

WE'RE ON THE WEB!  
HTTP://WWW.MRRC.NET



## From the Big Fish

Dennis Ward, KT8X [kt8x@prodigy.net](mailto:kt8x@prodigy.net)

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## Upcoming Events

**22-23 June**  
ARRL Field Day

**July 13-14**  
IARU HF Championship

**3-4 August**  
NA QSO Party - CW

**17 August**  
Goosapalooza III/MRRC Meeting  
NA QSO Party - SSB

**24 August**  
Ohio QSO Party

**25 August**  
Lapeer Hamfest/MRRC Meeting

The Dayton & MRRC **Tim, KE8OC** was this year's Dayton SITS (Suite in the Sun) Coordinator, again another MRRC success! What Dayton stories do you have to share?

Thanks to **Dave, K8CC** for again guiding MRRC over the past two years. Dave ended his recent Fish tenure on a very positive note by accepting the ARRL Medium Club category gavel on our behalf. Winning the gavel was made possible by your on-air efforts, and the motivation and drive of our SS Coordinator **Mike, K9NW**. Can we repeat?

As I un-bury myself from 15 pounds of bureau QSL cards, I anticipate the arrival of my Dayton purchases to support the upcoming fall contest season. I have heard that **Ken, W8MJ** made a major station upgrade at Dayton.

I hope with the warm weather finally arriving, everyone is getting their summer plans in order. Now's a great time to do that antenna work, and kick the winter last-minute antenna repairs. Don't forget to include MRRC in your summer plans...

**K8MAD** is planning to light up the Field Day airwaves again this year in Cleveland. Although many of us have local club type plans, if you're available come out and join the K8MAD gang. It's a great location for FD. Also upcoming are IARU HF in conjunction



The 'Big Fish' Working The Multitudes As BY4BNS/KT8X

with WRTC in its normal July time slot, and last but not least the Goosapalooza fest near the end of July.

Again, I'm looking forward to a butt-kicking year ahead. If you have ideas to spur some club activity, or some friendly competition bring it forward. We have a member working on a QSO Party activity coordination, which should be ready to announce in the next issue of the **FLASH**. This member will remain a mystery until the announcement...

## The Editor's Keyboard

Dave Pruett, K8CC [k8cc@comcast.net](mailto:k8cc@comcast.net)

I apologize for the lateness (June VHF and Field Day) of this issue. The masthead and logchecking projects says June-July and I always (ARRL 10 and OhQP) con- try to publish by the end of- sumed more time than antici- the first advertised month. pated. Now that I'm back But major contesting efforts into the swing of this newslet-



(Continued on page 2)

## Editor's Keyboard

(Continued from page 1)

ter publishing stuff, I should be able to do better.

Another reason this newsletter was delayed is that MRRC treasurer **Buck, N8CQA** and I have been working to get the club roster up to date. There have been a few cases recently where people were inadvertently omitted from the roster and **FLASH** mailings. We're think things are under control now, but please contact either Buck or I if you think you're being left out.

I want to publicly congratulate my predecessor **Tim, K9TM** for the fine job publishing the **FLASH** over the past two years. He brought a fresh new look to the newsletter and tried some new electronic publishing techniques. I hope to build upon what he started.

For some time now I've been thinking about how the **FLASH** fits in with the **MRRC E-Mail Reflector** and the **MRRC Web Site**. Each has advantages and disadvantages, and are best suited for different things. The reflector has the quickest turnaround and lowest overhead - type an e-mail and it winds up in the subscribers inboxes. The reflector costs MRRC

nothing thanks to the generosity of **Bill, W4AN**.

The web site is slightly less spontaneous - still, just submit a story to the site server and its available for members to read. It has other advantages in that no subscription is necessary, and the story stays on the site for a while as compared to a short-lived e-mail. The club pays for the web site's domain name, but the site is hosted on a machine at the QTH of webmaster **Pat, N8VW**.

So where does this leave the **FLASH**? As a bi-monthly newsletter, the news it carries will always be somewhat dated as compared to the reflector and web site. It also takes time and money to publish. We've started posting the **FLASH** on the web site where members can read it rather than receiving a mailed copy to save cost. However, something about this seems redundant - would the club be better served by simply producing the same information directly as web pages?

We'd like to know what you think about the **FLASH** and what you'd like to see in it. It would be counter-productive to have the club's communications mediums competing for the same material. Let us know your ideas so we can better decide what to print and how to produce it.

### Treasurer's Report

05/01/02 Balance: \$722.66  
 Deposits: \$630.00  
 Expenditures: \$396.51  
 05/31/01 Balance: \$956.15

Memo: \$325 of the above balance is designated for OQP Plaques

Respectfully Submitted,  
**Buck Switzer, N8CQA**  
 Treasurer

## MRRC Scores

Collected By  
**Jim, K8MR k8mr@aol.com**

### CQ WPX SSB

K9NW (@K9UWA)	1707-796	3,429,616	10M
K8GL		541,654	
AA8UP	96- 85	2,695	
KU8E/m	46- 43	4,128	

### Michigan QSO Party

#### Single Op

N8KR	782-173	154,662
K8KHZ	385-129	59,211
K8SIA	305-107	52,430
N8EA	299- 84	50,232
K8AAX	269-113	45,991
W8EDU(AF8A)	212-103	35,844
W8RU	195- 79	29,072
K8DX	171- 77	19,019
K8GL	104- 35	11,330
K5IID	100- 55	9,295
K9NW	64- 41	5,248
KW8W	50- 24	1,200

#### Multi Op

K8JM	844-188	248,348
(+K8DD,K8MM)		
K8AA	862-191	222,435
(+KB8ECG,NU8Z)		
K8EPV	653-155	135,005
(NT8V,K8WMW)		
W8SH	561-160	122,560
(KT8X+students)		

#### Mobile

K8MR (+W8DRZ)	854-117	176,553
K8CC (+W8MJ)	753- 98	138,376
AA8U	494- 84	41,496
W1NN	650-117	
KU8E	524	

### CQ WPX CW

K9NW	1672-720	3,027,600	20M
NZ8O (W8MJ)	1678-652	2,699,932	
NI8L (K8DX)	1026-470	1,332,920	20M
N8EA	845-435	997,890	
K8CC	280-218	162,410	
N8KR	243-195	114,660	
K8KHZ	165-130	51,090	
N8VW	140-121	17,199	
K8MR	78- 69	14,973	

### ARRL June VHF

K8CC (+K9TM,WX3M)	663-211	169,644	LM
K8MR	152- 81	15,750	
W8RU	54- 36	2,232	
W8CAR/4	42- 29	1,218	
K9NW	35- 20	700	

# 2002 Ohio QSO Party

## August 24-25, 2002

### 1600Z - 0400Z

**Sponsored by MRRC!**



### Abbreviated OhQP Rules

(Full OhQP rules available on the MRRC web site <http://www.mrrc.net>)

Contest Period: **1600 UTC - 24 August 2002 to 0400 UTC - 25 August 2002**

Stations outside of Ohio work as many Ohio stations in as many counties as possible. Stations in Ohio work anyone.

Exchange: Ohio stations send QSO number and county. Stations outside of Ohio send QSO number and state, province, or "DX" for non-W/VE.

QSO Points: Phone QSO = 1 point, CW QSO = 2 points.

Multipliers: Ohio stations count Ohio counties (88), states (49) and Canadian provinces (11). All others count Ohio counties for a maximum of 88. A station can be in only one county at any given time.

Classes: Single-Operator (High Power, Low Power, QRP), Multi-Operator, Mobile Rover (100W).

Logs should be submitted no later than thirty days after the QSO party to [ocplogs@mrrc.net](mailto:ocplogs@mrrc.net), to [w8av@aol.com](mailto:w8av@aol.com) or Goose Steingass, W8AV, 1690 N Honeytown Rd, Wooster, OH 44691-9511

## MRRC Profiles: N8OS

By Goose Steingrass, W8AV [w8av@aol.com](mailto:w8av@aol.com)

**Jay Radcliffe, N8OS** is a new member to the Mad River Radio Club ranks, having recently joined the club. He found out about our club through fellow MRRCer and old friend **Don, WX3M** who told him that this was a good club to belong to if he wanted to learn more about contesting.

Jay's sojourn into amateur radio came about as a result of gentle nudges provided by his father Jerome (N8KLX) and uncle John (K14RA) when he was pretty young. Jay recalls "My dad took me to my first FD at USECA, taught me the theory, etc. My uncle gave me my first radio, an old Yaesu FT-208R HT." Jay also mentions that his uncle works in the Merchant Marine as a Radio Officer.

Jay was originally licensed as N8RHV in December of 1991, and was issued N8OS early this year. When asked

about his favorite aspects of Amateur Radio Jay replies with only one word: "Contesting! I am very competitive and this part of the hobby is pretty aggressive." He also mentions that he likes playing with antennas and has built lots of dysfunctional antennas as well as some that have actually worked.

Jay's favorite contests are Phone Sweepstakes, and Field Day where he likes piloting the 20 meter SSB position at the USCEA station. He relates that the 2001 Phone SS was probably the most enjoyable as he was invited to participate in the K8CC multi-op. He reveals that he learned a lot and that Dave's unique teaching style really made it quick to learn and absorb. "It was a little intimidating at first...but looking back on it, it was lots of fun and really helped me keep the rate up." He goes on

to say that SSB contests remind him a lot of his high school debating career. "It's very fast and you have to hear and remember everything."

Jay's home station consists of a FT-1000MP and enough Heights aluminum tower sections to make 32' and 64' towers, a TH6DXX, a 20 meter HexBeam, a two element Moseley 40 meter beam and a bunch of other small stuff. Unfortunately, all of his equipment is packed away in boxes at his dad's house since Jay lives in a townhouse that has pretty strict rules about antennas. He is planning on buying a house in the summer of 2002 and is hoping to get at least one of the towers up by the end of the summer. The house purchase will also come in handy as Jay is engaged to be married in October of 2003.

When asked about his impressions of MRRC, Jay re-

plies that a bit more emphasis should be put on teaching and training in the contest arena. He states that he knows nothing about CW contest operating but is eager to learn. He poses the idea that maybe doing a multi-op aimed at teaching new operators could be held once or twice a year. He thinks that this might be a good way for an experienced operator can teach a "rookie" operator under the battle conditions of a contest.

Outside of the hobby, Jay enjoys sailing, watching football and hockey and does lots of "heavy" reading on the subjects of Computer Security and Law, Computer Forensics, and Philosophy. Jay works as an Engineering Manager/ Systems Analyst for Internet Security Systems in Southfield, Michigan doing software development.

## Dayton Wrap Up

By Dave Pruett, K8CC [k8cc@comcast.net](mailto:k8cc@comcast.net)

Dayton 2002 was a big success for the Mad River Radio Club. Despite the lousy weather, things worked out pretty well and the club even won a major award.

MRRC's **Suite In The Sun** was again a big success. Many contesters and club members dropped by to rest their feet (or get out of the rain!). A number of members sold items in the fleamarket, in particular **Tim, KE8OC** who sold \$3300 worth of radios for the widow of a Detroit Silent Key. Tim was also the spearhead for

SITS this year, with help from **K8CC, K8MR, K9TM, W8DRZ** and others. He even purchased the canopy which kept the rain off our heads all weekend - thanks Tim!

The MRRC meeting on Saturday was a lively affair, with a very active discussion about the club's Articles Of Association. With some minor changes, these were approved by a vote of 34 to 1. (Note: These Articles Of Association will be posted shortly on the MRRC web site.)

Next, the MRRC Railroad

chugged into the station and within minutes, **Dennis Ward, KT8X** was elected Big Fish and **Buck Switzer, N8CQA** was returned to the office of treasurer.

