

# News Beacon



## Medina County Amateur Radio Club

### Editor's Preface

*"Life is full of challenges, but I always have the Three Ps: Passion, patience and persistence. And the fourth one is pizza."*

Butch Hartman

Here we are in autumn, already. Summer has swiftly faded into memory, and winter is but a frigid breeze away. Goblins and ghosts are about to appear, and sugar-fueled children will soon be shouting "trick-or-treat!" at our doors.

Consider treating our members with your passion for all things MCARC. Volunteer to help out on committees, or consider running for a Trustee/Officer position. Fresh ideas are the lifeblood of our Club. Let us know your choice at this month's, October 9th meeting.

Our November 13th Meeting is our Annual Meeting, and as such we will be voting for Trustees/Officers. The current slate of nominees is found on pages 3-4. Remember, you may nominate yourself, or another member—with their permission—up to the time of the election, although qualifications of nominees were published in this October newsletter. Diane KD8SSX is the election Chair who will be coordinating the voting and tallying process.

Also at our Annual Meeting in November, we will review the prior year's, unaudited, compiled financial statements. The 2022 year-end Balance Sheet and Income Statement which spans the period January 2022 through December 2022, will be discussed.

In the meantime, enjoy the autumn kaleidoscope of colors, feel the crispness of the air, and wander over to a farmer's market for some warm cider and pumpkin pie!

73, Jane@K8JGR.radio

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### Hmmmmmm...

*I injured myself measuring radio frequency yesterday...*

*It still Hertz!*

(Submitted by Dave K8APO)



## September In-Person General Meeting Minutes

The monthly General Meeting, was held September 11th, 2023, in-person at the Medina County Senior Center. The meeting was called to order by President, Ed K8NVR stated that most of the meeting would be about the current repeater antenna status.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited at 7:02 pm. The following sixteen (16) paid members attended, so quorum (9) was reached. All members stated their names and call signs.

**Secretary's report:** Ed asked if there were corrections or comments about the previous month's minutes, and as none were heard, the August minutes were accepted as presented.

**Treasurer's Report:** July report was read by Treasurer, Toby WT8O. Motion to accept was made by Baji K8IIT, seconded by Diane KD8SSX. Passed unanimously.

ED K8NVR	Fred K8FH	Gordon A18Y	John K8JEK
Diane KD8SSX	Doug KD8SST	Toby WT8O	Dave KE8APO
Amy K2KSU	Baji K8IIT	Jane K8JGR	Jim KD8FHY
Dave N8JNX	Tamara WA8KGV	Tracey W8TWL	Dudley WA1X
Chuck K8KMN			

**President's Report:** Ed K8NVR reminded everyone that Jane K8JGR is always looking for newsletter articles. Baji was asked how the net control schedule was looking for the rest of the year. He stated that there were three open slots available. Doug KD8SST said that he would take those slots.

**Repeaters:** All equipment has been removed from the Branch Road tower. Both the 2M and 220 antennas were rescued and will eventually be redeployed on the South Tower which will become the new site of the main repeater. There was a lot of scavenged equipment and Ed asked if anyone with an Ebay account would be willing to post and sell these items. It was decided that it would be best to take these to upcoming Hamfests for sale. The plan is to get the antennas mounted and repeater set up on the south tower before winter perhaps in the next couple weeks. Spare antennas will also be mounted as backups. For now, the main and only repeater (131.8 tone) is operating at the Brunswick Site.

Skywarn will be utilizing the Career Center repeater (141.285). A discussion followed on equipment and hookup of the ARES repeater installation in Chippewa.

**Net:** Baji K8IIT asked if it was possible to simultaneously have the weekly net on 2m/220/440. Ed stated that it would be a possible future project since much would be involved.

**Vice President's Report:** Jane K8JGR stated that we have a newly issued Club credit card (in her name) and will make the number available as needed for purchases. The W8EOC website is currently down. There was delays in transferring ownership from Mike Eady to Jane and meanwhile it has expired. A new domain has been opened but has a longer name and will need to have the data transferred. The newsletter has been updated to show current repeater status.

