



FEEDBACK



JUNE 2005

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JUNE MEETING

The meeting for the month of June will be held at the Massillon Senior center in downtown Massillon on June 3, 2005 at 8:00 PM.

WHEN : **This is it !** Ham radio's biggest event of the year, FIELD DAY will be held on June 25th & 26th. A 24 hour nonstop fun filled event that surely will tickle the "fun" nerve in every amateur. Set up begins at 9:00 AM.

WHERE : **Petros Park**, located on Perry Drive in Perry Township. If you don't know where the park is located, the easiest way to find it is:

From the East, take I 77 south to Faircrest road exit west (right turn), keep going until you see the Timken Faircrest Steel Plant. Just on the west side of the plant is Perry Drive, make a right turn and go past the "pond" until you see the entrance to the park.

From the West: take route # 21 south to Navarre Road, (about 1/2 mile south of US route # 30), turn east (left turn) onto Navarre Road. Continue on Navarre road until you see Perry Drive (about 3 miles). Turn right onto Perry Drive and come to the park. Look up and left, you will see the pavilion located "on the hill" and this is where we will be , just look for the antennas !

WHAT : to bring. If you are planning to stay the entire night a change of warmer clothes might be in order, it sometimes gets pretty cold at night out there. Everyone planning to stay for the evening meal are asked to bring a covered dish (your choice). Those who will be helping set up might want to bring some sun screen, a hat, gloves and maybe your own personal brand of insect repellent (the club has cans of Off). As for the evening meal the club will supply the drink and meat. This year it will again be hot dogs & hamburgers Yummy! But I don't think anyone has ever gone away hungry! **SEE YOU THERE !!!!**

-- SHORT SKIP --

As you read this our FCC is currently very busy developing a Notice of Proposed Rule Making, one that will spell out what the Commission has in mind with respect to possible further changes in the current Morse Code requirement and Amateur Radio Licensing in response to Newington's petition. Perhaps we'll see yet another Incentive Licensing fiasco with a very rigid N.W.P.M. , i.e. , " NO words Per Minute " code requirement.

So stay tuned Bunkey, this could be a real No Code vs. Know code war. I'll go with the latter !

73 de WB80WM

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MARC MINUTES

May 6, 2005

The Massillon Amateur Radio Club meeting was held at the Massillon Senior Center with 32 members present.

MARC President Joe WD8BGW opened the meeting at 8:00 P.M. The Pledge of Allegiance was given and a round of introductions was made. He then asked for any additions or corrections to be made for the April MARC minutes. There were none so they were accepted as stated in the Feedback by John K8LBZ and second by Jim WA8GXM.

MARC Treasurer Anne N8GAF then gave the financial report.

MARC Vice President Igor K8INN gave the correspondence report. He had newsletters from other Amateur Radio Clubs. He said the ARRL web site has a very nice article about the LST325 east coast cruise. It features MARC member Perry W8AU. For more information check out the web site at <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2005/05/03/4/?nc=1>

OLD BUSINESS

Joe WD8BGW then asked for committee reports. None were made available at this time.

The banquet report is still unsettled. If you have any ideas please present them to them to the Officer's at the next meeting.

Dan N8DZM gave the fox hunt report. The next fox hunt will be at Field Day. Dan said maybe a multiple hunt will take place (more than one fox). sounds like fun!!

Gary WC8W will start the Tech classes May 14th and 21st. VE testing will be May 28th. At the EOC in Canton.

NEW BUSINESS

Sarah KC8ZCS, Scott KC8ZCT and Terry N8ATZ have been added to the By-Laws Committee. Two By Law additions were voted on and passed. One was sent back to committee.

Safety Break weekend will be over Labor Day weekend. There are still openings on the sign up sheet. Be sure to sign up and help support the club!

MARC Service Club renewal application has been set to the ARRL. It may take several weeks to hear if it has been approved.

