

September 2025
Vol IX Issue 9

News Beacon

Medina County Amateur Radio Club
Celebrating 50 Years of Service 1975-2025

Prez's Preface

"September days have the warmth of summer in their briefer hours, but in their lengthening evenings a prophetic breath of autumn."

— Rowland E. Robinson

Never a dull moment at the Reed nut house. Over the years, Guinea hens found roosting on bottom branches, deer birthed at the edge of my turnaround, opossums nesting in engine wells, and today a loud staccato sound distracting me from working on this newsletter.

My coax and control line runs are gathered and enshrouded in slit cabling conduit, from the shack entrance, across the entire back of my house, then underground towards the barn where the antennas are mounted. An hour ago, just outside my back door, next to my office, a pulsing noise emanated from said cabling conduit. Some animal was obviously stuck inside the tube, and provided a rhythmic, chirping, SOS. Valuing my fingers, I decided not to pry open the slit and instead opted to call the animal control warden, who valiantly extricated the varmint— a chipmunk, who I believe, upon escaping, broke a land speed record for his class.

The purpose of the four-inch, slit-cabling conduit was to prevent groundhogs from nibbling coax—supposedly they cannot get their jaws around a four-inch diameter. I just hope that the XXXX chipmunk didn't contemplate an inside job!

God Bless and 73,
Jane@K8JGR.radio



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Hmmmmmm...

"“Ham radio: The original social network..."

... no passwords required."



August General Meeting Minutes

The monthly General Meeting of the Medina County Amateur Radio Club was held August 11, 2025 in-person, at the Medina County Career Center (JVS). The meeting was called to order by President, Jane Reed. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited at 7:02pm. The following Seventeen(17) paid members attended, so quorum (9) was reached.

Fred K8FH	Ed K8NVR	Dave KE8APO	Tamara WA8KGV	John K8JEK
Amy K2KSU	Dave NK0K	Diane KD8SSX	James KD8FHY	Brian KA8NCI
Gail KD8GGM	Doug KD8SST	Dave N8JNX	Jane K8JGR	Gordon AI8Y
Jim W8UQZ	Steve KE8BJD			

Minutes: Motion to suspend reading and to approve July 14th General Meeting Minutes as published in the August newsletter: Doug KD8SST Second: Diane KD8SSX. Approved.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's Report for the Month of July was read by: Dave KE8APO. Motion to approve: Dave NK0K, Second: Brian KA8NCI. Approved.

President's Report: The MCARC Credit Card had a fraudulent charge on it, so was closed and a new one was sent. We will not be activating the card at this time.

Elections: Elections will be held at the November meeting. Ed is nominated again as Vice President, and Dave Swancer as Treasurer. We need nominations for President and Secretary! We will also be voting on three Trustee positions. This is important, without everyone pitching in we won't have a club. Volunteers for newsletter editor and webmaster are also needed.

Membership: Diane KD8SSX reported that membership is currently at 63.

Repeaters: *Ed K8NVR reported that our 440 meter antenna died. It has been replaced and is up and running. *Lafayette Tower has a number of issues with the owners Ed is working on a fix.

Annual Picnic: Sept 7th, 2pm. Food, Music, Raffles, and lots of fun conversation.

New Business: Clark N8PZD has passed away. His brother Bill Beckman called and asked if Ed K8NVR wanted to go through his radio things. Ed picked up several items for our repeaters. He suggested we send Bill a check for \$100.00. Amy K2KSU motioned to send the check, John K8JEK seconded. Motion was passed.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn: Tamara WA8KGV, Second: Gordon AI8Y. Approved. Meeting was adjourned at 7:43pm.

Technical presentation: Following the meeting was a talk by Doug KD8SST on RT Systems .

Respectfully submitted by Gail KD8GGM

MCARC Annual Picnic

Gracious hosts, Gail KD8GGM and Fred K8FH Helwig have sent out the invitations to their September 7th Club Picnic. Please RSVP so they will have an idea of how much food/beverages to provide. Please consider bringing a dish to share.

The picnic is our Club's main fundraiser and the proceeds will be used for repeater maintenance, tower expenses, insurance, the website, and other miscellaneous annual expenses.

New this year are the **raffles**, that in the past were held during our Annual Dinner. Turn-out is greater at our Picnic, hence the change.

Prizes are meant to help *you* set up, enhance, or replace items in your ham shack that may be financially on the back burner.

