



Amateur Radio Club WA8CMS

News And Events

In last month's Zero Beat, Jack Bennett, W8WEN told of a visit to the Copley-Fairlawn Middle School Amateur Radio Club, WA8CMS. This month Jack forwarded some information on the formation of the club. The following was written by his son, Brad Bennett, KD8BBS.

It all started on a cold Sunday in October 2004 when W8WEN, Jack Bennett from the Alliance Amateur Radio Club helped secure equipment from Marlinton High School. Contacting Dr. David Dressler KD8V of Copley, Ohio, who in turn took the ball and got it rolling. Not only did Dr. Dressler bring the equipment from Marlinton to the Copley-Fairlawn Middle School, but also pulled in Mr. Ed Myracle Superintendent of Copley-Fairlawn School District, Mr. Bob Whittaker Principal of Copley-Fairlawn Middle School and Bob W8GC of Independence, Ohio. David KD8V also got other members and more equipment from The Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society. With the help of Bob Check W8GC, Bill Sarver KC8SYV, Steve Riley N8IS, Gary Duey N8IZ, Ron Borkey K8VJG, Tom Wayne WB8N set up a Ham Radio Station at the Middle School. Also encouraging school employee and son of "Jack", Brad Bennett to get his amateur license KD8BBS.

Starting in February 2005, the club began with eleven students and has taught electronics, Morse code, computers and is giving them the opportunity to learn more about sound waves, radio frequencies, and the differences in antennas and what each is used for. They have been on field trips to Cleveland, OH TV Channel 3 and their Independence, OH transmitter and antenna site. But by far the best accomplishment of the newly formed club are the new licensed radio amateurs. The licensed members are Sam Henige KD8BGL 8th grade, Marcus Mrazek KD8BPG 8th grade, Cidney Woodyard KD8BSU 8th grade, Alexia Beauregard KD8BSV 8th grade, Dylan Brown KD8CEZ 6th grade, Megan Smeznik KD8CRT 8th grade. Also 7th grader Matthew Drezdlon KD8CGE recently joined the club. These Copley-Fairlawn Middle School students are helping other students study for their licenses. Also there are upgrade training sessions. The club station WA8CMS is giving these new Hams operator training through Echo-Link on the clubs two meter computer to repeater set up and they are talking too other amateurs around the world.-----These notes from Brad Bennett's quick synopsis at the meeting 2/3/06.

To find more on WA8CMS go to qrz.com. Then for more info go to www.wa8cms.com. The former gives trustee and equipment data. The latter gives HOME, About us, activities, and a nice photo gallery of pictures of the club and its activities.

Spring is here and there are only three more meetings before Field Day. Think about how we can improve on last year's record setting performance and bring your ideas to the meeting. Paperwork has been filed to secure the Marlinton Middle School site again this year. Thanks to Dianna Ashburn for assisting in this.

If you haven't paid your dues yet, send a check to:

Mary Ann Royer
6255 Sandalwood Ave. N. E.
Canton, OH 44721-3340

(Continued on page 2)

De Olde Meeting Announcement

The next meeting of the Alliance ARC will be on Wednesday, April 5th, in conference room 1A on the West end of the Café in the new 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!

Officers

President

Bob Steele, K8RLS
3755 South Union Ave.
Alliance, OH 44601
bob3755@adelphia.net
330-821-5011

Vice-President

Joe Young, KC8TAC
154 W. Grant St.
Alliance, OH 44601
ljyoung@cannet.com

Secretary

Donald R Kingan
446 West High St.
Alliance, OH 44601
dkingan@neo.rr.com
330-821-5819

Treasurer

Mary Ann Royer, KB8IVS
6255 Sandalwood NE
Canton, OH 44721
kb8ivs@aol.com
330-492-0703

Trustees

Frank Sanor, WA8WHP
24462 St. Rt. 172
Minerva, OH 44657
wa8whp@juno.com
330-894-2186

George Proudfoot, K3GP
P.O. Box 343
Louisville, OH 44641
k3gp@arrl.net
330-829-9504

James Lilley, N8XTJ
67 E. Columbia St.
Alliance, OH 44601
330-821-1308

Editor

Larry Ashburn, KE8VE
1080 W. Beech St.
Alliance, OH 44601
ke8ve@alliancelink.com
330-821-9808

News and Events, cont.