Don't forget to pay your ARRL dues or to join through MARC. The club receives a portion back for the treasury

Field Day weekend is coming up soon (June 25, & 26th0 . Hope everyone turns out for a weekend of fun.

Byron KF8UN passed around a QSL card of interest from Asia TAJIKISTAN on 17 meter.

Congratulations goes to Sarah KC8ZCS, Scott KC8ZCT, and Steve KD8ACF for passing their General exams . They are now all 3 Generals.

Welcome back Tomas KC8ZEH.

Congratulations goes to Larry KC8RKU for winning the 50-50 for \$18.50.

Minutes by Linda K8MOO
Secretary MARC

CONGRATULATIONS to Dan, N8DZM on passing his EXTRA Class exam at the May 28, Canton/Massillon VE Session. Also congratulations to Don Phelps KA8WGJ on passing his Tech Exam and giving him a Tech Plus License. Don was our "one and only" Tech Class student, who has now earned a full year's membership in the MARC!

My Folding J – Pole Antenna Project

As a local coordinator of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service, I'm always on the lookout for ideas that could prove useful while providing public service communications. While skimming the pages of the March 2005 issue of QST Magazine I came upon the article titled "A Backpacker's Delight - The Folding J-Pole". Authored by Michael Heiler - KA0ZLG, Mike was after a good all purpose two meter antenna for outdoor use that was physically strong and durable, yet easily transportable. That formula also works for public service work. Rubber duck antenna's on our handhelds are very useful for close repeaters but sometimes you just need a signal boost, the kind you get from an external antenna. The Folding J-Pole from KA0ZLG looked like exactly what we need, an external antenna with some gain that was easy to carry in the field. I decided it was time to build an antenna. It wasn't really hard at all, in fact, I really enjoyed the project. My complete account is currently posted on the club website along with some pictures taken during assembly. You might want to have a look if you're thinking about building one for yourself. I emailed Mike Heiler to let him know how much I liked the project. He replied with a little more detail on how he designed the folding J-Pole complete with some basic theory on this type of antenna. You might want to have a look at this also. He has some interesting information posted there. The website address is <http://www.web-features.com/ka0zlg>.

.. How About Trying Cold Heat Cordless Soldering ..

While it sounds like some futuristic space age method of soldering what it really is, is just a new way to use an age old principle. A split tip of a carbon based material heats when it comes in contact with a conductive material. Apply power from several alkaline batteries and you have the formula for a pretty nifty cordless soldering tool.

I recently purchased one of these from Radio Shack for less than \$20.00 and after using it on a variety of smaller soldering jobs I can report so far, so good. While it will never replace the age old AC powered light duty soldering pencil, it is pretty handy to keep in the tool box. "Cold Heat" creates enough heat to solder in less than a second. The really neat part is that it's soldering tip cools to touch-safe temperatures in only a few seconds after operation. This makes it easy to set it down without worrying about burning the table top or worse yet, your fingers.

Operation is pretty simple too. Simply slide the switch to "ON" and place the split tip directly against the work piece so that both tip electrodes make contact. The red operating light will shine and the tip will create heat almost instantly. Keep in mind that tip heating times can vary depending on the physi-

cal size of the connection being soldered.

While it's not designed for heavy duty work, I tried unsuccessfully to solder a PL259 connector with it. But for every day basic jobs it has deserved a space in my already crowded toolbag. If you want one it's a regular stock item at Radio Shack stores, catalog number is 64-2102.

.. LST – 325 Plans Amateur Radio Operation During Cruise ..