- **Equipment/Gift Card Raffle:** Tickets \$10/each, or 3 for \$20.00
*Note that only **one** of these gifts can be won by each family.* "Family" is defined as husband/wife and children under the age of 18.
New Alinco DR 735T 2 meter/ 440 FM mobile radio
New Yeasu FTM 7250D 2 meter/ 440 FM and C4FM digital mobile radio
New Sangean CL-100 Weather alert and AM / FM radio & \$20 Gift Card
New Diamond SPM-35 Heavy duty Mag mount w/ UHF connector & \$30 Gift Card
New Hustler 2 Meter Mag mount (NMO base) antenna & \$40 Gift Card
New Uniden BC-20 20 Watt external speaker & \$60 Gift Card
Daiwa CS-201 2 Port Antenna Switch & Two Diamond SP1000 Coax Surge Protectors
Astron RS-12A Power Supply (12v 9 Amp Continuous Duty)
Icom IC-7200 HF/6M 100 Watt Base Transceiver
Two New Icom IC-2730A VHF/UHF FM Transceivers
Two New Icom VHF/UHF Handhelds
Gift cards
- **Lottery Tree:** Tickets \$10/each
- **50/50 Raffle:** Tickets are \$1/each
- **Grand Prize Raffle:** New Icom IC-7300 HF/6M 100 Watt Base Transceiver
Tickets are \$20/each



Also, several members have donated lightly used radios and other equipment to be sold with *proceeds being donated to MCARC*. These items will be available for sale in Fred's shed. Items include:

Icom 756 PROII,
Icom 706MKIIG,
Icom 910 (VHF/UHF),
ALFA 76A Amplifier (Modified from the two tube to the three tube finals),
Hammarlund HQ-170A,
Alinco DR-235 MKIII (220 mhz),
Ameritron ATR-15 antenna tuner,
Elecraft K3S w/P3

Besides the camaraderie, conversation, and fun, a band will be performing for your listening/dancing pleasure.

It is with great appreciation towards Gail and Fred that they once again open their home, hearts, and wallet to provide our members with a wonderful afternoon. Be sure to thank them. They are truly incredible people.



Club Meetings

Monthly, MCARC General Meetings are held at 7:00pm on the second Monday of each month 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

Member Birthdays

09/01 Macy Hallock N8OBG
09/04 Tyra Mone HF8CST
09/14 Jim Bodnar W8UQZ
09/25 Richard Koharik W8RWK



MCARC Calendar

September 1 7:30pm Monday Night 2M Net
September 8 7:00pm IN-PERSON GENERAL MEETING ([See page 8](#))
September 15 7:30pm Monday Night 2M Net
September 22 7:30pm Monday Night 2M Net
September 29 7:30pm Monday Night 2M Net

ARRL Ohio Hamfests

09/07/2025 - Findlay Hamfest

Location: Findlay, OH
Sponsor: Findlay Radio Club
Website: <http://w8ft.org>

09/13/2025 - Swap Meet / Hamfest

Location: Toledo , OH
Sponsor: Lucas County ARES
Website: <http://WWW.LUCASARES.ORG>

Hamfest/Convention

09/28/2025 - Cleveland Hamfest
Location: Berea, OH
Sponsor: Hamfest Association of Cleveland
Website: <https://www.hac.org>

ARRL Radiosport Contests

September **13-15** September VHF
September **13-14** EME - 2.3 GHz & Up
September **20-22** 10 GHz & Up - Round 2

Hams for Lunch (Formerly Called Old Timers' Lunch)

Attendance at the monthly "lunch and natter" has been fairly consistent. It is held on the **third Tuesday at 12:00 noon**, at the Royal Buffet, 3835 Pearl Rd, Medina, OH 44256, located at the SE corner of SR-42 & Fenn Road. You do not have to be a MCARC member or old to enjoy the camaraderie.

ARRL Simulated Emergency Test (SET) Guidelines

ARRL's Simulated Emergency Test (SET) is October 4 - 5, 2025, and this nationwide exercise is the chance to test your personal emergency-operating skills and the readiness of your communications equipment and accessories in a simulated emergency-like deployment.

ARRL Field Organization Leaders at the section and local levels, and many other volunteers that are active in public service and emergency communications, are developing simulated emergency-like scenarios in consultation with a variety of agencies and organizations for whom radio amateurs are known to provide service during emergencies.

Please remember that station readiness and personal training and practice are tenets of the Amateur Radio Service. Any time we spend on the air will contribute to developing and practicing our personal radio communication capability.

