



# FEEDBACK

**VOLUME 60 ISSUE 11**

**NOVEMBER 2015**

**MASSILLON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OFFICERS**

**PRESIDENT**

Ralph Bugg  
K8HSQ  
[buggr@sssnet.com](mailto:buggr@sssnet.com)

**VICE PRESIDENT**

Terry Russ  
N8ATZ  
[truss@sssnet.com](mailto:truss@sssnet.com)

**SECRETARY**

Fred Reed  
KD8SMO  
[reedfl@sssnet.com](mailto:reedfl@sssnet.com)

**TREASURER**

Gary Kline  
WC8W  
[wc8w@sssnet.com](mailto:wc8w@sssnet.com)

**MRN NET Sundays 8:00 PM  
3599.5 KHz**

**WEST STARK INFO NET  
Fridays 8:00 PM 147.18  
MHz**

**(except first Fri of month)**

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**NOVEMBER MEETING**

The meeting for the month of November will be held on November 6, 2015 at 8:00 PM at the Massillon Senior Center, 39 Lincoln Way West , Massillon , Ohio.

At this meeting we will begin discussions and will be taking nominations for next years MARC Club Officers. I know for a fact that the present officers will want replacements . It is a privilege and an honor to be an officer of MARC.

I know that President Ralph K8HSQ, and Vice President Terry N8ATZ, have both desired to be replaced after serving in their capacity for the past two years. I likewise will be seeking replacement as your Treasurer, a position I've held for 5 years. I need to "lighten" the load. So there are plenty of opportunities opening up. If you have any desire to become an officer please let the current officers know of your desire. We will definitely see to it you are placed on the ballot! So if you want to see the club thrive and prosper , then please step up and become an officer in the "best" Amateur Radio Club in the county !

And Ladies of the club, please don't forget: most of you meet the office holding requirements too!

**NOVEMBER PROGRAM**

The program for the month of November will be a presentation of "Digital Electronics" , provided by our president Ralph K8HSQ and our Vice President Terry N8ATZ. They will display and explain some of their digital equipment for us to "wonder " at .

I will be looking for new equipment and I will be most interested in new digital equipment this should help me decide ! See you at the meeting !

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING  
NOV 26**



## MARC Minutes Oct. 9, 2015

President Ralph K8HSQ started the meeting at 8:00 PM and after the Pledge of Allegiance, there was a role call, with 36 persons present. In order to better accommodate the evening's program, the order of business was reversed, with the presentation first, and the club's regular business after the break.

### **Program:**

The club enjoyed a particularly interesting program this evening. Tom Hammond, Computer Technician and Lab Support Specialist at the University of Akron-Wayne College (UAWC) brought a fully-functioning 3-D printer to the meeting and gave a very informative program about what 3-D printing is all about, and many of the details one should be aware of if wanting to get into this field. Tom had a video presentation that he narrated while the 3-D printer busily constructed a small replica of an old radio. Tom also brought many examples of items that had been produced on 3-D printers to pass around the room for people to inspect. The versatility of this process is simply amazing! The program brought many questions from members, and it was apparent that Tom was very knowledgeable about the field. Tom explained that UAWC has a "maker's space", where people can go, free of charge, to use the college's equipment. They have a wide range of machines, including laser cutters, 3-D scanners, vinyl cutters and other fabricating tools that one can use. Maker's spaces are being set up by other organizations, and are a huge help to those who want to make things but don't have the resources to buy specialized machines. Tom presented a first-class program that everyone truly enjoyed. Thank you Tom for a great program!

After a break for cookies and coffee, the regular meeting resumed.

### **Motion to accept last month's minutes:**

Ralph asked if there were any corrections or additions to the September Secretary's report that was sent to all members in "Feedback". No corrections being needed, Ralph asked for a motion to accept the report.

Motion by Ken K8WAY, second by Don W8DEF. Motion passed.

### **Treasurers Report:**

Gary WC8W then gave a detailed financial report for the club. Some of the expenses for the hamfest (printing, tickets, postage etc.) were noted, with expenses for the hamfest prizes to be in next month's report. Motion to accept by Lee KD8UEA, second by Ted K8TWA. Motion passed.

### **VP Report by Terry, N8ATZ**

Terry mentioned that we received two newsletters this month, from the Lake Erie ARA and the Dayton ARA, and they are on the table for people to read.

