

FEEDBACK

VOLUME 51 ISSUE 6

JUNE 2006

MASSILLON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OFFICERS

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K8INN

VICE PRESIDENT

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SHORT SKIP

Good news fer HF DXers Bunkey. The folks who keep count of sun spots are say'n the next solar maximum is going to be one of the most powerful of recent times and could top the 1958 maximum. They're also say'n we'll hit the bottom count of this current cycle in December. Finally, 2007 begins more sun spots for the richly deserving !

73 de WB80WM

MARC MEETING NOTICE

The meeting for the month of June will be held at the Massillon Senior Center in downtown Massillon on June 2, 2006 at 8:00 PM.



Field Day will begin at 9:00 AM on Saturday June 24 at Petro's Park. We will need all hands to erect the antenna's and towers, set up the radio's, the tent for the CW station, etc.

WHAT TO BRING:

All members who participate in Field Day are asked to bring a covered dish for the evening meal. The choice is yours

as what the covered dish is. The Club will furnish the meat and the drink, paper plates, ect. If you are planning to stay the night, you might want to bring a warmer change of clothes as it gets much cooler in the "wee " morning hours ! Also you might consider sun screen for the daylight hours. The club does have insect repellent.

DIRECTIONS TO THE SITE:

If you do not know where Petro's Park is located, please refer to the Club's Web Site; www.marc.org for an up-to-date-map of the site. Complete directions are give there as well. If you do not have access to a computer or internet, please contact one of the club's Officer's (listed on the left of this page) with phone numbers listed in the Stark County Amateur's Directory or if all else fails, use two meters (147.18 MHz) and contact any Club member on the air and I'm sure they will direct you successfully to the site! Above all remember: this is a FUN event for everyone! One that i'm sure you will not want to miss out on!

MARC MINUTES
May 5,2006

The Massillon Amateur Radio Club meeting was held at the Massillon Senior Center with 25 members and guests present.

MARC President Igor K8INN opened the meeting at 8:00 P.M. The Pledge of Allegiance was given and a round of introductions was made.

The April minutes were accepted as stated in the FEEDBACK by Tim WB8HHP and second by Dan N8DZM.

MARC Treasurer Anne N8GAF gave the financial report.

MARC Vice President Ralph K8HSQ gave the correspondence report. He had 2 Breeze shooters Hamfest tickets, they were given to Gene W8KXR and Pete WD8PTW. He also had the usual news letters from other Amateur Radio Clubs. He also talked about Win Link. Ralph is also reprogramming TNC for 2 meter Win Link for MARC members.

Igor K8INN then asked for committee reports.

Dan N8DZM said fox hunt would be Sunday May7 at Lincoln Park.

Gary WC8W gave an update on the training classes. The VE Session would be May 13 at the EOC.

In Michele KC8ZEJ absence, Rodger KA8FTS talked about the MARC information net. Discussion was made, perhaps an informal net would be on Fridays until September. If you can help with this please contact Michele.

Scott N3JJT talked about Safety Day at Goodyear May 26. MARC ECOM trailer will be used for this event.

Perry W8AU needs more helpers for the Canoe Race to be held June 3, 2006.

MARC Safety Break was discussed.

OLD BUSINESS

Dan N8DZM and Terry N8ATZ talked about the MS Walk held at Quail Hollow and the Massillon area. MARC helpers efforts in keeping a safe eye on the walkers was appreciated.

NEW BUSINESS

Ralph K8HSQ, Terry N8ATZ, and Jim WA8GXM made a proposal to purchase a new radio (ICOM706) at the Dayton Hamvention not to exceed \$900.00 for the MARC ECOM trailer. They want to get this so they can get another program later on for another \$900.00 for Win link. The ICOM exceeded MARC budget allowed for this expense so a vote was taken and passed. Jim WA8GXM will be look for one at the Dayton Hamvention. Don W8DEF said the EOC and the Red Cross are not willing to spend money on Win link so MARC should not spend MARC money on it either . Dan N8DZM will look into some grant money to help with this project. Gene W8KXR and second by Byron KF8UN made motion to sell MARC Kenwood as-is needing repair to help the budget vote was taken and passed.

