



Ducie Island DXpedition is cancelled en-route!

High seas this week forced the Ducie Island DXpedition team to abandon its already-delayed effort to reach the newest DXCC entity, located in the South Pacific. Kan Mizoguchi, JA1BK, announced November 19 that the DXpedition was cancelled and that the team--aboard the tri-hull sailing vessel Temarama (at that point some 80 nautical miles from its destination)--was turning around and heading back to Pitcairn Island.

"This obviously is a big letdown for the team and DXers around the globe,"

said The Daily DX and QST "How's DX" Editor Bernie McClenny, W3UR, "however the Ducie Island operators were concerned for their safety." McClenny called on DXers around the world to support the Ducie team's decision to turn back in the interest of safety.

Ducie pilot station Bill "Dr Bill" Avery, K6GNX, said JA1BK and the Ducie team were scheduled to leave Pitcairn November 22 to return to the Gambier Islands for their flights home. But before they left, Mike McGirr, K9AJ, an emergency room doctor, and Vince Thompson, K5VT, a surgeon, fielded medical questions from island residents. There is no doctor on Pitcairn. Avery said that JA1BK has donated the team's antennas and masts and two generators to the Pitcairn Island Amateur Radio Association for use by a future DXpedition.

Forecasts at the time of the decision to turn back called for at seas of at least 3 meters (approximately 10 feet) around

the newest DXCC entity. Avery said that, between the rough seas and having to shut down the diesel engines to clean the fuel filter every few hours, it was just too risky to attempt a landing. Earlier, poor weather and a container ship in the Pitcairn harbor had delayed efforts to load passengers and equipment aboard the vessel. The team had hoped to arrive on Ducie in time to begin operation last weekend, using the call sign VP6DI.

Ducie Island became the 335th DXCC entity last week. Ducie contacts made on or after November 16, 2001, will be eligible for DXCC credit as a result of a favorable vote to accept the Pitcairn Island Amateur Radio Association as an International Amateur Radio Union member-society <<http://www.iaru.org/rel011116.html>>. Ducie Island has been activated previously for the Islands On The Air program (it's IOTA OC-182), but those earlier contacts will not count for DXCC.

ARRL test fee to remain at \$10

The ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator Amateur Radio test fee will remain at \$10 for 2002. The 2002 National Exam Day dates are (spring) April 27-28 and (fall) September 28-29, 2002--the last full weekends in April and September each year. (From the ARRL Letter, Vol 20, # 46)

Help Wanted!

This isn't the original editorial I'd intended to print this month. But, after looking at the first draft of this month's issue, I felt an explanation, and a cry for help was in order.

(Continued on page 2)

Location in question for Tusco Hamfest!

Each January, the Tusco Hamfest is held at their National guard armory. But, According to their latest newsletter, That location may not be available, because of increased homeland security.

This causes some concern, since there is not sufficient time to alert any of the Ham magazines of the change.

Late word — According to Mary Ann, KB8IVS, the Tusco Hamfest will be in the building the Office Max was in at the New Town Mall in N. Philadelphia.

Meeting Announcement

Our next meeting will be at 7:30 PM, on Wednesday, December 5th, in the cafeteria of the Alliance Community Hospital. Talk-in on the K8LTG repeater on 145.37 MHz.

See you there

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Editorial –cont.

(Continued from page 1)

This month's issue was put together during what should've been my study time.

As we get closer, & closer to exam week, the demands on my time have become enormous. Between home, work, and school, I have very little free time left. As a result, I am not happy with the job I did on this month's newsletter. I tend to be my own worst critic (ask my wife). But, when the quality of the Zero Beat begins to decline, I'm not happy about it.

So, what do we do about it? I enjoy doing the newsletter, so quitting is not an option at this time. What I'd like, is a couple of volunteers to do some articles.

first, thanks to W8UKQ, and N8SH, I have a complete set of Zero Beats from 1986 to present. I need someone to do the 5, 10, 15 years ago column. It involves reading through the old newsletter, and putting together a synopsis of what was happening in the newsletter at that time.

Next, can someone volunteer to read through the other clubs newsletters, and do a short article about what our friends & neighbors are up to?

Lastly, I need someone to do the event calendar. I can provide the software for that one. The info is culled mostly from the ARRL website.

If you'd like to talk about it, or volunteer, just drop me an e-mail, or give a call, and I'll get back to you.

Next semester, I'm planning to finish up the courses for my Visual Basic certification, so I don't see my schedule easing up, until at least sometime next fall.

Thanks in advance for your help.

I hope to see everyone at the banquet. DE KD8MQ

Meetings

The Alliance Amateur Radio Club meets on the First Wednesday of every month, in the cafeteria of the Alliance Community Hospital. Talk-in is on 145.37 MHz. Meetings begin at 7:30 PM. Visitors are always welcome.