Hamfests this month are Conneaut on Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> (Sunday) and of course, our own MARC hamfest on Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>. Details are on the club website. Birthdays this month are Linda K8MOO, Ted K8TWA, Stephanie KD8RDN, Johnny N8CQX, Don WD8A, Terry N8ATZ, Julie Wetzel (NC) and Vern Sproat KE8BYN.

### **New Business:**

Shirley Treacle mentioned that the cost to rent the second floor of the Senior Center has been raised to \$20/hr, and since we require the room for quite some time due to the need to come early to set up, clean up etc. the cost is becoming prohibitive. Shirley presented the idea to the club to have the annual banquet at the Der Dutchman restaurant in Dalton. There was a lot of discussion, but in general, most people thought it was a good idea, and in favor of reserving a date (Jan. 9, 2016) so that if we decide to hold our banquet there, a room will be available. A motion to proceed with discussion was made by Jim WD8GXM and seconded by Patty KD8UXL. Motion passed. Shirley will reserve the date, and get more detailed information to present at the next meeting.

### **Old Business:**

Old business was all related to the upcoming hamfest. Terry explained what the current status of table rental and planning is, and then he went through a very comprehensive list of duties and resources needed, and assigned duties to the people that will be helping. There are a lot of details and tasks that have to be handled to have a successful hamfest. Club members are needed for the setup on Saturday Oct. 24 at 9:00am and as many as possible for Sunday. Even though many people have volunteered to handle specific tasks, there are always things that come up at the last moment. All members are encouraged to come to the hamfest and be available to help. After hamfest business was finished, Terry showed the club a pennant that the ARRL sent to acknowledge the club's "Special Service" status. Ralph also took the opportunity to thank everyone that helped with the Swiss Festival fundraiser.

Jim WA8GXM mentioned that the latest firmware has been installed in the 442.85 repeater, and as time permits, the others will be updated as well.

**50:50 Raffle:** The 50-50 was won by Russ N8PII

With business concluded, Wade asked for a motion to adjourn. First Steve KD8ACF, second Mike WA8MKH. Motion passed.

Thanks to all who provided or helped with the refreshments.

Submitted by Fred KD8SMO

## Start an amateur radio virtuous circle

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

On the ham\_instructor Yahoo Group ([https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/ham\\_instructor/info](https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/ham_instructor/info)) recently, we talked about the classes that we are going to be offering this fall. About his Tech class, Bob, K0NR, noted, "Currently have about 30 students signed up. We keep thinking we'll run out of interested people but they keep coming."

I've noticed the same thing here, too. I keep thinking that I am going to run out of people to teach, but I have no problem at all filling my classes. In fact, I'd go so far as to say that the more people that have taken my class, the more people there are that want to take it.

Of course, this makes perfect sense. If there are more people out there who have amateur radio licenses, there are more people out there talking about amateur radio, and actually doing amateur radio. And, the more people out there talking about and doing amateur radio, the more likely it is that other people will become interested in amateur radio and get their licenses as well.

It's an amateur radio ,virtuous circle.

What does this tell you? Well, if you're in a place where amateur radio seems to be dying out, or belong to a club that is slowly fading away, start a class! I think every club should hold classes at least once a year, even if that first class has only one or two students. Those first few students are the start of your virtuous circle.

Don't know how to start a class? I can help you there. Start by reading my blog post, "Teaching a one-day class" (<http://www.kb6nu.com/teaching-a-one-day-tech-class/>). It has a lot of practical information, including tips on how to select a venue, how to publicize the class, how to get people to sign up for the class, and finally, how to teach the class.

You might also want to join the ham\_instructor mailing list I mentioned earlier. It's a relatively low-volume list, but the subscribers have a lot of experience that you can tap into.

Also, get a copy of my free Tech study guide (<http://>

[www.kb6nu.com/study-guides/](http://www.kb6nu.com/study-guides/)). Not to brag (well, OK I am bragging), but it I really think that it's the best study guide for a one-day class. The study guide presents the topics in exactly the same order as I cover them in class. Read through it and you'll see what I mean.

If you need more help, or even just some encouragement, e-mail me, and I'll do what I can to help you. Seriously.

