



## In The News—Here and There

The Dayton Hamvention, the World's biggest Hamfest, will be held May 19th through the 21st this year. For local Hams, Dayton is just down the road. People come from across the country and around the world. How many local Hams will make it to Dayton this year. Send your Dayton stories to the Zero Beat.

BPL, Broadband Over Power Lines, is back in the news. In Manassas, Virginia, the operators of a BPL system claim their system is not causing any interference, but local Hams are being hammered. The ARRL has sent a letter to the FCC insisting that the system be shut down. The BPL operator ran tests which were completely insufficient to determine the level of interference. There equipment was totally inadequate, they only ran their tests from one location and only tested one band. They did not meet the FCC's requirements for testing. Will the FCC shut them down? Let's not hold our breath. Can the FCC be forced to uphold its own rules?

Perhaps we will get some help from congress.

An amendment to a bill in the House of Representatives will require the FCC to study the interference potential of BPL systems. The amendment is named the Ross amendment for US Representative Mike Ross, WD5DVR (D-AR), who proposed the amendment. According to Ross's office the amendment "would guarantee that valuable public safety communications and Amateur Radio operators are not subject to interference." (In the opinion of the Zero Beat Editor, BPL should be abandoned if it will pollute **any** HF spectrum, a Natural Resource of far greater value than an unnecessary means of providing Internet service. There are better routes that don't pollute.) The amendment, also known as the COPE Act BPL amendment, would require the FCC to study and report on the interference potential of BPL systems. More information can be found on the ARRL's web site. They ask that you keep up the let-

ters to your congressmen.

Field Day is fast approaching. Some plans were made at the last meeting (see the minutes on page 3). Last year the AARC had its highest or one of its highest scores ever. Can we beat that this year? There is no reason why we can't. Bring your ideas to the meeting and come out to Field Day and help us crank up that score.

A school in California, Moonpark high school, which is participating in the ARRL's Big Project, will be offering a class called "Radio Amateurs and Disaster Operations", which will

*(Continued on page 2)*

### De Olde Meeting Announcement

The next meeting of the Alliance ARC will be on Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 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!

### The following correction was forwarded to the Zero Beat:

"In a recent page on the Copley Middle School Ham Radio Club, the name of my son, KD8CGE is spelled wrong. It is Matthew Drezdson and not Drezdlon. Thank you and 73, Gregory Drezdson WD9FTZ"

Sorry about that Mathew—Zero Beat Editor.

## Officers

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## News, cont.

*(Continued from page 1)*

teach students how to work with other disaster responders. They will also learn basic first aid and CPR and get a Ham license. Sounds like a class every school should have.

Larry Hillier, N8EWV is headed home. He was to leave Antigua on April 29th accompanied by his Father-In-Law and another friend. The three will be heading for North Carolina and expect to arrive in about 15 days. Good luck to them.

The club has a new member, Preston L Wegman, WA8NEJ. Welcome to the AARC, Preston.

Hope to see everyone at the meeting.

## 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

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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.

## April Minutes

### ALLIANCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

April 5, 2006

The regular meeting of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club was held at the Alliance Community Hospital on April 5, 2006 at 7:30 PM with club president Robert Steele, K8RLS, presiding. There were 21 members and 4 guests present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by introductions. The club welcomed guests Helen Trompower KC8ZWG, Rodger Trompower KA8FTS, Miriam Sanor, wife of Frank WA8WHP, and Preston Wegman, WA8NEJ, who joined the club at this meeting.

The March minutes were published in the newsletter. Don, AB8KV, reported that a letter had been sent to Connie Jones of the hospital administration, thanking her for arranging the club's use of the 1A conference room. He further reported that a get well card had been sent on behalf of the club to Fred Krauss, W8SPR. Fred was still in the nursing home in Lisbon. The minutes were approved on a general voice vote.

Mary Ann, KB8IVS, gave the treasurer's report. The report was approved on a general voice vote.

#### Old business:

Don, K8OMO reported on the simulated emergency weather net

of March 29. A command center was established at the hospital, with operations running relatively smoothly. Participation from both fixed and mobile stations was very good. He further reported on the Skywarn training session at Stark State. A new presentation was utilized for the session and he felt that it was very good and worthwhile.

President Bob reported that confirmation had been received regarding the club's use of the Jay-Cee Pavilion at Silver Park for the special event station during Carnation Days in the Park. Discussion regarding band usage resulted in four planned frequencies: 7.148 (CW), 14.045 (CW), 14.058 (CW) and 21.250 (phone).

Comments about the Madison hamfest were generally negative, while generally positive remarks were made concerning the Cuyahoga Falls hamfest.

President Bob reported that the injured coal miner in West Virginia, who is a ham, had returned home. It was remarked that he had received thousands of QSL's, many with monetary donations.

Bob noted that help is needed for the Carnation Days Triathlon. Those interested should contact John Myers, KD8MQ.

#### New business:

Don, K8OMO presented a video about "Ham Radio in Space."

President Bob reminded every-

one that dues are due and also that the club's annual insurance premium is due. A motion by John, KD8MQ and seconded by Howard, K8DXR to pay the insurance was approved on a voice vote.

Bob further reported: -- Pioneer Amateur Radio Fellowship is planning on taking a bus to the Dayton Hamvention. Anyone interested in joining them should contact them ASAP.

--A letter was received from a Louisiana ham club devastated by hurricane Katrina requesting monetary assistance. No action was taken at this time.

--The cost for vanity calls is going to \$20.10 in August.

A brief discussion followed about whether the club's call is considered a vanity call, with the general conclusion being that it is not.

--In response to a question from Frank, WA8WHP regarding Field Day, Bob announced that it will be held at Marlinton Middle School as before. John, KD8MQ stated that he would take care of obtaining the port-a-potty.

The meeting was then adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Don Kingan, AB8KV, Secretary.

## THE WAYBACK MACHINE

ISSUE #24

by **Bill Continelli, W2XOY**

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If there was a buzzword to describe amateur radio in the first three months of 1958, it was "satellite". The Russians had launched Sputnik in November 1957. Thousands of hams tuned in the weak beacon from the satellite on 20 and 40 MC. Amateur Radio received a lot of publicity, as across the nation, many local papers ran articles on the hometown hams and the "signals from space". Many amateur operators were also busy building converters for 108 MC, as the U.S. Army Signal Engineering Labs in Fort Monmouth, N.J. had a 50kw transmitter on that frequency to bounce signals off the moon. The antenna was a 60 foot dish. Those lucky enough to hear it received a special QSL. Also on 108 MC was the first U.S. satellite, Explorer, launched in February 1958. Hundreds of reports were received by the ARRL from those who heard it.

Amateur Radio was growing in 1958. The total number of hams was over 160,000, with predictions that we would go over 200,000 by 1960. ARRL membership was also at its highest ever, 60,000. In fact, there were so many hams, the FCC was running out of callsigns. The traditional 1x3 calls beginning with "W" or "K" were almost completely used up, especially in the 2nd and 6th call areas. To alleviate the problem, the FCC began the 2x3 format. Henceforth, new Technician, General and Extra Class callsigns would begin with "WA", while Novices would get "WV". The large growth in the number of licenses was partly due to the popularity of the Novice and Technician Class. Novices had 50 KC on both 80 and 40 meters, a full 150 KC on 15, and voice privileges on the 145-147 MC portion of 2 meters. The Technician Class license, which had started out with only 220 MC and above, had been given 6 meters in 1955. With the sunspots at their peak in 1958, thousands of Novices and Technicians were on 15 and 6, working worldwide DX, and getting WAC, WAS, and even DXCC awards. This upset some higher class licensees, some of whom demanded a reduction in the number of frequencies available to the Novice and Technician. No frequencies were taken away, however, the ARRL went on record as being against giving Technicians any 2 meter privileges. It wasn't until the 1970's that Technicians would finally get the full 2 me-

ter band.

Early in the year, the ARRL filed a strong opposition to a proposal to remove Amateurs from the 11 meter band and establish a "Citizens Radio Service" there. Granted, the band was lightly used by hams; it wasn't a worldwide allocation, and there was interference from Industrial, Scientific and Medical devices on 27.12 MC, still it was OUR BAND, and the ARRL made a good argument for keeping it. The FCC was expected to make a decision by the summer.

In technical developments, slow scan TV was first described in the August, 1958 issue of QST. Transistors were coming out of the purely experimental stage, and were starting to show up in practical circuits. There were several all transistor power supply and modulator projects, and even a transistorized 10 meter "walkie-talkie".

Mandatory in any 1958 amateur base station was a broadcast band receiver. Why? In a word, CONELRAD. CONELRAD was the predecessor to the Emergency Broadcast System. It used key stations which would broadcast emergency messages on 640 or 1240 KC. Every amateur station had to monitor 640 or 1240 KC while on the air. Mobile operators in contact with a base station did not have to monitor CONELRAD.

Speaking of mobile, do you want to try it? Just remember these simple 1958 FCC rules: "Notices are required to the FCC Engineer-in-Charge of the Districts wherein the mobile or portable operation is contemplated, when such operation shall be in excess of 48 hours without return to the home address. Also, please remember to include the portable location or mobile itinerary, the dates of the beginning and end of each period of operation away from home, and the registry or license number of the vessel, vehicle, or aircraft from which mobile operation is to occur." Got that?

If you still want to try mobile, then consider the new Collins KWM-1 mobile transceiver. Its a 175 watt input SSB/CW rig which covers the 20, 15, 11, and 10 meter bands. You can get it for \$695. Let's take a look at the other 1958 rigs out there. Hallicrafters had several receivers, the SX-99 at \$150, SX-100 for \$295, and the SX-101 at \$395. On the transmitter side, there was the HT-32, a 144 watt input AM/SSB/CW unit which covered the 80, 40, 20, 15, 11, and 10 meter bands for

