



FEEDBACK



JANUARY 2005

VOLUME 50

Happy New Year

NUMBER 1

IMPORTANT MEETING NOTICE

The meeting for the Massillon Amateur Radio Club will NOT be held on the 7th, instead we will meet at the Perry Grange for the annual Awards Banquet Dinner on the 8th. So there will NOT be a regular business meeting on the 7th !!

As reported in the December issue of Feedback, the Awards Banquet will be held on **January 8th 2005** at the Perry Grange building on Richville Drive, just north of the Navarre Road, Richville Drive intersection. Doors will be open at 5:30 PM and dinner will start at 6:00 PM. The cost to members and their spouses will be \$ 9. 00. A dinner of salsbury steak, chicken, potatoes & vegetable as well as desert. The dinner will be succeeded by our "famous" awards & "not so serious" awards, followed by the introduction and swearing in of our new Officer's for 2005! So plan on being there for a great evening meal entertainment and great company! **MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS WITH N8GAF(club secretary) ASAP !!!**

DUES ARE DUE !

When ya come to the Awards banquet, don't forget to bring the checkbook so you can not only pay for the great meal, you can also pay for next year's membership in the Massillon Amateur Radio Club, something I'm sure you will not want to miss! Cost is still only \$ 10.00 per year and only \$ 5.00 for the XYL, students of members are only \$ 2.50 each! . But don't worry, March is the deadline !

- SHORT SKIP -

Digging deep into my "Radio Junk Box" I've located my trusty Knight-Kit X-10 crystal calibrator once again. Looking deep into same I see for 2005

1. More BPL wars and I don't mean the Brass Pounder's League
2. Another ARRL dues increase.
3. A large gathering of hams in the Dayton area sometime in May ...
4. More growth in digital voice modes.
5. A rise in postage rates - so let's get those QSL's mailed out now.

And let's keep our bands alive in 2005 !

73 de WB80WM

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MARC MINUTES December 3, 2004

The Massillon Amateur Radio Club meeting was held at the Massillon Senior Center with 30 members present. MARC President Jim WA8GXM opened the meeting at 8:00 P.M. The Pledge of Allegiance was given and a round of introductions was made.

Jim WA8GXM then asked to suspend reading the November Minutes. They were accepted as stated in the FEED-BACK by Sandra N8TZB and second by Byron KF8UN.

Vice President Joe WD8BGW gave the correspondence report.. MARC received thank you cards from the Stark County Fair Board and the widow of Myrhl Lemley W8MND. He then gave a list of upcoming VE Sessions and Hamfests. He also had newsletters from other Amateur Radio Clubs

MARC Treasurer Anne N8GAF gave the financial report.

OLD BUSINESS

Perry W8AU has not receive notice from ODOT yet about the Adopt a Highway or Safety Break dates. However he did thank everyone for helping with the Christmas Parade.

Gary WC8W said the VE sessions was successful with 100% passing. He announced that next year 2 VE sessions will be held in Canton and 2 in Massillon.

Jim asked Perry if the 440 repeater would be ready for insulation over Christmas break.

NEW BUSINESS

The ARRL is offering clubs \$15.00 for new members and \$2.00 for renewals. So when paying your ARRL dues please contact Anne N8GAF.

The MARC budget was presented to the members. Don W8DEF with Sandra N8TZB second to accept it. A vote was taken and passed.

Jim WA8GXM explained to the members a plan to return the Hamfest to Massillon. A motion was made by Sandra N8TZB and second by Gary WC8W, a vote was taken and passed. It will be the last Sunday in October at the New Massillon Boys and Girls Club.

It was MARC election night. Igor Niknshin, K8INN will be the new Vice President and Don Finley W8DEF will be the new Trustee. Anne Ballinger N8GAF and Linda Finley, K8MOO will be remaining as the Treasurer and Secretary. Congratulations to the new Officer's

Byron KF8UN had QSL cards of interest he passed around.

MARC Banquet will be January 8th. at 6:00 P.M. it will be held at the Perry Grange. Call Anne N8GAF for your reservations . (330-832-8612)

There was no other club business so the meeting ended at 9:00 P.M. with motion made by Don W8DEF and second by Jerry KF8EB and Byron KF8UN.

Congratulations goes to Rodger KA8FTS for winning the 50-50 for \$11.50.

**Minutes by Linda K8MOO
Secretary MARC**



... W8NP DXCC News Update ...