(Continued from page 1)

Please make checks payable to:

Alliance Amateur Radio Club

A revised membership application form can be found on the club web-site

An Amateur Radio cruise aboard the Caribbean Princess is planned for December 3—10, 2006. You can be rare DX. There will be several stations on board or you can bring your own. Special group rates have been obtained. For more information go to: <http://www.hamradiocruise2006.com/>

In other news from the Caribbean, Larry, N8EWV is still basking in the sun on board his sail boat Kokopelli. He reports logging over 10,000 miles and enjoying the scenery in the Lesser Antilles. Look for Larry around 14.300.

Don, K8OMO and Joe, KC8TAC made some improvements to the repeater antenna recently. Their efforts were cheered on by a ground crew consisting of K8LTG, K8DXR, KD6MPN, and latecomer, KE8VE. Cookies and coffee were provided by Sherry, no call yet.



The repeater seems to be working quite well. Your Zero Beat editor has had no trouble making it into the machine. Hi, hi. See you at the meeting. 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.w8lky.org>

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@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.

January Minutes

ALLIANCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

March 1, 2006

The regular meeting of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club was held at the Alliance Community Hospital on March 1, 2006 at 7:30 PM with club president Robert Steele, K8RLS, presiding. There were 17 members and 6 guests present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by introductions. The club welcomed guests Rick Smith KC8SUI, Helen Trompower KC8ZWG, Rodger Trompower KA8FTS, Miriam Sanor, wife of Frank WA8WHP, Kristina Shaffer KC8SMQ, and Michael Shaffer N8RQU.

The February minutes were published in the newsletter. The minutes were approved on a motion by Frank, WA8WHP and seconded by Smitty, KC8TJQ.

Mary Ann, KB8IVS, gave the treasurer's report. She reminded the club that dues were due and that renewal / application forms were available from her as well as in the newsletter. The report was accepted on a motion by Smitty, KC8TJQ and seconded by Larry, AA8NV.

Old business:

Don, K8OMO reported that the 2-meter repeater equipment had been removed from the old hospital building. It is temporarily located at Don's home pending selection of a new site and is currently operational. He further reported that the Hospital Homeland Security Net radio is in a cabinet in the new hospital security room. It is still awaiting a route for running the coax.

President Bob announced that this year's Christmas party will be held on

December 16 at Roadhouse Charly. He also noted that the secretary will send a thank-you card to Connie Jones for arranging use of the conference room for the club's meetings.

Reports were received from those attending the Mansfield hamfest, with generally positive comments. Don, K8OMO obtained the tube he needed for his Hartley oscillator, which was subsequently put on the air making several contacts.

President Bob reported that this year's local Skywarn training is to be held on March 20 at 6:30 PM at Stark State, with Severe Weather Awareness week March 26 to April 1. The statewide tornado drill is on March 29.

He went on to note that there is as yet no FCC response to the CW requirement question. Also, the Breezeshooter's 10-meter groundwave SSB contest is to be held on March 18 from 7 to 12 PM.

New business:

Rodger, KA8FTS reported that the Massillon ARC is giving classes and exams for technician, general and extra licenses as well as for CW at the Massillon Senior Center. The license classes started last Monday, but are still available for sign-up until March 6. The CW classes will start March 17 at 7 PM and run for 6-8 weeks. The license classes will continue on Monday evenings at 7 PM and run for about 10 weeks.

Rick, KC8SUI announced that Great Lakes Search & Rescue will be holding a drill at Quail Hollow on April 22, with other information to follow. He also noted that on June 12 at 6:30 PM a meeting will be held in Uniontown at the Harvest Bible Church regarding needs for communications and safety for this year's Alive festival.

Joe, KC8TAC moved that the club send a get well card to Fred, W8SPR who is currently in a nursing home for rehab.

The motion was seconded by Howard, K8DXR and approved on a voice vote.

Don, K8OMO then showed a movie encouraging people to become involved in Amateur Radio, featuring several prominent persons who were also hams.

President Bob posed the question about having a special events station at this year's Carnation Days festival. The general consensus was yes. Bob will apply for use of the Jaycee's pavilion on August 19 with operation tentatively scheduled for 10 AM to 5 PM. It was decided to again provide a certificate for contacts and to announce the event in QST and World Radio. Bands are to be 40 (SSB), 20 (CW), 10 (SSB) and 6 (SSB).

He further noted that Field Day this year is June 24-25. Dianna Ashburn will check on the availability of the usual spot at Marlinton middle school for the club's setup.

Bob reminded the club that the Madison hamfest is on March 26 and the Cuyahoga Falls hamfest is on April 2.

Don, K8OMO reported that the hospital will probably at some point have an auction to sell off much of the equipment and fixtures remaining in the old building.

Jim, K8LTG was the final contact for the Peter Island Dxpediton, though he had made a previous contact with them.

Jack, W8WEN stated that he will make badges for anyone desiring one. He will need their first name, call sign and their city of residence.

The meeting was then adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Don Kingan, AB8KV, Secretary.

THE WAYBACK MACHINE

ISSUE #26

by **Bill Continelli, W2XOY**

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What was the post-war world of amateur radio like? Let's take a look at our hobby as it existed in the late 1940's.

In November 1945, amateurs were allowed back on the air on the 10-meter, 5 meter, and the new 2-meter band. The 5-meter band from 56-60 mc was temporary--by March 1946 we were moved in the great post war frequency shuffle to our new 6-meter home from 50-54 mc. As for the new 2-meter band, it replaced our old 2 1/2 meter allocation which ran from 112-116 mc. Throughout 1946, the military gradually vacated the 80, 75, 40, and 20-meter bands, turning them back over to amateur operations. We lost a few frequencies--the 160-meter band was staying in the hands of the military for LORAN Radionavigation, and we lost the top 300 kc of 10 meters, from 29.7 to 30 mc. To compensate us for this loss, the FCC, in 1946, gave hams an allocation at 27 mc to be shared on a secondary basis with industrial, scientific and medical devices. Dubbed the "11 meter band", it was unique as the only HF allocation where A0 and A2 emissions were allowed.

The amateur population was pushing 60,000, and the FCC was running out of "W" callsigns in the 9 call areas. So, the FCC created the 10th call district in 1946, and redrew the district boundaries. The license structure was the same as before the war. Class A hams had all amateur privileges, including exclusive use of the 75 and 20 meter phone bands. Class B had all cw privileges, and phone operation on 10 meters and above. Note that at the time, 40 meters was cw only, and 15 meters didn't exist yet. Class C had the same frequencies as Class B, but it was a mail order license for those in remote areas. The only change the FCC made to the license structure in the 1940's was to allow applicants to copy the code either by printing, or by longhand. Prior to the war, the code test had to be copied in longhand only.

Most hams used cw or AM phone, but there were 2 new modes on the horizon. Narrow band fm enjoyed a brief surge in popularity. QST had several articles on

VHF and even HF fm operation. Phase modulation, a variation on fm, made its first appearance in 1947. But the big news was something called "SSSC", or Single Sideband Suppressed Carrier". SSB, as it would eventually be called, appeared on the ham bands late in 1947. Throughout 1948, QST was full of articles on this new mode. And, how do you get your fm or SSB signal to the antenna?? Try an item developed during the war--coaxial cable. And, with coax, came a new concern over reflected power. Thus, the first SWR meters were described in QST.

So, what rig do you want to use on the air? How about war surplus? Starting in late 1946, the pages of QST and CQ were filled with ads for military surplus equipment. Numerous articles showed how to modify these rigs for amateur use. The most popular war surplus receiver was the BC-342, which was built like a battleship, and tuned from 1.5 to 18 mc. I operated one in my Novice days.

Maybe you want a new rig. Try the Hallicrafters Model S-40, the Hammarlund HQ-129X (which was another receiver I owned), the National NC-46, or the Collins 75A. But, the "Packard" of the post war radios had to be the Hallicrafters SX-42 receiver. This "radio man's radio" had every possible feature, tuned from 540 kc to 110 mc, and cost \$250 in 1946 dollars. That's about \$1700 today.

Perhaps you would like to build your own rig. GE, Sylvania and RCA had pages of ads showing off their new miniature and sub-miniature tubes. The "sub-minis" were only 1 1/2 inches tall and 3/8 of an inch wide. For those who think the 2-meter HT was an invention of the 70's, it may surprise you to learn that they existed in 1947, using those tiny tubes.

But be careful when you get on the air. A new term is finding its way into the amateur world--TVI. In 1947, the FCC eliminated TV Channel 1 to reduce 6-meter interference, but amateurs had to learn to shield their equipment. With the help of good engineering practices, the TVI monster was kept at bay - sort of.

The Atlantic City Conference was held in 1947. Hams gained a 15-meter band, which was finally allocated to us in 1952.

(Continued on last page)

April 2006

Birthday Greetings: K8LTG, KC8TAC, AB8RZ.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																			
						<p>1</p> <p>BEAVER VALLEY ARA VE, BEAVER FALLS, PA</p> <p>K8LTG</p> <p>Kids Roundup Missouri QSO Party QCWA Spring QSO Party SP DX Contest</p>																																																																																			
<p>2</p> <p>Hamfest/Electronics & Computer Show, Cuyahoga Falls, OH Missouri QSO Party RSGB RoPoCo I</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Columbiana Cty. Train. Net 8 pm</p> <p>RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW</p>	<p>4</p> <p>144 MHz Spring Sprint Canton ARES Net 7pm 147.12 N. Columbiana Cty. ARES Net 9 pm 147.255 YLRL DX-YL to NA-YL Contest, CW</p>	<p>5</p> <p>AARC Meeting</p> <p>Carroll Cty. Net 9pm 147.075</p>	<p>6</p> <p>AARC Nets 8:00, 8:30, 9:00</p> <p>QCWA Net 7:30</p> <p>SARL 80m QSO Party</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>EU Spring Sprint, CW Georgia QSO Party Hamfest, Amateur Radio, and Computer Show, Coalton, OH JIDX CW Contest Montana QSO Party SUMMIT CO AMERICAN RED CROSS VE, AKRON, OH</p>																																																																																			
<p>9</p> <p>SARL Hamnet 40m Simulated Emerg Contest UBA Spring Contest, SSB</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Columbiana Cty. Train. Net 8 pm</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Canton ARES Net 7pm 147.12 N. Columbiana Cty. ARES Net 9 pm 147.255 YLRL DX-YL to NA-YL Contest, SSB</p>	<p>12</p> <p>222 MHz Spring Sprint Carroll Cty. Net 9pm 147.075 RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB</p>	<p>13</p> <p>AARC Nets 8:00, 8:30, 9:00</p> <p>QCWA Net 7:30</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Massillon Net 8pm 147.18</p>	<p>15</p> <p>ARLHS Annual Spring Lites QSO Party EA-QRP CW Contest ES Open HF Championship EU Spring Sprint, SSB Michigan QSO Party Ontario QSO Party</p>																																																																																			
<p>16</p> <p>YU DX Contest</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Columbiana Cty. Train. Net 8 pm</p> <p>K8MAT</p> <p>Low Power Spring Sprint Run for the Bacon QRP Contest</p>	<p>18</p> <p>20/9 VE, CANFIELD, OH</p> <p>Canton ARES Net 7pm 147.12 N. Columbiana Cty. ARES Net 9 pm 147.255</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Carroll Cty. Net 9pm 147.075</p>	<p>20</p> <p>432 MHz Spring Sprint</p> <p>AARC Nets 8:00, 8:30, 9:00</p> <p>KC8TAC</p> <p>QCWA Net 7:30</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Massillon Net 8pm 147.18</p>	<p>22</p> <p>AB8RZ</p> <p>DX Colombia International Contest Florida QSO Party SP DX RTTY Contest</p>																																																																																			
<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Columbiana Cty. Train. Net 8 pm</p> <p>WSUFF</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Canton ARES Net 7pm 147.12 Homeland Sec Net 7:30 147.51 SIMPLEX N. Columbiana Cty. ARES Net 9 pm 147.255</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Carroll Cty. Net 9pm 147.075</p>	<p>27</p> <p>AARC Nets 8:00, 8:30, 9:00</p> <p>QCWA Net 7:30</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Massillon Net 8pm 147.18</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Helvetia Contest MAHONING VALLEY ARA VE, HUBBARD, OH WRECS VE, BENTLEYVILLE, OH</p>																																																																																			
<p>30</p> <p>Athens County Amateur Radio Assoc Hamfest, Athens, OH</p>	<p>March</p> <table border="1"> <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> <p>May</p> <table border="1"> <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>					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	
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Amateur radio - when all else fails ...



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

WAYBACK MACHINE

(Continued from page 4)

Amateurs proved their worth as two disasters, one natural and one man made, struck Texas in April 1947. Tornados sliced through the State, killing 150. And, in Texas City, an explosion on board a freighter set off a chain reaction that killed 600, wounded 2000, and destroyed two square miles of the city. Dozens of portable and mobile stations rushed to the scene and provided necessary communications on 75 and 10 meters.

Also on a somber note, Kenneth B. Warner, W1EH, the Secretary and General Manager of the ARRL since 1919, died in 1948.

By the way, do you need a job? Are you bored with your life? Do you crave adventure? Then Hallicrafters has a job for you!! In the fall of 1947, they are sponsoring a 6-month expedition to the Dark Continent--Africa--the Belgian Congo to be exact. They need an experiences Class A amateur to operate the radio

equipment. If you feel you are qualified, send them your application by July 1, 1947. Finally, what's an "amplifying crystal"? You don't know?? Well, maybe you know it better by its other name--the transistor. This new device was first described in the October 1948 issue of QST. No one at that time realized the full potential of this little component, or knew how it would revolutionize the world of communications.

In our next installment, we will take a look at the 1950's--1958 to be exact.

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