

The FLASH

The Official Newsletter of the Mad River Radio Club

December - January 2000

Volume 29 Issue 3

<http://www.qsl.net/mrrc>

From the 'Big Fish'

By Tim Mitchell, K9TM
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Greeting and Happy New Year from the Big Fish. The big story this issue is the K8MR Christmas Party. Sorry that I will not be making the bash but two contests on that weekend are too much for me to pass up. Hope that everyone either finds their way safely to the festivities or operates either or both of the ARRL RTTY Roundup or NAQP CW.

Much is being discussed on the MRRC e-mail reflector. If you are not already a subscriber, please join up and get involved - instructions are on the back page of the newsletter. If you are on the reflector and have not put in your two-cents please chime in and let us know what is on your mind. There have been all kinds of discussion ranging from MQP and OQP rules, planning and strategies to what do you want from MRRC. Lots of good things being discussed all in hopes of making MRRC more fun for everyone.

For those who are not on the reflector you missed my prodding trying to fire up the troops and get some discussions going for what folks want from the club. My goal was not to see the glass half empty but to spur some spirited discussion on why people belong to the club and how we can get more interest in operating.

We have some really good things going on in the club but we also have some problems to work through. I am still amazed that we can not seem to field even one all MRRC team for the NAQP or the Sprint. While other clubs of comparable size are fielding multiple teams. This is good exposure for the club and a lot of fun.

We also seem to struggle to staff our multi efforts at K8CC, W8AV, KW8N or AA8U. With as many people as we have, we should not have to struggle so much to staff the events or to burn out the couple of people who seem to show up for everything.

Bottom line is that there are plenty of opportunities to operate. We are a club of active contestors. If you are interested in operating, don't be shy. We can usually find a multi or guest-op position available or if you have a station a spot on an MRRC team or to help out the MRRC Club score total.

May this New Year find everyone in good health and ready to Kick Butt for the second half of the contest season.

73 de Tim, K9TM

MRRC CALENDAR

December - January 2000

ARRL 160 METER CONTEST
December 3-5, 1999

ARRL 10 METER CONTEST
December 11-12, 1999

K8MR CHRISTMAS PARTY
January 8, 2000

NA QSO PARTY - CW
ARRL RTTY ROUNDUP
January 8-9, 2000

NA QSO PARTY - SSB
January 15-16, 2000

ARRL VHF Sweepstakes
January 22-23, 2000

CQWW 160 CW CONTEST
January 28-30, 2000

DON'T FORGET!

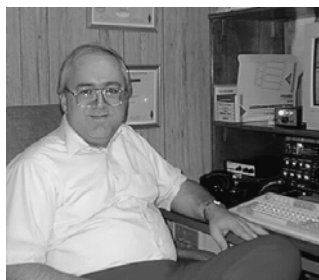
With contest season just around the corner, we need YOUR contributions for the next MRRC Flash. Share your knowledge with your fellow contesters - start working NOW on an article!

Deadline for publication:



The Editor's Keyboard

By Dave Pruett, K8CC
k8cc@mediaone.net



If it seems like its been a while since you saw a *FLASH*, you're right. The October/November issue never made it to press. Heading into the busiest part of the contest season, with six contests in seven weeks is no time to be behind in trying to get a newsletter out.

The simple fact is that without stuff to print, its REALLY hard to put out a newsletter. President **Tim, K9TM** is pretty good about getting his column done when I need it, and **Jim, K8MR** sends me the scores he collects from the reflector and the Monday Night Net, but that's about it. A newsletter that has nothing but editorials and month-old scores is probably not very interesting to read. Its not much fun to publish either...

It is undeniable that MRRC's intra-club communication practices are evolving. The MRRC E-Mail Reflector allows members to keep in touch and exchange ideas on a daily basis, rather than just on Monday nights. The MRRC Web Page, maintained by **Jeff, KU8E**, allows publishing club information quickly and with nearly zero cost. Should these new communication technologies take the place of the Monday Night Net and the *FLASH*?

