



# SOLID COPY

Monongalia Wireless Association Newsletter



## "Ham" Radio Friends of my late Husband, Jim McEwuen W8GUL / NNN0TNS

I have asked Bob Steele to relay my heartfelt thanks to all of you who knew Jim and who sent cards, or e-mail condolences to the Hastings Funeral Home, attended the memorial gathering on February 13, called to see him while he was in the hospital, helped me out when I was in need, and otherwise expressed great kindness during the recent time of Jim's illness and death.

I was overcome by the kind notes that revealed to me just how much Jim was liked and respected by his amateur friends. It was truly a great comfort to me and has increased the pride his children feel for him.

I have met some of you – at the MARS gatherings at North Bend every year and the annual Christmas dinners and summer picnics of the Mon Wireless Association, and at the "sometimes" luncheons of the Quarter Century Wireless Association, and some of you are old friends of many years; but others who sent cards I have never met or only rarely have encountered. I want to let everyone know how much I appreciate your friendship to Jim. Amateur radio has been a vital part of "who he was" for as long as I knew him. As with all of the activities he took part in over his lifetime, he gave it his best.

I miss him terribly. He really was "my better half". Thank you so much for your many expressions of love and respect.

Sincerely,

Alice McEwuen

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

MWA President Bill Harris has asked me to serve as **FELLOWSHIP LIAISON** for Monongalia Wireless Association. My responsibility will be to contact members of our club having problems or special occasions.

Examples: Sickness, surgery, death in family, some rough spots in life. Happy times: Birth of children, academic achievements, other organizations milestone achievements, Birthday's or milestone Anniversary. Also special achievements within Amateur Radio.

I will have cards for the above subjects at the club meetings which members can sign and I will mail.

If you know of a member that would like to receive a card please contact Wick Kirk at: [randskirk@westco.net](mailto:randskirk@westco.net) 304-983-8050

This will be for members of MWA and Repeater Assoc. This program will only work with your help. So please let me know. If you have any comments or suggestions I would like to hear them.

73 DE KC8RHO WICK

### MWA Meeting info

- March 20, 2007
- Third Tuesday of every month **7:00pm**
- Refreshments at 6:30pm
- Red Cross office  
White Birch Towers  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor
- Meeting topic  
-National Emergency Response Planning Committee Report  
-Committee formations  
-Repeater in western part of the county discussion
- Equipment set up assistance

### MWA INFO

#### President

Bill Harris – N6XAK

#### Vice President

Randy Crowe – N8OZY

#### Secretary/Treasurer

Bob Steele – N8HGL

#### ARES Mon. County

#### Emergency Coordinator

Bob Steele – N8HGL

#### Web Administrator

Roger Neptune – KC8YNZ

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

#### Fellowship Liaison

Wick Kirk – KC8RHO

304-983-8050

#### Editor

Rick Heis – N8PDQ

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

(304) 864-6356

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

De N6XAK

This winter season has really messed some folks up. I've seen at least two good sized beams that were broken due to the ice formations. Now is a good time to take a walk around and check your hardware that is outside. Winter isn't over and with all the tornado warnings I'm seeing on the news lately, you want to be aware now while you can do something about it. After all, you want to know which storm to blame it on. You never know, you may need that equipment for an emergency. Check your connections and make sure the water is staying out or at least has a way to get out. Sometimes, about this time of year things get a little green from all the moisture.

Sharon and I are progressing with the move. I keep trying to go to the basement and set up radios while she keeps pointing at the front bedroom to get it finished. I guess she doesn't appreciate a comfortable air bed the way I do. To add to all the other things that can go wrong, we had an oil spill and it's still stinking up the house. Anybody got any good ideas on how to get rid of the odor?

If you haven't heard on the net, there are several ham fests coming up, so those of you that have been waiting all winter, here is your chance to get out and find those treasures. For those of you that are just starting out in the hobby, this is a good way to meet fellow hams and discuss toys to play with. If you shop, you can find some really good bargains. If you just aren't sure, invite a fellow ham that has been around a while to go with you. I'm sure that between the two or three of you, you can come up with something.

Jim/KC8GGX has mentioned that we should have a mascot. Good idea. Anybody got any ideas as to what we should use? Bring it to show and tell at the meeting and let's see what we come up with. If you have any ideas for club logo or logo changes as it is, please bring that also. I still haven't had any feedback on the type of jackets you want or the hats or anything else. We need to have you be vocal on this so we can make some decisions. Please don't leave it up to one or two people to decide and then complain later that it should have been another way. This is your club. Please help make those decisions. The most prominent thing I see at the ham fests are badges and sometimes club hats or jackets. Where do you want to start? I recommend that we start with badges and work our way up from there. What do you think?

How many of you would like to volunteer to fill jobs as they come up? I know, I can hear you groaning now. I've done it all and don't really want to do it anymore. So have I but without your help there will be no functions. There are a number of things going on this year that will need someone to kind of take charge so we have a central go to person. If you do nothing else but know what is happening and how it is all coming together, that would be a great help. Don't worry; you will get plenty of help. And I'm sure there will be lots of people telling you what to do. So that's it. Never looked at it that way! Come on, what do you say? To be frank, your officers just can't handle it all and do a good job. We need your help as a couple of us still have full time jobs. Won't you please get on the bus and ride along with us?

Just remember: when you come to the end of all the light you know, and it's time to step into the darkness of the unknown, faith is knowing that one of two things will happen; either you will be given something solid to stand on or you will be taught to fly.

Edward Teller.....

Bill Harris 73



## Emergency Coordinator Message, N8HGL



The effects of severe weather are felt every year by many Americans. To obtain critical weather information, NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS), part of the U.S. Department of Commerce, established SKYWARN with partner organizations. SKYWARN is a volunteer program with over 230,000 trained severe weather spotters. These volunteers help keep their local communities safe by providing timely and accurate reports of severe weather to the National Weather Service.

Although SKYWARN spotters provide essential information for all types of weather hazards, the main responsibility of a SKYWARN spotter is to identify and describe severe local storms. In the average year, 10,000 severe thunderstorms, 5,000 floods and more than 1,000 tornadoes occur across the United States. These events threatened lives and property.

Since the program started in the 1970s, the information provided by SKYWARN spotters, coupled with Doppler radar technology, improved satellite and other data, has enabled NWS to issue more timely and accurate warnings for tornadoes, severe thunderstorms and flash floods.

SKYWARN storm spotters are part of the ranks of citizens who form the Nation's first line of defense against severe weather. There can be no finer reward than to know that their efforts have given communities the precious gift of time--seconds and minutes that can help save lives.

### Who is Eligible?

NWS encourages anyone with an interest in public service and access to communication, such as HAM radio, to join the SKYWARN program. Volunteers include police and fire personnel, dispatchers, EMS workers, public utility workers and other concerned private citizens. Individuals affiliated with hospitals, schools, churches, nursing homes or who have a responsibility for protecting others are also encouraged to become a spotter.

### How Can I Get Involved?

NWS has 122 local Weather Forecast Offices, each with a Warning Coordination Meteorologist, who is responsible for administering the SKYWARN program in their local area. Training covers:

- Basics of thunderstorm development
- Fundamentals of storm structure
- Identifying potential severe weather features
- Information to report
- How to report information
- Basic severe weather safety

Classes are free and typically are two hours long.

**Class scheduled Tuesday, April 24, 2007 at the Morgantown Red Cross facility for info contact: Bob Steele at (304) 292-0742 or [n8hgl@arrl.net](mailto:n8hgl@arrl.net)**

**This is the same location as the MWA meeting, but is NOT on a regular scheduled meeting night**



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

## MWA February 2007 MEETING MINUTES

President Bill Harris/N6XAK presiding  
Introductions  
Pledge of allegiance

Minutes for Jan 2007 meeting read and approved

Treasurer's report given.

Repeater status reported by N8OZY/Randy 440 down.

Ham class started 15 Feb status given by WA8YCD/Bob

VE report by W3GEG/Al

Presented information on potential donations of VHF repeaters to MWA/Bob N8HGL

SKYWARN class date and information by N8HGL/Bob

Sgt at Arms KC8RHO/Wick, requested information on any Hams sick or in need.

WVUARC meeting and info on balloon launch date by KC8AML/Aaron

Prize drawing by N8UEV/Leroy, prize to K2PQI/Ray

Joint meeting MWA/WVUARC suggested by K2PQI/Ray

Presentation on obtaining MWA logo items by R.J. Aronhalt, invited by KC8RHO/Wick

Provided info on MHS Technology Fair, request volunteers for Ham station/Bob N8HGL

Meeting was adjourned

### Area Amateur Radio HamFest

Mar 17 – Charleston Area Hamfest, WV  
<http://www.karc.wvhamradio.com/>

Mar 31-Apr 1 – GBHC, Baltimore area, MD  
<http://www.gbhc.org/>

If you know of an area Hamfest, send info to Rick Heis

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUMMARY ONLY

Apr ??	Balloon Launch WVU Club Jacksons Mill, WV
Apr 20	MHS Technology Fair Ham Radio
Apr 24	Skywarn Class
April 26	VE Testing, Morgantown WV
May 6	Ripley Hamfest
May 6	Hagerstown area Hamfest
May 12	Armed Forces Day, Crossband
May 18-20	Dayton Hamfest
June 3	Breezeshooters Hamfest
June 9	Aviation Day
Jun 23-24	Field Day
July 1	Triathlon
July 8	North Hills Hamfest
Aug 5	Berryville Hamfest
Aug 25	WVSARC Convention
Sept 1	Uniontown Gabfest
Sept 8-9	Gaithersburg FarFest
Oct 20-21	JOTA

Details see Bob Steele, N8HGL



**SKYWARN Training**  
Tuesday April 24  
*not the meeting night*

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

To schedule and info:  
Bob Steele, N8HGL  
(304) 216-1726 (cell)  
[N8HGL@arrl.net](mailto:N8HGL@arrl.net) (email)

VHF NETS

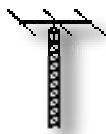
Monday	9:00pm	Monongalia Traffic Net	-145.430 MHz	PL 103.5
Tuesday	8:00pm	Preston ARES Net	+147.000 MHz	PL 103.5
Wednesday	7:30pm	MWA informal fun net	-145.430 MHz	PL 103.5
Wednesday*	7:30pm	Monongalia County ARES Net	-145.430 MHz	PL 103.5
Thursday	8:00pm	HAMTALK VHF state net	+147.075 MHz	PL 103.5
Sunday	9:00pm	Preston Rag Chew net	-147.000 MHz	PL 103.5

\* Monthly on Wednesday following the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday or the day after the MWA meeting

HF NETS

DAILY	6:00pm	HF Fone net	3865 KHz
1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday of month following the fone net		Mountain State Emergency Net	3865 KHz

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



MWA  
PO Box 4263  
Morgantown, WV 26504