The ARRL's Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®), the National Traffic System (NTS), the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES), SKYWARN™, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN), and other allied groups and public-service oriented radio amateurs are among those who are eligible to participate in the simulated exercise and to practice emergency operation plans, nets and procedures.

For the 2025 Simulated Emergency Test, there will be bonus points for cooperation with Army MARS stations and sharing information between MARS and amateur radio stations. Please refer to the reporting form to calculate the bonus points.

Simulated Emergency Test (SET) reporting forms are located at this link:

[ARRL SET Data Forms](#)

Establishing Relationships

The ARRL has longstanding relationships with several national organizations including the American Red Cross, the National Weather Service, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the Salvation Army (among several others). More information on these and other national served agencies may be found at www.arrl.org/served-agencies-and-partners/.

Let this year's ARRL Simulated Emergency Test be a chance to reach out to these partners to establish or review plans and develop working relationships.

cont'd next page...





ARRL Simulated Emergency Test ...cont'd

National Preparedness Month

National Preparedness Month is in September. This is a nationwide effort to encourage everyone to take steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, workplaces, schools and communities. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security works with a wide variety of organizations to highlight the importance of emergency preparedness and to promote individual involvement through events and activities across the nation. We encourage you to consider this year's Simulated Emergency Test (and all preparations for it) as a demonstration of amateur radio's readiness.

More information on National Preparedness Month is found at www.ready.gov/.

SET to Go!

In consideration of local and section wide schedules and relationships with partners, agencies and many others, ARRL Field Organization Leaders have the option of conducting their local or section wide SET at another time besides the focal-point weekend of October 5 and 6, 2024. SETs should be conducted no later than the end of the fall season or the calendar year. Check with your local ARRL Field Organization leadership for the exact date or dates of the SET in your area.

To find out how to be involved in this year's SET, please contact your local ARRL Emergency Coordinator or Net Manager. Check on upcoming planned activities through local, state or section wide nets. Contact your local club or other area clubs to find out who the Emergency Coordinator is and/or when and where the nearest ARES net or NTS net meets and their frequencies. In addition, refer to the ARRL Section Web pages at www.arrl.org/groups/sections. Your ARRL Section Manager can assist, too. See page 16 of QST for contact information.

Purpose of SET

1. To find out the strengths and weaknesses of ARES, NTS, RACES and other groups in providing emergency communications.
2. To provide a demonstration--to served and partner agencies such as the American Red Cross, the emergency management agency and through the news media--of the value to the public that Amateur Radio provides, particularly in time of need.
3. To help radio amateurs gain experience in communications using standard procedures and a variety of modes under simulated-emergency conditions.

More information: <https://www.arrl.org/simulated-emergency-test>

Ham Radio Users Explain Why They're Worried About AST SpaceMobile's Satellite Plans

AST tries to get away with handing in only half the homework it was supposed to do,' says one amateur radio operator who's pushing back on AST's request to use the 430–440 MHz band.

AST SpaceMobile's attempt to justify its use of the amateur radio band for its satellites has done little to assuage concerns from the ham radio community.

"AST is again economical with the truth," an amateur radio operator in Germany named Mario Lorenz wrote to the FCC on Friday.

AST SpaceMobile wants to use the 430 to 440MHz bands outside the US to control and track its constellation of 248 satellites, which promise to beam cellular connectivity to smartphones across the globe. However, these bands have long been allocated to amateur radio operations, raising fears that AST's operations will create widespread interference.

On Tuesday, Texas-based AST defended using the radio band, telling the FCC that any radio interference should be minimal. It would use the 430 to 440MHz band for "very limited, non-routine" use, such as for "emergency operations when other frequency bands are unavailable."

"The claim is therefore either a misrepresentation or a deliberate falsehood," AMSAT-Deutschland wrote. In particular, AST's BlueWalker-3 satellite was spotted using the radio band up until July 23 as the amateur radio community began campaigning against the spectrum use.

Ironically, AMSAT-Deutschland operates as a group devoted to the advancement of satellite communications, along with amateur radio satellites. In the letter, the group even noted: "We applaud AST Space-Mobile's ambitious goals. However, innovation must not come at the expense of internationally recognized and community-supported amateur radio services."

AMSAT-Deutschland also tells PCMag the clash with AST has hit a nerve with the amateur radio community over concerns it could "set a precedent" if the FCC greenlights the company's use of the 430 to 440MHz bands for satellite control. In addition, the group is worried that the FCC is "effectively shifting the resulting interference risks to other countries."

