and other very important information !

<http://copaseticflow.blogspot.com/2008/10/amateur-radio-license-exam-practice.html> Need help with license exams? here is a really good site to help !

<http://www.geocities.com/justradios/aboutjustradios.html>  
here is an excellent link for capacitors and resistors for building...restoring...repair.

Hope these web sites can be of help to you. For copyright laws and just plain not enough space, I cannot publish the information contained in these web sites, but you are free to look at and use them at your convenience.

## CW MUSIC LESSONS

Is CW “music to your ears?” Would you like it to be? Would you like to be the “encoder and decoder” (MODEM) instead of a black box next to your radio? Would it be satisfying if you were a part of the process?

As an educator recently stated, “kids don’t like math if slowness would embarrass them in front of their peers.” Can this be avoided if learning is made interesting? The answer is YES. (for kids AND adults)



One of the amazing things about CW in this age of high-tech digital modes, where making a living as a CW operator is very limited, is that the tools that enable one to be a better CW operator have expanded greatly. We see many new

styles of straight keys, types of electronic keyers, dedicated keyboards (for those who want to send 50 to 100 word-per-minute) and even Computer programs that send (and receive depending on the received quality).

Who are the customers for this new technology? Who else is left, but Ham Radio operators! And obviously, since there is no money to be made as a CW operator, it follows that those who were never paid for it will continue as before, enjoying it as a valuable communications skill, employing it as a universal language worldwide, and appreciating the “leveling” it gives to all over-the-air contacts. It makes no distinction between the sexes, race, your appearance or voice characteristics (southern drawls or the Kings English sound the same when coming through the fingers). The most important feature is retained...the message content.

Is slow hand-written CW fun? Only if you’re a beginner. After that one needs to get to “conversational speeds” to maintain interest and enjoyment. Can this be attained by those who think it’s hard to do? Nope. Can it be achieved by folks that enter it with an open mind, unaffected by other’s negative comments? Yes, of course. Its all a mental process, and keeping your mind active enables progress in all aspects of life...including CW!

Being a good well rounded Radio club, MARC provides an annual code class at two levels. First, for beginners, and second, for those with CW skills who would like to enter that realm of operation where CW really does sound like music, conversation is effortless and the only thing you do with a pencil is take occasional notes. (And MARC needs more CW ops for Field Day, too!):-)

Classes begin Friday evening, Feb 20, from 7-9 p.m. and will continue weekly for as long as it takes... The first Friday of each month will be 6-8 p.m. and precede the monthly MARC meeting.

Interested? Bring your pencils and notepads and see what’s possible!

(Explanation of pictures. On the left is a code key called a “Mac Key” ( and I thought all he did was flip burgers!) really this key was invented long before Ronald was !. Below is the original “Bug” circa 1960, although this key likewise has been around since the very early 20th century.



## TECHNICIAN CLASSES TO START

The MARC announces the formation of Technician Classes to start on February 23, 2009 at the Senior Center (3rd floor) at 7:00 PM and will last for approximately 6 weeks. The primary instructor will be Gary Kline WC8W. At this time I am looking for others who wish to help with the instruction duties. This can be in the form of live demonstrations or lectures. I want to diversify a little from the “norm” to keep the class from becoming too dull ! So if you know someone who would like to become a Ham operator, please contact myself or Perry at 330/837-2927 or call 330/832-8612 for either classes. If you would like to help with the instructions, please call me ASAP so I can get you scheduled into the classes.

## FEEDBACK NEWSLETTER

Does this issue of Feedback look a little different to you? Well it is however a little longer than usual. It contains 12 pages. For those of you who receive the newsletter via E-Mail, it is no problem to send you 12, 14 pages or more; however those of you who receive it via US Post, because of weight I am limited to just 10 or 12 pages. This month I am sending 12 pages so that you can enjoy the full newsletter with no eliminations of stories or articles. This month’s newsletter contains two very fine articles by Mike **WA8MKH** and a short story by Gene **W8KXR**. I hope you enjoy. By the way Gene is working on a book which he hopes to have it published soon ! And speaking of which Mr Mike, **WB8VGE** has another very fine article published in this month’s **QST** pages 70-72 !!

# February 2009

## W8NP Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930  NOARS Winter HAM Fest, Ctc: Darlene, KA8VTS, 216-398-8858, Lorain	Groundhog Day	Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930  Stark County ARES Net on 147.12 at 7:00 PM  VE Test Session, Pioneer AR Fellowship, 1900, Ctc: Ronald, (330)724-5981, Akron Baptist Temple		Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930	BD KC8ZCT  Massillon Amateur Radio Club Meeting, Senior Center, Massillon, 2000	BD KA8MMN
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930		Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930  Stark County ARES Net on 147.12 at 7:00 PM		Lincoln's Birthday  Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930		Valentine's Day
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930  Mid-Winter Hamfest, InterCity ARC, Mansfield, Richland County Fairgrounds, Ctc: Dean Wrasse, 419-589-2415 (after 10:30 AM)	President's Day	Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930  Stark County ARES Net on 147.12 at 7:00 PM		BD K8LBZ  Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930	BD N8DZM	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930  WASHfest 2009, Castle Shannon (Pittsburgh), PA, Ctc: Kevin Smith, N3HKQ, 724-258-4153  Washington's Birthday		Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930  Stark County ARES Net on 147.12 at 7:00 PM		Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930		BD WD8BGW  VE Test Session, Canton ARC / Massillon ARC, 0900, Ctc: Gary Kline, (330) 837-2927, Emergency Mngmt Office, Stark County Sheriff Office/EOC, Canton

**Upcoming Events:**

- March 15 - Toledo Hamfest
- March 21 - Charleston WV Hamfest

Jan 2009						
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

Mar 2009						
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				

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

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**

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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.