



The

FLASH



The Official Newsletter of the Mad River Radio Club

June/July 1995

MRRC CALENDAR

June 3 - 5

- ARRL June VHF QSO Party

June 25 - 26

- ARRL Field Day

July 8 - 9

- IARU HF World Championship
- CQ World Wide VHF DX Contest

August 5

- 4th Annual KN8Z BBQ/MRRC Meeting
- North American QSO Party - CW

August 19 - 21

- North American QSO Party - SSB

From the 'Big Fish'

By Goose Steingass, WD8LLD

Hello again fellow MRRC'ers. Here it June already and time to get that antenna work that we have all been thinking about all winter done. We have a number of major projects that we are undertaking this year at WD8LLD to improve our signal on the bands.

For those of you that did not make the MRRC meeting at Dayton this year you missed the whistle stop for the MRRC EXPRESS that re-railroaded in yours truly as fish and Tim, KE8OC as our illustrious treasurer/financial consultant. Tim has done a fine job over the past several years keeping the Mad River books in order and is to be congratulated for a job well done. Thanks for your vote of confidence and I hope that we can continue to lead the club to more gavel wins and increased membership in the coming year.

Other topics at the Dayton meeting included the final proclamation of the winner in the Michigan-Ohio ARRL 160 CW contest challenge. Ted, K8AQM announced that patches for the winners are being made up and will be sent to the Ohio participants in the very near future. He also mentioned that the Michigan contingent wants a rematch for the 1995 running of this event and that since they now have the "hook set" they are going "reel us in" in the next contest. The challenge is an excellent inter-club event and a good way to get people on for the contest. Who knows, we might just win another gavel this year! So mark your calendars for December and may the best state win!

I also would like to take some extra bandwidth here to again thank all of you that helped out with the suite this year. The suite was again a real success and all of you that gave your time as bartenders was greatly appreciated. We also have the final suite report in this issue of the FLASH so we won't have to spend the rest of the year asking how much the suite cost us!!!

Also discussed was the scheduling of additional MRRC meetings for the remainder of the year. There will be updates on the meeting dates in future issues of the FLASH but the tentative schedule now calls for two meetings in Michigan, at the Jackson Hamfest in July and the USCEA Swapfest in October; as well as the annual meetings at KN8Z in August, Findlay in September and the K8MR Christmas Party. Remember you need to make two meetings a year to be eligible to submit scores for the club in the contests. So plan on attending some of these events to satisfy your attendance requirement. Besides they are always a lot of fun.

Some more reminders: Your annual dues are now due. Send them to KE8OC. Secondly, don't forget to send articles in to the FLASH. Dave has been doing a great job but can not write everything by himself. Please give him a hand with some things to print. Remember this is your newsletter and it is only as good as what you put into it. Finally, don't forget the Monday night net. With summer coming, I know that means more outside work (like mowing grass and putting up towers) but please try to get in at least every couple weeks to let us know that you are still breathing!

Well, that is about it from here. Good luck with all the station work this summer and see you on the net.

73, Goose, WD8LLD
gooster@delphi.com

NEXT MRRC MEETING

The next meeting of the Mad River Radio Club will be on Saturday, August 5, 1995 at 12:00 Noon at the QTH of Doc Sheller, KN8Z. For more details, see the map in this newsletter.

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- ☆ 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 address of the last page. ☆
- ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆
- ☆ 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. Dues are \$12 per year, payable to club ☆
- ☆ treasurer KE8OC. Please make checks out to Tim O'Sullivan. ☆
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- ☆ In addition to six in-person meetings per year, MRRC has an ☆
- ☆ informal net every Monday evening at 8:30 PM Eastern time on ☆
- ☆ 3825 KHz ± QRM. Everyone is welcome to check in for the latest ☆
- ☆ club news and information. ☆
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From The Editor

By Dave Pruett, K8CC



Not much news this month, so I want to take this opportunity to talk about COMMUNICATION - what amateur radio is all about. We communicate with our fellow amateurs to operate contests, chase DX, and yes, sometimes even to just shoot the breeze. For those of us in MRRC, it is also important to communicate with our fellow club members (who in some cases might be a state or two away) in order to stay informed about upcoming club activities, contest results, and even to be recruited for antenna parties. The *FLASH* is an important means of intra-club communication, but it is not the only method.