The LST-325, a 327-foot World War II vessel designed to transport and deploy tanks and troops during coastal beach landings, will have Amateur Radio aboard when she cruises up the East Coast and back this spring and early summer. The historically significant vessel is officially a cruising museum ship, but she still carries the USS LST-325 name and World War II marine radio call sign NWVC. For this voyage, LST-325 will be on the Amateur Radio bands as WW2LST. MARC Club Member Perry Ballinger-W8AU, a Navy Veteran will be part of the crew again this year during her historic cruise. Last years attempt was aborted due to numerous problems but this year they are A-OK and ready to go. The full story was covered on the ARRL website a few weeks back. By permission I have copied the full story and have posted it on the club's website. It included some great pictures of Perry in proper naval attire at the operating station on the ship. Their website includes some information on operating times and frequencies. I hope some of us get the opportunity to work the ship, they will be offering a very special QSL card to commemorate the voyage. Make sure you have a look at the story.

73's for this month, catch you at the meeting !

Terry – N8ATZ



Tectopics 19

Oscar and Area 53 And HT-20 Recalled to Life

Well Ham boys and girls, the Gang over at the Big KXR, often referred to as the 'Warwick Super Station,' has been over run with stuff to do. In spite of a snowy winter, which was much too short for the number of projects on the bench and some intense operating time on 160 meters AM and SSB, East Cars, Mid Cars, the Maritime Mobile Net on 14.300, scattered openings on 29.0 MHz, and nightly rag chews on six meters at 50.4 the season provided an exciting mix of operating, building and rehab of several projects.

And what of Missy Marilyn you ask? Well, once again Missy provided a steady supply of hot coffee and, yep! You guessed it...Sticky Buns, fresh from the Big KXR galley! Darn, now you know why I claim the winter was far too short! I'd hoped for snow at least until August!

But, let's cut to the bench and the one of the several spring projects just completed. In the late 70s I was lucky to acquire a Hallicrafters HT-20 AM/CW transmitter of near military quality. Hallicrafters on or about 1950 sponsored a famous DXpedition. Remember the world had not quite put itself back together again after WWII and Korean War storm clouds were on the horizon. The DXpedition was to Clipperton Island. The equipment used was the now classic SX-88 receiver and companion HT-20 transmitter and quite probably an HT-18 VFO.

The receiver is true heavy metal, with rumors of collectors searching the darkest of corners for a clean example. Again as luck would have it, one of these beauties lives at the Big KXR, but that is not the story for today. The HT-20 is not quite in the same category as the '88' for scarcity, but to find a very nice one, which is cosmetically worth a detailed restoration, is a challenge. I've never heard an HT-20 on the air and so surmise it's not common, even within the world of heavy metal. Keep in mind, that like a classic car, cosmetics is as important to a true rebuild, as is good performance. There are hack jobs, and there are true works of art and everything in between. The level of restoration is a personal choice, depends on your skill level and desire to strive for your very best.

So with that bit of background, the rebuild shop at the Big KXR undertook the restoration of this classic one hundred watt AM/CW transmitter from the fifties. Although cosmetically in pristine condition, the whole process started with a fairly fixed routine. A thorough cleaning and general inspection started the process. This allows for assessment of what might be problems under the hood and allows generating a replacement parts list.

The original owner is unknown, but like most such projects, someone tried to 'modify' this rig for 'something' that defied my best analysis. Well, not quite, because I am a very good analyst. Maybe these mods worked for the previous ham boy, yet I doubt whether this HT-20 ever spent much time on the air.

I was lucky and had the original manual, so the next step was to produce some enlarged copies of the schematic, one that could be marked on as parts were identified and replaced. The mark-up became the restoration record for future up-grades and repair and went into a three-ring notebook that contains all info regarding the rig and its up-grade. All KXR lab projects get an individual project book. It only takes a time or two down stream when maintenance questions occur, to understand why it is imperative (that means important) that detailed records be kept.

In all such rehab projects of the heavy metal variety, all electrolytic capacitors are to be replaced. If they are of the tall aluminum can variety often visible above chassis, they are physically retained but clipped from the circuits below the chassis. Fresh modern caps mounted below the chassis are mounted on tie lug strips and wired, being mindful of the voltages in play with special attention to polarity. All old 'black and sometimes brown bombers of death' those nasty plastic caps that crack and short are replaced. These are usually in audio circuits, used as by pass caps and audio couplers. All must go.

Also note that a particularly insidious little cap, usually red in color and a little smaller than a postage stamp, were miracles of size and efficiency when they first appeared back in the day, but are prone to going open and/or shorting. They are nasty little buggers and must all be checked, and better yet, clipped and sent to the trash heap. So, make a list of the caps, spot them on the schematic and order fresh mylars immediately! The total cost of the re-cap job was about twenty-five dollars, with the equivalent of about three weeks of evenings spent cutting and snipping out the old and putting in the new.

Also getting the big snip was extra wire that had been added for apparent T/R switch control and other mysterious stuff. It might have worked, but this rig had no original PTT system. I built a small dc supply for a dc relay (dc to avoid audio hum in the mic control wire) and brought control wiring out to the accessory plug on the rear deck. A spare D-104 was wired up to be compatible with the new PTT circuit and the system checked prior to firing up for RF and audio testing.

Because this 110-pound classic had not run in many years, probably not since the late '70s, and because the transformers, especially the Mod iron are considered NLAG ('no-longer-available in this galaxy'), they were heated for about six hours with a 500-watt heat lamp trained on them to drive out moisture that may have accumulated during storage. I've written about this process in earlier Tectopics, but it is a precaution often overlooked in a Big Iron 'bring 'em back alive' attempt by the uninitiated. There are never any guarantees in rehab work, but it is a standard precaution at the KXR Labs on heavy and often

irreplaceable transformers. Become a believer; heat 'em up good!

Re-heating solder connections, switch cleaning, tube socket cleaning, fan oiling, RF shielding polishing, additional wire bundling with nylon ties, adding a by-pass cap across the meter, replacing a few resistors in the oscillator section that had drifted high, and in this case machining a new drive shaft for the roller inductor drive, were all part of the clean-up procedure.

By the way, remember that carbon resistors usually drift high in value with age. If the measured test value exceeds ten percent, I change the resistor. Do it...it keeps circuits operating as they were designed and avoids embarrassing yourself by using unspeakably foul language and consequently visiting a huge blister on your person from your soldering iron, further aggravating you to demonstrate additional unseemly comments from your nasty mouth. This situation is called 'trial by fire' and needs only be experienced once to help accelerate ones learning curve. All this because u didn't check your resistors!

Next, it was fun to discover the original tubes, with the Hallicrafters logo still in the sockets. Don't have a tube checker, you say? The best checker is the circuit itself. Try it and if you suspect a bad tube, change it in the circuit. It will work better, or not. By the way, the final in this transmitter is a 4D-32 often made by Raytheon. It is a one hundred watt tube that on a dummy load delivered a consistent 100 watts. The tube was used by the military and spilled into domestic and Ham use in E.F. Johnson transmitters of the fifties and sixties. It is still available new, if one needs a spare.

This rig uses a real modulation transformer and a pair of 807s for close to 75 watts of high quality audio. If you don't know what 807s are, you are one sorry fellow, and deserve water in your coax at the very top of your tower! Ok, ok, that may be a bit harsh, but at least you should blow a fuse or two in your Rice Box, just to get your attention.

There is no VFO... so one must use a separate VFO, or use crystals to control frequency. And, yes all these components are available for rebuilding. In my case, a Hallicrafters HA-5 heterodyne type VFO is coupled to the HT-20. Others will work, including the Eico 722 and the Heath HG-10.

For those who are not quite up to speed on the care and feeding of Real Radios, as opposed to little toy radios made in Sushi Land, there is no T/R switching included; and one must use a separate receiver too.

Yikes, and good grief! Missy Marilyn, get Ham Boy a glass of water and some smelling salts! Excuse me real Hams; Ham Boy seems to have experienced a fit of the vapors in disbelief! Please excuse him. He's not exactly sure what 'running separates' means . . . his education is a little thin in certain very important aspects.