*(Continued on last page)*

# May 2006

## Birthday Greetings: WA8VHH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
	<b>1</b> AGCW QRP/ ORP Party Columbiana Cty. Train. Net 8 pm RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	<b>2</b> ARS Spartan Sprint Canton ARES Net 7pm 147.12 N. Columbiana Cty. ARES Net 9 pm 147.255 <b>PIONEER AR FELLOWSHIP VE, AKRON</b>	<b>3</b> <b>AARC Meeting</b> Carroll Cty. Net 1:00 UCT 147.075	<b>4</b> <b>AARC Nets 8:00, 8:30, 9:00</b> QCWA Net 7:30 Thursday NCCC Sprint Ladder	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 10-10 Int. Spring Contest, CW 7th Call Area QSO Party Indiana QSO Party MARAC County Hunter Contest, CW New England QSO Party																																																																																				
<b>7</b> <b>CUYAHOGA ARS VE, INDEPENDENCE</b> RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	<b>8</b> Columbiana Cty. Train. Net 8 pm	<b>9</b> Canton ARES Net 7pm 147.12 N. Columbiana Cty. ARES Net 9 pm 147.255	<b>10</b> Carroll Cty. Net 1:00 UCT 147.075	<b>11</b> <b>AARC Nets 8:00, 8:30, 9:00</b> QCWA Net 7:30 Thursday NCCC Sprint Ladder	<b>12</b> Massillon Net 8pm 147.18 <b>WA8VHH</b>	<b>13</b> <b>CANTON ARC/ MASSILLON ARC VE, CANTON</b> CQ-M International DX Contest FISTS Spring Sprint, Mid-Atlantic QSO Party VK/Trans-Tasman 80m Contest, Phone VOLTA WW RTTY Contest																																																																																				
<b>14</b> 50 MHz Spring Sprint	<b>15</b> Columbiana Cty. Train. Net 8 pm Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	<b>16</b> Canton ARES Net 7pm 147.12 N. Columbiana Cty. ARES Net 9 pm 147.255	<b>17</b> Carroll Cty. Net 1:00 UCT 147.075	<b>18</b> <b>AARC Nets 8:00, 8:30, 9:00</b> NAQCC 80m Straight Kew-Bee Sprint QCWA Net 7:30 RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW Thursday NCCC Sprint Ladder	<b>19</b> <b>Dayton Hamvention / ARRL EXPO 2006</b> Massillon Net 8pm 147.18	<b>20</b> Baltic Contest <b>Dayton Hamvention / ARRL EXPO 2006</b> EU PSK DX Contest His Maj. King of Spain Contest, CW Manchester Mineira CW Contest Portuguese Navy Day Contest, CW/SSB																																																																																				
<b>21</b> <b>Dayton Hamvention / ARRL EXPO 2006</b>	<b>22</b> Columbiana Cty. Train. Net 8 pm	<b>23</b> Canton ARES Net 7pm 147.12 N. Columbiana Cty. ARES Net 9 pm 147.255	<b>24</b> Carroll Cty. Net 1:00 UCT 147.075	<b>25</b> <b>AARC Nets 8:00, 8:30, 9:00</b> <b>MAHONING VALLEY ARA VE, YOUNGSTOWN</b> QCWA Net 7:30 QRP Minimal Art Session	<b>26</b> Massillon Net 8pm 147.18	<b>27</b> CQ WW WPX Contest, CW VK/Trans-Tasman 80m Contest, CW																																																																																				
<b>28</b> ARCI Hootowl Sprint MI QRP Memorial Day CW Sprint <b>WARREN ARA VE, NEWTON FALLS</b>	<b>29</b> Columbiana Cty. Train. Net 8 pm	<b>30</b> Canton ARES Net 7pm 147.12 <b>Homeland Sec Net 7:30 147.51 SIMPLEX</b> N. Columbiana Cty. ARES Net 9 pm 147.255	<b>31</b> Carroll Cty. Net 1:00 UCT 147.075	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 2px solid blue; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;"><b>April</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <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>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td></tr> <tr><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> <div style="border: 2px solid blue; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;"><b>June</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <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></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></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></td></tr> </table> </div> </div>			S	M	T	W	T	F	S	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							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	
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*Amateur radio - when all else fails ...*



Alliance Amateur Radio Club  
P.O. Box 3344  
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## WAYBACK MACHINE

*(Continued from page 4)*

\$675. Johnson "Viking" transmitters ranged in price from \$55 for a basic CW kit to \$950 for a 600 watt SSB/AM/CW assembled unit. You can choose a good companion receiver from Hammarlund, from the HQ-100 (\$170) to the HQ150 (\$294) to the all new HQ160 (\$379). For VHF operators, the Gonset "Communicator III", an AM rig for 6 or 2 meters was introduced at \$270. It was CD approved, of course. Clegg had the Model 62T10, a 2-6-10 meter transmitter. On the budget side, perfect for the Novice, was the new National NC-60 general coverage receiver for \$60. Heathkit, of course, had some excellent bargains, from the DX-20 CW rig (\$35), to the DX-40, a 75 watt AM/CW rig for 80-10 meters (including 11 meters) at \$65, to a general coverage receiver for only \$30. All of the above were kits, of course.

How many Radio Shack stores were there in 1958? Two!! (Boston, Mass and New Haven, Conn.). Radio Shack had a 6 transistor portable radio for only \$29.95, which was "perfect for monitoring CONELRAD"

But the BIG NEWS in 1958 came from Collins. Late in the year, they introduced the S/Line of equipment. Collins took out glorious, exquisite, multi page, full color ads in QST to show off the 32 S-1 transmitter, the 75 S-1 receiver, and the 30 S-1 linear amplifier. A new standard had been set in amateur radio, and side-band was here to stay.

On September 11, 1958, the FCC came to a decision: "our" 11 meter band would be removed from us and turned over to the new Class C and Class D Citizens Band. A new concept was developing; that access to the airwaves should be made available to individuals for non-technical, non-hobby personal communications. It was the dawn of a new era.

In our next installment, we'll look at amateur radio in the early 60's. I hope you will join me.