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ALLIANCE



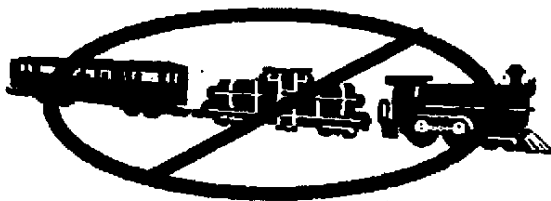
AMATEUR

RADIO CLUB

ZERO BEAT

May 1990

The next meeting of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club will be held on Thursday 3 May 1990. Meetings are held monthly at the Alliance Community Hospital at 7:30 PM in the cafeteria on the first floor. Visitors are always welcome.



The next meeting of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club will be the annual election of club officers. The offices of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Trustee will be opened for election. The current club officers now filling the positions open for election are:

President: (1 Year Term) Dave Buckwalter

V. President: (1 Year Term) Gary Grimes

Secretary: (1 Year Term) Gladys Wilson

Treasurer: (1 Year Term) Patty Hillier

Trustee: (3 Year Term) Larry Hillier

All full and sustaining members are eligible to hold offices in the club. There are about 40 members (down from a high of over 70) of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club that are eligible to hold an elected office. For the past four years most of the club's elected offices were voted on with either only one willing candidate, or someone was railroaded into the position. In order for the club to grow and promote amateur radio new ideas and projects are needed. This can only happen with the participation of the entire club membership. Webster defines a club as "an association of persons for some common object jointly supported and meeting periodically". The key phrase is jointly supported. This means each club member should be willing to contribute to the operation of the club. Not only in

meeting attendance, but also in holding offices and supporting outside activities. With the same handful of members holding offices and organizing outside events, like the mall show or field day, the activities will become more of a burden and less fun. Each member owes it to themselves and other club members to get involved in the activities of the club. Come out to the next meeting and accept a nomination for office and support your club.

Novice Komer

By KB8GHZ

By the sounds of all the lawn mowers it seems like spring is going to arrive. A few weeks back I got my clover clipper out and mowed my lawn and the very next day it snowed. Now for the first time I can tell all my friends that I mowed my grass in the winter. Hi Hi!

Boy the last month has been a busy one for me trying to get ready for the mall show. Every Tuesday for over a month Gladys and I got together with John WX8G and Pam N8IAK to do things for the mall show. We even motored to Cleveland one day for parts to assemble some code oscillators.

One evening John called and asked for help so over we went. I drilled the wood to mount the speakers and boards. Gladys put the parts on the boards then Pam and Mary Ann KB8IVS soldered the in place. John finished the key part and adjusted it. Jim N8DZA put in the battery and gave it the smoke test. A good time was had by all.

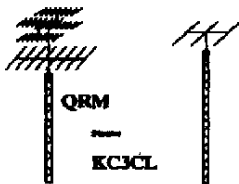
If you listened to the repeaters this was not the only work detail. A lot of people worked very hard to make the mall show a success. I hope you checked out the displays at the mall show. While I am on the subject of the mall show, I want to thank all who helped me put together the Home Brew table. It started out with one table and grew into two. Thanks Guys.

On Saturday the 7th 102 Hams signed in with 31 from our club. (We should have a turnout at the meetings like that. Ed.) Sunday the 8th 88 Hams signed in with 26 from our club. We sold 5 "Tune In The World" kits and 33 people signed up for more information on Ham classes. The guest speakers sure drew a crowd and were enjoyed by all. Also, the Salem Club did a great job with their display.

I talked to so many people that kept asking me questions that the next few days I couldn't talk. But, the pleasure was all mine. I got to meet a lot of nice people. I think that our club deserves a pat on the back and all members can be proud of this years mall show.

Both days of the mall show Dave KC3CL A.K.A. KG4CL talked to all who wished to work him. I would liked to have seen his face when Mark Koontz asked him how the weather was down there. I don't think he expected to hear Mark on Ham radio. (I didn't, but the big surprise was when Mark signed with Gladys callsign, KB8GIA-Ed.)

Now it is time for dues to be paid and for the election of officers so I guess I will just stay busy for a while. I hope everyone had a good Easter. I know you can get pretty busy, but try to remember that the light at the end of the tunnel could be a train.



Well if you have read this far and haven't noticed a new look to the Zero Beat then you better clean the peanut butter off of your glasses. If you don't wear glasses, then you should. This is the first attempt at preparing the Zero Beat for me, and I am still experimenting with the capabilities of the desk top publisher. The complete newsletter was not done with the desk top publisher this month, however in the future I will try to get all of the articles into the same format.

My plans for the Zero Beat are to include sections with something for everyone. Some future topics and sections to be included are; computer stuff, items for sale, antennas, simple construction projects, DX information, and general ham radio stuff. This is your news letter, let me know what you want to see in it.

