

Alliance Amateur Radio Club

ZerOBeat

Volume XVII, no 6

[Http://www.qsl.net/w8lky/](http://www.qsl.net/w8lky/)

June 2003

Serving the Tri-County area since 1986

Field Day 2003, June 28th - 29th

It's almost time for another Field Day. Once again this year, we have permission to use the grounds and pavilion behind Marlington Middle School. George, K3GP, has volunteered to submit the logs again this year. Hopefully, we can get him to go over the logging software with us at the meeting. It would be helpful to have a brief refresher course prior to the event.

Another topic that needs to be discussed is our strategy toward getting the best position in the final tally that we are able to. If we start off with 5 stations on the air and operate 5A for 2 hours and then only operate 1 or 2 stations for the remainder of the 24 hour period, we aren't going to place very well. On the other hand, no club member should feel left out. If you want to set up a station and operate, or operate someone else's station, please do so. The more operators we have, the better. If we decide to be 3A, that

doesn't mean we can't have 5 or 6 stations set up, it just means we can only operate 3 of them at a time. By scheduling operation we should be able to accommodate everyone. Maybe there will be so much equipment and so many operators that 4A will be warranted, but too many times we've been 4A and then only operated 2 stations.

There was a question about changing your class of operation once you have started operations, that isn't clearly spelled out in the rules, any more. It used to be stated that you could increase your class, say from 3A to 4A if you added a station, but you couldn't decrease it. If you started as 4A and someone didn't show up then you were stuck there. I called the League and asked them if you could increase your class if you wanted to add a station, and they said yes, but you shouldn't change

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Third Annual FISTS Coast to Coast Contest

The FISTS organization, which was created to promote the use of Morse Code (CW) by Amateurs, will be holding their third annual Coast to Coast contest. The contest will begin at 0000 UTC on Sept. 14th (8:00 PM EDT Sept. 13th) and run for 24 hours. Since the AARC is a FISTS club, this

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Ye Olde Meeting Announcement

The next meeting of the Alliance ARC will be on Wednesday, June 4th, in the cafeteria of the Alliance Community Hospital. Our meetings begin at 7:30 PM, and are an excellent opportunity for eyeball QSO's. Directions can be found on the K8LTG Repeater (145.370) See you there!

(Continued on page 5)

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Editor

Larry Ashburn, KE8VE
(see above)

Editorial

Well, another month has come and gone and we have not had a Fox Hunt. The month of May, no less, National Fox Hunting Month. It seems there are too many reasons not to have a fox hunt on a particular day. Tidily Winks festivals, sporting events, etc. Bah, humbug.

A local Hamfest, one within a hundred miles, or Dayton, would be acceptable as a reason not to have a fox hunt on a particular day, because there probably wouldn't be more than one or two people who could attend, but I propose that any day on which at least 4 teams are able and willing to attend, is a usable day. If more than one day is available, then a vote by interested parties should choose.

If you're interested in participating in a Fox Hunt SOON, come to the meeting or e-mail me and let me know when you would like to have it. If I forget to bring it up at the meeting, remind me.

I would like to propose one other rule for Fox selection. That is, if you were the Fox at the last Fox Hunt, your name will be excluded from the drawing for the next one, unless you do not wish to be excluded.

Those who missed BreezeShooters Hamfest missed a good one. Except for the wind which made it feel colder than it was, it was a great day. There was lots of stuff and lots of people and wall to wall sunshine.

de KE8VE □

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 ®. 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](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

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You can submit material to the Zero Beat either electronically, to ke8ve@raex.com, in person, or via snail mail. I can read most word processor formats, but prefer your files to be in straight text, or Microsoft Word format.

May Minutes

**ALLIANCE
AMATEUR RADIO
CLUB**

May 7, 2003

The regular meeting of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club was held at the Alliance Community Hospital on May 7, 2003, at 7:30 P. M., with Robert Steele K8RLS, president, presiding. Secretary David Glass W8UKQ kept the minutes. There were 22 members and 3 guests present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given, and introductions were made.

The minutes of the last meeting were published in the newsletter. The report was approved on motion by Jim K8LTG, seconded by Jim N8XTJ.

Mary Ann KB8IVS reported the treasury balances. The report was approved upon motion by Joe KC8TAC, seconded by George K3GP.

Old Business: Don K8OMO did not have a report about the van.

It was noted that Harry Pownell W8PXX has been found at Canterbury Villa. Dave W8UKQ visited him af-

ter the last meeting. (Secretary's note: He became a Silent Key on May 12, 2003.)

The liability insurance premium has been paid.

The Special Event notice was approved for August 16, from 1600 to 2100 UTC, on motion by Don K8OMO, seconded by Joe KC8TAC.

The Mile Branch Grange event will be July 24-25-26. The AARC booth has not been confirmed yet.

It was noted that Doug Bowling AB8CJ made a very good presentation at the last meeting about Phase I of "The Big Project." There has not been any word on it since then.

New Business: Don K8OMO presented several items of N8MAA's estate that the club could use:

Yaesu FT-920 HF base/mobile unit
 Drake MN-2000 Antenna Tuner
 Standard Twin-Bander 2/440 mobile
 Yaesu FT-470 HT 2/440
 Diamond NR 790A, SG 7500 mobile antennas

Larry AA8NV moved, seconded by Joe KC8TAC, that the club spend up to (a stated amount) for the equipment of

N8MAA's estate. The motion was approved. It was noted that the van has a high output alternator and batteries which will operate the above equipment. Don K8OMO will store the equipment. It will be used for Field Day.

The BreezeShooters' hamfest is June 1, and the Goodyear hamfest is June 8.

Dennis Moriarty K8AGB presented a program about Radio and TV Interference from household appliances. If the interference is rhythmic in nature, it is from an appliance somewhere. It will come from a thermostatic device. Other types of interference may come from devices which are owned as determined by the owner's life style.

The 50-50 drawing was won by Jim N8XTJ..

The meeting adjourned at 9:04 P. M.

Respectfully submitted, Dave Glass W8UKQ, Secretary □

W8PXX a Silent Key

As Dave noted in the Minutes, Harry Pownell, W8PXX, passed away on May 12th. He was born on June 20, 1910 in Marlboro. Harry never forgot the club, and we won't forget him. His obituary was published in the Review on Wednesday, May 14.

FISTS Contest

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would be a good opportunity for club members who are interested in improving their CW skills to get together and have some fun. Perhaps some of the club's newly purchased radio equipment can be put to use. It might also be a chance to cooperate with Mr. Bowling at Marlington High School to get young people interested in Amateur Radio.

Complete details of the contest, which were provided by Don, K8OMO, follow:

Greetings to all Fists members and Clubs

Announcing the 3rd Annual Fists Coast to Coast contest. This year it will run 24 hours due to an overwhelming response from last year's contestants. The date and time for this year's event is on Sept 13/14 starting at 5 pm PDT on Saturday and ending at 5 pm PDT on Sunday. That would be 0000Z - 2400Z September 14. This year the rules are easier to understand and there is the potential for bigger scores due to the use of multipliers. For those of you who are not regular contestants, the concept is quite simple. See below for examples. Remember, this is not necessarily a "599 TU" bang and go type of contest. The idea is to get on the air and make as many contacts as you want. Stop and rag chew for a bit. Say hi to your regular sked partners. Slow down for the QRS ops and speed up for the hard-core contestants. This is a contest for everyone. Clubs can schedule their members for on periods to spread the load out. It is not necessary to keep the club call sign on for the entire period. If there are willing ops to man the brass, it means more opportunities for the membership to get those 3 pointers.

I want to especially welcome DX clubs to participate this year. It's a real plus to get those DX clubs into the logs of the deserving. The success of the C2C is solely dependent on the willingness of club participation. It's a great opportunity to get the new ops into the FISTS culture.

lines. Remember! You don't have to be a FIST member to participate! Non-members can use club points (3 points per club) towards FISTS awards when they join FISTS later.

All Participants:

The purpose of this event is to contact as many FISTS clubs as possible using CW only.

1. Contest dates --- Runs 24 hours Sunday September 14th 0000 - 2400 ZULU (Pacific Daylight Time 5 PM Saturday to 5 PM Sunday) Clubs will operate to their own schedules. They are not required to be on the air the entire 24 hours of the event.
2. Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters. We encourage Clubs to use the Novice segments also. Sorry, no WARC bands. Clubs will call near regular FISTS frequencies.

New this year! Each first QSO with a different club gives a point multiplier to your total number of QSOs. See examples below.

