

# FEEDBACK

**VOLUME 51 ISSUE 9**

**SEPTEMBER 2006**

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RADIO CLUB OFFICERS**

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**-- SHORT SKIP --**

With the sunspots almost non-existent, DXing on the HF bands is a real test of our listening skills. The best bands seem to be 80 and 40 meters. How tough can it be ? My CW sidetone almost didn't make it to my headphones last night ! (HI)

**73 de WB80WM**

### SEPTEMBER MEETING

The meeting for the month of September will be held on Friday September 1st, 2006 at 8:00 PM and as usual it will be held at the Massillon Senior Center, 39 Lincoln Way West.

My oh my ! September already; hard to believe isn't it ? With the coming of September, things like school is back in session (watch for school busses), football games and of course MARC's Hamfest 2006 is scheduled for October 29th ! We will again hold the Hamfest at the Massillon Boys & Girls Club on Duncan street on the West side of Massillon. Directions are: Route 21 ( going North or South to Walnut Road, turn west , go across the tracks, go up the hill and the hamfest will be on your left. Just "follow" the signs ! Ya can't miss it !

Plans for this year's hamfest have been underway for sometime now. The major prizes have already been ordered and plans concerning some of the committees were discussed. Much work is still needing attention. Would you like to be on a certain committee? Be sure to volunteer at the September meeting.

Please **DO NOT FORGET !** We will need help on Saturday, October 28th for

SET UP ! Yes, we will need much help with the set up of tables, chairs, electric hook - up and "whatever" else would be needed. We usually meet around 9:00 AM for this chore to be completed. It usually takes about two hours to complete, depending on the amount of help we get ! Be sure to attend this month's meeting and get all the "latest" info !

### West Stark Info Net

With the coming of September means the resumption of the West Stark Information Net, which will be held on Friday evenings at 8:00 PM. In order for the net to be successful, we **WILL NEED OPERATORS !** Hopefully Michelle, KC8ZEJ will once again take the helm and be the Net Manager. Of course she will be asked "officially" at the meeting. Problems in the past were of course volunteer operators for the net. It takes only a little time to prepare and it "reaps an abundant" faithful followers each week. I know I will volunteer as much as I can, will you do the same ?

## MARC MINUTES

### August 4, 2006

The Massillon Amateur Radio Club meeting was held at the Massillon Senior Center with 30 members and guests present.

MARC President Igor K8INN opened the meeting at 8:00 P.M. The Pledge Of Allegiance was given and a round of introductions was made.

The July minutes were accepted by Gene W8KXR and second by Jim WA8GXM as stated in the FEEDBACK.

MARC Treasurer Anne N8GAF gave the financial report.

MARC Vice President Ralph K8HSQ gave the correspondence report. He had the usual newsletters from other Amateur Radio Clubs.

### OLD BUSINESS

Dan N8DZM gave an update on the grants he is applying for.

Gary WC8W gave the Field Day results.

Thank you goes to Terry N8ATZ for getting MARC Field Day article to the ARRL and getting it published !

Joe WD8BGW reported the Massillon Boys and Girls Club would like 12 rectangular tables (instead of round ones) for MARC Hamfest October 29, 2006.

### NEW BUSINESS

Gary WC8W will be having VE session Aug. 26 here at the Senior Center. He needs more VEs even General Class to help taking sign ins on testing days.

Ralph K8HSQ gave away MARC field day CD of present and past, back to 1971. If you didn't get on , see him.

Mike WA8MKH could use some volunteers on the Polar Express on Dec.9th if you can help contact him.

We welcomed back MARC Past President Rich Ross, KA8ZQH after his illness. It was good to see him doing so well.

We also welcomed 3 visitors John AB8JL, Amanda (no call) and Erin (no call).

Congratulations goes to Stephen KC8IDJ son of Carol KB8IMH and Mike WA8MKH for receiving the Foundation for Amateur Radio (FAR) scholarship for 2006-2007 academic year.

Thank you goes to Kathy (no call) and Scott N3JJT for having everyone to their home after the meeting for a cook out.

Thank you Dan N8DZM for doing the July minutes in my absence.

Congratulations goes to Igor K8INN for winning the 50-50 for \$11.50.

**Minutes by Linda K8MOO**  
**Secretary MARC**

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# LABOR DAY

*SEPTEMBER 4TH*



## ... HOF Recap ...

Thanks to lots of hard work by many volunteers, I'm glad to report on another very successful Hall of Fame Festival. Again this year amateurs played an important role in both the Community and Timken Grand Parade. Festival organizers are always appreciative of our continued support year after year. I was especially pleased when Grand Parade Chairman Ed Murray expressed his personal appreciation to the very professional way we handle our operations during the parade. There was some concern initially when the commercial radio's they use wouldn't cover the entire parade route. Ed quickly reminded everyone that thanks to amateur radio operators along the entire route, they had nothing to worry about. That is a reputation earned by years of dedicated service.

We were a little short of operators this year with the additional positions we covered and especially with the increased operations in Dispersal but thanks to assistance from the Summit County ARES who provided nine additional operators for us.

These two events are our largest public service activity each year here in Stark County and included 41 radio operators totaling 201 hours of community service. A complete wrap up is currently posted on the Stark County ARES website at [www.wd8aye.org](http://www.wd8aye.org).

## .. Winlink Phase Two ..

After several months of negotiations I'm pleased to report that we have finally relocated the Western Stark Telpac Node to its new home at the MARC Tower Site. This move was made possible thanks to the continued support of the MARC and First Communications who is providing our internet connection. The node is housed in a full cabinet and is using an antenna near the top of the tower giving us excellent coverage to the greater Stark County area and beyond. A special thanks to Jim – WA8GXM who played host to the node for the last year while we searched for a permanent site.

With this completion we now move into the next phase of the Winlink Initiative, the installation of a permanent station at the Stark County Emergency Operations Center and the installations of the Kantronics KPC2 TNC's at area hospitals. We hope to have this completed by the end of the year.

We have already applied to the EOC for funding to install a full HF/VHF Airmail system at the EOC. We are also working on installing a TNC at Mercy Medical Center to be used as a test site. If this proves successful we will begin full installation at other area hospitals as time and resources permit. Once complete, an operator would only need to provide a laptop,

make a few connections and be up and operating Airmail in short order using the already installed Yeasu radios.

I'm glad to see some additional operators have setup Airmail stations over the last few months. Most have sent me test messages letting me know how their stations are progressing. The current list includes, Jason – KC8LIN, Ric – K8RIC, Bob – N8DVS, Tom – KC8QOD and Joe – WD8BGW. While we are saving some of the KPC2's for hospital use, we still have a supply left for anyone who would like to setup an Airmail station on Winlink. Contact Ralph – K8HSQ if you would like one and we will be glad to help you set it up. We usually have several available at club meetings also along with all software necessary.

## .. National Preparedness Month ..

September is National Preparedness Month which is a nationwide effort held each year to encourage all Americans to take simple steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, businesses and schools. It is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security with the goal to increase public awareness about the importance of preparing for emergencies.

In conjunction with this, September 16th has been designated as "Amateur Radio Awareness Day". Many groups around the country will hold public display of Amateur Radio to demonstrate their skills and capabilities. This is also the date for the Ohio Section Conference which will be held in Columbus. I will be attending this year representing Stark County ARES. Look for a full report next month.

## .. Akron RoadRunner Marathon ..

Volunteers are currently being requested to assist with this year's RoadRunner Akron Marathon. As in previous years, amateurs will staff First Aid stations and route checkpoints to assist the Summit County ARES who is handling this event. Operations will take place on both 2 meters and UHF. The Marathon will take place on Saturday, September 30th from approx 7:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Communications Coordinators for this event are Bruce Ferry - AK8B and Dick Kovach - W8AKR who can be reached at 330-929-1038. Additional information and signup is available at [http://www.sumco-ares.org/signup\\_marathon.htm](http://www.sumco-ares.org/signup_marathon.htm). Additional information on the Marathon is available on their website at [www.akronmarathon.org](http://www.akronmarathon.org).

Out of time and space for this month, see you at the meeting !

**De Terry – N8ATZ**

## Tectopics # 22

### Anatomy Of A Rebuild - Acquisition Of More Stuff and How I Loved The Super-Temps Of Summer

It's been several months since there has been word from the BIG KXR's engineering lab, but not because the spirit wasn't willin'...nope, it's just because this has been one of the most intense summer seasons in recent history over at the Super Station. The staff has been dutifully occupied with many projects yet to be described, and can take credit for the recent completion of a major restoration-rebuild of a pure heavy metal amplifier, acquisition of some neat real radio gear, and successful experiments with custom wound tank coils for an experimental 160-20 meter linear being developed by the Chief Engineer and his staff.

So, here is a full report from the Eng. Lab. Actually, I'm writing from my old hometown in Batavia, New York, about half way between Buffalo and Rochester. I'm visiting my old digs, with Marilyn (if u missed field day u missed her latest sampling of Sticky Buns!) looking after her mom. So, I made my way to the local library and a wireless link to web for reading, research and watching world events. This is a quiet place, conducive to daydreams, visions of Heavy Metal electronics and other neat stuff.

I want to report on the rebuilding of a Linear Amplifier known as the Central Electronics 600L. It is quite a story in that only about 500 of these beauties were built by a company more likely known for the Central Electronics 10A, 10B, and 20A SSB exciters...and if you are still drawing a blank, you are in serious need of a beginners course in Heavy Metal real radios and the early lore of our hobby...! But, let me add a few more clues...

Central Electronics also built and sold the CE100-V and the later CE200-V as well as some accessories, the most common of which shows up occasionally at the fests as the MM-2 modulation monitor. If you still have drawn a blank, -- well, err, a stack of earlier QSTs, a huge cup of Jo...and a dark and stormy night will probably help, maybe...

These items have become classics because they represented some of the first sophisticated commercially built SSB gear for Amateurs. Many were used to drive high power linear amplifiers to a full KW in the late fifties and early sixties. It is an absolute tribute to the later 100/200V xmtrs, which operate in the 100 watt class, that many are alive and well today, and producing superb audio, exceeding many of the sorry little sushi boxes of the modern day.

But, in the case of the 10A, 10B, and the band switching 20A, they were low power ssb generators designed for Class AB1 type linear amps that required only a few watts of drive. The well known, and still much used E.F. Johnson Thunderbolt is a typical 1kw amp paired with these low power exciters...So, as

one might guess, Central Electronics designed and built their own linear, the CE 600L.

Ok, so what? Just another linear...the world is full of linear amps, from cheesy looking CB stuff, to real Ham equipment! ...Good grief! What's so bloody special about this 600L thing? Will you get on with it?

Ok, smarty pants, full of ants! Here is the answer...in about 1955-57 the 600L came to market with a single 813 rated at about 600 watts input. Not super power, but even today it gives a good account of its self on noisy bands. It operates from 160 meters to 10 meters...

And here is the neat part...the amplifier was totally band pass tuned. Even today, such a concept is rare in any of the medium to legal power amps. Once it was warmed up and looking into about 50 ohms of coax, one had merely to adjust the exciter for proper drive; then talk. There is no tuning. No plate to tune, no output to maximize, no adjustments of any type. The only parameter to monitor is the grid current, which in Class AB1 linear service should indicate essentially zero.

Many of these amps are still in regular service...1950-1960 technology covering 160 through 10, sounding absolutely great on the air. These beauties are not exactly rare, but my data says there were about 500 built. If you see one and can get it for a small bag of loot, grab it...err...well, better have some serious help...it weighs in at about 120 lbs; and is one of the reasons it has survived these many years...no weenie, plastic and other sorry materials used in near military grade construction.

This spring and early summer I rebuilt my 600L...it was complicated, and not complicated, but did require some careful analysis and eventually some skill and some parts from ship's stores in executing repairs. Amplifiers, even this one with its band pass networks are not too mysterious, and follow basic theory and layout. Don't be intimidated, except for one item as follows....

This is a serious piece of gear and runs over 2000 volts on the business end of the amplifier tube. If you decide to work on such gear, any gear, with this kind of voltage, be very serious about what you are doing. If you have doubts, any doubts, don't do it! Ask for help and advice on how to proceed from someone with experience. It is not worth any careless mistake that might end your life.

My 600L has been in the local area since the early '70s when I bought it from a now sk soon after our first stint overseas. It worked fine and I used it many hours on 75 and 40 meters with nightly scheds with my Dad between Ohio and Western New York. Recently, I tried to press it back into service on 160 meters, but found there was no drive arriving at the grid of the 813. Good grief, what's up with this?

Because it weighs over 100 lbs., I did the trouble shooting almost in place in Area 53...recall someone has said Area 51 is already copywrited. The input system is composed of individual

broadband networks that provide proper input impedance for each band. They are encased in a kind of coarse dipping material with very thin, hard drawn copper leads that are soldered to the mil-grade band switch.

Inspection with a machinist's mirror, deep in the innards of the input system, showed one of the leads was broken off the 160 meter network near the band switch. With patience the 160 meter network was removed, but you guessed it, the hard drawn lead broke off at the surface of the encapsulating material...Oh, doom on Gene...sigh...and tears...

Well, not to worry! I was absolutely delighted and excited for a chance to show off the skills and talent of the BIG KXR engineering lab...so...with a small hand power tool, the encapsulating material was ground away around the broken wire...just enough to expose about 3/16 inch of lead...just enough to solder on a fresh lead... like grinding away a tooth for a root canal...oh joy of grinding joys!!

The tiny lead required some prep, as it was enamel-covered wire...but with care, bright copper was exposed for soldering. As I've discussed in earlier editions of Tectopics, a heavy soldering tool, in my case 80 watts, was used with liquid flux applied with a toothpick. Applying a lot of heat for a very short time is the strategy. This gets the joint soldered, and avoids leaking heat into the innards of the irreplaceable network.

The lead was then covered with several applications of 'super glue' to take stress off the delicate joint, then wrapped with two tightly drawn nylon ties. The joy of victory pervaded the lab that night...but, oh no...while replacing the network, and re-soldering the leads to the band switch, yep, another of the hard drawn leads broke off...oh well, now I knew the exercise and it was an easy task to do that one too...We celebrated with mugs of hot chocolate and a plate of ... yep, u guessed it...hot Sticky Buns, fresh from Missy Marilyn's oven. Talk about a celebration!

Well, engineer Gene; did it work? Did this jewel of the airwaves return to life? Yes!! It did, and after some further modernization it is alive and well on 160...paired for now, with my CE200V and Collins 75A-4 that was also rebuilt during late fall and the winter months.

Some other items brought up to speed before lifting the brute into its permanent home over the 200V, were to recap the bias supply, replace the original selenium rectifier in the bias supply, replace blown diodes in the onboard SWR meter circuits, replace coupling caps to the relative power metering circuit, change resistors that had drifted out of tolerance in the screen regulator circuits, and put heat on many connections that looked like they had done their job over the years. Some dress up of HV leads, with added bundling to ensure routing away from chassis, and deoxing all switch contacts and tube sockets, completed the rebuild. A thorough wipe down and cabinet cleaning put the rig in near new appearance on operational condition...ahhh, the scent of soldering flux, hot electronics and the symphony of Heavy Iron when the HV comes on with the bass-like hum of real horse power saying, YES, lets talk...and pass the Sticky Buns...

That about wraps it up for this time; it took about three months of cold winter evenings, while chatting with the gang on 50.4, to finish this project. Pure joy. So, what's next on the list over in the lab, you ask? Well, let me count the projects. I've found an E.F. Johnson Transmitting Converter, while cruising in ninety degree heat and humidity at the Portage Fest...have never seen or heard of this piece of gear...and have never seen it in the literature...it's in mint condition, is in the matching silver paint scheme of the Valiant II and Ranger II late model Johnson's. The manual says it was built in '63. Also picked up a 'Multiphase' late '60s transmitting converter, also in excellent condition and ready for rebuild. These somewhat unique items are prime material for the KXR Engineering Lab when snow begins to fall, each with their own special stories.

Finally, experiments to machine a customized coil for an experimental linear are well under way. Basic materials are heavy walled PVC turned to uniform diameter, then 'threaded' with the proper turns per inch; a simple process on an engine lathe. Mounting brackets are ready to be machined on a newly acquired 10 inch rotary table for the lab's vertical mill.

This will be a self-teaching experience for the chief engineer; you know, he's such a talented gent, and a super nice guy, too! When finished, these coils will be every bit the quality of any commercial rig, and that my dear readers is the goal...as good, or better, than store bought stuff in construction and performance.

Well, that's the report for now. By the time you read this, summer will be a little on in the tooth, with memories of heat and humidity already fading to just another great summer. Urgent thoughts of final antenna installations and tune-up will be under way. A two meter beam, and an inverted L are scheduled for installation before the first snow flies; and then there is the 400 watt Globe King and the experimental linear, not to mention the two meter receive converter and a 400 watt 2 meter amplifier waiting for rehab and testing...sure hope winter arrives soon and stays long...so many projects, so few snowy days and nights in the Lab and so few hours at the mic...

We, at the W8KXR Super Station, hope you too have completed some projects this summer and are excited and enthusiastic about the coming fall season. I'm sure you have a full list of projects with which to grow your station, continue learning, and most of all having fun with our hobby. Come visit the gang on six AM...50.4 most every night at 1900 Hrs...chat for a bit, and soak up some authentic radio with folks who build, trouble shoot, and restore. You'll be welcomed and invited to come again and chat a while.

**73, from the W8KXR Engineering Lab**

**De W8KXR**

## NREN Training Topic 25 July 2006

### Some fundamentals of Traffic Handling

Having attended several ARES classes designed to cover basic net procedures and traffic handling techniques has been rather revealing. Such skills have apparently atrophied to the point where, in many areas, a critical mass of operators is no longer available to provide a sufficient example to the less experienced. While a number of useful publications and documents covering these subjects exist, there are many more, particularly on the Internet, which are largely based on opinion, prejudice, and limited experience.

In order to obtain a baseline in emcomm practice, it is necessary to identify the origins of our current techniques. For the most part, the practices heard on well run voice traffic nets originated with the military. Such publications as ACP-131, and MARS SOPS, such as NAVMARCORMARS NTP8-C (D) are typical of this genre. Such techniques were imported into the Amateur Radio service as the World War Two generation returned to the air and when subsequent generations of individuals subject to the draft obtained licenses after serving in communications units in the military.

Today, most radio amateurs have little military experience and are quite non-conformist. There is a natural tendency to want to "do one's own thing." However, the field of emergency and public service communications demands a minimum degree of conformity to support information exchange, interoperability, and mutual aid. As an analogy, imagine how long the Internet would collapse if each ISP decided on the best protocol for digital information exchange! The same situation applies in traffic handling and even tactical communications. When procedures differ, confusion arises, messages become garbled, and delays are introduced when operators attempt to reconcile incongruous formats.

### The radiogram format

Recently, the SAR columnist for World Radio suggested that each group should "do its own thing" and be at liberty to adopt its own message format. He went on to suggest that he has used standard message format only once, and it was slow and laborious at best. Such comments suggest an experiential myopia for the following reasons:

1. Major disasters covering multiple jurisdictions demand consistent techniques and formats. Extensive experience in a single area, such as Search and Rescue may not be applicable across a wide range of emergency situations.
2. If radiogram format seems slow and laborious, this serves as first-rate evidence that one's experience and training is insufficient.

In reality, radiogram format, when applied to official third-party traffic is not only faster than informal techniques; it offers much improved accuracy over tactical methods. While much emcomm work demands primarily tactical communications as one monitors and controls the progress of various individuals and teams, coordinating the logistics of a major disaster operation will likely require the exchange of significant quantities of information on behalf of various officials and agencies; an ideal application for the radiogram format.

### The Net

A voice net has very limited circuit capacity. As discussed in prior training topics, if one imagines 60 operators utilizing a single voice radio circuit, each with an equal amount of traffic, one theoretically has one minute per hour to communicate critical information. Therefore, steps must be taken to minimize unnecessary language. For example:

### Use proper prowords:

The prowords "over" and "out" exist for a reason. Essentially, they indicate who is in possession of a radio circuit and limit unnecessary replies or superfluous communications. Simply put:

"Over" means "I expect a reply"

"Out" means "Please don't say another word."

For example, let's imagine a net control station wants to direct one station to call another on net frequency to exchange information (tactical or record message traffic). He might say:

"WB8SIW, call K8SIW, out" or "WB8SIW call K8SIW one priority EOC, out."

The use of the word "out" at the end of the instruction tells those on the net several important pieces of information:

1. NCS knows the two stations can hear each other (such as on a repeater or under good conditions).
2. NCS has turned possession of the frequency over to the two stations. It will remain theirs until their business is complete (unless more critical traffic arises).
3. NCS does not require an acknowledgement of his instructions from either station, thereby avoiding unnecessary comments.

As soon as the instructions are received, WB8SIW will call K8SIW, exchange the traffic, and, when complete, WB8SIW might say "roger, out." This will tell those on the net several things, including:

1. WB8SIW does not expect a reply.
2. WB8SIW and K8SIW relinquish the net frequency. It thereby reverts to NCS.
3. Operators wishing to check-in may call NCS after the proword "out" is heard.

Circuit capacity can also be used more efficiently by sending stations off frequency to clear traffic. This keeps the net frequency open for on-going business and allows several exchanges to occur simultaneously on alternate channels. For example, NCS might say:

"WB8SIW call K8SIW 147.240 one priority incident command, over"

Here, the NCS uses "over" because, had he used "out," he would have no way of confirming that the two stations heard his instructions. Therefore, because NCS expects a reply, each station would say:

WB8SIW, roger, out"  
K8SIW, roger, out."

The two then move to the alternate repeater and clear their traffic. When complete, they simply return to net frequency and let NCS know they are back.

By the way, please remember when moving off frequency, the station receiving the message always initiates contact.

"Roger"

This oft misused prowords means "received and understood." It does NOT mean "yes." For "yes" and "no," one should use "affirmative" and "negative" respectively.

## Transmitting a radiogram

When transmitting a radiogram on a voice net, please remember these fundamental rules:

1. Do not use "titles" in the preamble, such as "check of...." or "place of origin." The operator receiving the message will have the form in front of him or will be sufficiently familiar with the format that such time-wasters are not needed.
2. The Station of Origin is the call sign of the first station to place the radiogram on-air.
3. The Handling Instructions ("HX") are an optional component and should be used sparingly.
4. The Place of Origin is the location of the individual or agency, whose name appears in the signature. It is not the location of the originating station.
5. The Time of Origin is always in UTC (Zulu) and is also an optional component. The Time of Origin should reflect the time at which the message was drafted, not the time it was entered into a digital system or placed on the air. For example, a message may be drafted in the EOC at 2330Z, but not handed to the operator for transmission until 2350Z. During the interceding 20-minutes the situation or information may change, thereby changing the importance or value of the message.
6. The Date of Origin is always the three letter month and the day. For example, Jul 25 is correct, whereas 7/25/06 is incorrect. The year is never used.

7. When transmitting the message, precede zip-codes, phone numbers, and street numbers with the prowords "figures."

8. When encountering difficult or confusing words, speak the word, state "I spell," spell the word phonetically, and again pronounce the word. For example, "Wades, I spell, whiskey, alpha, delta, echo, sierra, Wades."

9. If receiving a message, remember to request fills at the break between the address and text, text and signature, or after the message. There is no need to transmit during the brief "break" periods unless one requires a fill. Remember, silence is assent.

10. When requesting fills, say "say again," followed by "word before," "word after," or "from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_." For example, "Say again word after EOC."

11. When responding to a fill request, repeat the request and fill in the "blank." For example: "I say again word after EOC, staff, I spell sierra, tango, alpha, foxtrot, foxtrot, staff, over."

12. When acknowledging receipt of the message, simply state "Roger message \_\_\_\_\_, out." The transmitting station need not say another word.

13. Avoid "lid" phrases such as "address with area code," "telephone with area code," "Amateur Call," etc.

14. Beware of "common spelling." The name "John" can be spelled "John," "Jon," or "Jan." "Nancy" is occasionally "Nanci," and so forth.

## Use the phonetic alphabet

One will often hear multiple stations check-in to an ARES or RACES net without phonetics. This works well when the same old operators are checking-in for the thousandth time. However, what happens when one must check-in to a net operating in a nearby county where he/she is unfamiliar, or when visiting operators are arriving on-scene to assist in time of emergency. Will their calls be familiar?

When one checks-in phonetically, it provides two benefits:

1. It becomes a habit, which will be automatic when one is under stress in time of emergency.
2. It provides a cushion of time for the NCS to log your call. Remember, one may speak at 150 or 200 words per minute, but the net control operator will likely write at 20 or 25 words per minute.

The fact is; no time is gained by quick, disorganized groups attempting to report into a net. More than likely, such informal methods will require confirmations, repeats, and more wasted time.

The use of the phonetic alphabet should be automatic. When spelling unusual surnames, chemical names, or etiological information on a

hospital net, the phonetic alphabet can be extremely useful. Memorize the ITU phonetics, and practice their use by spelling street names and license plate information while driving to work.

### Opinions are like.....

We have all heard this old, rather crude phrase. Learn and stick with the proper, disciplined procedures. They will ultimately save time and improve net efficiency by preventing confusion and decreasing the need to repeat confusing information. The famous press telegrapher Walter Phillips (a founder of Associated Press) once said "it may seem paradoxical, but it is not the speed one makes on a circuit that matters, but rather the speed one loses." This is as true today as it was over 100 years ago. It is always better to send information slowly and accurately once, than twice at a high rate of speed, which exceeds the ability of an operator to process it.

**73,  
Jim, WB8SIW**

**From: "Ron Baker WA6AZN"**  
[wabazn@earthlink.net](mailto:wabazn@earthlink.net)

Postmark KATRINA will air on the Weather Channel, Sunday and Monday August 27 and 28 at 8:00 P.M. Eastern Time. "Postmark Katrina" Produced by Les Rayburn, N1LF is a Weather Channel one hour special that tells the story of a service by Ham Radio to restore critical mail service to the battered Gulf Coast area in the wake of Katrina.

Rayburn and his crew were fully embedded with Federal Law Enforcement Officers from the U.S. Postal Service Enforcement agency within hours of Katrina making landfall. Critical High Frequency Communications for the National Communications System SHARES, was provided.

This program is recommended viewing for Ham Radio Operators.

Ed: Hope you had a chance to see this program !

## Subject: Antarctic Calling!

ANTARCTIC RADIO OPERATOR NEEDED. Alan, VK6CQ/VK0LD/VP8PJ/9V1DX, reports:

"I am looking for someone for a temporary position as a radio/communications

operator at Patriot Hills, Antarctica, this coming season. The job involves

maintaining voice communications with Twin Otter aircraft and mountaineering

parties on HF, VHF and Iridium satellite. This would suit an experienced

HF amateur radio operator and is a paid position with airfares to/from

Punta Arenas provided. Patriot Hills is located at 80 degrees South, at

the southern end of the Ellsworth Mountains and is serviced by a weekly

5 hour flight on an Ilyushin 76 cargo jet from Punta Arenas, Chile.

Accommodation, food etc. at Patriot Hills is provided free of charge.

Dates are approximately mid October 2006 to end of January 2007, but a

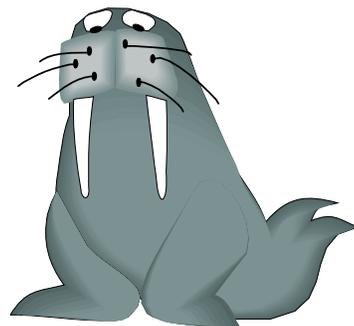
shorter period may be negotiated for suitable candidates. The position

requires very good English language skills and a reasonable level of

fitness." If you are interested, contact Alan at: [vk0ld@yahoo.com](mailto:vk0ld@yahoo.com)

To see pictures and info on Patriot Hills, visit Alan's Web page at:

<http://www.geocities.com/vk0ld/home.html>



# September 2006

## W8NP Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																	
<p>Upcoming Event: Oct 29 - Massillon Amateur Radio Club Hamfest!</p>	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr> <th colspan="7">Aug 2006</th> </tr> <tr> <td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </table>				Aug 2006							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	31			<p><i>1</i></p> <p>BD KB8STV BD N8GAF Massillon ARC Meeting, Massillon Senior Center, 8:00pm</p>	<p><i>2</i></p> <p>VE Test Session, Silvervreek ARC, 0930, Ctc: Barry Youmans, 330-925-1706, Wayne County Library</p>
Aug 2006																																																							
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<i>3</i> Massillon Radio Net - 3650 @ 1930	<i>4</i> <b>Labor Day</b>	<i>5</i> Massillon Radio Net - 3650 @ 1930  VE Test Session, Cuyahoga Falls ARC, 1900, Ctc: Bruce Ferry, 330-929-2766, Stow-Monroe Falls Public Library, Stow	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i> Massillon Radio Net - 3650 @ 1930	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>																																																	
<i>10</i> Findlay Hamfest, Ctc Dean Calvin, 419-423-3402  Massillon Radio Net - 3650 @ 1930  Western Pennsylvania Section Convention, Butler County ARA, Kevin Berry, KF4RMA, 724-586-1182	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i> Massillon Radio Net - 3650 @ 1930	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i> BD WA8HHO Massillon Radio Net - 3650 @ 1930	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>																																																	
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<i>24</i> BD K8RIC Cleveland Hamfest and Computer Show, Ctc. 800-CLE-FEST  Massillon Radio Net - 3650 @ 1930	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i> Massillon Radio Net - 3650 @ 1930	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i> Massillon Radio Net - 3650 @ 1930	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i> Akron Marathon																																																	