**Announcements & Comments:** \*Baji has donated two Amazon Fire tablets that can be purchased with a donation to the Club. \*Elections will be held at the November meeting. All officer positions are available as well as two, two-year Trustee positions and 1 one year Trustee position. Please consider running for an office. \*Cleveland Hamfest is Sept 24th. \*Fred and Gail's picnic is Sept 17th. \*Tamara (WA8KGV) still has some of Les's equipment available and will bring it to the picnic.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:42pm and was followed by a video of Amateur Repeaters 101.

Respectfully submitted by Dave KE8APO

# 2024 Nominations

Here are the nominations for the 2023 MCARC Trustees/Officers to date. Remember, you may nominate yourself, or another member up to the time of the election, held at the November Annual Meeting.

## One-Year Terms:

- President: Toby Kolman WT8O
- President: Jane Reed K8JGR
- Vice President: Ed Eyerdorm K8NVR
- Secretary: Dave Swancer KE8APO
- Treasurer: OPEN
- Trustee (to fill in Ray K2RWO's term): Steve Stein KE8BJD

## Two-Year Terms:

- Trustee: Diane Snider KD8SSX
- Trustee: Amy Panchumarti K2KSU
- Trustee: Dave Oravec N8JNX

Please consider filling in the open positions. Contact Diane KD8SSX, our Elections Chair, [d.snider19@yahoo.com](mailto:d.snider19@yahoo.com), with your intention.

## NOMINATIONS:

### For President: Toby Kolman WT8O

- Vice President MCARC 2021
- Treasurer of MCARC 2022 to present

### For President: Jane Reed K8JGR

- President of MCARC from 2019-2022
- Vice president MCARC 2023
- Newsletter Editor MCARC from 2018 to present
- Website designer and maintenance from Sept 2018 to present

### For Vice President: Ed Eyerdorm K8NVR

Spent many, many terms as President, Vice President, Trustee, and Repeat-er Guru of MCARC.

### For Secretary: Dave Swancer KE8APO

- Secretary of MCARC 2021 to present
- Trustee of MCARC 2019

### For Treasurer: OPEN

### For Trustee (two-year term): Dave Oravec N8JNX

- Trustee of MCARC 2020 to present.

### For Trustee (one-year term): Steve Stein KE8BJD

Experience cofounding chapters and leading several other organizations including international groups. Retired Lieutenant Colonel, Civil Air Patrol, 25 years service including teaching Basic and Advanced Radio Operator training. BA in Mass Communications. Retired from 30 years in video communications. Licensed ham in 2015. Serves in Medina County EMS's Comms Unit. Trustee of MCARC from Would like to help MCARC grow by encouraging young blood to enter the hobby.

*Cont'd Next Page...*



## Nominations, cont'd

**For Trustee (two-year term): Diane Snider KD8SSX**

Vice President of MCARC 2020

Membership Chair & Sunshine Chair of MCARC 2021 to present

**For Trustee (two-year term): Amy Panchumarti K2KSU**

Master's degree in Leadership, 40 years teaching, Jennings scholar, Walmart Teacher of the Year, Miss America Teacher of the Year finalist, General Amateur radio license, Rotary Youth Exchange Student (Most Outstanding) to India, KSU Honors College Graduate. Trustee of MCARC from 2020 to present.

## Solar Eclipse QSO Party Seeks Amateurs and Radio Enthusiasts for Global Experiment

ARRL is proud to partner with HamSCI to help promote participation in the Solar Eclipse QSO Party (SEQP). SEQPs are a series of global experiments -- and you can be a part of them. Solar eclipses will pass across the continental United States on October 14, 2023, and April 8, 2024.

During these celestial events, you can join thousands of fellow amateurs as part of the largest crowd-sourced event for ham radio scientific exploration. The SEQP is part of the Festivals of Eclipse Ionospheric Science and is for learning more about how the ionosphere works.

All radio amateurs need to do is operate using any mode and any band for all or part of the day, then upload their logs. Participation can be from anywhere; you don't need to be near the path of the eclipse to contribute valuable data. You don't even have to be a licensed ham to participate in the experiment (only to transmit).

For SEQP contest and rules, visit [www.hamsci.org/contest-info](http://www.hamsci.org/contest-info).

For information on the Gladstone Signal Spotting Challenge using CW, WSPR, and FST4W, go to [www.hamsci.org/contest-info](http://www.hamsci.org/contest-info).

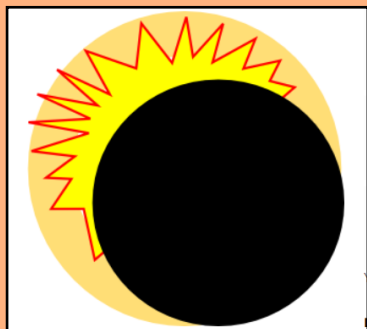
If you're an SWL or AM DXer, you might be interested in the Medium Wave Recording Event. Go to [www.hamsci.org/mw-recordings/](http://www.hamsci.org/mw-recordings/) for more information.

Or just get on the air and help provide data to better understand the ionosphere.

The first SEQP is on Saturday, October 14, 2023, from 1200 - 2200 UTC, and participants may use any band or mode (except WARC bands). Researchers will take the submitted logs and work to derive meaningful observations from the data.

ARRL members can find out more about the SEQP by reading "The Solar Eclipse QSO Party: A Fun Way to Support Radio Science" in the September/October 2023 issue of *On the Air* magazine. The *On the Air* podcast will feature the article's author, Gary Mikitin, AF8A, talking about the event. The episode will go live on October 12.

*ARRL News 09/29/2023*



## Club Meetings

The MCARC General Meeting for October will be held in at the Medina County Career Center (JVS), Room 246.

The Medina County Career Center (JVS), is located at: 1101 W Liberty Street, Medina, Ohio 44256

## MCARC Calendar

- October 2** 7:30pm Monday Night 2M Net
- October 9** 7:00pm IN-PERSON GENERAL MEETING at MEDINA COUNTY CAREER CENTER (JVS) (see pg 7)
- October 16** 7:30pm Monday Night 2M Net
- October 23** 7:30pm Monday Night 2M Net
- October 30** 7:30pm Monday Night 2M Net

## ARRL Ohio Hamfests

**10/29/2023** - Massillon (OH) Hamfest (& auction)

**Location:** North Canton, , OH

**Sponsor:** Massillon Amateur Radio Club

**Website:** <http://www.w8np.net>

## Radiosport Contests

- October 7-8** Collegiate QSO Party
- October 8** ARRL Simulated Emergency Test
- October 16-20** School Club Roundup
- September 16-17** ARRL 10 GHz & Up - Round 2
- October 20-22** Scouts Jamboree on the Air
- October 28-29** ARRL EME - 50 to 1296 MHz
- October 28-29** CQ WW SSB DX Contest

## Member Birthdays

Toby Kolman WT8O	10/04
John Kollar K8JEK	10/16
Amy Panchumarti K2KSU	10/21
Rene Eady KD8SSW	10/27
Fred Helwig K8FH	10/28
Lawrence Ferrone NB8Z	10/30

## Saturday 8am Breakfast

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.



## Member Spotlight—Dudley WA1X



I am the new guy who sits in the back near the door. I ended up here after touring a few Field Day sites this summer. Most of them in the area were disappointing. As I drove up to the MCARC FD site I was intrigued the moment I saw the clever antenna deployments spaced across the field and the vast array of donuts set up for the operators.

I am **Dudley Chapman WA1X**, CWOps #2427, CFO #977. My wife, Jan, is N1KST. We have two grown sons. One is an off-the-grid lumberjack in Oregon and the other lives in Chicago mining databases for a national Internet marketing company. We moved here from Massachusetts in 1996. I was born and raised in southeastern Connecticut in New London, a town that grew up as a major whaling port and now builds submarines. I got my Novice ticket in 1965, as WN1FWA. After a year of pounding brass using a rockbound DX-60 on the 80m Novice band I took the train to the Boston FCC office and came back as WA1FWA. Time to dust off that VFO.