To handle VFO and T/R switching, the Development Team (me) fabricated a Transmit/Receive relay system to mute a receiver on transmit. It includes provision for both Amateur and Military receive systems, keys the VFO on in transmit, changes the antenna from receive to xmit and allows transmitter keying in case of CW operation with either VFO or crystal control. It is very rugged, as is the design philosophy at the Big KXR. It is very effective and an inexpensive alternative to the big buck coax types.

Finally, the system was tested into a dummy load and because this xmtr covers all frequencies from 160 meters through ten meters, like the E.F. Johnson Vikings, one has to actually operate this rig. It is not a push the button and talk radio. As of this report, the system has been buttoned up and all 110 pounds of it are now in place in **Area 53** (original Area A) of the Big KXR. Note, **Area 52** and **Area 55** are up and operating too, yet another story).

Initially, the HT-20 will be tied to either a Collins 75A-3 or perhaps a very clean National NC 183D. Final ties to the antenna system are in progress and will use a dedicated balanced tuner recently acquired at the Lake Erie Boat Anchor Meet. The tuner is a beautiful example of 'homebrew' and I would like to claim I built it. I didn't, but I am pleased to add this beautiful piece of engineering to the station.

It should be great fun to operate this rig on 160, 40, and 20 meters AM even under summer conditions. Oh and btw, unless you have savored the true scent of hot heavy metal when it's up to operating temperature, ready to pump out RF, you are sadly just a Pretend Ham....(again just kidding of course, but you really should get out more!)

And what about the SX-88? Will it be tied to its classic partner? Yes, but the '88' is another major rehab job, a real beauty, and in spite of the urge to hurry the process, these projects are labors of love, testing me against the Big Iron. No need to hurry the process. It is only for fun with the personal goal being the best quality workmanship I can do, just like bringing a classic muscle car back to its original beauty and performance level.

Finally, in Tectopics #18 I told you about a very small cat that arrived at the Super Station last summer. He, Oscar, was nearly DOA, a real heart breaker. I can am pleased to report this innocent little creature has survived. He still has a few problems, but has become the hit of the Vets office and with our close friends who are well aware of "Oscar" and his return to life. He now weighs just under twelve pounds, after starting at a skinny seven. He's our constant companion and enjoys the Big Iron when they are warm and glowing in the subdued lighting of the operations areas.

Maybe Oscar was just another attempted rebuild, or a salvage project, but somehow he's much more than that. And, like rescuing the Big Iron, he's repaid Missy Marilyn and I a thousand plus percent for his chance to live. I think of the Heavy

Metal too, one more chance for it to function and provide fun and pleasure for those who understand.

Until next time, I hope to hear you out here on the bands. Do plan some rehab, or build an accessory for your own station, no matter how simple or complex. It will be your creation, and will be of your own dreams and imagination. It will test your skill, not for anyone to judge, but strictly for you and the exploration of our great hobby, no matter what your area of interest.

73 from 'Oscar' and the Crew in the T/R Design Lab
de W8KXR

ARRL NEWS

WEAVER'S WORDS

WRITE YOUR US REPRESENTATIVE TO CO-SPONSOR HOUSE RESOLUTION 230

Your urgent help is requested on this one.

From the ARRL web site: US "Representative Rep Michael Ross, WD5DVR, of Arkansas, has introduced a resolution in the US House of Representatives calling on the FCC to "conduct a full and complete analysis" of radio interference from broadband over power line (BPL). The resolution, House of Representatives Resolution 230, says the Commission should comprehensively evaluate BPL's interference potential incorporating "extensive public review and comment," and—in light of that analysis—to "reconsider and review" it's new BPL rules. If approved by the full House, the non-binding resolution, introduced April 21, would express the requests as "the sense of the House of Representatives." The FCC adopted rules to govern so-called Access BPL last October 14 in ET Docket 04-37."

