

News Beacon

Medina County Amateur Radio Club

Editor's Preface

"Being Irish, he had an abiding sense of tragedy, which sustained him through temporary periods of joy."

William Butler Yeats

Seems like the older I get, the more I tend to see the glass half empty. That is, until I realize all the good there still exists in people; and consider all the accomplishments made over time in society, in the Club and in personal life. There is abundant sunshine in this world if we just look for it.

We can find it easier when surrounded by good friends, good food, laughter and light hearts. Such as when we are all gathered at the MCARC Club Dinner.

See you soon!

Happy St. Patrick's Day,

73,

Jane@K8JGR.radio

Dues are Due

Our Membership Director, **Diane KD8SSX**, states that many members responded to our plea to renew their memberships for 2023. And new members have joined as well. Thank you.

Dues for 2023 can still be paid to her at a meeting, at the Club Dinner, or mailed to Diane Snider, 8311 Norwalk Road, Litchfield, Ohio 44253. Make checks payable to the Medina Two Meter Group Inc. Dues are \$15.00 for regular membership, \$22.50 for family membership which allows one vote, and \$150.00 for life membership (must be age 60 or older).



Inside this issue

Radios.....	2
February 13th Minutes.....	3
Calendar	4
Dits & Dahs.....	5
March 13th Meeting	6
NASA Wants Help.....	7 & 8
Repeaters & Nets.....	9
Who We Are.....	10
What We Do.....	11



Hmmmmmm...

"Hey, why did the diode kiss the capacitor?"

"Why"

"He couldn't resistor!"



Radio Operation Training Courses

MCARC will hold special Radio Operation Training Courses in March, April, and May on the second Thursday of each month at the Medina County Career Center (JVS), Room 246.

After the first class, the schedule is open, so **I am looking for subjects of interest from Club members.** Subjects can be on various radio modes, computer control programs, specific radio model operation, or any other subject related to Amateur Radio operation.

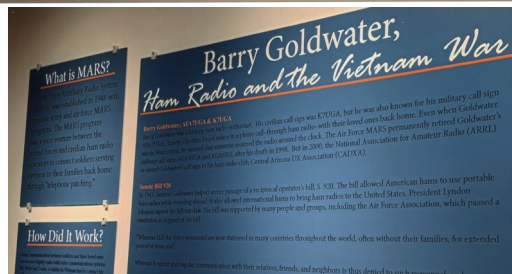
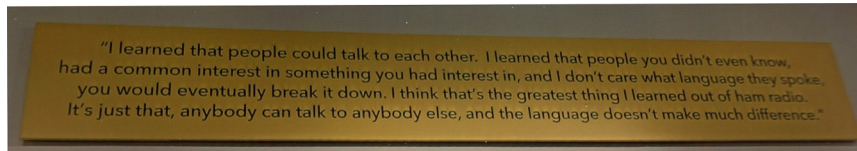
These sessions will involve live "on the air" operation using our antenna system at the school. Normal starting times will be 6pm. Contact Ed, K8NVR, eeyerd@gmail.com, if you are interested.

March 9 - FT8 Setup & Operation, FT-991 Programming,
 March 23 - Open, April 13 - Open, April 27 - Open, May 11 - Open, May 25 - Open.

Thanks, Ed K8NVR

Barry Goldwater K7UGA (SK)

Tamara Lesnick WA8KGV writes us from Arizona to express her excitement at finding an exhibit at the Arizona History Museum honoring Senator, Barry Goldwater K7UGA, and his impact on Amateur Radio. During the Vietnam War, he phone-patched military members to their loved ones as an Air Force MARS member, AFA7UGA. Thank you, Tamara. (Pictures courtesy of Tamara)



February In-Person General Meeting Minutes

The monthly General Meeting, was held February 13, 2023, in-person at the Medina County Career Center (JVS). The meeting was called to order by President, Ed K8NVR and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited at 7:02 pm. The following (15) paid members and one guest were present, so quorum (9) was reached.

Fred K8FH	Gail KD8GGM	Ed K8NVR	Dave KE8APO	Doug KD8SST
Diane KD8SSX	Bob K8MD	Toby WT8O	Steve KE8BJD	Amy K2KSU
Doug KE8BBI	Jeff KE8UUF	Jane K8JGR	Mike N8QQN	John Riding WA8JR

Secretary's report: Minutes of January 9th meeting were accepted with no corrections.

