

# The FLASH



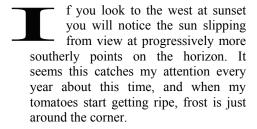
The Official Newsletter of the Mad River Radio Club

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# From the MRRC 'Big Fish'

By Bruce Lallethin, AA8U aa8u@voyager.net



The KN8Z BBQ/MRRC meeting was blessed with good weather this year. Doc's fine hospitality made the event enjoyable for all. Thanks Doc for once again hosting this event.

Prior to the official meeting, **Dave**, **K8CC** gave a presentation about his WRTC experiences. He and his partner **K5GO** represented MRRC in the WRTC event in San Francisco and finished in the top ten. Dave's new digital camera and PC allowed him to display the photos on Doc's rather large video screen. Thanks Dave for sharing this neat and interesting stuff with us. Congratulations and thank you for so effectively representing Mad River in this prestigious event.

The Ohio MRRC members have challenged the Michigan MRRC



members to do battle once again during the ARRL 160M contest. The Ohio contingent has won this event, two out of the two, nonetheless I accepted the challenge on behalf of my fellow Michiganders.. Regardless of which side of the border you are on, get on during this contest, and please turn in your log. You will have fun, and the MRRC club score will benefit from your participation, even if you can only enter part time. Please do you part and "Add One More Log to the River"!

At the next meeting we may see a new certificate presented for your approval. **Everett, WZ8P**, thought that everyone participating in our gavel-winning performances should be entitled to receive some wall paper recognizing their efforts as many never see the gavel. He offered to produce the certificates and should have a sample ready to present at the Findlay meeting. Thanks Everett, what a neat idea.

Each year, the MRRC member that operates and places most consistantly in the major contests of that year is recognized as the winner of the *MRRC Championship*. This year the winner

was **Bob**, **KW8N**. I feel there should be some form of enduring recognition for the the winners of this prestigious award. At Findlay, I expect to present for the membership's approval, the President's Award, which will be a "traveling" plaque that would reside at the winner's QTH until a new winner is named. Each year, the winner's callsign and score will be engraved and added to the plaque.

There are many members on the roster that have yet to pay their dues. Due to printing costs for the newsletter, we can't continue mailings to members with unpaid dues. If you are one of these, please be sure to contact the club treasurer **Tim**, **KE8OC** and get your membership renewed. Also, if you have an email address, or have changed your provider/address please let us know so that the club roster will be accurate.

If you know any former and currently inactive MRRC members, please contact them and invite them to return to the club and participate in our quest for the gavel and other activities. If you haven't turned in a score for some time, please consider doing so at least for SS and ARRL 160 this year or seek out a multi-op effort and participate in that way. We need your participation!

If you have ideas or suggestions that would result in improving the MRRC club aggregate score don't hesitate to present these at the next meeting or to me via packet, email, or snail mail. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

GO MAD RIVER!

73, de Bruce, AA8U

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**.

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.

# The Editor's Keyboard

By Dave Pruett, K8CC k8cc@ix.netcom.com



elcome to the new and improved *Mad River FLASH*! In these modern times, improvements in the icons of our lives come with the arrival of new technologies and methods. In the case of the *FLASH*, the new look is due to a combination of software and hardware. Hopefully, the result is more visually appealing and easier to read.

The need to send a picture of myself to the WRTC committee for the official event program provided the final impetus to go buy an Epson PhotoPC digital camera. The PhotoPC captures images directly in 640x480 pixel format which can be downloaded to your PC in JPEG format through a special serial cable. Once I started pulling photos into the newsletter, the limitations of my six year old, 300 DPI LaserJet IIP became apparent. Now a 600 DPI laser printer is on the wish list!

Next on the list of new tools is an upgrade of Microsoft Publisher from version 1.0 to 2.0. The new version adds numerous new page formatting features. It also has a feature called Page Wizards, which I let take a stab at creating a new look for the *FLASH*. Another appearance-related change is that we switched from an 8 point to a 10 point font. This reduces the number of words we can fit on a page, however it makes the newsletter easier to read. Please pass along any comments you have on the new appearance.

This issue is somewhat unusual in that a large part of it is taken up with stories from the summer MRRC expeditions. The K8AQM crew just returned from the Pacific as this issue was being finalized, so we'll have their story next time.

