

MARC Wireline

Milford Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

Club and Local News

MARC Birthday Party

Our 37th Birthday Party will be on Saturday March 12th. Please see the details in this newsletter.

Club Dues

Jim Lynn, **WB8RRR**

This is just another reminder that the clubs fiscal year starts on January 1st instead of June as was originally established. This makes it much easier to keep financial records.

This means it is time to pay DUES.

Many members have already paid, but others need this reminder. The dues amount remains the same.

Our dues structure per year is \$25.00 per single or family membership, (family means one or more Hams in the household), \$12.00 for handi-ham (as defined by FCC), student, or non-ham.

Mail to P.O. Box 100; Milford, OH 45150, or better yet bring to the next meeting.

VE Session

MARC will sponsor a VE Session Thursday, February 10th.

The session will begin at 6:00PM, in the same location as our regular monthly meeting. Walk-in's welcome.



There is NO cost for the testing. We have switched to a different testing service (Laurel) and they do not add any processing fee.

Please contact Barb Steward, **KA8AXY** at wsteward@fuse.net or (513) 625-8651 for additional information.

New Club Members

Please welcome our new club members!

Neal Garbenis N8GCI
Liinda Garbenis N8JFS
Neal Garbenis Jr NG8Y
Kenneth Whirls KD8PIL

MARC 37th Birthday Party

Write down Saturday March 12th! This will be our annual club Birthday Party. We will be celebrating our 37th year!



February 2011 Volume 33, Issue 2

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www.w8mrc.com

Next Meeting
February 10th

MARC Dues are Due!

Don't forget to pay your 2011 Dues at the meeting or send a check to our club address.

ARRL

Weaver's Word

(Condensed)



Survey Results

The results of the survey concerning the possibility of having an electronic version of QST have been very gratifying. A total of 1161 members responded. I thank each of you who participated. You provided very timely and useful information. You've also given me a lot of workstill to be done!

I will not go into the numbers that relate to questions 1, 2 and 3. You can see these by going to the Great Lakes Division website, <http://arrl-greatlakes.org> and clicking on Results for the Current Director's Survey. What I will say is that most GLD members prefer continuing to have paper copy QST available. I am still reading through and replying to the hundreds of the written answers that were mad in the space provided at the end of the survey. Unfortunately, my messages to a few members have been returned as undeliverable. I regret this.

A couple of points I wish to emphasize are that there is no thought of discontinuing hard copy QST. My question regarding such an option was intended to determine just where Division members fit into the full spectrum that ranges from hard copy, only, through electronic copy, only. A number of responders to the survey automatically assumed the reason for the survey was to prepare members for dropping hard copy.

This is not the case. Although many members found an e-QST to be quite acceptable, hard copy QST will be around for a long time.

A second misunderstanding relates to a presumed, inherent increase in profit for ARRL if QST went fully digital via the Internet. A financial gain would not be a "given." The fact is that QST is underwritten by the advertisers. We do not know how they would respond to a digital-only version.

So, what is being considered? Something must be.

This is correct, the Board and staff are reviewing the possibility of adding an e-version to the existing paper version. Possible platforms being evaluated include those that could be read on iPad, Kindle, etc. e-readers much the same as paper journals are read. All this remains in the early phases of exploration so don't run out and buy an e-reader with the expectation that e-QST will be available by the time you get home and power up.

I will add only that I've seen demonstrations of e-reader platforms that mimic reading paper publications very closely. For those among us who are eagerly awaiting an e-QST, the prospects are exciting.

Thanks to each of you who participated in the survey. Thanks as well to you who added specific comments and suggestions to your survey answers. A number of interesting suggestions have been forwarded to staff for review. Your participation in "your ARRL" is greatly appreciated.