Treasurer's report for November was read by Treasurer, Toby WT8O. Motion to approve: Fred K8FH, Second: Doug KD8SST. Approved.

President's Report: * Ed K8NVR inquired about the status of outstanding dues. Diane KD8SSX reported that of the 65 members who were active last year, 45 are paid currently with 20 unpaid. An observation was made that some members will pay at the upcoming annual dinner. * Ed gave a short presentation on the recent Bouvet Island DXpedition. Unfortunately this event didn't go well due to inclement weather and deliberate interference.

ARES: Bob K8MD reported that the Medina County EMA Communications Team participated in a simulated calamity exercise last week. In this "worst case scenario" Ham Radio operation was once again given kudos for being able to operate under these conditions. April 22nd is Ohio NVIS day which is an opportunity to test antenna range capability within the state.

Financial: Jane K8JGR has submitted the annual IRS Form 990 and will assist Ed in preparing the ARRL annual financial report including an updated asset list.

Repeaters: Ken K8TV recently repaired an audio issue on the 6m repeater. Ed stated that we are still having dropout issues on the main repeater which appears to be a controller issue. Arcom has released a firmware fix, but given their history Ed thinks it is prudent to wait until the new fix is stable. A discussion ensued about using a different vendor controller (Escom), but Arcom is the most commonly used and readily available. Another consideration is that we have a spare unit.

Website: Jane K8JGR will be meeting with Jeff KE8UUF to transition some webmaster duties in the near future

Annual Club Dinner : Will be on March 11th at 5 p.m. Cost is \$35 and may be paid at the door. Any checks should be made out to Gail Helwig rather than the club. Invitations have been sent out. Please RSVP to Gail KD8GGM.

Sunshine: * Has anyone heard from Dan Jenkins W8DEJ? * Doug KD8SST announced that he will not be able to participate in nets or do net control for some weeks due to some cancer treatments that will affect his vocal cords

Technical presentations: Anyone willing to do a presentation should contact Toby or Ed. Otherwise Ed will provide video presentations. Ed has offered to provide more operation training in separate 6 p.m. evening sessions. The first presentation will likely be on FT8. Contact Ed for details if interested.

2m Net: NCO slots are mostly filled for the first half of the year, but some openings remain. Contact Baji K8IIT to volunteer.

Education: * The Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Club will start license training on all three licenses starting February 23rd. Classes will run for 6 weeks. * Bob K8MD announced that there will be a Laurel VE training session on Thursday March 2nd at "Everything Outdoor" at Pearl and Fenn.

Meeting Adjourned: Meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m. and was followed by a Home Disaster Prep presentation given by Steve KE8BJD.

Respectfully submitted by Dave KE8APO



Club Meetings

In the MCARC General Meetings will be held at the **Medina County Career Center (JVS) Room 246** at 7:00pm.

Should the rear entrance to the JVS is locked on MCARC meeting nights, you will have to enter through the front door and will have to provide personal computer input at the entrance kiosk in order to be allowed to enter.

Medina County Career Center, aka: JVS, is located at:
1101 W Liberty Street, Medina, 44256

Member Birthdays

Doug Daniels KE8BBI	03/13
Kevin Reed	03/18
Lou Messavage WA8DBP	03/19
David Rickon NF8O	03/04
Steve Stein KE8BJD	03/26

MCARC Calendar

- March 6** 7:30pm Monday Night 2M Net
- March 13** **7:00pm IN-PERSON MEETING at Career Center**
NOTE TIME CHANGE (see pg. 5)
- March 20** 7:30pm Monday Night 2M Net
- March 27** 7:30pm Monday Night 2M Net

ARRL Hamfests

- 03/11/2023** MOVARC Hamfest
Location: Bidwell, OH
Fellowship of Faith Church Rio Grande
Sponsor: Mid-Ohio Valley Amateur Radio Club
E-mail: docdiesel@hotmail.com
- 03/12/2023** NOARS Winter Hamfest
Location: Elyria, OH
Sponsor: Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society
Website: <http://winterhamfest@noars.net>
- 03/19/2023 - Toledo Mobile Radio Association Hamfest
and Computer Fair
Location: Perrysburg, OH
Sponsor: Toledo Mobile Radio Association
Website: <http://www.tmrahamradio.org>

ARRL Contests

- 03/04-05 International DX—Phone—SSB

Saturday 8am Breakfast

Winter seems to be keeping our members away. [Check with your friends](#) to see if they will be joining you at the **Cracked Egg Restaurant** at 1475 Pearl Rd in Brunswick, opposite the Middle school, Saturdays at 8am.



