

January, 1985

edited by
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the official journal of the MAD RIVER RADIO CLUB

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MR.MR CHRISTMAS PARTY

What a success! A great crowd showed up at Jim's Cleveland Heights QTH for the eighth annual K8MR Christmas Party. A number of seldom seen, vintage contesters were on hand to participate in the bull sessions and throw in a few kind words where ever they were needed.

Not too much was accompolished at the business meeting other than to agree that the pre-Yuri format of the Hamvention is just fine. You had to be there.

Former Big Fish, Dave Pruett, attempted to direct the business meeting but was outnumbered by the non-violent dissidence. Dave was allowed to announce that the Livonia Convention will not take place this year due to a shortage of funds; therefore, we will have to find another event around which to wrap out Michigan meeting. You should each make your feelings known concerning attending the February swapfest vs. some other month and event.

Tim, KQ8M, brought his '64 and Dr. DX for the entertainment of the group. It is as much fun as it was said to be. Word has it that the price has been reduced on the Dr. and I just saw a K-Mart add showing the '64 for \$188. They are rapidly closing in on my line of financial resistance! With the introduction of the new Commodore machine the price of the '64 should drop further; however, I don't see it going much below \$150.

My backlog of material for this epistle is depleted. Please write an article and send it fast. Thanks to K8MR and N8CXX for their FB submissions for this issue. We also need a volunteer to collect contest scores and summarize them for publication herein. de W8LNO * * * * * * * * * *

The MRRC Flash is the newsletter of the Mad River Radio Club, an ARRL affiliated club serving contesters in Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Kentucky and Hest Virginia. The FLASH may be reprinted in whole or in part provided proper credit is given. Mail all inquiries or submissions to W8LNO at the address shown on the masthead. Join the Mad River Net on 3825 Khz at 8:30 Eastern each Monday evening.

DAYTON LODGING

As of January 1, 1985 the official W8LNO registration system shows—SINGLES: W8LNO-3,KC8MK

DOUBLES: KN8Z,K8NZ/AZ,K8MR,N8ET,N8CXX/BTU,WA8YVR,N8ATR/DMM,NZ4K,WD8LLD, N4AR, W9RE, K3LR-2, K8CC-3

No rooms are left in the inn. If you think you should be on this list and aren't, you had best call W8LNO. If you have changed your mind, please advise ASAP.

Late in January I will ask each of you for a major credit card number so I can get out of the guaranteeing business. de WBLNO

SOFTWARE REVIEW by W8LNO

A few months ago N6NB and KC6A published a book, <u>Computer Programs for Amateur Radio</u>, which contains a series of logging, duping, log printing, operating aides, and antenna design programs.

Recently they have made these listed programs available on diskette for the Commodore, Apple II series and the IBM PC. I had purchased their book with the idea that I, the great key puncher, would enter the code myself and have a FB set of logging and duping programs. It was not to be.

The diskette for the IBM PC works just fine with my PCjr. I have made a trial run of most of the 21 programs included on the diskette and have had no problems getting any of them to work. The neatest in the bunch is the GRAYLINE program which will provide targets within user defined windows for sunrise and sunset. It could be very handy for the DX tests.

In addition to the generalized logger program which can be tailored for the different contests (I used it for the ARRL 160 with good results) the package includes a specialized SS logger, a FD logger and dupecheck, logprint and dupeprint programs which work with each of the logging programs. Also included are offerings for the EME buff and the awards chaser.

The duping program may be used without using the logging programs and is very fast and makes you feel like a fool when you enter a dupe. It is the preferable approach for checking your single op logs which can be read——if you can't read them the logging program is still available.

I've found the set to be well worth the money. The book and disk may be purchased as a set or separately through the Ham Radio Bookstore.

