

# FEEDBACK



MAY 2002  
VOLUME 47 NUMBER 5



## MAY MEETING

The meeting for the month of May will be held at the Massillon Senior Center on May 3, 2002 at 8:00 PM.

April showers bring May flowers. May flowers bring..... Safety Breaks!!! Yes the Massillon Amateur Radio Club will hold our first Safety Break of the year on May 10, 11, 12, 2002. We will begin set up on May 10 at 9:00 AM, and tear down will be at noon on May 12. In between times we need volunteers to man the "tent" 24 hours a day! If you haven't signed up for this extremely important event, then please contact Richard Ross KA8ZQH A.S.A.P. @ 330-833-6555 or see Rich at the May meeting. Rich is, in case you didn't know, our Vice President! He has taken over the duties for the Safety Break from Perry, W8AU who has done a very fine job in the past, but felt the new administration needs to "flex" it's muscle!!

We will print the entire schedule as of this writing on page 4. So please be sure to check it and be sure to mark your shift on your calendar so we will have no interruptions in the schedule. As you know the Safety Breaks contribute nearly 70 % of the club's yearly income, the rest comes from the Hamfest and membership dues. So you can see why this is an "extremely" important event!!

## MAY PROGRAM

Yes we will have a program for the month of May. First we would like to thank Byron KF8UN for a last minute stand in last month's program as he let us all know about the "hazards" of QSLing! Thanks Byron!

That's the good news, now the bad.... Rich said that the program he had tentatively scheduled has not committed yet. So the program cannot be announced in this issue of Feedback! Rich hopes to have the program in place by meeting night, so you will have to attend and "catch" the program.... Whatever it is HI HI !!! I'm sure Rich will make it very interesting!

## - SHORT SKIP -

Surprise ! Not only does your antenna capture faint DX signals, it also attracts lightning. Ya ! Be smart, when not in use or an approaching storm is on its way, disconnect and ground all lead - ins. Disconnect the AC power as well. Do this and you'll live to see another day and work more DX !

**FLASH !** The ultimate transceiver (HF through 144 Mhz. all mode DSP) is on its way. The Icom IC-7400 ! And remember, you heard it here first in ham radio's premier publication, the MARC Feedback !

**73 de WB80WM**

WOW! is it that time already??? The Dayton Hamvention is May 17,18,19 2002. **SEE YOU THERE !!!**



## **MARC MINUTES**

### **April 5,2002**

The April MARC meeting was held at the Senior Center with 36 members and guests present.

MARC President Gene W8KXR called the meeting to order at 8:00 P.M. The Pledge of Allegiance was given and a round of introductions was made. He then asked the March Minutes be accepted as stated in the FEEDBACK. They were accepted by Byron KF8UN and second by Don W8DEF.

MARC Treasurer Anne N8GAF gave the financial report. A motion was made to accept it by Tim WB8HHP and second by Randy KD8JN.

Charlie KB8STV gave the Emergency Preparedness Report. He reminded everyone April 23rd. a class will be held at the Senior Center. He showed a FEMA recommended connector everyone should be universal.

Gene W8KXR appointed Dan N8DZM By-Laws committee chairman. Stated Bruce AB8FB rescinded his wanting a vote at this time to change the By-Laws. The By-Laws Committee will meet before next month and Dan N8DZM will give his report at the May meeting.

Correspondence report was given by Vice President Rich KA8ZQH. He had newsletters from other Amateur Radio Clubs. He had Safety Break sign up sheet, still needs volunteers to make it a success.

Gene W8KXR recognized how much work went into the FEEDBACK written By Gary WC8W each month. We do appreciate all the time and work that goes into it.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Anne N8GAF has Dayton Hamvention tickets. Anyone needing one see her.

Guest Mike WB8VGE stated because of 9-11 all cars will be searched, also you will need a photo I.D.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Byron KF8UN gave his DX report.

Perry W8AU gave a repeater report There has been a few problems with it lately, he has been trying to remedy them.

Terry N8ATZ said the joint meeting held last month was successful, they had a total of 88 present. Wants to make it a yearly event in hopes more will participate. Each club President was given 10 minutes to tell about their clubs. MARC President Gene W8KXR represented MARC very well. Joe Phillips K8QOE was also there . Check out the club web site for more details on this.