Dits and Dahs

- **NOTE TIME CHANGE— Meetings now start at 7pm**
Come join us at our January 9th General Meeting at the Medina County Career Center, Room 246, at **7:00pm**.
- Our 2-Meter, Monday Night Nets are still held at 7:30pm, except for the second Monday of each month when we hold our General Meeting. More info on the MCARC Net is found on page 9.
- Thank you to Jeff Crow, a new member who has jumped in with both feet! He is not only helping with the W8EOC.org website, he has already mastered being a MCARC 2M Net Control Operator!
- Send some warm thoughts to Doug McClure KD8SST, who is undergoing cancer treatment on his throat. We will miss him on the net, but hope to see him at meetings when he is able.
- Amy Panchumarti K2KSU is out and about after her latest in a string of hip surgeries. She made it to the February meeting, and we hope she will be fully recovered in March.
- Ed Eyerdom, our President, is looking for Technical Session volunteers. Please let him know if you would like to share your expertise at one of our General Meetings.
- Please attend our friends' to the North, NOARS, 2023 Winter Hamfest at Lorain County Community College, 1005 North Abbe Road, Elyria, OH on Sunday, March 12, 2023. John A. Spitzer Conference Center, Reaser Grand Room. Doors open at 9:00 AM EST. VE testing will be available starting at 9:00 AM. Pre-registration is preferred, but walk-ins are welcome. Questions can be addressed to winterfest@noars.net or call 216-256-9624 before 9 PM on weekdays. Website: <http://winterhamfest@noars.net>





Hamatuer Antix



MCARC will be holding Technical Sessions during most of our in-person General Meetings on the 2nd Monday of each month.

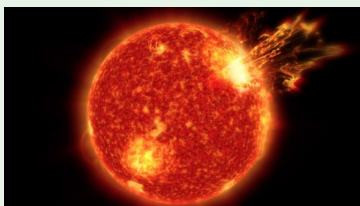
March 13th General Meeting

NOTE TIME CHANGE— Meeting will start at 7pm

Come join us at our **March 13th General Meeting** at the **Medina County Career Center (JVS), Room 246**, at **7:00pm**, located at: 1101 W Liberty Street, Medina, Ohio 44256. Note that the classroom has been remodeled and now has comfortable chairs and tables!

Ed, K8NVR will present the technical session with a video on "Understanding HF Propagation & Solar Activity."

All are welcome to attend.



Ham Radio Operators, We Need Your Help During Solar Eclipses!

NASA Science — HamSCI.org

What is a Solar Eclipse QSO Party, and why is it being held?

The Solar Eclipse QSO Party is an opportunity for amateur radio operators (hams) to operate during the October, 2023 and April, 2024 eclipses, before, during and after they pass over North America. Using various modes (CW, voice, and digital), two-way transmissions (QSOs) made during the SEQP will contribute to scientific studies focusing on the ionosphere's reaction to the eclipse. The studies should lead to a better understanding of the interactions between the Sun, the ionosphere, and radio wave propagation. That research should benefit hams, professional broadcasters, satellite operators and many other users of radio spectrum.

When will the SEQP occur? (Download and open the ICS files below to add the events to your electronic calendar)

October 14, 2023; 1200-2200 UTC; is the official 2023 SEQP event period.

April 8, 2024; 1400-2400 UTC; is the official 2024 SEQP event period.

The SEQPs both starts a few hours before the eclipses begins their transit across the US mainland, so baseline data can be gathered (it is important to know how well the ionosphere is reflecting and refracting high frequency (HF) signals prior to the eclipses)

They continue through the entire eclipse period, in order to study how HF propagation is affected by the eclipse (past experience suggests that ionospheric changes will be visible in the data).

