

# AARC

SERVING ALL NEA MEMBERS

## ZERO BEAT

VOLUME 6 NO. 10

OCTOBER 1992

### Elections top list for club action

Year in, year out members step forward to take up the cherished leadership role known as "club officer."

This year is no different. And as called for in the Alliance Amateur Radio Club, Inc. Bylaws -- Hear Ye Hear Ye -- Be it known far and wide that election of officers will be held after the regular meeting of the club on Thurs., Oct. 1.

The pertinent sections hereby apply: Article I.

Meetings of membership

A. The annual meeting of this club shall be held in the month of October for the election of officers and trustees immediately following the regular meeting in October.

Article II.

Officers

B. The officers shall be elected for a term of one year by ballot of members present at the annual meeting. New officers shall take over their duties at

the next regular meeting. Article III.

#### ENDING TERMS

##### PRESIDENT

Pam N8LAK 10-91 to 10-92

##### VICE PRES.

Larry KE8VE 10-91 to 10-92

##### TREASURER

Patti KE8KH 10-91 to 10-92

##### SECRETARY

Dan N8LVO 10-91 to 10-92

##### TRUSTEES

Jack W8WEN 10-91 to 10-94

Dave KC3CL 10-90 to 10-93

Larry KE8VE 10-89 to 10-92\*

\*(Filled by Jim KB8GHZ in '91)

D. All officers shall, within 10 days after the expiration of their terms, turn over to their successors all records and property of the club, that is in their possession, that is pertinent to the office vacated.

Article VIII.

Trustees

B. Trustees terms will be for three years. One trustee is to be elected annually to the out-going trustee.

C. Trustees shall control club property, audit the books and conduct the annual meeting.

N8LVO

#### HONOR ROLL

*Dedicated to those individuals who are sustaining members for the 1992-93 year:*

PAUL BEANE NW8C  
 JIM FERGUSON N8DZA  
 MATT THOMAS N8EAD  
 HAL KELLEY KE8II  
 DICK BONTRAGER  
 KA8LKQ  
 ALLEN DICKS W18T  
 LARRY AMAN K5TON  
 LARRY ASHBURN  
 KE8VE

*ZERO BEAT: The art of all parties being on the same frequency.*

#### INSIDE

CALENDAR	7
CALLSIGNS	4
EDITOR'S REMARKS	8
MALL SHOW RECAP	6
MOVED AND SECONDED	4
NOVICE CLASSES	5
PA QSO PARTY	6
PRESIDENT'S REMARKS	4
V.E. EXAMS	4
WHERE'S DX?	3

Duties of Officers

A. The President shall preside at all meetings of this club and conduct them according to Roberts Rules of Order; ...ensure positions are filled and conduct business of the club.

B. The Vice President shall assume the duties of the president in his/her absence. He will organize activities and programs not designated to the committees.

C. (1) The Secretary shall record minutes of all meetings, keep a roll of members and receive applications for membership.

(2) The Treasurer shall receive and receipt all monies paid to the club, keep an accurate account of all monies received and expended, pay no bills without a majority vote at a regular meeting of the club, and shall make a brief financial report at each meeting.



**NEXT MEETING**

Thurs., Oct. 1  
 7:30 p.m.

# HAPPY HALLOWEEN AND...



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY JOHN WX8G !!

## *THE ALLIANCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB ZERO BEAT*

*Published the third week of every  
month by John Myers WX8G.*

*Changes in one's address may be sent  
to: John Myers, 510 W. Harrison,  
Alliance, Ohio 44601.*

*Deadline is the 14th day of the  
month.*

*The Alliance Amateur Radio Club is  
an American Radio Relay League  
affiliated club and is also a special  
service club.*

*The club meets the first Thursday of  
each month at the Alliance  
Community Hospital in the employees'  
cafeteria. Meetings start at 7:30 p.m.*

## **-- SUBMISSIONS --**

Stories may be submitted to the editor  
on 3.5 inch disk AND in writing. Entries  
should be written double-spaced on white  
paper and postmarked to:

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## **OFFICERS**

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821-5513

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Minerva, Ohio 44657  
868-6610

WHERE'S DX?

By Jack Bennett WSWEN

All times are in UTC. All contacts are CW.