KB8GIA's KITCHEN

I hope all of you had a very nice Easter. I made this dessert for the family on Easter and they loved it. It's quick and easy, so give it a try.

Striped Delight

CRUST 1 1/2 C- Graham Crackers (crushed) 1/4 C- Sugar 1/2 C- Butter Mix all ingredients and press into a 9" x 11" pan.

CREAM CHEESE LAYER 1-6oz Cream Cheese 1/4 C- Sugar 2 TBS Milk Beat until smooth and spread on graham cracker crust.

PUDDING LAYER 1-6oz Instant Pudding (Choc or Lemon) 2 1/2 C- Milk Follow instructions on the pudding box, but reduce the milk to 2 1/2 cups. Spread on cream cheese and top with 8oz of Cool Whip. Refrigerate for 1 hour and cut into squares and serve.

In closing, I have this little tip. For added zesty flavor in your pasta, try adding a little lemon juice or your favorite crushed herbs to the boiling pasta water.

73s Gladys

If you feel inclined to write something for publication I would prefer to get it in some kind of digital format. This is not to say I won't take hand written or typed inputs, but digital format is easier to work with and takes a lot less typing. I can accept any IBM PC formatted 5 1/4" 360kb or 3 1/2" 720kb disk with ASCII or any word processor format you happen to use. I have a document conversion utility that works great. Just give me the disk with your input on it and tell me what word processor you used. I will return the disk to you. In the near future I plan to take articles by telephone modem directly from computer to computer. I will also be able to take any inputs by RTTY on HF or VHF. Sorry, but no packet capabilities are planned for anytime in the next 125 years.

The KG4CL operation for 1990 is now history, except for the QSL cards. Now the work begins. During my 15 days in Guantanamo Bay I managed to find a small amount of time for ham radio. My computer log contains around 1800 QSOs. So far I have received about 700 QSL cards. None have been answered yet. I managed to work all 50 states, but only 48 on the 10 meter novice sub-band. So much for the ARC contest. I have not yet totaled the number of DXCC countries worked this trip, but combined with the last trip I believe I have completed DXCC from KG4. I did manage to snag some rare DX. Well, they snagged

PRINTED CIRCUIT BOARDS

Picture this- It's the weekend and you've long since finished all your "honeydew" projects, the bands are dead, and your itching to start building that "Gonkulator" that was in the last issue of QST, but unfortunately, you forgot to order the PC board in advance. What to do? Well, You could go check out the ball game on the tube, or you could etch your own board. It's really not as difficult as you think. The advantage to this process is that ALL of the materials(except the drill bits) can be scrounged locally, on a Sunday afternoon, and is cheaper than the local discount electronics emporium wants for a PC board kit. Keep in mind, though, that this method is good only for simple PC boards, where you only need one or two.

Now, I'll be the first to admit that there are easier and more convenient ways to etch a PC board, but not having tried any of these, I can't comment on them. If you've tried some that worked good for you, why not write them down, and give them to the editor? After all, a newsletter doesn't run for long on good intentions. This article is meant to get the ball rolling. If you have any comments, please let me know.

Start with a piece of PC board, of the proper size for the project at hand, and go over it with steel wool, to get rid of any tarnish. Then cover the copper side of the board with contact paper. Any type of contact paper should do. It doesn't matter if it has a design printed on it or not(mine was a cutoff from the local hardware store, and cost me a quarter). Next, make a photocopy of the etching pattern. This can either be ready made or from your own artwork(If you're making your own etching pattern, don't forget that it must be laid out as if you are looking at it from below. Otherwise the board will come out backwards). Now, glue a copy of it to the PC board, on top of the contact paper.

Now comes the tough part. Take a SHARP(!) hobby knife and cut out all the areas to be etched. These will be shown as light areas on the layout. Remember, neatness counts. All done? Check your work, and you're ready to etch the board.

For this step, you need to run down to your local radio shack, and pick up a bottle of etchant(part #276-1535). then raid the kitchen or darkroom for a suitable tray for the etching process. Of course, you need one big enough so the board to be etched can lay flat in the bottom, but, also, it should be non-metallic, to prevent any reactions between the pan and the chemicals. The next thing you need is some means to keep the etchant at between 90 and 115 F, wether it be a heat lamp, hot plate or whatever, is up to you. I use a bench lamp with a 60 watt bulb, which produces satisfactory results. A darkroom thermometer is helpful to monitor the temperature.

