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Upcoming Events

- 23-24 June**
- Field Day*
- MRRC Meeting*
- 28 July**
- Gooseapalooza*
- MRRC Meeting*
- 25 Aug**
- Ohio QSO Party*
- 9 Sept**
- Findlay Hamfest*
- MRRC Meeting*

From the Big Fish

Dave Pruett, K8CC k8cc@mediaone.net

Many of us who went to the Dayton Hamvention this year witnessed MRRC have a close brush with fame. Going into the Hamvention, **Jeff, KUSE** had calculated that based on scores published on the 3830 reflector, MRRC looked to have a very good chance of winning the Medium Category of the ARRL Affiliated Club competition for the 2000 Sweepstakes. Jeff's calculations looked good, and our perception was reinforced when we were asked (along with several other clubs) to be sure to have a representative present at the Hamvention Contest Forum when the awards were handed out.

Severely geeked from the MRRC meeting held shortly before the Contest Forum, MRRC was indeed well represented. However, in one of the more convoluted award speeches I've ever heard, the

Medium club gavel was presented to...the Southern California Contest Club. MRRC had lost a very close battle – the margin of victory was only around 60K out of roughly 4.5M points – a little over 1%. Unfortunately, there is no gavel for second place.

Despite our disappointment, there is a lot to be proud of in how we finished. Our score of 4,444,404 points was our fifth best total EVER! It is also 68% better than our score from last year, and 32% better than our average over the past ten years. Our second place finish is better than our ten year average (3.7) and we did a pretty good job of getting people on the air – our 45 entries beat our ten year average by 10%. While it was announced (with great fanfare) that SCCC had beaten us with only 33 entries, the QST write-up shows



The 'Big Fish' hard at work at Windwood, VI.

they had 38, which takes away a little of the sting.

June is too early to start talking about SS; we've got a lot of fun stuff to do this summer yet. However, I do want to thank **Mike, K9NW** for a fine job tabulating and publishing a running total of our SS results last November. I also want to thank those who got on the air and made points for MRRC – a FB job, y'all!

(Continued on page 2)

Editor's Notes

Tim Mitchell, K9TM k9tm@buckeye-express.com

Not much to say from this end. I am anxiously awaiting the time when I can jump back into the activities. It has not been much fun to miss Dayton and now Field Day.

Looking forward to get-

ting back in action for Gooseapalooza II. Hope to see you all there.

If you don't have plans for Field Day, I strongly recommend getting involved in the MRRC Field Day. Jim has secured an excellent site.

Plans for the next issue are Ohio QSO Party details and getting ready for the Fall Contest Season.

73, Tim/K9TM

From the Big Fish (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

We got VERY close this year to winning it all, and I hope it's made you want to go all the way in 2001! We're lucky to have a couple of experienced SSers – **Ron, K8NZ** and **Scott, K8DX** join MRRC at the Dayton meeting (dualing with their membership in NCC) who will no doubt induce a big jump of the MRRC total come November. Once we get into the fall we'll start to organize and strategize how to maximize our score in 2001.

As you read this, ARRL Field Day will be but a few days away. An MRRC crew

will be pounding away as K8MAD from Valleyvue farm again this year – see details elsewhere in this newsletter. Drop by if you have a chance – FD counts as a MRRC meeting towards your two per year.

Later in July will be the combined MRRC/NCC meeting at W8AV (otherwise known as Goosapalooza II). This meeting should be a blast and we hope to see everyone there! The Ohio QSO Party (sponsored by MRRC) comes next, then Findlay; but that's the subject of another newsletter.

73, Dave/K8CC

MRRC Challenge Results '99-'00

By Dennis Ward, KT8X

For details on the MRRC challenge see the MRRC web site.