When not teaching ham classes or publishing amateur radio study guides, Dan, KB6NU, operates CW on the HF bands (mostly 40m and 30m). His #1-rated amateur radio blog can be found at KB6NU.Com, and you can e-mail questions, comments, or complaints to [cwgeek@kb6nu.com](mailto:cwgeek@kb6nu.com).

==== end column =====



Dan KB6NU

### ... STATE OF OUR HOBBY ...

The state of our hobby is again solid as so stated by the ARRL. New and upgraded FCC license stats continue to impress. Maria Somma said the number of new licensees spiked to more than 33,000 in 2014, up by about 15 percent from the previous year. Successful license upgrades rose last year by an unprecedented 13 percent over a year earlier.

At the end of 2014, there were 136,405 Amateur Extra, 169,524 General, and 357,236 Technician class licensees – all record numbers, Somma pointed out. While the number of Amateur Extra licensees grew in each month of 2014, the number of Technicians and Generals – and of licensees overall – faltered a bit last July and September. Last year's overall upward trend quickly recovered, however, during the final quarter of 2014. The General population also dipped briefly in May 2014, before rebounding.

Somma believes the July and September dips may have been a result of applicants' adjusting to the new Technician question pool that went into effect last July 1. "We always expect an adjustment period when a new question pool is introduced to the public, as VEs, teachers, and candidates must prepare new study and exam materials," she said, calling the dips "a normal part of the question pool cycle."

Technician licensees comprise a little less than one-half of the US Amateur Radio population. As of December 31, some 51,000 Advanced and 12,000 Novice licensees remained in the FCC database. The FCC no longer issues Advanced and Novice licenses, and their numbers continue to decline.

Once again, California far and away was home to the largest number of licensees among the 50 states, with 102,806 at the end of February. Texas was a distant second, with 51,022, Florida came in third, with 40,743, Washington was fourth, with 30,511, and Ohio was fifth at 28,256. With the exception of Ohio, the licensing trend in these states has been through the roof. In Ohio, ham radio numbers have begun to flag after holding steady for about the past 4

years.

The state with the fewest number of Amateur Radio licensees in 2014 was North Dakota, with 1477, but in an overall upward trajectory since around 2009. Others with small ham populations include Delaware (1715 and growing), Rhode Island (1926 and drooping), Wyoming (1868 and headed up), and Vermont (2101 and slipping after a bump in 2013 and 2014). The numbers may go a long way toward explaining why these are rare multipliers in the ARRL November Sweepstakes and other events.

This continues to be great news for our hobby !

### ... HOLIDAY PARADE ...

Our last scheduled public service event of the year is of course the annual Massillon Holiday Parade. This year's parade is on Saturday, November 21st and we normally need about 20 volunteers to assist with parade staging, Cable TV, logistical support and general communications for the 80 plus units that generally make up this annual Massillon holiday tradition. The club has been a part of this parade for over 41 years making it one of the longest public service events handled by the club.

As in previous years we expect to have the club's EComm Trailer as one of the parade units to remind area residents of our continued support of our community. Club member Perry Ballinger, W8AU is communications coordinator for the parade again this year and is looking for volunteers to joins us on parade day. A sign up sheet will be passed out at the November meeting. Please consider volunteering to help with this event. It's a great way to get in the holiday spirit by welcoming Santa Claus to town. Don't forget we normally get together after the parade at one of our local restaurant's for a late breakfast or early lunch.

If you don't make the club meeting contact Perry directly at (330) 832-8612 or by email to [w8au@sssnet.com](mailto:w8au@sssnet.com). We will gather downtown around 8:30 AM to deco-

rate the trailer and begin assembling parade units. Communications will take place on 2 meters either simplex or the club's 147.18 or our 442.85 UHF Repeater. Don't forget your handheld set to the proper PL Tone and come on downtown to enjoy a great holiday parade !

### ... CONTEST TIME ...

Speaking of contesting, November is a big month for some amateur contests. The ARRL will again sponsor November Sweepstakes. This year marks the 82nd year this event and will give you the chance to take part in this long running operating event. The CW portion will take place November 7 - 9, the phone portion will be the weekend of the 21 - 23rd. Full details are in QST or and are posted on the League's website. Sweepstakes is known as the premier contest in the US and Canada. The event draws amateurs from all levels, from hard-core competitors to casual participants. If international DX is your desire then the CQ WW CW DX contest is on the weekend of Nov 28 - 29th. Complete details on their contests are available on their website at [www.cqww.com](http://www.cqww.com).

Fall can be a good time to get back into some operating and contests can be a fun way to brush up on the old operating skills!

### .... FT WAYNE HAMFEST ....

The Ft Wayne hamfest will be on the weekend of November 14 - 15 at the Allen County Coliseum in Ft Wayne, Indiana.

This hamfest comes nearly six months to the day after the mighty Dayton Hamvention and is a great way to end out the 2015 hamfest season. At over 900 tables and over 100,000 square feet of exhibitor space, it is a really nice hamfest. It has continued to downsize but still has lots of great stuff on display. It still will include several forums, exhibits including commercial vendors and

dealers offering Alinco, Ameritron, MFJ, Yeasu plus many others.

Hours are 9 AM till 4 PM on Saturday and from 9 AM till 3 PM on Sunday. Admission is \$6.00 per person but is good for both days or just \$4.00 on Sunday. A full 2 page flyer is available on their website at [www.acarts.com](http://www.acarts.com) or use [www.fortwaynehamfest.com](http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com).

I have been a regular attendee at this hamfest for many years when our local Holiday Parade schedule worked out for us. I hope some of us can attend again this year, it always depends on schedules and of course weather can be a factor as well but I've seen us brave the trip on some pretty nasty days.

If you haven't made a hamfest in a while consider a trip this year to Indiana's largest ham radio, computer & electronics flea market !

That's it for this month.  
See you at the meeting !

73's  
Terry - N8ATZ

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## ARRL NEWS

### The ARES E-Letter

#### Published by the American Radio Relay League

October 21, 2015 Editor: Rick Palm, K1CE <[k1ce@arrl.net](mailto:k1ce@arrl.net)>

ARRL President Congratulates Hurricane Watch Net on its 50th Anniversary <<http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-president-congratulates-hurricane-watch-net-on-its-50th-anniversary>> (10/7/2015);

Hurricane Watch Net Stands Down, Reactivates as Joaquin Nears Bermuda <<http://www.arrl.org/news/hurricane-watch-net-stands-down-reactivates-as-joaquin-nears-bermuda>>

(10/4/2015); ARRL Invites Nominations For 2015 International Humanitarian Award <<http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-invites-nominations-for-2015-international-humanitarian-award>> (10/2/2015);

FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate, KK4INZ, Visits WX4NHC <<http://www.arrl.org/news/fema-administrator-craig-fugate-kk4inz-visits-wx4nhc>> (10/2/2015)

#### ARRL "Science and Skill in Service" Report a Must Read

While directed at lawmakers at all levels to advocate for Amateur Radio, the 2015 ARRL publication Amateur Radio: Science and Skill in Service to Your Community is also a good read for the ARES community: the 12-page report provides a summary of major ARES and other groups' operations for incidents and events throughout the regions of the country over the past couple of years. A product of the League's regulatory and advocacy staff, the report shows graphically how Amateur Radio has benefited the United States through public service, disaster response, and partnering with other served agencies. The report will lend even the most grizzled veteran operator pride in what we all do. Click here: <<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Advocacy/AR-Science-And-Skill-2015-V2.pdf>> for the report - don't miss it!

#### MARS Exercise to Simulate a Coronal Mass Ejection; Amateurs Invited to Participate

Beginning the week of November 8, 2015, the Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS) will participate in a quarterly contingency HF exercise in support of the Department of Defense. The exercise scenario will simulate a Coronal Mass Ejection (CME) event and focus on actions that radio operators should take prior to and following such an event.

[Coronal mass ejections (or CMEs) are huge bubbles of gas threaded with magnetic field lines that are ejected from the Sun over the course of several hours. Coronal Mass Ejections disrupt the flow of the solar wind and produce disturbances that strike the Earth with sometimes catastrophic results. More on CMEs

here <<http://solarscience.msfc.nasa.gov/CMEs.shtml>>. - source NASA.] Training objectives for this exercise will include:

Understanding what a CME is and how much forecast lead time can be expected prior to the CME.

What effects are associated with a CME and what precautions should radio operators take prior to the CME to protect equipment.

Following the CME, operators will begin assessing the effects and begin reporting this information.

Interoperability with Amateur Radio operators and groups.

Amateur Radio operators, ARES and RACES members are encouraged to participate in this exercise. If interested in participating, click here <[mars.exercises@gmail.com](mailto:mars.exercises@gmail.com)> to register. -- Paul English, NETCOM Land Mobile Radio Manager, Army MARS Program Manager

#### New Ohio ECs Learn from Veterans at ARES Leadership Conference

Twenty new members of the ARRL Ohio Section ARES leadership team spent a day learning from senior leaders about their new responsibilities.

The class was conducted at the Franklin County Emergency Management office in Columbus. Freshmen county Emergency Coordinators (EC) and Assistant ECs heard from Ohio Section Manager Scott Yonally, N8SY, Section Emergency Coordinator Stan Broadway, N8BHL, Northeast Ohio District 10 EC Eric Jessen, N8AUC, and Dayton area District 3 EC Robert Rhoades, KC8WHK.

When a new EC is appointed, the appointee receives a manual from ARRL HQ covering their new responsibilities in leading a county ARES program. "We wanted to supplement the ARRL training materials with a conversational learning environment where we could put 'real life' into their understanding of their leadership tasks," said SEC Broadway.

Speakers at the day-long session brought considerable credentials, experience and expertise to the podium. Rhoades has an extensive background in the fire service and Fire Marshall's office, the Ohio Health Department and is an instructor at the national training centers in Emmitsburg, Maryland. Jessen drew from a large city history of events and interaction with major served agencies. Section Manager Yonally and SEC Broadway share extensive backgrounds in emergency services and planning.

Broadway launched the day session with an overview of ARES from its historical roots to its current organization in Ohio. The main concept for session attendees to learn is that the EC is the lead representative of ARES in his county; knowing his jurisdiction and being able to establish and maintain relationships with local partner agencies are missions-critical. The District ECs and SEC are appointed to support the EC, reinforcing the EC's ability to serve the agencies and the public. The session also covered the importance of specific job duties including filing monthly re-

ports.

Section Manager Yonally had just returned from a week of training at ARRL Headquarters in Newington, Connecticut, where he was presented with training and information on Field Organization and ARES policies and procedures. He related this knowledge and lessons he has learned through personal experience to the group.

SEC Broadway discussed how to establish and maintain a solid working relationship with the EMA Director, and other served agency leaders.

Jessen advised "Never write a check they can't cash," which resonated with the group. Other discussion ranged from the importance of presenting a professional image and what it takes to be accepted into the inner circle of leaders at the EMA office.

Rhodes brought to the session discussion table his wealth of experience in building exercises, describing the different types of exercises, and what goes into creating a proper Master Scenario Events List (MSEL).

[An MSEL documents the timetable of events and injects (eg, test events and messages) that guide exercise progress. It links simulation to action promoting the best exercise experience for players, and lists prompts for players to execute a policy or procedure to be tested. An MSEL lists scenario times, the exercise scenario and summary, expected responses by players for injects, and has a notes section for controllers and evaluators to compare exercise actual versus planned outcomes. - ed.]

Broadway discussed emergency planning with the attendees, outlining the Ohio Section Emergency Response Plan (OSERP) and how it can be adapted to specific county situations and needs. ECs were advised to talk with their EMA Directors about what Broadway calls the "Ten Worst Headaches" list - an outline of potential problems with the ARES/EMA relationship and possible solutions. The goal is a good working relationship, leading to the overall integration of ARES as a valid emergency resource.

One of the top concerns for many county ARES programs is retention, keeping volunteers interested and active. Towards this goal, Broadway suggested holding training sessions conducted by instructors/officials from county served agencies covering topics such as light SAR (search and rescue), First Aid/CPR, anti-terrorism, damage assessment, Red Cross shelter operations, the CERT program, and evolving data modes.

Attendees received the session enthusiastically, with their post-session evaluation form comments affirming their interest in putting lessons learned into practice back in their home county ARES programs. - Stan Broadway, N8BHL, Ohio Section Emergency Coordinator

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## FEMA's Lessons Learned Information Sharing (LLIS) Program

The Lessons Learned Information Sharing (LLIS) program is part of FEMA's National Preparedness Assessment Division (NPAD). The LLIS program supports its mission by developing and disseminating lessons learned, innovative practices, and other related content for improvement throughout the whole community; analyzing emergency management capabilities in order to identify common areas of strengths or improvements; and developing policy and doctrine. For example, there is a report on an LLIS page under the heading "Innovative Practices," titled "Amateur Radio Volunteers Protect Community Water Supply." The report, dated October 7, 2014, presented how Federal preparedness grants support Colorado's structured partnership with ARES, "which assists in establishing and maintaining emergency communications during disasters."

From the report: "In 2013, Colorado experienced historic rainfall and flooding . . . as part of the response effort, 150 ARES volunteers in Colorado's Northeast Region deployed to assist. When floodwater threatened the electronic controls of a wastewater facility serving a community of 80,000 people, ARES established a microwave network using two grant-funded repeaters and took remote control of the plant. ARES maintained control of the facility for four months -- preventing any wastewater from spilling into the floodwater."

More discussion follows in the report. There are many parts of FEMA's LLIS resources that would be of interest to us as radio amateurs and ARES members. Start by browsing here <<http://www.fema.gov/about-lessons-learned-information-sharing>>.

## Hail, Fire, Smoke, Snow Challenge Communicators Supporting Yellowstone Bike Tour

On August 22, 2015, 350 bicyclists and more than 200 support crew covered a 500-mile, 7-day bike tour of Yellowstone National Park. A hail storm on day two blanketed base camp, and a snowstorm on day 3 stranded 55 bikes at the 11,000 foot level. Adding to these challenges were grizzly bears, wild land fire and smoke, and ice-covered tents. A communications collapse during a 24-hour period mid-week resulting in no cellphone coverage, no Internet access, and no landline phone coverage, provided another insult.

This was the third year of the Cycle Greater Yellowstone Bike Tour <<http://cyclegreateryellowstone.com/>> event, with radio amateurs supporting it for all three years. The ride features a different area around Yellowstone National Park (YNP) each year - exposing riders to new views of the YNP ecosystem. This year's event brought several "firsts" to the local Amateur Radio community. It was the first time that amateurs from four different radio clubs (separated by hundreds of miles) have worked together. The event is the largest that many of the operators have ever worked. It was the first time operators had to cover forest service and wilderness areas with no cellphone towers, no repeaters, nor civilization/infrastructure. It was also the first time that the current ride organizers worked with Amateur Radio operators.

The week was physically and mentally exhausting with no down-

time for the 34 amateurs. Riders were on the road each day from 7:00 AM until 5:00 PM, but the operators started earlier and didn't stop working until after 10:00 each night. For days three and four, when the riders were in the wilderness areas, Amateur Radio was the only communications service for getting messages in and out of camps, adding stress to operators. Messages were critically important: health/welfare, weather updates on incoming storms, and queries to local hospitals on conditions of injured riders. Operators evacuated at least one rider per day for hypothermia, dehydration, heart and lung issues, and accidents with cattle guards and other cyclists.

Hams were assigned in all SAG (Support and Gear) vans, as shadows to two Course Directors and Course Monitors, and at Rest Stops, Base Camp, and Sweep vehicles.

### Highlights

Days One and Two were shorter, on level ground, providing a good "shakedown cruise" for the challenges to come. The easier starting days allowed the riders and support personnel time for acclimatization to the higher altitudes.

Day Three featured the 31-mile climb to 10,947' Beartooth Pass that divides Montana from Wyoming. Even leaving camp an hour earlier than normal to beat an incoming snowstorm, 55 cold riders had to be evacuated from the mountain. The hams drove a truck to the summit to retrieve the 55 bikes left in the snow. The next morning, all bikes, tents and vehicles wore a thick layer of ice. That night, crew took 2-hour shifts for bear patrol around the perimeter of the cold campground, with each crew member equipped with bear spray and a whistle to summon help -- troublesome bears were present.

Day Four saw riders and operators up and over another pass to Cody, Wyoming, where temperatures were much warmer, but with stronger headwinds. Day Six had more seasonal temperatures, but Day Seven found the riders facing a brutal headwind with colder temps, resulting in more than 100 riders choosing to wait for a bus to transport them to the finish line.

Of the riders that started, more than half had to be sagged-off the course. The last few determined riders did reach the finish line in Red Lodge, Montana.

### Cold Stats

Ham operators involved - 34. Total time invested by radio amateurs --1600 hours. Radios used -- 46 handhelds, 35 mobiles, 12 HF radios, 7 APRS trackers, two mobile digipeaters, 14 FRS radios, and 15 radios on 153.905 MHz for direct communication with medical services. Radios were used by the hams as "High Point Relays" to cover each day's 70-100 mile course. Ten fixed VHF/UHF repeaters were also employed.

Most tactical communications between Ride Vehicles on the course were handled on VHF and UHF simplex car-to-car (with simplex cross-band repeaters set up each day), with fixed mountaintop repeaters used for more distance needs. A team of home-based net control stations monitored communications 14-16 hours each day on VHF repeaters and HF radios as listening posts to provide assistance and back-up communications if needed.

## JINGLE BELLS, JINGLE all the way ...

... in a one-horse sleigh? But let's hold off the snow (or rain ?) until after November 21. OK mother Nature?

Yes, time for our biggest public service (and fun) event of the year—The annual Massillon Christmas Parade. It's close to 50 years now that we have been involved with this event—first as pure radio operators shadowing the Jaycees that sponsored it, to about the last 25 years when we inherited the entire operation .



So fellas and gals, get the sweaters out to wear under your club jackets, charge your Dual band HT batteries, and get ready for some fun. (we can't possibly have two icy, slippery events in a row, can we? ) We will expect some nice dry weather with Temperatures no lower than 40 degrees ..... OK?

Our Emergency Comm Trailer will again be laced with green roping and red bows, and be towed by our smiley faced and waving WA8GXM. (yep just look at the parade replays on cable channel 11. )

Operationally we will look for 22 of our dedicated club members to assist in staging and parade marshalling on the route through downtown. So look for the sign-up sheet at the November meeting and we'll go from there.

The staging of seven sections will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Sixth Street NE from Lincoln Way to Cherry Road. We will monitor 147.18 for volunteer arrivals and use our 442.85 repeater for operations. The parade will start at 10 a.m. and last until 11 a.m.

After completion, section placards retrieved, and trailer restored to normal, we will head for a lunch gathering for some rag-chewing about all the fun we had welcoming Santa and his sleigh to Massillon .

HO—HO—HO... We can't wait ...

## MARC HAMFEST RESULTS

Although we cannot give any financial results at this time (it's just too early, I haven't even tabulated all the final results as yet). However we can give you some results with the full financial results given at the December meeting.

We did experience some reduction in attendance. It was tabulated we had 213 (actual count) Main Prize tickets sold, with about 400 Extra Prize Tickets sold (estimated). We did estimate about 300 people in attendance and we did come near that figure. Perhaps we should go back to making flyers to pass out at other Hamfests. This seemed to work out in our favor in years past. Is the low attendance a "sign of the times"? Are we faced with another "dead horse"? What's your opinion ?

We would like to take this time to THANK the good people at Universal Radio for their generous contributions and support of our hamfest. We have had many people comment on the amount and quality of our door prizes and it is "always" crowded at the Club Table for the final drawing ! You can hear on two meters after the 'fest is over about how some are excited that they won a door prize at the Massillon Hamfest ! And a profound THANK YOU to all Hamfest volunteers who helped with this year's 'fest !



# November 2015

## W8NP Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																		
<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24px; color: #800080;">1</p> <p>BD KC8IHR</p> <p><b>Daylight Savings Time Ends - 0200</b></p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5 kHz, 2000</p> <p>WACOM Hamfest, Washington County Fairgrounds, Washington, PA 724-350-6745</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24px; color: #800080;">2</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24px; color: #800080;">3</p> <p style="color: red;">Election Day</p> <p>Stark County ARES Net on 147.12 at 7:00 PM</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24px; color: #800080;">4</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24px; color: #800080;">5</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24px; color: #800080;">6</p> <p>BD N8LCS</p> <p>Massillon Amateur Radio Club Meeting, Senior Center, Massillon, 2000</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24px; color: #800080;">7</p> <p>Grant ARC Hamfest, CTC: Rodney 937-446-2338, Georgetown, OH</p>																																																		
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Please contact K8INN for updates, changes, or additions.

**MASSILLON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
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