

FEEDBACK

VOLUME 51 ISSUE 3

MARCH 2006

MASSILLON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OFFICERS

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SHORT SKIP

Hark ! Scientists are examining the possibility of using radio waves to predict the location, time and magnitude of earthquakes. Geophysicists believe that this may be possible by measuring electromagnetic pulses in the earth's crust or disturbances in the ionosphere.

Recent disturbances have been detected just prior to a number of major earthquakes.

Hmmm stay tuned Bunky, our old DX Pal " Old Sol " himself could be involved in all of this !

73 de WB8OWM

MARCH MEETING

The meeting for the month of March will be held at the Massillon Senior Center on March 3, 2006 at 8:00 PM.

DUES ARE DUE !

Well this is "crunch" month, meaning if you haven't paid your dues by the meeting night, we will be "forced" to drop you from the membership roles. As of this writing, there are 22 members who haven't paid as yet! I am sure that number will significantly be reduced at the March meeting but some of you we will have to say "good-bye" to. We do not want to loose anyone of you so while your thinking about it Send Anne N8GAF, MARC's Treasurer a check now if you can't make the meeting ! It's still only \$ 10.00 for a full year's membership. Quite a bargain in this day & age! Anne's address is:

Anne Ballinger, N8GAF
2468 BellevueAve SW
Massillon, Ohio 44647-7212

MARCH PROGRAM NOTICE

According to our Vice President, Ralph, K8HSQ, there will be a very fine program by MARC's own Jim Farriss, WA8GXM. Jim's subject will be "Biodiesel and how to make this "different " fuel. Biodiesel had its beginnings way back in 1853 when scientists E. Duffy and J. Patrick experimented with the material. However it wasn't until 1893 when Rudolf Diesel of Augsburg Germany made the first working single cylinder diesel engine run. During WWII, the German people made use of this technology as their gasoline supplies began to dry up. August 10 has been designated as International Biodiesel Day.

Want to learn more? Be sure to come to the meeting and find out more about this "alternative" fuel and it's history.

MARC MINUTES

February 3,2006

The Massillon Amateur Radio Club meeting was held at the Massillon Senior Club with 38 members and guests present.

MARC President Igor K8INN opened the meeting at 8:00 P.M. The Pledge of Allegiance was given and a round of introductions was made. Motion was made by Jim WA8GXM and second by Byron KF8UN to suspend reading the January minutes. They were accepted as stated in the FEEDBACK.

MARC Treasurer Anne N8GAF gave the financial report.

MARC Vice President Ralph K8HSQ gave the correspondence report. He had newsletters from other Amateur Radio Clubs, also a list of Hamfest dates. He had a couple of World Radio magazines to be given away. He also had material you could read on how Win Link was used in the Katrina disaster.

Igor K8INN then asked for committee reports.

Thank you goes to Jim WA8GXM and Perry W8AU for their repairs on the 147.180 repeater.

OLD BUSINESS

Igor K8INN thanked everyone who helped or attended the January banquet. A motion was made by Byron KF8UN and second by Sandra N8TZB to have the 2006 banquet at the same place next year. A vote was taken and passed, it will be at the Otterbein United Methodist Church.

Thank you again went to Joe WD8BGW for a fine year as serving as MARC President.

Perry W8AU then gave the MARC Life members their Awards. Congratulations goes to Ralph K8HSQ and Gene W8KXR for 25 years as a MARC member.

NEW BUSINESS

Jack N8LCS said the Western Stark County MS Walk will be different this year. Contact him for the details,he will need helpers.

Perry W8AU said helpers are needed to help with a canoe race being held by the Massillon area clergy. They are trying to raise money to put in a skateboard pad.

Dan N8DZM gave information about Suit Sat.

Gary WC8W needs helpers to teach classes starting Feb.27 at 7:00 P.M. The classes will run for about 10 weeks. Perry W8AU will be teaching CW at a different time. March 16 at 7:00 P.M. ARRL testing will be at the EOC Feb.25th at 9:00 A.M.

Terry received a CD from Ham University to help teaching the classes. It was free for putting their information on MARC web site. He also said Sky Warn classes will be announced later. There will be a change in dates because students are still in session at the college. Terry also said Wade WD8MIU will have new HOF duties this year. He will be in charge of de marshaling. More volunteers will be needed this year for the Hall of Fame Parade, please contact them if you can help.