Please note my new e-mail address. The old one at Chrysler is still good, but it is text-only, while the new one is full WWW so you can send text, graphics, attach files, or whatever. As always, we're looking for stuff to include in the newsletter - all these new capabilities should make the task easier to get **YOUR** contribution onto the printed page.

73, de Dave, K8CC

# DON'T FORGET! We need YOUR contributions for the next MRRC Flash - start working NOW on an article!

# The Mad River Club Championship

By Jim Stahl, K8MR k8mr@barf80.nshore.org

The Mad River Club Championship program was started in 1990 as a way to recognize club members who are consistantly active and score well throughout a given contesting season.

Here's the way it works. The CQWW and ARRL DX contests are each worth 2000 points per mode. ARRL SS is worth 1000 points per mode. WPX (each mode), IARU, ARRL 160M, ARRL 10M, and CQ 160M (each mode) are worth 750 points. Each NA Sprint and NA QSO Party (four contests on two modes each) are 200 points each. Thus, the maximum possible score is 16850 points.

For a given contest (of the contests listed above), you score MRRC championship points equal to the maximum number for that contest multiplied by the percentage your score was of the winner in your category. For example, you operate SS CW and make 120K while the winner makes 200K, you get 600 points (120K/200K = 60%,  $60\% \times 1000 = 600$ ). Multi-op scores are divided among the active MRRC members on the team, with an extra share for the station owner.

Scores are calculated from CQWW SSB through the Sprints of the following year. Entries may come from any of the official recognized categories of the contest where a reasonable level of competition occured (i.e., don't expect to get maximum points for single op - assisted, 10M single band, QRP, when you're the only entry in the category).

Good luck to all MRRC members, and CU in the pilesups!



Pat, NZ4K making NAQP QSOs during the KN8Z Barbeque

# WRTC-96 from Whiskey Six Papa

By Dave Pruett, K8CC, and Stan Stockton, K5GO

or those of you who don't know what WRTC stands for, it is the World Radiosport Team Championship, a radio contest organized such that geographic and equipment advange is minimized. The first WRTC was held in Seattle as an exhibition event as part of the 1990 Goodwill Games. The second WRTC was held in San Francisco to run simultaneously with the 1996 IARU HF Championship. Fifty-four two-man teams were selected to compete from around the world. Stan and I were immensely honored to be selected by Mad River to represent American contesting as USA Team #5 at this prestigious event.

## PRELUDE TO THE CONTEST

While the WRTC organizers would supply each team with a station and antennas, the teams were asked to bring their own transceivers and computers if possible. The week before WRTC, I shipped my two IC-765 transceivers, Heil headsets, cables, accessories, etc. to Ham Radio Outlet in Sunnyvale, who had graciously agreed to act as a UPS receiving depot for WRTC equipment.

Stan and I flew out on the Wednesday before the event. After checking in to the WRTC "Olympic Village" hotel, we retrieved my (undamaged) radios from HRO. That evening the organizers put on a picnic with the competitors, judges, referees, and local amateurs in attendance (a LOT of famous calls).

The next day (Thursday) we went on a bus tour where we visited HRO (again), Force 12 Antennas, and several electronics/computer emporiums. That night was a dinner for all the WRTC participants at the clubhouse of the local Shell Oil refinery.

## SETTING UP THE STATION

Friday morning was the competitor's meeting, with the all-important random drawing for stations and callsigns. Like the other competitors, our first hope was

to get a "good" station (i.e., a big tribander on high ground). We drew the Electronic Museum Amateur Radio Club station, WB6WSL, located in Los Altos about a 30 minute drive from the hotel. We were also assigned a station referee - Steve Morris, K7LXC who would monitor our operation, and also took the sealed envelope containing the callsign we would use.

We were met at the station by EMARC members Omri, AA6TA and Arv, WA6UUT. At first glance, the station was not very imposing. We didn't get our big tribander, however the shot to the northwest and east looked pretty good although the big hills to the west were not too far away.

The club antennas consisted of a Wilson System I tribander with 40M and 80M dipoles, supported by a 20' tower on the roof of the 20' high building which housed the club station. The tribander checked out pretty well, although it was obviously set for SSB. The 40M dipole was another matter, showing dips at 6800 and 7400 with over 2:1 at band center. Stan, Steve, and Arv spent three hours messing with this antenna before discovering that the culprit was the nearby 80M dipole. Once the 80 was removed, the SWR curve looked just as it should. The location was not particularly quiet RF-wise, and the Smeters rumbled at approximately S5 with no signal on 40M.