(Continued on Page 9)

Upcoming Events

February

13th MARC Meeting 7:30 PM
Faith Church, Milford

20th CARES Meeting 7:00 PM

March

TBD Annual Birthday Party

NO Meeting

21st CARES Meeting 7:00 PM

April

13th MARC Meeting 7:30 PM
Faith Church, Milford

20th CARES Meeting 7:00 PM

Great Lakes Division

Director

Jim Weaver, K8JE
5065 Bethany Rd
Mason, OH 45040-8130
513-459-0142
k8je@arrl.org

Ohio Section Manager

Frank Piper, K18GW

The winter 2009 Ohio Section Journal is now available at:

<http://bit.ly/bue0xL>

OH Section News:

arrlohio.org

Weaver's Words

www.weaver.gcara.org/

Check out what Jim has to say!

Culinary Cafe

Provided By Toni Friebele

I love pork tenderloin – quick, easy, always moist, tender and tasty!

Pork Tenderloin with Creamy Herb Sauce

- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 1/2 cup minced carrots
- 1 1/2 pounds pork tenderloin medallions
- 2 teaspoons all-purpose flour
- 1 tablespoon dried basil
- 1 tablespoon dried parsley
- 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon beef bouillon granules
- 2/3 cup light cream
- 1/4 cup dry white wine

Heat oil in a skillet over medium heat; cook carrots in oil for 5 minutes, stirring often. Add pork, and cook until lightly browned.

Remove only pork, and keep warm. In the skillet, stir together flour, basil, parsley, pepper, and beef granules. Whisk in light cream, stirring until thick. Stir in wine. Return pork to pan, reduce heat to low, and cover. Simmer for 20 minutes, stirring occasionally.



Pork Tenderloin with Tomato and Pepper Sauce

- 2 teaspoons butter
- 1 teaspoon minced garlic
- 1 (1 1/2 pound) lean pork tenderloin, cut into thin strips
- 1 (14.5 ounce) can diced tomatoes and green chiles
- 1 teaspoon dried basil
- 1 1/2 teaspoons salt
- 1 1/2 teaspoons freshly ground black pepper
- 1/2 cup water
- 1 1/2 cups thinly sliced green bell pepper
- 1 onion, diced

In a large skillet, melt butter over medium-high heat. Stir garlic into sizzling hot butter, and then arrange as many sliced pork tenderloin strips as you can fit into the pan. Cook, turning occasionally, until browned on

both sides. Remove from pan; set aside. Repeat with any remaining pork tenderloin strips. Return all pork tenderloin strips to pan. Stir in tomatoes and season with basil, salt, and pepper. Cook until mixture comes to a boil, then reduce heat to low, and cover. Meanwhile, heat water in a nonstick skillet over medium heat. Cook peppers and onion in boiling-hot water until vegetables are tender-crisp. Stir into pork tenderloin and tomatoes. Continue cooking until pork tenderloin strips are no longer pink, about 50 to 60 minutes.



Honey Glazed Pork Tenderloin

- 1/3 cup honey
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce
- 1 tablespoon brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons sesame oil
- 2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar
- 2 (3/4 pound) pork tenderloins

Preheat oven to 450 degrees. In a bowl, mix the honey, soy sauce, brown sugar, sesame oil, and balsamic vinegar. Place the pork tenderloins in a roasting pan, and roast 15 minutes in the preheated oven. Remove pork from oven, and baste with the

honey sauce. Reduce oven temperature to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C), and continue roasting pork 45 minutes, basting occasionally with the honey sauce, to an internal temperature of 160 degrees. Ω



HAPPY 37th BIRTHDAY MARC!



JOIN US ON
SATURDAY MARCH, 12
AT 6:30 PM.
FOR THE CELEBRATION
OF OUR
37TH BIRTHDAY.

THERE WILL BE
PRIZE DRAWINGS!

PLEASE RSVP

We need to have a count email
wb8rrr@juno.com or call 831-6255

The dinner will be catered & a \$9 cover charge
per adult & \$3 per child, 12 and under, will apply.

Milford Masonic Temple,
32 Water St., Milford OH

[MAP](#)

ARRL – Weavers Words

(Continued from Page 3)



This Month's Final

I often hear amateurs -- members and non-member alike -- complain about the price of membership in ARRL. I agree that \$39 is not just a bit of change that I could lose and not notice. On the other hand, what is Amateur Radio worth to each of us? What value do we place on our great avocation?

How many of us have other hobbies? What do these cost relative to Amateur Radio? What magazines do you subscribe to? How much do these cost?

Incidentally, ARRL members do not subscribe to QST. It is an inherent benefit of membership.

Let's examine a few relative facts.

ARRL dues are \$39/yr. This figures out to just under 11 cents/day for a year. For comparison, a subscription to CQ magazine is \$36/yr. This figures to be just under 10 cents/day. I am a long time subscriber to CQ. I am also a bit of a Civil War buff and subscribe to Civil War Times. It costs \$39.95/yr for only 6 issues. This means it costs essentially the same as ARRL membership. Monitoring Times in paper version is 32.95/yr x 12 issues -- just over 9 cents per day.

With CQ, subscribers receive the magazine and can enter into a few CQ-sponsored contests each year. Very nice contests I will add. With my Civil War Times I receive six issues of a thinning, but quite nice, magazine. With Monitoring Times one receives the magazine which is devoted to many aspects of "wireless" communications only one of which is Amateur Radio. It is a nice magazine.

What about ARRL? What do members receive through membership in it? First, there is QST. It is a top-notch journal -- i.e., much more than merely a magazine.

There also are the several contests that take place on

nearly every amateur band. And, the awards -- DX, WAS, VHF/UHF -- and many more. ARRL sponsors the Education & Technical Project (ETP), otherwise known as the Big School project. We've discussed this Project earlier in this issue. Along the lines of education, ARRL also manages numerous grants and scholarships for amateur radio causes and operators.

What about ARES(TM). This program is the true gold for radio amateurs in presenting us as providing critical support to our fellow citizens. Add to this the Official Observer program that helps keep many amateurs on the right side of FCC rules and regulations. There is the VE Program. The ARRL VEC is the largest Volunteer Examiner Coordinator in the country and is responsible in many respects for there being a VE Program..

How many of you have contacted the ARRL Technical Department for assistance with a sticky problem? Maybe you have contacted the ARRL Regulatory Information Department to ask questions about FCC regulations and International communications laws? How many other organizations provide these services?

Even though there are numerous additional services provided by ARRL, I will stop the litany of member services with the above. My point is that \$39/year is truly inexpensive when compared with everything ARRL makes available to us members. Finally, ARRL is the most major developer and publisher of ham radio technical, instructional materials and Amateur Radio promotional materials in the world.

I have no doubt that any amount of dues may be too much for some people. For the vast majority of us, though, the total value ARRL membership offer for \$39 in dues is a true bargain! Think about it.

Jim Weaver, K8JE, Director
ARRL Great Lakes Division
E-mail: k8je@arrl.org,

Wouxun Radio Antenna Connectors

Provided by Mike Kieffer, **KD8OUT**

If club members that have Wouxun (HT) radios and need to convert antenna port to BNC, I did the research:

BNC female to sma female – screws into the radio (Show me cable p/n 1588)



BNC male to sma female (reverse polarity) – screws into Wouxun supplied rubber ducky (Show me cable P/n 1524)

These two adapters together allow you to have the rubber ducky antenna attached and “break the connection” at the BNC connectors and then attach the radio to a BNC cable from an external antenna coax (my case a mag mount) without fumbling around unscrewing sma adapters and losing them while mobile. The adapters cost 7\$ each.

Supplied by www.showmecables.com

Meeting Minutes

Provided By Mike Kieffer, **KD8OUT**

The meeting minutes are now available on our website at www.w8mrc.com Go to club/members only/minutes and you can select which one you want to view.

** Password required



DX News



This Week on the Radio:

This week:

- February 12 -- Asia-Pacific Spring Sprint, FISTS Winter Sprint
- February 12-13 -- New Hampshire QSO Party, CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest, Dutch PACC Contest
- February 13 -- North American Sprint (SSB)
- February 14-18 -- School Club Roundup

Next week:

- February 18 -- NCCC Sprint Ladder
- February 18-19 -- Russian PSK WW Contest
- February 19 -- Feld Hell Sprint
- February 19-20 -- ARRL International DX Contest (CW) <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx>, AWA Amplitude Modulation QSO Party
- February 21 -- Run for the Bacon QRP Contest
- February 23 -- SKCC Sprint

All dates, unless otherwise stated, are UTC. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests>, the ARRL Contest Update <http://www.arrl.org/The-ARRL-Contest-Update> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more info. Looking for a Special Event station? Be sure to check out the ARRL Special Event Stations Web page <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>.

Source: The ARRL Letter

WA7BNM Contest Calendar

Please check out this great site for events and contests! I have included a small portion of what is available. ~ Steve

<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html>

8-Day Calendar

Lists details for each contest during an 8-day period, starting with yesterday.

12-Month Calendar

Lists the names and dates for each contest for a 12-month period starting with the month immediately previous to the current month. Due to the difficulty

obtaining accurate contest information, as much as 12 months in advance, not all contests may appear for later months.

Perpetual Calendar

Lists the names and dates for each contest during a selectable future calendar year that can be accurately predicted in advance.

State QSO Parties

Lists the names and dates for each contest focused on a single state or group of states in the current calendar year.

CW Calendar

Lists those contests from the 12-month calendar that specify use of the CW mode, entirely or as a separate class of operation.

QRP Calendar

Lists those contests from the 12-month calendar that specify a maximum power level of less than 10 watts (typically 5 watts), entirely or as a separate class of operation.

Log Due Dates

Lists due dates and log submission information for recent contests.

Historical Calendar

Lists the names and dates for all contests during a selectable past calendar year as far back as 2005.

Calendar Customization

Enables you to select for display only those contests that you are interested in. Calendars affected by this customization provide you with the means to easily toggle between your custom list and the full calendar.

Weekly E-mailed Calendar

Provides a weekly e-mail of each contest and its details for an 8-day period (Monday through Monday), as well as a list of contests scheduled for the next week and a list of log submission information for recent contests. A [sample](#) is available. To subscribe to this service, send an e-mail to [Bruce, WA7BNM](mailto:Bruce.WA7BNM).

Fractal Antennas: Hype or Hope?

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

QRZ.Com currently has a very interesting item on fractal antennas

(<http://forums.qrz.com/showthread.php?t=277623>).

While the idea of applying fractals to the design and construction of antennas has been around for quite some time, very few hams have actually built them, and there are currently no companies building commercial fractal antennas for the ham radio market. The question, of course, is why?

Those that are hyping fractal antennas—most notably W1YW, CEO of Fractal Antenna Systems—claim several advantages. These advantages purportedly include wider bandwidth and smaller size when compared to traditional antennas, such as verticals and dipoles. Those that are trying to debunk these claims contend that this is all just hogwash, and that there's no real scientific basis for these claims.

One thing that's confounding this debate is that there have been very few articles published on the topic. For commercial reasons, W1YW has made his articles unavailable. He says that he will be publishing something real soon now, but there is nothing definite at this point.

There is at least one article on the Internet that describes the construction of a fractal antenna for amateur radio use. "FYI:FYQ: Another look at the Fractal Quad Yagi" (<http://www.scribd.com/doc/18788401/FYIFQY>) was published in the October 1999 issue of 73 magazine. It describes the construction of a two-element, 10m antenna. Like most 73 articles, it's not incredibly technical, though, and doesn't really contribute to the technical debate, except to demonstrate that physically small antennas can be made using fractal design.

The PDF contains several photos of the antenna. It's a crazy contraption that looks relatively difficult to build. So difficult, in fact, that it makes me wonder if it's even worth it to try building one. After all, 10m antennas are not really all that big or all that difficult to build to begin with.

Even more interesting than the antennas are the personalities on both sides of the debate. The QRZ.Com

discussion quickly devolved into a flame war, with neither side scoring a knockout.

Personally, I think the brouhaha is much ado about nothing. It seems to me that it's been demonstrated that you can build antennas using fractal design techniques. They are physically smaller than traditional antenna designs, but you really don't get something for nothing. Overall, they don't have as much gain as yagis or quads, and they're more complex to build.

My opinion on this is that if W1YW can build antennas that radiate a signal and can sell those antennas to someone, then more power to him. In the end, his company will live and die by how well, his antennas work and how much they cost when compared to antennas from other companies.

As for me, I think I'll stick with the more traditional HF antennas. If I need to make my antennas smaller, I'll use loading coils or designs such as the Moxon. I may not be on the bleeding edge of technology, but I'll certainly avoid a lot of headache trying to figure out who's right.

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When not avoiding flame wars on QRZ.Com, Dan, KB6NU, operates CW on the HF bands, writes and publishes license exam study guides, and teaches ham radio classes. You can find his ham radio blog at www.kb6nu.com.

ARRL, 1959-1964

(Continued from last month)

Provided by Jim Linn, **WB8RRR**



The Quickened Pace Operating, '60-'64

The popularity of the different bands under went very considerable changes after World War II. The changes were due to some changes in regulations, some in technique, and of course with the changes in propagation due to the sun spot cycle. In a decade v.h.f. work had increased from about 6% to 13% of all amateur operating.

The IGY Project had terminated in '59 with praise for the amateurs taking part from the National Academy of Sciences as well as from the USAF Research and Development Command. Based on the operational v.h.f. experience of a thousand or more enrolled amateurs, data was collected on all the more unusual forms of radio wave propagation. As a 'new frontier' in operating, new v.h.f. results were now very much in the spotlight. W6NLZ and KH6UK got the League's '60 Merit Award based on their pioneering work on tropospheric propagation in '59 and '60. This was recognized by their receiving the Edison

Award the following year. In July '60 W6HB and W1BU completed the first recorded two-way contacts (on 1296 Mc.) by moon bounce. The 10,000 Mc. record was extended to 265 mile two-way work that same month by W7JIP/7 and W7LHL/7. Another survey of amateur operating interest was made (by QST card) and the results published in 1960 showed that ten meter operation which had represented a quarter of all amateur operating in '47 was now of the order of only 12% . . . and that 75% of all operation continued in the 15 to 160-meter h.f. bands.

The new 15-meter band held a well divided, c.w. and phone interest. In 1960 this amounted to about 13% of all operating interest. The twenty, forty and eighty bands held almost 60% of our operating. Phone operation by 1960 was approximately 50:50 s.s.b. and a.m. operation (80 and 40) with almost 70% of the 14 Mc. voice work by s.s.b. These three bands held almost equal interest and use by amateurs with 20 popular for Dxing and 80 for traffic. *(Stay tuned for more next month)*

(taken from 1st addition 3rd print "Fifty Years A.R.R.L." Historical articles from the 1964 issues of QST) Ω

For Sale or Wanted

Scott Henninger, W8GS

Four bedroom, 2 ½ bath, half-acre partially wooded lot with 64 ft self-supporting tower located off Wards Corner Rd. less than 5 minutes to I-275 in Clermont County. Available in late March or early April. For more information, pictures, etc. , call Scott Henninger 513-683-7373 or email W8GS@aol.com

Steve Palmer spalmer1@cinci.rr.com

I have a 12 foot diameter Black Magic antenna in my back yard which I would be happy to donate to the club if it can be used by anyone. I used it years ago to track commercial satellites just for fun. If there is someone who can use it they would have to remove it, not a small job. I was just going to trash it but thought since it still works and I have all the parts then perhaps it can be of some use.

Anyone interested can come over and examine it. Please call me ahead of time that would work. I have all the paper work on the unit.

Lyle, **AB8SH** 315-4032

I have a bunch of Hamsticks I'm probably never going to use from 40m to 12m...some are real Hamsticks, some are off-brands...\$10 each - Lyle

Call or email Steve k8ji@arrl.net to put your ham items in next month!



AMSAT News

AMSAT News Service Bulletin 037.03
From AMSAT HQ SILVER SPRING, MD.
February 6, 2011
To All RADIO AMATEURS



OSCAR-11 REPORT 31 January 2011

This report covers the period from 31 December 2010 to 31 January 2011.

During this time the satellite has been heard from 31 December 2010 to 10 January 2011, and from 21 January to 30 January . It is expected to switch-on again 10 February for ten days, and remain silent for the remainder of the month.

Excellent signals have been reported from stations located around the world, and good copy obtained from decoded telemetry frames.

The satellite is now transmitting during eclipses, although signals are weaker at those times. This indicates that there is still some capacity remaining in the battery.

The on-board clock is now very stable. It gained eight seconds during January. The VHF beacon frequency is 145.826 MHz. AFSK FM ASCII Telemetry

Reception reports have been received from Christian SWL-CHMY, Mike DK3WN, Campo PY5JAP, Ron WB0SOK and Horatio CX8AF. Many thanks for those and to everyone who posted reports on the satellite status website.

At the present time, while OSCAR-11 is operating in a predictable way, I no longer need direct reports or files by e-mail. However, could all listeners continue to enter their reports on the general satellite status website. This is a very convenient and easy to use facility, which shows the current status of all the amateur satellites, and is of use to everyone. Reports around the expected times of switch-on and switch-off are of special interest, especially for times 12:00 - 17:00 and 22:00 - 07:00 UTC, to when the satellite is out-of-range in the UK. The URL is <http://oscar.dcarr.org/index.php>

A longer version of this report report is available on my website, and new listeners to OSCAR-11 should read this for further information. The URL is <http://www.g3cww.co.uk/oscar11.htm>. This page contains a links to the longer report, a short audio clip to help you identify the satellite and a file of the last telemetry received. The website also contains an archive of news & telemetry data which is updated from time to time, and details about using a soundcard or hardware demodulators for data capture. There is also software for capturing data, and decoding ASCII telemetry.

73 Clive G3CWW xxxxx@amsat.org (please replace the x's by g3cww

MARC CLUB OFFICERS AND BOARD

President	Mike Ernst	AE8U
Vice President	Jeff Clemmons	KD8LZK
Treasurer	Jim Linn	WB8RRR
Secretary	Mike Kieffer	KD8OUT
Board	Lyle Hamilton	AB8SH
Board	Steve Friebele	K8JI
Board	Mark Baker	WD8KPU

COMMITTEES

Newsletter and Website: Steve Friebele **K8JI**

VE Team: Lyle Hamilton **AB8SH**, Jim Linn **WB8RRR**, Barb Steward **KA8AXY**, Barry Evans **AB8WI**, Mark Baker **WD8KPU**, Jerry Dunham **AF8V**, Jerry Latham, **AE8S**, Mike Ernst **AE8U**, Jeff Clemmons **KD8LZK**, Bruce AC8BT, Ed Lowe, **N8FAJ**, Bob Halley **K8YMI**

Repeater: Bill Schroeder **WS6K**, Jim Linn, **WB8RRR**

Health & Wellness:

Historian - Mark Baker, **WD8KPU**

Milford Amateur Radio Club

3844 Palmer Court
Cincinnati, OH 45245

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



«AddressBlock»

Upcoming Events

March

11th MARC Annual Birthday

Programs

MARC Dues are Due!

Don't forget to pay your 2011 Dues at the meeting or send a check to our club address.

Please let me know if you or someone you know in the club would like their newsletter sent via the USPS in addition to email!



Next MARC Meeting – February 10th