<b>NORTH AMERICA</b> 8-13 VY6QST 14029 0308	<b>EUROPE</b> 8-23 ZF2SO 14227 1753 8-29 FD5BI/P 14008 0334 8-18 YU7KM 14827 0440 8-17 P48ADI 14029 2350 DL1DBX 21015 1726 ZA1G 14036 0411 8-15 DL8DD 14021 2359 8-12 EA9UK 21017 2348	<b>ASIA</b> 8-20 UZ3TKA 14020 0131 8-19 UA9AFX 14047 0130 UJ8RA 14046 0125 4K2MAL 14008 0059 DL7FDH 14015 0038 UM8OA 14014 0035 4K4UA6WCG 14011 0020 RA9MA 14015 0010 8-18 VU2TE 21014 1627 AP/WA2WYR 21029 1555
<b>CENTRAL AMERICA</b> 8-23 HP1AC 21023 0017 8-17 TG9YV 21041 2315	<b>AFRICA</b> 8-31 5Z4BJ 21228 1953 8-19 9X5HG 14010 0425 8-17 9A2MT 14019 0422	<b>OCEANIA</b> 8-23 VK3JOG 21145 0325 8-12 ZL2GG 14027 0455
<b>SOUTH AMERICA</b> 8-31 PY3GSP 28017 2014 PY1FUL 28017 2003 8-23 LU3XC 14007 0225 ZP5XV 14024 0203 XQ0YAF 14004 0131 8-18 PY4PZ 14048 0007 8-15 CE1BPY 14002 2324		

**STERBA  
ON GAIN**

By Kurt N. Sterba  
Worldradio, Sept. 1992  
(Edited for brevity - Ed.)

Well, the silly season is upon us. One of the hammy mags just put out its annual antenna buyer's guide. I have no interest in embarrassing them so I'll not mention them by name (they probably just don't know any better), but they ran an ad that is complete quackery. Would you believe...a vertical groundplane with four radials having 5.25 dB gain on horizontal and 4.75 dB gain on vertical?

How about this claim? "Multiplication factors/horizontal 17 times, vertical 15 times." Would I be the grumpy old Kurt that people accuse me of being if I asked, "Multiplying what?" Let's see now, a 10-times multiplication of power would be a 10 dB gain, so it can't be that. What

a puzzlement! The same company has a 4-element, and I do quote, "Power multiplication 65X."

I know that some may be getting a little green around the gills from reading this. Please don't go away. It gets even better (in a negative sense). The claimed gain (for a half-wave boom-length) is 16.5 dB; front to back ratio is "48dB true."

Wait! Wait! There's more! Verbatim: "Audio Gain: 22 dB." What in the name of Zeus is "audio gain" when looking at antennas?

And 22dB? Hey we're getting up to VOA numbers now. (I wonder if the people at the magazine held their noses when they put that ad in the book.)

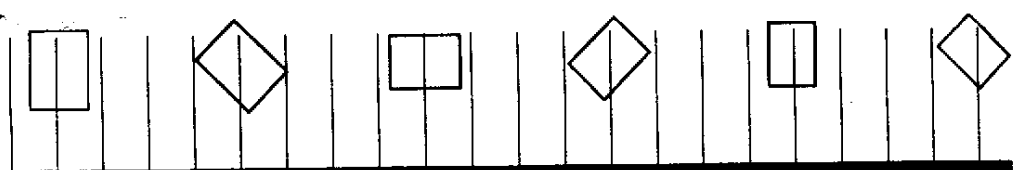
Just think of all the waste that has gone on all these years. Think about those massive arrays put up by Radio Canada International...All they

really had to do was stack a couple of half-wave boom-length antennas from Route 1, Ethelsville, Alabama.

Antenna expert Joseph Carr K4IPV, wrote in his *Practical Antenna Handbook*, "Unfortunately antenna gain is an area where unscrupulous salespeople can distribute a little salt water taffy."

Actually the Antenna Buyer's Guide is terribly flawed. Pages and pages of data about every antenna made and the graph says "Gain (dB)." I ask, just what kind of dBs are those, bub -- dBi or dBd?

Of all the numbers I looked at, it seemed that DX Engineering claims are closest to what I believe in the 20M Yagi department -- 6.1 dB gain and judged superior at Dayton. Yet the gain is 4dB less than the other guy. Looks to me like a good reason to buy one.



