## April/May 2006

Volume 35 Issue 3

WE'RE ON THE WEB! HTTP://WWW.MRRC.NET





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## **Upcoming Events**

15-16 April Michigan QSO Party

23-24 April Florida QSO Party

19-21 May Dayton Hamvention

27-28 May CQ WPX CW Contest

1<u>0-11 June</u> ARRL June VHF QSO Party

> 24-25 June ARRL Field Day

# From the Big Fish

Filling in for Ken, W8MJ -Dave Pruett. K8CC

k8cc@comcast.net

No, there's not been a tunate luck to coup in MRRC-land. Ken, Easter weekend. through Dayton. Ken told est ever in thirty years. me that ordinarily he wouldn't miss Dayton for anything, but that scheduling the trip during this time saved the family \$1300 on air fares. Can't argue with that...

this column and also to run Member be going on.

MiQP was a real challenge this year, with the double whammy of lousy conditions (A=50 most of the contest) and the unfor- ARRL is our IARU member

QSO W8MJ is still our Big Fish. counts were down mark-However, as this FLASH edly, as are the number of was being put together, he logs coming in. However, was out of town on a once- it still appears that MiQP in-a-lifetime Meier family 2006 will be the fourthvacation to Europe which largest of the "modern era" unfortunately and the fifth or sixth larg-

On another topic, I have some exciting news to report for MRRC. Those of us who have operated in the IARU HF Championship contest are familiar with the "HQ Multiplier". This is So I agreed to stand in a club station, or station for Ken, both in writing designated by, an IARU Organization the Dayton MRRC meeting, which is on the air during sent an e-mail to ARRL VP This issue is to make eve- the contest. The station Dave Sumner indicating ryone aware of the club often has a special call- our interest to host one of activities at Dayton. While sign, and uses an abbre- the HQ club stations here a lot of this is old news to viation of the organiza- in the MRRC area. Nothing many of us, we wanted to tion's name as its ex- was ever heard back until make sure even the new change (rather than ITU recently, when I received members knew what would zone). The station counts an e-mail from Dave ofas a separate, unique mul- fering us the opportunity tiplier for the contest, and to host NU1AW for the hence creates a lot of in- 2006 IARU HF Championterest.

Here in the USA, the



organization. However, W1AW cannot participate in the contest to any extent because of its code practice and bulletin schedule. So each year the ARRL designates a certain station W1AW and be the "ARRL" HQ multiplier. There is also an official IARU Club organization with the callsign NU1AW, and that station is similarly "guest hosted".

A few years back, ship.

> Whether or not you're a (Continued on page 2)

May 19-21, 2006

## 2006 Dayton Hamvention MRRC Will Be There - Details Inside!

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# **Big Fish**

(Continued from page 1)

fan of the IARU HF Championship contest, we all should be excited as this is a tremendous opportunity for MRRC. We'll be in the national contesting spotlight, and we'll have competition - the Tennessee Contest Group (TCG) will be hosting W1AW/4 at the same time and we don't want to get beat.

So what does this mean for MRRC? HQ stations in IARU are allowed to be "multi-multi-multi"; that is, multi-operator/multi-transmitter with stations on both phone and CW in a given band. What's interesting is that there are also no geographical limits; so it's perfectly acceptable, for example, to have all the CW stations hosted in Michigan and all the SSB stations in OH. (OH CW ops, you can start breathing again - this is just a simple example for clarity, and not what I'm proposing).

So we need to be able to deploy stations on phone and CW, on any and all open bands throughout the 24 hours of the contest. Six bands times two modes means up to twelve stations, although obviously some could be shared between 160M (at night) and 10M (during day) for example.

Some of the stations may be hosted at K8CC, but we'll be looking for other sites as well. The ARRL Is looking for us to put on a good show, so stations with big antennas and multi-op experience will get priority. K9TM and I are looking at ways to link the various sites over the Internet so that all QSOs will be seen everywhere in real time. It also allows shifting bands between stations if breakdowns occur.

We're also going to need experienced operating teams that are willing to commit to the effort. While I'm sure we'd all prefer to be doing this during high sunspot conditions, these are the cards we've been dealt. While some bands will be lots of fun during the contest, and others less so, but we'll need to have them all QRV.

With big stations and being the "IARU" HQ mult, it still should be tremendous fun. AS recently as last year, NU1AW/3 was hosted by the K3LR station, with stations for 20M and 15M CW located some distance away over at the K3CR station at Penn State. The NU1AW/3 crew made over 6900 QSOs and just under 7 million points. Gives us something to shoot for...

I'll keep the club appraised as the plans become firmer and the locations of the participating stations are decided. Drop me an e-mail if you're interested in being part of the NU1AW/8 operating team. 

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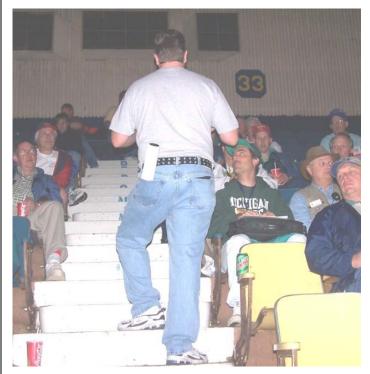
# 2006

MRRC At Dayton is a very important part of the MRRC year. For the benefit of planning your Dayton weekend, the various club activities over the real tion weekend are described

SUITE IN THE SUN (SITS) - The MRRC oasis in the midst of the fleamarket. See details in the article across the page.

CONTESTERS SUPER SUITE - In conjunction with our friends from the North Coast Contesters and the Frankford Radio Club, MRRC sponsors a hospitality suite at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in downtown Dayton on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights. There is no cost to get in, but there is a cash bar for drinks, and you can spend the evening chewing the rag with well known contesters from around the world. The action begins around 9:00 and runs well into the night. Around midnight, pizzas are brought in for contester consumption.

MRRC MEETING - The most important MRRC activity at Dayton is the official club meeting, which starts at 12:00 noon on Saturday, and is held in the stands of Hara Arena above the Cushcraft booth (see picture below). This meeting is important because this is when the club holds the annual railroading, er, election of officers, and usually conducts it's significant annual business. This year, we will vote on a proposal to provide a small amount of financial support to the OSO parties we sponsor. Dayton is also the start of the club's fiscal year, so dues become due at this meeting.



Former Big Fish Mike, K9NW leading the MRRC meeting at Dayton 2004

## **Dayton Suite In The Sun**

By Jim Stahl, K8MR & Dave Pruett, K8CC

It's time again to finalize the plans for the 2006 MRRC Suite in the Sun, otherwise known within the club as SITS. What is SITS? For several years now the club has purchased three Hamvention fleamarket spots to be an oasis for club members, friends and fellow contesters. SITS is partly a social event, as well as a place to park your goodies during the day. Chairs will be available to take a load off your feet, and a cooler with cold soft drinks is always nearby.

SITS is also a tremendous place to sell stuff, utilizing the club's selling tables. Here is your chance to clean out some of that old junk, turn in into cash, and make money and space new gizmos. Each year, by Saturday afternoon we have usually pretty much cleared out all we had to sell!

SITS will be back in the same location as previous year, spaces 3858-3860 which are on the east side of the fleamarket about three rows from the back. SITS will be open from approximately 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM on Friday and Saturday.

We need volunteers to sign up to help man the SITS. This is not difficult duty; all that's expected is

to show up at the appointed time and "hold down the fort" - basically just answer buyer's questions about the stuff for sale and in general act like the host. We'd like to see people put in two hours at some point - either a single two hour shift, or an hour each day. It's a big help if we can plan this up front, so if you can help please drop a note by Wednesday evening either to the MRRC reflector or to Jim at **jimk8mr** @ aol.com.

If you have items you wish to sell at the SITS, bring it to the site as early as possible on Friday. Be sure to tell us what your asking and acceptable prices (we're not mind-readers). If you have items you simply want to get rid of and not worry about (no true junk, please), you can bring it and donate the proceeds to the club.

MRRC crews from Michigan and Cleveland will be setting up the SITS on Thursday afternoon. Both groups should have some space available in their vehicles to haul stuff down directly to the SITS (thus saving having to haul it from the parking lot) if you can get the stuff to them by Wednesday evening. Contact K8CC (MI) or K8MR (Cleveland) to make arrangements-phone numbers and e-mails are listed on page 4 of this newsletter.

We'll see you all in Dayton soon! (And cross your fingers for some good weather!



Jim, K8MR manning the MRRC "Suite In The Sun" at Dayton 2004

## Mad River Radio Club

Dave Pruett K8CC 2727 Harris Road Ypsilanti, MI 48198



Treasurers Report May 7, 2006

Balance Forward \$668.68

Dues collected this period \$60.00

OhQP Amount Owed \$11.28

MiQP Plaques (holding) \$195.00

OhQP Plaques (holding) \$250.00

Balance \$1184.96

The only MiQP and OhQP expenses MRRC is responsible for are the one plaque that the club sponsors for each contest.

Please remember that Dayton is the end of one MRRC dues year and the beginning of another The annual Dayton Dues Collection will occur at the MRRC meeting on Saturday in Hara Arena. We can accept cash, or a check for the exact amount payable to Mad River Radio Club.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dennis Ward, KT8X

Monies collected for MiQP and OhQP plaques are held as sponsors send in checks to the respective contest committees. This money is disbursed when the plaques are produced and should result in a zero balance.

## Club Resources

The Mad River Radio Club is an ARRL affiliated club of amateur radio contesting enthusiasts. The club is centered near Findlay, OH 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 e-mail address shown at right. 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 above. Please make checks payable to *Mad River Radio Club*.

The club roster appears annually in the October/November issue of the Flash.

The Mad River Net is held on Monday nights at 8:30 PM Eastern time on 3825 KHz.

The MRRC web site is http://www.mrrc.net.

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 the word "subscribe".

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

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