



FEEDBACK



OCTOBER 2003

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OCTOBER MEETING

The meeting for the month of October will be held on October 3, 2003 at 8:00 PM at the Massillon Senior Center.

This is it! It's HAMFEST TIME! On October 26, 2003 with an opening time of 8:00 AM, we will be hosting The 2003 Massillon Amateur Radio Club Hamfest 2003 at the Stark County Fairgrounds. At last month's meeting a few things were discussed concerning which job positions were to be filled and a few volunteered to fill those positions. Still needed are people to help with the Security, Auction, and table setup. Everything begins on Saturday October 25th at around 9:00 AM, volunteers are to meet at the Fairgrounds and begin to set up and label the tables for the Hamfest. As you know this is no easy task so many volunteers are needed to help, the more who help, the quicker we can finish. All electric cords are needed to be run and of course we must set up the E-Com trailer inside the building. This is a main attraction as many visitors from all over "check out" the E-Com trailer. We have received many great comments from other Club's about our Emergency Preparedness efforts.

All personnel who are to help at the Hamfest are requested to be at the Fairgrounds at 5:30 AM (yes that's right, 5:30 AM !!!) to begin helping with the dealer setup. All security personnel are to begin to check dealers for tickets and help them find their tables and whatever else is needed. For some of the larger dealers we opened the rear door and let them just drive in and unload. This seems to have worked in the past so we will continue this until about 7:30 AM when they MUST clear out and we begin to prepare to let in everyone else.

As the sole surviving Stark County Club that still hosts a hamfest, we have a very large tradition to uphold and every member is to be commended that helps make the hamfest a success year after year. We receive many comments during the hamfest both good and bad, but most people who attend say this is "one of the best" and we are working as hard as we can to keep it that way! So everyone come to the 'Fest and have fun! And be sure to attend the meeting on the 3rd and volunteer for the Hamfest 2003!! See ya at the meeting!

- SHORT SKIP -

All this excitement about BPL. I can recall when BPL meant the Brass Pounders League... It'll soon be time to turn our clocks back. While you're at it replace the batteries in your smoke detectors too.

There you have it, another safety tip from Skip !

73 de WB80WM

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MARC MINUTES

September 5,2003

The September Massillon Amateur Radio Club meeting was held at the Massillon Senior Center with 26 members and guests present.

MARC President Rich KA8ZQH opened the meeting at 8:00 P.M. The Pledge of Allegiance was given and a round of introductions was made.

Rich KA8ZQH then asked to suspend reading the August minutes. They were accepted as stated in the FEEDBACK by Don W8DEF and second by John K8LBZ.

MARC Treasurer Anne N8GAF was absent so Vice President Jim WA8GXM gave the financial reports. The first report was on the Safety Break held in August. Thanks to everyone who made it successful. Then he gave the regular report. A motion was made to accept both reports as read by Gene W8KXR and second by Sandra N8TZB.

Jim WA8GXM then gave the correspondence report. He gave a list of upcoming Hamfests. The Findlay Hamfest was also will host the ARRL Great Lakes Convention. There was to be several MARC members to attend this event.

OLD BUSINESS

Dan N8DZM did not have a fox hunt report for this month.

No other old business was presented at this time. Most of the business was combined with Hamfest business being both Old and New Business.

NEW BUSINESS

Jim WA8GXM asked everyone to mark their calendars for 2 Crop Walks in October. The first will be to help Ed WA8DRT with the Fairless district churches on Sunday October 5th. at John Glen Cove on Warmington Rd. The second Crop Walk will help Les K8CP with the Massillon area churches on Sunday October 19th. Volunteers for both events will be needed. The MARC E-COM trailer will be used at both events. If you can help, sign up at the October meeting.

Byron KF8UN gave the DX report.

Gary WC8W gave the results of the VE exams held Aug.30th.

Sandy KC8WPT has a new Tech book she would like to sell, for more information contact her.

Jim WA8GXM said the Hamfest prizes have been ordered.

Egor WB8KEO will be in charge of security this year. Contact him if you can help out.

Sandra N8TZB and Jason KC8LIN will be doing check-ins again this year.

If anyone is interested Anne N8GAF has a few Field Day pins left at \$5.00 each. Also Don W8DEF has a few patches left for \$2.50 each.

Congratulations goes to John K8LBZ for winning the 50-50 for \$9.00.

Minutes by Linda K8MOO
Secretary MARC

OHIO SEC IS SILENT KEY

Date: Wednesday, September 10, 2003 9:29 AM

Larry Rain, WD8IHP, Ohio Section Emergency Coordinator for almost 4 years, became a silent key Tuesday, September 9th, after suffering a massive coronary at his home in Mansfield, Ohio. He was 64. He leaves his wife, Bonnie, N8XLU, and two children.

Before taking Ohio's top emergency coordination job, Larry served his local club, InterCity ARC in Mansfield for more than two decades in every office possible. He was county emergency coordinator, and served for nine years as DEC. During that time Larry also became the driving force in the formulation of the SKYWARN program throughout Northern Ohio.

Before retiring after almost three decades of service, Larry was a professional fire investigator for the City of Mansfield Fire Department and was part of hundreds of arson investigations for the Richland County Sheriff's Department.

"He was just the perfect SEC," said Ohio Section Manager, Joe Phillips, K8QOE, "Because his professional life prepared him well for understanding the dynamics of volunteer communications groups (ham radio) with civil emergency groups. He seasoned this knowledge with great humor and a common touch which earned the respect of all 88 Ohio county emergency groups he supervised and the governmental agencies, both state and local, he worked with."

Larry was appointed SEC on January 2, 2000, and immediately began to fill vacancies in the EC positions throughout Ohio - reducing the vacancies from 24 to eight in a matter of months. He also immediately began making Ohio's traffic nets a major part of the state's emergency response plan. Along with Ohio Single Side Band Net officials, Larry arranged procedures for DECs to call the OSSBN into emergency session when necessary - a major improvement in the Ohio Response Plan.

As the SEC in the state which hosts the Dayton Hamvention, Larry organized the Amateur Radio Emergency Service forum at Hamvention the past three years - always having personators from ARRL Headquarters at Newington. SECs throughout the country knew and respected Larry's work in Ohio.

He was always on the road throughout Ohio in performance of his duties. Just this past weekend, Larry participated in the Great Lakes Division Convention in Findlay.

"He handled leadership with great perspective - always taking his duties seriously but never himself seriously" said SM Phillips, "Everyone working with Larry was always at ease because that was the law Larry wanted it."

THIRTY

ARRL Ohio Section
Section Manager: Joseph J. Phillips, K8QOE
k8qoe@arrl.org

..... THE 2003 GREAT LAKES DIVISION ARRL CONVENTION

Have you ever attended an ARRL Convention ? I did many years ago and with this years convention held in conjunction with the Findlay Hamfest I decided it was time to attend another one. I talked Don - W8DEF into attending with me since I knew Don was planning on going to the hamfest anyway and I wanted some moral support for the Royal Order of Wouff Hong Induction that I signed Don and myself up for.

The convention was actually held on the Saturday before the hamfest at the Findlay Inn & Convention Center in downtown Findlay. The hotel was very nice and at \$ 59.95 for a room with two double beds, it wasnt a bad deal. Registration for the convention which included technical seminars, a banquet and Wouff Hong ceremony came to \$ 49.95 which I thought was a little expensive but this did include a ticket to the hamfest on Sunday.

An ARRL Convention usually means a little something for everyone including radio related seminars just like you find at Dayton Hamvention but on a much smaller scale. This convention had six seminars plus opening & closing remarks by ARRL officials. Don and I decided to attend the FCC seminar by Detroit Field Office Director James Bridgewater who recently became AA8JD. We also sat in on the Ham Radio Club Conference, one on amateur radio direction finding and finally one on ARPS. The seminars were split into two different sessions in two rooms and were all well attended. Both Don and I enjoyed all the seminars, they were just about the right length to keep us from nodding off and included both visual and audible aids.

Several ARRL officials were also in attendance including ARRL President Jim Haynie - W5JBP who hails from Dallas, TX and has the Texas drawl to prove it. Jim gave several opening remarks and was the featured speaker at the Saturday night banquet.

The banquet was also very well attended, I counted about 200 or so in the room. The room layout could have been a little better I think, by the time Don and I stood in line to get a drink the only table left was around a corner out of sight of the speakers platform. They also had a slight problem with the food - they ran out !. I think they forgot one important aspect of a buffet, dont let guests serve themselves. The only choices left for the last table which was the one Don and I had chosen of course, was a few pieces of chicken and some green beans. They did make up another batch of roasted potatoes but by then most people has already eaten. At most banquets I have attended they have a server to control how much everyone

takes for this very reason. It was a minor item but a little irritating for a few of us.

The banquet also included the presentation of several division awards including the 12th Annual Ohio Newsletter Contest. I was hoping our own newsletter would take home the award but alas it wasn't to be. I will congratulate the newsletter of the Pioneer Amateur Radio Fellowship, called the Pioneer Radiator for taking first place. Editor Jesse Wall - KA8YYZ does put together a fine newsletter but I still think our is best !

After the banquet ARRL President Jim Haynie gave a very strong presentation which included some interesting information. Did you know that the League website receives about 500,000 visits every single day ? Thats a staggering number but not when you factor in visits from amateurs around the world nearly 24 hours a day. Don't under estimate the power of the World Wide Web. Our own club website receives about 10 hits a day and is almost up to 6,000 hits since going on-line.

Jim also spoke of the state of the ARRL and Amateur Radio in general. The League is strong thanks to the dedicated membership that support it. Jim explained where member dues go and why it is necessary to raise those dues every so often. Jim is a great public speaker, whose wit and charm was evident during his lively presentation. While I do not completely agree with everything the League does or supports, I am firmly convinced that without them the hobby as we know it would be gone forever. All the great public service efforts by amateurs across the country are vitally important to the preservation of our beloved hobby but not without the driving efforts of the ARRL. Lobbying on behalf of Amateur Radio is part of what the League is dedicated to and it must play an even larger role in the future as commercial interests try to take everything we have worked for since the hobby was established many years ago.

Since this was a Division Convention, it included an induction ceremony of the Royal Order of Wouff Hong. ARRL President Jim Haynie was honored to play the role of the Novice. Let me point out that the entire ceremony was monitored by the SPCA and all animals, including the goat, were not harmed in any way during the proceedings.

In case you dont know the Wouff Hong is a fearsome instrument for the punishment of amateurs who cultivate bad operating habits and was discovered legend says by Hiram Percy Maxim, aka The Old Man who maintained and supported the use of the instrument to discipline those who subscribed to rotten operating practices on out coveted radio bands.

In keeping with the strict ARRL tradition, the ceremony began as the hour approached midnight and the house

lights were dimmed to create the kind of atmosphere you only found in an old Bela Lagosi movie. There were about 50 inductees including Don and I with a cast that included several ARRL Officials including President Jim Haynie, Great Lakes Division Director Jim Weaver - K8JE and Section Manager Joe Phillips - K8QOE.

I would love to describe in detail the course of events leading up to our induction in this most prestigious of Royal Order but Im now sworn to a vow of silence lest I suffer the punishment of the fearsome Wouff Hong !

At the conclusion of the ceremony we all received nice certificates and I will bring it along with me meeting night.

Yes, if you ever get the chance I would encourage attending an ARRL Convention. Seminars, Technical Discussions, rubbing elbows with League officials and of course induction into the Royal Order of Wouff Hong (if you can handle it, that is). It doesnt get any better than this !

**73s till next time
Terry - N8ATZ
ROWH**

..... THE FIRST ANNUAL MARC HAMFEST BANQUET

This year in conjunction with our October Hamfest the club will hold a banquet on Saturday night October 25th. Our special guest for the banquet will be Section Manager Joe Phillips - K8QOE who will commemorate the evening by presenting a certificate to the club celebrating our belated 75th Anniversary.

Attendance is open to all club members and interested persons and will be held at the Home Town Buffet in Belden Village. The address is 4758 Everhard Road NW but sits just behind the Applebees Restaurant on Dressler Avenue. Those attending will be responsible for their own meals. The event will begin at about 6:00 PM.

Come join us as we celebrate our 75th Anniversary and our 43rd year of successful hamfests with Section Manager Joe Phillips and lots of great company.

October Hamfests

October 05

October 5 Sunday Medina Hamfest M2M group
Location: Medina County Career Center – 1101 W.
Liberty St. (State Rout 18) Medina, Ohio 44256

Time: 8AM – 2PM (setup 6am for vendors)
Talk in on 147.030 + PL 141.3
Tickets \$5.00 at door

For more information www.qsl.net/m2m

October 21

The Ashland hamfest has been CANCELED which was to be held on October 21st.

October 26

MASSILLON AMATEUR RADIO HAMFEST
OCTOBER 26TH 2003 43RD HAMFEST

Held at the Stark County Fair Grounds
Admission is \$5.00
Talk in and directions: 147.180 repeater

For more information: Massillon Amateur Radio club's webpage can be found at www.marcradio.org.

Visit www.marcradio.org/hamfest.htm for a hamfest flyer.

October Special Event Station

October 18-19 (Saturday and Sunday)

The Coshocton Amateur Radio club will be operating a special event station for the Coshocton County bell casting ceremony. They will operate on Saturday from 1830 to 2230UTC and Sunday from 1730 to 2230UTC. Frequencies to be used: 7.275, 14.275, 28.450, 146.535 2meter simplex, 147.045 Repeater (No PL). For a certificate please send a SASE to

Coshocton County Amateur Radio Association PO
Box 501 Coshocton, Ohio 43812-0501

The clubs call is W8CCA. The 147.045 repeater is located in Keene a few miles NW of Coshocton.

Amateur Radio Classes:

The Canton Amateur Radio club will be hosting a 12-session General Amateur Radio license course. Classes will be held every Tuesday and Thursday at the Stark County Emergency Operations center in Canton. The EOC is located at 4500 Atlantic Blvd, Rout 62. The classes start on October 14 and will continue until Nov 20, 2003. The cost is \$20.00 per person. The fee covers the cost of the book. If you need more information contact Scott KK8D or visit the Canton Club's website: www.qsl.net/w8al

Here is the Schedule:

Tuesday General theory from 7:00 – 8:00PM and Code from 8:00 – 9:00PM Thursday Just code practice from 7:00 – 8:00PM

FUTURE ARES ACTIVIES FOR SUMMIT COUNTY

If you can help with any of these events please contact Jim K8EIO JamesM3057@aol.com

SATURDAY, October 4 is the traditional Simulated Emergency Test (SET). With all of the other stuff going on for us, I'm not planning any elaborate scenario for Saturday. We will rev up the EOC and check in with the Ohio EMA. I thought, too, we might be able to check out some communications ideas for the RoadRunner Akron Marathon, coming up on 10-11.

SUNDAY, October 5, is the Diabetes Walktoberfest in Down-town Akron. I'll have more details coming on this one.

SATURDAY, October 11, is the RoadRunner Akron Marathon. This is a first for Akron and a first for us. Preliminary plans indicate the need for 75 hams - the biggest ham radio operation I can recall in Summit County. Right now, we're looking at running 3 frequencies - 2 VHF and 1 UHF. If you haven't been able to work with us on any other activities this year, PLEASE, PLEASE make arrangements to be available on the 11th!!

The Summit County ARES website is: www.sumco-ares.org

THANKS TO JASON KC8LIN FOR THE INFO THIS MONTH

Ohio/Penn DX Bulletin

No.627 September 22, 2003

Editor Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW Provided by BARF-80 BBS Cleveland, Ohio Online at 440-237-8208 28.8k-1200 Baud 8/N/

Thanks to the Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society, Northern Ohio DX Association, Ohio/Penn PacketCluster Network, AB5K & the AR TelNet Clusters Network, K1XN & GoList, NC1L, KA2AEV, N2OO, NG3K, W3CF, W3UR & The Daily DX, N4AA & QRZ DX, WA4PGM, AH6HY, K7BV, K8YSE, 9V1SM, DL1EK/ DL7VOA & DX Newsletter, F5NQL & UFT, JG1OWV, JI6KVR & JA-IOTA Islands News, PA3GIO, SM5AQD, SP8QED, SP9FIH, UR3GM, VA3RJ & ICPO and VE3BW for the following DX information.

4W, TIMOR LESTE. Peter, **4W3CW**, was heard this past weekend on 30/20/17/12 meters CW between 1000-1330z. He will be on the air for **one more year**. He works only CW with 100 watts into a vertical. QSL via: Peter McKay, UNMISSET, PO Box 2436, Darwin, NT 0801, Australia.

5R8, MADAGASCAR (IOTA Op). Remember Phil, G3SWH, and his wife are expected to fly to **Ile Sainte Marie (IOTA AF-090)** on **September 22nd** and stay until the **27th**. Phil was active this past week as **5R8HA** on 30/20/17 meters CW. He will use the callsign **5R8HA/p** from IOTA AF-090. Again, activity is expected on 40-10 meters, CW only. Please remember that he is on holiday and not a DXpedition. QSL via G3SWH.

9H, MALTA (Contest/IOTA Op). The Latvia team consisting of Girts/YL2KL, Karl/YL2MD and Andy/YL2GQT will be active from **Gozo Island (EU-023)** as 9H3M during the **CQ/RJ Worldwide DX RTTY Contest (September 27-28th)** as a Multi-Single or Multi-2 entry. QSL via YL2KL. The team will be there from **September 24-30th** and will be active outside of the contest. Look for Girts/YL2KL as **9H3KKL**, Karl/YL2MD as **9H3MMD** and Andy/YL2GQT as **9H3GQT**. Activity will be on all HF bands CW/SSB/RTTY.

9M6, EAST MALAYSIA. Bob, N2OO, will once again be operating from the Hillview Gardens Resort station <http://www.qsl.net/9m6aac/> from **October 19th through November 13th** as **9M6OO**. QSL via N2OO. Visit Bob's, N2OO/9M6OO, homepage at: <http://www.qsl.net/n2oo/> Check out the 9M6AAC/9M6A Web page at: <http://www.qsl.net/9m6aac/>

9N, NEPAL. Janusz, SP9FIH, informs OPDX that he will probably be in Nepal from **November 15th to December 5th**. He expects to only be active on the bands between 20-12 meters because the cost of the amateur radio licence is rather high (about 50 USD per band and 100W transmitter). He will try to concentrate on U.S. propagation as he knows it is a difficult area for U.S. amateurs. Janusz is looking for any advice on what bands and at what times he should operate from during this time of the year (Is there a long path route?). Suggestions are welcome, E-mail to: sp9fih@poczta.onet.pl

9Y4, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. Ben, DL6FBL, will be active as **9Y4TBG** in the **CQ World Wide DX SSB Contest (October 25-26th)** as a Single-Op/All Band/ High Power entry. Antennas to be used are: 10/15/20m (two Tribanders), 40m (2-element beam) and 80/160m (Titanex Vertical, K9AY Loop). QSL via DL4MDO. His web page for this operation is at: <http://www.dl6fbl.de/9y4tbg/>

A5, BHUTAN. Hawk, SM5AQD, informs OPDX that he and Pelle, SM7EHU, would be active from A52-land between **September 25th and October 2nd**. Callsigns and their plans of activity/operations were not provided. QSL via SM7EHU.

BQ9P, PRATAS ISLAND. The Chinese Taipei Amateur Radio League (CTARL) is planning to head back to Pratas Island during an upcoming freight schedule arrangement for Pratas Island, **October 7-16th**. Updated operator list so far is: BV4FH, BV3BW, BV3FG, JI6KVR, DL3DXX, DK7YY, ZL4PO, OE1WHC and N2OO. They plan to have two stations on the low bands, which will be the focus of DL3DXX and DK7YY. Concentration will also be made on the WARC bands and SSTV. Paul, BV4FH, and team are looking for BQ9P DXpedition sponsors and pilot stations. If you can help, please contact JI6KVR at: ji6kvr@orange.ocn.ne.jp Lee, ZL2AL, is the pilot station for the ZL/VK area. The BQ9P Web site is at: <http://www3.ocn.ne.jp/~iota/newpage64.htm>

DXCC NEWS. Bill Moore, NC1L, ARRL DXCC Manager, announced that the following operation is approved for DXCC credit:

- **IRAQ - YI1BGD** - This operation was on hold for DXCC credit from March 18, 2003 and after. Anyone who had this rejected should contact DXCC at <dxcc@arrl.org> to have their record updated.

EY8, TAJUKISTAN. Nodir, **EY8MM**, expects to be active in the **CQ World Wide DX SSB Contest (October 25-26th)** as a Single-Op/Single Band (80m) entry. QSL via K1BV.

FK, NEW CALEDONIA. Akira, JE4WKR, will be active as **FK/JE4WKR** from **September 23-26th** from **Ile de Pins (OC-032)**. Activity will be on 40-10 meters CW/SSB. QSL via the bureau to his home callsign or direct to: Akira Yasumoto, 1-56, Asahihonmachi, Okayama, 700-0865 JAPAN.

FO/A, AUSTRAL ISLANDS. Operaors Richard/DJ4OI, Andreas/DL3GA, Markus/ DL1IAN, and Joachim/DF6IC are now active as **FO/homecall** from **Tubuai (OC-152)** until **October 3rd**. Activity has been mainly CW/SSB but look for RTTY and digital modes. Their expected activity should be on 80-6 meters including the WARC bands. QSL via their home callsign, bureau or direct.

FS, ST. MARTIN. Operators David/K3LP (leader), Larry/N7DD and Clint/W3ARS will head to St. Martin and arrive **November 14th**. They plan to install antennas and operate as **FS/K3LP** in the **CQWW CW Contest** as a Multi-Single entry. QSL via K5KV. Outside of the contest, look for them to sign **FS/K3LP** (David), **FS/N7DD** (Larry), and **FS/W3ARS**. They will return home in **December**.

HR6, HONDURAS. Joe, VE3BW, has informed OPDX that he has changed his plans for the **CQWW SSB Contest** and will not be going to St. Kitts (V4). Instead, he will be operating from **Roatan, Honduras, from October 19th to November 2nd as VE3BW/HR6**. His activity will be on 160-6 meters CW prior to contest. Peter, VA3WET, will also be joining him and when they are not diving, they will be active on the bands. QSL to their home call signs.

QSL INFO AND NEWS.....

- Ron Lago, AC7DX, would like to tell the Ham community that he has found the following OLD logs and will try to confirm all old requests. Some logs are partial logs, some barely readable. Not all blank QSL cards have been found, but he will reprint the ones he does not have. These are all hand written logs and in disarray. Please allow him time to search through these by hand to find your call. Please send your request direct with return envelope and postage to: AC7DX, POB 25426, Eugene, Oregon 97402. Here is the list he has provided:

	VK0HM	Heard Is.		VU2ACD
JT1AN		1978-80		
	VQ9CQ			XW8FA
C21BD				
	VQ9SS			ZK2VE Niue
T30W		1994		
	VR1BD	1979		KC6VE 1995
T30AC				
	VR1PK	1979		KC6HA
4B9CQ				
	VR1AY	1979		KP4AM 1979-
81		XB9Z 1992		
	VP8AWU	1994		HL9MM
3D2WM				
	V31UN			HL9KLT
XH9Z		1993		

SPECIAL EVENT. During the month of **October**, look for special event station, **HF8JP**, to be active to celebrate the **25 years of Pope John Paul II pontificate**. The station will be active on 80-2 meters CW/SSB and the digital modes. A special QSL will be available via SP8QED (direct or via the bureau).