Perry W8AU would like to purchase band pass filters to be used on Field Day but since the budget was gone for this kind of purchase Gene W8KXR and Dan N8DZM wanted to table Perry's proposal at this time.

Tim WB8HHP suggested asking area clubs for donations to MARC, Several members volunteered to look into it.

Gary WC8W asked for someone to advertise MARC Field Day event.

Congratulations goes to Helen, KC8ZWG for winning the 50-50 for \$11.50.

**Minutes by Linda K8MOO
Secretary MARC**

NOTICE TO ALL FEEDBACK CONTRIBUTORS

Due to personal family circumstances beyond my control, I will be out of town the week of June 24-July 1. Therefore all Feedback articles, columns and notices will be due no later than June 17th to be included in the July issue of Feedback. ANY article submitted after June 17th will not be printed. THANKS de Gary WC8W Ed. MARC *Feedback*

... Massillon Canoe Races ...

Back many moons ago, that is when many of us still had hair that wasn't grey, the club was involved in the annual Canal Fulton Canoe Races. In this local public service event the club provided safety & support communications for this all day event. As I recall we used 147.18 simplex because we didn't yet have the wide area coverage repeater we now enjoy.

As we reported a few months ago, Canoe Races are once again coming to the area, this time sponsored by area churches. The club has again been requested to provide communications support for the races. Communications Coordinator for the event is Perry Ballinger – W8AU who reports we could use about 10 to 12 operators. The races will take place on Saturday, June 3rd, the day after our June club meeting. It will occur along the Ohio & Erie Towpath Canal in Massillon. Exact details are being prepared but we can use both mobile units and portables. Operations will probably take place on the club 147.18 repeater but we are intending on setting up the EComm trailer and our portable repeater on 442.85 Mhz. Bring your UHF handheld in you have one.

A signup sheet has been passed around for a few months but we are still short a few volunteers. You can contact either Perry or myself via phone or on the club repeater.

.. Frank Piper – KI8GW New Ohio SEC ..

He has been known for running ham radio communications for the Columbus Marathon and TOSRV - Tour of Scioto River Valley, a multi-county bicycle event. Now Frank Piper, KI8GW, former District Emergency Coordinator for District Seven, on June 1 will officially become Ohio Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC).

Ohio Section Manager Joe Phillips, K8QOE, today made the announcement. The Section Manager is making good on a promise to appoint a new SEC before the 2006 Dayton Hamvention. "Those participating in SEC search process gave me numerous suggestions on expanding Ohio ARES," said Section Manager Phillips, "these suggestions will go to Frank for his consideration."

Frank, who resides in Fairfield County east of Columbus, will succeed SEC John Chapman, WB8INY, who announced his resignation at the April 22 ARES Ohio Section Conference. John, who is starting a new business, said the time required for this venture just was taking too much time away from his ability to run the ARES program.

"The Ohio ARES program has a solid foundation formed by great people within the Section," said Frank on accepting the challenge, "I wish to continue John's vision of ARES in the Ohio." He pledged to expand the growing the ARES program and continue the model program that our served agencies will continue to rely on during times of need.

John and Frank will meet with Ohio ARES officials, beginning with The Dayton Hamvention, on the transfer of command. "I have worked with Frank for a number of years," said Mr. Chapman, "the Ohio Section is lucky to have him as SEC, and everyone should look forward to him moving the ARES program to new heights."

Mr. Piper has been running emergency programs for the ARRL for the past ten years. He was named assistant EC for Central Ohio in 1997, serving as bulletin editor, public service events manager and net manager. Frank became Franklin County EC in 2002 and DEC for District Seven in November 2003. While EC, Frank developed the Franklin County EMA Volunteer Coordinating Committee. He is a graduate of all three EMCOMM courses and is a certified instructor and certified examiner for the program.

The new SEC is professionally a systems programmer for Diamond Power International of Lancaster. His and his wife, Jackie, KC8ESO, have a daughter, Hanna, and reside in Pickerington. Beside ham radio, Frank enjoys computers, automobiles and is a First Degree Black Belt on Okinawan Karate.