OK, so what does this mean to you and to your ham friend down the street and to me? It means that we all — and many more as well — should send an E-mail to our own US House member (this is, to the House member who currently represents the House District in which each of us live). In this letter, we should ask these House members to co-sponsor House Resolution 230. This Resolution, if passed, would "ask" the FCC to review and reconsider the regulations it approved for BPL, last year.

SPECIAL NOTE: Do NOT send the letter directly to your congressman. Instead, please send it to Zach DeWaters at. Zach is an executive for the ARRL account with Chwatco, our retained lobbying firm in Washington, DC. Mr. DeWaters will put your letter into a packet of the other letters they receive for your congressman/woman and will hand-deliver the letters to the respective congressmen/women.

Because of this, address the following letter to your congressman/woman, insert the entire letter (with address, etc.) into the body of an E-mail and send the E-mail to: zach.dewaters@chwatco.com. Please copy your E-mail to me (k8je@arrl.org).

To find the name and House District of your US Representative, go to: <http://www.house.gov/>. It will expedite your search if you have your ZIP+4 codes.

Rep. _____
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Rep. _____

As a federally licensed Amateur Radio operator in your district and as a member of ARRL — the national association for Amateur Radio, I ask you to support House Resolution 230. This resolution urges the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the potential of "broadband over power line" (BPL) systems to interfere with public safety and other licensed radio services.

BPL utilizes electric power lines to serve as the conductors of the broadband signals. Unfortunately, because the power lines are not shielded, they also act as antennas and radiate the signals into the air. These radiated signals will interfere with radio receivers tuned to the same frequency range. BPL has only been deployed to a very limited extent, but Amateur Radio already is experiencing severe BPL interference that the FCC has been unable or unwilling to correct. Unlike BPL, other methods of providing broadband Internet services to consumers, such as cable, DSL, wireless and Fiber to the Home, do not pollute the radio spectrum.

Last October 14, the FCC ignored the evidence that BPL systems will cause widespread interference and adopted rules for BPL deployment that provide inadequate protection to radio communication by First Responders and others who need reliable radio communication to ensure our security. The FCC needs to do what it should have done in the first place: fairly and carefully review this evidence and adopt rules that will keep interference from BPL within reasonable bounds.

Because we need no infrastructure in order to communicate, the Amateur Radio Service is the only 100-percent fail-safe emergency communication capability in the world. Interference from BPL emissions will significantly disrupt this capability. Please cosponsor H. Res. 230 as soon as possible to express your concern over the interference potential of BPL to Amateur Radio operators and to public safety licensees.

Sincerely,

Name
Address
(Email and telephone optional)

Please let me know if you need any additional information. Also, please spread this request throughout your clubs and other amateur groups.

Thanks for your help.

FIELD DAY 2005

Its coming on June 25, 26 (GMT, UTC, Zulu)!

To learn everything there is to know about FD 2005, go to <http://www.arrl.org/htdig/?q=field+day+2005>. From here you can click on links that will take you to the rules, score sheets, report forms, goodies and more. Many of you may want to purchase FD T-shirts that you can wear on this great occasion. Don't wait too long to firm your individual and club plans. Invite the local press and broadcast media, local officials and the public out to show off Amateur Radio. Be sure to have information sheets and a friendly guide ready to conduct tours.

A club officer or guide should also be ready to make brief, pre-planned statements to the members of the Fifth Estate as well as to all visitors. Be certain statements given to the media, government officials and the general public, say what you want to convey to them.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"Old radar men never die - their echoes only fade away in accordance with the inverse square law." (Neil Schwanitz, V73NS/WD8CRT, ALTAIR Radar, Marshall Islands and Michigan.)

NEXT ISSUE: Among other items, I'll share the status of the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act with you, and what we need to do to resume work on it. Frankly, I think we could have gotten this passed in the last Congress if BPL had not demanded our full attention.