For many years the club has conducted the MRRC 3825 Monday Night Net. I remember back in 1982 (when I joined MRRC) looking forward to Monday nights, when the general topics of conversation centered on 40M SS antennas and modifying C-Lines. Back then, as now, it's hard to judge how many people participate in the Monday Night Net since it appears that a good number just monitor. A portion of net participation vanished in the NCC insurrection of 1989, and since then, check-ins quite often tend to be the same bunch of people.

Packet radio has the potential to be an important means of intra-club communication. I remember getting on packet in 1986 and endeavoring in the often futile quest to bridge the path between K8CC and N8ET in Findlay. Today, at least ten MRRC members have PacketCluster nodes that are linked to one or more other nodes, yet we lack a reliable packet path between Michigan and central/eastern Ohio. On those occasions when we ARE connected, it is via a tenuous path through Indiana. I would not want to trivialize the hard work these folks have put in, however this path is broken more often than it works.

So in today's world where we have (some sort of) packet, and the Monday Night Net, where does the *FLASH* fit in? This newsletter comes out only every other month, so timeliness is not its forte. However, it can be a means to convey club news to those who do not participate in the net. More importantly, the *FLASH* can be a technical medium, where members share circuits and techniques related to contesting which may help others do better. Finally, the *FLASH* should be the arena where the member's results are displayed - keep sending your results to score custodian K8MR.

Even with a healthy *FLASH*, the club benefits greatly from the other two means of intra-club communication. Therefore, in my role as editor, I want to publicly lay down three challenges. First, to MRRC PacketCluster sysops in central/western Ohio: find a direct path up to Northwest Ohio and Michigan of sufficient quality to support message traffic. We have most of the infrastructure - all that is needed is one or two difficult paths to bridge.

Second, to the MRRC *Big Fish*: you (or a designated representative) should be QRV for every Monday Night Net. When I was president (a total of four terms), I made it a point to make every net, or at least round up a substitute "net control" (I hate to use the term, since the MRRC net is so informal). Figure out how to get more folks involved in the Net - make it more of a roundtable. With strong leadership, net participation grows, and it has been my experience that a strong net results in a strong MRRC.

Thirdly, to the MRRC membership: get involved with intra-club communication. Show up on Monday Nights and help the *Big Fish* make the Net grow. Get on packet, get to know your local MRRC sysop, and help him or her improve MRRC club communication in your local area. And finally, write something for the *FLASH*, or at least come up with some ideas.

Dayton always reminds me of the best aspects of MRRC - the camaraderie, and the vast variety of interests and personalities within our club. Personally, I would not trade MRRC for any other contest club, and it is my hope that we can get more people involved so that they can enjoy it just as much as I do.

73, Dave, K8CC

The 1993-94 MRRC Championship

By Jim Stahl, K8MR

The contest results have dribbled in on schedule, so it is now possible to declare a winner of the 1993-1994 Mad River Radio Club Championship. Ranking in the Championship is determined from the scores in 21 contests, each normalized to the top USA mainland score.

The big winner for this year is none other than the Big Fish, **Goose Steingass, WD8LLD**. Goose had scores in just six contests: CW SS, CQWW CW, ARRL 10 Meter (CW only), CQ 160 CW, ARRL DX CW, and WPX CW. Can anybody guess what his favorite mode is?

Not far behind in second place was **Ken AA8AV**. It took more weekends for Ken to amass his points; twelve contests, the best finishes being in both modes of SS and the ARRL 160M contest.

Jim, K8MR took third, with CW SS scores from his rover operations at home and **N8ATR** being the most productive weekend. **Pat, NZ4K**, a "have-invitation-will-travel" contester was in fourth, with the biggest contribution being a 270K phone SS effort from **KW8N**.