The shack was pretty small (8' x 10') so we had to remove almost all of their existing equipment to make room for our gear. There was just enough room in the shack for three chairs - one for each op, and one for the referee. The club brought out a small Red Cross trailer for us to use on breaks. We kept food in styrofoam picnic coolers, Field Day style, and the bathroom was several hundred feet away across an asphalt parking lot. In order to ventilate the shack, we had to leave the door open to the outside (immediately next to the SWL radio). Fortunately, the weather was perfect throughout the contest.

#### THE CONTEST

We got up at 2:30 AM local time to be out at the station and ready at the start of the contest (5 AM local). Once we arrived at the station, Steve handed me the envelope with our callsign: W6P. With a good callsign in hand, Stan and I breathed a sigh of relief and started to get psyched for the contest.

We decided to do one hour shifts on the run radio, which let us each focus on making QSOs for sixty minutes, then take a break and man the SWL radio. This methodology worked out very well.

12Z: K5GO at the start on 40 CW. Its slow going at about one per minute for the first 20 minutes, then the rate takes off. Mostly domestic QSOs, but a number of S9 JAs call in. 114 QSOs.

13Z: K8CC still on 40 CW. Glad to see the MRRC crew at ZK1AAU calling in on 40 CW with a good signal. At the end of this hour, we try 40 SSB right after sunrise - good signals, but only seven stations were there to answer CQs. 111 QSOs.

14Z: K5GO on 20 CW with the keyer speed on the IC-765 against the max stop with a non-stop pileup.

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WB6WSL/W6P Antennas

# WRTC from W6P

(Continued from page 3)

Surprisingly, most ops seem to handle the fast CW speed, and we spend the entire contest around 40 WPM. 157 QSOs this hour - yyeesssss!

15Z: K8CC on 20 CW. SWL radio hears a weak N6BV/1 on 15 CW trying to run EU. We're concerned 15M might not open, so when we hear VE3KP, we make a quick QSY for a double mult. 121 QSOs.

16Z: 20 CW is starting to get worked out, so K5GO follows the MUF upward and is rewarded with a big pileup on 15 CW. When it goes flat, he drops to 20 SSB and our first real rate on voice. A bit of humor was enjoyed when we discovered Stan adjusting the keyer speed trying to go faster. 200 QSOs this hour!

17Z: K8CC inherits the 20 SSB pile, but moves up after eight minutes. 15 SSB is almost like being in the Caribbean; "KA5XYZ five nine six...Whiskey Six Papa". On at least one occasion the Last 10, Past 10, and Last 100 indicators are all over 300/hr. We finish with a few QSOs on 10 SSB - 204 QSOs this hour - hooaahh!

18Z: K5GO takes over on 10 SSB. When it goes flat, he drops to CW and is met with another big pileup. He's working coast to coast for 80 QSOs, interrupted only by a QSY to get W1AW/3 on 15 SSB. 15CW sounds good again, so we finish there - 148 QSOs, mostly CW.

19Z: K8CC in the chair, starts working back up the MUF again. 10 SSB is peaking - 68 QSOs in 16 minutes - wow! Finish with 161 this hour.

20Z: K5GO starts on 10 CW and hits every band/mode on his way down the MUF looking for rate, but still finishes with 120 OSOs.

21Z: K8CC spends the hour on SSB with a bunch of QSOs on 20, then moves up the MUF again. We find L75AA for a club mult, plus N7DF/AL0 and XE2DV call in. We move VY1RAC from 15 SSB to 20 CW - the only station we move all contest.

22Z: K5GO is on 15 CW, which is getting worked out, but JAs are calling in, raising hopes for some Pacific multipliers. We find a few, however it takes six minutes to work TI1C on 20 SSB. We work our first Europe (GI0KOW) at 2253Z. Only 89 QSOs

this hour

23Z: K8CC on 20 CW with some 15 CW at the end. 115 QSOs, but only two Europeans, plus a few assorted mults.

00Z: More 20 CW with K5GO at the key. We're starting to be concerned about mults, since we're having a hard time hearing on the SWL radio. Stan spends the last ten minutes doing S&P and is rewarded with four new multipliers. 92 QSOs this hour..

