



FEEDBACK

VOLUME 56 ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER 2001

MASSILLON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OFFICERS

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MRN NET Tue, Thur &
Sun
8:30 PM 3.60 MHz

WEST STARK INFO NET
FRIDAYS 8:00 PM 147.18
MHZ
(except 1st Fri on month)

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-- SHORT SKIP --

Fall will soon be here Bunkey. Time to check our antennas in preparation for winter (ugh). Or perhaps we could just lay in the shade and wait to climb the tower later (January or February - HI). At the very least let's check our climbing belt for safety's sake. Remember - no climbing belt - NO climbing !



73 de WB80WM

MARC MEETING NOTICE

The meeting for the Massillon Amateur Radio Club will be held at the Massillon Senior Center on September 2, 2011 at 8:00 PM.

Only one more month lies between the next MARC Hamfest. Much to do in the meantime. Hamfest prizes should have been ordered and we will be working on door prizes. President Wade, WD8MIU will be asking for volunteers to head the various committees of which hopefully those who filled them last year can do so again this year as they did a terrific job in the past !

Other business will be brought up by President Wade I'm sure. Also CONGRATULATIONS to VP Byron KF8UN for his very successful trip to Peru. He also took time to do a little hamming. I understand he will tell us what it's like to be on the OTHER side of the pileups ! See you at the meeting!

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

Just a quick acknowledgment. If you missed last month's meeting, you missed a really good one. We want to take this opportunity to thank our guest Mr. Jim Weaver, K8JE, for taking time to visit us. It is always a privilege to hear Mr. Weavers presentation. Thank you Jim !

This month we will not have a formal program; instead we will concentrate on the upcoming hamfest. Much work is still needed to be done to insure a really good hamfest. Hopefully everything will just fall into place and the people we had last year as chairpersons and helpers will do the same this year. It seems to really work out good that way. However if someone wants to volunteer for any position, PLEASE speak up and we will make sure you will get what you want. Thanks and see you at the meeting !

MARC MINUTES

August 5, 2011

The Massillon Amateur Radio Club monthly meeting was held at the Massillon Senior Center on Friday, August 5, 2011 with 20 members and guests in attendance.

After a round of introductions, the meeting was suspended until after the guest speaker, Jim Weaver K8JE ARRL Great Lakes Division Director, presented his program.

Don W8DEA, with a second by Ralph K8HSQ, made the motion to suspend the reading of the minutes and accept them as printed in the Feedback. Motion passed.

Gary WC8W gave the treasurer's report.

Wade WD8MIU passed around newsletters received by the club in the past month on behalf of Byron KF8UN who was in Peru.

Committees:

Field Day - Gary WC8W presented the results of the club's 2011 Field Day score.

Repeater – Jim WA8GXM reports that problems at the 147.18 repeater are being addressed.

Old Business:

Club Station

- Workday set for August 13, 2011 at 9 a.m. to work on station antenna system.
- Perry W8AU reports that the club keyer used at Field Day checks out OK. Problem with device may be due to the cables.

Hamfest

- Don WD8ROR, with a second by Don W8DEA, made a motion to purchase same door prizes as 2010 Hamfest. Motion Passed.
- Gene W8KXR, with a second by Jim WA8GXM, made a motion to keep the Hamfest rental fee to the Boy's and Girl's club of Massillon at a 50/50 split without a limit to the amount donated. Discussion ensued. Voting by show of hands 16 for, 1 against. Motion passed.

Technician training class

- Gary WC8W to start class on Tuesday, September 6 at 7 p.m. Noted volunteer instructors needed.

New Business:

Sippo Lake Park Pavilion – Gary WC8W to check on availability to schedule a club picnic. Picnic will be used as a club outing and feasibility study of use as a future Field Day site.

Carl AB8CC, with a Second by Jim WA8GXM, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion Passed.

No 50/50 drawing this month.

Respectfully submitted by Robert AC8GE

... INTERNET SPEED TEST ...

A month or so ago I began to notice my internet connection seemed to be running slower than normal. It really showed up when I was doing normal maintenance to the club's website as this requires uploading large amounts of data to the web host servers.

After a week or so of this nagging problem I finally decided to talk to my high speed service, Massillon Cable TV. Because I have a home office, I subscribe to their Mega-Service which provides a download speed of about 6 Mbps (Mega Bits Per Second) under idea conditions.

Their IT department answered quickly and first they had a look at my cable modem via a remote connection. They indicated no problems with the modem and asked me if I had been using a wireless router. I do and they asked me to bypass it and connect the computer directly to the cable modem. Once this was done they asked me to check my internet connection speed by going to a speed test website that they recommend. I did as requested and the result was an average connect speed of 5.8 Mbps. Checking a few websites I realized the speed was back up to normal.

It turned out that my wireless router was the culprit. I replaced it and problem solved. You might want to check your speed by using this website. It will tell you your upload and download speed as well as identify your internet service provider. Point your browser to www.speedtest.net Click on begin test and in a minute or so you will see your results.

With my new router I now get a consistent download speed of 5.97 Mbps with upload speeds of about 0.58 Mbps which is just what I pay for !

... NEW ARRL EC COURSE ...

The ARRL has announced that they are now ready to re-launch their Field Classes and Exams for the newly revised "Introduction to Emergency Communications" course.

The printed course transcript is now available from the ARRL store and Field Exams for the new course have finally been released and should be available soon. Some requirements have changed in order to have the exams available at VE Test sessions. I hope to work with our new VE Coordinator John Kalafice, W0OZZ to offer these new exams a upcoming test sessions. I'll let you know when this is completed in future columns.

Complete details of the new course as well as the new Advanced Course is available on the ARRL website.

... HAMFEST UPDATE ...

With Field Day behind us, it's time to begin the final preparations for this years MARC Hamfest which will be on Sunday, October 30th at the Massillon Boy's & Girls Club. Some items have already been completed including the main prize line up for this year.

Hamfest organizers will soon be looking for club members to assist with the various hamfest committees needed to make this event again a successful one. I will once again handle Table Rental and Gary & I are working on preparing the new admission and prize tickets as well as this year's main mailing flyer.

We need help with other committee responsibilities, including but not limited to: Ticket Sales at the hamfest; Hamfest Talk-In; Security; Staffing the Club Table; VE Exams; Auction are the main ones but there are others. Please speak up at the next few club meetings and volunteer for some of these hamfest duties as we will need all of the club members support to again help make this event a success !

That's it for this month.

**73's
Terry – N8ATZ**

MARC ANTENNA SYSTEM BACK IN ORDER !

We would like to take this opportunity to thank MARC members who helped to restore the antenna system on the roof of the Senior Center. Climber; Jim WA8GXM, Helpers: Perry W8AU, Wade WD8MIU, Mike KD8ENV, Gary WC8W, and Rick Fligor KD8NYZ. This brings (we hope!) an end to almost two years of trying to get the antennas fixed. A new, 2 inch mast pipe and trust bearing was installed to try to keep the big antenna from turning in the rotor, thus breaking off the coax when the antenna reaches it's maximum turning radius. We theorized that the old 1 1/4 mast pipe was just too small to get a good "bite" on the mast pipe mounted on the rotor and just twisted off when the wind blew. We're keeping our fingers crossed that this works ! If I missed anyone on the list, I'm sorry !

73's de Gary WC8W

MARC CLUB NEWS

TECHNICIAN CLASSES TO START

It was announced at last month's meeting that the MARC Technician Classes will start at the club on September 6th at 7:00 PM. Classes will last approximately 6 weeks. Cost will be limited to the text book and a donation for the rental of the facilities, depending on how many students we get. The first introduction class will locate on the first floor and then on the 3rd floor after that.

The classes are designed to finish up just before the next available Canton\ Massillon VE Exam which will be held at the Massillon Hamfest on October 30th 2011. There is of course a \$ 15.00 fee for taking the exam.

So if you know anyone who is interested in becoming a new Technician Class Ham, please encourage him or her to take this class. Contact person will be Gary Kline phone 330/837-2927 or wc8w@sssnet.com. I am still looking for someone to help teach the class. I have done it all by myself in the past but it's a challenge and I could really use the help from one of our members Thanks !

WHAT'S THIS ???

Traffic at the NFL Hall Of Fame Grand Parade come at a frenzied pace, perhaps too much an Operator in the E-Comm trailer (owned by Mike KD8ENV). By the looks on the operators face, I'd say that he looks too scared and his buddy in the background is saying " *That's another fine mess you've gotten me into Ollie* " ! The pair is none other than Laurel & Hardy. Played by Dennis Moriarty K8AGB; (background) as Stan Laurel and Dale Walter (no call; foreground) as Oliver Hardy.



Oliver Hardy Festival and W4O Special Event Station

SPECIAL EVENT COMING UP 1ST SATURDAY IN OCTOBER ! DON'T MISS IT!



The Columbia County Amateur Radio Club operates a Special Event station during the festival with a call sign issued by the FCC for the occasion.

The official Stan and Ollie look-alikes, Dale Walter Sr. and Dennis Moriarty operate the CCARC Special Event Station in 2006. Dennis is a licensed amateur radio operator. His call sign is K8AGB.

W4O Special Event Station Was a Success Again This Year. The FCC issued call sign W4O, is used each year during the festival, and club members made contact with stations nationwide. This year

a special QSL card will be sent to each station that confirms contact with W4O and provides an SASE with their confirmation. The W4O special event station was on the air October 2nd from 0800 to 1600 EDT.

Oliver Hardy was a famous comic actor known for his portrayal as one half of the Laurel and Hardy team. The classic act that started in the era of silent films lasted over 31 years, from 1926 to 1957. Oliver was born January 18, 1892 in Harlem, Georgia. Harlem is a part of our local community, and the CCARC is proud to support the annual [Oliver Hardy Festival](#).

Dale Walter Sr. (right) as Oliver Hardy and Dennis Moriarty as Stan Laurel have been portraying their favorite movie icons for many years. Their act has taken them all over the country and given them the opportunity to meet many fans.



(reprinted with permission from the Columbia County Amateur Radio Club, Evans GA., web site ccarc.hamradioman.com)

LABOR DAY SEPTEMBER 2, 2011



President's Letter for Sept.

First off, I want to Thank Everyone who volunteered for both the HOF Community Parade and the HOF Grand Parade. Without your help the parade wouldn't be the same. This event brings a lot of people and money to Canton.

The Canton Chamber of Commerce has nothing but good things to say about the ham community. Please consider working again next year, were looking forward to your professionalize and time. Also I am checking on the ham radio operators working the Marathon running event next year, so be thinking about helping out with it next June 2012.

The Beam and Vertical Antenna on top of the senior center has been repaired and put back up. Thanks to Jim/Don/Rick/Mike/Perry/Andrew and two Saturday's and the job is done.

I was able to talk to Byron on Monday Aug. 8th on 20 meters while he was in Peru. Welcome home Byron. I believe next month we will be focusing on the Hamfest. and some other business. There won't be a program, so we can get everything resolved.

Thank You : Wade, WD8MIU

FALL BEGINS SEPTEMBER 23



KB6NU's Column for August 2011

It's Back to School Time...for Ham Radio, too!

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

As I write this, it's about 85 degrees, and I'm sitting on the patio of a cottage overlooking Elk Lake in northern Michigan. This idyllic spot is about as far away from school as you can get. And yet, in less than a month, kids will be back in school, and if kids are going to be back in school, why not ham radio operators?

The fall is a good time to begin teaching a new group of Technicians. I favor the "Tech in a Day" or "Ham Cram" type of class. This type of class focuses on teaching students the answers to questions on the test rather than the material itself.

There's a lot of controversy about this, and many decry this method of teaching, but I think the best way to learn about ham radio is by actually doing it, and you can't do if you don't have a license. Besides, how much more instruction will students actually get in a more traditional eight-week or ten-week course, maybe 16 hours? Will those 16 hours make that much of a difference?

For the sake of argument, let's say that you've decided to offer a one-day Tech class. Now what? Well, the first thing you have to do is to find a place to teach it. Possible sites include your local public library, a township hall, a community college, perhaps even your church.

Now that you have the place, you need to find some students. Your local emergency-management group would be a good place to start. Also, make sure a notice gets published in your amateur radio club's newsletter. Chances are most of the subscribers already have licenses, but they may have friends or relatives who would be interested. Also, make sure the class gets listed in the upcoming events section of local newspapers or magazines.

Once people start signing up, you should suggest that they either purchase a study guide or download my free study guide (www.kb6nu.com/tech-manual). Because I use my study guide when teaching the class, I always advise them to get a copy, but if you'll be using other materials, then your advice may differ.

I counsel the students to read through my study guide a few times and take some online practice tests before coming to class. That will make them familiar with the material, especially areas they may be weak in or have questions about. By bringing those questions to class, we can address those areas in a little more depth, which will, hopefully, give them the help they need to pass the test.

The class itself is six hours long, running from 9am to 3pm, at which time we give them the test. This is not a lot of time for the amount of material I have to cover, so I move along at a pretty brisk pace. I concentrate on giving them the answers, but with enough context to that it all makes sense.

OK, let's say your class was wildly successful, and you now have a group of newly-minted Techs. What do you do now?

Well, you might consider offering some short sessions on what ham radio operators do—Ham Radio 101, so to speak. The topics could include how to choose your first radio, the basics of FM repeater and net operation, and building your first antenna (say a 2m ground plane). They'll be more enthusiastic about these classes now that they actually have a license.

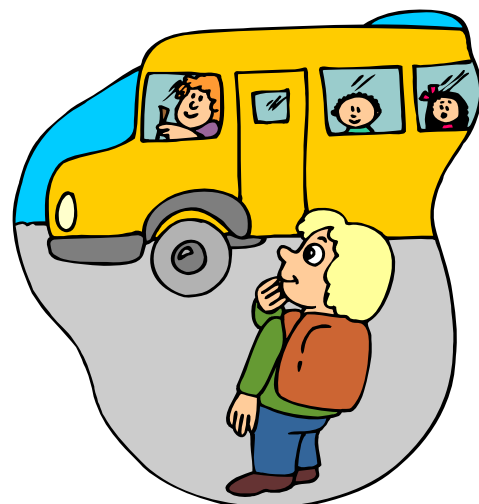
It might also be a good idea to schedule a General Class license course for sometime shortly after the Tech class. This will encourage them to upgrade while they are enthusiastic about the hobby.

I hope that this has encouraged you to offer some ham radio courses of your own. If you have any questions, feel free to e-mail me at cwgeek@kb6nu.com or phone me at 734-930-6564. Good luck, and let me know how your classes turn out.

When not preparing for his next ham radio class, Dan publishes the "No-Nonsense" study guides for the Technician and General Class license exams. Free versions and print version are available from his website at www.kb6nu.com/tech-manual. E-book versions are available for the Kindle and devices that run the Kindle app on Amazon.Com and for the Nook on BarnesandNoble.Com.

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School has started watch out for those big yellow busses !!



ARRL NEWS

The Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS) announces the Third Annual Ohio State Parks On The Air Contest to be held on Saturday, September 10, 2011, from the hours of noon to eight p.m. EDT (1600Z to 2400Z).

For hams throughout the State of Ohio this contest presents an opportunity to visit and enjoy the amenities offered by the seventy-six beautiful State Parks here in Ohio. You can spend the day or even spend the weekend at the park of your choice. No matter whether you are camping or staying at one of the outstanding lodges or resorts you will find that the parks are one of Ohio's greatest assets.

Find out more about the parks and all that they have to offer at <http://tinyurl.com/4beq>.

This contest places a premium on working stations at the State Parks. That means that it is critical to have as many parks activated as possible. The challenge for Ohio stations will be to work HF in the 50 to 300 mile range. Contacts can be made with any mode on the HF and VHF bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 and 2 meters and all contacts have the same point value. This is a great chance to try something new, like an NVIS antenna or two meter SSB.

Individuals and clubs can operate high or low power park stations and there is a special award for the club that activates the greatest number of parks! Non-park stations in Ohio as well as outside of Ohio can also compete with each other.

So get to an Ohio State Park and get On The Air in September. Have some fun with this contest! You can get complete information, including rules, forms and FAQ's, at <http://parks.portcars.org>, or contact the contest chairman, Chuck, W8PT, at w8pt@portcars.org. Check back at the web site for announcements about updates and prizes.

OHIO SECTION SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS DURING SEPTEMBER

September 10 1300-2100Z W8Z

Muskingum Valley Ham Radio Club

Home Depot Air Show

7.500, 146.610

September 10-18 0000-2359Z K8H

Delaware Amateur Radio Association

26th All Horse Parade

21.340, 21.040, 14.340, 14.040, 7.240, 7.040, 3.840, 3.540

September 24 1200-2000Z W8BAE

Crawford County Amateur Radio Club

!!!! Club's 50th Anniversary !!!!

14.235, 7.200, 7.060, 14.070 PSK



(Articles on this page are from the Ohio Section News and on page 8 from the ARRL Letter 8/25/2011)

MORE ARRL NEWS

NHC Issues Hurricane Watch for Portions of North Carolina; ARRL Establishes Hurricane Irene Website

As Hurricane Irene — currently a Category 3 storm — approaches the US, the National Hurricane Center (NHC) has issued a hurricane watch earlier this morning for regions north of Surf City, North Carolina to the North Carolina-Virginia border, including the Pamlico, Albemarle and Currituck Sounds. A tropical storm watch is also in effect for north of Edisto Beach, South Carolina to Surf City, North Carolina.

In anticipation of Irene's expected landfall in North Carolina, the ARRL HQ Emergency Response Team (HQERT) has established a website to keep amateurs informed of the latest developments. This website will also provide links to the NHC, WX4NHC — the Amateur Radio station at the NHC — the Hurricane Watch Net and the Voice over Internet Protocol Weather Net, where radio amateurs can send in their reports. The HQERT will also be monitoring various nets and providing support to the affected Field Organizations beginning on Friday, August 26 from W1AW, the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station.

The NHC is predicting that it will be issuing hurricane warnings later on Thursday for those areas already covered by the hurricane watch, and is expected to extend the hurricane watch northward along the Mid-Atlantic coast, as well. The NHC advises residents in the Mid-Atlantic States and New England to monitor Irene's progress in anticipation of possible hurricane watches or warnings

At the Workbench: Heathkit Returns to the Kit Business

A notice on the Heathkit website announces



that the venerable kit manufacturer, well-known to all Amateur Radio operators of a certain age, will be reentering the kit business in late August. The notice states, in part: "Heathkit will debut their new line of Do

-it-Yourself kits for common around-the-house items. The first kit will be a Garage Parking Assistant (GPA). The Garage Parking Assistant kit lets you build your own system that uses ultrasonic sound waves to locate your car as it enters the garage. The system signals to the driver using LED lights mounted on the wall when the car is detected and in the perfect spot for parking.

Heathkit intends to offer more unique kits to build and wants input from builders on what type of kits to offer. Although there is no indication that Heathkit intends on re-entering the Amateur Radio market. Kitbuilders can enter their suggestion through their website using the Contact Us email.

Heathkit is very old company that started as an aircraft company in 1912. It has changed hands many times since then and had several decades as a kitbuilder company. Heathkit left the business in 1992. The kit building business started out as a kitbuilder only then later on offered non-kit type equipment until exiting the business in 1992. Interesting !

Silent Key: Peter Dahl,

Peter Dahl, K0BIT (SK)

Peter Dahl, K0BIT, of El Paso, Texas, passed away August 15 of Parkinson's disease. He was 71. In 2007 after more than 40 years, he closed his company — the Peter W. Dahl Company — citing health reasons. "I want to thank everyone for their business throughout the years," Dahl told the ARRL upon his retirement. "I have enjoyed making each Amateur Radio transformer.



Dahl was still a student at University of Minnesota when he founded the Peter Dahl Company that manufactured custom transformers for Amateur Radio as well as commercial applications.

Mr. Dahl's memorial service was held in Texas on August 19th.

September 2011

W8NP Monthly Planner

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<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;"><i>4</i></p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930</p> <p>Uniontown ARC 61st Annual GABFEST, Ctc Tony, 724-430-1277, Uniontown, PA</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;"><i>5</i></p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">Labor Day</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;"><i>6</i></p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930</p> <p>Stark County ARES Net on 147.12 at 7:00 PM</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;"><i>7</i></p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;"><i>8</i></p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930</p> <p>VE Test Session, Cuyahoga Falls ARC, 1900, Ctc: Bruce, 330-929-2766, Stow-Monroe Falls Public Library, Stow</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;"><i>9</i></p> <p>West Stark Info Net - 147.180 at 2000</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;"><i>10</i></p>																																																																																																											
<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;"><i>11</i></p> <p>BCARA Swapfest Ctc Obie, 724-287-2682, Butler, PA</p> <p>Findlay Hamfest, Ctc Bill, 419-423-5643, Hancock County Fairgrounds</p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;"><i>12</i></p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;"><i>13</i></p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930</p> <p>Stark County ARES Net on 147.12 at 7:00 PM</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;"><i>14</i></p> <p>BD WA8HHO</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;"><i>15</i></p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;"><i>16</i></p> <p>West Stark Info Net - 147.180 at 2000</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;"><i>17</i></p>																																																																																																											
<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;"><i>18</i></p> <p>Adrian ARC Hamfest Ctc Brian, 517-902-4139, Adrian, MI</p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;"><i>19</i></p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;"><i>20</i></p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930</p> <p>Stark County ARES Net on 147.12 at 7:00 PM</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;"><i>21</i></p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;"><i>22</i></p> <p>BD N3JJT Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;"><i>23</i></p> <p>West Stark Info Net - 147.180 at 2000</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;"><i>24</i></p> <p>Akron Marathon BD K8RIC</p>																																																																																																											
<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;"><i>25</i></p> <p>Cleveland Hamfest and Computer Show, Ctc. Glenn, 440-835-4397, Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds</p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;"><i>26</i></p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;"><i>27</i></p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930</p> <p>Stark County ARES Net on 147.12 at 7:00 PM</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;"><i>28</i></p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;"><i>29</i></p> <p>Massillon Radio Net - 3599.5, 1930</p>	<p style="color: #800080; font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;"><i>30</i></p> <p>West Stark Info Net - 147.180 at 2000</p>	<p>Upcoming Events: October 9, MarcFest 2011, Belle Vernon, PA</p> <p>October 30 - Massillon Amateur Radio Club Hamfest!</p>																																																																																																											

MASSILLON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P.O. BOX 73
MASSILLON, OHIO 44648

FIRST CLASS MAIL

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