Bruce, AA8U, again got busy in the fall, with all but 96 of his 1939 points coming in the October-December contest jam. **Greg, K8GL**, again turned three contests - CQWW CW, ARRL DX CW and ARRL DX SSB, into a sixth place effort.

Walt, K8CV, did the most contests - 15. **K8MR** also did 15, but made points only in 14 - the 15th being a zero point WPX SSB entry.

The 1994-1995 MRRC Championship runs through the September 1995 NA Sprints. The 95-96 competition begins with the CQWW SSB in October. Keep operating and sending in entries, and be part of future club championships!

THE CHAMPS CQWW 1994 - SPRINTS 9/94

WD8LLD	2264	AA8FE	646
AA8AV	2199	N8JEC	633
K8MR	2039	AC8W	608
NZ4K	1983	N8U2	594
AA8U	1939	KC8MK	498
K8GL	1962	N8CC	487
N8ATR	1845	KG8CO	439
K8CC	1800	K8AQM	438
KU8E	1699	KE8OC	387
KW8N	1610	W8WD	380
NZ8O	1539	W8IQ	346
WD8AUB	1528	W8WTS	297
WD8IXE	1467	WA8OSE	282
K8MJZ	1449	WX8T	277
W8FN	1386	WA8RRR	229
K8MFO	1355	W8UA	214
K8DD	1249	W8UPH	195
KN8Z	1104	WA8BIN	182
KF8QE	1072	KG8CW	173
WD9INF	996	K8JM	161
WD8IJP	869	N8BTU	152
AF8A	865	KF8TY	151
K8CV	813	VE3ZTH	136
KV8Q	709	N8HTT	117
WX3M	688	KA8D	89
WJ8A	660	KD8B	60
N8CQA	660	N8TFR	56

Editor's Interesting Statistics:

Last year, 48 ops totaled 50,894 points, or 1060 per operator. This year, 54 ops totaled 45,851 points, or 849 per operator.

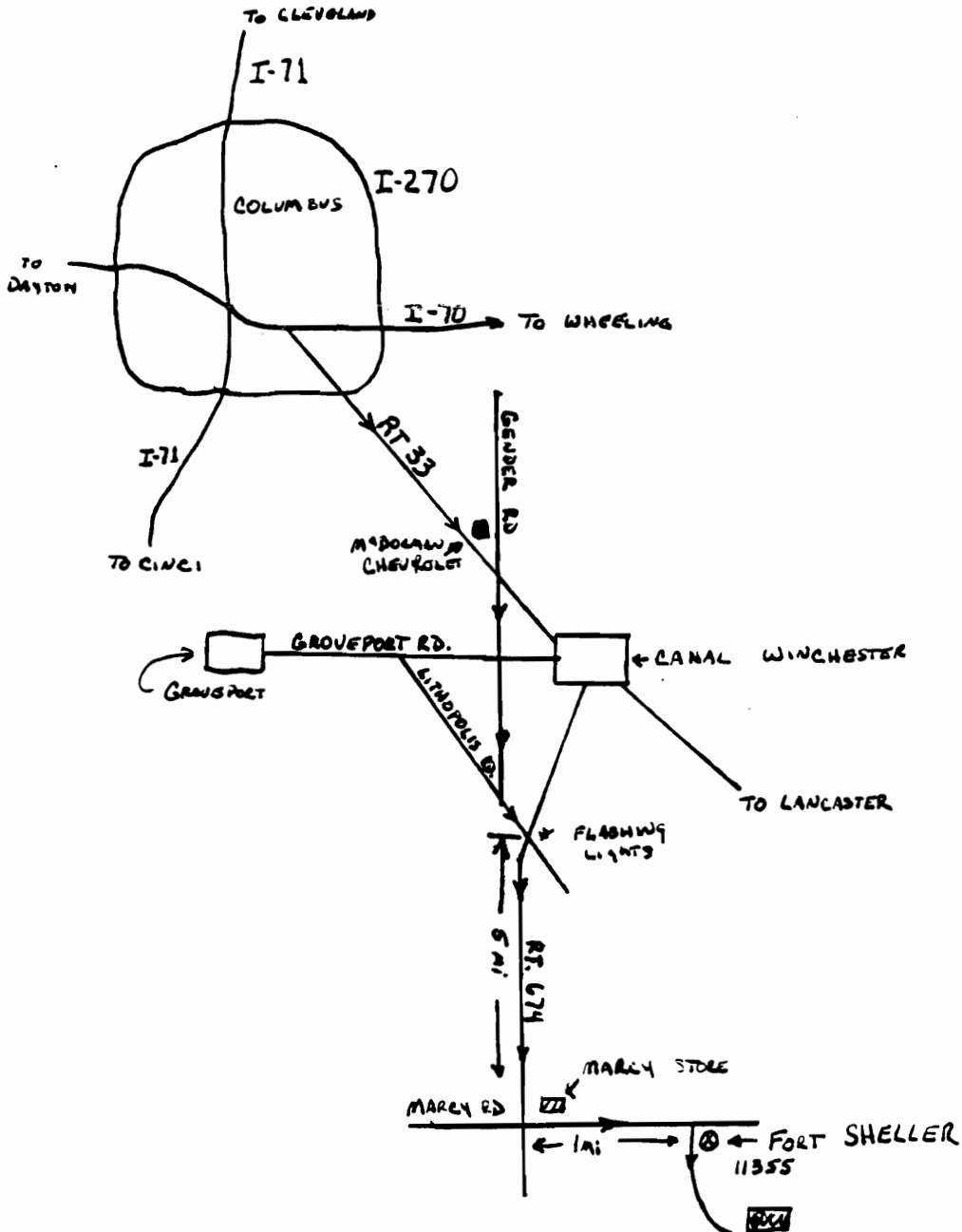
NZ8O, W8FN, and W8IQ finished in *exactly* the same ranking as they finished last year (albeit with different totals).

