

FEEDBACK



JULY 2002

VOLUME 47 NUMBER 7



JULY MEETING

The next meeting for the Massillon Amateur Radio Club will be held at the Massillon Senior Center in Downtown Massillon on July 5th, 2002 at 8:00 PM.

By the time you read this Field Day 2002 will be just a fond memory. Field Day was held on June 22, 23 2002. I hope everyone of you had a chance to visit the Field Day site and partake in the activities. There was something for everyone to do at Field Day from "working" the pile - ups to just having an "eyeball" QSO with an old friend. As usual there was plenty to eat Saturday night and a great time was had by all!. I can't get into specifics about Field Day because this article is written BEFORE Field Day! Therefore the results from Field Day will not be known for some time. It takes about a whole month to gather all the information and scores so that we can submit it to the League for final scoring. We will not be ready with the final score until the August meeting. As usual we hope to have a few pictures to publish in next month's Feedback along with the band by band totals and scores.

At the July meeting we will not focus on Field Day results rather other pressing issues will be discussed such as the next Safety Break coming up in September. The next Safety Break will be held on September 27 - 28 - 29, 2002 to be precise. This will be our last Safety Break for the year. Our last one held in May was a success, despite the poor weather. We are hoping for warmer and drier weather so that we can make the best of our last Safety Break for the year. Again everyone's help will be needed for this event. Please sign up at the meeting and get the shift that you want!

Terry N8ATZ will be asking for help with this year's Football Hall of Fame Kickoff Parade and the Grand Parade. This is the biggest Public Service event of the year and many hams from the Canton and Massillon Amateur Radio Club's are to be commended for their fine effort each year. So if you can spare a little time at the end of the month, be sure to let Terry know so he can get you scheduled! See Ya at the Meeting!

- SHORT SKIP -

We cycle? A recent vote in the European Parliament foreshadows that all electrical and electronic equipment sold in Europe after 2005 will have to be recycled at the manufacture's expense. Under new European legislation, householders will NOT be allowed to throw away any unwanted electrical or electronic goods..... Boy Bunkey, how about all those WWII Command Sets ? (HI)

COMING SOON..... THE ARGONAUT V

73 DE WB8OWM

HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY 4th OF JULY !



MARC MINUTES June 7, 2002

The June Massillon Amateur Radio Club meeting was held at the Senior Center on June 7, 2002 at 8:00 PM with 27 members present.

MARC President Gene W8KXR called the meeting to order at 8:00 P.M. The Pledge of Allegiance was given. A round of introductions was made by members and guests alike.

Gene then asked to suspend reading the May Minutes, but asked to accept them as stated in the FEEDBACK. The Motion was made by Perry W8AU and second by Byron KF8UN. Motion carried.

MARC Treasurer Anne N8GAF gave the financial report, she also reported on the Safety Break earnings. A Motion was made to accept her report by Sandra N8TZB and second by Gary WC8W. the Motion was accepted and carried.

A vote was taken on the By-Laws changes proposed by Bruce AB8FB last month. According to our code of Regulations it was submitted and went to committee for a language and feasibility study. The committee recommended it's passage. A vote was taken; The new By- Law passed 100%.

OLD BUSINESS

Charlie, KB8STV, gave his update on emergency training. His report included a very fine description on Traffic handling.

Perry W8AU asked members to contact Ralph Regula for his support of the HR4720 Bill to ease antenna restrictions. For more details, consult the ARRL July issue of QST for up to date information.

Dan N8DZM gave a demo of his "fox" for Field Day activity. This was equipment he picked up in Dayton. So everyone "dust" off those 'ole DFer's and bring 'em to Field Day!!

Byron KF8UN gave his DX report, also passed around some QSL cards that the club received from the QSL bureau in Columbus.

We welcomed back Jerry KF8EB. He brought pictures of his home that was destroyed by the tornado in May. He thanked MARC members for the check he received to help him get back on the air.

Field Day was discussed, Helpers will meet at Jim WA8GXM home to load up then proceed to Petros Park. Dan N8DZM will be Chef again this year, but everyone is to bring a covered dish.

