

the 

edited by
Joe Warden, WBLNO
28 S. Henstead Rd.
Westerville, OH 43081

APRIL, 1986

VOLUME VII, NUMBER 6

the official journal of the MAD RIVER RADIO CLUB

President: Randy Farmer, WBFN
919 Leatherwood Drive
New Carlisle, OH 45344
(513) 845-3331

Treasurer: Ron Harps, KBNZ
8321 Edgewood Rd.
Mentor, OH 44060
(216) 255-7205

CAC Representative: Randy Farmer, WBFN; 919 Leatherwood Dr.; New Carlisle, OH 45344

from the DEPARTMENT OF PISCINE PHILOSOPHY BY WBFN

It's getting close, gang! As I write this we have only five short weeks until the Dayton Hamvention happens for 1986. I hope everybody is pumped up by now; I sure am! We will again be needing volunteers to man the hospitality suite. Organizational details may be found elsewhere in this issue. I would like to encourage as many as possible to help out and press the flesh, etc. with the many contesters from all over the country who will be present. Since we're the biggest and best contest club in this part of the country it's only fitting that we show ourselves off a little. It's also a great time for getting on the outside of a few beers and chewing the fat with all of those guys you work all the time but don't necessarily know. Along those lines, I would also like to propose that we generate some way of identifying ourselves as MRRC people. Perhaps distinctive call badges or baseball caps or shirts, etc. would be appropriate. WBLNO has agreed to undertake a project to get us identified. We won't be able to do anything about this year, but we can show some cohesiveness from June, 1986 forward. We're a standout club in the contest results and I think we should stand out at amateur radio's biggest event; on our home turf.

I finally compiled and mailed the final list of participating stations for CQWW. We did pretty well with a total of about 22.6M points. This is certainly not going to sweep the competition, but it is a quite respectable showing for a total of 18 entries (7 code and 11 phone). Thanks to all who participated and sent in scores for the club.

I have heard rumors of several ambitious efforts in the ARRL DX Contest, but no firm details. KUBE has prepared a detailed report which appears elsewhere in this issue. Due to unexpected company the CW weekend and the onset of a loathsome disease the Phone weekend your erstwhile Fish managed a grand score of 0 x 0 in both sessions. I promise to do much better next year, probably as a component of what should be a healthy KSBS operation. Again, thanks to all who participated. ---continued on page 2

CONTRIBUTORS

JEFF CLARKE, KUBE ARRL DX RESULTS--CW AND SIDEBAND

BILL KELSEY, N8ET IN SEARCH OF THE 'DILLO--DEAD OR ALIVE!!!

TED RACHWAL, K8AQM WW PHONE '86--EXPEDITION TO FP0

PISCINE PHILOSOPHY CONTINUED

Just because we didn't make a major push in ARRL this year doesn't mean we're not serious about it. The ARRL Tests are still our best hope for winning the club competition in a DX contest. Let's plan now to stomp'em in 1987!

We have an all new event coming up this month, or at least a resurrected one. The first North American QSO Party, sponsored by the National Contest Journal takes place the weekends of April 12-13 (CW) and April 19-20 (SSB). This should be a good one since the rules are similar to the now-defunct ARRL QSO parties (nee CD Party). Best of all, it only covers a 12 hour period, so you can play contest without zapping the entire weekend. I hope we can get a good turnout for this one from the MRRC troops. Maybe we could get the NCJ folks to crank up a club competition if we and members of the other contest clubs turn out in force. Hope to see you all in there.

There are still a goodly number of us who show up on the Monday night net on 3825 (alternate 1872). Conditions have been somewhat better the last few weeks, meaning most of us can actually hear each other. They should continue to improve as the days get longer, so those of you who have tried to join the net and became discouraged should try again soon. We don't actually solve any big problems, but many are created and it is a good way to keep up with what the rest of the gang is doing. Until we get the club meeting rules rationalized (which I hope is one of the issues the CAC will tackle in 1986) the net is the best facsimile we have of more frequent club meetings.

That's about it. I hope to see all of you wandering through the Hamvention on Friday or certainly at the Hospitality Suite on Friday night. Save up your bucks and your stories for Dayton. There will be commercial types to collect the former and contest types to collect the latter.. See you all at the big show!

ON THE BEACH

K8AQM, Ted, really wants to mount an expedition to FP0 for the CQWW phone weekend. Ted can do a really good job of convincing you that the ease of Eu QSO's on the low bands offset the natural advantage of the Caribbean stations. Ted has experience with St. Pierre and wants to put together a top notch group of operators and expeditioners to prove his point. Ted would very much like for this to be a MRRC event.