Ham radio led me to a career in science and engineering. First stop was an ASEE and a First-Class Radiotelephone license for work in commercial broadcasting. I ended up as chief engineer (because I was the only licensed engineer) at WNBZ-AM in the Adirondacks. While that was only part time, being a 1kw watt by day, 500 watts by night peanut whistle, I was also working at WPTZ-TV in Plattsburgh, NY at the transmitter on Terry Mountain. I have stories to tell about living on that 2000 ft mountain in the middle of nowhere next to a 1000 ft TV tower during lightning storms. Or losing power in a blizzard at 20 degrees below zero and having to start up the frozen 60kw diesel generator in the garage to get the transmitter and antenna deicers back on the air. But stories like that require beer to be flowing.

While up in the North Country, I studied physics at the State Univ of NY. As luck would have it, I did some electronics work for a professor who was also a Ham. He convinced the Dean to hire me as a technician for the scientific instruments in the various science departments, turning into a 20-year career in the industry designing scientific instruments.

In those days electronics was being taken over by microcontrollers and microprocessors. Design engineers like me had to learn to do software on the job. That led to a career in software development for real-time programming and then enterprise level programming that I am still doing today. All throughout that time, my Ham radio activities were sporadic. One notable stint was doing 40m and 20m CW mobile, on I-495 in Massachusetts. I rag-chewed with a bunch of buddies on 7020 in the mornings. During the evening commute I was working Eastern Europeans off the grey-line. It turns out that a lot of them are county hunters. If they hear you on CW signing /M, they are all over you like a cheap suit in the rain. They figure since you are mobile, they might get more than one county out of the QSO.

I had planned to retire at the end of 2019 when my last contract was over. That Fall I dusted off my old FT 890 and decided to get back on the air after a 25-year hiatus. Our house is in the middle of 4 acres of very tall hardwood. After trying and failing using many techniques of launching ropes into high branches I succeeded in deploying a full-wave 160m horizontal loop at 65 feet in the tree tops. I have been using it on 160 through 6 meters. It has been a useful antenna. I managed to rack up 180 countries with 100 watts CW on the lower bands before the cycle 25 openings. Before the recent solar flares shut that down, I added 28 more countries on the higher RF bands, including a few on 6 meters. About six months ago, I replaced the FT-890 with an FTdx-101D. An astoundingly superb radio.

As it turns out, a recruiter called me about a work-from-home gig for a company that had no software development capability. Then Covid showed up in the USA a few weeks later. "Stay home!", they said. I said, "OK!". I am still working on the project from home but hope to wrap it up in the next six months and fully retire. The one bright spot is that as I work, I have HRD watching the DX clusters. If I see any ATNOs or any countries I need on a specific band, I just swivel my chair 180 degrees and I am at my radio operating position. I can dive into the pileup, rack up a new one, and go back to work.

I have several ham radio projects in the queue. When the leaves and ticks are gone in a month or so, I will be finishing my 160/80m top loaded T-vertical which is half deployed in the woods from last winter. I also have a project going to build an SDR based portable HF transceiver from scratch in an old K2 cabinet using the controls on the front panel. Planned for next year is a wire 2-element 40m horizontal phased array. I model all my antennas with 4NEC.

I would be glad to work up technical talks for on various subjects. Good topics are SDR receiving and transmitter technology, modern prototyping techniques using surface mount parts, antenna modeling, launching ropes in very tall trees, and multi-band wire antenna considerations.



## Hamatuer Antix



*Submitted by Dave KE8APO*

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

## October 9th General Meeting

Come join us at our **In-Person General Meeting on October 9th, to be held** at 7:00pm, at the Medina County Career Center (JVS), Room 246. Note venue change (again.)

The Medina County Career Center (JVS), is located at: 1101 W Liberty Street, Medina, Ohio 44256

President, **Ed K8NVR** will present a video on **Antenna Theory**.



## Dits and Dahs

Our **October 9th General Meeting** will be held at 7:00pm, at the **Medina County Career Center (JVS), Room 246**. The Medina County Career Center (JVS), is located at: 1101 W Liberty Street, Medina, Ohio 44256

- **MCARC 2-Meter repeater**

Note that the MCARC weekly Monday Net (except for 2nd Monday of month) has only the **Brunswick (North) site** in operation at this time. Please set your radios as indicated on page nine to enjoy our 7:30pm camaraderie.

- **Great News!**

Doug KD8SST shared with us at the September Member Meeting that he is cancer free! We all are very happy for him and his family. God bless.

- **MCARC Facebook Page**

The Club Facebook page has been hacked, and as of now, cannot be updated. My, Jane Garson Reed, personal account was locked by the “Meta Copyright Infringement” hackers. It has nothing to do with copyright infringement, and thousands of accounts are affected. My name on my account was changed, as well as my password. This affects not only the MCARC site, but one of my business accounts as well! No corrective action has yet been received from the gods at Facebook.

- **The Michal Family**

Scott Michal contacted us about his parents failing health. Keith W0AHA’s mobility is severely affected by spinal stenosis, and lovely Alva is struggling with dementia. Scott is trying to figure out how to get Keith’s radio up and running from his apartment with some sort of stealth antenna. Any help from members would be greatly appreciated.

- **Newsletter Contributions**

While we are on the subject of helping our Club, please send any material about your projects, Amateur Radio news, technical articles, DXing, or radio cartoons to our newsletter editor—Jane@K8JGR.radio. Thank you.

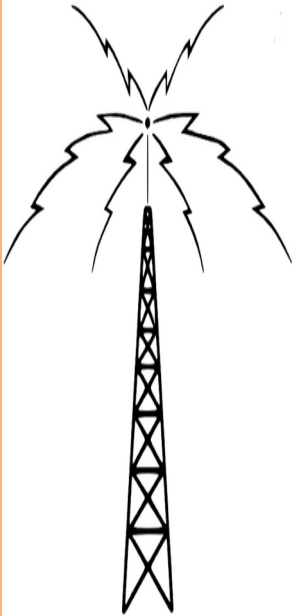
- **URLs**

Our Club now has registered domain names of W8EOC.org, W8EOC.com, MedinaCountyAmateurRadioClub.org. Unfortunately, due to a misunderstanding, MCARC.org and .com were already taken.





## MCARC Repeaters



Call	Location	Function	Repeater Input	Repeater Output	CTCSS (PL)	Band
W8EOC	Brunswick (North) Temp Main Site	TX & RX	147.630	147.030	131.8	2 Meter
W8EOC	Lafayette (South)	Temp Disabled				2 Meter
W8EOC	Lafayette (South)	Split Site Repeater	51.160		N/A	6 Meter
	Brunswick Hills			51.660		
W8HN	Medina (Sch)	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	Lafayette (South)	Repeater TX & RX	449.925	444.925	131.8	70 CM

*Note that the MCARC weekly Monday Net (except for 2nd Monday of month) has only the Brunswick (North) site in operation at this time. Please set your radios as indicated above to enjoy our 7:30pm camaraderie.*

### 2-Meter Net

#### MCARC 2-METER REPEATER

Remember to join our 2-Meter nets on 147.030 Monday evenings at 7:30pm, except for the 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

25-Sep-2023	<b>KD8SST</b>	02-Oct-2023	K2KSU
09-Oct-2023	<b>Meeting</b>	16-Oct-2023	KD8SSX
23-Oct-2023	K8NVR	30-Oct-2023	K8TV

Contact Baji K8IIT, [ohiobaji@gmail.com](mailto:ohiobaji@gmail.com), if you would like to serve as NCO.

NCO openings can be found at:

## 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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:eyerdom@gmail.com)

**VP:** Jane Reed K8JGR  
[jane@K8JGR.radio](mailto: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](http://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 the Medina County Career (JVS) Center, upstairs Room 246.



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: