



FEEDBACK



MARCH 2004

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MARCH MEETING

The meeting for the month of March will be held at the Massillon Senior Center on March 5th, 2004 at 8:00 PM

Much is happening in the world of Amateur Radio. Broadband over Power lines, License restructuring among other things. It will be an interesting few months ahead. What will be the Club's direction? Most everyone is dead set against the Broadband over Power line proposal because of the potential interference it will create. It is coming up soon for the first comment session and will the club send anything in as a group? Much is to be decided at the next meetings.

The new ARRL Licensing proposal in my opinion is a foolhardy thing to do! Their going to let inexperienced operators on the 40 and 80 meters, already crowded bands? Might as well open it up to CBer's as well! But this is just my opinion!

Jim WA8GXM and crew has their hands full guiding the club in a new direction. Have no idea what we're talking about?? Then be sure to attend this month's meeting and become an informed member!!

PROGRAM FOR MARCH



Presented by Perry W8AU; Story
on page 4

--- SHORT SKIP ---

Has Newington a severe case of amnesia? The Incentive Licensing (RM 499) gods seem to be suffering from a bad case of amnesia. Yes. I am disappointed - they forgot to "grandfather" the truck drivers on the low end of 10. (HI) Perhaps Phase Two will be to include in every new transceiver's box a six page booklet explaining amateur radio with a five question quiz on the last page to be sent to the FCC for your "Amateur Radio License." And another card to "join the League..." Boy 0 Boy Bunky, what a sad day this will be.....

73 de WB8OWM

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MARC MINUTES

February 6, 2004

The Massillon Amateur Radio Club meeting was held at the Massillon Senior Center with 29 members and guests present.

MARC President Jim WA8GXM opened the meeting at 8:10 P.M. The Pledge of Allegiance was given and a round of introductions was made.

There were no official minutes in January to be approved this month.

MARC Vice President Joe WD8BGW gave the correspondence report. He quoted from World Radio, April 30 will be the deadline for applying for scholarships. There will be no age limit, all licensed hams are welcome to apply.

He gave the highlights of other Amateur Radio newsletters.

Congratulations goes to Jason KC8LIN for getting the Working all of Stark County Award at the Canton Amateur Radio Club Banquet. Joe WD8BGW showed a picture of Terry N8ATZ and himself presenting the 2003 Field Day Trophy to the Canton Amateur Radio Club. Perhaps they will be presenting it back to us at our banquet in January 2005.

He then gave a list of upcoming Hamfests.

MARC Treasurer Anne N8GAF gave the financial report. She gave the December report first. A motion was made to accept this report by Byron KF8UN and second by Don W8DEF. The January report was only partial so it will be completed for approval at next months meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Jim WA8GXM then presented Byron KF8UN with the Joseph Turkal K8EKG DX Award. Byron was absent at the Awards dinner.

Jim WA8GXM then passed around MARC proposed estimated budget for 2004. Don W8DEF made motion to accept it and second by Byron KF8UN. A vote was taken which passed with 1 opposed.

NEW BUSINESS

Don W8DEF got official notification from ARRL the MARC Hamfest has been approved.

Jim WA8GXM said MARC received a 15 meter Century DX Award. Thank you goes to Byron KF8UN for making this possible. Thank you goes to Egor WB8KEO for seeing to it being framed for the Shack.

Byron KF8UN plans to hold contesting in the Shack Feb.21&22. Anyone wanting to make World wide contacts are welcome to join him.

Charlie KB8STV gave a report on the Summit County ARES meeting. They have more repeaters working now. Get on Jason KC8LIN web site for the frequencies <http://kc8lin.tripod.com>

Gary WC8W announced the Tech training classes will begin Feb.23 at 6:00 and 7:00 o'clock. Gary WC8W and Perry W8AU will be teaching the classes with the help from Don W8DEF.

Ralph K8HSQ has agreed to be the new temporary Librarian. He will be organizing the books in the Shack.

Jason KC8LIN asked about the crystals for the 440 repeater. Perry W8AU said they are on there way.

Tim WB8HHP announced the Perry Police Dept. and the FBI will be having an educational seminar on how to find sexual predators on the Internet. This program is not for children. To find out more information go to Perry Police .com. This program will be held at Perry High School and you must RSVP.

There was no other business so the meeting ended at 8:45 P.M. with motion made by Byron KF8UN and second by Don W8DEA.

Congratulations goes to Jeff KC8KIX for winning the 50-50 for \$11.50.

Minutes by Linda K8MOO
Secretary MARC

THIS IS IT!!!

This is the **LAST** month to renew your dues for 2004. If you haven't sent in your renewal, we must drop you from the roster! So please, while you are thinking about it, Send your dues to our Treasurer, Anne Ballinger, N8GAF at 2468 Belleview AVE SW, Massillon, Ohio 44647-7212. It's the best investment for 10 Bucks you can make!!!!!! Remember , We Do Not Want To Loose A Single Member!!

... American Red Cross Recognizes Local Volunteers

Stark County ARES members who assisted the Red Cross during last July's Stark County Flooding disaster were recognized for their efforts by receiving a Certificate of Appreciation from the American Red Cross. Signed by Mr. Arnold T. Mascelli, Active Vice-President Response, the certificate was presented "In recognition of your valuable service on the North-east Ohio Flood and Tornado, July 2003 - DR 545."

The accompanying letter also included the following statistics. This event resulted in more than 600 individuals and families being sustained in a time of crisis. More than 650 volunteers in 9 counties helped provide Red Cross assistance, serve 15,500 meals, and operate 13 shelters, giving 819 affected people a safe, warm place to stay. More than 979 people were also comforted with emotional support.

Congratulations to those ARES members and know that you truly made a difference in the lives of people who needed you. Your priceless gift helped them to begin putting their lives back together.

.... 2004 ARES Calendar of Events Available

The ARES Calendar of Events has been updated and posted for this year. The calendar is used to list the dates for our weekly ARES Net as well as the known scheduled community events that we participate in during the year. It also lists dates for special ARES meetings, Skywarn events and other special events occurring throughout the year. The calendar is posted on the Stark County ARES Website at www.wd8aye.org.

A great way to gain public service experience is to participate in community public service events. Please use the calendar as a reminder of these events and remember to volunteer !

.... 2004 ARES Public Service Report

Each year the Stark County ARES prepares a year end report to our members that summarizes our public service activities over the past year. Call it a scorecard. The report covers all the many events, both scheduled and emergency situations that we responded to for our community. 2003 was again a year filled with many scheduled public service activities that demonstrated our communications effectiveness to both the general public and community safety forces. It was also a year in which we were once again called to serve our community in time of disaster. The torrential rains of last summer and subsequent flooding resulted in mass evacuations and caused more devastation and destruction that our community had ever seen. Once again Amateur Ra-

dio rose to the challenge and provided countless hours of service to numerous organizations and area safety forces.

The Amateur Radio Service it's been said, is one of the most valuable natural resources a community can have. During 2003, we once again demonstrated the truth in those words. It was achieved thanks to the many dedicated members of the Stark County Amateur Radio Emergency Service. Thank you for all you do to maintain that resource now and in the future. The report is currently posted on the Stark County ARES Website at www.wd8aye.org. I encourage everyone to review last year report.

.... The 2004 Awards Dinner

The Annual MARC Awards Banquet was held on Saturday, January 10th at the Perry Grange Hall with 51 members and guests attending. If you couldn't attend this years gala event, you missed a great evening of good food, good company and most of all a great time !

For many years now the club has recognized the special efforts that many of our members contribute to our club and our hobby. Each year at our Awards Banquet, we show our appreciation by bestowing Service Awards in several categories to deserving members. This years recipients were again worthy of this special recognition. A recap of the evenings events is currently posted on the club's website along with a link to check out some pictures of the award recipients.

73's for this month
Terry - N8ATZ

ST. PATRICK'S DAY MARCH 17



“Living history” - USS LST 325 MISSISSIPPI & OHIO RIVER CRUISE

Ham Radio offers many different experiences to us, as we know already through our many modes and operating activities. In the area of Radio History, we can read about, collect or build replica radios and operate them from our hamshacks, but rarely does the occasion come to do these things in a “period” setting.

On a purely historical basis, Colonial Williamsburg would be one of our most notable period pieces, complete with workers who live, work, think and speak the era of colonial America, prior to the Revolution of 1776 and the birth of the USA.

Only recently, with the return from Greece of LST 325, and it's program of being fully operational during summer cruises, has a similar experience been available to live and work in the period 1943-1945. And this includes operating vintage 1943 radio equipment in its period setting, with tubes glowing behind those black crackle finished panels, analog dials that do not offer the accuracy of digital readouts - requiring the use of heterodyne frequency meters to set Xmters and Rcvrs to the desired frequencies, and using CW and AM as principle modes, with the beginnings of FM showing up in the low VHF area, 6 meters and up.

Where do you find operators to “step back in time” to handle operating chores that are much more laborious than today's plug and play variety? Well, the “real” operators of the World War 2 era are still here to a great degree, but not all may be able to handle the rigors of climbing vertical ladders and sleeping in canvas bunks, or want to! :-). Individuals acquainted with tube equipment with it's many dials and tuning knobs can be found up into the late 60's and early 70's era and if this can be combined with some Navy ship experience, the positions can be filled, and the capabilities of teaching “new recruits” some old ideas is established for the purpose of continuing the noble goal of “living history.”

USS LST 325 is a unique ship of the WW2 era, having served in all the major invasions of the European war = North Africa, Sicily (Italy), and finally Normandy (or D Day). And while there are WW2 museum ships that are parked at coastal locations for visits and tours, there are no combatant ships that still operate under their own power except for LST325! A truly amazing feat!

One of our club members, Perry, W8AU, had the opportunity to help as a crew member (and radio operator, repairer, and installer) aboard this ship during the month of July, 2003. Commercial operating with coastal station WLO, Mobile, AL, Navy Mars operations and finally Ham Radio contacts were made from WW2LST/MM (marine mobile). You will hear about all this and more, Friday, March 5, at our radio club meeting. Don't miss it!

Tectopics 16 Of pliers, Mallet Heads and Jack Hammers Or Tools, There Are Never Enough

(Continued from last month)

Battery Powered Drill - These beauties, once too expensive for the casual builder of anything, are now commonly available in high torque ranges and higher battery voltages. These quick change chuck drills with two batteries are available for very reasonable prices, depending on battery voltage. Not too bad for the price of a couple of movie tickets and dinner for two. It's an absolute must have item. Buy the highest voltage rating you can afford. Look for a second battery and charger included in the deal. Remember, more horse power is always better. Don't do QRP when it comes to tools.

Drill bits . . . a big variety is needed, and if you are not stocking an assortment of common sizes, you impose an immediate handicap on your creative abilities, risk getting hurt and generally be prone to excessive cussing. Like the new battery powered drills, drill bits of very good quality are available in a huge range of sizes, from numbered and lettered sizes needed for fine scale modeling (read; model trains, model planes, jewelry and other micro sized projects), to more standard sizes in full sets that include over 100 drills per set in SAE or Metric!

For the price of a couple of dinners at your local watering hole, there is a fantastic assortment of drills now on the market leaving no excuses to use a dull one and mess up an otherwise great project. Oh, and if you're serious about your projects, why not learn to sharpen them? Another skill learned and fun to take pride in maintaining your own stuff . . . and small **Bench Grinders** are now so inexpensive, it would be embarrassing to admit you don't have one to support your station .

A final note of clarification: Some drill sets are now available with **Titanium Nitride** coatings. If you're are not familiar with this feature, it is an especially hard coating made from the metal Titanium and Nitrogen gas. It is claimed to increase the life of drills and some other tools. Here at the Big KXR, the jury is still out on this technique, with a few of these items in regular use and being watched. Even so, the price difference for TiN type drills is small and makes this an interesting experiment.

Center Punches . . . Two types . . . as long as we're being serious about fixing your drilling, the traditional center punch is usually in everyone's tool box, and used with a light hammer. But, a more useful one for chassis layout and parts location, is the spring loaded punch. It's easy to make accurate placement marks for drilling with it, and requires no hammer. Just push and it makes an impact dimple just where u point it. Very accurate . . . it is a must have . . . get one soon.

Step Drills . . . If you've never used a "**Step Drill**" you have not been enjoying life to its fullest! These little gems will drill a hole to fit many sizes and types of chassis mounted components accurately, without filing, when u don't have a regular drill of proper size, or even if you do, and when you want to do many holes, or just a few.

When's the last time you gave up, or just plain said... "It's just not worth all the work trying to make a cleanly cut and accurate hole for even this simple audio pot, toggle switch, phone jack, SO-239 coax connector, pilot lamps, holes to mount shaft bushings, rubber grommets, transformer lead clearance holes; and on it goes, depending on what ur trying to build. Have you ever used a file to finish these holes? With a step drill, there is no excuse for letting it slip and scratching your new project, or one that is nearly finished and that big gouge in the panel just qualified you as drillingly challenged.

Step Drills are just what their names imply. They are small conical drills that have a series of stepped shoulders of increasing diameters. After drilling a carefully marked and center punched pilot hole, the step drill bit is used to 'expand' the hole to the exact size of the component barrel being mounted. Turn them in your new battery powered electric drill. You will be totally amazed at the speed and ease with which you can prepare chassis for most any type of component and forever after become a devoted and dedicated expert Hole Driller.

These beauties are available in sets of three with max diameters to over an inch, or individually. Again, for the time and accuracy they offer, the price is peanuts, and gets you really motivated to tackle some serious chassis work.

Small 'Square' . . . seems simple enough . . . but how many potential builders out there actually have a small six inch adjustable square? It's cheap, easy to find, and absolutely essential to accurate layout of ur next project. Scrap the old wooden yard stick approach and pick up a real mini square and perhaps a **steel rule**. Don't build without it.

Small Bench Vice . . . and maybe a large one too . . . but a small one, say three to four inch jaws, that can mount close to where you build is critical. Use it for everything . . . holding wires and coax fittings, salvaging solder terminals, soldering and de-soldering everything, small drilling projects, and whatever else needs holding. Use a second larger vice, for guess what? Bigger stuff . . . and by the way, if you are really concerned about leaving those nasty jaw marks on ur newly constructed project, use some 'soft jaws' . . . just a couple of pieces of aluminum such as old door molding, folded over the steel jaws to avoid scratching. The technique is simple and very effective. Remember - - Soft Jaws - - no teeth marks!

Soldering tools...now here is a topic that's good for a few beers . . . but believe it or not . . . I know "Hams" who can't/won't solder. That must be like not eating, or breathing, or eating chocolate! But, beyond that situation, soldering tools are mostly a matter of personal choice . . . and techniques are just a

varied. For example, reading 'The Book's' recommend wattage, tip sizes, guns vs. pencil types, variable temps, flux and stuff that seems to be worn out old advice. So, depending on how u learned, or didn't, the choice of tools is still mostly personal.

But, it is probably a good idea to try a variety of equipment, and work with what seems to fit. If you are comfortable with a pencil style, go with it...if u like the gun type, good shooting to you! Here at the Big KXR Engineering Labs, I use a variety of sizes and types. For what it's worth, I use mostly a very big, high capacity, two temperature range gun type for nearly everything. What! Big again! That KXR Gang is obsessed with big! Everybody knows small is better, I think, unless you're really interested in getting the job done.

Big irons and guns are too big u say for small stuff? Well, not exactly . . . because for most normal chassis work on all but the smallest circuit board jobs, I've learned to go for some real hot tip temperatures with lots of thermal inertia (heat energy stored in the bigger iron's more massive tip). The clue with a high capacity iron is to get lots of heat into the work fast in the local area to be soldered. Flow the solder onto the hot iron tip so that it melts and moves to the component. The hot liquid solder is the most efficient way to get heat from the tip in contact with the component and heating it fast just where you want it. Once the 'component' is 'wetted' with the liquid solder, in just the right place, get the iron off the work before heat has a chance to over heat the component and associated materials. Takes a bit of practice, but that's what working/playing with electronics is all about. Why be timid? Just get to it and enjoy the aroma of hot rosin floating on the air above your work bench!

Here's the main argument for using a big iron. Much of the frustration with building, once you get to the wiring, is the specter of the "Cold Solder Joint." If you don't get enough heat on the work to heat the actual wire, film, bracket, or whatever you are soldering, it won't work. So, the danger is more often not enough heat rather than too much, just don't over do it . . . and that is the trick. Lesson: Use a larger Iron/Gun and learn how to heat the work by melting solder and work; and get out.

Pliers, Clamps, Cutters, Wrenches, Probes, and Pokers . . . Here is another subject that is endless. If you don't have a drawer full of these toys, you are certainly among the group known as NYREs (Not Yet Real Engineers). Now there is always a fundamental question about which is more fun, going to the tool place and shopping for a new pair of needle nose pliers, or any other neat tool or, going to the grocery store with the Chief Cook (yep . . . u guessed it...Missy Marilyn). If you choose the grocery store and actually enjoy pushing 'The Cart' for an hour with other non-exciting people, please feel free to not answer my CQ the next time you hear me on the band! Oh! Right...no reflection on Missy Marilyn, just the pushing the cart part and wasting valuable building time!

Ok . . . yes, the Galley has to be stocked too, but without proper pliers, hemostats, wire cutters of different sizes, super sharp knives, micro screw drivers, miniature nut drivers,

and so on, you will simply frustrate yourself with that neat creation taking shape over there in your head, and probably send it to the Grim File (trash can) and kick it at the same time. A list of basics may help you to survive the next all afternoon Shopping Day and avoid a case of the Grims -

Pliers – Needle Nose - of varying lengths and weights; standard types of varying sizes with bent or curved ends. Keep a common size near ur operating area and not in ur tool box. Mount it where u can put your hands on it quickly when u need to tighten or cut something. Availability will do wonders for your building and repairing attitude . . . plus it's great fun (and helps prevent a serious case of the Grims) to comb the shelves in the hardware department while you know who is doing you know what!

Clamps - Miniature Vice Grip types in several sizes; Hemostats of varying sizes and shapes; small 'C' clamps; specialized types for drill press tables and various miniature vices for drill presses. It's never good to lose your grip, so get busy and head immediately for the hardware.

Side Cutters – for wire – various types and sizes including cable cutters, lineman's type, and a range of snippers for component leads, and flush cutting types for circuit board trimming. The list is endless and any addition to your array of cutters will proportionally improve your attitude so you can have a good day.

Wrenches – both SAE and Metric. These are available in sets that have become very inexpensive, and include Stubby styles and standard lengths. At the Big KXR, I have added small sets of common sizes to the multiple operating areas. This avoids lost 'search' time when there's lots to do. Again, if you are building and developing ur station, with an eye on the calendar and spring just around the corner, these tools are quite inexpensive when compared to earlier times. So outfit your fabrication lab and station with appropriate sets to speed your work.

Nut Drivers – Same situation . . . no need to settle for only SAE in one length. Pick up a set of Metric and SAE in both long and "Shorty" format to avoid scratching or breaking off components in hard to get places. Scraped knuckles to you if you don't use the right one for the job! There are also sets of micro nut drivers for those special jobs where very tiny nuts and bolts are found unexpectedly. These drivers are available at several local shops and in specialty catalogs and are mostly inexpensive.

Screw Drivers – the lowly screw driver, like Nut Drivers are critical. Are u still using that old dulled out and chipped screw driver you found in the neighbor's driveway ten years ago? Not good. Today, there is no reason not to accumulate a few sets that include sizes for common chassis Philips and slotted screws in various lengths. Still stripping out the heads of Philips bolts/screws because your old screw driver has a chipped head. Send that project to the "Scrapers Hall of Shame" and dead Nicads to you!

Hammers – Yep! Sometimes it takes a hammer, but gently of course. Once again, over time, if you're serious about building and having an array of proper tools for project work, one can accumulate just the right type tools. In the case of hammer, machine styles are most useful and can be had in sets of small to heavy for less than the price of a single hammer only a few years ago. And are they of good quality? Yes, and that's the neat part. For the Amateur Radio and Shop Man, these tools are more than adequate. Hammers in the Lab here include, light weight brass, plastic faced, and rubber types of various sizes. It's a total surprise to find, that once these items are in your shop, how often you will use the exact correct one for the job at hand.

Oh, and by the way, please do not admit you use a framing hammer, or Jack Hammer (just kidding) for tapping that next drilling project into correct alignment, or you will be the sorry recipient of the "Mallet Head" award for engineering lab blunders.

Well, there you have it. Not a very long list, and most of these ideas you've seen and heard before, yet how often I hear and talk to gents who are total strangers to making and or fixing stuff . . . mechanical illiterates so to speak. But, if you are flipping through pages of your favorite radio mag and see a project that sets you to wondering about how it might be to build something, the above is a place to start your design process.

It takes a bit of time to accumulate a well equipped and focused shop, but so does building a working Amateur Radio Station . . . both labors of love. And so it is with the Big KXR. So, until the next installment describing activities here at the Super Station, check your project wish list and make some plans to pick up a few tools and avoid the Cart!

Perhaps we'll meet each other over by the metal files, or wire strippers, or . . . one never knows...but, you can be sure I'll be there, looking for that next neat tool for the pair of 813's now in the daydream stages, or the switching network that routs cut-off bias to multiple linear amps. I sincerely hope you will dream a bit, take time to drink that second cup of your favorite brew, and start on the path to your own next project.

**From: The Guys In The Tool Crib At The
Big KXR
De W8KXR
The Warwick Super Station
Feb/04**

(Thanks to the Author Gene Beckwith, W8KXR for this and other fine stories he has written for the *Feedback*. We appoligize for last month's *Feedback*, there was just too much info to contain Gene's full story so it was necessary to split the story into two segements. We hope this doesn't cause too much conflict for the readers Ed, WC8W)

PROFILE

ED CLINGER, WA8DRT



It has been a number of years since Perry, W8AU started profiling club members with video for the sole purpose of introducing members and their individualism in creating their own ideas about Amateur Radio and creating their shacks. We thought it would be a great idea to resurrect this great idea so that other club members especially newer members could gather ideas in creating their own shacks. This month we are profiling Ed Clinger, WA8DRT.

Ed was born in Wyandotte County on August 28, 1928. His family moved to the area when Ed was in the fifth grade. He has lived at his present location, in the southeastern part of Perry Township, since 1956. Ed partitioned the back end of his garage into an ample, comfortable room that houses his shack. In the picture above Ed is sitting in front of his Kenwood TS 440s and 570S transceivers mounted underneath a shelf that contains his antenna tuner a Tucker T-3000, power supplies and two meter & 440 equipment which consists of a Kenwood 7950 and a Yaesu 2800M plus various handhelds and accessories.

Ed has been licensed since 1962 with a Novice call of WN8DRT. He has since upgraded to General Class. He is a retired employee of Ashland Oil working 5 years in the pipeline department and 36 years in the Canton refinery. He is a past president of the Ostomy Association (Aultman Hospital) and is a 32nd degree Mason. He is a past president of QCWA chapter # 21 and is a Net Control Station for that group. He is a SkyWarn member and a Massillon Amateur Radio Club member since 1992. Ed is a 50 year member of the Pike Grange; he is a member of the Otterbein United Methodist Church. Ed is our 2003 recipient of the MARC Artistic Award for his work in photography. He has a son, Steve, WB8ORB and a son-in-law Steve WD8MCC. Ed has 5 children, 10 grandchildren and his grandson is David, KB3GQW.

Ed operates almost exclusively on the 40 meter band with a morning sked with the Colonel's Warm Up Net which he has made many friends from all around the country. They even have a get together once a year in the area for those "eyeball" QSO's! He has worked some DX, about 10

countries in all without even trying. But ragchewing is definitely his calling!

Ed's antenna farm consists of a HiGain TH6DXX triband beam on a 50 foot tower for 10, 15, and 20 meter bands. Topped with two meter vertical. His Center fed Zep is ideally strung between two 55 foot telephone poles with twin lead feed. His second tower contains the two meter beam antenna and a 440 vertical. 6 meters is side mounted to the main tower. As seen in the photo below, it is a very efficient system that makes



any ham envious! If you are viewing this picture in black & white you are missing some of the details in the picture, it's just the nature of photocopying.

Next month we will try to bring you another profile of a MARC member, depending on available space.

MARC AND AREA NEWS

Skywarn Classes for 2004 will be conducted at the Stark State College Campus on March 24, 2004 at 7:00 PM. This class is for everyone wanting to join for the first time or to renew their Skywarn Certification. This you must do every few years to keep current. Rick Alatorre is going to be there as the new head of the Stark County Emergency Preparedness Agency. He has replaced Mr. Ed Cox who held that position for many years. There is no preregistration required.

MS WALK

Jack, N8LCS is soliciting helpers for the first Public Service Event of the year for MARC. The MS walk will be held on April 18, 2004 at both the Quail Hollow State Park and at Canal Fulton Community Park. MARC members will be concerned with the latter site for this year. If you can help, be sure to contact Jack Wade, N8LCS at wadejack@sssnet.com or at 330-837-3826, leave message on answering machine.

Richard Alatorre to head Stark County EOC

Richard Alatorre, disaster and armed forces services director at the American Red Cross of Central Stark County, has been named the new head of the Stark County Emergency Preparedness Agency to replace Ed Cox, who retired in November after 18 years as head of the agency.

"I'm excited," said Alatorre who has been with the Red Cross's Central Stark County Agency for four years. "I'm looking forward to building off the success of the county and addressing new issues and challenges."

No stranger to area amateurs, Alatorre's experience with local disasters and relationships with local emergency responders were determining factors in his appointment to the agency. Rick has been a regular guest at the Massillon ARC October Hamfest, where he is always eager to foster mutual cooperation between the Red Cross and Amateur Radio. Stark County ARES worked very close with Alatorre during last years countywide flooding disasters.

In assuming his new responsibilities, It will be his job to update the county's master disaster and terrorist attack response plan, apply for homeland security grants and coordinate agencies and organizations' efforts to help disaster victims.

Stark County ARES has pledged our full support to Rick as he assumes his new responsibilities beginning March 15th. His first formal introduction to many local amateurs will be hosting the March 24th Skywarn Spotter Training Seminar at Stark State College. (WD8AYE website)

DX INFORMATION

The Ohio/Penn DX PacketCluster DX Bulletin
No. 649 BID: \$OPDX.649 February 23, 2004
Editor Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW Provided by
BARF80.ORG (Cleveland, Ohio)

5H, TANZANIA. Hans-Peter, HB9BXE, who states that it has taken a long time to receive a license from here, will be active as **5H1BP** from **March 1-6th**. He received his license on February 19th. Activity will be on 80-10 meters on CW/SSB/PSK31 using a FT-857 with only 100 watts into a wire antenna. On Monday (**February 23rd**), Hans-Peter will start to climb on **Kilimandscharo** and hope to arrive on top of the highest mountain of Africa at an altitude of 5896m ASL on Friday, **February 27th** at 0815z. He plans to be active for about **20 minutes** on 21.222 kHz +/- QRM. There will be a list taken beforehand by Sigi, HB9DLE, via E-mail of interested amateurs in order to minimize the pile

up and to speed up the traffic. Sigi's E-mail address is: hb9dle@uska.ch During the second week, Hans-Peter will be active from **Zanzibar Island (AF-032)**. QSL via his home callsign HB9BXE.

5U, NIGER. Bull, **5U7JB**, hopes to be active during the **CQ 160 Meters SSB Contest (February 28-29th)**. He is currently busy putting up an inverted L antenna. Bull has been active during the past week on 75/40/17/12 meters SSB. Watch around 3793 kHz between 0318-0500z, 7080 kHz around 0530z, 17 meters after 0930z and 12 meters between 1045-1630z. QSL via ON5NT.

8P, BARBADOS. Tom, W2SC, will be active as **8P1A** in the **ARRL DX Phone Contest (March 6-7th)** as a Single-Op/All Band/High Power entry. QSL via NN1N.

8Q, MALDIVES. Hardy, DL5SBA, will be active as **8Q7BA** from about **March 4-20th** from **Athuruga Island (AS-013)**. Activity will be on 20 meters, possibly 30 and 17 meters as well, on RTTY/PSK only. He will use a TS-50 with 50 watts into a wire quad antenna for 20 meters - possibly 17/30m with the tuner. Hardy tells OPDX that he will be there on vacation not an expedition, so activity will be sporadic. QSL via bureau (preferred) to DL5SBA.

9K2, KUWAIT. Faisal, **9K2RR**, will be active in the **Russian DX Contest (March 20-21st)** as a Single-Op/All Band/CW entry. QSL via the bureau.

9K43, KUWAIT. Hamad, 9K2HN, informs OPDX that they will be celebrating their "National and Liberation Day" in Kuwait on **February 25th and 26th**. For this event they will be using the special event callsign **9K43NLD**. Activity will start on **February 25th** and last **until the 29th**. QSL cards go via 9K2RR.

(ED Note: The DX Information presented here is just a small excerpt of the Ohio/Penn DX Report. For full info visit their web site at; <http://www.en.com/users/k8yse/nodxa.html>)

March 2004

Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																					
	1 BD KB8LWP	2	3	4 BD KB8FZX	5 Massillon ARC meeting West Stark info net. 147.180 at 8:00 PM	6 BD KC8LYG																																																																																					
7	8	9	10 BD N8FEB	11 BD WB8OWM	12 BD N8GPC West Stark info net. 147.180 at 8:00 PM	13																																																																																					
14	15 BD WA8GXM	16	17 BD KB8ZWY	18	19 BD W8DEA West Stark info net. 147.180 at 8:00 PM	20																																																																																					
21 Hamfest toledo call Brian @419-385-5624	22	23 BD K8MGC	24 BD K8KIP	25	26 West Stark info net. 147.180 at 8:00 PM	27																																																																																					
28 Hamfest Mentor call Robert@440-951-0283	29	30	31	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <table border="1" style="font-size: small; border-collapse: collapse;"> <caption style="text-align: center;">February</caption> <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>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="font-size: small; border-collapse: collapse;"> <caption style="text-align: center;">April</caption> <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>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td></tr> </table> </div>			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							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	
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Please contact KA8ZQH to add,delete or change Calendar