



# Alliance Amateur Radio Club Zero Beat

Volume XIX, no 1

<http://www.w8lky.org>

January 2005

Serving the Tri-County area since 1986

## K3GP Is Ham of the Year

George, K3GP is our new Ham of the Year, and deservedly so. George created the club web site and maintains it. He has been very helpful to the club on Field Day. Not only does he prepare disks for logging for all the stations, he also files the logs with the ARRL and is often the operator with the most contacts. He also helps out with our special events. In 2003, George began a three year term as Trustee, and the list goes on. George truly deserves our thanks for all he has done for the club. Congratulations, George.



Joe, KC8TAC, (right) our Ham of the Year for '03-'04, presents the plaque to our new Ham of the Year, George, K3GP (left).

## 2004 Christmas Banquet

The Christmas Banquet was held December 18th at Mike's Roadhouse Charly again this year, and just about everyone had a good time. By an unofficial

*(Continued on page 2)*

## W8ZZS Is Now A Silent Key

Bill (William C.) Bennett, W8ZZS became a silent key on Thursday, December 30th. Bill hadn't been able to make it to the meetings recently, but had been a member in years past. He was a Ham for most of his life and held an Extra Class license.

Bill was born in Alliance on January 20, 1926 and had lived near Carrollton for many years. He was a US Army veteran of World War II and a retired electrical engineer.

His obituary appeared in the December 31st Review. Look for it soon on the new Club web site.



Howard, K8DXR with his Vibroplex hat

## De Olde Meeting Announcement

The next meeting of the Alliance ARC will be on Wednesday, January 5th, 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!

Thanks to all who contributed material to the Zero Beat. KE8VE

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## Banquet

*(Continued from page 1)*

count, there were 26 members and guests present for dinner and one straggler, who showed up late to pick up his meal. Apparently, K8CAT fell asleep and only awoke when Sam, KC8ETZ rang his phone. But not to worry! Few hams ever miss a good meal.

After dinner, we had the Ham of the Year plaque presented to George, K3GP, and then we had the official Vibroplex hat awarded to Howard, K8DXR by Jim, K8LTG. Howard has been working hard to pass his code test. With that spiffy new hat, he'll be copying 20 words per minute, soon.

In addition, there were door prizes for just about everyone. The Club provided one cash prize of \$15 and 17 \$5 prizes. But Gladys, KB8GIA came through for the remaining attendees by donating some extra prizes.

Gladys also donated some table decorations or party favors for everyone, which she prepared herself, and brought the snacks we had before dinner. We need to give Gladys a big "thank you" at the meeting. (And don't forget the homemade cookies she brought to the last meeting.)

We also need to thank the others who took time to make arrangements for the party, including, Mary Ann, KB8IVS, Bob, K8RLS and John, KD8MQ. And finally thanks to everyone who came. It wouldn't have been any fun without all of you.

## 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](mailto:w8lky@qsl.net)

Our club home page is:

<http://www.w8lky.org>

## 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 ke8ve@alliancelink.com, in person, or via snail mail. I can read most word processor formats, but prefer your files to be in straight text, E-mail, or Microsoft Word format.

## December Minutes

### ALLIANCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

December 1, 2004

The regular meeting of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club was held at the Alliance Community Hospital on December 1, 2004, at 7:30 P. M., with Robert Steele K8RLS, president, presiding. Secretary David Glass W8UKQ kept the minutes. There were 20 members present.

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

The minutes of the regular meeting for November were published in the newsletter. The total of the treasury balance was reported for the month. The minutes were approved upon motion by Howard K8DXR, seconded by George K3GP.

Mary Ann KB8IVS reported the treasury balances. The report was approved upon motion by Joe KC8TAC seconded by Frank WA8WHP.

.Old Business: Ray K8DEN became a Silent Key on Nov. 11, 2004.

Reservations for the Christmas Party are due by Saturday, December 4. The Ham of the Year nominations should be given to Joe KC8TAC now.

The Homeland Security station at the hospital has seven trained operators at this time. Don K8OMO suggested that we have a Homeland Se-

curity Net on Tuesday at 7:30 PM. Jerry K8CAT moved that we establish the net seconded by Howard K8DXR, and approved.

A thank you was received from White Dove for the donation to the Hurricane Relief Fund. Doug AB8CJ has reported that the radio equipment has been transferred to the Copely Middle School. It was reported that Larry Hillier, N8EWV is on a 4 year sailboat tour. Jack W8WEN has tried to contact him on 14.300, but no success yet. There will be Advanced Spotter Training in Elkhart, IN on March 12. December 4 will be Skywarn Recognition Day for 24 hours by the NWS. Rich Alatore has resigned as County Emergency Coordinator. Howard K8DXR pointed out that our club placed second in Ohio in the Field Day Class 4A. Don K8OMO brought a 1925 Blue Racer Key for Show and Tell.

John KD8MQ reported that there are web sites available. George K3GP moved that the club register a domain, to be named later, seconded by Howard K8DXR, and approved.