FINAL THOUGHT: Thanks to everyone who shared views on the developing Regulation by Bandwidth proposal with me. You have voiced many valid points which warrant thorough consideration along with additional information. I appreciate your help.

73, GL, Jim Jim Weaver, K8JE
Director, Great Lakes Division ARRL; [http://www.arrl.org/5065 Bethany Rd., Mason, OH 45040](http://www.arrl.org/5065BethanyRd.,Mason,OH45040)

Ohio/Penn DX Bulletin No. 710

May 16, 2005

The Ohio/Penn DX PacketCluster

DX Bulletin No. 710

May 16, 2005

Editor Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW Provided by BARF80.ORG (Cleveland, Ohio)

Thanks to the Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society, Northern Ohio DX Association, Ohio/Penn PacketCluster Network, AB5K & the AR TelNet Clusters Network, K1XN & GoList, N1WON, NG3K, W3UR & The Daily DX, N4AA & QRZ DX, W4WX, K5LBU, K5OLE, K8YSE, NJ9K, CT1END, DL1EK & The DX News Letter, EA5KY, EC8ADU, F5CWU & La Gazette du DX, F5NQL & UFT, F8DQZ, HA0HW, I1JQJ/IK1ADH & 425 DX News, IZ8CCW, JI6KVR & JA-IOTA Islands News, OK1DOT, PA7FM, UT2UZ, UT3UZ, VA3RJ & ICPO, VA7DP, ZS6WLC and ARRL Web page for the following DX information.

3DA, SWAZILAND (Update/More!). Frosty, K5LBU, reports that he has received word they have been issued their callsigns in Swaziland for **July 8-18th**. Callsigns are as follows: Wayne/W5KDJ will be **3DA0KDJ**, Frosty/K5LBU will still be **3DA0CF** and Daniel/ZS6JR will be **3DA0JR**. They will be on all the bands that are open from 160-6 meters. They will also try to do RTTY and PSK. Frosty states, "Will have a A4S with 40 meter kit at about 50 feet a 2 element 12-17 meter beam above that along with a very good vertical for 160-80-40 meters along with some beverages for receiving. Will have a 6 element m2 6 meter beam up at 50 feet also." He is still hoping that there will be at least 2 other operators to join them so they can do a better job covering the bands. They will be on for the IARU Contest which is July 9-10th and is still hoping to get 3DA5HQ for the contest. There is still time to join the group. Contact Frosty at: frosty1@pdq.net.

EF8, CANARY ISLANDS (Lighthouse Activity). Several members of the Canary Islands DX Ham Society, Edu/EC8AUA, Dunia/EC8ADU and others, will take part in the **International Lighthouse Weekend 2005, August 20-21st**, from the Old Arinaga Lighthouse and New Arinaga Lighthouse in **Gran Canaria Island (AF-004)**. Look for the following to be active (References numbers are provided):

PY0F, FERNANDO DE NORONHA. Fred, PY2XB, is now active as **PY2XB/PY0F**. The length of his activity from Fernando de Noronha (**SA-003**) is not known at this time. He seems to be active mainly on 30/17/12 meters CW. QSL via PY2XB.

TT8, CHAD. Philippe "Fil", F4EGS, will once again be active as **TT8PK** from **May 20th to July 20th**. He is in N'Djamena City for professional reasons, so his time will be limited. He plans to be on all modes (RTTY, PSK, SSB and may be a little CW) with a FT100D and a vertical MA5V. If you have need for Chad on a band, ask him on the air, and he'll maybe QSY. QSL via F4EGS, direct or by the bureau. ADDED NOTES: It has been reported that Philippe has sent all of his documentation for his past operations from Chad, Togo, Tadjikistan and Gabon, to the ARRL. It was also mentioned that in August, Philippe is expected to be active from Kabul, Afghanistan. More information is forthcoming.