01Z: There's no CW like 20 CW! K8CC keeps milking the band - only six EU call in, but almost all are mults. Stan finds a perfectly copiable ZD8DEZ on 40 CW, but he can't hear us. We switch to 40, call a while, then go back to 20. Ultimately, he hears us, and the double mult gets into the log. 108 QSOs this hour.

02Z: K5GO on 20 CW gets six EU mults before the CQs go unanswered. Up on SSB, the rate is good, but all domestic QSOs. 135 for the hour.

03Z: K8CC does 98 QSOs in 33 minutes on 20 SSB and 39 QSOs in 11 minutes on 40 SSB, with a short 40 CW stint in between - 164 QSOs total.

04Z: 20 meters seems to be peaking to EU, and K5GO works five mults in the first three QSOs on CW. Snagging 9K2MU from a CQ was the highlight of the hour. Some good EU mults were up on SSB, but every EU QSO is a S&P struggle. Only 64 QSOs this hour, but 17 important mults go into the log.

05Z: K8CC is on 40 CW while K5GO scans 20 SSB. We spend six minutes calling DU1SAN who is S9 on the meter with nobody calling, but finally get a QSO. However, I decide not to spend time calling the P29 who is S0 and is being conned out of a QSO by some W7. We finish with a flourish with 124 QSOs and 8 mults in the last hour.

Looking back, the IC-765s functioned flawlessly, vindicating my decision to leave the "big" radios at home. Stan's TI 5100 laptop (Pentium 90) running

(Continued on page 5)



**K8CC and K5GO in action** 

# **WRTC from W6P**

(Continued from page 4)

NA worked tremendously - when it worked. However, it crashed several times per hour throughout the contest, probably due to RF being picked up from the external keyboard, monitor, paddles, and CW interface. Fortunately, we had a spiral-ring notebook that we used to log on paper while the computer was being rebooted.

We finished with 2451 QSOs in the log, less 59 dupes (we logged everyone who called) for a net of 2392 QSOs (about 2/3 CW) and 150 multipliers for about 595K. We were elated with the score, but had no clue how our competitors did. Within a half hour, the equipment was loaded into the rental car and we were on our way back to the hotel.

#### **AFTERMATH**

We arrived back at the "WRTC Village" around midnight local. As the teams drifted in, it was interesting to observe the mind games going on. QSO totals seemed to be readily divulged, but certain teams were coy about their mult totals. From what we could gather, it appeared that our QSO total was pretty strong, and 595K

claimed score put us in a pack of stations all around 600K. Rumors abounded that certain stations were approaching 700K in claimed score. Stan and I went to bed around 1:30 AM local after having been up for 23 hours straight.

Most competitors took their time getting up on Sunday. Starting at noon was a pool party with pizza provided by W6OAT (his business is called "Give Pizza Chance" - get it?). Meanwhile, the judges (led by Chief Judge K4VX) were hard at work checking logs. Around 4:30 PM, the final results were posted (see the next page). It was then that we discovered that Team USA #5 had made the Top Ten!

While we were elated with our tenth place finish, we were interested to know the reasons why our score was reduced by 4.5%. During log checking, the judges found 23 unique QSOs, plus 6 deemed "bad" for some reason and 2 not-in-log. In the final analysis by the WRTC judges, we lost 22 of these QSOs plus a multiplier. Note that each lost QSO incurred a penalty equal to three additional equivalent QSOs.

Overall, we're very proud of our score. We wound up tenth in overall points and managed to beat the winners from the last WRTC (K1AR/K1DG, who

# W6P FINAL SCORE

SCORE: **568,435** 

finished 13th). While we were sixth in total QSOs, we were fourth lowest in unique QSOs which shows we know how to work people accurately. Our Achille's Heel was our (arrrrgh!) twentieth place finish in multipliers.

# KUDOS FROM THE TEAM

We cannot say enough good things about the way WRTC-96 was organized and executed. The playing field (40M-10M, tribanders/dipoles, 100W) was just right. The hotel was more than adequate, and the social events were superbly executed and paced to not wear anyone out. W6OAT, W6QHS, AA6KX, K3EST, K4VX and their teams worked very hard, and deserve our highest accolades for pulling off this wonderful event in fine style.

Special thanks from Stan and I go to Omri, AA6TA and Arv, WA6UUT who graciously let us ransack their club station and antennas to deploy our WRTC setup. Thanks also to our referee, Steve Morris, K7LXC, who in additiona to being a great sport about all of this, jumped in to help with the 40M dipole. And finally, thanks to Ann, KC7RN, whose cheerful enthusiasm and willingness to make "go-fer" runs kept W6P humming along.