PRELIMINARY SS SCORES

		CM		SSB	
CLASS	CALL	# QSO	# MULT	# QSO	# MULT
Multi/single	WB8JBM	1070	74	1185	73
	WBLT	823	74	900	73
	W8LNO			880	74
	WASBIN			750	69
	WB3KKX	490	74	530	74
	WA8SBC			450	70
	KB8WC			435	70
	NBBZA			275	65
Single op/low pwr.	KBAZ	590	73		arrabal auto
	K3JT	564	71	342	61
	KBBL	525	70	0.12	
	K7SV	510	74		
	KBSS	450	67		
	KR8Y	450	65		
	WBBMZZ	400	73	0.15	
	K8NZ		mice pris length	215	45
	NBBTU	86	31	farmer and	tod He
	W8TO	162	56	41	25
Single op/hi pwr.	K3LR	1115	74	138	47
	KBCC	994	74		
	KBAZ			850	73
	NBCXX			766	74
	K8NZ	944	74		
	WASRRR	925	74		
	W8FN	894	74	721	70
	KU8E	876	74	724	73
	N4TY	897	71		
	MBLNO	850	74		
	K1LT	845	74		
	K7SV	0.10	deservation to don	603	74
	NBBTU			485	65
	WB8JKR			450	72
		775	7.4	436	12
	MDBIXE	775	74	707	/=
	NBET	662	73	327	65
	KBBL			370	65
	KD8G			834	71
	MB8MZZ			655	72
	WM4T	660	73		
	NBDE	640	74	260	60
	WBUA	621	72		
	KBND	517	71		
	WB8PHI	489	69		
	K8MR #	460	70	650	72
	N8CSL #	452	69	190	50
	WBUPH	422	69	418	67

MAD RIVER RADIO CLUB	`FLASH'	PAGE 4	JANUARY, 1985	5
PRELIMINARY SS SCORE	S CONTINUED			
and the second second	AD8P 409	73	325	67
	AA8S 385	- 73	275	63
	KB8LM		355	71
Turker W States Of	K8DB # 332	68		
	NE8T		241	63
The No.	N8AVK		225	70
0.00	KC8JH		191	53
	AD8I 110	49		
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	KN8Z 100	41	225	58
	WD8IVL 45	20	390	69
# K8MR, OPERATOR FOR	CW, CSL OF FOR	FONE.		

The Editor's estimate of 3.5 meg points on SSB based on 35 entries was a bit generous. Who would have thought that you guys couldn't average

100k per entry? 2.5 meg is all it computed!

We had 37 entries on code for about 3.1 meg leaving us short of the 6 Million point mark and leaving N8ET in the position of probably making some sort of shipment of consumables to the West Coast.

I recognize that there are some missing scores, but I also know there will be the usual number of those failing to send their logs to ARRL so it all will work out in the end.

Rumor has NCCC at the 8+ million level. sk

ARRL DX TESTS

Those of you who attended the Findlay meeting will recall the commitment of the group to make a serious club effort in the '85 DX tests. To that end it seems we should be thinking in terms of a "Medium" club entry and a lot of intense single op effort or multi single for those not interested in going the distance alone. No advise here for the m/m group.

To liven things up just a bit it would be interesting for each of us to declare his intentions in advance and stimulate some intraclub competition, especially in the little gun category. For example, W8LNO will be all band, single op for code and single band 20 meters for fone. Dosen't sound very exciting, but it is a well considered approach.

The Club has again sponsored the 3.5 MHZ CW plaque for top World score. Anyone interested in sponsoring a plaque in his own name or that of MRRC should get in touch with W1XX, at the League, pronto.

HOW TO BEAT THE SWEEPSTAKES BLAHS by K8MR
It has been more than a few people over the years who have complained about how slow SS can be on Sunday afternoon. Sometimes it has been part of a plea to shorten the contest, sometimes asking for QSOs once per band, sometimes begging off for chucking the whole thing at 4 p.m. But for the past three years I've found a very enjoyable way to keep things interesting and make lots of points for the MRRC: operating single operator, multi-station.

This means finding the otherwise usused station of a club member, and putting it on the air after you've worked everyone else from your own QTH. My principal co-conspirator in this has been Denny, K8DB. He lives about 5 miles from me, and has a TR7, MLA2500, tribander and dipoles. Denny is more a DXer than a contester, and certainly more a phone op than a cw freak. So come Sunday afternoon of CW SS up I show and get to play new boy on the bands. Not surprisingly, it's fun running 60/hr instead of struggling to make 35 or so. I can aactually stay awake under such circumstances.

This was my thrid year to visit K8DB. The first year I did 559 in 69 sections in 12 hours after doing 624 in 70 in 12 hours from home. Last year, though the score did not get listed in QST due to some mixup at ARRL (it did get found in the recount after the very close finish with the North Texas Contest Club), I did 447 in 70 in 8 hours after doing 627 in 74 in 12 hours from K8MR.

This year I finished up at DB with 331 in 68 after 6 3/4 hours. But since I cnat get enough of a good thing, this year I added a third station to my itinerary. I started off as NBCSL from the NBCSL/WSBIVL QTH, a half mile down the road from the K8NZ superstation in Mentor, Ohio. This is a half hour drive from my place, so I started there to minimize my driving time during the contest. This station also played well, except for my unfamilarity with the Yaesu FL-101/FR-101 separates. This pair has some strange transceiving syncing system I never did quite figure out. When I went to 15 for the first time, the first station I heard was VESQST calling CQ. I then spent 15 minutes trying to figure out what frequency I was transmitting on. Of course in that time he went away, and I never heard him again from N8CSL. finally did get things somewhat straight, and ended up with 452 in 69 sections in nine hours and twenty minutes. Things had gotten slow by 0600 so I went home and put on K8MR at 0710 and promptly ran off a 92 hour on 80 meters. Sunday morning I had a rate of 55-60 for the most I finally packed it in at 1930 with 450 in 70 after seven hours, 25 minutes and took off for K8DB.

The total this year was 1233 QSOs, with all 74 sections from one place or another. The total score was 170,392, which would be equivalent to 1151 and a sweep. Actual operation time was about 23 1/2 hours. 113 stations showed up in all three check sheets, and another 213 in two of the three. 468 were in only one, for a total of 794 different calls in the three logs. I estimate about 35 kilopoints additional for the club, and a lot more fun for me, by operating single/multi.

A CONTEST WEEKEND at N8CXX

It was the CQWW weekend and I had nothing planned. I had heard that the N8CXX crew had worked hard to put together John's station for a multisingle effort. They were looking for some operators, so I decided to help them out.

SATURDAY	
0001	Contest starts. These guys are really ambitious! I had
	better get busy.
0030 0045	XYL runs into the operations room. "We have no water pressure."
6642	They found a circuit breaker had been accidentally tripped when the SB-220 was wired. The breaker was reset and everything was
	fine.
0200	A little coupling, 160 to 80 meters, should really help these guys.
Ø215	They have a spare radio. I missed that one, but it's time for
	me to go to bed.
1530	Sure is a pretty day. I wonder how they are doing?
1531	New multiplier on 15 meters from the S.E. Quickrotate the
1532	beam from Europework the multNow turn the beam back. Heh,heh. Rotor locks up and quits at 110 degrees. The owner is at
1502	work. I know they won't know what to do.
1700	Owner returns home. Sends an Op up the tower to loosen the
	rotor to mast bolts and manually rotate the beams to Europe.
1900	They cleaned up the connections, reset the rotor heading and now
51 D I 5 51	they are back to a rotatable array. Enough done, time for a nap.
SUNDAY	District Colonial Control of the basis release significant
0215 0300	Rotor locks. Only a blown fuse in the brake release circuit. Everybody looks tired. I had better help them get some sleep.
0450	Last Op falls asleep at the mic.
0900	I can't let them sleep all day. I'll wake someone!
1600	They are all back working hard. Their goal is in sight.
1900	It's another nice day. I think I'll help John's neighbor
meterial - a	cut down a tree.
1956	The tree is cut and falling. Opps, wrong way. Sorry about
2152	your power lines being down, John. Heh heh. Power is restored.
2220	They might reach their goal. I had better jump in and help.
2225	A little transformer meltdown for the Swan linear. Oh, I love
world med	that smoke!
2255	They have cleared the house of smoke and are again operating.
2359	Contest is over, time to go home.