Nets

Thursday is our "net night," with the following nets on tap:

Ten meters

CW @ 8PM on 28.400 MHz
SSB @ 8:30PM on 28.400 MHz

2 meters

9 PM on 145.37 MHz

Internet

If you'd like to check us out on the web, our E-mail address is:

W8lky@qsl.net

Our club home page is:

Http://www.qsl.net/w8lky

Newsletter Information

The Zero Beat is a publication of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 3344, Alliance, OH 44601

Unless otherwise noted, permission is freely granted to reprint portions of the Zero Beat, as long as credit is given to the author & source.

You can submit material to the Zero Beat either electronically, to kd8mq@qsl.net. I can read most word processor formats, but prefer your files to be in straight text, or Microsoft Word format.

October Minutes

November 7, 2001

The regular meeting of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club was held at the Alliance Community Hospital on November 7, 2001, at 7:30 P. M., with Robert Steele K8RLS, president, presiding. Secretary David Glass W8UKQ kept the minutes. There were 19 members present. The pledge of allegiance was given, and introductions were made.

The minutes of the last meeting and of the annual meeting were published in the newsletter. There were no additions or corrections. The minutes will stand as published.

Mary Ann KB8IVS reported the treasury balances. The report was approved upon motion by Jerry K8CAT, seconded by Frank WA8WHP.

Old business: John KD8MQ reminded that Christmas party reservations are due by the end of November. Nancy Whitacre of the Alliance Review was not able to attend this meeting.

Jerry KG8RN needs Ham of the Year nominations by the end of November.

New business: Dean KA8GRC stated that he will be going to Florida soon. He has some equipment to be sold.

Ron WC8F reported that Barry Stirbens WA8WBL, minister of the Science Hill Church, broke an ankle.

Dave W8UKQ reported that Harry W8PXX has moved to the Canton Health Care Center.

Bob K8RLS has instructions from e-ham for building J-Poles from copper pipe. The cost of one J-Pole would be about \$9.00.

President Bob K8RLS suggested that we go to the city council and townships to advise them what we can do in an emergency. We should have antennas at various locations ready to use. Although groups have commercial phones and radios available, they may not be usable if the commercial centers become inoperable. It was noted that Sebring has a list of hams, equipment, and phone numbers. Larry KE8VE moved, seconded by Sam KC8ETZ, that we make the offers once again. Motion approved.

John KD8MQ reported on the procedure for a 1x1 call sign for a special event. One filing could cover both the Mile Branch Grange Fair and the Carnation Days. Upon discussion, the consensus of the members was to use only W8LKY.

Hamfest information was provided. It was noted that the Tusco hamfest may have to find another location.

Attention was called to the Tech Talk Net on Tuesdays at 8:00 PM on 147.285 repeater, and others.

Jerry K8CAT suggested that we need to recruit members.

The 50-50 drawing was won by Dean KA8GRC.

The meeting adjourned at 8:18P. M., upon motion by Larry AA8NV, seconded by John KD8MQ.

Respectfully submitted, Dave Glass W8UKQ, Secretary



AARC Christmas Party!

Make your reservation now!

This years party will be on Saturday, December 15th,
at Mike's Roadhouse Charlie, on west State St.
Drinks ay 6 PM, with Dinner at 7 PM.

Name _____

Call _____ Phone _____

Number attending _____ Amount enclosed _____

Menu

<u>Choice</u>	<u>Qty</u>				<u>Total</u>
Baked Rigatoni	_____	@	\$ 7.95	=	_____
Medium Strip Steak	_____	@	\$ 12.75	=	_____
Large Strip Steak	_____	@	\$ 15.75	=	_____
T-Bone	_____	@	\$ 14.75	=	_____
Porterhouse	_____	@	\$ 16.50	=	_____
Two Broiled Pork Chops	_____	@	\$ 10.25	=	_____
Broiled Scrod	_____	@	\$ 9.75	=	_____
BBQ/Honey Chicken Breast	_____	@	\$ 8.75	=	_____
Half Rack BBQ Ribs	_____	@	\$ 9.75	=	_____
Full Rack BBQ Ribs	_____	@	\$ 15.00	=	_____
Total enclosed =					_____

Please turn in your choices, and money, to
Mary Anne, KB8IVS, no later that December 5th.

December 2001

Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																	
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Alliance Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 3344
Alliance, OH 44601



Ham of the Year

Please mail or give your ballot to
Jerry Wheeler, KG8RN
18 Stanley Ct.
Beloit, OH 44609
kg8rn@mail.cannet.com

Now is the time to vote
for your choice for Ham of the Year.

Deadline for ballots is November 30, 2001

My choice for Ham of the Year is _____

Comments _____