Section Manager Phillips, on the announcement of Mr. Chapman's resignation, began a three week search process. The original list of SEC candidates that developed started with 22 Ohio hams. Four finalist were given individual interviews. Mr. Piper and the other three finalists were informed of the decision Sunday.

.. It's Field Day Time ! ..

Webster defines Field Day as "a day devoted to outdoor sports and athletic competition, a time of extraordinary pleasure or opportunity." We definitely agree.

It's nearly time for the club's largest participation event of the year, Field Day 2006. The weekend of June 24th & 25th has been designated as this years Field Day participation exercise and the club will once again hold FD at Petros Park in Perry Township starting with setup Saturday morning at about 9:00 AM. (look for a map on the club website).

Total club participation is needed to ensure a successful weekend exercise. Field Day is a great way to understand nearly every aspect of Amateur Radio from emergency communications to contesting. If you didn't attend last year, we missed your help and your company. We make every effort to include everyone in this event from setup to operating. You don't have to be a first rate contest operator or high speed CW Op to participate. While we don't normally make up operating schedule's, we will always make time for novice operators to experience Field Day operating.

The last several years we have made it a point to concentrate on the educational aspects of Field Day, by the time the event is over, we hope each of you will have learned something new about the hobby. Then we can claim we have had a truly successful event regardless of the final score.

And oh yes, did I mention the fun ? That is the most important part of Field Day, although some would say the

annual Field Day Feast is !.

Learning setup, assembling antenna's, operating, logging are all part of the experience that is Field Day and we also some other activities in store including Fox Hunting.

So mark your calendar for June 24th & 25th and join us for this years great Field Day weekend !

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

De Terry – N8ATZ

CLUB NEWS

FOX HUNT REPORT

We had our first Fox Hunt of the season during the ninth annual CQ Magazine National Foxhunting Weekend (NFW) Sunday May 7th. Each year in May, CQ Magazine sponsors an informal Fox Hunt weekend. The hunt was at Lincoln Park near 17th Street and Lincoln Way N. W. Massillon. This park is an older park with lots of character and hills to climb while Fox Hunting. Along with Fox Hunting we had some competition from the Frisbee Golf players there. Igor was Officially the first to find the Fox and the rest following shortly there after. Pictured below are the participates, First Row; Dan N8DZM, Wade WD8MIU, Igor K8INN with Stephanie, and Matalan, Bottom Row; Sarah KC8ZCS with Murphy and Scott KC8ZCT.

Get your Fox Hunting gear ready for the next one which will be at Field Day sometime around dinner time (before or after). More details will be at the next club meeting. Everyone is always invited and encouraged to participate in any of the Fox Hunts. For more information on Fox Hunting, Homing In web site is a great place to see what is involved. <http://www.homingin.com/>



VE EXAM NEWS

The Canton/ Massillon Amateur Radio Clubs held VE Exams on May 13, 2006 at the EOC in Canton. This was one of the largest sessions that we have had for quite a while. Nineteen people showed up to take an exam. Of the nineteen people there were 6 new Extra Class, two new General Classes, 2 new Tech Plus and 5 new Tech Class people. We had one who completed the written part of the General Class, which when she takes the code requirement, will become General class. There were three people who did not earn an upgrade or new license at this session.

We are happy to announce that all 6 Extra class recipients were from the MARC license classes, held from the end of February to May 12th. Five were from the Extra Classes and one was from Perry's code class. They were: Julian Laboucane, KA8MMN, Joe Herrick WD8BGW, Gary Marks WD8ICX, Scott McGill KC8ZCS, Stevan Hall KD8ACF and Bob Scafate KC8SQS. With the exception of Bob, all are members of MARC. Massillon Club member Michelle Gill KC8ZEJ, also a student of the MARC license classes passed her General Class written portion so all she needs is the Morse code and she will be a new General Class. From the Tech Class Richard Kohut (now KD8DQW) passed his Tech Class exam. From the Code Class Lorraine Davison, KD8BHX, and Anthony Schilling KD8BBK passed their Code requirement (with a CSCE for the General written) and received their General Class license.

Congratulations to all MARC members and non-members who passed their new license classes and we hope those who didn't pass will continue to study and be successful upon the next time they take the exam. Also a *BIG* thank you to the instructors of the MARC License Classes. Thanks to: Rodger Trompower KA8FTS, Tech Class, Don Finley W8DEF, General Class, Gary Kline WC8W Extra Class and Perry Ballinger W8AU, Code Class. Without your help and dedication, none of this would have been possible.



Emergency Safety Alert: Lithium Battery Fires

Lithium batteries are becoming very popular for powering the control and power systems in our models. This is true because of their very high energy density (amp-hrs/wt. ratio) compared to Nickel Cadmium (Ni-Cds) or other batteries. With high energy comes increased risk in their use.

The principal risk is fire which can result from improper charging, crash damage, or shorting the batteries. All vendors of these batteries warn their customers of this danger and recommend extreme caution in their use.

In spite of this many fires have occurred as a result of the use of Lithium Polymer (Li-Poly) batteries, resulting in loss of models, automobiles, and other property. Homes and garages and workshops have also burned.

A lithium battery fire is very hot (several thousand degrees) and is an excellent initiator for ancillary (resulting) fires. Fire occurs due to contact between lithium and oxygen in the air. It does not need any other source of ignition or fuel to start, and burns almost explosively.

These batteries must be used in a manner that precludes ancillary fire. The following is recommended:

1. Store and charge in a fireproof container, never in your model.
2. Charge in a protected area devoid of combustibles. Always stand watch over the charging process. Never leave the charging process unattended.
3. In the event of damage from crashes, etc., carefully remove to a safe place for at least a half hour to observe. Physically damaged cells could erupt into flame. After sufficient time to ensure safety, damaged cells should be discarded in accordance with the instructions which came with the batteries. Never attempt to charge a cell with physical damage regardless of how slight.
4. Always use chargers designed for the specific purpose, preferably having a fixed setting for your particular pack. Many fires occur in using selectable/adjustable chargers improperly set. Never attempt to charge lithium cells with a charger that is not specifically designed for charging lithium cells. Never use chargers designed for Ni-Cd batteries.

5. Use charging systems that monitor and control the charge state of each cell in the pack. Unbalanced cells can lead to disaster if it permits overcharge of a single cell in the pack. If the batteries show any sign of swelling, discontinue charging and remove them to a safe place outside as they could

erupt into flames.

6. Most important: NEVER PLUG IN A BATTERY AND LEAVE IT TO CHARGE UNATTENDED OVERNIGHT. Serious fires have resulted from this practice.

7. Do not attempt to make your own battery packs from individual cells.

These batteries cannot be handled and charged casually such as has been the practice for years with other types of batteries. The consequence of this practice can be very serious and result in major property damage and/ or personal harm.

- AMA Safety Committee

(Thanks to Rick K8RIC for submitting this article)

IN MEMORIAM

Anna W. Berger, mother of Massillon Amateur Radio Club member Byron Berger KF8UN, passed away on May 1, 2006 in Lee Summit Missouri. She was 84 years old. Survivors include two daughters, Alicai Louise and Beverly Anne, two sons, Erick Vernon and Byron Berger. Funeral services were conducted in Lee Summit Mo.

Our condolences to Byron and his Family.



DON'T FORGET FATHERS DAY JUNE 18th !!



REPORT 900 MHz

<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Usage</i>
902.0000	Weak Signal
902.7000	— TEST PAIR INPUT —
902.1000 - 903.0000 INPUTS (1)	Repeater and Point-to-Point Link
903.0000	Non-Amateur Automatic Vehicle Monitoring [AVM]
904.0000	Non-Amateur Automatic Vehicle Monitoring [AVM]
912.0000	Digital (2)
912.1000	Digital (3)
912.2000	ATV Simplex and ATV Repeater Input (4)
913.2500	ATV Visual Carrier
917.7500	ATV Aural Carrier
917.9000	Digital (5)
918.0000	Non-Amateur Automatic Vehicle Monitoring [AVM]
918.0000	ATV Repeater Output [coordinated with AVM users on a case-by-case basis]
919.2500	ATV Repeater Visual Carrier
923.7500	ATV Repeater Aural Carrier
926.0000	Non-Amateur Automatic Vehicle Monitoring [AVM]
927.0000	Digital (6)
927.6000	— SIMPLEX —
927.7000	— TEST PAIR OUTPUT —
927.8000	— SIMPLEX —
927.1000 - 928.0000 OUTPUTS (7)	Repeater and Point-to-Point Link

(1) & (7) - Point-to-point links will be ground to communications site only. Comm. site to comm. site links will not be allowed.

(2), (3), & (5) - Wideband digital ground transmit only

(4) - Ground transmit only, or repeater input paired with out-of-band repeater output. Recommended minimums:

WHY SHARING?

We hams share many of our bands with other users, mainly, the government. They take band segments that, because of the intended uses, would be worthless to most users (usually because of the potential for interference), and allow hams to use them. This arrangement gives us the opportunity to use and experiment with these frequencies so long as certain rules are followed. The biggest is that we do not interfere with other licensed users of the band, or our government benefactors.

WHO DO WE SHARE THE BAND WITH?

This is really a ‘trash’ band. You throw in hams, a few other licensed users, some industrial and medical RF radiators, the government (who occasionally uses it for radar), and a mishmash of Part 15 users (cordless phones, wireless headphones, and other such consumer electronics), and the result is a ‘trash’ radio band. We, as hams, only have to worry about interfering with the government and other licensed users (i.e., TeleTrak). If you mess up you neighbor’s cordless phone or open his garage door, too bad for him as Part 15 radio devices are subordinate to ham radio, and are required to accept any interference received, including that which might cause undesired operation. Most of the time, though, this kind of thing will not be a problem.

Now here is where this case starts to get interesting. The phone was tested by engineers and found to have been radiating spurious emissions all over the spectrum— including 451.775 MHz. However, its actual operating frequencies fell within the 33 cm ham band. It didn’t take long for the prosecutor to figure out that I wasn’t doing this on purpose; in fact, the prosecutor even STOOD BEFORE THE JUDGE AND ADMITTED there was no intent on my part! (Just ask John WB6GHA... he was there!)

The way the laws are worded in every other state in the nation, this would have been enough to get this load of nonsense laughed right out of court. However, South Dakota’s law was passed 26 years ago and the language is so broad one could almost drive a truck through it. Under SDCL 23A-35A-20, a person is guilty of a Class 5 felony, who being not a sender or receiver of a telephone communication, “KNOWINGLY” and “by means of a DEVICE” “overhears” such a communication. NO INTENT IS REQUIRED to violate the law. And apparently it was my fault because I admitted “knowing” that I operate radio equipment that occasionally picks up phone interference,

and I admitted "hearing" them to the point necessary to determine that a given signal seems to be coming from a phone.

So, the state's attorney went ahead misapplying this arcane law to try and convict a licensed amateur radio operator of a felony interception of telephone communications because some cheapskate decided to buy a \$17 hunk-o'-junk phone, install it 3 feet from me (that was admitted by the state's attorney), chose to ignore the "Privacy of communication may not be ensured when using this phone" warning that was molded into the phone's plastic, broadcast spurious emissions all over the radio spectrum, and transmitted fundamental emissions on frequencies which the FCC has allocated for ham use anyway.

(Excerpts for this article were taken from the San Diego 900 MHz Amateur Radio Club web site; www.sd900mhz.com/about900htm. Thanks to Rick, K8RIC for submitting the article).



OPDX Bulletin 760 May 29, 2006

The Ohio/Penn Dx PacketCluster DX Bulletin No. 760

BID: \$OPDX.760

May 29, 2006

Editor Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW

Provided by BARF-80 BBS 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, NC1L, NG3K, W3UR & The Daily DX, N4AA & QRZ DX, K5RC, W5BOS, K8YSE, K0JGH, DL1EK & The DX News Letter, EA8AUW/ EC8AUA, F5NQL & UFT, GW0ANA, HA5X, HA0HW, I1JQJ/IK1ADH & 425 DX News, IZ5DIY, JI6KVR & JA IOTA News, LA0VDA, M5AAV, OH2BH, PA7FM, TA2RX, VA3RJ & ICPO, and VK4FW for the following DX information.

4L, GEORGIA

Operator Vaho, 4L8A, will be active in the CQ WW WPX CW Contest (May 27-28th) as a Single-Op/Single-Band (20m) entry. QSL via DJ1CW.