Terry N8ATZ has new ARES registration forms,see him if you need to update. He also talked of the importance of Packet, hoping both hospitals will soon have equipment to use in times of emergency.

Don W8DEF made comments on the expense of the copy machine in the Shack.

The meeting ended at 9:10P.M. with Byron KF8UN to give the program on ways to QSL after refreshments.

Congratulations goes to Dan N8DZM for winning the 50-50 for \$15.50.

**Minutes by Linda K8MOO Secretary MARC**

## ..... TIME FOR THE DAYTON HAMVENTION .....

May is upon us and with it brings the coming of spring. It's time to break out the mowers ! Ah, I love the smell of fresh cut grass in the morning ! May also brings a change in radio propagation and when we start early plans for Field Day. May is also special for another reason - Dayton Hamvention. Normally one of the best times of the year for us radio enthusiasts, this Dayton is overshadowed by the events of last September 11th. Area nets and newsletters have all been buzzing with talk of increased security, spot searches plus numerous other necessary precautions. If you're planning on attending this year's event, check out the Dayton Hamvention website for a few tips of what is and isn't acceptable. A little common sense is all they're asking for and lots of patience. If you've ever walked down into the area to deposit your ticket stub in the drum on the Saturday of Hamvention, you already know about having patience ! Complete details are located at [www.hamvention.org](http://www.hamvention.org) or look for the link on our website homepage. Did you buy an advance ticket ? If so, take a quick trip to Office Max and have them laminate it. Make sure you fill it in first and separate it ! A simple hole punch will make a slot for a clip from an old namebadge, I know we all have at least one of those. It only costs about 50 cents compared to about \$ 3.00 at Dayton. It can easily be clipped to your coat or hat making it very visible for the many security forces who will no doubt be checking a little closer this year.

## .... THE WAYBACK MACHINE ....

An absolutely fascinating story appeared recently in the February/March issue of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club's newsletter "ZeroBeat". It was a short story about a full series titled "The WayBack Machine" by Bill Continelle, W2XOY. It's an outline of ham radio history stretching all the way back to Marconi to modern day radio and once you start reading you won't be able to stop, I know I couldn't. It's a bit involved and pretty long to reprint in our newsletter but I'm hoping to secure permission to link it to our club website for monthly installments. If you would like a sneak peak, have a look at <http://www.hrshowcase.com/wayback/wayback.html>.

## .... KONTEST KUDOS TIME AGAIN ....

The April 2002 CQ Magazine is out and has posted the results of the 2001 CQ WW WPX CW Contest and as usual a familiar callsign once again has graced the listings. A solid congratulations goes out to Byron Berger - KF8UN, our resident contester/DX'er who again posted a very respectable score. Byron scored 220,336 points on 347 contacts. Whew !, nice job Byron.

## .... APRS ANYONE ? ....

During a recent business trip to Pennsylvania and New York, I had the opportunity to play around with a simple GPS unit connected to my laptop. It was kinda neat, but a little hard to operate without a co-pilot. When I got back home I decided to try my hand at a new digital mode, APRS, which stands for Automatic Packet Reporting System. Basically, this involves tracking radios that transmit data beacons. The beaconing stations use standard packet transmissions, often at 1200 baud, to relay their latitude and longitude coordinates. At the receiving end, the APRS software decodes the beacon data and displays the positions as icons on a computer generated map. As the stations move and beacon their new positions, the icons move. I recently found a very simple program that has to be one of the best software packages for a beginner. The freeware version is bound to whet your appetite and is called "Ui-View". The registered version is called "Ui-View32" and offers many useful features. At only \$ 15.00 you can't go wrong although if you only want to receive APRS stations, the freeware version works just fine. There is a great review of it in the February 2002 QST magazine and you can download the freeware version from [www.packetradio.org.uk](http://www.packetradio.org.uk). When I get a minute I hope to post the program on the club website as well as a pretty good Ohio map that will work with the program. All the equipment you need to receive is a decent computer, if it has a sound card the program will even announce the aprs stations that come up on frequency, a packet TNC and the software. So why APRS ? I'm not sure just yet, mostly to see if it can be done. Public Service, experimentation or maybe just to have a little fun on a new mode. There is quite a bit of activity around here in northeastern Ohio. Even my modest two meter station works just fine. Tune to 144.39 Mhz and see how strong your signals are to get an idea. If you would like to see it in action, just give me a call. Maybe we can have a short demo at a future club meeting.