The ARRL DXCC is awarded to amateurs who submit confirmations for contacts with 100 or more entries on the ARRL DXCC List. No small task even for an active DX'er.

The MARC is also active chasing DX as evidenced by the many DX QSL cards that line the walls of the W8NP Club Station. Want more proof? The latest DXCC update list is currently posted on the ARRL website. Thanks largely to the efforts of club member Byron Berger - KF8UN and his participation in lots of ARRL sponsored DX contests from the club station (of which any member may do), the MARC's current confirmed DXCC Country total is 270 and growing. Congratulations to the MARC for continuing their diverse role in Amateur Radio !.

.... A Note From Official Observer Rick Swain – KK8O ...

A note from Official Observer Coordinator Rick Swain, KK8O states that he has received recent reports from OO's in the field that VHF & UHF repeater operators are not adhering to the FCC rules. The main violations are in the "failure to properly identify", or obscene or indecent language category. There was one incident of interfering with a QSO, but no indication of where the interference originated from.

Rick notes there is a good cross section of age and class of license for all who were making the violations, but all are old enough and smart enough to know better.

What should all of us do? Rick asks only to think about what you are going to say before you say it! Listen before you transmit. Identify properly, when required. Look at the FCC Question Corner box below for some tips on proper identification.

We are still experiencing some intentional interference on the clubs two meter repeater as well. These are being reported to Rick and attempts are being made to locate the source of the interference and put a stop to it.

The many good operators on the repeater are helping to do their part as well. They have read and understand the rules as written. It means that those of you who teach and mentor new operator practice and are being a good example to follow.

.. Stark County Emergency Coordinator Resigns ..

After only eight months on the job, Richard Alatorre is leaving his post as director of the Emergency Management Agency. His resignation is effective Friday, December 10. Emergency Planning Coordinator Tim Warstler was named interim director pending appointment of a new director.

Rick said he is leaving the agency because the way his agency is setup prevents it from doing all the work required of him from the Stark County Commissioners.

Since taking office, Stark County ARES Coordinators have been working to establish a solid working relationship

with Rick and currently had been working on several Homeland Security initiatives including forming a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).

"Until County Commissioners appoint a new agency coordinator we are uncertain as to what interaction the Stark Co ARES will have with the EOC", said Assistant EC Terry Russ - N8ATZ. The Canton Amateur Radio Club station is currently located at the EOC they currently hold their monthly club meetings there as well. Quarterly VEC testing is also currently held at the EOC office. It is uncertain if that relationship will be able to continue with the departure of Rick Alatorre. Rick has indicated he will become a emergency planning consultant. We at the Stark County ARES wish him well and appreciate his support of our organization during his time in office.

.. Help Wanted ! ..

Like many of you, I tend to take our repeaters for granted. Whenever I want to use them I need only dial one up and key the mike. Fortunately our club has several excellent repeaters that are available for all of us to use 24/7/365. Keeping them that way is the responsibility of a few key club members, one being Jim Farriss - WA8GXM.

We are also fortunate to have as a tower site one of the best locations in Western Stark County. It is located on Alabama Avenue, just South of State Route 172 and sits at about 1,300 ft elevation on a 180 foot tall railroad microwave tower. It's what some of us affectionately call "The Site".

Jim is literally on call day and night to keep our systems up and running. To prove the point, several weekends ago in near freezing weather and wind gusting up to 25 mph, Jim spent part of his Saturday near the top of the tower changing out an antenna on his 443.675 repeater. Jim has done this type of repair many times before servicing the clubs repeaters also.

That day I happen to be along as was Don – W8DEF, the ground crew. And of course I had my trusty camera along. I would encourage you to check out the club's website where I have posted several of the pictures that show what's involved every time Jim has to climb the tower. Donning a safety harness and with no fear of heights, Jim completed yet another fix. All in a day's work Jim would say. Of course, we're always looking for the next club tower jockey. Nerves of steel, able to scale a 200 foot tower in a single bound while tied to a 30 pound tool belt and hoisting an antenna with you as you scale the tower are but a few of the qualifications necessary. Any Takers ???