**Latest FCC call signs as of Sept. 1:**

	AREA 8	AREA 3
EXTRA	AA8IO	AA3BY
ADVANCED	KF8WZ	KE3EP
TECH/GEN	N8VNZ	N3NHH
NOVICE	KB8OGQ	KB3AHZ

**PRESIDENT'S REMARKS**

The Mall Show was great. I appreciate all the support from the clubs. Thanks to Salem, Canton, Alliance Youth and our club for the support. Don Whitaker K8OMO gave a tremendous speech on weather and amateur radio. Don graciously stepped in when Mark Koontz couldn't make it.

It's been a lot of fun being president for the club. Thanks for all the support to the officers who served with me -- you were great. I hope you will attend the next meeting, vote for the new officers and support them as well as you supported me.

**Moved and Seconded: the Sept. 3 Meeting**

All officers and trustees were present with the exception of Patti KE8KH, Dave KC3CL and Larry KE8VE.

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m. by Pam N8IAK with 15 members present.

Secretary Dan N8LVO read the minutes which were approved as read.

The Treasurer was absent.



**COMMITTEES:**

Mall Show: John WX8G reported that 8 coax lines have been laid on the roof. He emphasized the need for increased participation at the tables.

Newsletter: Dan N8LVO said the deadline in September is the 14th.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Alliance Triathlon: Ed McNabb sent the club a letter of thanks from the Red Cross for helping with communications.

Fundraisers: John WX8G said two buttons were sold at the Warren Hamfest. They will be on display at the Mall Show.

Seminar: The Direction Finding Seminar is Saturday, Sept. 20 at the

Citizens Bank in Colerain, Ohio. We will have breakfast at the Country Manor at 9:30-10 a.m. and then leave at about 10:30-11 a.m. for the trip. Bring your fox hunting equipment.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Jim KB8GHZ asked everyone to think about whether they want to be officers or trustees in the club as the next meeting will be for the election of officers.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Jim N8DZA is recuperating from heart bypass surgery.

Allen W18T is recuperating from knee surgery.

The Ashland Hamfest is Oct. 4  
Jamboree on the Air is Saturday, Oct. 17. Has anyone contacted the BSA?

Pennsylvania QSO Party is October 10-11.

MARS has set up a special status for No-Code Techs interested in MARS operation and valid for VHF-UHF only.

Winner of the 50-50 drawing was Gladys KB8GIA who won \$4.50.

Meeting adjourned 8:22 p.m.



**Remind your friends that our class has begun**

It's still not too late. Our Amateur Radio classes started about two weeks ago. If you have a friend or relative who is interested in Amateur Radio, let us know.

And for all of you who would just like to drop by and say hello, the class meets every Tuesday, from 7 to 9:30 p.m. at Alliance Community Hospital, second floor, Conference B. Larry Ashburn is the instructor. For more info, call 821- 9808. (See next page for area classes)

**LOCAL VOLUNTEER EXAMINER TESTING**

DATE	LOCATION	TIME	CONTACT	PHONE
9-26	NORTON		MARY WAGNER	882-6387
10-10	N. OLMSTED	1 P.M.	MARY LOU SARAMA	267-5083
10-18	ELYRIA		OLA SLOANE	647-5116
10-24	GOODYEAR	9 A.M.	TONY MORTIMER	836-8869

# WORK THE WORLD WITH AMATEUR RADIO

**Alliance Youth Radio Club, 205 S. Union, Alliance, Ohio 44601**

**CLASSES:** Novice and Tech every Tuesday and Thursday, from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. starting in October. Instructors are Bill Marthan, Jim Ferguson and Dan Muthigh.

For more info, contact Bill at the Y at 824-1930.

**Alliance Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 3344 Mount Union Station, Alliance, Ohio 44601**

**MEETINGS:** First Thursday of the month at Alliance Community Hospital, 7:30 p.m., in the cafeteria. Annual Mall Show in September.

For more information, contact Pam Myers at 821-5513.

**CLASSES:** Every Tuesday, starting Sept. 15, at Alliance Hospital, 7 to 9:30 p.m. Novice, Tech, No-Code. Instr.: Larry Robinson 821-9608.

**Canton Amateur Radio Club, 8307 Cleveland Ave, NW, Canton, Ohio 44720**

**MEETINGS:** Meets the third Wed. at the Safety Building (Stark County Jail), lower level, at 7:30 p.m. For more info, contact Bill Parks at 499-4175.

**CLASSES:** Tentatively scheduled for October at the Safety Building. For more info, contact John Hadel at 832-5932.

**Massillon Amateur Radio Club, Box 79, Massillon, Ohio 44656**

**MEETINGS:** First Friday at the Senior Citizens Center, 39 Lincoln Way West, between Erie SW and 1st St. SW, at 8 p.m. For more info contact Gary Klime at 867-2027.