YB5, INDONESIA. Bob, ex-9V1GO, is now active as **YB5AQB**. Bob thinks he will be here for at least **two years**, so 9V-land is effectively over and YB-land is his new QTH. Bob reportedly has not been too active on the low bands for the past few weeks, but that is changing. Bob will have two stations in Indonesia. Look for him on the weekends from Batam and during the week from Jakarta. In Batam, he has a complete station for the low bands which is operational. In Jakarta, his apartment is on the 21st floor and the antennas are being put up for the low bands, and it is not operational yet. He states, "So, during the week, all bands, all modes and not much 160/80 until I get QRO in Jakarta. Weekends when I fly back (1 hour 20 minutes from Jakarta) to Batam, low bands mostly. QSL via OK1DOT, direct only.

YI, IRAQ. Ilian, LZ1CNN, is now active as **YI9LZ**. His current activity is on 40-10 meters. In about a week, he will be active on the 80 and 160 meter bands. He preferably works on CW, but he will also be on SSB too. He'd like to participate in contests (depending on his duties of course). Ilian will stay there for about **6 months** or possibly until the end of the year. QSL via LZ1ZF, by the bureau or direct to: George Vodenicharov, P.O. Box 8, 6000 Stara Zagora, BULGARIA. ADDED NOTE: YI9LZ counts for 3 points for the "St. Teodosii Tyrnovski Award". Details are available on: <http://www.balkanclub.8m.com>.

FOR SALE

Subject: Antenna

I have just taken my Hy-Gain Tri-band antenna down and have it available for sale. If you know of any members who may be interested, please ask them to call.

Bob Ganser
330-492-5353
2815 Saxon Ave. NE
N. Canton, OH 44721

VE EXAMS REPORT

May 28 proved to be one of our busiest sessions in a long time. We had 17 candidates to take the Tech through Extra Class exams and one candidate to take the ARRL CCEP, Level 2 exam. It seems like most people who now take exams are well prepared as we had 6 new Technicians, two new Tech plus, 2 new General's and 4 new Extra Class candidates. There were only 3 out of the entire group who did not pass and left without getting anything. The fellow who took the Level 2 exam did pass and will be receiving his Level 2 Certificate soon in the mail.

Because of the Holiday weekend, we were very short handed on accredited VE's. We had only 8 show up to help and one was from the Alliance club who heard my call for "help" on the Friday night net! Thanks goes out to Jerry Wheeler, KG8RN for coming out to help. Next year I am going to move the exam date ahead one week to the first weekend in June. I don't want to move it back one week because it will conflict with the Dayton Hamvention. The first of June might conflict with graduations, but I would rather try that weekend instead of trying to hold it on Dayton Weekend!

Want to become an Accredited VE Examiner? I am still looking for people willing to help out at exam sessions. If you are interested and are at least a General Class or better, please contact me at wcw8@sssnet.com and we will get you signed up.

**73's de Gary WC8W Stark County
VE Liason**

Fox Report

Don W8DEF hid the Fox this time in an area that everyone had a hard time finding. It seemed as though we would be out of the city. Sippo Valley Trail is actually part of the city. We all needed help with this one and Chris KD8BBL was the first to find it this time. The NEXT Fox Hunt will be at Field Day. We will use three transmitters with this hunt. These Foxes will be hidden hard and all of them will be within Petros Park. The Hunt will take place before and after dinner, just have fun finding them. Hope to see you there and don't forget your hunting gear.

73'S de Dan N8DZM

June 2005

W8NP Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																									
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5 Breeze Shooters Hamfest, Ctc: Jack, 724-845-8698, Butler, PA Franklin County Hamfest, Columbus, Ctc Chris, 614-267-7779	6	7 VE Test Session, Cuyahoga Falls ARC, 1900, Ctc: Bruce Ferry, 330-929-2766, Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library	8 BD K1FFA	9	10 West Stark Info Net - 147.180 at 8:00 PM	11 VE Test Session, Silvercreek ARC, 0930, Ctc: Barry 330-925-1706, Rittman Public Library																																																																																																									
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