Just in case anyone is wondering, Stan and I are available for WRTC-2000...

# **W6P QSO RATES**

40 40 20 20 15 15 10 10 hour UTC CW SSB CW SSB CW SSB CW SSB rate total

tot 365 46 768 439 327 243 115 89 ---- 2392

# 1996 WORLD RADIOSPORT TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP OFFICIAL FINISH

call op#1 op#2 score QSOs mul

W6X KR0Y K1TO 761829 2457 183
K6T K4BAI KM9P 678132 2511 162
W6R K6LL N2IC 655720 2424 169
K6P VE3EJ VE3IY 647112 2343 177
K6C K4UEE N6IG 644059 2355 169
W6T WX3N K5ZD 616308 2170 174
W6D K1KI K3UA 606550 2145 175
W6Q 9A3A S53R 598272 2233 164
W6V KF3P KR2J 577575 2352 151
W6P K8CC K5GO 568435 2370 149

K6V W2GD W0UA 598378 2465 146 K6W N6TV K7SS 556928 2261 152 W6I K1AR K1DG 547404 2204 156 W6Y DK3GI DL1IAO 545756 1993 167 K6D DL5XX DL1VJ 532728 2183 147 K6R LZISA LZ2PO 531552 2256 147 W6F OH2IW OH1JT 530000 2100 155 K6G WC4E NP4Z 527592 2238 152 W6A K3LR WA8YVR 523672 2478 134 K6X UA3DPX RZ9UA 518666 1960 163

K6Z JH4NMT JE3MAS 512535 2318 141 W6S LY2IJ LY1DS 508760 1956 158 W6B S59A S56A 507318 2257 141 K6Y OK1CF OK2PAY 499796 2143 148 W6H RW1AC RV1AW 497965 1841 163 K6I JH7PKU JO1BMV 488940 2296 145 K6S ON4UN ON9CIB 480326 2120 154 W6U EA1AK EA4KR 470744 1918 152 W6G JE1JKL JH7WKQ 470237 1984 139 K6U SM3DMP SM3CER 465075 2165

W6O ZS6EZ ZS6NW 461553 2093 137 K6O N6TR WN4KKN 454476 2331 121 W6E EA7TL EA9KB 445356 1871 139 K6N YT1AD YU1RL 440358 2228 140 W6W LU6ETB OH0XX 437016 2319 131 K6J N2NT KZ2S 426656 1902 134 W6K F6FGZ F5MUX 418375 2276 125 K6A JH4RHF JA8RWU 412388 1981 131 K6H DJ6QT DJ2YA 411376 2353 112 K6K UT5UGR UT4UZ 398399 1863 127

K6B 9A9A 9A3GW 383166 1886 126 K6Q VE7NTT VE7CC 362440 1546 130 K6E HA0MM HA0DU 357885 1759 135 K6M GI0NWG G3OZF 357094 1884 132 W6Z VK5GN VK2AYD 343604 1822 124

K6F IT9BLB IT9VDQ 337152 2000 128 W6J SP6AZT SP9FKQ 330876 2023 117 W6L UN4L UN2L 309518 1796 121 K6L SP9HWN SP9IJU 298178 2149 97 W6N I4UFH I2VXJ 269028 1728 106

W6M PY0FF PY5CC 231066 1580 99 W6C IN3QBR IT9TQH 185070 1615 93

**Exhibition Teams:** 

W6M PY0FF PY5CC 231066 1580 99 W6C IN3QBR IT9TQH 185070 1615 93

# **DXPedition to South Cook Islands**

By Bruce Lallethin, AA8U

Amateur radio has long held a fascination for me. There are so many aspects to it that it continues to offer many opportunities for enjoyment and personal development. My contesting activities over the years have really been the most fun for me. However, I discovered an even more thrilling way to contest - be DX! In 1993, I went with a local group of Michigan hams to St. Pierre and got a taste of DXpeditioning. DXing as FP/AA8U really got me hooked. I knew then that I would do it all again at the first opportunity.

This year, MRRC members **Ted K8AQM** and **Jeff, N8CC** invited me to go island hopping through the pacific with them. When I found out the itinerary would have us on an airplane during the IARU contest, I decided to form a separate DXpedition and go to Rarotonga to operate the contest, and work low band DX especially.