I'll be looking for some MARC jackets at Dayton. See you there !

**73's till next time**

**Terry - N8ATZ**

## MARC SAFETY BREAK MAY 10,11,12 SCHEDULE

### MAY 10 FRIDAY

10 AM-12 PM DON W8DEF  
CHARLIE KB8STV

12PM-6 PM LINDA K8MOO  
ANNE N8GAF

6 PM- 12 AM JIM WA8GXM  
GARY KC8IHR

### MAY 11 SATURDAY

12 AM- 6AM RICK KC8LYG  
BRUCE AB8FB

6 AM - 12 PM DAN N8DZM  
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12 PM - 6 PM SHELBY N8XEO  
SAUNDRA N8TZB

6 PM - 12 AM DON KC8RPE  
CAM KC8NLM

### MAY 12 SUNDAY

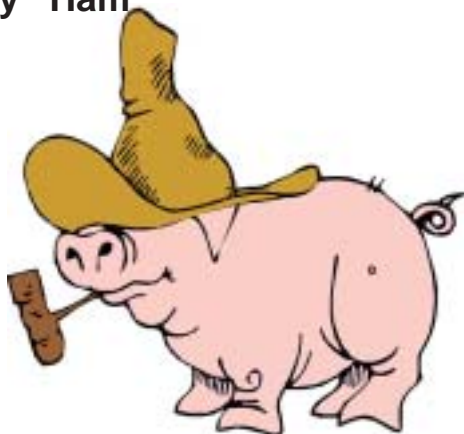
12 AM - 6 AM DON W8DEA  
-----

6 AM - 12 PM SHELBY N8XEO  
SAUNDRA N8TZB

12 PM - 6 PM BYRON KF8UN  
RICH KA8ZQH

6 PM - 11 PM DON W8DEF  
PERRY W8AU

### Hillbilly "Ham"



## MARC NEWS

### MS WALK-A-THON - QUAIL HOLLOW

On Sunday April 21, 2002, members from the Massillon ARC assisted the Ohio Buckeye Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society by providing communications for the annual walk-a-thon at Quail Hollow State Park. Approximately 300 walkers participated in this event braving a damp, overcast day as well as muddy trails. The usual high spirits for this worthy event overcame the weather, however, and the day was completed without any injuries or serious incidents. Some last minute changes and requests from the M/S. folks were accommodated by the usual Ham flexibility thus once again demonstrating the Amateur Radio spirit in the rising to its public service mission charter. Communications coordinator Jack Wade, N8LCS, and assistant Bruce Putnam, AB8FB, are grateful for the help of the following volunteers : Sandra N8TZB ( liaison with the MS Event coordinator ) ; Rick KC8LYG, and Jason, KC8LIN, maned the rest stops; returning club friend Wes NV8M and Rick K8RLW, covered the trails while Don W8DEA and Russ N8PII assisted in traffic control. Dan N8DZM, is welcomed as the latest addition to our volunteer list, providing logistical support at the Hartville Elementary staging area.

73's de Bruce AB8FB

### SCENES FROM QUAIL HOLLOW



Above: Jason and Russ "man the trails. Below; a group photo of the "Gang"





## SCENES FROM CANAL FULTON MS WALK



Above; Charlie KB8STV “manned “ and ready at a rest area. (Charlie did you really... cut that tree down with your little ax??)

Below; MARC E-Comm trailer set up and running at the MS walk.



A big thanks to those who helped at Canal Fulton MS walk were : Terry N8ATZ, Charlie KB8STV, Don W8DEF, (from Summit County) Larry WD8ITF, Curt KA8QKY, Patti KC8HWG. Jim K8EIO, the Summit County EC, paid a visit to the MS walk and MARC E-Comm to make sure everything was handled properly. Jim is the Summit County Emergency Service Coordinator and he was overseeing the Joint Operations of W8JOD / W8NP MS Walkathon.