What had to be the highlight of the MRRC weekend occurred at the Contest Forum on Saturday afternoon. The gavels for the ARRL SS Affiliated Club Competition were handed out, and when it came to the Medium Club award, **it was MRRC's name which was called!** Outgoing Big Fish **Dave, K8CC** accepted the

gavel for the club from Wayne Mills, N7NG, ARRL Membership Services Department manager.

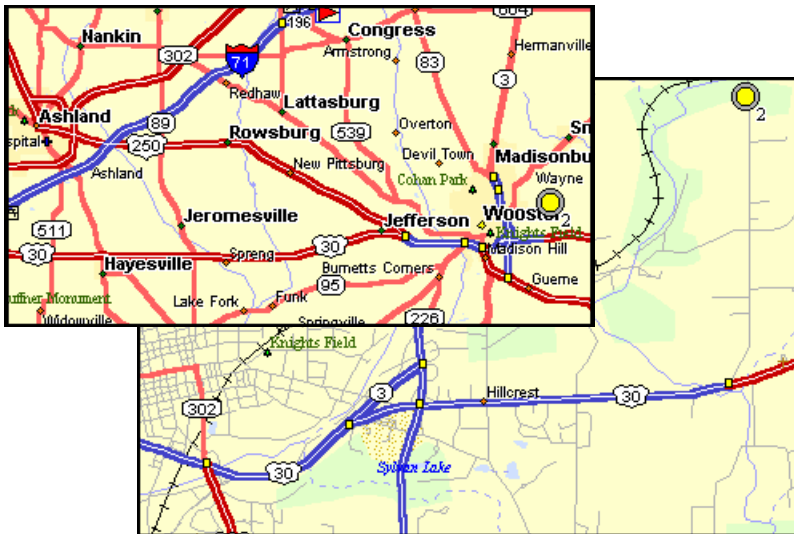
A number of MRRCers made it downtown both Friday and Saturday nights to the Contest Super Suite jointly sponsored by NCC, FRC and MRRC and appeared to have a good time. Certain MRRCers who are also NASCAR fans spent the evening in a sports bar watching the World 600...

Thanks to everyone who contributed to MRRC's activities at Dayton 2002!

# August MRRC Meetings

## Goosapalooza III Meeting

GOOSAPALOOZA III will be held on Saturday, August 17, 2002 at the W8AV QTH located at 1690 N. Honeytown Road in Wooster, OH. Starting time will be at Noon and we will go until about 5:00 PM or so (to keep the XYL happy). Food and beverage will be provided. Goose will need a head count from the members planning to attend, though, to determine how many burgers, wieners, potato salad, pop and beer to buy. Post a note to the MRRC reflector or to [w8av@aol.com](mailto:w8av@aol.com).



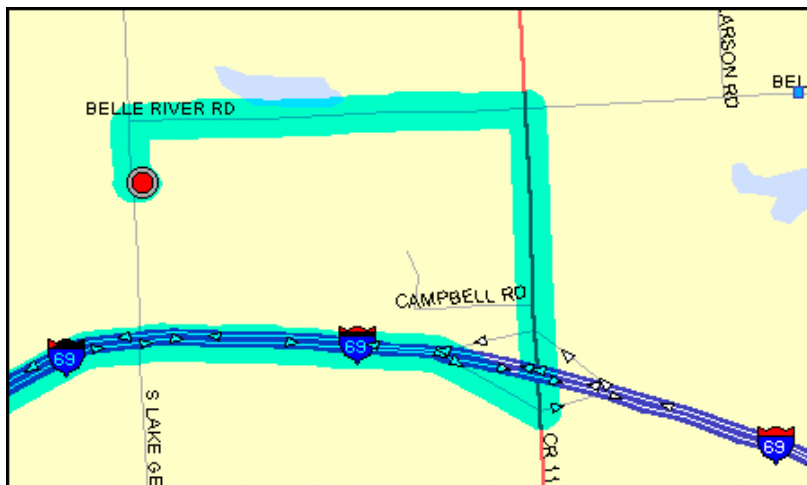
## Lapeer, MI MRRC Meeting

In addition to the Goosapalooza meeting, there will also be a Mad River Radio Club meeting at the **Lapeer County (MI) Ham Swap** on Sunday, August 25, 2002. The meeting will be held in the Lincoln Room at 12:00 Noon.

To get to Lapeer, head north from Detroit on either I-75 or US-23 to I-69. Go east to exit 155, where you take M-24 north to second light. Then right on McCormick to Court Street (just before tracks). Turn left, go three blocks to County Center Drive. Parking for the swap is available on both sides of the street.

After the Lapeer Swap meeting, John, K8JM, is inviting the group over to his QTH. To get to K8JM, leave the swap and get back on I-69 east. Go eight miles to exit 163, then head north on Lake Pleasant Road, also CR11. Go a little less than a mile to Belle River Road and turn left (west). Proceed to where the road dead ends at South Lake George Road, and continue the short distance south to K8JM.

John is planning to have cold beverages, hot dogs, etc., but would like an idea of how many are going to show up. If you're planning to attend, drop him a note at [k8jm@usol.com](mailto:k8jm@usol.com)



Map To K8JM

**Don't Forget!**

**We need YOUR contributions for the next MRRC FLASH.**  
**Share your experiences with your fellow contesters.**  
**Start working NOW on an article!**

**Deadline for publication:**  
**August 15, 2002**

# K8MAD Field Day 2002



**K9TM Enjoying Himself On 40 Meters**



**W8AV Keeping The Rate Up on 20CW**

**K8MAD VHF Antennas  
The Only Ones Which Show Up In Pictures  
All The Rest Are Wires**



**4L 6M, 13L 2M, 145/435 Satellite Yagis**

<b>Results</b>			
band	CW	SSB	
80	358	227	
40	692	662	
20	563	204	
15	81	76	
10	21	31	
50	3	153	
144	1	13	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1719</b>	<b>1366</b>	<b>SCORE: 9,608</b>



**K8CC On 50/144/Satellite**

## MRRC Challenge Rules

By Dennis Ward, KT8X, kt8x@prodigy.net  
MRRC Challenge Coordinator

The Mad River Challenge was started several years ago to recognize club members for their on-the-air operating achievements. By consistent participation in contests throughout the year, members add to their skill and to the reputation of MRRC.

For the challenge, every published score attributed to an MRRC member is awarded points based on a maximum number of points for the particular contest, pro-rated against the published USA high score for that category. The maximum number of points is based on the relative importance of the contest as follows:

CQWW CW	2000	ARRL DX CW	2000
CQWW SSB	2000	ARRL DX SSB	2000
SS CW	1000	CQ WPX SSB	750
SS SSB	1000	CQ WPX CW	750
ARRL 10	750	MQP	500
ARRL 160	750	OQP	500
CQ 160 CW	750	IARU	750
CQ 160 SSB	750		
NAQP	200 each contest		
SPRINT	200 each contest		
			<b>Total possible: 17850 points</b>

The categories are: Single-Op, Multi-Single (includes Multi-Two & QP Mobiles) and Multi-Multi. There is no distinction for single-band or QRP entries.

Points for single op entries are computed as follows:

$$(\text{Published Score} / \text{High Score USA}) * \text{Maximum Point Value}$$

This includes single operators who operate at another's station

Points for multi-operator entries are computed as follows (where  $n$  = number of listed operators):

$$\text{Station Host} = \frac{\text{Published Score} * 2 * \text{Maximum Point Value}}{\text{High Score USA} * (n + 1)}$$

$$\text{Station Host} = \frac{\text{Published Score} * \text{Maximum Point Value}}{\text{High Score USA} * (n + 1)}$$

Consideration has been given to DXpeditions for the challenge, as they have promoted MRRC in their efforts. Their points are calculated against the high USA score for their category, not to exceed 100% of the maximum point value.

