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The Monthly Newsletter of the Monongalia
Wireless Association
Morgantown, West Virginia

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President: Bill Jacobs, WA8YCG
Secretary/Treasurer: Norene Arnold, N8TJM

Vice President: Jack Averill, N8NQW
Newsletter Editor: Jack Coster, WF8X

**Equipment Swap Fest!
Before Next Club Meeting
Parking Lot Outside Engineering
Sciences Building
Tuesday, July 20 at 7:30pm
Then join us in G84 for the
meeting!**

N8IY APPOINTED NEW ARRL ORS

Sam Mercure, N8IY has been appointed ARRL Official Relay Station (ORS) by WV Section Manager Hal Turley, KC8FS. The ORS appointment is for stations within the section with outstanding dedication and commitment for handling NTS Traffic. Sam has been a regular on all the WV Phone and CW Nets and the Eighth Region Net which handles traffic between the ARRL Sections in the 8th call district, West Virginia, Ohio, and Michigan. Sam has acted as net control station for several of these nets and has started a local net on Monday nights at 9:00 PM on the W8MWA repeater. Congratulations, Sam! Keep up the great work!

Bob - WA8YCD

**Next Meeting
Tuesday - July 20, 2004
Engineering Sciences Building on
WVU Evansdale Campus.
Room G84**

CQ field day !! CQ field day!!

If you were at Sand Springs on June 26th and 27th that's what you would have heard echoing throughout the hills

This year the Mon Wireless association decided on setting up field day at the W8MWA repeater site up near Sand Springs camping site. It was my second year at field day and my first at Sand Springs.

Well the "pre-setup crew" was up there by Friday evening. They had the generator ready to go for Saturday. I wasn't able to make it to the site till Saturday morning at about 8:30am. My apologies to N8HGL and KC8RHO for showing up so early! (HI HI).

Thanks to K8LG's antenna launcher all the antennas went up with almost no problems. By 2:30pm all 5 stations were setup and in full operation. I had 40 and 80 meter CW, Bob N8HGL had 15 meters, Wick KC8RHO had 40 and 80 fone, Terry K3JT had 20 and 6 meter CW and SSB, and Randy N8OZY had 10 meters (which was actually open this year!)

Now, to the highlight of any of the Mon Wireless Association events.....THE DINNER!!! There was everything from homemade bean dip to sandwiches to hotdogs on the grill. All the food was wonderful! My compliments to the cooks! If you went away hungry it was your fault!

As the sun sets on the mountain and the sound of QR Zed field day and CW fills the air the mood of the camp changes from a hectic to a very relaxed pace. The others and I continued to operate till about 12:30am. After that I can't really tell you what happened till morning. I fell asleep (so much for me saying I was going to operate all night long!). The others informed me later that they went to bed not long after I did.

I awoke at about 7:30 am and breakfast was already cooking. Again, my compliments to the cooks! We continued to operate till 2:00pm (the field day time limit). There is no sound so quiet as 40 meters after field day!

As field day comes to an end we all started to wonder, who is going to collect all the logs?.....

Till the next field day..... 73 and good dx.

Sam Mercure N8IY

TUNE IN! Local VHF Nets

Night	Time	Location	Frequency	CTCSS
Sunday	01:00Z	Elkins	444.900+ 147.495+	141.3
	01:00Z	Preston County	147.000+	
Monday	01:00Z	Glennville	145.290-	191.5
	01:00Z	Monongalia County	145.430-	
Tuesday	01:00Z	Stonewall Jackson	147.210+	103.5
Wednesday	01:00Z	Barbour County Upshur County Taylor County	145.150- 146.850- 146.820-	103.5
3 rd Wednesday	22:00Z	Tucker County	146.400s	
Thursday	01:00Z	HAMTALK	(see HAMTALK List)	103.5
Friday	01:00Z	Elkins	146.775-	
Saturday	01:00Z	Mountain State Transmitters	145.370-	118.8

BOOTLEGGER ON W8MWA/R

After Monday night's Mon County Traffic Net N8IY and WA8YCD were talking on the repeater when a station broke in and gave the call W8ADD (0357Z 13 Jul 04). He told Sam and Bob that he was traveling from Toledo on his way to Florida, with his three sons, playing golf courses along the way. He said he was using "an HT with a Rubber Duck antenna" from a motel in (downtown) Morgantown. He seemed impressed with the coverage of the repeater.

Both Sam and Bob were trying to look him up in call sign databases. He never did give a name, and later came back with the call W8AA. Later Dave KC8YSO/m joined the conversation. Sam asked for his call sign again, and he gave the call W8AAA. Dave asked him for his call sign phonetically and he said W8AA again. Bob asked him what his name was and he never came back. Bob and Sam both tried to listen for him on reverse but neither could hear him.

This appears to be a case of someone who bought a radio somewhere (like Radio Shack). Radio Shack and other retail outlets have been reluctant to check for licenses when they sell amateur equipment, and according to one Radio Shack manager, this is a major contributing factor why the Tandy Corporation decided to drop its line of amateur gear.

Bob and Sam went to simplex to discuss the situation, but the stranger never came back on the repeater. Apparently he sensed that his status was being checked.
WA8YCD - Bob

FCC Sets New Vanity Fee Start Date: August 6, 2004 (Jul 7, 2004)

The FCC has announced that the new Amateur Radio vanity call sign regulatory fee of \$20.80 for the 10-year license term will go into effect August 6, 2004.

Up from \$16.30 = \$35,100 total annual increase.

MWA Now Has Renewed Online Presence

(Or . . . How I got the job!)

The World Wide Web has blossomed into quite a phenomenon. There's online shopping, internet gaming, streaming entertainment, distance education... the list goes on and on. The "Information Superhighway" has become another important communications method for exchanging information. So who are we to turn our backs from communications, eh?

Ok, I've been known to take some extreme measures in the past, such as making hotel reservations based purely on the quality of the company's website. Were the webpages too fru-fru? Was the accommodation information easy to find and understand? Was more time spent talking about the grand lobby than the actual rooms?

So when I recently joined MWA, I wanted to find an outlet in which I could contribute. I have a little web experience from maintaining two other sites and saw that the existing MWA site had not been updated for quite some time. As a just-renewed Amateur Radio Operator, I felt this would be a way for me to contribute at this time. As well, it would be an excellent way for me to get caught up in all things Ham-related, especially as it pertained to this area. So I brought up my interest to Norene. Before long, she granted me access to the site and encouraged me to be creative. What you see online now is a representation of my original vision for the site.

I usually consider myself as my toughest critic (though this may change after this article is published) but I encourage you to visit <http://www.qsl.net/w8mwa/> and let me know what you think. I will consider any suggestions, additions, or corrections that are offered.

Thanks one and all for the opportunity to participate!

-Roger, KC8YNZ

YOUR STORY HERE!

Solid copy is looking for contributors! If you've attended an event and would like to let everyone know about it, please submit the story to either Jack Coster WF8X or Jennifer McCartney KC8YNY and we'll try to get it in the next newsletter!

Utility Cuts Short BPL

NEWINGTON, CT, Jun 28, 2004--

Alliant Energy has called an early end to its broadband over power line (BPL) pilot project in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The "evaluation system" went live March 30, and plans were for it to remain active until August or September. Alliant shut it down June 25. Ongoing, unresolved HF interference from the system to retired engineer Jim Spencer, W0SR, and other amateurs prompted the ARRL to file a complaint to the FCC on Spencer's behalf demanding it be shut down. Spencer said he was happy with Alliant's decision, and was gracious in expressing appreciation to the utility for working with him on the interference issues.

"And thanks also to the ARRL and the Cedar Rapids BPL Steering Committee for their knowledge and efforts in making a truly professional evaluation," he added.

Alliant Energy's BPL Project Leader Dan Hinz says the ARRL complaint "certainly was a factor" in the utility's decision to pull the plug prematurely but "not the overriding factor." More to the point, he said, was that Alliant also was able to "accomplish the majority of its objectives" ahead of schedule. The primary purpose of the Cedar Rapids evaluation was to gain an understanding of BPL technology and what issues might be involved in a real-world deployment, Hinz explained, adding that regulatory uncertainty and other unspecified technical issues also factored into the choice to end the pilot early. . . . *(Read the rest on <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2004/06/28/2/?nc=1>)*

Alan Erickson, WB0OAV

FIELD DAY TOTALS

Meter	Type	Contacts
80	CW	43
80	Phone	3
40	CW	151
40	Phone	13
20	CW	426
20	Phone	38
15	Phone	31
10	Phone (25 Watt station)	13
6	CW	4
6	Phone	9

1st 20 Contacts on each

(Except 20M CW, & 6M)

10 Phone	15 Phone	20 Phone	40 CW	40 Phone	80CW	80 Phone
AB4GA	W4E	K5DX	W8SP	N1FD	W2MMD	W4CA
AC4BB	K4BFT	W9EBV	W2MMD	K9SG	NY1S	AF4PQ
W4ZT	N4N	K1SV	W9CA	NE8J	N1FD	N8KUK
AB4BF	W4BKM	KT0R	W9AXD	KD1MW	K3ZMC	
N4LR	N4LR	VE3QCB	W2ZQ	K8FBI	K3DN	
W7Q	AA5NT	K0USA	KW8G	W9AB	W3CMA	
K0HW	K0RH	K9TP	W2LV	W9CA	W9CCU	
AA5NT	WB9F	N5PA	W1OP	AF4NP	W8PT	
W3PIE	W0GG	NJ4M	W8TCM	AA9Z	K3ONW	
W4QQ	N5YA	NZ5T	W1NY	N2MTG	W2VA	
KA5E	KC5FU	W1NY	K4HJ	N8OS	VE2GB	
W0ZA	W6VIO	W6SON	W9AB	WB8KY	W1RFD	
K3HRC	NP2I	W0NT	W1LEE	N1VT	W8VND	
	KP3RE	W6SW	N2NO		N2SE	
	KK5LE	W4SS	W4POX		AK4N	
	K4YHB	W4FAR	K2IQ		N8RN	
	KP2AA	W9JOZ	N4LR		W8FY	
	K4HRS	W9AA	K9ZA		VE2CBH	
	K7LED	W1FZ	W1QI		K2VN	
	K7ZSD	WX4MC	W1SMH		NN2F	