



FEEDBACK

VOLUME 65 ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER 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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SEPTEMBER MEETING

The September meeting of the MARC will be held on Friday, September 4, 2020. Due to the current health concern we don't know if we will be able to have a face to face meeting or will have a virtual meeting via the repeater. Stay tuned for details.

QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo to Become Twice-Yearly Event

The [QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo](#) over the August 8 – 9 weekend appears to have been an unmitigated success, so much so that another virtual event will be held next March.

"It was far better than we expected," Virtual Ham Expo chair Eric Guth, 4Z1UG/WA6IGR, told ARRL. "We had over 26,000 registered and over 14,000 on the platform both days."

Guth said event sponsors and exhibitors that he's heard from so far "are thrilled with the turnout, engagement, and responses that they received." He said they're also enthusiastic about the second QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo, set for March 13 – 14, 2021. "Our plan is to offer this twice a year," Guth added.

The show, an ARRL-sanctioned event, was developed on the [vFairs](#) virtual conference platform, and cleverly re-created the atmosphere of a typical large hamfest, with several tracks of forum sessions on a wide array of topics. Those who had registered but did not log into the live event can see it all [on demand](#) until September 9.

"All of the services, except the chat, are running," Guth noted. "The doors are still open."

Dozens of video presentations are available to replay, including the keynote given by ARRL Maxim Society Member Dr. Scott Wright, KOMD, "COVID-19: Amateur Radio's Impact on Problem Solving to Create a Global Response to the Pandemic." Presentations from other ARRL member-volunteers span technical and operating interests, including "Everything you need to know about Lithium Batteries" with Marcel Stieber, AI6MS, and an introduction to creating Arduino-based projects for home and ham radio, with Glen Popiel, KW5GP. Presentations highlighting young ham involvement and development include "Youth in Ham Radio," moderated by Carole Perry, WB2MGP, with six youth presenters.

Guth said a poll would be sent to determine what visitors enjoyed most. "However, my guess will be that the speakers were fantastic, along with the moderators for the live Q&A afterwards," he said. Exhibitors will also be polled for their post-show impressions.

MARC W8NP Minutes August 7th, 2020 Meeting held at R.G. Klein Museum & Zoom

Perry W8AU called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm at Rodney G. Klein Museum and Library, 22 Federal Ave NE, Massillon, OH 44646, and Zoom via WIFI was connected for those not at the Museum. Social distancing was done due to the Corona virus pandemic.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by the group with Perry W8AU leading.

The minutes from the July meeting were distributed in the newsletter. Perry W8AU asked if there were any corrections. There was one correction of Jerry's call sign from KF8RRY to KG8RRY. The minutes were then approved with the one correction.

Treasurer's Report: Dan [N8DZM](#) provided account balances. Brent N8BAG made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report; Jim WA8GXM seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Perry W8AU gave a preliminary report on the contacts made at Field Day for Class 2A. Items contributing to bonus points were: 100% emergency power operation, public location, public information table, call message from ARRL which was then copied to Section Manager Scott N8SY, battery powered contacts with less than 5W power, Safety Officer N8ATZ, social media, and entry submitted via Web. Also, there were various categories and bands of QSO; this did not include personal stay at home stations participating during this special year with the pandemic rules.

New Business

Perry W8AU has made contact with the Boys and Girls Club of Massillon, and the Hamfest is scheduled for Sunday, November 1st, 2020. We will follow at the Hamfest any Pandemic For the Hamfest Rules. There was a discussion on the availability of tables from the previous source. Dan N8DZM mentioned Robert as a potential source. Also, some churches will typically have the quantity of tables needed. Due to the pandemic, increased spacing is necessary for the number of tables set up. Also, the configuration used for the table placements may need to be redesigned.

Prizes were briefly discussed. Some prizes may be different this year, but no decisions have been made yet.

Perry W8AU identified Swiss Festival was cancelled, and there is no word yet for the Christmas parade in Massillon.

Dan N8DZM stated the internet yearly cost for the DMR repeater is \$120. However, the amount was previously listed as part of the budget. So no approval is needed to pay the bill.

Dave WD8AYE gave an update on the progress of DMR repeater for Alliance area.

Vern KE8VS requested putting a remote control on one of the radios in the Shack at the Senior Center. Internet access to the Shack at this point would be the public downtown Wi Fi, because the Senior Center hardwired RJ45 connection does not appear that it would be approved for shared usage by the Senior Center's Administration. The downtown Wi Fi may not be as reliable. We could test the downtown Wi Fi by setting up a RigPi to the existing FT-950 Yaesu Radio. Also usage of the FT-991A was mentioned as a possibility. Perry W8AU identified in the past there was a rig that was tested with remote control out at the Alabama tower.

Jim WA8GXM suggested a remote control be placed at the Alabama antenna site, because it would have stronger signals. The discussion on remote control ended with Perry W8AU saying we will work on it.

Don N8IVJ identified getting a 60-foot lift over the weekend of Saturday Aug 29 and Sunday Aug 30. Don N8IVJ invited anyone having a project where this would be useful to get in contact with him and Evan KE8IDH.

Scott N8YS, our section manager visiting on Zoom, identified the following topics of information:

total Licensed Hams in USA now 764,030 as of the meeting; Ohio ranked 5th in USA with licensed Ham operators numbering 28,019; of the total number of Ham operators in USA, there are 158,049 ARRL members. Note: If a Ham operator elects to join ARRL as a life member, when that Ham dies, his ARRL life membership can pass to his wife upon her request.

ARRL also includes the territories of Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands which are part of the United States. There are 15 Divisions. Our division is the Great Lakes Division, comprising of Ohio, Michigan, & Kentucky. Ohio was formed in 1926. The Ohio section is the largest of all sections.

There are 5,824 ARRL members in Ohio.

Our W8NP Special Service club renewal lapsed, and we need to send in paper work. The renewal comes up every two years.

ARES Connect is for every amateur. To provide the needed documentation, we must demonstrate what Amateur radio is doing for the community. Our community service then also effects laws and regulations for all Ham operators.

FEMA needs trained operators of courses. There are four basic courses required. The courses are all online and are open book tests. Some topics are on First Aid: Stop & Control Bleeding. Continued on page 5.

Cleveland NWS Relocation Notice

The National Weather Service Cleveland Weather Forecast Office (WFO) will be moving to a new building on or about **September 14, 2020**. The new office is located in Brooklyn Heights Ohio. The radar and the official climate observing equipment (ASOS) will remain at the existing location at the Cleveland Hopkins International Airport.

Most NWS forecast products and services will be uninterrupted by utilizing a combination of remote computing capabilities as well as backup support from the Weather Forecast Offices in Buffalo, NY and Wilmington, OH.

Ten NOAA Weather Radio transmitters will be temporarily off the air for up to a couple of days during the move to the new facility. These include:

Akron, OH	KDO-94	162.400 MHZ
Youngstown, OH	WWG-56	162.500 MHZ
Cleveland, OH	KHB-59	162.550 MHZ
Mansfield, OH	WWG-57	162.450 MHZ
Bellevue, OH	KHB-97	162.400 MHZ
Carey, OH	KZZ-47	162.525 MHZ
Toledo, OH	WXL-51	162.500 MHZ
Grafton, OH	WNG-698	162.500 MHZ
Meadville, PA	KZZ-32	162.475 MHZ
Erie, PA	KEC-58	162.400 MHZ

Because we are moving to a different city, all WFO phone numbers, except for the spotter 800 number, will be changing. The new public phone number will be 216-416-2900.

Stark County Winlink Update

Terry Russ, N8ATZ - Emergency Coordinator



After some equipment issues we are glad to announce that our Winlink Telpac Nodes are back in service from our two Stark County Sites.

Our Western Node, WA8GXM-10 is back in service with a new Windows 10 computer and is back located at the MARC Tower site.

Our Central Stark County Node, N8ATZ-10 has been repaired and reprogrammed and is back on-site at Mercy Medical Center.

Both nodes are undergoing testing and are functioning normal for now. There is still some equipment replacement necessary and we hope to have this completed by the end of the month.

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International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend Event

Registrations for this year's popular International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend ([ILLW](#)) appear to have been largely unaffected by the current COVID-19 pandemic. The event will take place this year over the August 22 – 23 weekend. By mid-July, more than 200 entries had been received, and some 400 are expected to have signed up by the event weekend.

New to this year's event is Corsica at Phare d'Alistro, which for ILLW purposes carries the French number of FR0030. Two lighthouses in Ghana will be on the air for the first time, as well as Buck Island Lighthouse in the US Virgin Islands (VI0001). Germany is well in the lead with 54 entries, followed by Australia with 29 entries, and the US with 27 entries.

This event is designed as a fun weekend to encourage exposure to amateur radio and lighthouses to the visiting public, and ILLW stresses contacts should be more than just an exchange of signal reports. All participants are urged to observe local COVID-19 safety guidelines. —Thanks to Kevin Mulcahey, VK2CE

KB6NU's HAM RADIO BLOG

Are the Proposed expanded HF Privileges for Technician Class Operators good for the hobby ?

- The 378,000 Technician licensees comprise more than half of the US Amateur Radio population, yet the Technician-class license no longer serves its original purpose from 18 years ago. Many Technicians do not participate actively, pursue on-air and public service opportunities, renew their licenses, or upgrade. An uncomfortably large attrition rate exists among Technician licensees. Technician licenses are not upgrading, because they don't find their operating privileges interesting enough to keep them in the hobby.
- The proposed addition of 275 kilohertz of HF phone privileges, spread across 80, 40, and 15 meters, would allow Technicians the opportunity to develop and expand their understanding of HF propagation. In addition, this proposed change would allow Technician licensees to participate in public service-oriented, emergency, and Section traffic nets on 75 meters, from 3900 to 4000 kHz, where primary state/Section-wide public service activities often take place.
- Additional operating privileges for Technicians will not limit their incentive to upgrade. ARRL points out that Technicians now have access to 850 kilohertz of spectrum in four HF bands. ARRL proposes an additional 275 kilohertz on three of those bands, so the total under this proposal is 1,125 kilohertz on four bands — 80, 40, 15, and 10 meters.

If the ARRL really wants to convert more of those Techs to Generals, and get more of them on the air, they're going to have to bite the bullet and somehow get more current, active hams to Elmer newcomers. Setting up an expensive website just isn't going to work as well as personal Elmering. There are already thousands of great amateur radio videos on the Internet. They are a great help for those that already have a baseline of knowledge that enables them to get something from them, but apparently, many, if not most, Techs are not at that level.

And, if they're not at that level, how is giving Techs more privileges going to help them become more active and give them an incentive to upgrade? If they already need help to use their current privileges, I just don't see how giving them more privileges is going to get them more engaged. The ARRL says, "Additional operating privileges for Technicians will not limit their incentive to upgrade," but I fail to see how they come to this conclusion. As someone commented on a [previous post](#), "[The ARRL] has completed the circle by inventing Disincentive Licensing."

Seriously, I'd like to know exactly how the Entry Level License Committee came up with this recommendation. I believe I asked this question a couple years ago when they submitted their recommendations, but never did get a good answer. Did they call up some Techs and ask them what it would take for them to get more engaged in amateur radio and upgrade, or did they simply pull this idea out of thin air?

In an online discussion of the changes occurring in Ann Arbor, I noted that change is inevitable, but some changes are for the good, while others are not so good. The same thing is true in amateur radio. I'm not sure that reducing the incentives to upgrade is the right thing to do, and unfortunately, once you've increased privileges, it's nearly impossible to take them away. If it doesn't work out, then we're pretty much stuck with it.

ARRL Hires Paul Z. Gilbert, KE5ZW, as Director of Emergency Management



As another step in ARRL's increased focus on strengthening its emergency communications capabilities and long-standing working relationships with federal and state agencies and private emergency response organizations,

ARRL has hired Paul Z. Gilbert, KE5ZW, of Cedar Park, Texas, as its first Director of Emergency Management.

Gilbert brings more than 30 years of experience in public service in both his professional and amateur radio endeavors. Beginning with his appointment as Emergency Coordinator in 1987, he has held multiple positions in the ARRL Field Organization. Currently in his second term as South Texas Section Manager, he has also served for more than a decade as the West Gulf Division's Assistant Director for Public Service, acting as liaison between Division leadership and local, state, and federal emergency management organizations.

Professionally, Gilbert most recently was Radio Officer, HQ Staff, for the Texas State Guard, where for the past 6 years he has been responsible for planning and implementation of the organization's communications capabilities. Previously he was a Public Safety Radio Coordinator for a Texas agency, charged with overseeing that organization's large-scale disaster communications response and identifying and eliminating in-state interoperability issues.

Gilbert, who has an Amateur Extra-class license, is a member of Army MARS, and holds numerous DHS certifications, including COML, COMT, COMT Instructor, and AUXCOM Communicator. He is a member of the FEMA Regional Emergency Communications Coordination Working Group (RECCWG), a graduate of the FEMA Emergency Management Institute's Exercise Design Course, and was a founding member of the Texas Division of Emergency Management Communications Coordination Group.

In his new role, Gilbert will manage a team responsible for supporting ARRL Emergency Communications (EmComm) programs and services, including the Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®) and National Traffic System (NTS), as well as lead the continued modernization of those programs in consonance with the future emergency communications needs of the public and ARRL's key partners.

.....Meeting minutes continued.....

For the Handbook Giveaway: You must sign up every month, but only once in the month. Go to website Arrlo-hio.org and Check out VE testing information course and recent changes.

There is a revised law relative to distracted driving, Senate Bill 285, which has the same penalty as a drunk driver, but added to the revision is a request for an Amateur Radio License operator's exemption.

Scott reminded us of Antenna Law PRB1 (http://www.antennazoning.com/attachments/PRB1_Article.pdf).

Ohio Responds is the State of Ohio Liability Insurance which ARES members are insured for free.

Four Magazines available to ARRL members online at no cost beyond basic membership are: QST, On the Air, QEX, NCJ (National Contest Journal). Also, there is the WA1W Lab for questions on equipment.

ARRL provides QSL service incoming and outgoing via LOTW.

There are 17 Technical Specialists in Ohio who we can ask for information and help.

The Ohio Section Youth Coordinator is **Anthony Luscre, K8ZT**. His information is at https://static.dxengineering.com/pdf/Youth_In_Amateur_Radio-v20_07_16.pdf

Two types of ARRL Insurance are a Club Liability insurance and an Hamfest insurance. The Hamfest insurance has a \$200 premium and provides \$2 million of insurance.

We should be training members on how to do a piece of traffic & radio grams.

Scott N8SY challenged our club to produce a one sheet that tells about the club and invites Hams to join the club. Scott identified we must go online to ARRL to see who passed the tests recently and for who is new in the area, and then invite those individuals to join our club.

The meeting concluded after the Zoom session with Scott N8SY ended. (His email is N8SY@N8SY.com).

Submitted by Vern KE8VS,

Reminder of activities forth coming:

It is uncertain, due to COVID-19 stay at home orders, if the next meeting will be on the air (and also with a Zoom meeting) for the Friday, September 4th, 2020, or if that next meeting will be at the Massillon Senior Center, 39 Lincoln Way West, Massillon, Ohio 44647 or R. G. Klein Stock Market Museum, 22 Federal Ave NE Massillon; please, check for the information just ahead of the next meeting date.