NEW BUSINESS

Don W8DEF said we need help with the hospitals for Skywarn. Volunteers are needed to man stations especially during the day. See Gene if you can be of service.

The meeting ended at 9:05 P.M. with Don W8DEF winning the 50-50 for \$14.50. A second drawing was held for a repeater directory, it was won by Russ N8PIL.

Minutes by Linda K8MOO Secretary MARC

Tec Topics 04

Painting Aluminum Panels, and Other Stuff Or Producing Professional Quality Radio Cosmetics

Well it had to happen... You, as a real Ham 'Young Buzzard,' decided to really take the plunge and build something!! Wow, congratulations! They say it's a real 'badge of courage' and a mark of a real Ham if you took schematic in hand, maybe even a pair of pliers, a screw driver, drill, and some solder flux...and built something that seems to do what it's supposed to do. But wait just a minute! There's a real problem! Even though it's a super electronic widget, and runs better than some of the Collins classics, it sure don't look pretty, err. . . actually it is down right ugly, stricken with a case of "Ugly Panel."

Ugly Panel is often diagnosed as any raw chassis with no paint or labels, or a 19 inch panel with no paint and no labels, or some variation of this general theme. Very often projects fail to be really neat, because that last extra push to do the cosmetics just never gets taken care of. Then your latest electronic creation, or even a salvaged gem from a Fest, even though most likely cutting edge technology, looks like just another hack job, and fails to impress even you as it's creator, and will scare your chums, if you hope to show off your engineering genius.

Painting aluminum chassis and panels is extremely simple, although it too requires some simple procedures that are easy but critical to good results. Here are some of the basics that will help to put that finishing touch on the cosmetics and produce an excellent appearing bit of electronics as well a one that I'm sure you've tuned to the last dB.

First, if your panel/chassis has been painted, it has to be stripped to bare aluminum. Check the local hardware for your favorite stripping system...do it just like a stripping a chair or table...but, be sure to use proper ventilation and protection for your hands.

Once the old paint and primers, if any are removed, thoroughly degrease your work with your favorite stuff, such as Simple Green, 409, or any other system you like to make sure the work is totally degreased and squeaky clean.

Next, prime the aluminum with any of the typical automotive primers. Take a look at the shelves in the usual auto parts places and you'll find a great variety of brands and colors. Use ones designed specifically for aluminum. Their chemistry is designed specifically for the relatively inert surface of aluminum.

By the way, Aluminum by itself is quite reactive, but the reason it is tough and looks great is that it is so reactive that, as soon as the pure metal is exposed to oxygen, it reacts to produce its own tough protective coating. The coating itself is non-reactive and hence the need to select primers designed for Aluminum.

Once the surface is clean and dry, apply primer. The caution here is to put down a very light coating, so it looks like you have barely covered the surface of your work. It may look like you haven't finished the job, and you're right. Let it dry thoroughly, like one day. Do the coating on day at a time so each application is dry. Patience is a virtue in these phases of the process. Allow lots of drying time. Add the second pass or coat, to fill and complete the coverage. If you are balancing each application properly, it will take about three applications to make a very good surface for adding paint.

One final point regarding priming. There is the case where you might be recovering a panel that has been engraved with lettering, i.e., where the lettering has been stamped, or actually engraved down into the surface of the metal. If you have done your homework in preparing the surface, you will have stripped and cleaned the old paint out of the engraving. You can judge your application of primer by how much you fill in this engraving. The objective is 'not' to fill in the engraving so that there is still room for paint and eventually restoring the lettering with a paint stick. Lesson: use only the minimal amount of primer to completely cover the work, but no more.

Next, you might need to sand the primer, depending on your luck with spraying on the primer. Wet sand as needed with typical automotive style abrasive paper. Add another layer of primer depending on the sanding efforts if needed.

Now a note about spray cans. It takes practice, but it is possible to do a very excellent job and produce very professional surfaces with a spray can. The techniques are: shake the can thoroughly, then shake some more, and continue to shake as you paint. Also, don't paint with a cold can of paint, and don't paint on a cold surface. Paint won't flow properly if you are working on a cold panel in a cold basement using a cold can of paint.

Keep the can moving during actual spraying, going 'off the work' with each back and forth pass so that you "don't change directions on your work." If you don't go off the work each time, in both directions, the 'ends' of each pass receive more paint than the middle of the pass, and hence a change in finish or degree of sheen when dry. This is true for the primer and for painting. The effects of non-uniformity are additive and will make you lose valuable sleep and become extremely irritable when you mess up yet another beautiful project.

Select a color and get ready for the big moment when you actually put some color on your beautifully primed project. The same techniques apply as described above. Very thin coats, with lots of drying, then more coats of spray until the texture and surface are achieved. Don't fill the lettering!

Now here is an important point, learned on the R390X reflector, when recovering irreplaceable panels for these great \$30,000 receivers. Yep, that's what the last ones produced were costing the tax payers...ah...that's you, when they were last built. At each coat of paint, preferably enamel type, dry the work in an oven at about 130 to 150 degrees for about two to three hours. This heating technique is done 'after' the scent of solvent is gone from each successive application of paint. This takes some time, but were not interested in a rush job, were interested in producing quality and workmanship that equals the excellent work you just did in building or salvaging the electronics. It takes about three stages of painting, drying to no scent of solvent, heating, then painting again, to achieve a very tough and durable surface that looks like the best the prototype labs can do.

That's about it for how to do some great work, with the simplest of tools. It only takes you, some patience, some desire to do excellent work, both electronically and cosmetically. Give it a try and you'll be encouraged by your own success!

Oh, there is one last detail, and perhaps one of the most important requirements; a very tolerant wife who doesn't mind you 'cooking' in her oven for a few hours a day, for several days, and creating a most obnoxious odor through out the house during the paint 'curing' stages of your creation.

And one more 'last point;' you will certainly ascertain the depths of her tolerance, when the smoke detectors go off and family pet howls in sympathy at the sound of the screeching alarms, not to mention the tone of her voice when she may place irrevocable sanctions on your next electronic salvage project, no matter what the tax payers paid for that "Thing!"

De W8KXR

Stripping and Paint booth Department 15/Mar/02



ANNOUNCEMENT

2002 OHIO QSO PARTY August 24, 2002

Amateurs within Ohio will get the chance to be 'the hunted' by participating in the 2002 Ohio QSO Party. This operating event takes place on both phone and CW, 10 through 80 meters, over a 12-hour period in late August. The object is for amateurs around the world to contact as many Ohio stations as practical, in as many Ohio counties as possible. Operation from home stations, portable locations (in 'rare' counties) and mobile operation are all encouraged. In each of the past few years, nearly all 88 Ohio counties were activated, making this event a prime attraction for county hunters! Both casual and contest style operators are welcome — QSO parties are friendly events where a lot of low band fun can be had.

The main details follow. More detailed information, including links to free logging software, a sign-up for the OQP e-mail reflector, a list of Ohio counties, past event results and detailed rules can be found at <http://mrrc.net/oqp>

P.S. This year's event is a warm-up for the 2003 Bicentennial Edition of the Ohio QSO Party!

1. Object: For Amateurs outside the state of Ohio to make contact with as many Ohio stations as possible. Non-Ohio stations may work only Ohio stations, while Ohio stations may contact anyone.

2. Contest Period: The Ohio QSO Party occurs on the fourth Saturday of August (August 24, 2002). The contest period extends from 1200 EDT to 2400 EDT (1600Z Saturday until 0400Z Sunday). All stations may operate the full twelve hours.

3. Frequencies, Bands and Modes : CW and SSB on 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters. Stations may be worked once per mode on each band; i.e. W8AV may be worked on both 40 CW and 40 SSB for point credit.

73 de Gary, AF8A

HUMOR

For those who thought the hardest part of Ham Radio 101 was passing the Tech written exam, let alone (Heaven forbid) the constant conversion from feet and inches to the metric system, including all its Newtons, Joules, and Watts, here are some other useful conversions:

Pick the one(s) that are correct -

Ratio of an igloo's circumference to its diameter: Eskimo Pi

2000 pounds of Chinese soup: Won ton

1 millionth of a mouthwash: 1 microscope

Time between slipping on a peel and smacking the pavement:
1 bananosecond

Time it takes to sail 220 yards at 1 nautical mile per hour:
Knot-furlong

65.25 days of drinking low-calorie beer because it's less filling: 1 lite year

16.5 feet in the Twilight Zone: 1 Rod Serling

Half of a large intestine: 1 semicolon

1000 aches: 1 megahurtz

Basic unit of laryngitis: 1 hoarsepower

Shortest distance between two jokes: A straight line

454 graham crackers: 1 pound cake

1 million-million microphones: 1 megaphone

1 million bicycles: 2 megacycles

2000 mockingbirds: two kilomockingbirds

10 cards: 1 decacards

1 kilogram of falling figs: 1 Fig Newton

1000 grams of wet socks: 1 literhosen

1 millionth of a fish: 1 microfiche

1 trillion pins: 1 terrapin

10 rations: 1 decoration

100 rations: 1 C-ration

2 monograms: 1 diagram

8 nickels: 2 paradigms

2.4 statute miles of intravenous surgical tubing at Yale University Hospital: 1 I.V. League

100 Senators: Not 1 decision.

Bill K5BDZ

>TenTec mailing list

>TenTec@contesting.com

><http://lists.contesting.com/mailman/listinfo/tentec>

ARRL NEWS

ARLB037 White House greets Amateur Radio operators

ZCZC AG37

QST de W1AW

ARRL Bulletin 37 ARLB037

From ARRL Headquarters

Newington CT June 19, 2002

To all radio amateurs

President George Bush has sent his greetings to all Amateur Radio operators, acknowledging their role in emergency communications and in generating international good will. The White House letter comes as hams in the US mark Amateur Radio Week June 16-23 and prepare to participate this weekend in ARRL Field Day—an emergency preparedness exercise.

"I salute amateur radio operators for your work on behalf of public safety officials," the President said in a letter dated June 18. "I also commend your interest in communicating with persons in other parts of the world and learning about other cultures and countries. Your involvement builds understanding and goodwill around the globe."

For the first time, Field Day will be open to participation by amateurs throughout the Americas and the Caribbean.

The President's letter acknowledged ham radio's "important role in emergency communications, assisting law enforcement personnel and other emergency services as they carry out their responsibilities."

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, expressed his delight at the presidential communication. "I'm extremely pleased that the president has decided to recognize the accomplishments of Amateur Radio operators throughout America," he said. "Amateur Radio is a

real asset to America, and even more so after September 11. Amateur Radio has always played a big role in disasters and emergencies, and I'm very proud of it."

President Bush said First Lady Laura Bush "joins me in sending our best wishes."

Governors in several states have issued proclamations designating Amateur Radio Week or Amateur Radio Month.

NNNN
/EX

ARLD026 DX news

ZCZC AE26
QST de W1AW
DX Bulletin 26 ARLD026
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT June 20, 2002
To all radio amateurs

This weeks bulletin was made possible with information provided by Tedd, KB8NW, the OPDX Bulletin, FP5AC, WA7BNM, The Daily DX, QRZ DX, 425DXnews, The DXNL and Contest Corral from QST. Thanks to all.

OMAN, A4. Alex, A45WD has been QRV using RTTY on 20 meters around 1800z. QSL via YO9HP.

GUADELOUPE, FG. Dany, F5CW and F8CMT will be QRV as TO8CW from June 22 to July 12. QSL via operators' instructions.

SAINT PIERRE AND MIQUELON, FP. Members of the FP Radio Club will be QRV as FP5KE from Horses Island, IOTA NA-032, from June 21 to 23. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters, and possibly 6 meters. QSL via operators' instructions.

ITALY, I. Franco, HB9OAB will be QRV as IA5/HB9OAB/P from Elba Island, IOTA EU-028, from June 22 to August 1. Activity will be on 6 and 2 meters and various satellites.

ANTARCTICA. Hiro, JH7JCX is a member of the JARE 43 wintering team at Syowa Station on East Ongul Island, IOTA AN-015, and is active as 8J1RL. QSL via operator's instructions.

HAWAII, KH6. Members of the Hawaii QRP Club will be QRV as KH6IN during Field Day. They will use 5 watts on CW and SSB.

NORTH KOREA, P5. Ed, P5/4L4FN continues to be QRV using SSB and RTTY on 15 meters. QSL via KK5DO.

BELGIUM, ON. UBA club section Guiden Spoor KTK is QRV

as OP0GS until December 31 to celebrate the 700th anniversary of the Battle of the Golden Spurs at Kortrijk. QSL via ON5GK.

DENMARK, OZ. OZ1DGQ is QRV from Laeso Island, IOTA EU-088, until at least august 20. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using some CW, RTTY and PSK31, generally after 1800z. He is also QRV around 50200 kHz.

POLAND, SP. Station 3Z0EMC is QRV until June 28 marking the 16th International Symposium and Exhibition on Electromagnetic Compatibility at Wroclaw University of Technology. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and digital modes. QSL via SP6ECA.

EGYPT, SU. Bob K4RB is now licensed as SU9US. He will be active in most of the CW and selected other contests. QSL via K4DX.

EUROPEAN RUSSIA, UA. Club station RK9XYW is active as UE9XSC until June 30 as the operators participate in the 10th Scout Camp at Ulyanovo. QSL via RA9XF.

FALKLAND ISLANDS, VP8. Les, GM3ITN is QRV as VP8ITN from Saunders Island, IOTA SA-002, until June 24. QSL to home call.

LAOS, XW. Champ, E21EIC, is QRV as XW1IC until June 29. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters, and possibly 160 meters, using CW, SSB, RTTY, SSTV and PSK31. QSL to home call.

ALBANIA, ZA. Vlado, Z35M is QRV as ZA/Z35M until the end of August. He is using CW and SSB on small segments of 80 and 40 meters and possibly the newer bands. QSL to home call.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. ARRL Field Day, The Marconi Memorial HF Contest, His Majesty King of Spain SSB Contest, and the ARCI Milliwatt Field Day will certainly keep contesters busy this weekend. Please see June QST, page 90 and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar website for details.

NNNN
/EX

SORRY!!!

Due to an internet problem on my end, this edition of Feedback has been shortened to just 8 pages. Next month we hope to have our usual 10 pages with the best information available. Without the use of the internet, it's hard to find usefull articles. Like the old saying goes; if it's got wheels or megabites, sooner or later your going to have trouble!!

73's de Gary, WC8W, Editor MARC

July 2002

Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 BD KC8JLX Sloppy Fist Net every Monday thru Friday at 9PM on 28.138	2	3	4 7:30 PM QCWA (Chapter 21) Net, 147.180	5 Massillon ARC Meeting	6
7 BD KB8AKD Stark County Mutual Aid Net 146.520 11:30 AM	8	9	10 BD N8TZB	11 7:30 PM QCWA (Chapter 21) Net, 147.180	12 West Stark Info Net 147.180 at 8:00 PM	13 BD WC8W
14 Stark County Mutual Aid Net 146.520 11:30 AM VE EXAMS Independence Call Gary @ 216-642-1399	15	16	17 Canton ARC Meeting 7:30 PM	18 7:30 PM QCWA (Chapter 21) Net, 147.180	19 West Stark Info Net 147.180 at 8:00 PM	20
21 Stark County Mutual Aid Net 146.520 11:30 AM VE EXAMS Van Wert Call Robert@419- 795-5763	22 Sloppy Fist Net every Monday thru Friday at 9PM on 28.138	23 BD K8DON	24	25 7:30 PM QCWA (Chapter 21) Net, 147.180 BD W8ZNV	26 West Stark Info Net 147.180 at 8:00 PM	27 Hamfest Cincinnati, OH Contact MR. Lynn Ernst@ 859-657-6161 Union KY email: wd8jaw@arrl.net
28 BD KF8UN BD N8XTG BD WD8IKC Stark County Mutual Aid Net 146.520 11:30 AM	29	30	31	<div> <div> June S M T W T F S 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 </div> <div> August S M T W T F S 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 </div> </div>		

Please contact KA8ZQH to add, delete or change Calendar