



# FEEDBACK

**VOLUME 62 ISSUE 2**

**FEBRUARY 2017**

**MASSILLON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OFFICERS**

**PRESIDENT**

Tony Casebolt  
KD8UXK  
[Dawhouse53058@yahoo.com](mailto:Dawhouse53058@yahoo.com)

**VICE PRESIDENT**

Perry Ballinger  
W8AU  
[w8au@sssnet.com](mailto:w8au@sssnet.com)

**SECRETARY**

Fred Reed  
KD8SMO  
[reedfl@sssnet.com](mailto:reedfl@sssnet.com)

**TREASURER**

Mike McNamara  
KB8OTK  
[kb8otk@yahoo.com](mailto:kb8otk@yahoo.com)

**MRN NET Sundays 8:00PM  
3599.5 KHz**

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

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**FEBRUARY MEETING**

The first meeting of the year for the Massillon Amateur Radio Club will be held on February 3, 2017 at Affinity Hospital Conference Room # 1 at 8:00 PM. Doors open about 7:00 PM For that “eyeball” QSO .

This meeting marks the first meeting to be conducted by our new officers. President Tony Casebolt , Vice President Perry Ballinger W8AU, Secretary Fred Reed KD8SMO, and Treasurer Mike McNamara ( Mike will be absent for the first couple of months due to hip surgery. Gary WC8W, will substitute for him) . At last report the surgery went well but he was having other problems and we hope he has a speedy recovery.

**FEBRUARY PROGRAM**

The program for the month of February is entitled : The United States of America Forest Service Radio 1930—1970. The info on the subject is too large for the front page so it is placed on page 5 of this issue. Please look for it there.

SEE you at the meeting !

**OUTGOING OFFICERS**

We want to take this opportunity to thank our outgoing Officers. Thanks goes to : President Ralph Bugg K8HSQ, Vice President Terry Russ N8ATZ, Treasurer Gary Kline WC8W, and Trustee Don Wade W8DEA. Don has been a Trustee for 3 years, Ralph and Terry haven been officers for 4 years and Gary WC8W has been a Treasurer for the past 6 years. We have retained Secretary Fred Reed KD8SMO for his second year.

Thanks to all outgoing Officers for your leadership and dedication to the Massillon Amateur Radio Club !

**Dues Are Now Due !**

Only 1 more month left on the grace period to pay your 2017 Dues to the Club. We need to receive your yearly dues by the meeting night in March ( 3rd) so we won't be forced to place you in the inactive members list. Cost for full membership is just \$ 15.00 per year and just \$ 7.50 for the XYL and \$ 7.50 for each child under 18.yrs.

So while your thinking about it, write out a check( Please make it out to MARC, not to me) for the appropriate amount and send it to your (temporary) Treasurer Gary Kline WC8W, 6500 Highton ST SW, Navarre, Ohio 44662 or to the club's PO Box ; MARC PO Box 73, Massillon , Ohio ; 44648 ASAP!

## MARC Minutes Jan 6, 2017

This month's secretary report will be a short one, since there was no regular club meeting held, as this was the annual Awards Banquet. The banquet was held at the Knights of Columbus hall in Massillon, and there were approximately 50 persons present. Seating started at 6:00 PM, and dinner was served at 6:30 after Wade WD8MIU gave the blessing for the food and camaraderie. The dinner was served buffet-style, and was delicious in every respect. After dinner there were fancy cupcakes provided by the "Ladies Auxiliary" for dessert. The friendly setting gave everyone plenty of time for eyeball QSO's and everyone enjoyed themselves. What was especially nice was attendance by many members' spouses, which gave the opportunity to meet member's "better halves" and some children, which is always a good thing.

After dinner, President Ralph gave out awards. There were 2 "DX Awards" which were presented to Mike McNamara KB8OTK and Chris Wetzell KD8TNF. Mike Daughenbaugh was presented with the Field Day award for all his help at the event, as well as all the scouting work he did searching for alternate Field Day venues.

In addition, 3 certificates of recognition were given to persons who contributed extra effort in support of club activities throughout the year. They were presented to Vern Sproat KE8VS, Al Perry KE8EHE and Lori Perry KE8EHF. Congratulations to all.

And then, of course, what MARC banquet would be complete without Perry's (W8AU) awards for some humorous activity, or idiosyncrasy of some deserving (?) member. After all, this hobby is supposed to be fun isn't it? Your humble secretary did not escape Perry's humor this year! All in good fun.

After the awards, came the swearing in of 2017 officers. They are: President-Tony Casebolt KD8UXK, Vice-President- Perry Ballinger W8AU, Treasurer- Mike McNamara KB8OTK, Secretary-Fred Reed KD8SMO, Trustee-Jim Farris WA8GXM, Trustee-Ted Armstrong K8TWA and Trustee-Bud Harvey WA8KWD.