They conclude a few hours after the eclipses transit beyond the US mainland, in order to observe and study the after effects of the eclipse (such as ionospheric recovery, if any).

You do not have to operate the full SEQP hour period, though that would be most welcome. If you only have an hour or two, try to schedule your operating when the eclipse path is nearest to your QTH. That will raise the odds that your signals will be affected by the eclipse. Eclipse paths can be seen at <https://www.greatamericaneclipse.com/>.

Who should participate?

The 2023 and 2024 eclipses will be passing over the continental United States, so researchers are most interested in having hams in North America participate. Of course, HF radio signals don't generally restrict themselves to small geographic areas, so hams from all over the world are welcome to operate and enter the SEQP.

Continued Next Page...



Ham Radio Operators, We Need Your Help During Solar Eclipses! ...*Continued*

What equipment is required?

Almost any ham station can participate. An HF radio and antenna(s), usable on one or more of the 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 10 and 6 meter bands.

It is extremely helpful to have contest logging software on a computer in your station. The software guides you through the QSO making process, and it records all of the QSO data needed to submit your results after the SEQP. It is those results which scientists will gather, from you and thousands of other participants, to aid in their research.

What can I expect if I get on the air during the SEQP?

The SEQP, while technically an 'operating event', closely mirrors fits the definition of a 'contest'. It is a friendly competition where participants endeavor to make many contacts in a short period of time, over the widest possible area. QSOs will be short, with specific information (callsigns, signal reports, stations locations) exchanged between stations. If it is your first contest, the first few minutes can be a bit overwhelming, but listen in, learn the operating rhythm, and jump in!

The SEQP encourages operation on CW, SSB and all digital modes. The basic idea is to have as many hams as possible make as many QSOs as possible, then collect their QSO data, carefully studying it for trends indicating how far, how strong and where HF signals propagated vs. the path of the eclipses.

Is there a 'fun factor' to the SEQP?

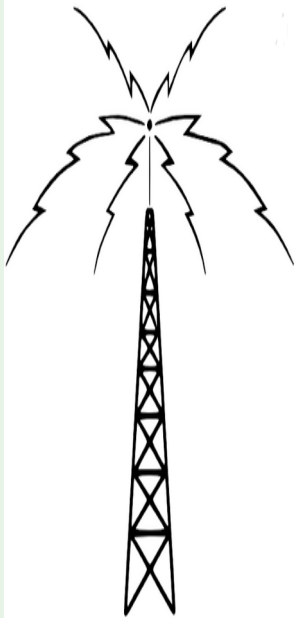
Yes, absolutely! Operating events are supposed to be 'fun'. One way to increase the fun factor of any contest is to calculate a score for all participants, based on the number of contacts made, their geographic reach, and how many receiving stations heard their signals. The HamSCI Data Processing Team will gather all of the entries submitted on the SEQP website, visit propagation databases such as WSPRNET.org and PSKReporter.info, and assemble millions of data points into a research database. From that database the HamSCI Data Processing Team will be able to assign everyone a score, which will then be published some months after the SEQP.

What if I am not interested in two-way QSOs, but I am a WSPR or FST4W enthusiast?

There is a solar eclipse event for those who are interested in transmitting and receiving WSPR and FST4W signals: The Gladstone Signal Spotting Challenge

Ideally, many WSPR and FST4W transmitters will be on the air for the entire SEQP, their transmissions logged by receivers worldwide (or as far as propagation allows), enabling researchers to search out propagation effects of the solar eclipses as they move across our planet.

MCARC Repeaters



Call	Location	Function	Repeater Input	Repeater Out	CTCSS (PL)	Band
W8EOC	Medina (Main Site)	Repeater TX & RX	147.630	147.030	141.3 One Beep	2 Meter
W8EOC	Brunswick (North)	Receive only	147.630	From Main Site	131.8 Two Beeps	2 Meter
W8EOC	Lafayette (South)	Receive only	147.630	From Main Site	88.5 Three Beeps	2 Meter
W8EOC	Lafayette (South)	Split Site Repeater	51.160	51.660	N/A	6 Meter
	Brunswick Hills					
W8HN	Medina Main Site)	Digital C4FM TX & RX Repeater	147.885	147.285	(0)	2 Meter
		Analog TX & RX Repeater	147.885	147.285	(110.9)	2 Meter
W8EOC	Medina (Main Site)	Repeater TX & RX	223.260	224.860	-	1.25 Meter
W8EOC	Lafayette (South)	Repeater TX & RX	449.925	444.925	131.8	70 CM

TRAVELING? Check out <https://repeaterbook.com/> for a free, worldwide repeater reference. It supports GMRS as well.