MAD RIVER RADIO CLUB MEETING
12:00 NOON, AUGUST 5, 1995
The FOURTH ANNUAL KN8Z BARBEQUE

Hosted by:
 "Doc" Sheller, KN8Z
 11355 Marcy Road
 Canal Winchester, OH
 (614) 837-1460
 Talk In: 145.21 (-.600)

The party starts at noon, and lasts until the last person goes home. As usual, Doc will be cooking dogs, burgers, beans, etc., but everyone is asked to bring a covered dish to pass. and will supply pop and beer...hard stuff is BYOB. Everyone is welcome to bring their swim trunks if they desire.

**All MRRC
 members and
 friends are
 invited!**



Treasurer's Report

By Tim O'Sullivan, KE8OC



Dayton is the biggest event of the year for MRRC, both in terms of people and dollars. For the first time in a number of years, we have a final accounting of suite expenses (see right). With those numbers included, here is the current fiscal status of the Mad River Radio Club as of July 1995:

<u>Balance reported 4/95</u>	\$238.32
<u>Income</u>	
Dues collected at Dayton 1994	\$696.00
<u>Expenses</u>	
Suite Expenses (less prepaid deposit)	\$206.64
1996 Suite Deposit	\$175.00
Checking Acct Maintenance (Apr-Jun)	\$9.00
<u>Balance 7/95</u>	\$543.68

Even though the cost for the suite seem somewhat shocking, we being the 1995-96 MRRC year in perhaps our best shape ever. The number of people attending the MRRC meeting in Hara Arena (and paying dues) was outstanding - thanks to everyone!

Respectfully Submitted, **Tim O'Sullivan, KE8OC**

Dayton 1995 Tally

By K8UE, KE8OC, & K8CC

Suite Income from Beverages	\$284.12
Suite Beverage/Food Expenses	\$272.00
Suite Rental	\$393.76
Total MRRC Expense	\$381.64

Note: The suite rental figure shown above includes the prepaid deposit, to show total MRRC expense.

DON'T FORGET!

We need YOUR contributions for the next MRRC Flash - start working NOW on an article!

Deadline for publication: **AUGUST 1, 1995**



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