"If similar authorizations are granted to other commercial operators, the 430-440 MHz band could gradually become unusable for amateur radio. What is framed as 'exceptional use' today risks becoming the norm tomorrow — to the detriment of a long-standing and diverse community of amateur radio users," the group said.

"It also raises questions about AST's technical maturity," the group added. "Other large-scale satellite operators — such as SpaceX, with over 6,000 Starlink satellites in orbit — appear to manage TT&C (Telemetry, Tracking, and Command) functions without resorting to use of the amateur UHF band."

AST didn't immediately respond to a request for comment. But the company submitted a third-party analysis to the FCC that claims to show the risk of interference to be "extremely unlikely" to amateur radio operations.

However, Mario Lorenz, the amateur radio user who helped kick off the protest campaign, told the FCC on Friday that the third-party analysis was flawed. "Yet again, AST tries to get away with handing in only half the homework it was supposed to do," Lorenz wrote. "Despite its title, the study addresses only a single scenario of interference in the AMATEUR RADIO SATELLITE service," not amateur radio use on the ground.

The Bulgarian Federation of Radio Amateurs also told the FCC last month: "Even slight interference under these operating conditions can result in harmful interference as defined in (FCC regulations) 47 CFR §2.1, disrupting communications, damaging experimental data integrity, and jeopardizing control of amateur satellites."



Credit: AST SpaceMobile



Hamatuer Antix



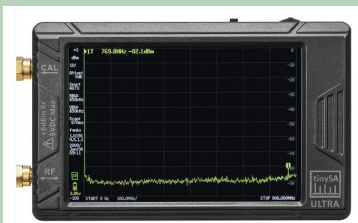
MCARC will be holding Technical Sessions during most of our in-person General Meetings on the 2nd Monday of each month. IF THE DOORS ARE LOCKED PLEASE CALL JANE K8JGR AT 216-570-8500 AND WE WILL SEND SOMEONE DOWN TO LET YOU IN.

September 8th, 2025 General Meeting

Our next monthly **In-Person General Meeting** is **September 8th**, and 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.

Call Jane K8JGR 216-570-8500 if doors are locked and we will send someone down to let you in. State whether you are at the front or back of the building.

The **Technical Session**: Ed Eyerdom K8NVR will demonstrate the Tiny SA miniature spectrum analyzer. Bring your Boafeng or other HTs to test your radio's harmonics or spurious emissions.



Dits and Dahs

- **Our Monthly Meeting**

Will be held on **September 8th** 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. IF THE DOORS ARE LOCKED PLEASE CALL JANE K8JGR AT 216-570-8500 AND WE WILL SEND SOMEONE DOWN TO LET YOU IN.

- **MCARC 2M Net**

Check in with your friends to the **MCARC 2M Net**, held on every Monday evening at 7:30pm, with the exception of the second Monday of the month when we have our in-person meeting. See page 10 for info.

- **Lost & Found**

Left behind at Field Day held at Mill Stream Park in Valley City: one pair of WZQH leather work gloves. We believe they are **Dudley's WA1X**. Contact Jane@K8JGR.radio.

- **Cleveland Hamfest:**

The 51st Annual Cleveland Hamfest and Computer Show, Sunday, September 28th 2025, Admission is \$10.00. Gates open from 8:00am until 12:00pm. Berea Fairgrounds – Eastland Rd Entrance, 160 Eastland Rd, Berea, OH 44017 Talk-In on 444.05 Repeater (PL 131.8, +5mhz offset)

- **National Preparedness Month**

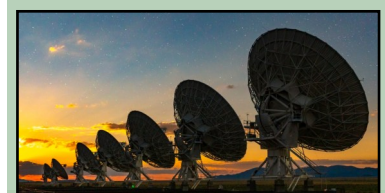
September is National Preparedness Month, which is a good time to look at your personal, family, and community resilience levels. [National Preparedness Month / Ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov) For 2025, the National Preparedness Month theme is "Preparedness Starts at Home." Amateur radio is a valuable resource for communication and community service before and during times of crisis, and can be a significant factor in your home's level of preparedness.