Interested? Telephone Ted after 7:00 each evening at 517-263-4066 or write to him at 1600 Wolf Creek Hwy., Adrian, MI 49221.

ARMADILLO RUN - 1986 de NBET

The Texas DX Society is once again trying to organize one of the biggest craziest circus's ever seen in ham radio - THE ARMADILLO RUN -. In a nutshell - they are trying to activate every county in the U.S.A during the weekends of May 3,4 (phone) and July 26,27 (cw) for at least 30 minutes each on 20 meters and/or 40 meters.

About a year ago I was asked if I would be interested in helping out with the run. Not realizing quite what I was doing - I said I would help in some small way. About a month later I received a list of area coordinators - and found I was in charge of the eighth district.

I have finally gotten around to organizing for the 1986 Armadillo Run in the eighth call area. To date I have had three inquiries from groups in southern and central Michigan (Adrian and St. Louis) and northwest Ohio (Toledo). WBLNO has staked his claim to W.Va and K8AQM is going to attack the upper peninsula. K8NZ was heard on 3825 muttering about his Dad's motor home and doing a large chunk of Ohio. As you can see - a lot more stations are needed if every county in the eighth district is going to be activated.

I am counting on MRRC members to be almost as crazy as the TXDS and help get those counties activated. Talk it up at your local club. Could you all let me know what counties you could activate on either of the two weekends. Write me at the address above, or call at home (419-477-5378) or work (419-422-2121 x4426), or catch me on the MRRC net on Mondays at 8:30 on 3825 (or 1872 if the band is long).

The stories they tell about the run in past years make it sound like a lot of fun - Give it a try on at least one of the weekends - from the car, or FD type operation from several counties, or from home. It will probably be raining so you won't be able to work on those antennas at the home QTH anyway.

Its crazy and different - a Good MRRC activity - let me know if you can spend 30 minutes on at home, or will be going mobile (they even require rest stops - no 48 hours in this one!) Perhaps we could meet somewhere in the middle, or at a couple of different locations and determine the high claimed MRRC score and arrange for a suitable award..... is there anyone out there who would be willing to challenge the Findlay crew???, or match the '8LNO expedition???

LET ME HEAR FROM YOU ALL SOON!!!!

73's

Bill Kelsey NBET

ARRL DX CONTEST REPORT

The following REPORT was prepared by KUBE, Thanks Jeff, and is supplemented at press time with the addition of a 300k m/s effort on phone by W8LND/K8HF0/ae and 150k effort on code by K8HF0/ae. Overall, with 26 entries we should net just over 6.0 million points and show well in the medium competition.

*

*

*

ARRL DX CONTEST REPORT

The sunspots aren't the only thing on the downward trend lately. So is MRRC Participation in contests. After a lackluster effort in Sweepstakes an awards Program was implemented for the 1986 ARRL DX Contest in hopes of stimulating more activity. A total of 5 awards were offered, sponsored by K8CC, W8LND, K8AZ and W8KIC. Evidently alot of the membership didn't get the word. Activity wasn't any noticeably higher than what it has been the last few years. A couple of the awards may go unclaimed because of lack of Participation. Maybe some discussion on this subject is in order at the next club meeting to be held in Dayton.

As far as conditions.... CW weekend was poor. Probably due to the effects of the huge solar disturbance the weekend before. The A and K index shot sky high resulting in one of the most intensive auroras in years. Good news for those VHF enthusiasts out there but not us HF DX contesters! The Phone weekend was much better. Conditions were good considering where we are in the sunspot cycle.

Stay tuned for scores and comments. See you in Dayton!

9-H

KUBE

SOAPBOX* Rough with a 160 dipole and barefoot TR-7! How about a Peanut trophy? (N8ET)* 80 and 160 (CW) were tough here with very heavy QRN on Saturday and poor openings to EU. 40 never opened to JA. Had to work them skew path. (W8LND)* Where was Northern EU? (KD8NS)* CW weekend at KS8S is a weekend I want to forget. On the way up to Dean's on Friday night I had a flat tire. On Saturday afternoon the amp started acting up and 2 hours of EU opening was lost. Sunday night KD8NS and I were stranded because of an ice storm that left the roads impassable. On Monday morning there was fog which left visibility at almost zero and it took twice as long to get home. Do you think Murphy was trying to tell me something? (KUBE)* Conditions were terrible on CW weekend. I was told by HG5A I was the loudest signal on 15 Meters. Who needs stacked Mono-Banders? On Phone weekend I was ready for a big Single-OP effort but I found the 15 and 10 Meter beams were broken at the antenna site I was using. I then decided to try 20 Meter single band but that antenna broke at 2200Z. At that point I got discouraged and went home to my Tribander. Looks like Murphy got me! (KD8IXE)