2-Meter Net

Remember to join us on the 2-Meter Net on 147.030 Monday evenings at 7:30pm except for 2nd Monday of each month when we have our **In-person** meetings.

You do not have to be a member of MCARC to participate.

MCARC Monday Night 2-Meter Net Control

27-Feb-2023	K8TV	06-Mar-2023	K2KSU
13-Mar-2023	Meeting	20-Mar-2023	
27-Mar-2023	KD8SSX	03-Apr-2023	K8NVR

Contact Baji K8IIT, ohiobaji@gmail.com, if you would like to serve as NCO.

NCO openings can be found at:
<https://b.link/2023-nco>

MCARC Membership

Please become a member or renew your **Medina County Amateur Radio Club** membership. Dues are our primary source of income and are used to pay for the administrative costs of liability insurance, website domain registration fees, web hosting for www.W8EOC.org., maintenance costs of repeater and towers along with passing on fun perks to you, our members. Our new/renewal Membership Form and information can be found on our website <http://w8eoc.org/membership>.

ARRL Membership

Consider paying your dues for **ARRL membership** through our club Membership Chair, Diane KD8SSX. MCARC will retain \$15.00 for each NEW membership and \$2.00 for each renewal. A copy of the ARRL Membership Application/Renewal form can be obtained from Diane. Email her at d.snider@frontier.com.

Please consider volunteering. We really would enjoy seeing fresh faces and hearing new ideas to keep the MCARC relevant and viable in 2022. Do you like designing or maintaining websites, organizing speakers for technical sessions, writing for the newsletter or teaching members new skills? Please let Jane K8JGR know. Thank you.

Who's Who

President:

Ed Eyerdom K8NVR
eyerdom@gmail.com

VP: Jane Reed K8JGR
jane@K8JGR.radio

Treasurer:
Toby Kolman WT8O

Secretary:
Dave Swancer KE8APO

W8EOC Repeaters:
Ed Eyerdom K8NVR
Ken Koyan K8TV

Sunshine:
Diane Snider KD8SSX

Trustees:

Doug McClure KD8SST
Dave Oravec N8JNX
Ray Orobona K2RWO
Amy Panchumarti K2KSU
Steven Stein KE8BJD

Newsletter:
Jane Reed K8JGR

Field Day:
Fred Helwig K8FH

Membership:
Diane Snider KD8SSX

Program:
Open

Websites:

Jane Reed K8JGR
Jeff Crow KE8UUF

Net Scheduling:
Baji Panchumarti K8IIT

Social Events:
Gail Helwig KD8GGM

Skywarn:
Tracey Liston W8TWL

ARES:
Bob Mueller K8MD

RACES:
Dave Rickon NF8O



MCARC on the World Wide Web

www.W8EOC.org

Also,
"Like Us" on **Facebook**

**[www.facebook.com/
MedinaCountyAmateur
RadioClub](http://www.facebook.com/MedinaCountyAmateurRadioClub)**

About Our Organization

The Medina Two Meter Group (M2M) Inc. DBA: the **Medina County Amateur Radio Club** is a nonprofit, ARRL Special Service registered, amateur radio organization based in Medina County, Ohio dedicated to communication, public service, education and fellowship.

Many of our members are also involved with Skywarn, ARES, RACES, and assist with emergency communication or community events such as bicycle and foot races.

We usually meet on the second Monday of each month at either the Medina County Senior Center (Sr) or the Medina County Career (JVS) Center.



Medina Two Meter Group (M2M) Inc.
DBA:
Medina County Amateur Radio Club

1254 Hadcock Road
Brunswick, Ohio 44212

Admin@W8EOC.org

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

TO: