

# FEEDBACK

**VOLUME 62 ISSUE 10**

**OCTOBER 2017**

## MASSILLON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OFFICERS

### PRESIDENT

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

**WEST STARK INFO NET Fri-  
days 8:00 PM 147.180 MHz  
(except 1st Friday of month)**

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## OCTOBER MEETING

The meeting for the month of October will be held on October 6th, 2017 at the Affinity Hospital Conference room # 1 **at 7:30 PM (October and November ONLY)** ! The doors should be open at 7:00 PM as usual.

We will go over the events of the Swiss Festival that was held on September 29th and 30th, 2017. With good weather this event can turn out to be our biggest fund raiser of the year. So we will need as many volunteers as we can get. It is not a very hard task to do we just have to park cars and collect the money for this but it needs people to stay for at least a shift (about 6 hours). Many of our members stay the entire day and they are to be commended !

Our second fund raiser of the year comes on the heels of the Swiss Festival — the MARC Hamfest which comes about one month later, this year on October 29th with set up on Saturday the 28th starting around 9:00 AM. Please plan on attending the set up and of course the Hamfest itself. We will have the event again this year at the Massillon Boys and Girls Club , located on Duncan street in Massillon. Plan on being there at 5:00 to open up for vendors and the general public at 8:00 AM. Much is to be done in those short 3 hours and your help is really needed ! See you there !!

## OCTOBER PROGRAM

The scheduled program for the month of October will be officially labeled as —Open—. So that means we will have an eyeball QSO, unless our Vice President has something else in mind! I guess we will have to “wait and see” !

While I have the “empty” space here in the newsletter I guess this will have to come up sooner or later. I haven’t talked with other Officers of the club to see if they want to retain their seats but I know for sure Fred , KD8SMO is looking for someone to replace him as Secretary . Whether the other 3 officers want to stay, I don’t know but we should be thinking about replacing them, if they so wish. Officers now can hold their office for multiple years, or not, it is their choice. To become an officer in the club, you must be a member in good standing for at least.2 years and be 21 years of age and hold at least a Technician Class License. We have quite a few members in the club who qualify. So think about it and volunteer when asked. None of the positions require a whole lot of your time , but the Secretary position does require submission of the meeting minutes to the editor. So you will need a computer and internet. . To become an Officer in the MARC is quite an honor !

## MARC Minutes September 1, 2017

### REMINDER: OCTOBER MEETING STARTS AT 7:30PM

Tony KD8UXK called the meeting to order at 8:00 PM. After the Pledge of Allegiance, there was a roll call with 25 people present. We had 2 guests; Paul KG7IRJ and Will Shaffer. Paul and Will were at our last meeting as well. Welcome!

#### **Secretary's report for August:**

Tony asked for a motion to accept last month's Secretary's minutes as published in the newsletter. First Ken K8WAY, second Don W8DEF. Motion passed

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

Mike KB8OTK then gave a detailed report of club finances. There were no extraordinary items this month. A motion to accept was made by Gary W8CW and seconded by Jim WA8GXM. Motion passed.

#### **Vice Present's Report:**

Perry W8AU was not available, so Terry N8ATZ filled in. There were newsletters from the Canton club and Lake Erie ARA at the table for those interested. The Canton club will be holding a training session for Technician Class in September, but at this time we didn't have the details yet. There are two hamfests that might be of interest: the Findlay Hamfest will be held Sunday Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> (<http://www.findlayradioclub.org>), and the Cleveland Hamfest will be Sunday Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> (<http://www.hac.org>). Terry reminded everyone that the Swiss Festival will be held Friday and Saturday, Sept 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. We will be responsible for two locations this year, and we need MANY volunteers. A sign-up sheet was passed around.

#### **Committee Reports:**

There were no committee reports presented this month.

#### **Old Business:**

Gary W8CW gave the results for Field Day. For contacts we had 322 CW, 13 digital and 372 Phone. We also received 900 extra points for low power, generator power etc. In total we received 2984 points, which was a big improvement over last year. Terry gave an update about the hamfest. Everything is pretty much on schedule. Robert AC8GE will again help us with postcard mailing. Prizes have been determined, and will be a Yeasu FT-70, an MFJ-993B tuner, and Yaesu 8900 Quad-band HT. A lot of discussion followed about having a place on hamfest tickets for people to enter their e-mail addresses. Gary WC8W will order the tickets, and see about adding a line for e-mail address if practical. There was also a lot of discussion about people walking in the back door without paying. There wasn't any good, practical way to prevent this that came up, but if we have enough volunteers to man the doors, perhaps the incidence of this can be reduced. Don W8DEF mentioned that the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary patches have arrived, and he was selling them 2 for \$5 at his table. Quite a few have already been sold.