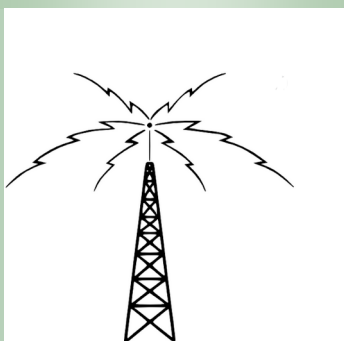
- **October 13th General Meeting**

Be sure to mark your calendar for the MCARC October 13th General Meeting. **Heather Kovach**, Safety Director for the National Radio Astronomy Observatory, Very Large Array ,will be our guest technical speaker. She is not an astrophysicist, she is responsible for the safety of the facility, including movement of the specially -designed rail truck, called a Transporter, that picks up telescopes and hauls them one at a time farther down their track .

The Very Large Array (VLA) Radio Telescope facility is a two-hour drive from Albuquerque, 50 miles west of Socorro, New Mexico. The [National Radio Astronomy Observatory](https://www.nrao.edu) is a facility of the U.S. National Science Foundation operated under cooperative agreement by Associated Universities, Inc.

Founded in 1956, the NRAO provides state-of-the-art radio telescope facilities for use by the international scientific community. NRAO telescopes are open to all astronomers regardless of institutional or national affiliation. Observing time on NRAO telescopes is available on a competitive basis to qualified scientists after evaluation of research proposals on the basis of scientific merit, the capability of the instruments to do the work, and the availability of the telescope during the requested time. NRAO also provides both formal and informal programs in education and public outreach for teachers, students, the general public, and the media.





MCARC Repeaters

Call	Location	Function	Repeater Input	Repeater Output	CTCSS (PL)	Band
W8EOC	Medina (Central Tower)	RX	147.63	147.03	141.3 three beeps	2 Meter
W8EOC	Brunswick (North Tower)	RX	147.63	147.03	131.8 two beeps	2 Meter
W8EOC	Lafayette (South Tower)	TX & RX	147.63	147.03	88.5 one beep	2 Meter
W8EOC	Lafayette (South Tower)	RX	51.16		107.2	6 Meter
	Brunswick Hills (Pearl Rd)	TX		51.66		
W8EOC	Lafayette (South Tower)	Repeater TX & RX	223.26	224.86	77.0	1.25 Meter
W8EOC	Lafayette (South Tower)	Repeater TX & RX	449.925	444.925	131.8	70 CM

Note: You can get into our W8EOC 2-meter repeaters from the Brunswick input (**PL 131.8**), the South (Lafayette) input (PL 88.5), or the North (Medina) at 141.3.

NOTE: Please set your radios as indicated above to enjoy our 7:30pm MCARC weekly Monday Net (except for 2nd Monday of month).

2-Meter Net

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

01-Sep-2025	KD8SST	08-Sep-2025	Meeting
15-Sep-2025	KD8SSX	22-Sep-2025	K8NVR
29-Sep-2025		06-Oct-2025	KD8SST

Contact Baji K8IIT, k8iitm@gmail.com, if you would like to serve as NCO.

NCO openings can be found at:

<https://rebrand.ly/2025-net-control>

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>, or contact Diane KD8SSX at d.snider19@yahoo.com

Then, mail your dues to Diane Snider, 8311 Norwalk Rd, Litchfield, OH 44253, or bring them to the next meeting.

Please consider volunteering. We really would enjoy seeing fresh faces and hearing new ideas to keep the MCARC relevant and viable in 2025. Do you like designing or maintaining web-sites, organizing speakers for technical sessions, writing for the newsletter or teaching members new skills? Please let Jane@K8JGR.radio know. Thank you.

Who's Who

President: Jane Reed K8JGR
jane@K8JGR.radio

VP: Ed Eyerdom K8NVR

Secretary:
Gail Helwig KD8GGM

Treasurer:
Dave Swancer KE8APO

W8EOC Repeaters:
Ed Eyerdom K8NVR
Ken Koyan K8TV

Sunshine:
Diane Snider KD8SSX

Trustees:
Doug McClure KD8SST
Dave Oravec N8JNX
Diane Snider KD8SSX
Amy Panchumarti K2KSU
Steven Stein KE8BJD

Newsletter:
Jane Reed K8JGR

Field Day:
Fred Helwig K8FH

Membership:
Diane Snider KD8SSX

Program:
Ed Eyerdom K8NVR

Website:
Jane Reed K8JGR

Net Scheduling:
Baji Panchumarti K8IIT

Social Events:
Gail Helwig KD8GGM

Skywarn:
Tracey Liston W8TWL

ARES:
Bob Mueller K8MD

RACES:
Dave Rickon NF80



MCARC on the World Wide Web

www.W8EOC.org

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. Our roots go back to 1932 in Medina County.

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: