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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

Next Club Meeting

May 18, 2004. WVU Engineering Bldg.
7:30 P.M.

Traffic Training Net

A traffic training net has been started on the W8MWA repeater. The net is called at 9:00 P.M. on Monday evenings by N8IY, Sam, Net Control.

Mon County Airport Day

April 24 was a busy day at Hart Field in Morgantown. The emphasis was informing youth about aircraft. A number of planes were on static display and kids could get rides in others. MWA members set up a canopy and demonstrated FM and HF radio. Thanks to Bob, N8HGL, for coordinating the MWA radio parts of the event.



W3GEG at Airport Day

Dayton Hamvention

April showers may bring May flowers, but those showers also bring **"The Dayton Hamvention"**. In April the common greeting among hams is "Are you going to Dayton this year?" The answer is positive for many MWA folks and, as usual, the club will be well represented among the approximately 25,000 hams at this big bash. Some MWA hams have been steady partakers for 20 or more years. For others, it will be their first visit to this notorious event. Hamwise speaking, you are never the same after going to Dayton in May. This year is special for me because I have had to miss the past two Hamventions when I was out of the country. There is some catching up to do. We will see you there. I will be the guy with the 2 meter radio on his belt.

— Jack, WF8X

Interested in License Class?

Bob, WA8YCD, is willing to start another license class if there are sufficient numbers of people interested in getting their first ham Technician license. Contact Bob at wa8ycd@arrl.net.

June and July Solid Copy

Jennifer, KC8YNY, will prepare the next two issues of the newsletter while I am in China. Send her any info at jmcartney@hsc.wvu.edu

New Morse Character Official

The International Morse code officially gains a new character on May 3. That's when the now-familiar "@" symbol joins the Morse lexicon as the letters "AC" run together (didahdahdidahdit.). Known as the "commercial at" or "commat," the @ symbol never rose to the level of usage that demanded a unique Morse character until it gained currency as a critical component of e-mail addresses during the past decade or so. The pending change has attracted some attention in the media, including mentions on National Public Radio's All Things Considered and in The New York Times.

– ARRL Newsletter

ARES

Ares was the Greek god of War. ARES is also the American Real Estate Society. But hams know that ARES is the acronym for Amateur Radio Emergency Service. But many of us don't know what ARES does. Bob, N8HGL, is MWA's Emergency Expert, and you can get good info from him about ARES, Red Cross, and 911 in Mon County. Another good place to learn about ARES is at www.arrl.org and look under "public service" and "emergency services".

Field Day is Around the Corner

The hours: 1800 UTC June 26 - 2100 UTC June 27.

The Place: Sand Springs, at Chestnut Ridge, beneath the WNPB broadcast tower. Field Day is an operating event (for some) designed to test emergency preparedness in less than optimal conditions. It is the largest on-the-air operating event in the U.S. . It is always the 4th weekend in June. Hams ask, "When was the first Field Day?" I don't know, but you should ask Bill, WA8YCG, our fearless President and club Historian. Next month we hope that Solid Copy will be able to announce MWA's Field Day Chairman for 2004.

"CQ Field Day. CQ Field Day. This is Whiskey 8 Mike Whiskey Alpha."