Our DXpedition to Rarotonga, IOTA OC-13, ran from July 10 - 21. Stan K8MJZ, Marilyn AG8W (Stan's better half), Diana KA8KZJ (my XYL), and I formed the team that went to the South Cooks. We were licensed as ZK1MJZ, ZK1AAG, and ZK1AAU.

We flew across the Pacific aboard a huge 747. En route, there seemed to be a lot of thunderstorms - what a wild ride. We were all very happy to touch down safely at the rather short airstrip on Rarotonga.

Rarotonga is a gorgeous volcanic island almost straight south of Hawaii, as far south of the Equator as KH6 is north of the equator. 24% of its landmass is tillable the rest is volcanic mountains. The climate on Rarotonga is tropical, and during our entire stay the temperature never got below 74 or above 78 degrees.

Most of the choice QTH possibilities are near the beach. Ours was only about 50 yards from the lagoon on the southwest side of the island.

Our antenna farm consisted of a Cushcraft R-7000+ 80-10 vertical on an 8' mast and a home brew trapped inverted-L for 30-40-80-160M. The inverted L was suspended between two 70'+ cocoa nut palms. The feed point and 11 radials were elevated about 8-10' off the ground with half of the radials extending out and sloping up to about 25' at the ends. The other radials were strung straight horizontal. The radiator was erected straight vertical to the 80M cw trap and was a very good quarter wave ground plane antenna. On 160, the part beyond the 80M trap extended out horizontally to an insulator about 70' above ground. It worked very well on all of the bands it was designed for.

Operating from this remote location was a real thrill despite the lack of propagation most days. Most mornings the bands were nearly dead, or open to areas of the planet with little or no activity. The action started to pick up on 20M by late morning and by mid afternoon on all but the solar flare days we were working fairly large pile-ups, mostly CW for several hours at at time.

Finding a frequency to operate 80 and 160 was especially difficult. I had planned on operating on 1830-35, but there was not a very quiet rx freq in that area. I ended up finding a relatively clear spot on 1837, just below the VK/ ZL SSB rag chew frequency at 1840. Another spot around 1825-27 was quiet some of the time, and I used this working split, listening for JA's at 1909. On 80M, 3505 or lower was usually tolerable, also 3825 and 3831 if not already busy. It was easy to work the VK/ZL stations, and I had several enjoyable rag chews with the fellows down under. They gave me some good advice on where to operate and where not to as well.

After grayline was well beyond W6 land, and the VK/ZL stations were in bed, I found a few openings to UA0, JA, and points West on 40M.

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# South Cooks 1996

(Continued from page 6)

The IARU contest was not blessed by very good conditions. We expected somewhat better propagation then we found. I had one of the WRTC stations take me from 20, to 15, and then to 10M, which was fun. Our results are shown below:

IARU HF Championship - 1996

Call: ZK1AAU Category: Multi Single

BAND	QSO	PTS	ZONES HQ	
160	1	5	1	0
80	43	195	13	
40	149	701	19	2
20	89	401	18	
15	6	30	3	0
10	1	5	1	
Tot	289	1337	55	3

Score: 77,546 points

Outside the contest, I operated mostly at night, but once in a while I got on in the daylight hours. I had a mini run on 17M one day. We only had one day with propagation sufficient to "open" 17M. We had planned on working a lot more stations on the WARC bands where ZK1 is almost rare DX. 20M was the "high rate" and best "dx" band most days with 40M was a close second.

30M was usually open with strong steady signals to the states about the time the XYL's dragged me away for dinner. Later in the trip I stood my ground, missed dinner in favor of "takeaway" food (take-out), and hung onto the 30M opening as long as possible except for the scheduled trips to 160M in an attempt to work Europe. Sad to say, we only worked one lucky European on 160M, but it wasn't for lack of trying very hard. I heard a very faint G3 calling but just could not get a call sign even with the DSP 59+ assisting. Maybe if we would have had room for the Beverage antennas we came equipped to install this would have made the difference.

I was amazed at how patient the operators on 160M were while I at

times struggled to dig out a weak one. I am sure some stood by and perhaps missed working us just to keep the frequency clear for me to work their fellow top banders. I thank each and every one of you for your gentlemanly conduct and your patience with my lack of operating skills. For this I will return to both North and South Cooks soon and give you all another chance on 160M.