**Out of time for this month.
See you all at the club banquet
Terry – N8ATZ**

Tectopics 18

'Tails' of Summer Or, Antennas, Trains, and Oscar

It's been a few months since the last report of activities and progress on the 'Warwick Super Station,' known by fellow Ops as the 'BIG KXR.' But fear not Ham Boys, progress abounded as summer faded into the sunset. Missy Marilyn (of Sticky Bun fame) insisted I not fall into wayward ways, and advised I put maximum effort and time to keep the Super Station growing at a steady pace! Can you believe it?

Well, there was a small price for this good will. We made many trips to the homeland up in Western New York to visit her Mom's place in Batavia, drove to our son's place in Des Moines, Iowa, and took Amtrak to Denver to spend time with our daughter. I was forced to visit Durango, where we spent a day on the Durango and Silverton railroad in the heart of the Rocky Mountains. All this under duress mind you, as a penance for growing the Super Station.

The KXR staff, mainly me, did take in a few Fests, and for the first time, made it to Fort Wayne. It is a great Fest, and also for the first time, got to meet several friends from the 160 Meter group that meets nightly on 1895 KHz at 2400Z. Missy Marilyn and I stayed overnight, and took in the fest on Saturday. Now I can give an honest testimonial to the quality and fun at that event. It is first rate, and of course the Purchasing Department found some neat stuff, including a good quality bench scope. It was just what the Development and Troubleshooting Department was looking for.

So, what wonderful summer projects were completed you ask? Let me count the ways and describe a few of the main ones that took shape during the dog days of the season past. Much of the Engineering Department's efforts were spent preparing the tri-band for installation. This involved a custom cut rotor mounting plate, requiring drilling and cutting so once placed inside the tower, it 'floats' to allow the rotor to self align on axis with the mast tube that is part of the tower. The plate is five sixteenth inch steel plate, and was drilled using a template supplied with the rotor. It also required a major cutout to allow the control cable to pass through the plate. It was a lot of cutting and drilling, but the job is done, with the plate painted with three coats of standard machine gray.

High-grade coax was ordered, and PL-259s added. I don't enjoy putting on coax connectors, but someone has to do it. I've found the silver plated ones a bit more expensive, but the cost is worth

it for a couple of reasons. First, they are very easy to solder. And the second reason is they are very easy to solder!

If you have played with the nickel-plated ones that are most common in the bins at the Fests, you will find solder tends to 'bead up' and drip on your shoe, while the connector approaches red heat. How can solder not stick to these little gems? During this attempt you also find you've melted the braid into the center conductor and generally made a quite nasty mess of the whole business. This embarrassing exercise, if performed when a person who regards you as an incorrigible nerd is watching over your shoulder, is simply a bummer.

Now, assuming you actually think you can solder, this ego busting experience is best kept to yourself. So here is the secret. First, it is especially important at this juncture to note - everything has a 'secret.' If you feel driven to use the crummy Nickel plate connectors, and do it while a non-nerd or other non-geek friend is watching, take this advice prior to assembly. Gently grip the connector in a vice, not too tightly, and with a file, gently remove the Nickel-plating in the slot where the braid soldering holes are. Remove enough of the plating so you can see early signs of the under laying brass.

Once the surface of the Nickel is disrupted, place the connector on the coax, of course with proper trimming of the braid and stuff. Then, with a HOT soldering iron/gun, do what has to be done. If you really know how to solder, you will be so impressed with your own handy work! It is so easy you will just want to solder up a few extra cables, because it is so much fun, or you might just smile broadly and be grateful no one was watching when you melted down and shorted out your earlier attempts to demonstrate your technical superiority to a fellow Ham, or the neighbor, or your wife, or even girl friend.

Of course, the real answer is to spend the extra pennies, and purchase silver-plated PL-259s. Skip the filing procedure and just get the job done.

And, while speaking of coax connectors, I learned there is a material called "STUFF." It was supplied by my favorite cable supplier, and comes in what looks like a toothpaste tube. It's used to dope the male/female coax connection on the tower to avoid moisture penetration. I've not seen this before, but that doesn't mean much. But, the idea makes sense by loading up the connection with this dialectic material, to prevent moisture penetration and to guard against corrosion in the very harsh environment at the top of the tower. When smeared into the connectors prior to screwing them together, the material is forced into the empty spaces and pushed back into the connector solder areas. Very neat and yes, it really is called "Stuf." It is manufactured by "Cross Devices."

So, the Mosley TA-33M is finally up and turning, as is the six meter beam and a fresh two meter Ringo on top of the two inch T-6 Aluminum mast. SWR to all systems is very good and was worth the extra time on the ground with the freq meter and bridge. The beams and their installation was one of the major

summer projects and it is now complete except for some cable dressing, and a bit of tweaking to synchronize the heading with the controller.

Regarding operations, with weather closing in, one of the goals is to operate 20 meters AM phone at 14.256. This is the AM calling freq and is the pipeline to the west coast. There are many well-known real Hams there, who build and resurrect the best of the Big Iron. It will be great fun to put the Viking 500 on the beam, and operate with it's dedicated R-390A. This daydream was one of driving factors to get the beam up and tuning this summer. When not on AM, the twenty-meter portion of the beam will sit on the national maritime emergency frequency, just in case. Now, if we can just get some serious snow so there is no need to leave the shack until, say June...sigh...

Well, the beam did get finished, but the three-wire dipole for twenty is not up. All parts and pieces are ready, but time ran out. If you've forgotten that insightful discussion of three wire dipoles, please check the archives for earlier Tectopic discussions.

The laggards (that means slow pokes) over in the Antenna Erection dept. claimed to be over worked because of the push to finish the beam before snow time. Little do they know, the game has just begun, with the Design Group finishing plans for an Inverted L, and two slopers off the tower. These dandies are already being assembled in the Fabrication Dept. and will be ready in a few weeks, err, maybe months.

With the tower up, and six and ten meters now available, plus verticals on both bands, operations have been fun already this fall. There is an active group on six meter AM, and ten meter AM is still very active with west coast contacts common during the early afternoons, plus some of the local ten AM gang keeping the frequency alive.

Some other antenna work in the 'development stages' are a Willow Antenna (dipoles with details to be discussed in future articles) for 15 meters, and WARC freqs, a portable vertical for 20, and installation of mobile antennas for the IC-706 for the 'Big Gulp' Suburban.

Finally, there is much more to tell of the adventures over in the boardroom of the BIG KXR, but time and space are precious. Some further high points of this summers adventures included, addition of a second metal lathe to the development lab, addition of a milling machine that is up and operating, and additional wiring in Operating Area C for the nearly completed 200V – 600L 160 meter station. Note, this station will drive either of two separate amplifiers, hence the need for some more than usual control wiring to allow easy switching between the two amps. Also there is a Gonset G-50 on six meters, and a Tentec dedicated to 40 meters and Midcars/Eastcars.

The next major addition to the BIG KXR is planned for Operating Area A. A new Tentec ORION is ordered and should be in the shack next week and operational by the time you read

this. It will take a few days to integrate it into the overall station system. I will give you a full report on this piece of gear in the months ahead, even though it is not Heavy Metal; Heavy Plastic?

There is one final note for this time and it involves a very small and forlorn four-legged, scruffy, flea infected, tapeworm infested critter with an odd shaped tail, who wandered on to our deck in late June. He was skinny at about seven pounds; and needed food, water, and huge amounts of TLC. Missy Marilyn and I soon discovered he'd been wounded in the ear, resulting in a horrific ear infection. Our vet pronounced him a real 'mess' with the advice that we could try to save him, but the little critter probably would not recover, in spite of a barrage of anti-biotic types and versions.

That was in June, and in spite of our summer's non-stop travel schedule and other super intense activities here at the KXR digs, we found some time for this desperately pathetic little creature. The good news is he, now known as "OSCAR," is now a chunky little ten pound plus male cat, who's ear infection is still present, but with very positive signs that we are gaining on it.

It's been a many weeks long project with multiple trips to the vet and treatments twice a day by nurse Marilyn RN, since we started his rescue last summer. But, Oscar is now well known on the 160 net, and spends his time front and center on the logbook during nightly op sessions. He's even sounded off a few times on the mic for the gang to hear. I'll keep you posted on Oscar's progress in further editions of these narratives describing our adventures at the BIG KXR.

So, there you have it Ham Boys and Girls. By the time you read this, we will be in deep winter snows, and dreaming about next summer's projects over hot coffee and a plate full of Missy Marilyn's Sticky Buns. I hope you too are having an exciting and rewarding experience with this unique hobby of ours. Be mindful that the more you talk and distribute your ideas to others, the more each of us has a chance to grow and learn from your enthusiasm. It is your magic contribution to our hobby.

The past summer has been very good here at the KXR digs, and if you haven't finished all your summer projects, well, high SWR and blown fuses to you! Ok, you know I'm just kidding, of course; but here we are facing the winter months, excited, and still enjoying our special hobby as much as ever.

73 and best of the New Year to all from the entire crew over here at the BIG KXR!

De W8KXR

Get On the Air

Plenty of operating activities planned for the first weekend of 2005

Straight Key Night 2005 a Chance to Revisit an Earlier Era (Dec 27, 2004)

— Dust off that straight key that's been sitting on the ham shack closet shelf and get ready for Straight Key Night 2005 (SKN). The ARRL-sponsored 24-hour operating event takes place every New Year's Day (UTC), which means it begins New Year's Eve in US time zones. It's an opportunity to operate at a slower pace, maybe using vintage equipment, and recall the way many of today's master CW operators got their start. It's also a chance for CW newcomers to venture out on a more level playing field. Read the full story at:

<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2004/12/27/1/?nc=1>

SKN is a great way for clubs to get members on the air. Invite some guest ops to your shack and bring in the New Year pounding some brass for auld langsyne.

Another great operating activity this weekend is Kid's Day. This will be the first Kid's Day of 2005. It is a great mentoring opportunity for experienced hams to give some radio exposure to youngsters. Rather than rewrite the story here is the announcement from the ARRL webpage.

Reminder: First 2005 Kid's Day is Sunday, January 2 (Dec 26, 2004) — The first Kid's Day in 2005 will be Sunday, January 2 (the second will be Saturday, June 18). Kid's Day will run from 1800 to 2400 UTC. Suggested frequencies are 14.270-14.300, 21.350-21.400 and 28.380-28.400 MHz plus 2 meter repeaters (with the permission of the repeater's sponsor). There's no limit on operating time, and the recommended exchange is name, age, location and favorite color. Intended to encourage young people to get acquainted with Amateur Radio, Kid's Day offers a "mentoring opportunity" for experienced amateurs while giving youngsters some firsthand ham radio experience and perhaps sparking a lifelong interest. ARRL Education and Technology Program Coordinator Mark Spencer, WA8SME, hopes veteran radio amateurs will "walk the walk" by getting involved. To serve as a positive example, he'll be putting W1AW on the air for Kid's Day. Perennial Kid's Day promoters Peter and Jeanne Schipelliti, W1DAD and K1MOM, plan to be on the air from special event station K1D during the week before and the week after Kid's Day. The couple's two older children, Geena and Luciano (photo), are old hands at Kid's Day. All participants are eligible for certificates. To coincide with ARRL's Kid's Day, AMSAT-NA will sponsor its own event for youngsters on the Echo satellite (AO-51) from approximately 1600 UTC on January 2 until 0345 UTC on January 3. AMSAT asks for the cooperation of all satellite users in using the window as a way to promote satellite operation with kids and to limit contacts to stations operating with youngsters at the microphone. Note the change in

uplink frequency for the event to 145.880 MHz FM voice, 67 Hz tone; downlink is 435.300 MHz FM voice.—some information via ANS

New Resources Link

A new link has been added to the ARRL Mentor page

<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/mentor/>

The "Help For Beginners" link located in the resources block will take the user to the ARRL publications that are useful to new or prospective hams. These publications include the Now You're Talking study manual, Understanding Basic Electronics, FCC Rule Book, Ham Radio FAQs and many other titles that the new ham or seasoned veteran would find useful.

A Question for Clubs

Would your club be interested in running a program that teaches about how microcontrollers work? This would be a program spread out over a few meetings or classes and would involve using a commercial kit and a course program. Kits are reusable and could be used for many classes. If this is a type of program that your club would consider, please send any feedback to w3iz@arrl.org

Thank you.
73 & HNY

Norm Fusaro, W3IZ
ARRL Affiliated Club/Mentor Program Manager
225 Main St.
Newington, CT 06011

w3iz@arrl.org
860-594-0230



WEAVER'S WORDS — END OF YEAR TWO AND MORE

Date: Wednesday, December 08, 2004 7:48 AM

END OF YEAR TWO

It is hard for me to believe that January 1 at noon will mark the end of my second year as your Great Lakes Division Director. It also marks the beginning of my third and final year of my 3-year term. I have enjoyed working with and for each of you very much. Being a Director has been as satisfying as I had hoped.

Nearly each member whose path I crossed proved to be a pleasant and knowledgeable person. This is true even though we did not always agree with each other on certain issues. In nearly each such case, we were able to look each other in the eye, to smile with respect for each other and to agree to disagree. The times when pleasant disagreement was not possible probably numbered no more than two.

I hope to stick around for a while so I can have the opportunity to join with other of my Director and Vice Director colleagues to better Amateur Radio and to bring each member more closely into the base of truly active ARRL members. As I have said frequently, ARRL and its members need each other if Amateur Radio is to be nurtured and resume the growth it had in past years.

I appreciate very sincerely the work of Vice Director Dick Mondro, W8FQT. Because of his intellectual sincerity, honesty and capability, Dick was given a unique opportunity to head a very technical and important ad hoc committee for the Board of Directors. I want to say once again, that he did himself, each of our Division members, me and every amateur in this country proud through the diligent effort he brought to the committee and the superior results of the committee's work.

Dick has provided me with great counsel in many instances. Thanks, Dick. I look forward to continuing our work together.

Finally, I want to thank the people in this Division who bear the toughest jobs in Amateur Radio. These are the Section Managers. You and I are fortunate that the GLD Directors throughout past years and the Section Managers during these same years developed a tremendously valuable working relationship. Dale, WA8EFK, Joe, K8QOE, and John, WA8EFK have proven tremendously helpful in our collaboration. GLD ARRL members have benefited and will continue to benefit from this collaboration. Thanks, fellows. All Divisions should be as fortunate.

LOGBOOK OF THE WORLD

I request your input on the Logbook of The World (LoTW). If you have not attempted to use LoTW, yet, you can skip to the following topic if you wish. My question is directed ONLY to members who have tried

Logbook.

The question is simply, "What has been your experience with LoTW?" I need you to answer this question with one of the 6 answers I give, below. If you wish to add a written explanation of your experience please do so, but please be certain to use the written answer only to expand on your numeric answer. The numeric answers are:

5. LoTW was a snap to install and use. I like everything about it.
4. LoTW was moderately easy to install and to use. I like most things about it and will continue to use it.
3. LoTW is OK. I had some difficulty installing it and in getting it to work for me. I'll keep using it.
2. LoTW caused me a moderate level of problems to install, but is easy to use. I'll keep using it in spite of the initial difficulty I had.
1. LoTW has been a pain to install and nearly as much of a pain to use. I'm thinking of not using it.
0. LoTW has been so much difficulty to install or use that I've given up on it.

Again, please answer the question ONLY if you have attempted to or succeeded to install and use LoTW. Also, please use the numeric answer that best states your position/experience with LoTW. Feel free to append written discussion beneath your numeric answer if you choose to expand on the numeric answer.

CONTACTING ME

If you have questions concerning ARRL policy or concerning the operation of our folks at HQ, please ask me. If your question concerns the operation of ARRL activities "in the field" these nearly always should go to your Section Manager.

I have said very often that I would like to hear from members with suggestions or complaints — or even with praise — for ARRL operations.

Especially if you have a complaint about policy or HQ function, please send the complaint to me . . . ONLY. Sending it to someone else or to multiple people will do nothing but confuse the situation. It is a policy of the Board that an issue in one Division will not be managed a Director in a different Division or by an officer. At most, sending complaints or requests for action does nothing more than confuse the issue and slow action on the complaint/request while we communicate with each other to see who is doing what, if anything, about it.

As always, I pledge to make every feasible effort to reply to your messages promptly, and to work to resolve complaints as soon as feasible.

DAYTON HAMVENTION/ARRL NATIONAL CONVENTION 2005

As you may know, the 2005 Dayton Hamvention will host the 2005 ARRL National Convention. The site of the activities will be HARA arena. You can expect a National Convention that is unique from those of the past as well as a Dayton Hamvention that remains unsurpassed. Incidentally, a contract has been signed with the Arena for the Hamvention to be held at it through at least 2007.

GREAT LAKES DIVISION CONVENTION

General Chairman Gary Johnston, KI4LA reminds everyone that nominations are being sought for several distinguished awards to be made at the ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention in March. The Convention is being hosted by the Toledo Hamfest folks and will be the day prior to the Hamfest. For further details on the awards and making nominations for these, as well as for other information on the Convention, go to <http://greatlakes.arrl.org/>.

TO ALL: I WISH AND PRAY FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES TO HAVE A VERY HOLY AND MERRY CHRISTMAS OR HOLY AND HAPPY HANUKAH. I HOPE THAT YOU WHO OBSERVE RAMADAN HAVE BEEN GREATLY REFRESHED IN SPIRIT FOR THE COMING YEAR. HAVE A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR.

73, Jim Jim Weaver, K8JE

Director, Great Lakes Division ARRL; <http://www.arrl.org/>

5065 Bethany Rd., Mason, OH 45040 Tel.: 513-459-0142; E-mail: k8je@arrl.org ARRL: The reason Amateur Radio Is! MEMBERS: The reason ARRL Is!

UNDER CONSTRUCTION : This is a shot of the new "class" room at the Boys & Girls Club, where we will hold the VE Exam at the Hamfest in October.



VE EXAM SCHEDULE

The Canton and Massillon Amateur Radio Clubs wish to announce the Volunteer Examinations Exam Schedule for 2005. This year marks some changes in the Exam. We have dropped the November Exam so we can have an exam at the Massillon Hamfest, scheduled for October 30th 2005 at the Massillon Boys & Girls Club on Duncan & Walnut Ave. the exam is scheduled for 9:00 AM

ALSO, Please note there is a fee change for 2005. The new fee will be \$ 14.00.

The new scheduld is:

February 26	- At the EOC
May 28	- At the EOC
August 27	At Massillon Senior Center
October 30	MARC Hamfest Massillon Boys & Girls Club

MARC HAMFEST COMES "HOME" !!

At the December meeting MARC Officers presented a plan to the membership that would bring the Massillon Amateur Radio Club Hamfest back to Massillon City Limits. Like most hamfest we have been experiencing declining attendance at the hamfests. Although we never went into the "red", this year we came the closest to that "feared red mark" ! It became a mutual decision to "downsize" the hamfest. Although the Stark County Fairgrounds were a great facility, we could no longer afford to hold our hamfests there any longer. It was decided to hold the hamfest at the Massillon Boys & Girls Club at 730 Duncan St SW (SW corner of Duncan & Walnut). The facility is great for what we need it for. Two large gymnasium with the largest being nearly 16,000 Square feet. Below is a picture of the main gym. The room extends past the curtains by nearly 45 more feet.



January 2005

W8NP Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																		
<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr> <th colspan="7">Dec 2004</th> <th colspan="7">Feb 2005</th> </tr> <tr> <td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td> <td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td> <td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td> <td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td> <td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td> <td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td> <td>27</td><td>28</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </table>						Dec 2004							Feb 2005							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S				1	2	3	4			1	2	3	4	5	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	26	27	28	29	30	31		27	28						<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">1</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;">New Year's Day</p>
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<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">9</p> <p style="margin: 0;">VE Test Session, Cuyahoga ARS, 9:00 AM Ctc: Gary S Dewey (216)642-8705 Independence, Oh</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">10</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">11</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">12</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">13</p> <p style="margin: 0;">BD K8LP BD KA8FTS</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">14</p> <p style="margin: 0;">BD KB8YKE</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; font-size: 0.8em; margin-top: 5px;"> West Stark Info Net - 147.180 at 8:00 PM </div>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">15</p> <p style="margin: 0;">VE Test Session, Inter City ARC, 1:00 PM, Ctc: Richard E. Fletcher, (419)886-2463 Mansfield, Oh</p>																																																																																																		
<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">16</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">17</p> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;">Martin Luther King, Jr.</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">18</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">19</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">20</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">21</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; font-size: 0.8em; margin-top: 5px;"> West Stark Info Net - 147.180 at 8:00 PM </div>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">22</p> <p style="margin: 0;">VE Test Session, Mahoning Valley ARA, 11:00 AM, Ctc: James T. Viele, (330)534-1394, Youngstown, Oh</p>																																																																																																		
<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">23</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Tusco ARC Hamfest, Ctc: Gary Green, K8WFN (740)922-4454</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">24</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">25</p> <p style="margin: 0;">BD KC8ZCS</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">26</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">27</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">28</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; font-size: 0.8em; margin-top: 5px;"> West Stark Info Net - 147.180 at 8:00 PM </div>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">29</p> <p style="margin: 0;">BD W8HOU</p>																																																																																																		
<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">30</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">31</p>	<p>Future Dates to Remember:</p> <p>Lorain NOARS Winterfest - February 6</p> <p>Mansfield Mid*Winter Hamfest and Computer Show - February 13</p>																																																																																																						