



# FEEDBACK

VOLUME 66 ISSUE 9

September 2021

## 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 3, 2021 and is expected to be held at the Massillon Senior Citizens Center.

## SET Results for 2020

The 2020 Simulated Emergency Test results have been finished and were published in the July Issue of QST. This year Ohio scored very well in the exercise with a total of 2,047 points. Our Section Nets scored 2,023 points. Here in Stark County we scored 61 points during the SET.

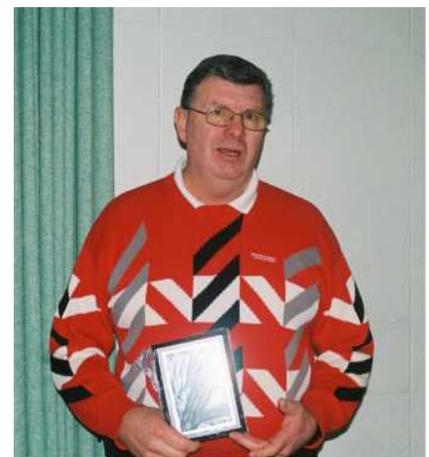
I thank those stations for their participation during the SET and look forward to next years SET activity !

Swiss Festival Fundraiser October 1st & 2nd. We anticipate that we will take part in this years Annual Swiss Festival. The club will assist with parking which has proved to be a great fundraiser. Further details will be covered at the club meeting.

Wade Huthmacher and his Wife Terri are retiring and they are sponsoring a going away party that will be held at the Veterans Hall in Medina on Sunday, September 12th from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM. It will include a 50/50 drawing and Pot dish. The Veterans Hall is located at 620 N. Broadway Street, Medina, OH 44256.

All of Wades friends and fellow hams are encouraged to visit and wish Wade & Terri a wonderful retirement as they start a new life living in Florida. We hope to see many of you there. Let Wade know with a phone call to (330) 702-2100.

73's Wade and pse keep in touch with us !



## MARC W8NP Minutes August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Meeting held at [Massillon Senior Center](#) & on Zoom

Perry W8AU called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm at **Massillon Senior Center** and on Zoom for those not at the **Senior Center**.

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, and hearing none, the minutes were approved as published in the newsletter.

Dan N8DZM read the Treasurer's Report which provided account balances. Jim WA8GXM made the motion to accept the treasurer's report and Brent N8BAG seconded. The motion passed.

Evan KE8IDH provided information of the Hamfest at Findlay, September 12<sup>th</sup>, and Berea, September 26<sup>th</sup>; ours is on October 31<sup>st</sup> at MAPS. Other contests can be found online at <http://www.arl.org/hamfests/search>.

Perry W8AU identified the availability of an RF Exposure Kit and asked if one should be purchased for the club. After some discussion and lack of detail, the discussion is to be continued in following meetings.

The Field Day report was submitted. Some discussion was generated on the location of Field Day next year at Hartwick Park, Massillon Community Park, or Richfield Park. A QSL card was received from James N4BNO ELM CITY, NC.

Perry W8AU reminded us of the Hall of Fame parade's participation and the need for radio operators.

Also, sheets were passed out for assisting with the fund raiser parking at the Sugar Creek Festival, Friday, Oct 1, 2021 and Saturday, Oct 2, 2021. A scheduling problem is Friday Oct 1, 2021 is our W9NP meeting night. It was decided to not to shift the meeting night and to do both. Contact Perry W8AU, if you can help.

Perry W8AU reminded us of the Massillon Christmas Parade, which is probably the Saturday prior to Thanksgiving. Details are to follow in coming meetings.

The new owners of Affinity Hospital are letting us keep the repeater there. Jim WA8GXM states the PL tone goes off on its own. Perry W8AU identified that there are 2 repeaters on 142.85 with different PL's. The one at the Hospital turns itself off and then needs to be reset on the air.

Additionally, there needs to be a way to remotely reset the DMR repeater. Jim WA8GXM keeps a log of when he has to go down to the site.

For the January Awards Dinner location, the site will need to be checked. Perry W8AU will check with Paul from the church on Shepler Church Avenue SW to see if it is a possibility.

Repair is needed for the antennas at the **Senior Center**. The Log-periodic is missing an element. We have had a repair kit for that element for about 2 years. Also, a coating of paint was suggested for the tower. The inverted "L" dipole needs to be restrung, and insulator replaced for mechanical integrity. It was suggested that the wire be twisted and soldered. Perry W8AU suggested we schedule an antenna work session on a Saturday soon.

A tour of the club station was planned for anyone that has not seen it yet at the end of the meeting.

Perry W8AU plans on paying the Senior Center for rent to the end of 2021.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Jim WA8GXM and seconded by Bud WA8KWD. The motion passed.

There were 22 in attendance, 15 at the **Massillon Senior Center** and 7 on Zoom.

After the meeting, the ice cream social was held. A big thank you goes to Terry N8ATZ and his wife for serving the ice cream.

## Hamfest Update

The Cleveland Hamfest is still on schedule for Sunday, September 26th at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds in Berea, Ohio. With most hamfests cancelled this year, this would be a great way to spend a late summer day. Full directions and information is available on their website at [www.hac.org](http://www.hac.org). Some great prizes and forums will be part of this annual show. Hope to see some of you there !

### ARRL Now Provides Free RF Exposure Calculator



The FCC has adopted guidelines and procedures for evaluating environmental effects of RF emissions. Under the new FCC rules, some amateurs need to perform routine station evaluations to ensure that their stations comply with the RF exposure rules. This can be as simple as running an online calculator to determine the minimum safe distance between any part of your antenna and areas where people might be exposed to RF energy from your station. Although amateurs can make measurements of their stations, evaluations can also be done by calculation.

The FCC guidelines already incorporate two tiers of exposure limits based on whether exposure occurs in an occupational or "controlled" situation, or whether the general population is exposed or exposure is in an "uncontrolled" situation.

To make this easy for amateurs, ARRL now provides an [RF exposure calculator](#) on its RF Exposure page. To use the calculator, enter your transmit peak-envelope power (PEP) and operating mode, and answer the questions about the maximum amount of time you might be transmitting. The calculator will give you the minimum distance people must be from your antenna and human exposure.

You can print the results and keep them in your station records. There is no requirement to send your results to the FCC.

## Community Parade Wrap-Up

Terry Russ, N8ATZ - Emergency Coordinator

(July 26, 2021) -- With a picture perfect day for an



opening day parade, members of the Stark Co ARES, Canton & Massillon ARC's once again assisted in the opening events of the Pro Football Hall of Fame Enshrinement Festival by providing communications support for the Community Parade held this year on

Sunday, July 25th.

Again this year amateurs provided both logistical support communications for parade staging as well as medical support covering the EMS units assigned to the parade route and TV Production assistance.

Voice relay communications were utilized to synchronize the nearly 70 parade units making up this years parade. A voice relay is normally used to relay the exact line up and was provided by Dave Beltz, WD8AYE to Tom Gill, KC8QOD in the Comm Trailer. This system allowed parade officials to make any last minute lineup changes and accurately convey this to the TV producer.

This year the weather cooperated and the parade was completed with only a few minor unit breakdowns and only one minor injury to any of the participants.

Our other parade responsibility and perhaps our most important, is medical support. Amateurs were stationed along the route to provided a common communications link to the medical command center in demarshaling area.

Additional communications volunteers were Mike Palmer, KD8ENV, Igor Nikishin - K8INN and Verne Sproat - KE8VS. Net Control for the parade was EC Terry Russ, N8ATZ.

A terrific job from a great crew, thanks again for your support of the Pro Football Hall of Fame Enshrinement Festival !

# KB6NU's HAM RADIO BLOG

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

*From the ARRL:*

QST de W1AW

ARRL Bulletin 21 ARLB021

From ARRL Headquarters

Newington CT August 17, 2021

To all radio amateurs

SB QST ARL ARLB021

ARLB021 FCC Application Fees Unlikely to Go into Effect Until 2022

The schedule of FCC amateur radio application fees likely will not go into effect before 2022. FCC staff confirmed during a recent virtual meeting with Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (VECs) that the agency is still working on the necessary changes to the Universal Licensing System (ULS) software and other processes and procedures that must be in place before it starts collecting fees from amateur applicants. Earlier this year, the FCC said it would not start collecting fees from amateur applicants before this Summer. The new estimate is that the fees won't go into effect until early next year.

Once it's effective, the \$35 application fee will apply to new, modification (upgrade and sequential call sign change), renewal, and vanity call sign applications. All fees will be per application. Administrative update applications, such as those to change a licensee's name, mailing, or email address, will be exempt from fees. ARRL VEC manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, said Volunteer Examiner (VE) teams will not face the burden of collecting the \$35 fee.

"Once the FCC application fee takes effect, new and upgrade applicants will pay the exam session fee to the VE team as usual, but they'll pay the \$35 application fee directly to the FCC using the FCC Pay Fees system," she explained. When the FCC receives the examination information from the VEC, it will email a link with payment instructions to each successful candidate who then will have 10 days from the date of the email to pay.

The FCC Pay Fees system can be accessed at [https://apps2.fcc.gov/Batch\\_Filer/login.cfm](https://apps2.fcc.gov/Batch_Filer/login.cfm) .

After the fee is paid and the FCC has processed an application, examinees will receive a second email from the FCC with a link to their official license. The link will be good for 30 days. Licensees also will be able to view, download, and print official license copies by logging into their FCC ULS account. The FCC no longer provides printed licenses.

Licensees can log into the ULS with their 10-digit FRN (FCC Registration Number) and password at any time to view and manage their license and application, print their license, and update anything in their FCC license record, including adding an email address.

## Radio Club of Haiti President Reports Significant Structural Damage from Earthquake

In the immediate aftermath of the magnitude 7.2 earthquake on August 14, Radio Club of Haiti President Jean-Robert Gaillard, HH2JR, reported significant structural damage in the region. At this time, it is not known if amateur radio volunteers have been part of the recovery.

A request has been posted to keep primary International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Region 2 emergency frequencies clear. They are 3750 kHz, 7150 kHz, and 14,330 kHz. The 1229 UTC quake occurred some 20 miles east-northeast of Les Cayes and 7 miles northeast of Saint-Louis du Sud on the end of Hispaniola that's closest to Cuba. The quake was about 80 miles west of Haiti's capital, Port au Prince.

"We will stay alert," said IARU Region 2 Emergency Coordinator Carlos Alberto Santamaría González, CO2JC.

Haiti also found itself this week in the direct path of Tropical Depression Grace, which could aggravate the recovery effort by dumping "flooding rains" over portions of Haiti and westward, according to the National Hurricane Center (NHC). In addition to flash flooding, the rain could cause mudslides on Hispaniola to continue.

The Hurricane Watch Net ([HWN](#)) has remained on Alert Level 2, monitoring mode, and is not currently active. Tropical Depression Fred was bringing rainfall across the Florida Panhandle.

Bill Hoops, K3WJH, an ARRL member in Pennsylvania who is with Southern Baptist Disaster Relief, reported that the US Coast Guard is flying injured people to hospitals that are open. Some radio amateurs volunteer with Southern Baptist Disaster Relief, which has been working through red tape to gain permission to assist in Haiti. Hoops said he continues patiently monitoring HF in Pennsylvania but had not been hearing anything from Haiti.

The US has sent a search-and rescue team to Haiti to help locate victims.

The earthquake came in the wake of the assassination of Haiti's president, Jovenel Moïse. The island nation of 11-million, which shares Hispaniola with the Dominican Republic, has yet to fully recover from a disastrous earthquake in 2010 that devastated much of Port au Prince.

*The New York Times* reported at least 1,300 people killed in western Haiti. Survivors were seeking shelter in tents, while and rescue teams scoured the rubble for survivors and additional victims. Medical care and even

basic supplies have been reported scarce in the quake zone, and some injured survivors have been airlifted to Port au Prince.

## MARS HF Net Participants Aid in Response to Fatal Maritime Disaster

On July 6, an evening Army Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS) HF practice net in Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region 2 (New York and New Jersey) was interrupted by several "mayday" distress calls on the channel, which is shared with the maritime service. Net control station Ron Tomo, KE2UK, immediately halted training and attempted (without success) to establish radio communication with the station in distress. Tomo then directed two other net members who heard the distress call — John Hoover, K2XU, and Wayne Gearing, K2WG — to attempt to establish communication and offer assistance.

While the other net members were attempting to contact the vessel by radio, Tomo contacted the US Coast Guard (USCG) Station at Jones Beach Island in New York, which alerted the USCG Sector Command at Long Island Sound to join the MARS operators on frequency. MARS operators remained on frequency to assist the USCG in listening for the distress call.

Several hours later, the fishing vessel *Falling Star* was identified as missing with 15 individuals on board, all from Honduras. Ten days later, the USCG confirmed that 10 of the passengers survived in a skiff and were rescued by a passing commercial oil tanker — the *MTM Amsterdam* — which spotted their small craft. Tragically, the skipper of the *Falling Star* died 1 day before the survivors were found and was buried at sea.

The vessel was en route from Jamaica to Guatemala when it's reported to have rolled over without warning on July 6, just before midnight.

MARS volunteers alerted the USCG to the vessel in distress several hours before the *Falling Star* was identified and confirmed as missing. While 10 of those aboard *Falling Star* were rescued, five others didn't make it home after this tragic event.

The Jamaica Defence Force (JDF) Coast Guard collaborated with counterparts from the US, Honduras, Nicaragua, Colombia, Cuba, and the Cayman Islands in the search for the vessel.

## 2021 Field Day Contact Breakdown

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Phone	396	403	504	199	376	329	313	307	248
CW	471	513	339	117	322	446	455	527	570



# September 2021

## W8NP Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																								
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**Massillon Amateur Radio Club  
PO Box 73  
Massillon, OH 44648**

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**

**TO:**

**Club Officers for 2021**

<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>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Dan Anastis, N8DZM</b>

**FEEDBACK Editor Terry Russ, N8ATZ**

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

**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.**