4W, TIMOR-LESTE

Michael, PA5M, is now active as 4W6AAB until June 2nd. Activity will be limited to his spare time. QSL via PA7FM. For more details and an online log, visit the following Web site at:

<http://www.4w.pa7fm.nl>

LAST MINUTE UPDATE: QSL Manager Dennis, PA7FM, informs OPDX that Michael, 4W6AAB, had to go QRT May 27th. Michael has been evacuated from Timor Leste due to recent safety problems after just 5 days at work there (WFP - UN World Food Program). There might be a return in the future.... time will tell. 4W6AAB made some 400 QSOs. QSLs will be printed soon.

5B, CYPRUS

Jack, RW3QC, will be active as 5B/NN3AA during the CQ WW WPX CW Contest (May 27-28th) as a Single-Op/All-Band entry. QSL via RW3RN.

E51, COOK ISLANDS

Victor, ZK1CG/ZK1USA, reports that as of June 1st, (2006), the ZK1 prefix will change to a new prefix, E51. He will try and be on June 1st with his new callsign E51CG and later with E51USA from South Cooks.

FS, SAINT MARTIN

Craig, AH8DX, will be active as FS/AH8DX during the CQWW CW Contest (November 25-26th) as a Single-Op/All-Band entry. Look for RTTY activity before and after the contest. QSL via AH8DX.

KH5, PALMYRA ISLAND

Mike, KH6ND, will be active as KH6ND/KH5 during the CQ WW WPX CW Contest (May 27-28th) as a Single-Op/Single-Band (40m)/High- Power entry. QSL via K2PF.

OH0, ALAND ISLANDS

Phil, N6ZZ, will be active as OH0ZZ for the CQ WPX Contest. He will be accompanied by OH2BH (OH0B) and OH2MM (OH0E), and they can be found on WARC bands. QSL OH0ZZ via N6ZZ.

OY, FAROE ISLANDS

Operators Wim/PA2AM, Steve/PA2A, Hans/PAOVHA and Martin/PA2VMA will be on a holiday trip to Eysturoy, Faroe Islands (**EU-018**) between May 29th and June 8th. Look for them to be signing OY/ homecall. Activity will be on all bands, CW, SSB, PSK31 and RTTY. QSL all callsigns direct to PA0VHA ([ORZ.com](http://www.pi4cc.nl/personal/pa0vha/index.htm)). Further information can be found at:

<http://www.pi4cc.nl/personal/pa0vha/index.htm>

Excerpts and distribution of The OPDX Bulletin are granted as long as KB8NW/OPDX/BARF80 receive credit.

To contribute DX info, please send via InterNet Mail to:

kb8nw@barf80.nshore.org

- OR -

kb8nw@arrl.net

Information can now be faxed to the following "NEW" phone line at:

1-419-828-7791 (F A X only!)

TAKE A LOOK AT THIS...

Items For Sale by K8RIC, Rick k8ric@sbcglobal.net Please no phone calls. North Canton, Ohio

- 1) Yaesu FT-897 with FC-30. HF/VHF/UHF transceiver. Comes with power cord, Mic, cables for tuner. 2nd owner. Does not have internal batteries or filters. Does work and looks good. \$650.00
- 2) Bearcat BC-895XLT Scanner 300 CH Trunk Tracker. Wall power Pack and Manual. \$75.00
- 3) Bearcat BC-898 Scanner 500 CH Trunk Tracker. CTCSS/DCS Wall Power Pack and Manual. \$150.00
- 4) Alinco DR-610T Dual Band mobile. Works FB except the display lamp on the left side burn out. Does crossbanding and out of band rec. Comes with manual, and mic. \$150.00
- 5) Alinco DR-592T Dual Band mobile Needs the connector put on pig tail on VHF and needs 2032 battery for memory. I have the connector. Crossband and working. Manual and mic. \$130.00
- 6) Radio Shack HTX-100 10 meter SSB/CW mobile 25 W with mic and copy of manual \$45.00
- 7) Dentron Jr. 160 - 10 meter 300 W. tuner unbalanced/balanced out manual \$45.00
- 8) MFJ mobile tuner MFJ-945E 160 - 6 meter 300 W. unbalanced/balanced out manual \$45.00



Funny! I know we printed this before however I needed the "filler" and I'm sure some of you never read this before so "enjoy"!

Dear Ms. Jones
Patsy Insurance Co.
Wata'ohoh, HI 96999-0101

I am writing in response to your request for additional information for Block 3 of the Accident Report Form (ARF) I submitted to you on April 1, 1997. I put "poor planning" as the cause for the accident. You said in your letter that I should explain more fully. I trust the following detail will be sufficient.

I am an Amateur Radio operator and on the day of the accident, I was working alone on the top section of my new 80 foot tower. When I had completed my work, I discovered that I had, over the course of several trips up the tower, brought up about 300 pounds of tools and spare hardware. Rather than carry the now unneeded tools and material down by hand, I decided to lower the items down in a small barrel by using a pulley, which was fortunately attached to the gin pole at the top of the tower.

Securing the rope at ground level, I went back to the top of the tower and loaded the tools and material into the barrel. Then I went back to the ground and untied the rope, holding it tightly to ensure a slow decent of the 300 pounds of tools.

You will note in Block 11 of the Accident Report Form that I weigh only 155 pounds. Due to my surprise of being jerked off the ground so suddenly, I lost my presence of mind and forgot to let go of the rope.

Needless to say, I proceeded at a rather rapid rate of speed up the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40 foot level, I met the barrel coming down. This explains my fractured skull and broken collarbone. Slowed only slightly, I continued my rapid ascent, not stopping until the fingers of my right hand were two knuckles deep into the pulley. Fortunately, by this time I had regained my presence of mind and in spite of my pain, I was able to hold on to the rope. At approximately the same time, however, the barrel of tools hit the ground and the bottom fell out of the barrel. Devoid of the weight of the tools, the barrel now weighed approximately 20 pounds. I refer you again to my weight, shown in Block 11 of my submission.

As you might imagine, I began a rapid descent down the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40 foot level, I met the barrel coming up. This accounts for the two fractured ankles, and the lacerations of my legs and lower body. The encounter with the barrel slowed me enough to lessen my injuries when I fell onto the pile of tools and, fortunately, only 3 vertebrae were cracked. I am sorry to report, however, that as I lay there on the tools, in pain, unable to stand and watching the empty barrel 80 feet above me, I again lost my presence of mind and let go of the rope

Sincerely,
Andy Clark, WA4PRF

June 2006

W8NP Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																													
<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr> <th colspan="7">May 2006</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td> </tr> <tr> <td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </table>				May 2006							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				<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr> <th colspan="7">Jul 2006</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td> </tr> <tr> <td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </table>				Jul 2006							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						<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;">1</p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3650 @ 1930</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;">2</p> <p>Massillon ARC Meeting, Massillon Senior Center, 8:00pm</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;">3</p> <p>Canoe Races, Massillon</p>
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<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;">4</p> <p>Breeze Shooters Hamfest, Ctc: Robert, 412-366-0488, Butler, PA</p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3650 @ 1930</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;">5</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;">6</p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3650 @ 1930</p> <p>VE Test Session, Cuyahoga Falls ARC, 1900, Ctc: Bruce Ferry, 330-929-2766, Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;">7</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;">8</p> <p>BD K1FFA</p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3650 @ 1930</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;">9</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;">10</p> <p>VE Test Session, Inter City ARC, 1300, Ctc: Richard Fletcher, 419-886-2463, Senior Citizen/Training Center, Mansfield</p>																																																																																																													
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<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;">18</p> <p style="color: red;">Father's Day</p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3650 @ 1930</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;">19</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;">20</p> <p>BD N8XEO</p> <p>BD WD8KPO</p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3650 @ 1930</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;">21</p> <p>BD W8DEF</p> <p style="color: red;">Summer begins</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;">22</p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3650 @ 1930</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;">23</p> <p>BD KC8RPB</p> <p>BD KD8JN</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;">24</p> <p>BD WD8MIJ</p> <p>---- ---- ----- --- ----- ----- -----</p> <p style="color: black; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.1em;">FIELD DAY! Petros Park</p>																																																																																																													
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