Dear John,

I really enjoyed operating at your station this year. Your crew impressed me with the fact they never quit or even screamed at each other. Next year I'm planning a trip to Ohio to help your friends down there.

73, Murphy

MISCELLANEOUS SCORES

Although lots of events have run, reporting has been slow. Our only WorldWide item comes from the N8CXX m/s effort with a fine 709k total in spite of the weekend-long visit from ole Murph (807/101/236-fone). We have a little more to say about the ARRL 160 test.

Our only single op score comes from W8FN. Randy snaked out 86 mults with 666 Q's. That's a heck of a big mult count for a city lot operation — no rx antennae.

Multi single was the big category this year it seems----

KS8S (+AD8F) 994/98 WBLT (+MANY) 970/90 N4DBR (+WM4T) 760/81 W8LNO (+KA8HFO) 760/80

The LNO numbers are final. It seems the others may be subject so some change; however, I doubt that it would be significant.

Conditions were, of course, great! In addition to greatly increased domestic activity, The foreign boys were on in force. Although propagation to Europe wasn't so great from central USA I suspect that the big guns on the east coast broke the 100 mult barrier.

It is another shootout between KS8S $\,$ and N9MM. Bill Gains promises the the top M/S score will be by an Ohio station.

The CQWW 160 DX Test will run on January 25/26. Get on and give all us old fools a contact.

FROM THE BIG EISH

FINALLY - ANOTHER ISSUE OF THE FLASH! THE RUMOR WAS TRUE - THE MAILING LABELS TURNED UP WITH AN HRIDAP QSL CARD - THEY WERE LOST IN THE HRI QSL BUREAU. THIS IS ACTUALLY THE SECOND TIME I HAVE WRITTEN THIS. THE FIRST ONE DID NOT MAKE IT TO W8LNO IN TIME TO BE INCLUDED IN THE 'PRODUCTION RUN' OF THE FLASH. HENCE THE DIFFERENT TYPE STYLES - I AM TYPING THIS MYSELF AND ADDING IT TO THE FINISHED VERSION. I JUST HOPE THERE IS ROOM TO SQUEEZE IT ALL IN.

IT SOUNDS LIKE EVERYONE HAD AN EXCELLENT TIME AT KOMR'S ANNUAL BASH I WISH I COULD HAVE MADE IT BUT JUST WASN'T TO BE AGAIN THIS YEAR. MAYBE NEXT YEAR. FROM WHAT I HEAR A LOT WAS DISCUSSED (IT WASN'T CLEAR THAT ANYTHING WAS SOLVED OR DECIDED) AND A COUPLE OF MRRC OLD TIMERS MADE AN APPEARANCE. THERE WERE EVEN A FEW PEOPLE FROM OUTSIDE THE 150 M. CIRCLE. HOPEFULLY THE TREND WILL CONTINUE.