Here are the results of our non-contest operating:

DXpedition	- ZK1MJZ
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BAND	$^{\mathrm{CW}}$	SSB	ZONE	
CTY				
160	0	0	0	0
80	1	0	1	1
40	71	1	12/1	13/1
30	8	-	6	4
20	619	12	17/6	20/6
17	0	8	0/1	0/1
15	0	0	0	0
12	0	0	0	0
10	0	0	0	0
			2610	2010
Total	699	21	36/8	38/8

## DXpedition - ZK1AAU

BAND CTY	CW	SSB	ZONE	
160	89	30	10/4	9/4
80	76	28	9/4	9/5
40	363	1	19/1 22/1	
30	206	-	9 8	3
20	437	106	21/16 42/20	
17	12	19	2/6	2/5
15	0	0	0	0
12	0	0	0	0
10	0	0	0	0
Total	1183	184	61/40 84/43	

I have made a promise to return to the Cooks and spend some non-radio days with the XYL doing all the things she missed out on this time. A three week trip is planned for November of '97 or '98 and will include a week of operating from the N. Cooks on the island of Manihiki, (much closer to the equator) during the CQWW DX CW contest. RTTY equipment will be on the next trip in response to the many requests for this mode.

# **MRRC NEWS**

Yet another reminder to everyone that MRRC DUES ARE DUE. The MRRC year starts and ends with the Dayton Hamfest, so if you have not paid at or since Dayton, you're overdue and this is the last newsletter you'll receive. YOU DON'T WANT THAT TO HAPPEN, DO YOU?

\* \* \* \* \* \*

The next MRRC meeting will be Sunday, September 8 at the Findlay, OH Hamfest. This meeting, and the meeting at the USECA hamfest in northern Detroit are the last two prior to CQWW and the start of the contest season, so these are your last opportunities to establish eligibility for MRRC in the ARRL Affiliated Club Competitions.

The Findlay meeting will be held at noon. The meeting room locations seem to vary from year to year, however the meeting and location will be announced over the PA system around noon, so keep your ears open and we'll hope to see you there!

\* \* \* \* \* \*

MRRC friend and former club member Tom Lee, K8AZ was recently a victim of a tower-related accident at his OTH near Cleveland. Tom and some other amateurs were attempting to cut down a tree which was pressing against a guy wire for one of his towers. They had notched the tree trunk and were preparing to drive a wedge into the tree to make it fall away from the guy wire. A gust of wind blew the tree back onto the guy wire, springing the tree back where it fell on top of top, breaking both of his legs in several places. He was immediately rushed to a local hospital.

We're glad to report Tom is back home now, but it will be a loooong time before he's back up and around. We'll have a card at the Findlay meeting for everyone to sign, to send the club's best wishes to Tom for a speedy recovery.

# Treasurer's Report

By Tim O'Sullivan, KE8OC ke8oc@aol.com



Not too much to report this month, just the usual expenses and post-Dayton dues paying.

Balance reported 7/96	\$299.20
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**Income** 

Dues received \$156.00 Income from badge order \$20.00

Expenses

Checking Acct Maintenence \$ 6.00

*FLASH* printing \$87.00

**Balance 8/96** \$382.20

We have a pretty good number of people who have not paid their dues. These folks should take note that this is the last *FLASH* you will receive until dues are paid.

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

# **MRRC SCORES**

Compiled by Jim Stahl, K8MR k8mr@barf80.nshore.org

CW WPX:

K8GL 1567/678 2,296,386 New W8 record N8CQA 50/45 7,008 QRP

Field Day:

K8MR 1006 922 1928 5658 + 800 Bonus 1-A +KU8E, WD8LLD, W9OCF, KE8QM, N8XPL

KW8N 693 214 907 8800 points

1B-2 +KC8AVK

W8TK 1461 0 1461 All CW

1B-2 +WD8AUB

IARU HF Championship:

K8GL	1300/132	600,000	S/O CW
AA8AV	1213/115	407,445	S/O CW Low Power
KU8E	328/69	72,933	S/O CW
KW8N	703/71	119,413	S/O SSB
K8MR	363/74	78,958	M/S + W9OCF



MAD RIVER RADIO CLUB Dave Pruett, K8CC 2727 Harris Road Ypsilanti, MI 48198 USA

## MAD RIVER RADIO CLUB OFFICERS

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