#### **New Business:**

Jim WA8GXM presented a motion to purchase a Yeasu 991A for the trailer. The motion was seconded by Don W8DEF. The motion passed. This radio will bring the club more in tune with modern technology, and could be used not only in the trailer, but for portable operations. In addition, it is compatible with the digital modes available on our repeater. Tony gave an update and some information about the Swiss Festival. Most of the instructions are the same as last year, especially in connection with Friday parking at Superb Industry lot. Tony also has gift certificates for Walnut Creek Foods for the volunteers for a free lunch. Again, we need a lot of volunteers. Help out if you possibly can.

The program for tonight was "Show and Tell". There were a few homemade CW keys, some equipment, and Ted K8TWA presented his beautiful workmanship on his GOTO box. Very nice radio station with a lot of nice capabilities, all fitted into a surplus ammo box.

Terry mentioned that program for next month will be a review of the Pitcairn Island DXpedition.

With all business concluded, Tony asked for a motion to adjourn. First Ken K8WAY, second Don W8DEA. Motion passed.

The 50:50 raffle was won by Lori KE8EHF who generously donated the proceeds back to the club. Thank you Lori!

Submitted by Fred KD8SMO

## ... HAMFEST DETAILS ...

**H**amfest details are in full swing. At this month's meeting we need to fill all the normal hamfest positions - table reservations; ticket sales; prizes; security; club table; auction; mobile checkins; etc. These are important jobs that are needed for a successful hamfest. This is a total club participation event, we need everyone's help, not just a few volunteers. If not, it's time to get out of the hamfest business !

Our main mailing will be similar this year as we will be mailing post cards out and not full size flyers as in the past. This will cut costs for us. The October issue of QST has the club hamfest notification and I expect table reservations to begin filling up soon.. Also the League has once again donated four very nice gift certificates to use as main / door prizes. Main prizes should be on order and maybe we will get a few donated door prizes as well that's to Universal Radio !

As always, we need volunteers to help with table setup on Saturday, October 28nd around 9:00 - 9:30 AM.

Final details will be worked out at the October club meeting. Please join us for both the meeting and of course we hope to see you all on Hamfest Sunday !

## ... FALL IS HERE ! ...

As I work on my column for this month, I realize that it's almost Autumn. The day's are shorter and the nights longer. The weather is cooler and the trees are changing already.

So what does all this mean to radio operators? For me, it means more time to devote to our hobby. It also means more time for my other favorite activity, project building. And let's not forget about antennas. No matter what they say, I prefer to work on my antennas in nice weather. I had some tree trimming done around the house that was way

overdue. That's the good news. My G5RV is broken again and now I don't have any low hanging branches to hold it back up again, that's the bad news!. I hope to try a different type of wire antenna more conducive to my new tree configuration. Maybe an end fed type ? I'm also planning on using my HF vertical for some winter operating.

Regarding projects, I have a few ideas on some digital interfaces that I hope to start on once things settle down, this is still my favorite mode of operating and works well for my low profile station. I want to try one that doesn't require an expensive hardware interface and will work using just your computer soundcard. I have one that I finished during the summer and I'm anxious to try it out this fall & winter season. I don't get a lot of time to operate but I'm going to try again to pursue my Worked All States Digital award.

I'm also about a year behind in the various ham magazines that I would like to catch up on. So while I'm not looking forward to a long snowy winter, I am looking forward to some fun radio time.

That's it for this month. See you at the meeting and especially our Hamfest !

73's  
Terry - N8ATZ



## UNIVERSAL RADIO NEWS

### Universal Radio In Reynoldsburg To Relocate (from The Monday Morning Message)

The Universal Radio store will be relocating in the very near future. The new location will be at 651-B Lakeview Plaza in Worthington. Ralph Howes says the final day at the present location is expected to be on Saturday, October 7th, and they will be opening at the new location on Wednesday, October 11th.

### JOTA 2017 Organizers Urge Scout Stations to Register Now (from ARRL Letter)

Scouting's Jamboree on the Air/Jamboree on the Internet (JOTA/JOTI) event takes place over the October 2022 weekend, and organizers are urging Scout stations planning to participate to register now. The world JOTA/JOTI team has activated its online sign-up system.

"Our number one message at this time is to register their station and get ready for JOTA," JOTA Coordinator Jim Wilson, K5ND, told ARRL. "It's time for Scout groups to bring together their open action items -- ordering patches, printing handouts, gathering equipment, reminding staff members, verifying location, and getting the word out to the Scouts to be prepared for a fabulous experience talking with other Scouts across the country and hopefully around the world."

JOTA is the world's largest Scouting event, held annually over the third full weekend in October, and Scouts of any age can participate -- from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts and Venturers, male and female. During JOTA, Amateur Radio links Scouts with other Scouts and hams, locally and worldwide. Since the first JOTA in 1958, millions of Scouts have met each other through this event to exchange ideas and share experiences via ham radio. Many contacts made during JOTA have resulted in enduring friendships and connections.

According to the World Scout Bureau, the 2016 JOTA had nearly 1.3 million Scout participants from more than 30,000 locations, and reached 156 countries.

The World JOTA-JOTI team has published a Participant's Guide to help Scouts to get on the air and the internet for the largest Scouting event in the world. They've also published a brief history of the 60 years of Jamboree on the Air as well as the Top 10 Challenges and Activities in

2016 that might provide ideas for your event this year. An online scheduling tool is available too.

For participating via EchoLink, two conference nodes now have been designated for Scout contacts -- \*JOTA365\* (node 480809) and \*JAMBO\* (node 832996). Visit the K2BSA Radio Scouting page for more information on frequencies, including D-STAR, DMR, and IRLP.

## FalconSAT-3 Now Open for Amateur Radio Use

09/26/2017

The Air Force Academy satellite [FalconSAT-3](#) is now open for Amateur Radio use as a digital store-and-forward system. Built in 2005 and 2006 by cadets and faculty in the Space Systems Research Center at the US Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, FalconSAT-3 was launched in 2007.



The satellite has completed its scientific and training missions, and the Academy now is making it available for Amateur Radio use. The Packet Bulletin Board System operates at 9,600 baud with a 145.840 MHz up-link/435.103 MHz downlink. Output power is 1 W, and the downlink is continuously on. Digipeating is enabled for live QSOs, but unattended digipeating operation is not authorized at this time.

[Additional information](#) is on the AMSAT website.

( Thanks to ARRL web site )



## ARRL finally realizes status quo isn't going to cut it

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

An item in the July 2017 ARRL board meeting caught my attention. It notes that a committee of staff members was tasked with identifying the challenges facing ARRL and possible solutions. The August 3, 2017 issue of the ARRL Letter ran the following report:

"ARRL Chief Executive Officer Tom Gallagher, NY2RF, presented the report of six Headquarters staffers who had been tasked with identifying the challenges facing ARRL and devising feasible solutions. Specifically, the committee addressed market research findings that have continued to reveal that only a small percentage of new hams join the League, and only about one-half of new hams actually get on the air.

"The committee began with the premise that ARRL must act in order to remain relevant going forward. It proposed instituting a Lifelong Learning Program to focus on developing a clear developmental path for all radio amateurs, from newcomers to established radio amateurs. The committee recommended the creation of new programs and services to increase the knowledge base of newcomers in order to get them active, as well as programs to keep experienced amateurs up to date with changing technology and practice."

The board meeting minutes were a little more detailed:

"Mr. Roderick yielded the floor to CEO Gallagher who presented the report of a committee of staff members tasked with identifying the challenges facing ARRL and possible solutions. The members of the committee - Diane Petrilli, KB1RNF; Norm Fusaro,

W3IZ; Becky Schoenfeld, W1BX; Debra Jah-nke, K1DAJ; Steve Ford, WB8IMY; and Sean Kutzko, KX9X, joined the meeting at 9:20 AM, to present this report. Their findings show the importance to ARRL of getting newly licensed hams actively on the air and how that relates to continued growth of the organization. In order to achieve that goal, the committee proposed developing a lifelong learning department, which would address the needs of all amateurs with the focus being on developing a clear knowledge path for all amateurs. They proposed creating straightforward programs and services to enhance the knowledge base of new amateurs as well as to enhance their sense of community within the hobby.

"Another recommendation involved refocusing the priorities of the emergency preparedness department to address the current trends in public service.

"A third recommendation was to improve the value proposition of membership. The committee proposed doing a survey, which would include test material that is targeted to the interests of newer hams. The content would include a strong emphasis on serving communities, agencies, and partners; digital communications, and human interest. Projects would be simple. The survey would obtain information on new ham's interests and needs in the hobby. The survey would also try to determine the delivery system that might best meet the newcomer's desire for receiving this type information (print, digital, messaging, etc). The test material is proposed to be delivered to recipients in fall 2017.