## -- Tec Topics 02 --

### “Ladder Line” Or “Why settle for second Best?”

Oddly, I’d started writing this discussion several month’s ago, before several articles dealing with a portion this subject appeared in Barry Wiseman’s excellent “Electric Radio Magazine” no. 151 for December, 01, and more recently QST Magazine. The ER article, plus experience here at W8KXR, convinced me I was on the right track. The article by Frank Zandt KO0R, provided an excellent discussion of how to build a “Balanced Tuner,” and “Why” it should be a basic part of any serious amateur radio station.

In my effort, I’d planned to discuss ‘open wire’ type feeders for use with balanced antennas, and of course open-wire implies the need for a balanced tuner. So, if you want to deliver more of your valuable RF to the receiving end of the circuit, check out the ER article and get busy building some open wire feedline. Here’s how to make the stuff your self and why . . .

One further item that has not been well discussed in recent times, is the claimed advantage of ‘open wire’ balanced antenna systems for RFI. Recent articles in QST have documented experiences with balanced systems, versus coax, and also the nefarious use of the “balun” with respect to efficiency and RFI. If you have doubts about the merits of balanced systems, take a look at the rediscovery going on with respect to these time proven systems.

For starters, “Old Timers” have no excuse with respect to the use of balanced antennas. “Newbees” may not know any better, unless they really did study for that new ticket and are paid attention to the ‘Techy’ stuff on the way to a General license. But, if you are truly interested in the most efficient antenna feedline, dump the “Politically Correct” coax syndrome that has so duped the masses, and convert your favorite wire type antenna, to “open wire.”

There may be some excuse though if you’re a bit out of touch with balanced antennas and feed lines. The literature, until very recently, is confusing and out of touch, but if you do some digging, there is no doubt about the nasty power losses encountered when using coax. The sad details are well documented. But there is an alternative to automatically cutting power from you favorite ‘Atmospheric Heater’ before a little of it ever makes it all way to your antenna.

“What’s that you say? No coax?” Man, that ‘KXR’ is really retro! And, anyway, that old ladder line stuff isn’t available from my favorite electronics catalog and darn, I never saw the real stuff at that certain well-known ‘shock’ in the Mall. So much for ‘ladder line,’ ‘open wire feeders,’ ‘tuned feeders,’ and that old ancient ‘hooley’ only crusty old boys on 75 meters reminisce about when they can’t think of any thing to say.

Well, in the true spirit of “homebrew” and “real” Amateur Radio, why not make up a few hundred feet of Open Wire, or Ladder Line, and get on with a radio station that not only looks like a Real Radio Station, but operates at top efficiency too?

Here's how to make the most efficient feedline Mother Nature will allow. It takes about two to three hours from start to finish, once you have the 'makin's on hand. Oh, and btw, it's cheaper than even that crummy cheap coax too!

One last point on efficiency...don't try to cheat by using that nasty plastic stuff that looks like TV ribbon on steroids . . . you know, the stuff that's about two inches wide and has sort of square holes punched in it. It's a lossy compromise, unstable with time (plastic is lossy and hates UV) and not too durable. Remember, you're going first class, so don't bother with the plastic stuff. Just do it right and your station will be a joy to behold, and to operate!

You will need a few eight foot lengths of half inch PVC water pipe (gray stuff is more UV resistant), a way to cut it (hack saw), a drill, a spool or two of solid number 12 house wire with 'slippery' insulation. The wire comes in five hundred-foot rolls at the do-it-yourself emporiums for about fifteen to twenty bucks. I like the green and blue colors, because they are super 'slippery.' You'll also need medium weight needle nose pliers, maybe a tube of RV silicon cement, and a couple of hours of assembly time. Here's how . . .

First, cut the PVC into seven-inch lengths. Make a bunch of them. These are the 'spacers.' The number required can be roughly estimated by figuring the length of the line you need and knowing you'll need a spacer about every four feet...not critical...but more than four feet spacing is pushing it. If you put them too close, it just makes the line heavier than needed. I've tried it both ways and four feet, roughly works great.

Once you have a bag full of spacers, drill their ends on six inch center to center, so the wire will have a spacing of six inches. This will produce roughly a 600-ohm feeder, but the spacing is not supper critical. I've used eight inches too, and it works great.

The holes for the wire must be cut to 'just fit' the diameter of the wire you have purchased. Note, it is important that the hole is ""just"" very slightly 'larger' than the wire diameter so the spacers 'slide' easily on the wire, but isn't sloppy. This is key to making an easy and quick job of 'stringing-on' the feedline.

It's an easy task to first cut the spacers in one session, mark them in another, then set up to drill them in yet another session. Such a stepwise approach prevents boredom, and is most easily done while monitoring your favorite net, SWL broadcast station, or some other anti-boredom activity like operating 10 Meter AM up on 29.0 with the "Ten After Dark" bunch. Use your imagination, you're a Ham Radio Man!

With a bag of completed spacers, string out two lengths of the number 12 wire with the 'slippery' insulation to the length of the feeder you need. Lay out as much length as you need for the entire feed line...in more or less a straight line...on the lawn, sidewalk, or wherever you can find room. Don't worry about the length, your building 'tuned' antennas.

The world will be a brighter place, and much happier, if you have something to weight down 'both' ends of the wire, to keep it more or less in place while you 'string on' the spacers. This is especially true at the end "from which you start."

I used a chunk or two of firewood, and spare cinder block, or just innovate – it just needs to be heavy, because you want the starting 'ends' to stay behind you while you push and walk the spacers down the length of the slippery feed lines.

It is much more difficult to explain than to do . . . but the secret is the "slippery insulation" that allows you to quickly "walk" the spacers down the length of the line to the far end about as fast as you want to move. Once you get the hang of it, you can do two spacers at a time, and when you're really good you can do four at a time; two with each hand! And remember, the more you string-on, the less distance you have to walk. I was able to assemble about 130 feet of feeder in about twenty minutes! Gosh!! The world is an exciting place once you get to 'stringing' as fast as you can walk or trot!

Oh yes, and forget the old wind-bag 'nonsense' that insulation on the wire makes any difference regarding your signal, either for this feedline, or for your antenna...it doesn't. That rumor is a mucky bit of subversion started by those who 'can't think o' nothin' to say' that drifts up from that spooky band just below Ten Meters...

Finally, use needle-nose pliers and put a slight 'kink' in the feed line 'inside' the end of the spacers, by twisting the pliers slightly. It doesn't take much . . . no need to over do it. Remember, it's best to size the hole in the PVC spacers to 'just clear' the diameter of the wire line...it shouldn't be too 'tight' or the spacers won't slide, but not too loose. If you find a spacer is a little sloppy and won't stay put, dab a little RV type silicon sealer, or any other gooey stuff you may have been saving, in the ends of the spacer along with the twist...it doesn't take much...and it's very durable. It also keeps the spacer from sliding when in the vertical position going up a mast.

That's about it for making classic low loss feedline that will deliver the most power into your antenna. Oh, and by the way, don't forget you'll need a 'Balanced Tuner' to get from your coax output to your new balanced open wire feeder. Most modern tuners provide for balanced output using a "balun," or...Yep! You guessed it...why not build a real tuner that's a fraction of the cost of those wimpy little plastic boxes that go for giant bucks and claim megawatts of capability (Yuck, Yuck, arced an' smoked one jus' last week! Smelled really bad too, and caused Missy Marilyn to remind me again of other miss guided experiments in the Radio Lab, and with that 'special look,' admonished me to "Don't Do That Again!").

And, you can forget lossy "baluns" too, but that's another story! Just think, now you can brag, 'bout bein' a "Real Ham" . . . "fb om, 600 ohm open-wire feeders hr es home-brew tuner...yep, made it ma'self om es it only cost me ..." Well, you get the idea...Hi Hi... More on tuners, how to suspend and make insulators for open wire, making big holes for meters, and other nifty stuff needed to build a real radio station in the months ahead...

**De W8KXR**

**"Engineering and Fabrication Department" 25/  
Mar/02**

**ARRL NEWS****ARLP017 Propagation de K7VVV**

ZCZC AP17  
 QST de W1AW  
 Propagation Forecast Bulletin 17 ARLP017  
 From Tad Cook, K7VVV  
 Seattle, WA April 26, 2002  
 To all radio amateurs

Big news this week were the geomagnetic storms. Stormy conditions reigned continuously from Wednesday through Saturday and the geomagnetic indices rose again on Tuesday.

K9IHK wrote to say he thought something was wrong with his radio, which is a common reaction when conditions are truly awful and HF radio signals are either weak or never heard at all. A check of geomagnetic data with a web browser pointing toward [gopher://solar.sec.noaa.gov/00/latest/DGD](http://solar.sec.noaa.gov/00/latest/DGD) tells the story. Most HF operators are comfortable when the A index is 10 or lower and the K index is 3 or below.

K9IHK asked if this was a sign of things to come. It is true that conditions are less stable after a peak in sunspot activity than before, but conditions are bound to settle down. Currently it looks like geomagnetic indices could rise again on Saturday, but to a level indicating unsettled conditions rather than a storm.

Looking at the numbers, both sunspots and solar flux were lower this week, with average sunspot numbers down nearly 38 points and average daily solar flux off by over 28 points. Sunspot count and solar flux reached a minimum on Monday and are on the way back up. Solar flux is expected to return to 200 around May 1, and may peak around 215 May 4-5.

NN4X reports from Central Florida that Saturday morning had good 6-meter conditions. Around 1500z he worked Europe on 6, and South America was coming in around the same time. Stations local to him reported loud and delayed echoes from each other's signals, to the point that they could barely copy each other. About five hours later there was an opening toward the Pacific.

W5XC near Houston reports that he worked FO3BM on April 18 at 1015z on 6-meters. He recommends checking out the <http://6m.dxers.info/> site during these openings.

WV1K writes from Massachusetts that real time data on D-region absorption is at [http://www.sel.noaa.gov/rt\\_plots/dregion.html](http://www.sel.noaa.gov/rt_plots/dregion.html). D-region absorption is a major cause of attenuation of HF radio signals, and a good treatise on this is can be found at [http://www.sel.noaa.gov/rt\\_plots/dregionDoc.html](http://www.sel.noaa.gov/rt_plots/dregionDoc.html).

Sunspot numbers for April 18 through 24 were 160, 182, 185, 160, 155, 180 and 256 with a mean of 182.6. 10.7 cm flux was 188.2, 179.7, 177.3, 173.4, 169.9, 175.3 and 176.9, with a mean of 177.2, and estimated planetary A indices were 54, 44, 62, 7, 12, 22 and 7 with a mean of 29.7.

**NNNN**  
**/EX**

**ARLD018 DX news**

ZCZC AE18  
 QST de W1AW  
 DX Bulletin 18 ARLD018  
 From ARRL Headquarters  
 Newington CT April 25, 2002  
 To all radio amateurs

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by Tedd, KB8NW, the OPDX Bulletin, 425DXnews, JR3TVH, OH1VR, DXNL, QRZ DX, The Daily DX, WA7BNM and Contest Corral from QST. Thanks to all.

FIJI, 3D2. Brian is QRV as 3D2IZ, and has been active on 30 meters from 1015 to 1140z. QSL via N6IZ.

PHILIPPINES, DU. Yannick, F6FYD and Gerard, F2JD are QRV as DU1/G0SHN until April 29 from an island in the Calamian group, IOTA OC-090. QSL via F6AJA.

FRANCE, F. Special event station TM0AR will be active from May 1 to 13 to celebrate the International Festival of Arts and Technologies. QSL via F5TJC.

MARQUESAS ISLANDS, FO. FO0/N5XX has been QRV on 20 meters from around 0700 to 0900z. He has also been active on 30 meters from 1500 to 1600z. QSL to home call.

ITALY, I. Marconi station IY0TC will be active during International Marconi Day on April 27 from Scoglio del Pirgo. QSL via I0KHP.

JAPAN, JA. Taka, JR3TVH will be active as JR3TVH/6 from Miyako Island, IOTA AS-079, from April 27 to May 2. Activity will be on 40 to 6 meters, including 17 and 12 meters, using SSB and possibly RTTY. QSL to home call.

MINAMI TORISHIMA, JD1. JH1EFP/JD1 has been QRV on 17 meters using SSB between 0800 and 1100z and then around 2100z. QSL via operator's instructions.

OGASAWARA, JD1. JA1HEF/JD1, JA1KJW/JD1 and JE1XXG/JD1 are QRV until April 28. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW and SSB. QSL to home calls.

BAKER AND HOWLAND ISLAND, KH1. A number of operators will be QRV possibly as K1B beginning late on April 28. They will be active until May 9. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters, including some satellite activity, using CW, SSB, RTTY, SSTV, FM and PSK31. QSL SSB contacts via RZ3AA and all other modes via YT1AD.

WAKE ISLAND, KH9. Terry, K7ASU will be QRV as K7ASU/KH9 for approximately 4 weeks beginning April 27. Activity will be in his spare time. QSL to home call.



AUSTRIA, OE. Radio Austria International will be QRV on April 27 as OE1M on International Marconi Day. QSL via operators' instructions.

GREENLAND, OX. Per, OZ1EQC is QRV as OX/OZ1EQC on Greenland's Coastal Islands Groups, IOTA NA-134 and IOTA NA-220, until May 8. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters, including 30 meters, using CW, SSB, RTTY, SSTV and PSK31. QSL to home call.

CRETE, SV9. Seppo, OH1VR is QRV as SV9/OH1VR/p until April 29. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters. QSL to home call.

BELIZE, V3. Hugh, K0GHK and Roger, WA0ETE are QRV as V31KQ from Ambergris Caye, IOTA NA-073, until May 2. They are active using CW and SSB. QSL via WA0ETE.

MACQUARIE ISLAND, VK0. Peter, VK0MQI is here for 11 months. Activity is on 17, 15 and 10 meters. His activity is between 0430 and 0600z. QSL via operator's instructions.

VANUATU, YJ. Lynn, YJ8DA has been QRV on 10 meters around 0045z and 2000z.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The Submarines On The Air Special Event, Florida and Nebraska QSO Parties, Marconi International Day, Harry Angel Memorial Sprint, SP DX RTTY Contest, Helvetia Contest and the QRP to the Field Operating event will certainly keep contesters busy this weekend. The 2002 North American Meteor Scatter Rally is set for April 27 to May 5. Please see April QST, page 93 and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar, SVARA and WA5UFH websites for details.

**NNNN**  
**/EX**

## MORE CLUB NEWS

## MARC LIBRARY UPDATE

Wow! The only word that can describe the latest donation to the MARC Library courtesy of club Prez Gene, W8KXR. I didn't weigh the stacks of CQ's, QST's or 73's that he brought in but the cart in the back lobby had to be pressed into immediate service in order to transport the loot to the library on the 3rd floor. About half of the donation has been logged and a portion has been placed on the shelves.

Perhaps Gene might donate that broadcast transmitter of his to the library - Hey we could gut it like a fish and install shelves inside the large 19" cabinet. UH - OH - I gotta run - here he comes now with a bad attitude, swingin a couple of 813's attached to plate transformers.

As always, the copier is available to the members of the club to copy any radio - related item in the shack, free of charge.

**73's de Bruce AB8FB**

## Q SIGNALS THAT NEVER MADE IT

Some Q signals have never made it to the ARRL's official list. Here are some that many agree would be useful in appropriate situations. As with regular Q signals, each can be a statement or a question, depending on whether a question mark follows it.

QBA - My antenna is BIG!  
QBA? - How big is your antenna?

QBO - Don't sit next to that guy in the meeting.  
QBO? - Buddy, can you spare some soap?

QBS - It's getting deep in here.  
QBS? - Did I tell you about the one that got away?

QCP - I am using Cat Power(From Rotary Cat Power Wheel)  
QCP? - Are you using Cat Power?

QCW - I am going to whistle Morse Code on FM (or SSB)  
QCW? - Why are you whistling Morse?

QDR - Damn Right the frequency is busy! (In response to QRL)

QDR? - Do you have a Receiver? (In response to QRL)

QET - Phone home.  
QET? - Has anyone called me from another planet?

QFH - This frequency is MINE! - go elsewhere.  
QFH? - Is this frequency hogged?

QHI - I am jumping in quick to say hi, then going QRT.  
QHI? - Are you leaving after only one transmission?

QLF - I am sending with my left foot.  
QLF? - Are you sending with your left foot?  
QOK - Your last transmission was Okie Dokie.  
QOK? - Was my last transmission OK?

QPM - Your signal is purr modulated.  
QPM? - Is my signal purr modulated?

QRC - Warning, rag chewer on frequency.  
QRC? - Are you a rag chewer?

QWC? - Who cares?  
QWC - I don't care

QZZ - I fell asleep at the mike.  
QZZ? - Is that a 60Hz hum, or are you snoring?

from the SparksList



# May 2002

## Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																													
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Please contact KA8ZQH to add, delete or change Calendar