Personally, I would hate to see this happen. While e-mail is wonderfully convenient in that you can read it when you feel like it, less information typically is exchanged than in a direct conversation. Also lost is the personal contact with the club member at the other end. As for the Web page, I see its purpose as to be repository of club information. While the site can (and should) contain an e-copy of the *FLASH*, I think the mailed hardcopy serves another purpose. Reading the newsletter on the web site requires remembering to do so, while a *FLASH* arriving in the mail acts as its own reminder. Also, I would hate to preclude people without Internet access from receiving club information.

The time may have come for an electronic *FLASH*, perhaps as an option. Please think this over and express your opinion, either by e-mail or at the next MRRC meeting.

Speaking of which, the K8MR Christmas Party and MRRC meeting is just around the corner. I highly recommend making the trip, which as **K8GL** says is one of the highlights of the MRRC calendar.

And please, **START WORKING NOW ON AN ARTICLE FOR THE FLASH**. I can take most any format, and will be glad clean up your prose, do research, digitize photos, or whatever. This is YOUR newsletter - we want YOUR contributions!

73, de **Dave, K8CC**

MRRC Scores

CQ World Wide SSB

N8KR	371	90	190	286,721	
ND8DX	603	34	118	263,416	15M LP
KT8X (JE2LUN)	400	51	120	191,178	
KU8E	297	59	146	166,255	
K8CC (+K8GT,W8MJ,WD8S,N8VW)	3573	171	610	7,927,931	M/S
KP2A (KW8N)	5309	37	146	2,479,467	10M

CQ World Wide CW

K8GL	2280	154	480	4,194,544	
KT8X	2533	123	336		
N8ET	790	112	309	935,883	QRP
N8KR	390	76	197	301,665	
K8CC (AC8W,K8CC,K8DD,K8GT,K8JM,K8MM,NU8Z,W8MJ,WD8S,WX3M)	5792	192	640	13,579,904	M/M
W8AV	5089	194	656	12,215,350	M/M
FG5BG (K9NW op.)					

SS CW

K9TM	1063-79-167,954-A
W8MJ	1034-78-161,304-A
W8RU	619-76- 94,088-Q
KT8X	510-68- 69,360-B
K8DD	435-77- 66,990-Q
K8GT	348-73- 50,808-A
W8AJ (K8MR)	327-68- 44,472-B
K8MR	303-71- 43,026-B
K8RM (K8MR)	254-68- 34,544-B
KC8FXR	204-65- 26,520-A
N8CQA	141-62- 17,484-Q
K8CC (+WX3M)	1092-79-172,536-M
W8AV (+K4LT)	1078-79-170,324-M
KU8E (+N8VW,K9NW)	1046-78-163,176-M
K8JM (+K8MM,K8MV)	975-78-152,100-M
W8EDU (AF8A,W8RZ,W8WTS)	938-79-148,204-M

SS SSB

K8CC (WD8S)	1409-79-222,622-B
KU8E	1218-79-192,444-A
ND8DX	905-79-142,900-A
N8KR	435-79- 68,672-B
K8GT	313-79- 49,454-A
KW8N	243-59- 28,674-B
AF8A	150-56- 16,800-A

ARRL 160 METER

K8ND	1037 -89-190,282	HP
K9TM	300 -52- 31,200	HP
N8KR	140 -43- 12,168	
W8RU	147- 41- 12,000	QRP
K8SIA	147- 40- 11,760	LP
KT8X	100- 37- 7,400	LP
K8MR	91- 39- 7,098	LP
W8JI (+N8VW,WA4TT)	1170-111-296,481	
K8XXX		

The 23rd Annual
K8MR Christmas Party
and MRRC Meeting
Saturday January 8, 2000

"The event of the year...overshadows the hype of Cher, Sting, and Madonna" - **Newsweek, December 1999**

"This one is big...you wouldn't want to miss it for all the ON4UN QSL's on earth" - **QST, recent editorial**

"If you thought the rioting at the WTO meeting in Seattle was big, wait until you see what will happen in Cleveland this weekend" - **Wall Street Journal, January 3, 2000**

What is it that everyone is talking about? Why, its the 23rd Annual K8MR Christmas Party on **Saturday, January 8, 1999** starting at **7:30 PM**. Everyone is invited to come to what will be the first MRRC club meeting of the new millenium (you knew we had to get that in somewhere!) and have a great time!

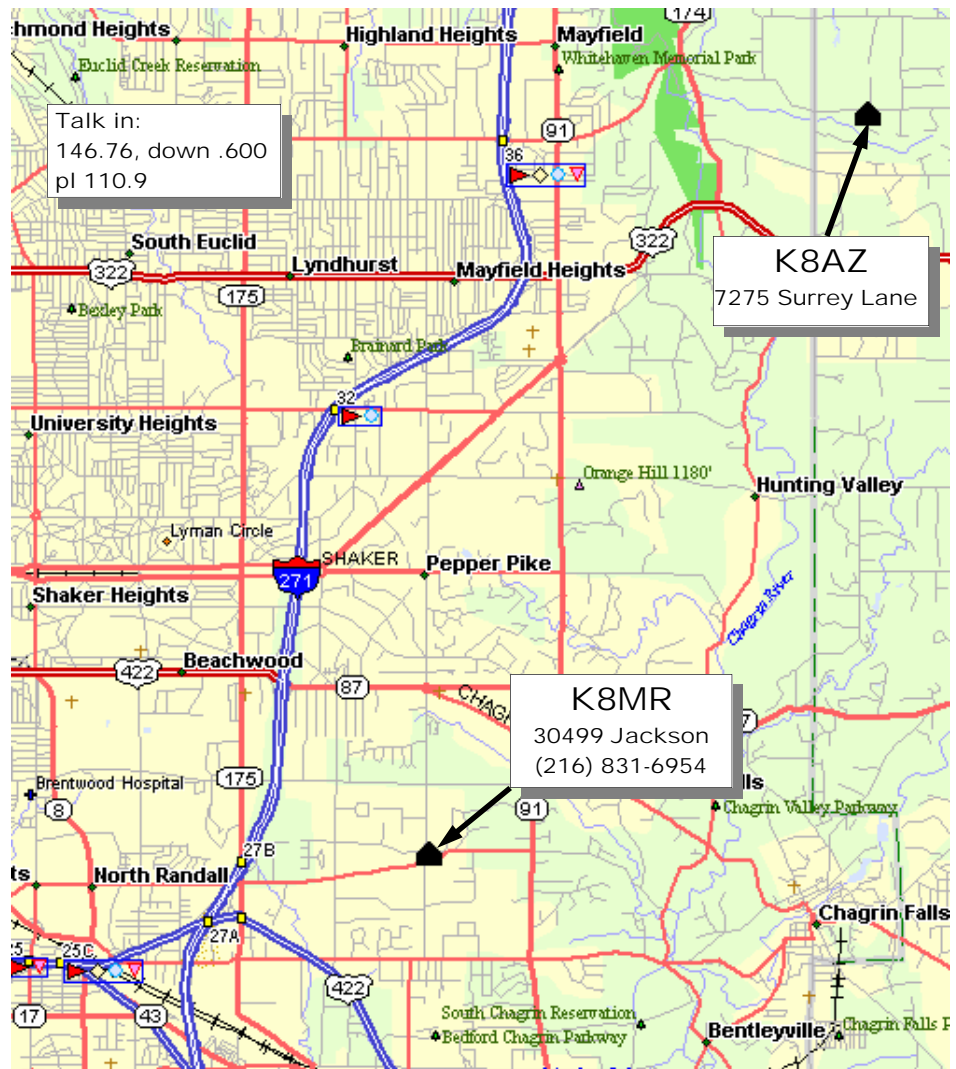
K8MR is located on the east side of the Cleveland metropolitan area in Orange Village, OH. The best way to K8MR is via **I-271** which runs north/south on the east side of Cleveland. From I-271, get off at **Chagrin Blvd** (exit 29, also called highway 422/87, or Beechwood/Woodmere). Take Chagrin east until you come to a traffic circle. Follow the traffic circle to the right about one fourth of the way around and exit the circle on **Lander Road** heading south. Follow Lander to Jackson Road. K8MR is on the northeast corner to your left.

If you're coming from the south, there are two exits from I-480 east to I-271 north, one for local and one for the express lanes. The exit is not very well marked. The local lanes are the second exit, exiting to the left. You must take the local lane exit in order to be able to exit I-271 at Chagrin Blvd.

The party generally runs until the participants go home (11PM??). For those coming from out-of-town, there are a number of motels right at the Chagrin Blvd exit, such as TravelLodge, Holiday Inn, etc. which are within a short driving distance of the K8MR QTH.

There are a number of other amateur radio things to do before heading over to the K8MR's. Amateur Electronic Supply has a store in nearby Wickcyffe, and a number of MRRCers have made a habit of stopping by Electronic Surplus downtown to peruse the goodies.

As an additional tradition of the K8MR



party weekend, former MRRC member **Tom Lee, K8AZ** hosts an open house at his fine contest station for members of the North Coast Contest club, with MRRC members invited as well. This party starts around 3 PM with pizza and beverages prior to QSYing to K8MR.

To get to K8AZ, exit I-271 at exit 36, which is **Wilson Mills Road**. Head east for about 2 miles until the road ends in a "T" intersection at **Chagrin River Road**. Turn right for a short

distance, and at the first intersection, turn left (east again) on **Wilson Mills**. Proceed up the winding hill, and when you cross **County Line Road**, Surrey Lane is about ½ mile down on the right. If you arrive during daylight, the K8AZ antennas are readily visible.

Jim reports that the station will be QRV for NAQP QSOs. W8AV will bring his PIEXX-equipped TS-930 to test drive.

Hope to see everyone in Cleveland!

CLUB RESOURCES PAGE

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The Mad River Radio Club is an ARRL-affiliated club of amateur radio contesting enthusiasts. The club area is centered on Findlay, OH, and serves the surrounding states. Membership in the MRRC is open to anyone.

The *FLASH* is the official newsletter of the Mad River Radio Club, and is published six times per year in even-numbered months. Submissions of material for the *FLASH* are welcome, and may be sent to the editor at the postal or e-mail addresses shown above. The *FLASH* may be reprinted in whole or in part, provided proper credit is given.

CLUB DUES are \$12 per year, payable May 1st with a grace period thru July 31st. Members of the same family living at the same address may elect to receive a single copy of the *FLASH* for one set of dues. Full time students are eligible for dues at half of the regular rate. Dues are paid to the club treasurer KE8OC at the address shown above. Please make checks out to **Tim O'Sullivan**, not MRRC.

The **CLUB ROSTER** appears in the October/November issue of the *FLASH* every year..

MRRC NET Monday evenings at 8:30 PM Eastern time on 3825 KHz ± QRM.

Come join in with other MRRC members on-line with the free **MRRC INTERNET REFLECTOR**. To join, send an e-mail to MRRC-REQUEST@contesting.com. The body of the e-mail should say *subscribe mrrc yourcall*. You'll receive an e-mail confirmation in a few hours.

The **MRRC Web Page** with club information, pictures, etc. is at <http://www.qsl.net/mrrc>.

CONTEST SCORES are sent to the club scorekeeper Jim Stahl, K8MR at the postal or e-mail addresses shown above.

MRRC MEMBER BADGES can be ordered for \$10 through Buck Switzer, N8CQA at n8cqa@tir.com.



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