Call	Total	Call	Total	Call	Total
K9NW	3841	N8KR	1095	K8KS	214
W8MJ	3334	K4LT	982	K5ZG	203
KU8E	3002	K8DD	935	W8XI	201
K8CC	2970	W8RU	771	AF8A	175
AA8U	2795	NU8Z	659	WT8P	162
K8GL	2257	AC8W	634	NT8V	151
ND8DX	2249	K8MM	529	KE8UM	76
W8AV	2199	N8NX	526	KA8PTT	66
KW8N	1881	N8ET	378	W8DD	54
WD8S	1872	KC8FXR	377		
N8VW	1670	K8AQM	377		
K9TM	1602	K8SIA	373		
K8MR	1591	KG8CO	339		
KT8X	1550	N8CC	296		
N8EA	1339	K8AEM	296		
K8JM	1330	N8CQA	254		
K8GT	1116	KE8OC	250		

MRRC Profiles: K8MM

By Goose Steingrass, W8AV w8av@aol.com

Ian Hill, K8MM became interested in Amateur Radio through his grandfather who was a radio operator and gunner on a B-17 in the Pacific Theater during World War II. Ian states, "He (his grandfather) drew up a schematic of a crystal type receiver that they used to build during the war. It consisted of a 'cat whisker' type detector using a razor blade and a very small gauge piece of wire. I never really did get it to work, but I was bitten by the radio bug ever since."

During his years in electronics class in high school, Ian's friend Steve mentioned that he was studying for his no-code ham ticket. Ian thought that this was a pretty good idea, so he bought a book, began studying, and became N8TFR on April 21, 1992. Ian continued to study and earned his extra class ticket approximately nine months later. In addition to N8TFR and his current call K8MM, Ian also sported the call sign of AA8UG for a time. He mentions that Steve, ironically, has to this day never

taken the test to earn his ticket!

With the guidance of John Millett, K8JM (a.k.a. K8-Jo-Mama), Ian was introduced into the world of contesting. He credits John with turning him into a CW contest junkie. MM mentions that he spent numerous weekends at John's contesting and hanging on the tower to keep the antennas in shape for the contest weekends. Ian also mentions that he and John have also had some great times operating what Ian calls "the white whale" at K8AQM. He warns that anyone operating at AQM should beware of the contest chili (maybe we should ask the resident expert K8DD about this....W8AV.). They have also participated in several contests at the K8CC "super-multi-contest-palace". Ian would now like to operate a CW contest from a DX location in the near future so that he can be on the other end of the pile-ups.

Ian also credits K8JM with introducing him to MRRC and has been a member of the club for nearly eight years now. His

favorite contest is CW Sweepstakes. The 160 meter and CQWW CW contests also place very high on his list of favorites.

When not playing radio, Ian enjoys hunting fishing and playing guitar. When not contesting, K8MM chases DX on CW and on the digital modes. He also enjoys experimenting with antenna and building large towers to support them.

K8MM's station consists of a Kenwood TS-450S, an Icom IC-706MKII, and an Elecraft K2 transceiver. The antenna farm sports a random wire antenna with a SGC-230 antenna coupler for the low bands and a four element 2 m yagi that he uses for aurora and satellite operation. Ian mentions that he really loves the K2 transceiver. "I wanted to build a rig and since I missed out on the Heathkit era, this was a perfect rig to satisfy that need. I can't say enough good things about it."

When asked what he would like to see from MRRC, Ian replies that he likes the fact that the



Goose at the controls of W8AV

we are now sponsoring the MQP and OQP and bringing those contest back in popularity. He would like to see some kind of friendly competition between the Michigan and Ohio members in Field Day. He thinks this would be a lot of fun and mentions that maybe we could pass a plaque back and forth between the two states for the yearly winners.

Ian is single and lives at 54 Crawford Street in Oxford Michigan. He is employed as a journeyman electrician in IBEW Local #58 doing industrial and commercial construction.

73, Goose/W8AV

MRRC Field Day

The MRRC Field Day operation as K8MAD is happening again in 2001. It will be June 23 & 24 from Case Western Reserve University's Squire Valleyvue farm, located at 37125 Fairmount Boulevard in Hunting Valley, Ohio, on the east side of Cleveland.

We plan to meet at K8MR's QTH Saturday morning, and then convoy to the site (about 10 minutes from Jim's house) around 9:30 am. If you are coming directly to the site, here are the directions:

- I-271 to Cedar Road, east on Cedar to SOM Center Road (Ohio Rt. 91),
- south on SOM Center Rd. to Fairmount Boulevard (about 3/4 mile), east on Fairmount about 3/4 mile
- to Squire Valleyvue Farm. After entering, take the first road to the left toward the "Manor House", we're at the top of the hill overlooking the valley.

As of this time we're planning a 2A, plus VHF, entry. K8MR is coordinating the effort, please let Jim know if you're coming, what you can bring, etc.

Last year we were second in the country in this very competitive category. We hope to see lots of you there, and to improve on last year's finish!



Suite in the Sun Report

Although the Dayton Suite in the Sun turned into the Suite in the Shower, especially on Friday, it was nevertheless a success. Thanks to all who took part by spending some time to man the space. As always, it was rather amazing just how much stuff we sold. It's value as a place to park both purchases and posteriors was also appreciated.

A special thanks to W8DRZ and K9NW for their contributions: DRZ was so impressed after a JA bought the first \$60 worth of seemingly worthless (though working) old vacuum tubes that he threw half of that into the club kitty. NW dragged in his huge (and heavy) collection of brass numbers and donated the proceeds to the club. The combined result was that the \$285 cost of the space netted down to \$105.

If we want to do the SITS again next year, we should decide earlier to get the advance purchase price discount. This would have saved the club \$55 by getting the flea market spot before November 1.

Scores

By Jim Stahl, K8MR jimk8mr@aol.com

WPX SSB

NZ80	M/M @ K8CC								
160	80	40	20	15	10	total			
176	333	608	1868	2015	1745	6746			
TOT	6746		1355	Mult	22,207,094				
	K8CC	K8GT	K8MM	KE8OC	KT8X	KU8E	N8MG	N8NX	
	N8VW	W8UA	WD8S						
K9NW	1567	741	2,832,102	10M	@K9UWA				

MICHIGAN QSO PARTY

Call	cw	ssb	mul	score	c1
N8BU	306	265	166	145,582	HP
K8AAX	123	97	98	33,614	
N8KR	43	228	99	29,997	
N8CQA	134	67	86	28,810	QRP @K8CC
KE8OC	0	122	60	8,700	

Michigan Multi-Op

Call	cw	ssb	mul	score		
K8EPV	213	285	139	98,829		
	AC8W	K8DD	K8WMW	N8SN	NT8V	W8XI
N8KV	250	188	127	87,376		
	+WD8S	K8GT	K8JV	K8TRF		

Mobiles

Call	cw	ssb	mul	score	
K8XXX	702	224	119	193,732	
	K8AA	K8AQM	NU8Z	KC8JVW	
K8CC	595	167	124	168,268	+W8MJ
K8MR	559	208	124	164,424	+W8DRZ
WLNN	422	179	117	119,691	
W8UE	664	11	68	91,052	+WX3M
AF8A	439	104	90	88,380	+W8AV

Out of State

Call	cw	ssb	mul	score	c1
KU8E	192	150	135	72,090	HP
K9TM	34	17	39	3,315	LP
K8ND	25	17	33	2,211	LP

WPX CW

K9NW	1777	731	3,304,120	HP	20M @K9UWA
KK8U	1130	510	1,536,630	HP	K8JM
NU8Z	735	450	874,880	LP	
K8GT	666	413	754,138	LP	
K8MR	619	325	564,200	HP	
WX3M	446	283	309,319	LP	
K8AAX	343		163,905	LP	
K9TM	251	181	114,211	HP	2.5 hrs
NZ80	172	140	64,120	HP	K8CC

ARRL JUNE VHF QSO Party

K8MR	309	153	58,140	ABCD
KU8E	75	44	3,300	AB
W8RU	54	33	1,782	A
K8CC	50	23	1,150	A
K9NW	48	23	1,104	AB
K9TM	31	23	759	ABD

Treasurer Report

By Buck Switzer, N8CQA n8cqa@att.net

05/01/01	Bal.	\$104.73
	Dep.	\$486.00
	Exp.	\$234.29
05/31/01	Bal.	\$356.49

73, Buck/N8CQA

Mad River Radio Club

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!
[HTTP://WWW.QLS.NET/MRRC](http://www.qls.net/mrrc)



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The Mad River Radio Club is an ARRL affiliated club of amateur radio 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 email address shown in this section. 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 below. Please make checks payable to *Mad River Radio Club*.

The club roster appears annually in the Oct/Nov 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. The body of the message should include "subscribe mrrc your-call".



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

Gooseapalooza II Meeting

GOOSEAPALOOZA II will be held on Saturday, July 28, 2001 at W8AV located at 1690 N. Honeytown Road in Wooster, OH. Starting time is Noon and we will go until about 5 or so (to keep the XYL happy)). Food and beverage will be provided. I will need a head count from the members planning to attend, though, to determine how many we will have so that I can get enough burgers, wieners, potato salad, and pop/beer to buy.