3. Only FISTS clubs will call. Clubs will call --- "CQ C2C"
4. Exchange --- Clubs and operators exchange the following elements:

- o FISTS Members and Clubs: RST, Name, State (or 2 character prefix if DX), and FISTS number. Clubs: Send only your club's FISTS number.
- o U.S. Example: 579, Stan, VA, 2934
- o DX Example: 599, Ralph, ZL, 1073
- o Non-FISTS: RST, Name, State, and Power (be sure to suffix with 'W').
- o U.S. Example: 459, Bill, OR, 50W
- o DX Example: 569, Yuri, UA, 100W

5. Scoring: Points for C2C awards are accrued as follows - 1 point for each club worked on each band, once per band (which means a maximum of 5 points for any club since there are 5 bands available). For each individual club worked you accrue one multiplier point. The maximum number of multiplier points would theoretically equal the number of clubs participating. To calculate your final score, multiply the total number of C2C QSOs times your multiplier points. Examples (assuming 30 clubs participate):

1. You had 20 club QSOs total. Those 20 QSOs were with 12 of the participating clubs (remembering that only one club QSO per band counts). Thus, your final score is your multi-

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FISTS Contest

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plier, 12, times the total QSOs, $20 = 12 \times 20 = 240$ C2C points. You qualify for the Silver C2C Certificate.

2. You worked 15 clubs. 10 of those clubs you worked on one band, 5 you worked on 2 bands. Your total QSOs are $10 + (5 \times 2) = 20$ QSOs. Since you worked 15 clubs total, your final score is $15 \times 20 = 300$ C2C points. You qualify for the Gold C2C Certificate.

3. You worked 20 clubs once on one of the 5 bands. You got an additional 25 club QSOs on other bands than the first band you worked them on. Your multiplier is then 20 and you made 45 club QSOs total. Your final score is 20 times 45 = 900 C2C points. You qualify for the Platinum C2C Certificate. Remember, you can only work a single club once per band. If you worked a club on one band, you can't count a QSO with that club again on the same band.

6. Club operators, please note this special rule: Club operators count any exchange with another club to your club and personal QSO count. For example, if you are operating your club call and are called by another club, both club operators count the QSO for both their club and their home calls without having to use their home calls in the QSO. This rule is intended to reward our club volunteer ops without the need for confusing "double-call QSOs" or separate QSOs while you are on duty.

7. Note that you cannot apply any C2C points to your personal points for the purposes of obtaining other FISTS awards (e.g. Century) unless you used your own call during the QSO [according to FIST Awards Coordinator, K6DF]

QSLs and Awards

1. All participating Clubs will handle their own logging and QSLs. Please, do NOT submit QSLs or logs to claim a C2C Certificate. Please QSL to Club contacted only (NOT to the contest organizers or FISTS HQ)!

2. All contacts with Clubs will count toward regular FISTS awards (FISTS clubs are worth 3 points each), as applicable. In addition, special Coast-to-Coast certificates will be awarded to all participants who work the following number of clubs (NOTE:

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Field Day

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your report. If you start out as 3A, then you should continue to report 3A, but when you file your log, file it as 4A.

Still, we don't want to put that 4th station on the air if it is only going to be manned for a part of the time. Instead, we should take one of the other stations off the air for a while and let someone else have a chance. If you're a really great operator, by all means, get on the air and give it all you've got, but if some new guy comes out and wants to operate for a while, take a break and give him a chance to learn. If you're really driven to operate, go over to one of the other stations and see if someone over there would like to take a break. Chances are there's someone who would be glad to go get a cup of coffee and stretch his legs, or take a nap.

Another thing we need are night operators. My 75 meter station is on the air all night, except when I need to take a break, and then there is never anyone around to take over. The other stations usually shut down because the operators get tired and need some sleep. Perhaps we could work it like guard duty in the army. Several people camp out and take turns operating. When your shift is over, you wake up the next guy and he takes a turn. In Viet Nam, we had three men in each bunker. I worked nights most of the time and sometimes I'd let the other guards sleep, because I couldn't sleep anyway, but when I was on day shift, I just took my turn and was glad when it was time to wake the next guy.

GOTA station (Get On The Air) summary:

Any class A group with two or more transmitters may also operate one additional station without changing its base entry category. This station must operate under a different callsign. This station may be operated by Novice, Technicians or any generally inactive hams under their existing privileges or under the direction of a control operator with appropriate privileges. Non-licensed persons may participate with supervision. This station may be operated on any valid Field Day HF band (no WARC bands) and mode. A maximum of 400 QSOs may be claimed and 100 bonus points may be claimed if 100 QSOs are reached.

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A few pictures by KD8MQ from BreezeShooters Hamfest in Butler



Blue skies, but lots of wind



A box of toys your editor used to play with in Germany



Four Zero Beat Editors. Silent Key?



Yep, four. Or is it Larry, Moe and Curly?



Lots a neat old stuff



More neat stuff. Anybody need a boat anchor?

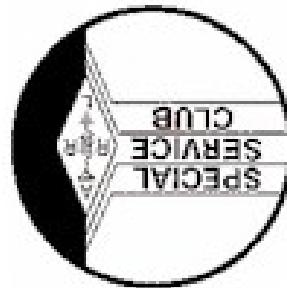
June 2003

Birthday Greetings to: W8TUW, KC8SFS, Mrs. KE8VE, KG8RN, N8XTJ, and NW8C

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																												
1 Breezeshooters Hamfest, Butler PA	2 Columbiana County Trng. Net 8:00pm	3 N Columbiana ARES Net 9:00pm 147.255	4 AARC Meeting 7:30pm Carroll County Net 9:00pm 147.075	5 AARC Nets CW 2000, SSB 2030 28.400 - 2M, 2100 145.370 QCWA Net 7:30 - 147.18	6 W8TUW	7 IARU Region 1 Field Day - CW Silvercreek ARA VE - Rittman OH VK-ZL Trans-Tasman CW Contest																																																																												
8 Goodyear ARC Hamfest, Suffield OH	9 Columbiana County Trng. Net 8:00pm	10 N Columbiana ARES Net 9:00pm 147.255	11 Carroll County Net 9:00pm 147.075	12 AARC Nets CW 2000, SSB 2030 28.400 - 2M, 2100 145.370 QCWA Net 7:30 - 147.18	13	14 ANARTS WW RTTY Contest ARRL June VHF QSO Party Asia-Pacific SSB Sprint W Virginia QSO Party WW S. America CW Contest																																																																												
15 20/9 Hamfest CANCELLED FATHER'S DAY	16 Columbiana County Trng. Net 8:00pm KC8SFS	17 Mrs. KE8VE N Columbiana ARES Net 9:00pm 147.255	18 Carroll County Net 9:00pm 147.075	19 AARC Nets CW 2000, SSB 2030 28.400 - 2M, 2100 145.370 KG8RN QCWA Net 7:30 - 147.18	20	21 <u>All Asian DX CW Contest</u> <u>Kid's Day Contest</u> Milford ARC Hamfest - Milford OH SMIRK Contest																																																																												
22	23 Columbiana County Trng. Net 8:00pm	24 N Columbiana ARES Net 9:00pm 147.255	25 Carroll County Net 9:00pm 147.075	26 AARC Nets CW 2000, SSB 2030 28.400 - 2M, 2100 145.370 N8XTJ - NW8C QCWA Net 7:30 - 147.18	27	28 FIELD DAY Marconi Memorial HF Contest QRP ARCI Milliwatt Field Day																																																																												
29 FIELD DAY	30 Columbiana County Trng. Net 8:00pm	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <caption>May</caption> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr> <td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr> <td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr> <td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr> <td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <caption>July</caption> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr> <td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr> <td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr> <td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr> <td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5			6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31				
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Old age is when you still have something on the ball but you are just too tired to bounce it.

June 2003



Alliance, OH 44601
P.O. Box 3344
Alliance Amateur Radio Club

FISTS Contest

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log submittal is NOT required):

A minimum of 5 Clubs ---- Bronze Certificate
For contact of 10 Clubs ---- Silver Certificate
For contact of 15 Clubs ---- Gold Certificate
For contact of 20 Clubs ---- Platinum Certificate
Your certificate will be endorsed with the total number of C2C points you earned according to the multiplier rule above.

Point totals will be reported in the Keynote for informational purposes after the event. All clubs planning on participating please respond to this e-mail so we can get the ball rolling for this event. Thanks for your continued support and enthusiasm for Morse code. The original digital mode!!

Paul Beringer, NG7Z, fistsc2c@yahoo.com, C2C Chairman.

Paul Davis, AC7QG, Co-chairman.

Casey Bahr, KS7J, Chairman emeritus.□

Field Day

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Any class A group may also operate an additional transmitter on bands above 50 MHz without changing its classification. All contacts count and it is operated under the primary callsign.

New this year is Class F which is a Field Day site at an established EOC. Class F stations may use equipment that is either temporarily or permanently installed at the EOC.

There are many other rules which should be discussed at the meeting or read by all participating in Field Day. Try to attend the meeting and the Field Day operation. We need your help. If you don't want to operate, help with logging. We need someone to copy down the special W1AW Field Day bulletin which won't be on the Internet. We need Media Publicity, etc, etc.□