Igor K8INN and Terry N8ATZ presented the Field Day Trophy to the Canton Amateur Radio Club as agreed.

Michele KC8ZEJ gave the Information Net report. She also had a list of items for sale. Contact her for more information.

MARC 2006 budget was read. Byron KF8UN made motion to accept it with Dan N8DZM making second. A vote was taken and passed.

Welcome to MARC newest member, Wade WD8MIU.

Congratulations goes to Charlie KB8STV for winning the 50-50 for \$16.00. Thank you for donating it back to MARC.

Minutes by Linda K8MOO
Secretary MARC

... Winlink Update ...

Since late 2004 the Stark County Winlink Committee has been busy establishing the basic infrastructure needed to setup a Winlink Emergency Communications System here in Stark County. Phase One of that project is nearly complete. To help chart our progress a special webpage has been setup on the Stark County ARES website. It currently covers the basics of the Winlink system and our progress so far. Go to www.wd8aye.org to have a look.

We have also been asked to participate in the next Multi-County Coalition Meeting that will be held on Sunday, March 26th at Tuscora Park Pavilion in New Philadelphia beginning at 2:00 PM. The program will include an updated PowerPoint presentation. Everyone is welcome to attend this meeting and it will be a great opportunity to learn more about this new communications initiative.

.. Stark County Skywarn Meeting ..

As part of Ohio's Severe Weather Awareness Week and in cooperation with the Stark County Emergency Management Agency, The Cleveland National Weather Service and Stark Co ARES, the annual Skywarn Spotter Training Meeting has been scheduled to take place on Monday, March 20, 2006 beginning at 6:30 PM. This meeting is being held in conjunction with Ohio's Severe Weather Awareness Week which is March 27th to April 1st., with March 29th at 9:50 AM set as Ohio's Statewide Tornado Test.

Hosted by Stark Co EOC Director Tim Warstler, the training will once again be provided by Gary Garnett, Weather Coordinating Meteorologist from the Cleveland NWS. As in previous years representatives will be on hand to verify current Skywarn Spotter Registration information and issue new Spotter numbers to new attendees.

This years training will again include discussion of exactly what severe weather is, how to identify potentially serious weather patterns and how to report this information to the Cleveland NWS office. A powerpoint presentation will augment the training and assist you in identifying cloud formations. The meeting should last approximately two hours and will include one break.

The meeting will again be held at Stark State College of Technology located at 6200 Frank Avenue NW, N. Canton, Ohio 44720 in the main auditorium. All are welcome to attend especially local Amateur Radio operators, public safety forces, schools, hospitals and the general public. Representatives will be on hand to answer questions and provide additional information.

Also attending this years meeting will be Marvin Secret of M & K Engraving, our official supplier of Skywarn ID badges that will be available for a nominal fee.

We encourage everyone to attend this free severe weather training seminar and take advantage of this important information. Additional information is available by contacting Terry Russ - N8ATZ at (330) 837 - 3091 or by email at

truss@sssnet.com.

.. Dayton Hamvention Announce Theme For 2006 ..

"Ham Radio is Public Service" is the theme for Dayton Hamvention 2006—reflecting the renewed awareness by the public of the service Amateur Radio operators provided after the Gulf Coast hurricanes and other disasters. In announcing the theme, Hamvention 2006 General Chairman Jim Nies, WX8F, said that it serves to remind the public and the ham radio community that one of the reasons ham radio exists is to provide communication in emergencies when all else fails. Several forum sessions are expected to deal with emergency communication-related topics, including how Amateur Radio performed after the hurricanes wiped out communications in a wide segment of the south. For more information, visit the Dayton Hamvention Web site. More than 25,000 visitors are expected to attend the three-day event Friday through Sunday, May 19-21.

.. 2005 Public Service Report ..

Each year the Stark County Amateur Radio Emergency Service provides countless hours of support communications to many local civic organizations, area hospitals, the American Red Cross, public safety forces and the Emergency Operations Center.

The FCC rules list emergency communications as one of the purposes of the Amateur Radio Service - and in reality, our ability to provide emergency communications justifies our Hobby's continued existence. The FCC has long recognized Amateur Radio as being among the most reliable means of communications in disaster situations.

2005 was another busy year for the Stark County ARES. As we do each year, we have compiled a detailed report of our public service activities and posted the results for your review. It's available on the Stark Co ARES website at www.wd8aye.org.

That's about it for this month,

**Catch You At The Meeting
De Terry – N8ATZ**



NREN Training Topic 1-26-06 High Frequency Portable Operation

VHF and UHF methods are the backbone of emergency communications response for a variety of reasons. When combined with repeaters, they offer simplicity, low power consumption, portability, flexibility, and crystal clear FM communications. It's a great combination of features. However, instances may arise when High Frequency capabilities are needed. Such situations may include establishing communications in a mountainous area or from an area where repeater infrastructure is destroyed or overloaded. Likewise, HF traffic nets offer access to experienced operators who are active in NTS and comfortable with third-party message handling techniques. In this Training Topic, we will discuss some issues regarding effective HF response.

Power Output

Whereas a VHF or UHF transceiver can often access a repeater with one or two watts output, the same is not true for HF applications. Atmospheric, adjacent or co-channel interference, selective fading, and the like all contribute to the degradation of signal-to-noise ratio. Military experience has found that 10 to 20 watts is a typical minimum power level for reliable HF communications. As you might well imagine, when relying on battery power, greater power capacity must be available for an equivalent length of operating time when using HF radio.

Bandwidth also plays a significant role on HF circuits. Modes such as SSB, with a bandwidth approaching nearly 3.5 KHz require significantly more power for the same signal-to-noise ratio afforded by CW or narrow band data modes. In practice, one will find that a 20-watt CW transmitter will provide the same level of reliability as a 100-watt SSB unit.

WINLINK-2000 and similar TOR based methods consume less bandwidth than SSB (more efficient) and afford some nice automation features, but they also require equipment of greater complexity. Add a lap-top computer, printer, and similar equipment needed for emergency operations, and one may soon find the increased overall power consumption requires the addition of a generator, extension cords, power strips, and a significant quantity of gasoline. By the way, if you don't think gasoline is an issue in a major disaster, consider the various "Mexican standoffs" which occurred between State and Federal law enforcement immediately after Hurricane Katrina as various agencies attempted to commandeer gasoline shipments. What are the odds of a radio amateur leveraging a supply of gasoline when FEMA or the County Sheriff wants it?

As in the case of CW nets, I have experienced many situations when I had a reliable link with a portable PACTOR station, yet I couldn't be heard on SSB. The data modes should be part of an effective emergency plan. However,

they may not always prove to be the best choice for an initial deployment of HF capabilities or for situations in which one must carry his/her equipment a long distance.

A simple HF SSB or CW transceiver is likely the best choice for many deployments. Experience during ARRL Field Day events, shows that a typical deep-cycle marine battery can operate a typical SSB transceiver for 12 to 24 hours during a contest. Access to a couple of these batteries may allow one to be charged from a nearby vehicle or solar panel while another is used for communications. Outfitters such as "Cabelas" sell battery holders, such as the "Power Caddy" designed to carry and store a deep-cycle marine battery. Intended for use with electric trolling motors, such devices have a carrying handle, a meter to show battery voltage, and typically several ports for powering 12-VDC devices.

The reality is; few things beat a simple, low power CW transceiver, provided a competent, experienced traffic operator is present to use it. A low power CW station can operate indefinitely from a gel-cell pack and solar cell. Best of all, a CW net will clear traffic as fast as, or faster than, a SSB net.

Mobile Installations

Many radio amateurs assume they will be able to use their personal vehicle in time of emergency. This is not always the case. Public Safety and relief agencies may require you to work with their personnel in their vehicles. Likewise, disaster areas may simply not be accessible due to washed-out roads, landslides, debris such as downed utility poles and the like.

Even the best HF mobile antenna installations are quite inefficient. While one may find he can reliably engage in casual communications, transmitting emergency communications requires a higher level of readability and signal strength. Most 100-watt mobile installations simply do not provide a "traffic quality" signal for access to SSB Nets. However, one will find that the identical mobile installation can prove sufficient for access to CW nets and digital nodes.

Auto tuners are a useful addition to the HF mobile arsenal. Best of all, one can keep a 50 to 100 foot spool of flexible, stranded wire in the car suitable for use as a random wire antenna. Install a large alligator clip on one end of the spool, and a weight on the other. Simply Pull the vehicle up to a nearby tree or other support, toss your "random wire" in a nearby tree, and clip lead it to your vehicles antenna mount. Your auto-tuner does the rest. One can now operate SSB with a far better and more reliable signal. When the time comes to move, one simply drops the antenna, spools it up, and he's on his way.

Judicious frequency selection can also play a role in success. While it may be tempting to establish communications with a 75-meter Section Net, the fact is that higher frequency bands offer some advantages, such as:

* Antenna radiation resistance (efficiency) increases with frequency. As such, a HF mobile antenna will generally be more efficient on 30 or 20 meters than on 75 or 40 meters.

* Higher frequency bands can offer lower noise floor and less susceptibility to atmospherics.

It might make more sense to establish communications on 20-meters with a station five states away, then to attempt to communicate across state on 75-meters. With today's ubiquitous, diverse, and inexpensive communications infrastructure, most Amateur Radio volunteers outside the disaster area can establish communications with a key agency via e-mail, FAX, or telephone.

HF Portable

While some radio amateurs get a kick out of "manpack" operation (e.g. HF-Pack), complete with a military radio and long whip antenna strapped to the back, the fact is, the average emergency communicator doesn't require the same level of mobility as a soldier. After all, we're not likely to be shot at! More than likely, one may need to establish communications at fixed locations for a short period of time. In such cases, a simple random wire antenna tossed over a convenient support and another wire used for a counterpoise can prove sufficient to establish basic HF communications. Likewise, nearby fences, water pipes, or a similar object can provide a ready-made ground connection.

During a major tornado incident a number of years ago, I loaded a downspout on a three story wood frame house, pushed a simple two foot copper ground rod in the soil, tuned it up, and had solid HF communications using a small ten watt manpack unit. The entire process took two minutes. The rule here is to be creative and use the materials at hand.

Experiment

The best way to be prepared for an emergency is to assemble a small portable station and take it in the field. Instead of watching another episode of reality-TV on a summer evening, take your portable unit out in the back yard or into a nearby park, set it up, check-in to a traffic net and originate a message. Critique the exercise to determine new ways to more quickly and simply deploy your antenna and equipment. Most importantly, keep it simple.

At the risk of sounding biased, my "desert island" rig of choice would be a simple, low-power CW transceiver, with a gel-cell and solar cell for recharging. The fact is, a good operator can do anything with CW a voice operator can, and with a lot less trouble! As to my "desert island music CD of choice....well, that's another subject!

A complete HF portable station (man pack)

A complete portable station providing HF-CW and VHF "two meter" communications as deployed at the "UP-200 sled dog race. Internal gel-cell, AC power supply, and automatic antenna tuner included.

73,

Jim, WB8SIW

Era Ends: Western Union Stops Sending Telegrams

By Robert Roy Britt
LiveScience Managing Editor
posted: 31 January 2006
10:17 pm ET

After 145 years, Western Union has quietly stopped sending telegrams.

On the company's web site, if you click on "Telegrams" in the left-side navigation bar, you're taken to a page that ends a technological era with about as little fanfare as possible:

"Effective January 27, 2006, Western Union will discontinue all Telegram and Commercial Messaging services. We regret any inconvenience this may cause you, and we thank you for your loyal patronage. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact a customer service representative."

The decline of telegram use goes back at least to the 1980s, when long-distance telephone service became cheap enough to offer a viable alternative in many if not most cases. Faxes didn't help. Email could be counted as the final nail in the coffin.

Western Union has not failed. It long ago refocused its main business to make money transfers for consumers and businesses. Revenues are now \$3 billion annually. It's now called Western Union Financial Services, Inc. and is a subsidiary of First Data Corp.

The world's first telegram was sent on May 24, 1844 by inventor Samuel Morse. The message, "What hath God wrought," was transmitted from Washington to Baltimore. In a crude way, the telegraph was a precursor to the Internet in that it allowed rapid communication, for the first time, across great distances.

Western Union goes back to 1851 as the Mississippi Valley Printing Telegraph Company. In 1856 it became the Western Union Telegraph Company after acquisition of competing telegraph systems. By 1861, during the Civil War, it had created a coast-to-coast network of lines.

Other company highlights:

- a.. 1866: Introduced the first stock ticker.
- b.. 1871: Introduced money transfers.
- c.. 1884: Became one of the original 11 stocks tracked by the Dow Jones Average.
- d.. 1914: Introduced the first consumer charge card.
- e.. 1964: Began using a transcontinental microwave beam to replace land lines.
- f.. 1974: Launched Westar I, the first U.S. dedicated communications satellite.

On Jan. 26, the last day you could send a telegram, First Data announced it would spin Western Union off as an independent, publicly traded company.

(Thanks to Jerry KF8EB for submitting this fine article)

ARRL NEWS

The ARRL Letter

Vol. 25, No. 07

February 17, 2006

==>FCC NONCOMMITTAL ON "MORSE CODE" PROCEEDING ACTION

Just when the FCC will act on the "Morse code" proceeding, WT Docket 05-235, remains hazy. The Commission released a Notice of Proposed Rule Making and Order (NPRM&O) last July proposing to eliminate the Element 1 (5 WPM) Morse code requirement for all license classes. The Amateur Radio community has filed more than 3800 comments on the proceeding, and additional comments continue to show up, even though the formal comment deadline was last October 31 (with reply comments by November 14). The next—and most-anticipated—step for the Commission is to formally adopt any revisions to its rules and conclude the proceeding with a Report and Order (R&O) that spells out the changes and specifies their effective date.

"There really is no news," an FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau staffer told ARRL this week on background. "We certainly hope to release WT Docket 05-235 sometime this year, but we're not making any predictions at this time.

We certainly are not saving up any big announcements for Dayton Hamvention."

Beyond eliminating the Morse requirement, the FCC declined proposing any other suggested changes to the Amateur Service.

The proceeding began with 18 petitions for rule making—many just calling for the elimination of the Morse requirement but some asking for more far-reaching changes in the Amateur Service rules. The various petitions attracted a total of some 6200 comments. The FCC subsequently consolidated the petitions—including one from the ARRL asking the FCC to establish a new entry-level license class and to retain the Morse requirement only for Amateur Extra class applicants—into a single proceeding designated WT 05-235.

The FCC has not proposed extending HF privileges to current Technician licensees who have not passed a Morse code examination. In its NPRM&O the FCC suggested that in a no-Morse-requirement regime, "codeless Techs" could gain HF access by taking the Element 3 General class written examination.

Any FCC decision to eliminate the 5 WPM Morse code requirement for HF access would have *no* impact on either the current HF CW-only subbands or on the CW privileges of Amateur Radio licensees.

Before it releases an R&O on the Morse code proceeding, however, the WTB wants to wrap up action in another Amateur Radio-related docket—the "Phone Band Expansion" (or "Omnibus") NPRM in WT Docket 04-140, released April 15, 2004. A dozen petitions for rulemaking, some dating back to 2001, were consolidated in the Omnibus proceeding.

In that NPRM, the Commission proposed to go along with the ARRL's Novice refarming plan aimed at reallocating the current Novice/Tech Plus subbands and expanding portions of the 80, 40 and 15 meter phone bands. The FCC also agreed with an ARRL proposal to extend privileges in the current General CW-only HF subbands to present Novice and Tech Plus licensees (or Technicians with Element 1 credit). WT 04-140 further proposed to essentially do away with FCC rules prohibiting the manufacture and marketing to Amateur Radio operators of amplifiers capable of operation on 12 and 10 meters.

==>3Y0X AND NA1SS LOG HISTORIC QSO

Completing an overhaul of the International Space Station's exercise treadmill cut into Expedition 12 Commander Bill McArthur's ham radio time from NA1SS. But when he did get on the radio February 13, he made excellent use of the time remaining.

"Only one contact," McArthur reported. "3Y0X! Thanks!" The 2-meter contact between the space station and the Peter I Island DXpedition <<http://www.peterone.com/main.htm>> near Antarctica occurred during a barely viable 2-degree pass. The 3Y0X QSO pushed McArthur's count of DXCC entities worked from space to 104. McArthur already has worked all states and all continents during his duty tour aboard the ISS.

On the Peter I Island end of the contact was 3Y0X DXpedition team member Gordon Hardman, W0RUN. McArthur, who's KC5ACR, reports he and Hardman enjoyed "a brief, but nice chat."

Because the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) Phase 2 gear is in crossband repeater mode for SuitSat-1, McArthur used the lower-power Phase 1 Ericsson 2-meter gear for the contact. He reported good copy on 3Y0X, which was using its moonbounce equipment and array for the event. The 3Y0X team already was celebrating the nine moonbounce contacts it had made over the previous weekend.

Operating as RS0ISS, McArthur's crewmate Valeri Tokarev also got in a QSO this week with a Russian member of the 3Y0X DXpedition team.

Topping the Peter I Web site I is the comment, "More people have flown in outer space than have set foot on Peter I Island!" ARISS Ham Radio Project Engineer Kenneth Ransom, N5VHO, notes that the 3Y0X DXpedition is the first to work someone in space from that location.

McArthur earlier worked the 3Y0X DXpedition team while it was still en route and operating as XR9A/mm. Previous tries at a 3Y0X-NA1SS contact were unsuccessful, but Ransom thinks a recent change in the space station's orientation may have contributed to this week's success.



OPDX Bulletin 748 February 20, 2006

The Ohio/Penn Dx PacketCluster DX Bulletin No. 748

BID: \$OPDX.748 February 20, 2006 Editor Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW

Provided by BARF-80 BBS Cleveland, Ohio

Thanks to the Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society, Northern Ohio DX Association, Ohio/Penn PacketCluster Network, AB5K & the AR TelNet Clusters Network, Texas DX Society, K1XN & GoList, NC1L, NG3K, W3UR & The Daily DX, K4VUD, N4AA & QRZ DX, KK6EK, K8YSE, W8UVZ, DL1EK & The DX News Letter, EI2CA, F5CQ, F5NQL & UFT, G3SWH, HA0HW, I1HYW, I1JQJ/IK1ADH & 425 DX News, IZ8CCW, LZ1ZF, OK1RK, VA3RJ & ICPO and VK3EW for the following DX information.

3Y0X NEWS

PETER I ISLAND DXPEDITION QRT. As your editor was putting the final touches on this week's bulletin, the 3Y0X DXpedition went QRT at 1813z on December 19th (Last contact was with K8LTG on 17m CW). According to their Web page the Peter I team reported at 1900z, February 18th: "The weather cleared sufficiently to offload even more of the 'ready to go' gear — and four Team Members! Gary/K9SG, Carlos/NP4IW, Wayne/KU4V and Robert/SP5XVY are all safely aboard the ship. The rest of us are working in consolidating loads for the helicopter and trying to elevate the QSO count even higher than the 81.9K Qs uploaded as of 1400utc today. Even though Gary/K9SG (our Team physician) is no longer on the island, we were able to persuade him to leave the defibrillator behind (just in case)!" QSL via N2OO. Remember, updates, pictures/videos and logs can be found on the 3Y0X Web page at:

<http://www.peterone.co>

6W, SENEGAL

Peter, HA3AUI, continues to be active as 6W/HA3AUI until March 31st. His main focus will be on 20/17 meters SSB, with some PSK and RTTY. However, he has also been heard on 15 meters. His operating does vary, but watch 20 meters after 1100z, 17 meters after 1600z and 15 meters after 1300z. QSL via his home callsign, direct or by the bureau.

9H, MALTA

Members of the Texas DX Society (TDXS) are pleased to announce their DXpedition to Malta (IOTA EU-023), March 1-8th. Team Malta members are: Cal/WF5W (9H3W), Steve/W9DX (9H3DX), Madison/W5MJ (9H3V), Don/N5DD (9H3RY), Bill/K5WAF (9H3WF), Mike/K5UO (9H3UO), Paul/W5PF (9H3PF) and Keith/NM5G (9H3KD). They will participate in the ARRL International DX Phone Contest, March 4-5th, as 9H3DX. During non-contest periods all 9H3 callsigns may be used, but primary activity will be 9H3DX on SSB, 9H3V on CW, 9H3RY on RTTY, and 9H3WF on PSK. They will be active on 80-10 meters and possibly 160m. QSL Manager is W5PF for all callsigns. Visit the TDXS Web site for more details and online log searches at:

<http://www.tdxs.org>

CN2, MOROCCO

Brad, K7ZSD, will be active as CN2SD from March 20-28th. He will also be active in the CQ WW WPX SSB Contest (March 25-26th) as a Single-Op/Single-Band (20m) entry. QSL via K7ZSD.

FR/G, GLORIOSO ISLANDS

Didier, F5OGL, informs that the Glorioso expedition (IOTA **AF-011**) previously planed from March 16th to April 7th is one more time postponed but still not cancelled. A TV reporter team could join the expedition. A new scheme is under work, and they will update their Web site as soon as possible at:

<http://glorieuses2005.free.fr/>

FY, FRENCH GUYANA

Operators Marc/F1HAR, Olivier/F5MZN, Laurent/F6FVY and Herve/F5HRY will be active as FY5KE in the ARRL DX SSB Contest (March 4-5th) as a Multi-Single entry. QSL via the Bureau or direct to CBA.

SV5, DODECANESE

Willi, DJ7RJ, will be active as SV5/DJ7RY from the Island of KOS (**EU-001**) between February 26th and March 18th. Most of the activity will be on the lower bands. QSL to his home callsign.

T68, AFGHANISTAN

Johnny, LA5IIA, is back in Kabul and is active again as T68G. He was heard this past week on 20 meters SSB and 17 meters CW. The length of his stay is not known. QSL via LA4YW.

Excerpts and distribution of The OPDX Bulletin are granted as long as KB8NW/OPDX/BARF80 receive credit.

To contribute DX info, please send via InterNet Mail to:

kb8nw@barf80.nshore.org

- OR -

kb8nw@arrl.net

CLUB NEWS UPCOMING ACTIVITES

Western Stark County MS Walk April 29th beginning at the Rec Center in downtown Massillon. This year will be a whole new route. Be sure to sign up with coordinator Jack N8LCS at the meeting !

Stark County Skywarn Meeting will be held at the Stark State College campus on Monday March 20th at 6:00 PM. The program will last about two hours. Registration is required so be sure to show up early enough to get signed up !

MARC will hold License Classes beginning February 27th at the Club. The classes begin at 7:00 PM and will last for 2 hours. The entire course will take approximately 10 weeks to finish. This will be for Technician, General and Extra Class. Contact Don Finley, W8DEF, Gary Kline WC8W or Perry Ballinger W8AU. Code Classes conducted by Perry will begin on March 17th at 7:00 PM at the club and will last approximately 6 weeks. The classes are for beginning code and also an "speedup" class is being planned.

St Pat's Day March 17th



March 2006

W8NP Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <table border="1" style="font-size: small; text-align: center;"> <caption>Feb 2006</caption> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="font-size: small; text-align: center;"> <caption>Apr 2006</caption> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td></tr> <tr><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></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					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							<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;"><i>1</i></p> <p>VE Test Session, 20/9 Hamfest, 7:00 PM, Ctc: John Douglass, 330-799-4250, Canfield</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;"><i>2</i></p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - CW and Traffic Handling Training, Freq - 3650 @ 1930</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;"><i>3</i></p> <p>BD KC8RPE Massillon ARC Meeting, Massillon Senior Center, 8:00pm</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;"><i>4</i></p> <p>VE Test Session, Silvervreek ARC, 0930, Ctc: Barry Youmans, 330-925-1706, Wayne County Library</p>
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<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;"><i>19</i></p> <p>BD W8DEA Massillon Radio Net - 3650 @ 1930 TMRA Hamfest Toledo Mobile Radio Assoc., Ctc: Brian, WD8MXR, 419-535-6594</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;"><i>20</i></p> <p>Skywarn Spotter Training Meeting, Stark State College of Technology, 1830 Spring begins</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;"><i>21</i></p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3650 @ 1930</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;"><i>22</i></p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;"><i>23</i></p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3650 @ 1930</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;"><i>24</i></p> <p>BD K8KIP West Stark Info Net - 147.180 at 2000</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;"><i>25</i></p> <p>VE Test Session, Coshocton ARA, 1000, Ctc: Colleen G. Wheatcraft, 740-622-5761, Coshocton Public Library</p>																																																																																											
<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;"><i>26</i></p> <p>BD KA8KJW Lake County ARA Hamfest, Ctc: Rocky KB8WFB @ 440-209-8953 Massillon Radio Net - 3650 @ 1930</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;"><i>27</i></p> <p>BD KC8ZWG</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;"><i>28</i></p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3650 @ 1930</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;"><i>29</i></p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;"><i>30</i></p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3650 @ 1930</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;"><i>31</i></p> <p>West Stark Info Net - 147.180 at 2000</p>	<p style="color: black; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">Upcoming Event:</p> <p style="color: black; margin: 0;">April 2 - Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club Hamfest</p>																																																																																											