



## MWA'S NEW MEETING LOCATION

### A BIG SUCCESS IN MANY WAYS

Thirty Three amateur radio operators, most members of MWA were in attendance at the 'New and Improved' September 2006 meeting of Monongalia Wireless Association (MWA).

MWA President, Leroy Heck, N8UEV, said the new location of the meetings made the September MWA meeting a huge success, primarily because access was easy and parking was close and available.

MWA V-P Randy Crowe, N8OZY, and Secretary/Treasurer Norene Arnold, N8TJM said it was very encouraging to see over 30 members at a meeting. The combination of easy access, plentiful parking, food and a great presentation all made the meeting a success.

Many MWA members echoed these same comments and added the selection of snacks and refreshments as a

Monongalia Wireless Association (MWA) has found a new home for the monthly meetings. The Red Cross office located in the White Birch Tower building, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. 33 MWA members and guest attended the September meeting.

welcome, very tasty surprise.

The APRS, DAREN and packet presentation had many members asking lots and lots of questions. The presentation was made more interesting and interactive by the fact that the Red Cross facility has internet, amateur radio equipment on site, and Power Point equipment for show and tell. Jake (APRS) Tennant, K8JWT, and Bob (DAREN) Steele, N8HGL had several people interested in starting the VHF packet mode.

All 33 in attendance were very excited about the new and improved MWA meeting and said they will be back.

The October meeting of MWA will feature Bob Steele, N8HGL, EC Monongalia County with a presentation of ARES and Emergency Communications. Bob will debrief the SET and discuss ARES, MARS, and go over several ARES programs.

Rick Heis, N8PDQ

#### MWA Meeting info

- OCTOBER 17, 2006
- Third Tuesday of every month **7:00pm**
- Refreshments at 6:30pm
- Red Cross office  
White Birch Towers  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor
- Meeting topic  
Emergency  
Communications  
ARES - MARS etc.
- Refreshments & snacks
- Equipment set up assistance

*"It is not the class of license the Amateur holds, but the class of the Amateur that holds the license."*

#### MWA INFO

##### President

Leroy Heck - N8UEV

##### Vice President

Randy Crowe - N8OZY

##### Secretary/Treasurer

Norene Arnold - N8TJM

##### ARES Mon. County

##### Emergency Coordinator

Bob Steele - N8HGL

##### Web Administrator

Roger Neptune - KC8YNZ

<http://www.gsl.net/W8MWA>

##### Net Control - Wed 7:30pm

Jim Southern - KC8GGX

##### Editor

Rick Heis - N8PDQ

[RadarRick@atlanticbb.net](mailto:RadarRick@atlanticbb.net)

(304) 864-6356



MWA Snack and Refreshments

**ALL FAT FREE**

What refreshment is this?



## MWA Presidents message

Hello and greetings to all MWA members!

### Packet is back 145.050 MHz

The September MWA club meeting has inspired me to put my packet station back on the air. My packet station can be contacted on 145.050 MHz. My TNC mailbox can be contacted at N8UEV-1. Early this spring, several of our local radio operators were in regular daily contact via packet radio on 145.050 MHz! If we were to have enough regular users, our local packet guru K8LG Mike

Palmer has offered to put a packet BBS back in service.

The last meeting also inspired me that MWA is still alive. We had 33 in attendance. I want to thank Bob Steele, N8HGL and Jake Tennant, K8JWT for the great packet presentation. I also want to thank Jackie Tokarcik, N8YND for the great snacks and refreshments.

In closing, I look forward to seeing more Amateur Operators at the MWA club meetings in the future.

73 N8UEV Leroy Heck

## Need 'HAM' help or radio assistance?

How many of you are not as active in amateur radio as you would like to be?

If this is because of something that you need assistance with or lack equipment or lack confidence in operating skills, read on.

If you have a radio or other equipment that needs to be set up or programmed, bring all the radio equipment **AND** the instruction manual. Let our experts assist you with set up. We are there to help you solve concerns or answer your questions.

The best time for assistance is before the meeting, during the refreshment session.

The October meeting presentation will be Emergency Communications, ARES, MARS. We will also have a 'make your own' emergency communication roll up VHF J-Pole for the field. See article on page 4.

Rick Heis, N8PDQ



The meeting before the meeting



### MWA new meeting location

White Birch Tower Building  
1299 Pineview Drive  
Morgantown WV  
Red Cross area on 3<sup>rd</sup> floor

## NEW LAW FORMALLY MAKES AMATEUR RADIO PART OF EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS COMMUNITY

A section of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) 2007 Appropriations Act, HR 5441 formally includes Amateur Radio operators as a part of the emergency communications community. Congress approved the measure before adjourning for its pre-election break. President George W. Bush signed the bill into law *October 4, 2006*.

Amateur Radio is included within the legislation's Subtitle D, Section 671, known as the "21st Century Emergency Communications Act." Radio amateurs are among the entities with which a Regional Emergency Communications Coordination Working Group (RECC Working Group) must coordinate its activities. Included within the DHS's Office of Emergency Communications which the measure also creates -- RECC Working Groups attached to each regional DHS office will advise federal and state homeland security officials. The final version of the legislation incorporated language from both House and Senate bills and was hammered out in a conference committee. An earlier version of the 21st Century Emergency Communications Act, HR 5852, included Amateur Radio operators as members of the RECC Working Groups.

In addition to Amateur Radio operators, RECC Working Groups also will coordinate with communications equipment manufacturers and vendors -- including broadband data service providers, local exchange carriers, local broadcast media, wireless carriers, satellite communications services, cable operators, hospitals, public utility services, emergency evacuation transit services, ambulance services, and representatives from other private sector entities and nongovernmental organizations.

The RECC Working Groups will assess the survivability, sustainability and interoperability of local emergency communication systems to meet the goals of the National Emergency Communications Report. That report would recommend how the US could "accelerate the deployment of interoperable emergency communications nationwide." They also will coordinate the establishment of "effective multi-jurisdictional, multi-agency emergency communications networks" that could be brought into play in an emergency or disaster.

In light of the new legislation, the ARRL plans to follow up to determine how it can interact with the DHS and its Office of Emergency Communications.

### **VE testing Thursday Oct 26**

Amateur Radio Examinations  
Thursday, October 26, 2006  
7:00pm

MWA meeting location  
Red Cross facility, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor  
White Birch Tower building  
1299 Pineview Drive

Schedule and info:  
Al Heck, W3GEG  
(304) 296-5176

### **Harry Heflin, WD8JGR, SK**

Dr. Harry Heflin, WVU's 18<sup>th</sup> President  
passed away September 29, 2006

### **WV State Amateur Radio Council (WVSARC) Fall Meeting**

**Saturday, October 28, 2006**

**Western Steer Steak House - 1:00 PM**  
(come early and lunch with the group)  
**1-79 @ Exit 99**

**All WV Amateurs are members of WVSARC**  
Everyone is welcome

## Amateurs You Know James McEwuen, W8GUL

I was first licensed in 1951, but my interest in ham radio began much earlier. By tuning my old Radiola III to the top of the broadcast band, I could listen to a couple of local hams in Weston, WV on 160 meters. I finally found nerve enough to go to Fes Greathouse's (W8PZT), and knock on the door and introduce myself. He had a kilowatt rig, all open construction, and I was fascinated by it. We talked in a "roundtable" to a station in the mid-west, and to Alaska and maybe a couple others on 160 meters, and I was hooked. He started teaching me code until he had to leave to go to Ohio to work in a defense plant.

After three years service in the Army in World War II, I began working toward my General Class license - that's when I became W8GUL.

I was working at WHAW in Weston as an engineer at the transmitter site. Six meters was becoming popular, so I built a 6 meter rig - open breadboard style. I took it to work with me and was talking to a ham across town when the boss called to say that he was "hearing voices" on the radio. I knew in an instant that I was modulating the broadcast transmitter, since my 6-meter rig was sitting on a table right next to it. I quickly ended my conversation.

In 1963 I joined Navy MARS (Military Affiliate Radio System), an organization of hams who provide auxiliary communication for Navy personnel. During my time with Navy MARS,

I have held the positions of Training Officer, Emergency Communications Officer, State Director and District Emergency Communications Officer for the Fourth Navy MARS District, which included eight states and the District of Columbia. I am still an active member of Navy MARS now in my forty-third year as NNNOTNS.

In 1966 I was offered a job with the Navy Department which specified in the job description that the applicant be an amateur radio operator. As a civilian employee I was treated as an officer, so I had the "best of both worlds." I retired from the Navy after twenty years.

The Monongalia Wireless Association named me "Amateur of the Year" in 1981-1982, and I was chosen as West Virginia Amateur of the year in 1989.

As a member of "Partners of the Americas" a private international organization, I worked with West Virginia University personnel in an effort to build good will and cooperation between states in North and South America. West Virginia's partner was the state of Espirito Santo in Brazil. My contact was "Pat" Fitzpatrick (PP1BG), and we communicated on a regular schedule. In 1991 the Partners organization sent me to Brazil to share mutually beneficial information about flood mitigation.

After fifty-five years, I am still active in MARS and ARES, providing communications in emergency situations.

### October MWA Meeting instructions for a roll up J-Pole

At the October meeting of MWA we will be discussing ARES and many forms of Emergency Communications.

One of the main concerns with in the field emergency communications is the inefficiency of a 'rubber duck' antenna on a handheld radio and the lower power settings.

One solution to the rubber ducky inefficiency - Emergency Communications Roll UP VHF J-Pole antenna. We will provide instructions to make the J-Pole. All materials cost less than \$10.00

We will also have instructions for a 'plumbers special' copper pipe J-Pole.

## Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) Saturday/Sunday October 21/22

JOTA is an annual event in which 400,000 Boy and Girl Scouts and Guides from all over the world speak to each other by means of Amateur Radio. Scouting experiences are exchanged and ideas are shared via radio waves. JOTA takes place starting Saturday, **October 21** at 0001 hours local time to Sunday, **October 22** at 2359 hours local time, though some activity continues over from Friday to Monday to take advantage of long distance (DX) time differences. Stations should call "CQ Jamboree," or answer stations doing so. Any authorized frequency may be used. It is recommended that stations use the agreed World Scout Frequencies, listed. To avoid congestion, use close-by frequencies.

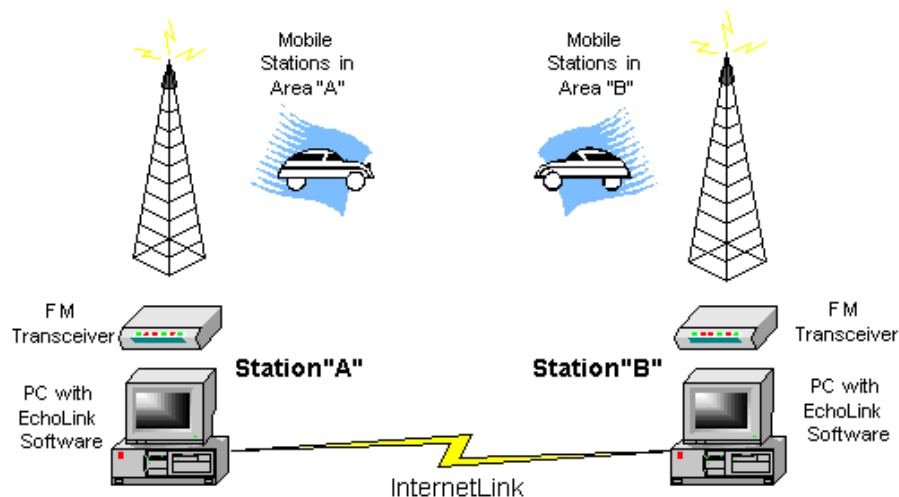
JOTA is not a contest. The idea is **not** to contact as many stations as possible during the weekend. If you can, spend some time talking with our scout youth and make a difference in their lives and set the seed for future hams.

Band	SSB (phone)	CW (Morse code)
80 meters	3.740 / 3.940 MHz	3.590 MHz
40 meters	7.270 MHz	7.030 MHz
20 meters	14.290 MHz	14.070 MHz
17 meters	18.140 MHz	18.080 MHz
15 meters	21.360 MHz	21.140 MHz
12 meters	24.960 MHz	24.910 MHz
10 meters	28.390 MHz	28.190 MHz

## EchoLink

EchoLink® software allows licensed Amateur Radio stations to communicate with one another over the Internet, using voice-over-IP (VoIP) technology. The program allows worldwide connections to be made between stations, or from computer to station, greatly enhancing Amateur Radio's communications capabilities. There are more than 170,000 registered users in 158 nations worldwide! The program runs on Microsoft Windows®. It is offered free of charge. <http://www.echolink.org/>

### Linking Example



Forward this newsletter via email or snail mail to those who would appreciate a copy. Print out a copy(s) and leave at work or school or a doctor's office.

THE OCTOBER MEETING OF MWA  
NOMINATION OF OFFICERS FOR THE COMING YEAR.  
REQUESTING NOMINATIONS FOR PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENT  
AND SECRETARY/TREASURER.

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2007

Presentation Emergency Communications  
ARES and other forms of emergency communications  
Debrief October SET

MWA – MARA Annual Holiday Dinner  
Tygart Lake State Park Lodge  
Saturday, Dec 9, 2006  
7:00pm dinner (6:00pm social hour)

**Bring a friend to the meeting**

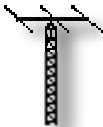
NEW MWA meeting location will have a talk in frequency MWA repeater on 145.43 (tone 103.5)

OR

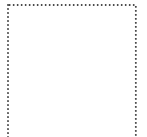
Cell 685-0862

Cell 216-1726

MWA web site <http://www.qsl.net/W8MWA>



MWA  
PO Box 4263  
Morgantown, WV 26504



Name

Street Address

City, State Zip Code