If Zoom is used V Sproat KE8VS is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Radio Amateur Takes Part in Historic First Commercial Human Spaceflight to ISS



Bob Behnken, KE5GGX, was one of two NASA astronauts who made spaceflight history over the weekend. Behnken and Doug Hurley were the first astronauts since the 1970s to make a water landing, after their Crew Dragon capsule splashed down in the Gulf of Mexico on Sunday. On May 30, the pair made history as the first live crew to be

launched into space in a commercial vehicle, for a stay on the International Space Station (ISS), marking the return of human spaceflight to US soil for the first time in nearly a decade. A SpaceX Falcon 9 vehicle carried the crew into orbit from Cape Canaveral. The so called “Demo-2” was the last major test for SpaceX’s human spaceflight system, to be certified by NASA for operational crew missions to and from the ISS. Four huge parachutes carried the Crew Dragon capsule to a safe splashdown near Pensacola, Florida, on Sunday, August 1. “On behalf of the SpaceX and NASA teams, welcome back to planet Earth,” SpaceX Engineer Michael Heiman radioed to the crew after their landing. “And thanks for flying SpaceX.” NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine proclaimed that the US was entering a new era of human spaceflight, noting that NASA was no longer the only option for US space travel. “We are going to be a customer,” he said. NASA has contracted with two companies — SpaceX and Boeing — to ferry astronaut crews to and from the ISS. While part of the space station crew for 2 months, Behnken and Astronaut Chris Cassidy, KF5KDR, the sole American on board when their Endeavour capsule docked, carried out four spacewalks to install new batteries on the ISS. The SpaceX Crew Dragon vehicle was designed for short-term missions, and Behnken and Hurley’s mission had only been expected to last a week. As a result, Behnken did not receive Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) training on the radio gear in the Russian sector. NASA subsequently decided to monitor the mission and make a decision on how long the Crew Dragon would stay. Cassidy fielded all ARISS school contacts. #

September 2020

W8NP Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																																
Upcoming Events: 10/10 - Northwest Ohio ARC Hamfest 10/24 - Hazard Hamfest		1 BD KB8STV BD N8GAF	2	3	4 Massillon Amateur Radio Club Meeting. Stay tuned to 147.18 for location details!	5 VE Test Session, Silvercreek ARA, 1030, Ctc: Daniel, 330-239-0252, Sharon Center United Methodist Church																																																																																																																
6 Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5 kHz, 2000	7 Labor Day	8	9	10 VE Test, Cuyahoga Falls ARC, 1830, Ctc: James, 330-928-8921, Cuyahoga Falls Library - Call ahead, no walk-ins	11 West Stark Info Net - 147.180 at 2000	12																																																																																																																
13 Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5 kHz, 2000	14 BD WASHHO	15	16	17	18 West Stark Info Net - 147.180 at 2000	19																																																																																																																
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27 Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5 kHz, 2000	28	29	30	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">Aug 2020</th> <th colspan="7">Oct 2020</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td> <td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td> <td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td> <td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td> <td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td> </tr> <tr> <td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Aug 2020							Oct 2020							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S							1					1	2	3	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	30	31													
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Please contact K8DNN for updates, changes, or additions.

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

FIRST CLASS MAIL

TO:

Club Officers for 2020

President	Perry Ballinger, W8AU
Vice President	Don Rankl, N8IVJ
Secretary	Vern Sproat, KE8VS
Treasurer	Dan Anastis, N8DZM

FEEDBACK Editor Terry Russ, N8ATZ

Trustees Terry Russ, N8ATZ Expires Dec 2020
Wade Huthmacher, WD8MIU Expires Dec 2021
Fred Reed, KD8SMO Expires Dec 2022

W8NP Trustee Perry Ballinger, W8AU

W8NP Webmaster Terry Russ, N8ATZ

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