



# FEEDBACK

VOLUME 65 ISSUE 2

February 2020

## MASSILLON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OFFICERS

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**MRN NET Sundays at 8:00 PM  
3599.50 KHZ**

**WEST STARK INFO NET  
Friday's 8:00 PM 147.180 MHz**

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## FEBRUARY MEETING

The meeting for the month of February will be held on February 7th, 2020 at 7:30 PM at the Massillon Senior Center, 39 Lincoln Way West. Doors will open at 7:00 PM .

## PROGRAM

Our February program is expected to be a live demo titled "ELECTRIC COMMUNICATIONS". We don't have any additional details so plan on joining us for this mysterious program. We may have some unfinished business from our January Awards Banquet that we need to take care of as well.

Otherwise we will discuss the details of our upcoming radio license classes and other spring news.

We could always use some ideas from the membership of any programs you would like to see. We still plan on having our annual ARRL Night that will include Ohio Section Manager Scott Yonally, N8SY who always has the latest news from the ARRL.

Either way, make plans to join us at the February meeting some latest news, fellowship and our usual great refreshments !

## VE TESTING

The first VE Testing session will be held on Saturday morning, February 15th at the Stark County EOC on Route 62 in Canton. Registration will open at 8:00 AM with testing at 9:00. The cost for taking a test remained at \$15.00. Make sure you bring a copy of your license (if licensed) and a photo ID. Contact our VE Coordinator Rex Simmons, NX8G with any questions at (330) 832 - 0609 or by email to [nx8g.01@gmail.com](mailto:nx8g.01@gmail.com).

## February Hamfests

Hamfest season will begin soon and the first big one will be the Mansfield Mid-Winter Hamfest on Sunday, February 16th at the Richland County Fairgrounds. Gates open at 7:00 AM and admission is \$7.00. Complete details are available on their website at [www.iarc.club](http://www.iarc.club). Lets hope for good weather but this usually doesn't keep anyone away !

## PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

### The Prez Sez



### QRQ = Send Faster (and Smarter)

The annual Code Class begins 7 p.m., Friday, February 14, at the Massillon Senior Center 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.

How to learn, practice, increase comprehension, and then sound like an OT that's been doing it for years! Tips, techniques, code shorthand, types of keys and keyers that allow you to send with one hand instead of two. (Nope, no keyboards unless you want to send over 50 wpm!)

Class will run each Friday evening for up to 10 weeks. After reaching the 5 wpm level you can graduate to the MRN net on 3599.5 kHz every Sunday evening and enjoy general operation on any CW band – all guaranteed to increase your speed.

So, to those new no-coders curious about the “original digital mode” and those who have let it lapse and want a refresher course, we're here to help.

Each session will be 2 hours. Those interested should drop an email to [w8au@sssnet.com](mailto:w8au@sssnet.com), or call 330-705-8449 for a reservation.

Want the latest and greatest DMR radio? Bridgecom is now taking pre-orders for the highly awaited AnyTone AT-D578UVIII Pro Tri-band DMR mobile radio. Be the first person in your club to get this groundbreaking radio!

It offers the same great features and usability you loved in the AnyTone 868 and 878 handhelds in a higher power mobile package with even more features!

Of course, when you buy this radio from BridgeCom you will receive our world-class support and A NEW BridgeCom University course specifically made for this new mobile that will take you from unboxing the radio, right into programming, installing, and making new contacts!

**So don't wait any longer, order this new DMR mobile now!**

- Tri-band Amateur DMR and Analog FM (UHF/220/VHF)
- Power: 45w UHF, 5w 220, 50w VHF
- 4000 channels,
- 10000 Talk Groups,
- 200000 Digital Contacts
- Bluetooth
- GPS
- Full Duplex
- FCC ID: T4K-D578UVIII
- 

The AnyTone AT-D578UVIIIIPRO is a true TRI band radio for DMR radio systems, compatible with MOTOTRBO Tier 1 and 2. Traditional FM is of course, equally supported.

In contrast to many other DMR radios, the 578 offers real VFO operations, which makes it much more suitable for amateur radio

4000 memory channels, 10,000 talk groups, 200,000 digital contacts.

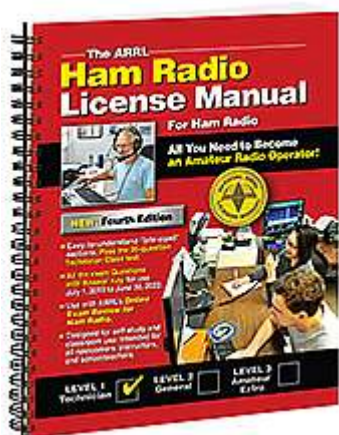
The AT-D578UVIIIIPRO is a fantastic mobile radio with the same functionalities as an "878UV HT but with more power in a mobile case". Including all the well-known functions like APRS in FM (TX wise) digital roaming, and the Bluetooth option.

## OTHER NEWS

The MARC will once again sponsor amateur radio license classes starting on Friday, February 14, 2020 at the Massillon Senior Citizens Center. Class will start at 6:00 PM lasting for 2 hours. Classes will continue for approximately 10 weeks.

The classes will use the ARRL Technician Study guide. Additional details will be announced in January. The Technician Class instructor will be Terry Russ, N8ATZ. Contact Terry at (330) 837-3091 or by email to [truss@sssnet.com](mailto:truss@sssnet.com) if you are interested in taking the class.

A General Class may also be conducted if an instructor is available. As in the past, Perry, W8AU will teach a code proficiency class as well. Additional information will be covered at the February meeting.



## ARRL NEWS

The *2019 ARRL Periodicals DVD* is now available and includes the complete, fully searchable collection of three ARRL journals — *OST*, the official membership journal of ARRL, *OEX Forum for Communications Experimenters*, and *National Contest Journal (NCJ)*. In addition, the DVD includes source code for software projects and PC board patterns; Section News, and the ever-popular Contest Soapbox and Contest Results.

Search the full text of every article by entering titles, call signs, or names. See every word, photo, drawing, and table in technical and general-interest features, columns and product reviews, plus all advertisements. Print what you see, or copy it into other applications. System requirements: Microsoft *Windows* and Macintosh systems, using Adobe *Acrobat Reader* software.

[2019 ARRL Periodicals DVD](#) is available from the [ARRL Store](#) or your [ARRL Dealer](#). (ARRL Item no. 1274, ISBN: 978-1-62595-127-4, \$24.95 retail, plus shipping. Call 860-594-0355 or toll-free in the US, 888-277-5289. The *2019 ARRL Periodicals* is also available as a download in a [Windows Version](#) (ARRL Item no. 1274\_WD) and [Mac/Linux Version](#) (ARRL Item no. 1274\_MLD).



## Give Up On Emcomm ? By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

Our radio club has had a pretty solid relationship with our county's department of public safety for many years. That has since begun to dry up now that they have a new communication system that seems to check off all their boxes. As a result, they aren't including us in real emergency situations like they used to and they're reluctant to participate in our emergency tests where we practice. In short, I think the marriage is about over.

I'm wondering how other EMCOMM-based clubs find themselves these days in terms of their relationships with local agencies. Is the love for amateur radio EMCOMM drying up everywhere? If it's not in your area, can you describe how it's going and what your club is doing to keep the idea alive?

I'm asking because as a member of our leadership team, I'm very close to recommending we just sever ties altogether in a formal manner and drop to one drill a year or every other year. The amount of energy our team puts into organizing one of these just isn't being reflected by the partners we're trying to serve and the juice just isn't worth the squeeze.

The responses to this post are all over the map. There were plenty who agreed with the original poster:

- "EMCOMM has been slowly dying for a long time."
- "I work in the agency that manages emergency systems for my city and ham radio emergency participation is a joke to them."
- "Ham radio as a service is dead. Let's all move on ..."

At the other end of the spectrum, there were these comments:

- "This is the opposite of my experience here in a rural, agricultural county in California. I don't get a sense that this is a trend."
- "We have 30+ members who have taken the ICS training and understand what our place ought to be: that is, assist when requested and stay out of the way."
- "Our local Emergency Management department utilizes Amateur Radio during emergency activations in several areas."

Even at the positive end of the spectrum, it's clear that emergency management has gotten way more sophisticated over the past couple of decades. For us to continue to serve, we are also going to have to be more sophisticated. I've said this before, and I'll say it again: Amateur radio needs something like AMSAT for emergency communications. That is to say an organization that is advancing the state of the art in amateur radio communications.

Along with that, we have to participate more fully with the emergency management community. That means going to their conferences and publishing papers at these conferences and in their publications. Maybe I'm not close enough to what's happening, but I just don't see that.

Along those lines, I think that while our Public Information Coordinators are doing a good job of getting amateur radio on the nightly news and into newspapers, someone should be concentrating more on raising our profile in the emergency management community. Most of the people watching the news aren't the people who are going to be making the decisions on how big or how small a role that amateur radio is going to play in their emergency management plans.

[On the Air](#), ARRL's new bimonthly magazine for beginner and intermediate hams, is here! All ARRL members can access the digital edition through the new ARRL Magazines app (see details below).

**In the first issue of *On the Air* January/February 2020, you'll get:**

- A guide to buying your first handheld radio
- Step-by-step instructions for building simple antennas for VHF and HF
- A full-page infographic that explains how the ionosphere makes long-distance radio communication possible
- An "Up Close" Q & A with Jeremy Hong, KD8TUO, who reveals his favorite resources for new hams.

*...and much more!*



**Download the **NEW** ARRL Magazines App!**  
The perfect companion for members on the go! The new **ARRL Magazines** app replaces the QST app. Use the app to access current and back issues of *On the Air* magazine and *QST*, ARRL's monthly membership journal. The ARRL Magazines App is available free for download in Apple's [App Store](#) and [Google Play](#), or visit [www.arrl.org/ota](http://www.arrl.org/ota) for more info. **If your device is setup to update apps automatically, the ARRL Magazines app will replace the QST app.**

## OTHER NEWS

The following awards were issued during the Awards Banquet:

Our Ham Of The Year was issued to Rick Willaman, K8RIC for outstanding work as Radio History Curator for the MAPS Air Museum.

The Meritorious Award issued to Rex Simmons, NX8G for Excellence as VEC Examination Coordinator for many years.

Our Public Relations Award to Evan Rankl, KD8IDH for Ham Radio Promotion and Youth Recruitment during his demonstration at this years Skywarn Recognition Day at the Cleveland National Weather Service.

The Handy-Man Award to Steve Hall, KD8ACF for the generous donation of his time as a participant in every club activity over the last ten years.

## EDITOR'S COMMENTS

### ... AWARDS BANQUET ...

I hope you all enjoyed our annual Awards Banquet held this year at the Otterbein Methodist Church, I know I did. The food was very good and there was lots of it. I thought they took very good care of us and we will see what next years banquet holds for us.

Congratulations to all our award recipients, all were well deserved. We should have the complete list published at a later date. A complete summary of the evening including award winners and pictures should be posted on the clubs website in the near future.

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

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

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

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

Hamfest season will begin soon and the first big one will be the Mansfield Mid-Winter Hamfest on Sunday, February 16th at the Richland County Fairgrounds. Gates open at 7:00 AM and admission is \$7.00. Complete details are available on their website at [www.iarc.club](http://www.iarc.club). Lets hope for good weather but this usually doesn't keep anyone away !

## UNIVERSAL RADIO

**ICOM**  
IC-7300



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

**YAESU**  
FTdx1200



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

**YAESU**  
FT-991A



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

**CommRadio**  
CTX-10



The multi-mission CommRadio CTX-10 SDR QRP transceiver covers 80-10 meters CW/SSB 5 or 10 watts. Receive 150 kHz to 30 MHz. Integrated battery and antenna tuner enhances portability. Optimized for low power consumption. Made in USA. Expected March 2018.

**Universal Radio has moved!**

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radio inc.**

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614 866-4267 Information  
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[www.universal-radio.com](http://www.universal-radio.com)  
*Quality Equipment Since 1942*

# February 2020

## WSNP Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																	
Upcoming Events: March 1 - NOARS Winter Hamfest (Elyria) March 14 - Toledo Hamfest March 14 - Charleston WV Hamfest March 21 - MOVARC Hamfest (Gallipolis, OH) March 29 - McKeesport TRARC Hamfest/Computer Show						<b>1</b> VE Test Session, Puttango County ARS Inc., 1000, Ctr.: Tom 330-389-2026, PCARS Club Sns, Ravenna																																																	
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<b>2</b> BD KASDAL <b>Groundhog Day</b> Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5 kHz, 2000	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Massillon Amateur Radio Club Meeting, Massillon Senior Center, 1930 Doors open at 1900	<b>8</b>																																																	
<b>9</b> Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5 kHz, 2000	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> <b>Lincoln's Birthday</b>	<b>13</b> VE Test Session, Cuyahoga Falls ARC, 1830, James, 330-928-8921, Cuyahoga Falls Library	<b>14</b> <b>Valentine's Day</b> West Stark Info Net - 147.180 at 2000	<b>15</b> VE Test Session, Stark County Area VE Team, 0830, Ctr.: 330-832-0609, Emergency Mgmt Agency, Stark County Sheriff Office/EOC, Canton, OH																																																	
<b>16</b> Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5 kHz, 2000 Mid-Winter Hamfest, InterCity ARC, Mansfield, Richland County Fairgrounds, Ctr.: Dorey, W8DLB, 567-763-0021 - VE Test Session, 12:00 PM	<b>17</b> <b>President's Day</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> BD Almond in Perille BD Shirley Truitt VE Test Session, Pioneer AR Fellowship, 1830 Ctr.: Joan, 330-730-7165, Fremont Park Community Center	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> West Stark Info Net - 147.180 at 2000	<b>22</b> <b>Washington's            Birthday</b>																																																	
<b>23</b> Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5 kHz, 2000 WASHNet 2013, South Park Township, Ctr.: Carol, KB3GMN, 412-884-1466	<b>24</b> BD W8RMIU	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> West Stark Info Net - 147.180 at 2000	<b>29</b>																																																	

Please contact K8DNV for updates, changes, or additions.

**Massillon Amateur Radio Club  
PO Box 73  
Massillon, OH 44648**

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**

**TO:**

**Club Officers**

<b>President</b>	<b>Perry Ballinger, W8AU</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Don Rankl, N8IVJ</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Vern Sproat, KE8VS</b>
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**FEEDBACK Editor**    **Terry Russ, N8ATZ**

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                      **Fred Reed , KD8SMO**

**W8NP Trustee**     **Perry Ballinger, W8AU**

**W8NP Webmaster**     **Terry Russ, N8ATZ**

**Published by the Massillon Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 73, Massillon, Ohio 44648. The Club meetings are the first Friday of every month (except January) at 7:30 PM at the Massillon Senior Citizens Center located at 39 Lincoln Way West, Massillon, OH.**