CW

SINGLE-OP ALL BAND

K3TUP	975/230	660,750
W8LNO	900/218	588,600
WD8IXE	605/222	402,930
K8CC	350/200	210,000
N8CXX	145/80	34,800
K8MR	100/69	20,700
NE8T	100/69	20,700
N8ET	64/44	8,448

3.5 MHz

K8RZ	178/56	29,904
W8LT (NZ4K)	123/52	19,188
K08M	74/41	9,102

7 MHz

KS8S(KD8NS)	290/74	64,380
-------------	--------	--------

14 MHz

K3LR	1165/95	332,025
KS8S(KU8E)	810/79	191,970
W8LT(K3JT)	430/74	95,460

21 MHz

KV8Q	185/61	33,855
------	--------	--------

W8LNO

7/6

58/32

248/72

517/66

59/33

11/9

900/218

WD8IXE

10/10

71/38

161/55

236/58

115/52

12/9

605/222

SSB

SINGLE-OP ALL BAND

WD8IXE	562/144	242,784
K8MR	367/176	193,176

3.7 MHz

KS8S(NZ4K)	139/62	25,854
K8RZ	135/54	21,870

7 MHz

AD8C	117/52	18,252
------	--------	--------

14 MHz

KS8S(KU8E)	1047/113	354,933
------------	----------	---------

MULTI-SINGLE

K3TUP	1379/330	1,365,210
WB8JBM	1280/308	1,182,720

K3TUP

16/14

109/54

136/55

645/93

440/94

33/20

1379/330

WD8IXE

1/1

26/22

0/0

490/41

25/18

20/12

562/144

**THE TEXAS DX SOCIETY PRESENTS:
THE 1986 TEXAS SESQUICENTENNIAL CONTESTS**

ELIGIBILITY: OPEN TO ALL AMATEURS, WORLDWIDE

OBJECT: TO CONTACT AS MANY STATIONS IN AS MANY U.S. COUNTIES AS POSSIBLE AND TO ACTIVATE ALL U.S. COUNTIES DURING THE "ARMADILLO RUN" TIME PERIODS.

DATES: PHONE: MAY 3-4, 1986

CW: JULY 26-27, 1986

(THERE ARE SEPARATE CONTESTS FOR EACH MODE)

RULES: THE CONTEST RULES AND EXCHANGE WILL BE THE SAME AS FOR THE COUNTY HUNTERS' CONTESTS (EACH MODE OF THE C.H. CONTESTS HAVE DIFFERENT RULES; CHECK THE CONTEST CALENDARS IN CQ AND QST FOR THE 1986 RULES). THE SAME LOGS MAY BE SUBMITTED FOR BOTH CONTESTS. THERE ARE ADDITIONAL CATEGORIES OF ENTRY AND CERTAIN TIME PERIODS FOR THE "ARMADILLO RUN" PORTION OF THE SESQUICENTENNIAL CONTESTS. THESE SPECIFIC TIMES MUST BE HIGHLIGHTED IN THE LOGS AND CATEGORIES OF PARTICIPATION NOTED ON THE SUMMARY SHEETS.

THE ARMADILLO RUN: "THE ARMADILLO RUN" TIMES OF THE CONTEST ARE THE SPECIFIC PERIODS BETWEEN 1300 UTC AND 0100 UTC SATURDAY AND SUNDAY WHEN THE STATIONS DESIGNATED AS "ARMADILLO RUN" STATIONS WILL BE COVERING THEIR ASSIGNED COUNTIES IN AN ATTEMPT TO ACTIVATE ALL COUNTIES OVER THE TWO CONTEST WEEKENDS. OUTSIDE THE "ARMADILLO RUN" TIMES, THE ARMADILLO RUN STATIONS MAY CONTINUE OPERATION AND COMPETE IN OTHER CATEGORIES.

TIMES: CONTEST PERIOD IS 0000 UTC SATURDAY THROUGH 2359 UTC SUNDAY.
MANDATORY REST PERIOD FROM 0800 UTC TO 1200 UTC

THE CONTEST IS 48 HOURS WITH 24 HOURS OF SPECIFIC "ARMADILLO RUN" TIME, 8 HOURS REST AND 16 HOURS GENERAL OPERATING TIME.

CATEGORIES: ARMADILLO RUN STATION: HAS REGISTERED WITH A REGIONAL COORDINATOR AND HAS VOLUNTEERED TO COVER SPECIFIC COUNTIES ON ONE OR BOTH WEEKENDS EITHER IN A PRIMARY FUNCTION OR IN A BACKUP FUNCTION (IN THE EVENT OF MISHAP OR BREAKDOWN OF A PRIMARY STATION). CLASSES ARE FIXED OR MOBILE, SINGLE OP OR MULTIOP. AWARDS WILL BE GIVEN IN EACH CATEGORY. MAY OPERATE AS AN ARMADILLO RUN STATION ONLY BETWEEN 1300 UTC AND 0100 UTC EACH DAY. MOBILES MUST BE IN EACH COUNTY A MINIMUM OF 30 MINUTES. FIXED STATIONS MUST BE ON THE AIR A MINIMUM OF 16 HOURS OUT OF 24. ARMADILLO RUN STATIONS WILL ACTIVATE THEIR ASSIGNED COUNTIES ON 20 AND 40 METERS.

PARTICIPATING STATION: ANY STATION PARTICIPATING IN THE TEXAS SESQUICENTENNIAL CONTEST. CATEGORIES ARE THE SAME AS FOR THE COUNTY HUNTERS' CONTESTS.

PARTICIPATING RADIO CLUB: ANY RADIO CLUB GROUP THAT PARTICIPATES IN THE ARMADILLO RUN AS A CLUB PROJECT.

AWARDS: SEPARATE AWARDS WILL BE MADE FOR THE CW AND PHONE CONTESTS. HIGHEST SCORING FIXED STATION IN EACH CATEGORY IN EACH STATE WILL RECEIVE A CERTIFICATE AND AN ARMADILLO RUN PATCH. THE TOP TEN MOBILE STATIONS IN EACH CATEGORY WILL RECEIVE CERTIFICATES AND AN ARMADILLO RUN PATCH. EACH PARTICIPANT WILL RECEIVE A PARTICIPATION CERTIFICATE DEPUTIZING THEM AS A DEPUTY SHERIFF OF ARMADILLO COUNTY TEXAS. THE HIGHEST SCORING SINGLE OPERATOR FIXED STATION AND THE HIGHEST SCORING SINGLE OPERATOR MOBILE STATION FOR EACH MODE WILL RECEIVE A WHITE "ARMADILLO RUN" WINDBREAKER. THE HIGHEST SCORING SINGLE OPERATOR COMBINED-MODE WINNER FIXED AND MOBILE WILL WIN A WHITE SATIN "ARMADILLO RUN" JACKET.

ARMADILLO RUN STATIONS THAT COVER ALL OF THEIR ASSIGNED COUNTIES WILL RECEIVE SPECIAL CERTIFICATES AND AN ARMADILLO RUN PATCH. SPECIAL AWARDS WILL BE MADE FOR EXTRAORDINARY EFFORTS OF ARMADILLO RUN STATIONS.

PARTICIPATING RADIO CLUBS WILL RECEIVE A CLUB PARTICIPATION CERTIFICATE. TDXS WILL MAKE SOUVENIRS AVAILABLE TO PARTICIPATING CLUBS TO ENCOURAGE INTERNAL CLUB COMPETITION.

SCORING: SCORING WILL BE THE SAME AS THE COUNTY HUNTERS' CONTESTS WITH THE FOLLOWING EXCEPTIONS:

AUSTRALIAN COUNTIES COUNT AS MULTIPLIERS.
ARMADILLO COUNTY, TEXAS COUNTS 5-TIMES QSO POINTS
ARMADILLO COUNTY, SOUTH AUSTRALIA COUNTS 10-TIMES QSO POINTS
ANY VK5 STATION COUNTS 5-TIMES QSO POINTS

DEADLINES: ARMADILLO RUN STATIONS MUST BE REGISTERED WITH THE REGIONAL COORDINATORS OR WITH TDXS BY APRIL 25 FOR PHONE AND BY JULY 18 FOR CW. LOGS MUST BE RECEIVED WITHIN ONE MONTH AFTER THE CONTEST DATE. A LETTER FROM AN OFFICIAL OF PARTICIPATING CLUBS STATING THEIR INTENT TO PARTICIPATE WITH A LIST OF ELIGIBLE MEMBERS MUST ALSO BE RECEIVED BY LOG DEADLINE DATES.