Ron WC8F is expected to be on the net this Thursday.

The meeting adjourned at 8:11 PM upon motion by Joe KC8TAC, seconded by Frank WA8WHP.

Respectfully submitted, Dave  
Glass W8UKQ, Secretary

### Club Web Site Moved

The Alliance Amateur Radio Club web site was moved in early December. It's new URL is **W8LKY.ORG** (not case sensitive). Note that **www.w8lky.org** will also work.

To facilitate the transition to the new location, anyone accessing the old address will be automatically forwarded to the new site.

This was done to address continuing degradation of response time in page loading from QSL.NET. Preliminary indications (I'm using a high speed cable modem connection) are very encouraging - retrieval of the December issue of zero beat is now completed in a fraction of the time it took before.

It is also interesting to note that The Canton and Warren clubs had already established new internet domain names (and servers) and their web pages now load significantly faster; The Salem club website, however, is still located on the QSL.NET server and continues to load sluggishly. My own personal web site ([www.qsl.net/k3gp](http://www.qsl.net/k3gp)) also remains on QSL.NET and loads slowly

Keep in mind that at certain times of the day, a high speed server and/or a high speed internet connection will only get you to the bottleneck faster. For instance, internet response time often suffers on "snow days" and Saturdays when the youngsters are home consuming a great deal of bandwidth playing interactive games with their friends over the 'net.

de K3GP

## THE WAYBACK MACHINE

ISSUE #13

by **Bill Continelli, W2XOY**

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Mention November 22 to many people in the US, and they will immediately associate it with the date that President John F Kennedy was assassinated. But for amateur radio operators, especially those licensed for more than 30 years, it means something totally different: INCENTIVE LICENSING. In a three- stage process starting on November 22, 1967, and ending on November 22, 1969, the FCC instituted "incentive licensing," ostensibly designed to encourage amateurs to upgrade, but in reality a process under which most amateurs lost up to 50% of the frequencies they usually operated. Incentive licensing (or incentive punishment as some have called it) has been blamed for the demise of many American amateur radio equipment manufacturers such as Hammarlund and Hallicrafters, a temporary decline in the number of licensed hams, and bitter feelings against the ARRL and FCC that last to this day. As we approach the 30th anniversary of incentive Licensing, let's take a look at the events that led up to this controversial decision. In order to do so, we must go back to 1951.

Prior to 1951, a rather simple license structure existed in this country. Amateurs had a Class A, Class B or Class C license.

Class A conveyed all amateur privileges on all frequencies, including exclusive access to the 75 and 20 meter phone bands. Class A required passing a comprehensive theory exam, and a 13 WPM CW test, which included sending as well as receiving.

Class B conveyed all CW privileges on all bands, and allowed phone operation on 160, 11 and ten meters in the HF spectrum, and on all VHF/UHF frequencies. Note that 75 and 20 phone operation was limited to Class A hams. What about 40 and 15 meters? Well, 40 at that time was CW only. And as for 21 Mc, It wasn't a ham band back then! 15 meters was given to us in 1947 in exchange for the 14.35-14.40 mc segment of 20 meters, but the 15 meter band actually wasn't available to hams until 1952. In addition, 160 meter access was severely restricted at that time because of LORAN Ra-

dionavigation and 11 meters was a secondary US only allocation, with limited popularity, so the Class B ham who wanted HF phone action went to ten meters by default. Class B hams passed the same 13 WPM code test as Class A, but a less comprehensive written test.

Class C gave the exact same privileges as Class B, but the exam was given by mail, under the supervision of a Class B (or higher) license, to those who couldn't walk the 175 miles (uphill both ways through the snow!) to a quarterly FCC examination point.

In 1951, the FCC reorganized the entire license structure. Class A was replaced by the Advanced, Class B by the General, and Class C by the Conditional. Three new licenses were created at that time, the Extra, Technician and Novice. The Extra (actually "Amateur Extra") had a 20 WPM code requirement and a written exam more difficult than the old Class A. In order to qualify for the Extra, one needed to be licensed as a Class B or General for at least two years, in addition to passing the test. However, if you held a Class B, or General license (or higher), and you were licensed prior to April, 1917, you could get an Extra with no additional test. Technicians had to pass the General theory and a five WPM CW test. They had privileges above 220 Mc only. Novices had a basic 20 question written exam, the five WPM code test, and limited CW privileges on 80, 11 and two meters, as well as voice privileges on two meters. This was a one-year, non-renewable license. The Advanced was available until December 31, 1952, for upgrades/new licenses, at which time it was withdrawn from availability. Those holding Advanced class licenses could continue to renew, but no new licenses were issued. In 1952-53, the FCC also dropped a couple of other surprises -- phone operation was allowed for the first time on 40 meters, 15 meters was finally opened, the 14.35-14.4 Mc segment of 20 meters was removed from the amateur service, and, in the biggest bombshell of them all, Generals (former Class B) and Conditionals (former Class C) were given access to all former exclusive Class A phone frequencies. Now, Conditional, General, Advanced and Extra Class operators had the exact on-the-air privileges. During the 1950s, Novices were given 40 and 15 meter CW privileges in addition to their 80 meter segment and 11 meters was removed. Technicians got six meters in 1955 and the 145-147 Mc segment of two meters in