ALONG THESE LINES, I HAVE OBTAINED A LISTING OF THE 8TH AREA CALLS THAT APPEARED IN A WEST COAST SS LOG. I INTEND TO WRITE TO AS MANY OF
THEM AS I CAN BETWEEN NOW AND DAYTON AND INVITE THEM TO DROP BY OUR
MEETING AND/OR THE SUITE. THE SUITE WILL BE WELL PUBLISISED THIS YEAR

(IT HELPS TO KNOW THE EDITOR OF NCJ) AND IS IN A BETTER LOCATION. ALL
INDICATIONS ARE THAT IT WILL BE MUCH BUSIER THAN LAST YEAR. WE WILL NEED
VOLUTEERS TO TO BE SURE THAT NECESSARY ITEMS (BEER, ICE, ETC.) ARE KEPT
ON HAND, IN ADDITION TO HELPING SET UP AND TAKE DOWN. LET ME KNOW IF YOU
CAN HELP OUT BEFORE THE NEXT FLASH COMES OUT - OR I WILL START VOLUNTERING PEOPLE. TWO HOUR SHIFTS WORKED WELL LAST YEAR SO THATS WHAT WE

WILL DO AGAIN THIS YEAR. ALSO IF ANYONE FEELS THAT WE NEED A 'THEME' FOR OUR SUITE - LET ME KNOW (ANT PICS, DX-PEDITION PICS, CODE TAPE, FOR EXAMPLE). I FEEL THAT THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THE SUITE IS FOR MEETING PEOPLE, SO I AM NOT GOING TO VOLUNTEER ANYONE FOR THAT ONE.

COMPLETELY CHANGING THE SUBJECT, I JUST RECEIVED A COPY OF THE TXDS BULLSHEET. THEY HAVE JUST HAD AN ELECTION, AND THE BULLSHEET WAS OUTLINING THE EVENTS FOR THE COMING YEAR. THE ISSUE WAS SO BIG IT TOOK 37 CENTS POSTAGE — SOMETHING UNHEARD OF FOR A FLASH. LOOK FOR THEM IN THE ARRL DX TEST. LETS GET IN THERE AND GIVE THEM A GOOD RUN — THEY ARE GOING ALL OUT. AT LEAST GET ON FONE WEEKEND AND LISTEN TO THE BATTLE ON BETWEEN W8LNO AND N8ET (I'M COMING AFTER YOU JOE) — ANYONE ELSE FOR 20 FONE SINGLE BAND??

ONCE AGAIN PROPAGATION IS GIVING US FITS ON MONDAY EVENING. IF YOU DON'T HEAR ANYONE ON 3825, CHECK 1835. WE TALKED ABOUT A 2 M REPEATER LAST YEAR, BUT NOTHING CONCRETE HAS HAPPENED. IF ANY OF YOU ARE INVOLVED WITH A LOCAL REPEATER LET ME KNOW. MY LOCAL CLUB HAS SAID WE CAN USE THE FINDLAY REAPEATER(W8FT 147.15/75) FOR OUR NET BUT IT WOULD NEED TO BE LINKED TO OTHER MACHINES FOR REASONABLE COVERAGE OF MRRC TERRITORY. K8CC SUGGESTED 2M SSB THE OTHER NIGHT - SAYS HE CAN WORK NAAR MOST NIGHTS ON 2. HOW MANY OF YOU HAVE 2 M SSB?? LET ME KNOW.

ONE OTHER THING - DAYE JUST SENT ME AN UPDATED LIST OF THE MEMBERS. WE HAVE OVER 100 AND I FEEL IT IS TIME WE TOOK ON A FEW MORE OFFICERS. A FEW OF YOU HAVE ALSO MENTIONED THIS TO ME. I INTEND TO GET A FEW IDEAS ON PAPER AND IN THE NEXT FLASH IN TIME FOR DAYTON. THINK ABOUT IT A BIT AND LET ME KNOW HOW YOU FEEL. THEN AT DAYTON WE CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN AND SPREAD SOME OF THE RESPONSIBILITY OF MAKING THIS CLUB GO.

SEE YOU ALL ON MONDAYS 3825 OR 1835..... 73'S BILL N8ET

MAD RIVER RADIO CLUB 33136 HAMPSHIRE ROAD LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48154



DAVE PRUETT TOM PRUETT WB8VMN 33136 HAMPSHIRE RD. LIVONIA, MI KBCC

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