Now, lets get started. First, pour some etchant solution into the tray (You want the etchant to be about 1/4" deep), and bring it up to temperature. It's warm enough? Good, now put a pencil under the center of the tray (This is your means of agitating the solution), and put your board in. Now gently rock the tray back and forth for about 15-20 minutes. At the end of this time, take your board out of the solution, and rinse well under cool water, to stop the chemical reaction. Next, clean the remains of the contact paper off the board, first with tweezers, and then with nail polish remover. Wait a few seconds and then run steel wool over the board. Congratulations, you are now ready to drill your holes for parts to go through. To drill the board, use whatever means at your disposal, keeping in mind that those small drill bits are very fragile, and should ALWAYS be bought in quantity.

Well, I hope this encourages you to try your own boards, and I'd really like to hear your experiences, good or bad with this method. 73's, WX8G

me anyway. In the midst of the pile-ups I worked 5T, VK9N, 5W, TZ and at least one W2 in New Jersey. The VKs and the Russians were what I heard most except for the US stations. I even heard US stations on SSB below 14.150 and 21.200. The most disgusting thing I heard was on the 10 meter novice band. An unlicensed station idling as "The Triple 7" in Georgia was on almost everyday around 28.305 trying to work me and other DX stations. I managed to ignore him. Maybe the FCC can catch up with this idiot and put him off the air. All in all the DXing and ham operations went pretty good. Now all I have to do is answer QSL cards for the next 10 years. This is no joke. I am still getting cards from the trip 2 years ago at an average of 3 a month.

If your planning on upgrading to Extra Class I don't think you can. They ran out of callsigns. The highest license class available in the 8th call district is Advanced. Actually, you can upgrade to Extra, but only 2x2 calls are available for Extra class. The current callsign status is:

Extra - AA8AN (+14)

Advanced - KF8FF (+13)

Tech/General - N8MBD (+94)

Novice - KB8JMZ (+206)

Ticket sales for the handheld are coming to a close. The drawing will be held at the May meeting and the handheld will be given away to some lucky winner. If you are holding money or stubs, get them turned in or bring them to the meeting.

The ticket sales for the Mall Show fund raiser are still on sale and will be on sale until the 6th of September. The sales have been very slow. We need to get out and sell these tickets or the club is going to lose money. The object is to make money, not just break even or lose money.

Just a few final notes before signing clear..

The 1990 Mall Show is over, and from what I've been told, it was a success. The Turkeys are down in the woods chasing turkeys. Dayton is over for this year. My grass still needs to be cut. Your dues are due, and must be paid prior to the close of the business meeting in order to participate in the election of club officers.

73s Dave, KG4CL/KC3CL

EVENT CALENDAR

May

- 3 AARC Meeting 7:30 at the Alliance Community Hospital
- 10 Eastern Stark County ARES Net on 145.37 at 9:00 PM
- 12 Stark County Emergency Drill at 10:00 AM
- 13 Medina Hamfest
- 13 Wheeling WVA Hamfest
- 17 Eastern Stark County ARES Net on 145.37 at 9:00 PM
- 24 Eastern Stark County ARES Net on 145.37 at 9:00 PM
- 26 Canton VE Exams - Contact Dick Stellarini 453-5896
- 26-27 CQ World Wide WPX Contest
- 31 Eastern Stark County ARES Net on 145.37 at 9:00 PM

HAM RADIO HISTORY

By Tom, K4FHK in 3/90 "Ole Virginia Times", Bonnie Frick, N4QPB, ed.

reprinted from April, 90, ARNS bulletin, Charles Curles, AD4F, ed.

4 Billion B.C.:

Earth is A swirling ball of flaming gasses.

Propagation is very poor.

1 Billion B.C.

First dry land appears. It is divided up into squares. County Hunters club formed.

500 Million B.C.

Second patch of dry land appears. First DXpedition. Credit disallowed because of questionable licensing agreement.

400 Million B.C.

Flowering plants and grasses evolve. Telrex invents first beam antenna, but sales are slow because of lack of suitable structures.

300 Million B.C.

First tree appears. It is immediately cut down, stripped of branches, placed in a concrete base, and named a telephone pole. Telrex sells first beam.

200 Million B.C.

Second beam sold by Telrex. Installer falls from top of pole. First safety belt sold

100 Million B.C.

First mountain appears. Repeater invented

50 Million B.C.

It is decided by WARC that "Seek You" is too cumbersome to send on CW, so abbreviation "CQ" is adopted.

4 Million B.C.

Humans replace swine as dominant species. The name "Ham operator" hangs on, however.

3 Million B.C.

Dugout canoe invented. Maritime Mobile Net formed on 14.313 MHz

2 Million B.C.

Nothing much happens for a long time

900 A.D.

Chinese invent gunpowder. BY1AA is first "big gun" DX'er.

1790 A.D.

Ben Franklin invents long wire receiving antenna. Ground switch invented.

1961 A.D.

Second repeater erected. First repeater group refuses to change frequency. First repeater coordinator appointed.

1990 A.D.

Amateur Radio humor sinks to new low.