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# January 2005

Birthday Greetings to: K8RLS and W8ZZS

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<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>December 04</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; text-align: center; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>February 05</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; text-align: center; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> </div>						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		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		<p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">1</p> <p>AGCW Happy New Year Contest</p> <p>AGCW VHF/UHF Contest (Jan)</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: red;">NEW YEARS</p> <p>Original QRP Contest</p> <p>SARTG New Year RTTY Contest</p> <p>Straight Key Night (starts New Years Eve)</p>
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<p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">2</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p style="color: red; margin: 0;"><b>K8RLS</b></p> </div> <p>Kid's Day Contest (Jan)</p> <p>RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW (Jan)</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">3</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>COLUM. COUNTY TRAINING NET</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8:00PM</p> </div>	<p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">4</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>STARK COUNTY ARES NET 7PM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">147.120</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">ARS Spartan Sprint (Jan)</p> <hr/> <p>NORTHERN COLUMBIANA ARES NET 9PM 147.255</p> </div>	<p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">5</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p><b>AARC Meeting</b></p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em;">7:30</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;"> <p>CARROLL CTY NET - 8PM - 147.075</p> </div>	<p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">6</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>AARC NETS 8:00, 8:30, 9:00</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;"> <p>QCWA Net 7:30</p> </div>	<p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">7</p> <p style="text-align: center;">WQF QRP Party</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">8</p> <p>ARRL RTTY Roundup</p> <p>EUCW 160m Contest</p> <p>Midwinter Contest, CW</p> <p>North American QSO Party, CW</p> <p style="color: green; font-size: 0.8em;">SUMMIT CO AMERICAN RED CROSS VE, AKRON, OH</p>																																																																																				
<p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">9</p> <p style="color: green; font-size: 0.8em;">CUYAHOGA ARES VE, INDEPENDENCE, OH</p> <p>DARC 10-Meter Contest</p> <p>Midwinter Contest, Phone</p> <p>NRAU-Baltic Contest, CW</p> <p>NRAU-Baltic Contest, SSB</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">10</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>COLUM. COUNTY TRAINING NET</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8:00PM</p> </div>	<p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">11</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>STARK COUNTY ARES NET 7PM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">147.120</p> <hr/> <p>NORTHERN COLUMBIANA ARES NET 9PM 147.255</p> </div>	<p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">12</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;"> <p>CARROLL CTY NET - 8PM - 147.075</p> </div> <p>RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB (Jan)</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">13</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>AARC NETS 8:00, 8:30, 9:00</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;"> <p>QCWA Net 7:30</p> </div>	<p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">14</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>MASSILLON NET 8:00PM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">147.18</p> </div>	<p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">15</p> <p>070 Club PSKFest</p> <p>Hunting Lions in the Air Contest</p> <p>LZ Open Contest</p> <p>MI QRP January CW Contest</p> <p>North American QSO Party, SSB</p> <p style="color: blue; font-size: 0.8em;">SWOH Digital Symposium Hamfest, Middletown, OH</p>																																																																																				
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*Do you realize that in about 40 years, we'll have thousands of old ladies running around with tattoos?*



Alliance Amateur Radio Club  
P.O. Box 3344  
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## Wayback Machine

*(Continued from page 4)*

1959. Technicians could also hold a Novice class license simultaneously.

Many amateurs were unhappy with this structure. Extras complained that they had to go through a two year waiting period as a General or Advanced, had to pass a difficult test, and yet received no exclusive frequencies for their efforts. Advanced class amateurs were upset with the "limbo" status of their licenses, the fact that they no longer held the highest class license, and the fact that they no longer had exclusive use of 75 and 20 meter phone. General, Advanced and Extra class amateurs complained that Novices should not have been given 15 meter CW. The General, Advanced and Extra class hams were also opposed to increasing Technician class privileges, for reasons we will see in our next installment.

In summary, although the vast number of hams were satisfied, a small minority had complaints. And the ARRL listened. In 1963, acting on complaints they claim they received from members and operators in other countries, the

ARRL proposed "Incentive Licensing." In an editorial, the ARRL implied that perhaps it was a mistake when the Class B and Generals were given the 75 and 20 meter phone segments. The ARRL's stand was now clear. Exclusive frequencies must be restored to the Advanced and Extra class amateurs in order to give the Generals an "incentive" to upgrade. Of course, what was left unsaid was that in order to do so, frequencies would have to be taken away from the General class hams.

What was the ARRL's original proposal? How did hams react to it? What was the controversy about the Technician class license that was dragged to the forefront in this battle? Be on board "The Wayback Machine" next time for the answers!

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