V26, ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA. "Team Antigua" will once again activate **V26B** on the Beautiful Island Nation of Antigua and Barbuda in the 2003 running of the **CQWW SSB Contest** on **October 24-25th**. Their plans are to enter the Multi-Operator/Two-Transmitter category. Members of "Team Antigua" will also make special attempts to be active on RTTY, PSK31, 160 meters and the WARC bands a few days both before and after the contest. There is also a possibility of some 6 meter operations with conditions permitting. Their Grid Square is FK-97 and IOTA Number is NA-100. Operators will make their presence felt on all bands starting on or about **October 22th** until about **November 2nd**. The members of "Team Antigua" and their call signs are:

- V26B** - Sam/WT3Q, QSL via WT3Q

- V26EW** - Ed/N2ED, QSL via N2ED
- V26OC** - Brian/N3OC, QSL via N3OC
- V26R** - Mike/KA2AEV, QSL via KA2AEV
- V26U** - Bill/W2UDT, QSL via W2UDT

Also, a few new members will be announced later with their QSL routes when their Antigian Callsigns become finalized. For a complete station description (with photographs and rate charts) of The Team Antigua, V26B, Superstation, please visit their Web page at: <http://www.frc-contest.org/> (Click on the DXpeditions page and then the Team Antigua, V26B Link!)

V26, ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA. Operators Doug/W3CF, John/WX0B, Sharon/N5CK, Irwin/KD3TB, Andrew/KD3RF, Heinz/DL2BO and Sigmond/KM9M will activate the Royal Antigian Radio Club Station, **V26DX**, as a Multi/2 Low Power entry for the **CQWW Phone Contest**. Operators begin activity **October 19th**, and the last one out is **November 1st**. QSL all V26DX QSOs via KU9C with appropriate return postage and self addressed envelope or via the bureau. QSL individual ops via on air instructions. Their planned activity will be on 6 meters and the WARC bands before and after the contest. ADDED NOTES: A "Top Gun" plaque will be given to the first single op station to work them on 6 bands. "Top Gun" T-Shirts will be awarded to the top 9 fastest 6 band single op Q's after that. Their antennas will include: Force 12 C4 yagi at 120', Optibeam 12-6 at 120', home brew - bent up 6 meter yagi at 120' and a 270' wire terminated over a salt pond @ 120'. Last year's pictures are available at: <http://w3cf.com>

VP9, BERMUDA. Sasi, VU3SNM/9V1SM, will be active from Bermuda's **Biological Station for Research, October 18-27th**. Look for **VU3SNM/VP9** on 20-6 meters, PSK31 and SSB. Since this is a work related trip, most of the operations will be confined to a few hours in the evenings. QSL to his Manager Joe, W3HMK.

VP9, BERMUDA (Update/Postponed). Due to the result of the damage caused by the hurricane Fabian, Bert, PA3GIO, will now be active as **PA3GIO/VP9** from Bermuda (**NA-005**), **November 8-18th** (not September 18-28th as first planned). He will operate from the QTH of Ed, VP9GE, and will be active on 80/40/20/17/15/12/10 meters SSB. QSL via PA3GIO, preferably through the bureau (E-mail requests for bureau cards will be welcome at: qsl@pa3gio.nl The Web page for the operation is at: <http://www.pa3gio.nl/VP9/>

XU, CAMBODIA. Hubert, **XU7ACI**, can sometimes be found on 15/20 meters SSB between 1300-1500z. He is currently working as a missionary in **Phnom Penh** for the next two years. QSL via KB8TJP.

YA, AFGHANISTAN. Masa, JG1OWV, informs OPDX that Sada, JA1AKF (not JA1AHF as listed in OPDX.626), signing **YA1D** from **Kabul**, is now active on SSTV and PSK with the help of YA1PBV. Look for low band operations to take place after November (Masa will keep us informed). Also, the club station, **YA0J**, was active on **September 11th** with guest operators as a memorial. QSL for YA1D and YA0J is via JG1OWV. Masa states that YA1D QSL should be in the mail this week.

ZK3, TOKELAU ISLANDS. Willie, DJ7RJ, is now active as

ZK3MW. Over the past weekend he has been very active on 30/12 meters CW with some 15 meters SSB (with a good signal). He is expected to be there **until September 28th**. QSL via DJ7RJ.