RESULTS: RESULTS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO THE MAJOR PERIODICALS AND PARTICIPATING CLUBS. PARTICIPANTS WHO DESIRE A COPY OF THE RESULTS MUST SEND A 9" x 12" SASE. ADDRESS ALL LOGS AND CORRESPONDENCE TO:

THE TEXAS DX SOCIETY
350 MAGNOLIA BEND
NEW CANEY, TEXAS 77357

DAYTON EVENTS — READ 'EM

On the subject of rooms-- If N8DET hasn't told you that you have a room from the MRRC allocation, you don't.

CONTEST FORUM-- again, our own K3LR will moderate the fine program he has arranged.

On the subject of the MRRC hospitality suite-- N8DET has made all of the arrangements and is to be congratulated for sticking it out. Your editor has taken it upon himself to change the official suite hours. This year we will open at 8:00 PM. Two years of observation causes me to know that I am right. Elsewhere you will find a sign-up form to work in the suite and make monetary contributions to its success. Please respond to this one.

On the subject of meals-- WBFN has made reservations at the Old Hickory Restaurant on North Main Street. Yup, Buckeroos, it's the same place we always go. Why, you ask? 'Cause they let us come back!! Anyhow, we have a reservation for 20 at 6:00PM on Friday. Plenty of room for all who wish to attend. Just show up, with your own plastic or cash.

RUMORS

N8ET has started a rumor. Yes, mild mannered Bill Kelsey is engaging in conversations with and about his MRRC fellows. The Story goes - Goose, W8LLD, is tearing down the contest station he had partially erected. No, it isn't bankruptcy or a new job. It's a WOMAN. I gotta tell ya, your people watching editor knew the Goose was in trouble. Elmer was seen with a haircut and his stach trimmed at the Findlay meeting. It was scary to have witnessed the transformation.

In any event, the union will take up residence at a third site and LLD will be reassembled thereon. Very sincere congratulations to you, Goose.

DAYTON MEETING

We don't have too many specifics at this time; however, our annual meeting will be held Saturday, probably after the Contest Forum. That puts it at about 4:00PM. The DX Forum is in the morning this year. All of the presentations will be made via Gray-Line.

In addition to the election of officers, a smattering of awards will be presented and W8LND will make inquiry about the matter referred to on page one, namely the selection of a badge, hat or other vehicle through which we can be identified as MRRC folk. 'LND has a very strong preference for shirts. He will explain why. In any case, they can be made available for \$5.50 to about \$9.00 depending on how you want them done up. Think it over--also try to come up with a suitable suitable design for whatever it is you wish to wear.

MAD RIVER RADIO CLUB

'FLASH' — PAGE 9

APRIL, 1986

HOSPITALITY SUITE RESPONSE FORM

PLEASE INDICATE THE SHIFT YOU ARE WILLING TO WORK, THE CALL OF YOUR WORKMATE OF PREFERENCE, AND MAIL THIS FORM TO CHRIS KINZEL, N8DET, PRONTO.

FRIDAY, APRIL 25:
ALL TIMES EST--

2000-2200_____

2200-2400_____

2400-CLOSE_____

SATURDAY, APRIL 26:

2000-2200_____

2200-2400_____

2400-CLOSE_____

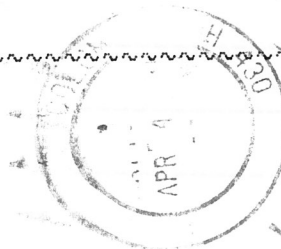
EVERYONE WANTS TO ENSURE THE ECONOMIC SUCCESS OF THE SUITE. SEND YOUR BUCKS TO K8NZ, ADDRESS ON THE MASTHEAD.

CHRIS KINZEL, N8DET
260 WOODLAKE DR.
BRIGHTON, MI 48116

* * * * *

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 West Virginia. The FLASH may be reprinted in whole or in part provided proper credit is given. Mail all inquiries or submissions to W8LND at the address shown on the masthead. Join the Mad River Net on 3825 Khz at 8:30 Eastern each Monday evening.

~~~~~  
MAD RIVER RADIO CLUB  
28 SOUTH HEMSTEAD RD.  
WESTERVILLE, OHIO 43081



FIRST CLASS MAIL

DAVE PRUETT  
KBCC  
33136 HAMPSHIRE RD.  
LIVONIA, MI 48154  
D