"From the committee's vantage point, the status quo is no longer adequate: we need to have a vision of the future and convey it to our current membership. If we do not convey the need to change the paradigm, the ARRL's relevancy will not move forward."

The good thing here is that the ARRL finally realizes that there are some serious problems. I've written about these in the past. I've challenged the ARRL to set a membership goal of 25% of the licensed ama-

teurs in the U.S (<http://www.kb6nu.com/arrl-membership-is-25-asking-too-much/>). I've also encouraged the ARRL to play a bigger part in emergency communications research (<http://www.kb6nu.com/go-big-go-early-go-fast-smart/>).

Unfortunately, it appears that the ARRL is approaching this issue in typical ARRL fashion. That is, working on these issues in their little cocoon in Newington and then issuing these statements as if they expect everyone to just fall in line. I quote, "From the committee's vantage point, the status quo is no longer adequate: we need to have a vision of the future and convey it to our current membership." That approach is doomed to failure. Any "visioning" or strategic planning that doesn't get the membership involved right from the start just isn't going to work.

The ARRL HQ staff just doesn't have the horsepower to pull this off properly. The staff is already pretty bare bones, and they still have to publish QST every month, keep Logbook of the World running, process thousands of license applications, etc., etc. The only way this is going to be a fruitful effort is if they get members—and lots of them—involved in this process.

If you agree with me, please let your director know. Contact your director and tell him that you want to be involved. The status quo of having the HQ staff not working with the membership "is no longer adequate." That's how we got here in the first place.

---

Dan, KB6NU, is the author of the "No Nonsense" amateur radio license study guides and blogs about amateur radio at KB6NU.Com. You can email him at [cwgeek@kb6nu.com](mailto:cwgeek@kb6nu.com).

( ED: Another KB6NU Column appears on page 8 of this issue )

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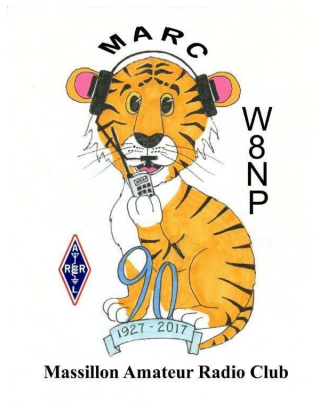


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Hello everyone,

It's that time of the year when the weather is starting to change . Having time to do those outdoor projects is getting shorter , be careful if you're doing any station work .

A lot of us have family and friends that have been affected by the hurricanes that past month , and I've been listening and reading about the lack of communications in the affected areas , that's when we as hams , step in and do our part and fill in those needs .

I've been monitoring emergency communications both on the radio and Echolink , and I can say I'm proud to be a part of a hobby that can help out in times of need . So to those who are involves with any emergency communications , thank you .

The Ohio Swiss Festival is coming up and looking forward to helping out this year. This is a very important fund raiser for the club , I'm glad we are able to once again , do our part , helping with community events such as this . There is no guarantee that we will have the Superb Industry parking for next year , I think if we do a good job , it would be a big influence on their decision for us to be there again next year .

We will also have the club's new radio ( Yaesu FT-991A ) in operation there . We have our Hamfest coming up soon . The October meeting will be focused a lot on the final details .

This past month , my family and I have been taking care of some concerns with my Mom , Stepdad , and also my Father-in law . My Father-in-law has Stage 4 Cancer , and his health is deteriorating rapidly , I'm asking that you keep us in your thoughts and prayers .

Looking forward to seeing those who will be helping at the Swiss Festival, and to see everyone at the October meeting . Don't forget , both the October and November meetings will start at 7:30pm.

73 for now,

**Tony Casebolt**  
**President of MARC**

## HAM? HAM radio? ham radio? Amateur Radio? amateur radio!

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

On the ARRL PR mailing list, we've been discussing the proper way to refer to amateur radio. What brought this up was an email from one list subscriber, Richard, WB6NAH, who was (rightfully) proud of the work that his club—the Skagit Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Club—was doing. He noted that they were even featured in the police department's emergency preparedness brochure:

[[download image from <http://www.kb6nu.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/skagit-arc-768x1024.jpg>]]

As you can see, the brochure refers to "HAM radio" and "HAM radio operators."

Referring to amateur radio in this way just drives me crazy. "Ham radio" is just a nickname for amateur radio, and "HAM" is certainly not an acronym for anything. I congratulated Richard on getting his club included in the brochure, but noted, "...it's not HAM radio! It's either 'amateur radio' or 'ham radio' (ham is not an acronym). I hate to be nitpicky about this, but as a professional writer, this usage just drives me crazy." He replied, "I agree on Amateur Radio, that was the city's call."

That kicked off the discussion.

One ham replied to me privately, "Thank you...I am continually trying to explain that it is not an acronym or abbreviation."

Another replied to the list:

"The most correct term is "amateur radio" or alternatively "ham radio", both written in normal case. If using "ham radio", it is a best practice to first write "amateur (ham) radio" in the first non-header/non-title occurrence.

"Some will write "Amateur Radio" in proper noun format (first letters in caps) and while this may be acceptable to many and in certain venues, anyone using a style handbook will say it is incorrect. Less correct is to write "Ham Radio" in proper noun format as this is a slang term, albeit a

popular one. Of course either term may be written as proper nouns when part of a title or name of an organization.

"Least correct is to write "HAM" in all caps; as stated by others, ham is not an abbreviation or acronym. Writing it as "HAM" is completely wrong, will drive many people bonkers, and should be avoided at all costs."

Ward, N0AX, offered this explanation:

"To clarify where the capitalization originated, there is a long-standing ARRL Board Directive, decades old, stipulating that the words "Amateur Radio" be capitalized in ARRL publications and documents. Most non-amateur publications return it to the lower-case style that is used for non-proper nouns."

One guy got a little miffed that we were wasting our time discussing this at all:

"You know, I've been reading this thread and I think people are getting too hung up on very minor details. The bottom line they got PR. So something wasn't spelled right or capitalized, so what. The message got out and IMHO that's the bottom line. Let's not waste any more bandwidth on this."

I agreed that it was great that they were included in the brochure, and that we were probably beating this topic to death, but I don't think these are minor details. I said that PR professionals pride themselves on getting the details right. So should amateur radio PR people.

I'll give the final word to Dan, AI4GK. He wrote:

"I don't think that standardizing what we call ourselves qualifies as getting hung up on minor details. If we don't have a standardized way of referring to us, how can we expect a public, who already is confused, to understand who we are?"

I don't think that you can argue with this. Let's avoid confusion by using "amateur radio" when writing about our hobby/service. I'd even urge the ARRL to rethink their use of "Amateur Radio." Sometimes, it may be OK to use "ham radio," but it's just not correct to use "HAM radio" or just "HAM."



# October 2017

## W8NP Monthly Planner

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Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5 kHz, 2000		BD K8MOO  Stark County ARES Net on 147.12 at 7:00 PM	BD N8ATZ		Massillon Amateur Radio Club Meeting, Affinity Conference Room 1, 2000	VE Test Session, Portage County ARS, 1000, Ctc.: Robert 330-607-3833, PCARS, Ravenna																																																	
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Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5 kHz, 2000	BD WD8A  <span style="color: red;">Columbus Day (Observed)</span>	BD N8GPC  Stark County ARES Net on 147.12 at 7:00 PM	VE Test Session, Pioneer AR Fellowship, 1830, Ctc: Leonard, 330-608-2267, Firestone Park Community Center		West Stark Info Net - 147.180 at 2000	Parkersburg/ Wood County Hamfest, Ctc Kenneth 304-679-3470, Mineral Wells, WV																																																	
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Kalamazoo HamFest, CTC Don 259-205-3560, Kalamazoo, MI  Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5 kHz, 2000		Stark County ARES Net on 147.12 at 7:00 PM	VE Test Session, Cuyahoga Falls ARC, 1845, Ctc: James, 330-928-8921, Northampton Town Hall, Cuyahoga Falls		West Stark Info Net - 147.180 at 2000																																																		
29	30	31	Upcoming Events: 11/5 WACOM Hamfest  11/18 - 11/19 Fort Wayne Hamfest and Computer Exp  11/18 63nd Annual Massillon Holiday Parade - 10:00 AM																																																				
MARC HAMFEST! Doors Open 8:00 AM, VE Test Session 0900, Ctc.: Terry, 330-837-3091, Massillon Boys & Girls Club  Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5 kHz, 2000		<span style="color: red;">Halloween</span>  Stark County ARES Net on 147.12 at 7:00 PM	<table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">Nov 2017</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>T</th> <th>F</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <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>29</td> <td>30</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Nov 2017							S	M	T	W	T	F	S				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
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Please contact K8INN for updates, changes, or additions.

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