ZK1, SOUTH COOK ISLANDS. Allen, K6USN, was expected to be active as **ZK1USN** from **Rarotonga Island (OC-013)** this past week, but there were no QSNs reported. By the time you read this, he is expected to activate **Aitutaki Island (OC-083)** next for nine days. Activity will be on 40-10 meters CW/SSB. QSL via K6USN.

ZL, NEW ZEALAND. Sasi, 9V1SM (VU3SNM), will be active as **ZL/9V1SM/P** from the QTHs of **Christchurch** and **Auckland**. His operation should commence on **September 27th** and ends on **October 4th**. Activity will be on 20-6 meters, PSK31 and SSB. QSL to his Manager, Joe, W3HMK.

You Know You're a Ham if :

- you buy electrical black tape in ten packs.
- you've stripped wire with your teeth.
- you've told your son that, "One day, all this will be yours", and he doesn't respond.
- you'd rather help a buddy put up a new tower than mow the lawn.
- you've grabbed the wrong end of a soldering iron.
- you start giving out RST reports when you are on the telephone.
- the propagation forecast means far more to you than the local weather forecast.
- the microphone or visual aids at a meeting don't work and you rush up to the front to fix it.
- you tell the XYL, when she notices a new rig in the shack, why that has been there for years.
- your watch is set only to UTC.
- at night, when you pray, it starts off something like: CQ CQ CQ GOD DE (your callsign).
- you ever had to patch your roof after an antenna project.
- Ham radio magazines comprise more than 50% of your bathroom library.
- you ever put a GPS tracker in the XYL's car, just so you could watch her on APRS.
- you and the XYL took a cruise so you could visit the radio room.
- you ever tapped out HI in Morse on your car horn to another ham.
- you ever had an antenna fall down.
- your teenager refuses to ride in your car because it looks like a porcupine.
- you know the Latitude and Longitude of your home QTH.
- you go into the local Radio Shack store and the clerk asks you where something is.

Thanks to Dennis N8UDL for sending us this humor!

TAPPAN LAKE ISLAND REPORT

On August 9-10, Byron Berger (KF8UN) and Sandy Muirhead-Gould (KC8WTP) left Canton about dawn and headed for Tappan Lake to begin an island expedition.

They arrived at the Tappan Lake Marina about 8 AM where they made arrangements to get to the camping area. They spent the next hour clearing an old gravel road cluttered by large fallen trees and limbs. While Sandy set up camp, Byron assembled the R-7 antenna and ran a 150 ft coax cable to the point of the island. Because it took so long to time to complete the set-up, Sandy operated mobile. Lunch was eaten and a few contacts were made before Byron and Sandy took a short nature/botany walk. They explored the island while at the same time attempting to avoid the ubiquitous poison ivy. That evening, propagation still did not improve substantially, but thanks to an European CW contest, some DX was worked.

Propagation was fair on 40 meters and the HHH net (7235) was checked into for about an hour at 7:00 z, making several contacts. They went QRT sooner than expected. Plans are to return to Tappan Lake Island as a mobile operation on September 20 and 21 to put the island out again on 20 and 40 meters including the HHH net. They plan to operate for only a few hours that evening and early morning from the highway pull off on Route 250.

On Sunday morning, they arose at 7AM and made a few additional contacts before they disassembled the antenna and packed up the camping gear. Byron and Sandy made a few more contacts mobile using the mini bugcatcher and left the island around 11 am on August 10th. In all, Byron and Sandy were able to reach 17 states and 8 foreign countries, including Eastern Europe and Hawaii. Tappan Lake island is now registered officially US Island with the U.S. Islands Program as OH048L.

(Ed note: Regretfully, this story was submitted too late for publication in last month's Feedback but is important enough to be included in this month's Feedback. Congratulations to Sandy & Byron for the fine effort!)

Picture on the right, Byron "admires" the verticle antenna and notice the wilderness and the beauty of Tappan Lake in the background!



October 2003

Monthly Planner

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Please contact KA8ZQH to add,delete or change Calendar