**CLASSES:** Novice, Tech and Tech No-Code classes are every Wed. starting March 3 at the Senior Center, 12 weeks. \$10 class fee. 7 to 9 p.m. Instr. Gary Klime.

**Salem Area Amateur Radio Assoc. P.O. Box 896, Salem, Ohio 44460**

**MEETINGS:** 2nd Thursday at the Red Cross, 624 N. Ellsworth Ave, at 7 p.m. For more info, contact Bob Tullis at 337-8456 or Dale Sprouse 222-1450.

**CLASSES:** Starting Jan. 18, every Monday at 6 p.m. at Salem High School, Rm. 129. Tech, Novice and No-Code. Instructors: Bob Tullis, Tom Miller and Don Klump.

## KSOMO SAVES THE DAY

By John Myers WNSG

The Alliance Amateur Radio Club Mall Show was organized by the club but had displays from various clubs in the area.

They included: The Salem Area Amateur Radio Association, the Canton Amateur Radio Club, the Alliance Youth Radio Club and the Military Affilliate Radio System.

## PREPARATION

The antenna raising party was held on Aug. 29 with John WX8G, Dan N8LVO and Steve KB8NDM acting as the roof crew and Jim N8MAA on the ground lending support. Jim also bought the round of coffee after the work.

The roof crew installed 1,350 feet of RG-8 (that's a quarter mile), 16 barrel connectors, 3 HF verticals, 3 J-Poles and 2 mag-mount antennas.

## FRIDAY NIGHT

Twelve people showed up at 9 p.m. for the setup. The mall provided us with free tables and chairs, and set them up for us. We hung the signs and ran the coax from the skylight pan above the gazebo to the tables where they would be used the following day. The group from the Salem Club brought in their communications trailer, the table assignments were confirmed and plans were finalized for the next day's operations.

## SATURDAY

We showed up bright and early at 8 a.m. to set up the stations and organize the handout table. We also did some last-minute antenna work on the roof.

## MALL SHOW RECAP

**ATTENDANCE: 112**  
**HAM GROUPS: 5**  
**TOTAL COST: \$0.00**  
**MAIN SPEAKER: K8OMO**  
**TOTAL COAX: 1,350 FT.**  
**ANTENNAS: 8 - 3 HF, 4**  
**VHF, 1 DUAL BANDER**  
**BEST DISPLAY: KB8GHZ**  
**PROBLEMS: VHF ALIEN-**  
**UATION ON PACKET**

After all was set up, we had surprisingly few problems. At the CARC packet station run by Chris KB8LPJ, we learned a lot about the attenuating properties of RG-8 feedline.

About three months before the mall show, we had made arrangements for Mark Koontz to come and talk on severe weather and Amateur Radio.

At the last minute, Mark cancelled 3 hours before he was to speak.

Thinking quickly, Jim N8MAA got on the phone and invited Don Whitaker K8OMO to speak in Mark's place. Don has been very active in ARES and SKYWARN for many years and his experience showed. He was very well received by the crowd. Disaster had been averted as Don saved the day!

On Saturday, 72 hams checked in with 55 from outside the club. We had hams operating packet, Amtor, SSB, CW and FM. Those club members not working a station helped out by explaining ham radio to the public. It worked out very well, indeed.

On Sunday, we opened at 11:30 a.m. and ran until 5 p.m. We had 40 hams check in with 28 being from outside our club.

We started packing up at 4:30 p.m. and in 2 hours, we had all the tables stowed, equipment packed in the cars and antennas and feedline off the roof.

The Best of Show Award went to Jim KB8GHZ, who will display his work at the next meeting. Thanks to all and especially the folks at the Carnation Mall.

Total costs for the show: ZERO.

## PA QSO Party begins contesting season

Are you interested in contesting, but have never done it and don't know how?

Well, if you would like to get some experience and don't mind the outdoors, you may want to ride along with some of our club members as we prepare for the 1992 PA QSO Party scheduled for Oct. 10-11.

Dan N8LVO is looking for a helper this year. He guarantees that the trip will only be a few hours east of the Pennsylvania line, that you will get plenty of experience in contesting and

he will even provide the hot dogs and hamburgers you will eat.

"Contesting the PA QSO party is a grueling experience if you are used to operating from the comforts of your nice, warm home," Dan related.

"We'll be camping out, probably on some high, pine shrouded hill. Most probably some campground that is deserted. There won't be another living soul within earshot and this is where we will set up our tent and operate on the commercial mains."

You'll get a lot of good experience

about camping and operating a station out in the middle of nowhere, he said.

"If you don't want to work hard, operate long and in general be an all-around great ham radio operator, don't bother calling me," LVO said.

But if you think you can hack it, let me know. We leave Friday evening, Oct. 9 and the contest is from noon Saturday to 1 a.m. Sunday and from 9 a.m. Sunday to 6 p.m. Sunday.

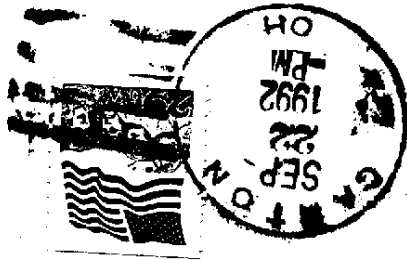
Look for announcements on the Thursday night net for a PA QSO Party planning session.

# ALLIANCE ARC OCTOBER 1992

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 AARC MEETING 7:30 P.M. ALLIANCE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL	2	3
4	5	6 AYRC NOVICE CLASS 4:30 TO 6 P.M.  AARC NOVICE CLASS 7 TO 9:30 P.M.	7	8 SAARA MEETING 7 P.M. AT THE RED CROSS  NET 9 P.M. NBDZA REPEATER 145.37  AYRC NOVICE CLASS	9	10 PA QSO PARTY  VE EXAM AT N. OLMSTED
11 PA QSO PARTY	12 COLUMBUS DAY	13 AYRC NOVICE CLASS 4:30 TO 6 P.M.  AARC NOVICE CLASS 7 TO 9:30 P.M.	14 DEADLINE FOR ZEROBEAT	15 NET AT 9 P.M. NBDZA REPEATER 145.37  AYRC NOVICE CLASS	16	17 SWEETEST DAY  JOTA
18 JOTA  VE EXAM AT ELYRIA	19	20 AYRC NOVICE CLASS 4:30 TO 6 P.M.  AARC NOVICE CLASS 7 TO 9:30 P.M.	21 CARC MEETING 7:30 P.M. AT THE STARK COUNTY JAIL BASEMENT	22 NET AT 9 P.M. NBDZA REPEATER 145.37  AYRC NOVICE CLASS	23	24 VE EXAM AT GOODYEAR
25	26	27 AYRC NOVICE CLASS 4:30 TO 6 P.M.  AARC NOVICE CLASS 7 TO 9:30 P.M.	28	29 NET AT 9 P.M. NBDZA REPEATER 145.37  AYRC NOVICE CLASS	30	31 HALLOWEEN  WX8G BIRTHDAY

WBURKQ  
Dave Glass  
217 W. Simpson St.  
Alliance, OH 44601

TO:



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P.O. BOX 3344  
MOUNT UNION STATION  
ALLIANCE, OHIO 44601

PAGE 8

OCTOBER 1992

### Postscript

By Dan Mutigli N8LVO

Well, it's been an exciting week. With the deadline for the *Zero Beat* right up against the Mall Show, I had to wait until the last minute before I wrote anything.

Thanks this month to John Myers who submitted the story on the Mall Show.

As of this writing, I am preparing for the trip to Colerain later in the week.

I was wondering if any of you that took part in the Mall Show and having the problem I have: three large stacks of papers sitting in the shack alongside my rig that is sitting on the floor and an antenna that is still apart and sitting out in the garage. It's like a remnant of Hurricane Andrew visited the shack and left it a mess.

Speaking of the Mall Show, I would like to thank everyone that came out and helped. I had a good time and I think everybody else did, too. K8OMO should be praised for his timely assistance of not only those folks involved in those two hurricanes, but also us in our hour of need! Don, you are gonna get my vote for Ham of the Year, even if you aren't in the club!

PLEASE FILL OUT AND RETURN TO  
THE EDITOR:

## ZERO BEAT SURVEY

1. Name one thing that definitely needs improved about the *Zero Beat*. \_\_\_\_\_
2. What do you like and dislike about the *Zero Beat*? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What types of articles are you interested in seeing in the newsletter? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Would you like to see photographs? Y N
5. Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

"Not all CB'ers are bad and not all hams are good." N8MAA