Special thanks to those new officers that stepped up to give the preceding officers a break from their long service to the club. Also, thanks to all those who helped to provide the deserts.

**Submitted by Fred KD8SMO**

Picture at right shows the nice crowd that showed up for the Banquet at the Knights of Columbus hall on Cherry Road on a very cold evening !



( Pic Tnx to Terry N8ATZ)

### ... AWARDS BANQUET ...

I hope you all enjoyed our annual Awards Banquet held this year at the Massillon K of C Hall, I know I did. The food was very good and there was lots of it. I thought they took very good care of us and we should consider going back there next year.

Congratulations to all our award recipients, all were well deserved. Gary should have the complete list published elsewhere in the newsletter although several award recipients did not attend the banquet. These will be presented during a future meeting. A complete summary of the evening including award winners and pictures should be posted on the clubs website in the near future.

### ... CLUB PROGRAMS PREVIEW ...

Your new club Vice-President Perry Balingier and I are currently working on some interesting club programs for this year that will include a few new guest speakers and some favorites from last year. We have been very fortunate over the last several years to have many fine programs. A number of club members came through with some great ideas and even helped arrange for speakers on a wide range of topics.

Our club is one of a very few that hold ARRL Special Service Status (SSC). As part of the requirements for this SSC, we are expected to have programs covering multiple facets of our hobby. We do this by having club programs of various topics.

It will include a mix of speakers, some technical topics and of course some FUN stuff ! Some months are being left open for just plain fellowship, time to visit and gab about what we are currently up to in radio and other hobbies.

I am planning on posting the entire program lineup on the club website once I have confirmation from our guest speakers. That way, you will know what to expect at future club meetings.

We are working on a variety of ideas and will give you a preview of what may be coming this year at the February meeting.

### ... MENTORING NEWS ...

I believe we are going to try to hold a few mentoring programs again this year if we can work out the details. We could use some ideas for topics to consider so let Wade, WD8MIU know if you have any ideas. These would probably be held on a Saturday morning either at the Senior Center or the Hospital.

### ... TRAINING NEWS ...

The Canton ARC in co-operation with Stark County EMA's Steven Foss will be conducting a NIMS-100 training and certification class at an upcoming meeting.

The date is February 15, starting at 5 PM at Stark County EMA. The ICS-100 training will be taught by Steve Foss of the EMA. In 2.5 hours, we should be able to review the course and complete an online test, resulting in a certificate. This session is open to the general public, space permitting.

Immediately following at 7:30 PM, the CARC regular meeting will be postponed so that we may receive introductory MARCS radio system training. This class is oriented towards people who are already in ARES or interested in ARES membership.

At approximately 8:30PM, the business portion of CARC's monthly meeting will commence, followed by dismissal. (TNX Dale, NX8J)

That's it for this month....

**See you at the next club meeting**

73's  
Terry - N8ATZ



## confidence

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

Last June, the FCC's Technical Advisory Committee asked licensed and unlicensed users of the electromagnetic spectrum to answer some questions about the noise they were experiencing and whether or not it was affecting their services. Specifically, they asked:

- \* Is there a noise floor problem?
- \* Where does the problem exist? Spectrally? Spatially? Temporally?
- \* Is there quantitative evidence of the overall increase in the total integrated noise floor across various segments of the radio frequency spectrum?
- \* How should a noise study be performed?

Well, the results are in, and Radio World recently published a summary of the responses that the FCC received (<http://www.radioworld.com/business-and-law/0009/noise-floor-where-do-we-go-from-here/338242>). The FCC received 93 replies from 73 (great number, eh?) different people or organizations, including:

- \* 23 companies/industry organizations
- \* 39 RF professionals (broadcast and wireless)
- \* 31 licensed radio amateurs
- \* 9 responders did not reply to the questions asked

Respondents included the ARRL, the Society of Broadcast Engineers, the National Association of Broadcasters, the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council, ATT, and the National Electrical Manufacturers Association. I found especially interesting comments from the Society of Broadcast Engineers. They include:

- \* Increased cooperation is needed between manufacturers of Part 15 devices and users of radio spectrum to identify noise sources and take appropriate remedial action.
- \* Radiated emission limits below 30 MHz in the FCC Part 15 rules for unintentional emitters should be enacted. There are presently no radiated emission limits below 30 MHz for most unintentional emitters.
- \* Reduced Part 15 limits for LED lights should be enacted to be harmonized with the Part 18 lower limits for fluorescent bulbs.
- \* Better labeling on packaging for Part 18 fluorescent bulbs and ballasts to better inform consumers of potential interference to radio, TV and cell phone reception in the residential environment.
- \* Specific radiated and/or conducted emission limits for incidental emitters, such as motors or power lines, should be enacted.
- \* Conducted emission limits on pulse-width motor controllers used in appliances should be enacted.
- \* Substantially increase the visibility of enforcement in power line interference cases.

## Noise floor report does not inspire .

While the report is encouraging, it won't mean a thing if no action is taken on these issues. Given that the FCC is cutting back on its field offices, and our president-elect has said that he plans to reduce the number of governmental regulations, I'm not optimistic that we'll see the noise situation get better before it gets worse. What do you all think?

When he's not battling the noise floor at his QTH, Dan blogs about amateur radio at KB6NU.Com, writes the "No Nonsense" amateur radio study guides and teaches ham classes. You can contact him by e-mailing [cwgeek@kb6nu.com](mailto:cwgeek@kb6nu.com).

## UNIVERSAL RADIO

**ICOM**  
IC-7300



The **icom IC-7300** HF/6 meter 100 watt transceiver hosts new capabilities and technologies for its class. SDR architecture with brilliant color TFT touch screen provides real-time spectrum display with waterfall. Plus built-in tuner, voice memory, CW/RTTY keyer/decode and SD port.

**YAESU**  
FTdx1200



The **FTdx1200** provides sophisticated 160 to 6 meter operation with the latest 32 Bit high speed DSP technology. With three roofing filters, TFT color display, waterfall scope, built-in antenna tuner, IF shift/notch & more!

**YAESU**  
FT-991A



The **Yaesu FT-991A** does it all. HF to 70cm with 100W on HF/6m. Multimode including C4FM Digital, HF/6m tuner, stunning 3.5" color TFT touch panel with spectrum display and color waterfall. 3 year limited warr.

**CommRadio**  
CTX-10



The multi-mission **CommRadio CTX-10** SDR QRP transceiver covers 160-10 meters CW/SSB 1 to 10 watts. Receive 200 kHz to 30 MHz. Integrated CW reader and antenna tuner enhances portability. Optimized for low power consumption. Made in USA. Expected early 2017. This device has not been approved by the F.C.C. This device may not be offered for sale or lease or be sold or leased until approval of the F.C.C. has been obtained.

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614 866-4267 Information  
[dx@universal-radio.com](mailto:dx@universal-radio.com)  
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## The United States Forest Service Radio 1930 – 1970

The history of the United States Forest had its beginning in 1905. We know them by their trademark “Fire Towers” located in 155 national forests throughout the country, and their mascot “Smokey the Bear.” They were also known for their “smoke jumpers” beginning in the late 1930’s and continuing today.

In the early days the use of fire towers in high locations was the main tool for spotting smoke, but alerting the fire fighting brigades was difficult due to the very rural and isolated locations. Various methods were tried but not until an employee in northwest noted the early success of ham radio experimenters in the teen years did the idea come that radio could be the answer to this problem.

What followed was the first radio lab in the Forest Service, located in Montana, and staffed by who else but amateur radio operators! These amateurs pioneered the development and production of the Forest Service’s first radio devices long before commercial equipment became available after WW2. While this was important, in effect they also pioneered the development of what hams do today with small portable equipment for backpacking and the use of low antennas for NVIS.

This story is not generally known even by many in the electronics field. There have been a few publications on this subject, but only after some serious searching has this history been illumined.

A few years ago, Rick Ferranti, W6NIR, researched and developed a short presentation on this subject and we are pleased to present this to our members and friends this coming Friday, February 3. We hope this adds to your knowledge of the valuable history and heritage of our Amateur Radio Service.



The annual Code class, sponsored by MARC, will begin with an introductory session Feb 24 at 7:00 p.m. on the third floor of club Headquarters at the Senior Center, downtown at 39 Lincoln Way west.

This class is for code-free hams and beginners who would like to learn and enjoy the fun of our very first “digital” radio mode..CW. This digital mode is slow enough to enable your brain to encode and decode each letter and number instead of having to use a modem to do it for you. You, too, can become as proficient as Fred, KD8SMO, shown above using his favorite bug! J

While the code can be learned individually at home using computer programs, there are so many aspects of the mode that are not covered by this method and it may become a challenge when it comes to the actual use of it. This is where, as in our licensing classes, a mentor or teacher is of great help when it comes to passing on tips and techniques. Such things as how to grip a hand key, how to send with the proper 3/1 dash/dot ratio, how to avoid wrist fatigue, how to “copy behind,” how to structure a CW contact, how to use Q signals, and many more. After the letters, numbers and punctuation are learned, you are shown various techniques to increase speed to where there is no longer any need to write it down and it truly becomes conversational.

The nice thing about this class is that there is no exam to worry about. Once one achieves 5 words per minute speed, (and has equipment) they are ready to get on the air. At this time one can continue their progress by checking into the Massillon Radio Net (MRN) on 3599.8 kHz every Sunday evening at 8 p.m.

What are the benefits, other than tremendous self-satisfaction? DX is easier to work, QRP power works where it would not on SSB, Back-packing with battery rigs is possible, and handling emergency traffic via CW always ensures correct spelling. (think about that one!) J

Classes will run weekly for 8 to 10 weeks and reservations can be made with Perry, W8AU, at 330-705-8449, or via email at [w8au@sssnet.com](mailto:w8au@sssnet.com). There will be a one time fee (\$10) to help pay for the handouts, power and lighting for the facility. Come, learn, and join in the fun.



## MARC TECHNICIAN CLASS TO START

With the announcement of the MARC code classes to start comes the announcement for the MARC Technician classes to begin. They will start on March 18th 2017 on the third floor of the Massillon Senior Center, 39 Lincoln Way West., at 6:00 PM. Classes will run consecutively with the code classes for about 8 weeks ending with the exam to be given at the Emergency Operations Center ( Sherriff's Office on Route 62 East) on May 13, 2017. Costs will be the current Ham Radio License Manual which costs about \$ 23.00 when purchased from the Club otherwise it costs about \$ 29.00 (plus tax and shipping) from the ARRL. There will be a\$ 10.00 per person fee which we have to pay the Senior Center for building rental (power, heat, ect).

So if you are interested in joining the class, or if you know someone who is interested in learning Ham Radio, please have them contact : Gary Kline WC8W Phone 330/844-6371 or by cell phone 330/323-3678, or via e-mail [wc8w@sssnet.com](mailto:wc8w@sssnet.com) anytime.



# MARC PICTURE PAGE

## MARC JANUARY BANQUET



Picture above: (left) Vern Sproat KE8VS , Al Perry , KE8EHE, and Lori Perry KE8EHF receive their certificates of recognition from Past President Ralph Bugg K8HSQ, (right) . The certificates were presented to the trio for their tireless effort in supporting the club activities in the past year.



Mike McNamara KB8OTK (L) and Chris Wetzel KD8TNF ( R) receive Awards (to follow) from Past President Ralph Bugg K8HSQ ( center) for excellence in DXing.



**YOUR NEW OFFICERS FOR 2017** shown in the picture above are (L-R) Fred KD8SMO Secretary, Mike KB8OTK Treasurer, Bud WA8KWD Trustee, Perry W8AU Vice President, Ted K8TWA Trustee, and Tony KD8UXK President.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL !!**

( Thanks to Terry N8ATZ for all these pictures )



# February 2017

## W8NP Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																						
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <table border="1" style="font-size: small; text-align: center;"> <caption>Jan 2017</caption> <thead> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1" style="font-size: small; text-align: center;"> <caption>Mar 2017</caption> <thead> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table> </div>			S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					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		1	2 <span style="color: red;">Groundhog Day</span>	3	4	<p>Massillon Amateur Radio Club Meeting, Affinity Conference Room 1, 2000</p>	<p>VE Test Session, Portage County ARS Inc., 1000, Ctc.: Robert 330-607-3833, PCARS Club Site, Ravenna</p>
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<p>BD Alexandria Bonillas</p> <p>BD Shirley Treacle</p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5 kHz, 2000</p> <p>Mid-Winter Hamfest, InterCity ARC, Mansfield, Richland County Fairgrounds, Ctc: Danny, W8DLB, 419-896-2165 - VE Test Session, 12:00 PM</p>	President's Day	<p>Stark County ARES Net on 147.12 at 7:00 PM</p>	<p>VE Test Session, Cuyahoga Falls ARC, 1900, Mark, 330-928-8921, Nothampton Town Hall, Cuyahoga Falls</p> <p style="color: red;">Washington's Birthday</p>		<p>BD WD8MIU</p> <p>West Stark Info Net - 147.180 at 2000</p>																																																																																							
26	27	28	<p>Upcoming Events:</p> <p>March 5 - NOARS Winter Hamfest (Elyria)</p> <p>March 18 - MOVARC Hamfest (Gallipolis, OH)</p> <p>March 19 - Toledo Hamfest</p> <p>March 25 - Charleston WV Hamfest</p>																																																																																									
<p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5 kHz, 2000</p> <p>WASHfest 2013, Castle Shannon, (Pittsburgh, PA), Ctc: Carol, KB3GMN, 412-884-1466</p>		<p>Stark County ARES Net on 147.12 at 7:00 PM</p>																																																																																										

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

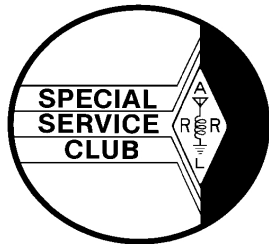
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	Bud Harvey	WA8KWD
	Ted Armstrong	K8TWA
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W8NP Webmaster	Terry Russ	N8ATZ

**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**