The Challenge begins with CQWW SSB and ends with the September SSB Sprint of the following year. Since the Challenge is based on published results, the winner is generally not determined until the Dayton meeting of the following year. Eligibility is based on the Findlay current membership roster with paid members after the Findlay meeting.

## Results 2000-2001 MRRC Challenge

Top Ten			
<b>K8GL</b>	<b>2562</b>	<b>K8MR</b>	<b>2081</b>
<b>K5IID</b>	<b>2526</b>	<b>K9TM</b>	<b>2029</b>
<b>KU8E</b>	<b>2504</b>	<b>K8CC</b>	<b>1750</b>
<b>W8AV</b>	<b>2499</b>	<b>K9NW</b>	<b>1625</b>
<b>W8MJ</b>	<b>2239</b>	<b>N8EA</b>	<b>1424</b>

K8GT	1312	N8ET	391	K8RM	178
WD8S	1255	AA8U	378	W8UA	172
NU8Z	1222	K4LT	341	K8AA	125
K8JM	1204	W8DD	339	K8MV	109
KW8N	1176	AF8A	335	K8CO	100
ND8DX	1157	AC8W	308	N8CQA	98
N8VW	995	K8AQM	304	KE8OC	93
KT8X	936	N8CC	279	NT8V	58
WX3M	788	AC8E	271	AD8P	48
W8RU	707	K5ZG	230	WR8K	45
N8NX	542	W8BIN	215	K8MK	17
K8AAX	491	K8MM	201	W9CEO	9
K8DD	490	K8SIA	179	W8WTS	1
WD8DRZ	411	N8KR	178		

The results are in for the 2000-2001 MRRC Challenge and the winner is **Greg Surma, K8GL**. Greg jumped from his 6<sup>th</sup> place finish in the previous Challenge with several strong single-op efforts from his Saginaw, MI QTH. In second place is **Tom Horton, K5IID** who was not even a member of MRRC during the previous Challenge. Finally, **Jeff, Clarke, KU8E** encores his third place finish from the last Challenge - a great showing from a station with almost all wire antennas.

This year's results were pretty even between states: Ohio had five entries in the top ten, while Michigan had four; K5IID from WV was the spoiler.

This year's 51 entries represents a significant increase over the 43 entries from the last Challenge. With 17850 points possible, there is still lots of room for the Challenge to grow with even more activity!

The MRRC Challenge plaque is being engraved with Greg's name and call, and will be awarded to him at the next MRRC meeting.

## Mad River Radio Club

Dave Pruett K8CC  
2727 Harris Road  
Ypsilanti, MI 48198



«First Name» «Last Name», «Call»  
«Address»  
«City», «State» «Zip»  
Current For «Dues»

**2001 SS Medium Club  
Category Winners!**

## Club Resources

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The Mad River Radio Club is an ARRL affiliated club of amateur radio contesting enthusiasts. The club is centered near Findlay, Ohio and serves Ohio and the surrounding States. Membership is open to anyone.

The Flash is the official newsletter of MRRC and is published six times per year. Submission of material for publication is welcome. It may be sent to the editor at the postal or e-mail address shown above. The Flash may be reprinted in whole or in part provided proper credit is given.

Club dues are \$12 per year, payable after the 1st of May each year with a grace period thru 31st of July each year. Members of the same family living at the same address may elect to receive a single Flash for one set of dues. Fulltime students are eligible for dues at half price. Dues are to be paid to the treasurer at the address shown above. Please make checks payable to *Mad River Radio Club*.

The club roster appears annually in the October/November issue of the Flash.

The Mad River Net is held on Monday nights at 8:30 PM Eastern time on 3825 KHz.

Keep up with MRRC happenings by subscribing to the MRRC Internet Reflector. To join send an email to [mrrc-request@contesting.com](mailto:mrrc-request@contesting.com). The body of the message should include "subscribe mrrc yourcall".

K8MAD is the club callsign of the Mad River Radio Club.