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Zero Beat

Serving hams in the Tri-County Area

Volume 8 No. 2

The Alliance Amateur Radio Club

March 1994

P.O. Box 3344, Alliance, OH 44601

The Founding of The American Radio Relay League An Early History

One night early in 1914 the noted inventor and industrialist, Hiram P. Maxim, tried to send a message from his amateur radio station in Hartford CT. to another in Springfield MA. 30 miles away. When it appeared that he was having no luck because of the limited range of equipment in those days, an amateur midway between the cities broke in and offered to help. Though the idea was not entirely new, it set Maxim to thinking: an organization devoted to relaying messages from one amateur to another and yet another clear across the country could give scope, meaning and direction to the aimless group of experimenters then enjoying amateur radio.

He talked the idea up at meetings of the Radio Club of Hartford, and on the air. By the middle of May 1914 the new organization, called the American Radio Relay League, was in business, with Maxim as president and Clarence Tuska, a Trinity College student as secretary.

In December 1915, Tuska, with cooperation and financial assistance of Maxim, launched a little "wireless magazine which he named QST from the international signal used to announce a message to all stations. Technically QST was a private venture; actually from the start it was the voice of the League. The magazine was quickly accepted by the fraternity and its publication encouraged a rapid growth in amateur radio and the league.

By the start of U.S. participation in the first World War there were some 6,000 amateurs in the U.S. with stations capable of communicating over distances of several hundred miles. The League was asked by the army and the navy to assist in recruiting skilled radio operators for military duty.



When the first such request came in the League rounded up 500 in ten days! Before the war was over it was estimated that over 4,000 amateurs had served, many in important communication post. The League and QST suspended operations in September 1917, when Tuska enlisted. Just three years after they had banded together in a League, the Amateurs had proven themselves as a reservoir of skilled operators and technicians.

After the war in the spring of 1919 the League was reactivated. It's first job was to head off legislation which would have given a monopoly over all forms of communications to the navy. Letters were sent to the families of all known prewar amateurs urging them to protest. Maxim went to Washington and his remarks for the preservation of amateur radio were well received by the Congressional committee considering the bill; it died in committee. The second task, almost as great, was to get the League on its feet again. The Board of Directors passed the hat among themselves for enough money to print up a circular to former members announcing of ARRL

bonds. The bond sale was a substantial success; the Board hired a full time secretary-editor and bought QST from Tuska. Since then a subscription to the magazine has been a part of every membership.

The next task was to get the wartime ban on amateur transmitting removed. By November 1919 the lid was off, licensing was resumed by the Department of Commerce, and amateurs rushed full-tilt to dust off their old sparks or try out the "bulbs" which had come of age during the war.

By 1920 a number of amateurs had built tube type transmitters and were transmitting voice, gramophone records, and the 1920 version of hootenannies from their basement studios. The better of these stations quickly got a following among local listeners. One told another, who in turn gathered up wire, headsets and a crystal and began to listen in. By the following year, the broadcast industry was born and boomed.

Meanwhile amateurs were perfecting their operating techniques. Messages could be sent coast to coast in as little as six minutes. A thousand miles were spanned, then two Amateurs eyed the Atlantic and in February 1921 a first test was tried. No luck.

Another was planned and to increase the chance of success, the League sent Paul Godley, a top receiver man, to England for the tests. On December 7, 1921 unmistakably American amateur signals were received "across the pond". Twice as many tube transmitters as sparks were heard, even though the tube jobs used only a fraction of the power used by the sparks; the handwriting was on the wall for the old time rigs.

The Alliance Amateur Radio Club
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Editorial

By John Myers, WX8G

Well, the holidays are over, and the new year is out of the gate. Hopefully, you're sticking to new years resolutions. Thanks to Uncle Sam, my new year doesn't really begin for me until sometime around February. I want to thank everyone for the nice comments about last months newsletter. Your words of encouragement are really appreciated, but don't forget to compliment those hams whose names appear in the credit box, to the left. It is only through their hard work that the newsletter comes together. Think about it. What good is a newsletter without articles? I don't know, either, but it's not a newsletter.

The last issue came out a bit on the late side. Thanks to the hard work of Larry(KE8VE), and Dianna Ashburn, last months issue made it out before the meeng. Every time I thought it was done, more problems popped up in the master copy. Larry KE8VE, and I were passing disks back and forth for about a week, before we solved the problem. Some minor glitches did manage to slip into that issue, but it was nothing, compared with the first master that came off the printer.

We didn't have a lot of info for the Zero Beat this month, which accounts for the size. I thought I would take this opportunity to run some filler material that I've been saving for a slow month.

HELP! We need your input to compile a net directory. I know, the ARRL beat me to it. But, this won't be that kind of net Directory. Because of your input, this one will have more of a local flavor. It won't be limited to any one band. We're looking for HF & VHF nets. Just forward your listings to WX8G. The results will be published in the April edition of the Zero Beat.

We're also looking for new listings for the Trading post. If you have any ham or computer equipment to get rid of, just give us a call at 821-5513, and we'll get it in the Zero Beat.

Don't forget that our membership year runs from April to April. That means that Dues will soon be due. For your convenience, we've included a Renewal form in this issue. Well, thats it for this month. Stay warm, & 73. WX8G

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Thanks to the contributors to
this months Zero Beat

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KB8GHZ

KB8GIA

K8OMO

N8IAK

The Zero Beat is a publication of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 3344, Alliance, OH 44601. Contributions to the Zero Beat are welcome, and can be given to any board member. Articles can be submitted in hard copy, or on disk (3.5" Double density or 5.25" IBM). We can read most Word processor formats, and Telephone transfer via modem, can be arranged by calling WX8G at 821-5513.

Packet submissions are not available at this time.

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**N8DZA/R REPEATER
PHONE LIST
145.370**

N8DZA JIM 15*
N8PLN GLORIA 355*
N8GIE JOHN 42*
N8XER MIKE 369*
K8DEN RAY 44*
KE8VE LARRY 418*
K8LW LOU 55*
NW8C PAUL 693*
K8OMO DON 70*
N8EWV LARRY 811*
N8EAD MATT 84*
KE8KH PATTY 811*
WX8G JOHN 102*
KC3CL DAVE 814*
N8IAK PAM 102*
W8WEN JACK 815*
KF8JD BILL 110*
N8NLZ DAVID 820*
N8PLA JOHN 112*
KB8ETV BOB 177*
N8QXT BILL 123*
N8MYR TERRY 177*
KE8II HAL 135*
KB8IQZ CHUCK 312*
N8VPA GRANT 135*
WD8JRR BILL 321*
N8PLM CHUCK 355*

**CONTROL OPERATORS
K8OMO...WC8F...WX8G...N8DZA
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON
THE ALLIANCE REPEATER PLEASE
CONTACT JIM FERGUSON N8DZA AT
823-3925.**

**AUTO-DIAL NUMBERS ARE
AVAILABLE TO ANY AMATEUR
RADIO OPERATOR WHO REQUESTS
THEM.**

Want To Solder Aluminum?

From Worldradio

Try this! Place a drop of clean motor oil on the place where the aluminum is to be soldered. Without wiping it off, take a sharp tool and scratch the area to be soldered. Apply a hot soldering iron to the spot and use resin-core solder. The solder adheres both physically and electrically. A good idea is to try a practice run on a piece of scrap aluminum before you try the real thing.

"To be upset over what you don't have is to waste what you do have."
Ken S. Keyes, jr.

From the PHD NEWS

**I AM A MEMBER
OF YOUR RADIO CLUB**

de BANDSPREAD

I see you at my meeting but you never say "hello"... You're busy all the time you're there, with those you already know

I sit amongst the members and yet I'm a lonesome guy... The new ones are as strange as I, but you old members pass me by.

But darn it, you folks asked us and talked of fellowship... You could just step across the room but you've never made the trip.

Why can't you nod and say "hello", or stop and shake my hand? Then go sit amongst your friends, now that I'd understand.

I'll be at your next meeting, perhaps a nicer time to spend... Do you think you could introduce yourself? I want to be your friend. Anonymous

Bert's 1'st law of electronics

The easiest way to cure an intermittent problem in a piece of equipment, is to order the service manual for it.

Once you have the manual in hand, the problem will go away without even opening the case!

For more info, ask KB8MFV

from the AARC Computerradio News

Country Music Hams

You fans of country music know that entertainer, Patty Loveless, produces chart-topping hits. But now it can also be told that Patty can also hold her own in a morse code round table QSO. This is according to QST Magazine that reports the Kentucky born songstress is now the holder of the Amateur Radio call sign KD4WUJ. QST says that Patty, a cousin of singer, Loretta Lynn, is married to Emory Gordy Jr. W4WRO and it was Gordy that got his wife interested in the two way hobby communications. The Gordy's make their home in Dallas Georgia, where Patty is reportedly active on 40 meters CW. News-line knows that you join in welcoming Patty Loveless KD4WUJ to our world of Amateur Radio.

Continued from page 1

Then the next spring, California was in contact two-way, with Hawaii and with the east coast. Another transatlantic test was held in winter of 1922-23, with Europeans being heard here and Americans and Canadians being heard over across. On November 27th 1923 two-way communication was finally established between Deloyin, France and Reinarts and Schnel in Connecticut. Moreover, it was done on the relatively short wave of 100 meters, confounding the professional theorists of the day who had proved mathematically that it couldn't be done in power levels permitted to amateurs. After that achievement, records fell right and left as amateurs tried the short waves of 80, 40, and then 20 meters. Commercial and government radio services, impressed by the amateurs low power work, also began using the short wave "en masse". The wartime and postwar developments had rendered the Wireless Act of 1912 obsolete. Yet Congress had not agreed on a new law to replace it. In the middle twenties, therefore, the communications industry regulated itself in a series of annual conferences called by the Secretary of Commerce-Herbert Hoover.

The gentlemen's agreements, first of the long waves and then of the short as well worked fine until 1926 when a broadcaster, unhappy with his assignment, took his case to court and it was held that neither the Secretary of Commerce nor the conference group had a right to assign frequencies. The resulting breakdown created such chaos that Congress produced the Radio act of 1927 and created a Federal Radio Commission to straighten things out. To their everlasting credit, when the breakdown of the law occurred, amateurs abided by their agreements, thus proving the maturity and self-discipline of the group, given expression in their voluntary League.

The preceding is a reprint from the QRN Newsletter the "House Journal" of the ANTIETAM RADIO ASSOCIATION via the "Tales Of The Treasure Coast" the Vero Beach Amateur Radio Club

Continued next month

"Getting people to like you is only the other side of liking them."
Norman Vincent Peale

Call- _____



Alliance Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 3344
Alliance, OH 44601
Renewal/Membership Application

Dues	
Sustaining	\$15.00
Full	\$10.00
Associate	\$5.00
Family	\$1.00

Name- _____ Phone # _____

Address- _____

City- _____ State- _____ Zip- _____ Birthday- _____

Occupation- _____ ARRL Member? Yes No

License Class- _____ Expiration Date?- _____ Year you were first licensed?- _____

Special interests (Hunting, Fishing, Contesting, Model Airplanes, etc.)- _____

Pro-rated dues schedule (New members only)

	May-July	Aug-Oct	Nov-Jan	Feb-Apr
Sustaining	\$15.00	\$11.25	\$7.50	\$3.75
Full	\$10.00	\$7.50	\$5.00	\$2.50
Associate	\$5.00	\$3.75	\$2.50	\$1.25
Family	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$0.75	\$0.25

Do not write below this line

Dues paid- Sustaining() Full() Associate() Family () \$ _____ on _____ , 19____ Signed _____

March 1994

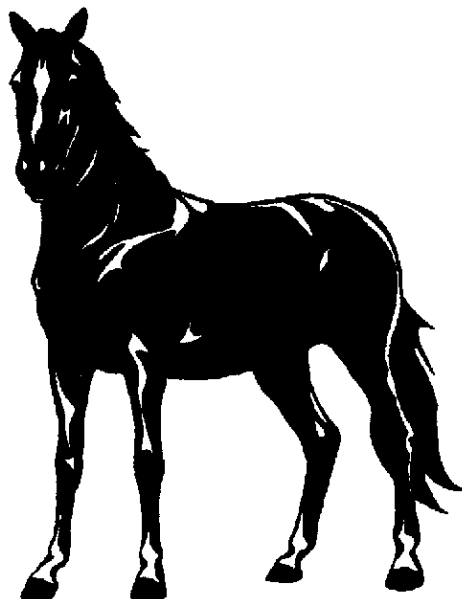
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27 Lake Co. Hamfest (Madison)	28 K8OMO Birthday	29	30	31 8:30 PM Tri-County News & Info Net	<table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> <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>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr> </table>		S	M	T	W	T	F	S	4	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	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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The Ham with a heart

From the Cochise Amateur Radio Club
"The Cochise Smoke"

Ed Kelly, KB7TFC, of Sierra Vista and his dad Paul, WA4YUN, of Pikeville, KY. Check into our Sunday morning 14.270 MHz net. Paul didn't check in on the day after Christmas but Ed did and related the following story. Ed's sister, Nancy May, of Pikeville, required a kidney pancreas transplant. She had been awaiting a suitable donor for a long time, and had recently begun dialysis treatments. On 23 December a call came from the hospital in Cincinnati, Ohio, saying they had a donor. However she only had five hours to get from Pikeville to Cincinnati. Pikeville is in southeastern Kentucky near the Tennessee border, and Cincinnati is just across the river from the northern tip of Kentucky. The route is through the Cumberland Mountains. It is a hard four hour drive in good weather. December weather in this area can be miserable. Highway conditions are hazardous with ice and snow and on 23 December the increased holiday traffic could further delay them. Paul loaded

Nancy into the car and they headed for Cincinnati. It was snowing. Shortly after leaving home Paul checked on two meters for road conditions and the best route. When he received a response, he explained his situation and the urgency of his trip. Enter the ham with a heart. Rodney K. Smith, N4ZIF was monitoring and broke



in. He said "Turn around and head for the airport. I will meet you there and fly you to Cincinnati." They did. He did, and Nancy got to the hospital with time to spare. The operation was a success. She received the kidney and pancreas, and is now recovering. Rodney flies for a major construction company. He said it's only a half hour to Cincinnati in the King Air. They would never have made it with the weather and traffic conditions being what they were. "I asked the company if I could use the plane and they never hesitated in giving permission for this flight." Think how easy it would have been for Rodney to just monitor or to pass on the road conditions. It was the day before Christmas Eve and surely he had some last minute preparations to make as most of us do. Instead he volunteered his time and his company gave the use of their aircraft to ensure that Nancy got to the hospital on time. Rodney, our hats are off to you. Congratulations and thanks from the members of the Cochise Amateur Radio Association. You put into practice what so many of us preach...the volunteer spirit of Amateur Radio.

Short Circuits

- It is with much sadness, that we report that former AARC member, Paul, WB8MEK has passed away. He is survived by his wife, Margaret, KB8FBM.
- Larry Beaver KB8NIQ, has passed his Extra class exam. His new callsign is AA8NV.
- Congratulations to Dennis Siegfried, & Steve Been, who've received their calls. Dennis is KB8RJC, and Steve is KB8RJA.
- Here, with apologies to Letterman, are some reasons for NEVER leaving the hamfest early:
 - 5. You might miss out on a great deal on a "Harmonic Wave Analyzer" (Youngsters, read Boat Anchor).
 - 4. You'll miss the results of the "How long has that hot dog been under the broiler" contest at the lunch stand.
 - 3. C'mon! Stay, and get a look at the stuff you'll see at the next hamfest.
 - 2. You'll finally be able to walk through the isles without bumping into anyone.
 - 1. You won't miss out on your door prize. Right, K8OMO?

Alliance Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 3344
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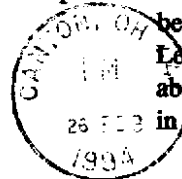
5 years ago

(from the February 89 Zero Beat, N8IAK ed.)

- Our Ham of the month was N8DZA. N8DZA & KE8VE were appointed as co-chairmen for the AARC Mall show.
- Two new hams took over the Novice Column. They were Jim & Gladys Wilson. their calls (KB8GHZ & KB8GIA) came later.
- The amateur Radio community was anxiously awaiting the outcome of Docket 87-14, which took away part of the 220 MHz band.
- The ARRL appointed a No-Code study committee to study the implications of a no-code Ham license.
- We started the AARC DXCC contest. The first AARC member to confirm 100 countries after January 1st, 1989, was to be the winner of a plaque, and a \$150 gift certificate for Ham radio equipment. (Is the contest still on? Did anyone claim the prize? WX8G)

Pres Says

I'm very pleased at the attendance at club meetings. The club is growing and that's a good sign. We have a lot of good programs coming up in the next few months. Ken Simpson W8EK will be at the March meeting to talk about solar powered cars. Larry Solak WD8MPV, will be at our April meeting, and Bud Moser K8DHD will be here in May to talk about traffic handling. If you like the programs we have been having at the meetings, look up W8ZZS at the next one and pat him on the back for a job well done. Bill has done an outstanding job with this, and I've probably thanked him a million times already, but THANKS BILL! Wasn't it great to see two veterans of the club jump in and volunteer for Field Day Co-Chairs? N8DZA Jim and K8OMO Don have volunteered to get the ball rolling for Field Day events. I appreciate their effort. They will be talking about it in the months ahead at the meetings, so if I were you I'd red letter the first Thursday of the month on the calendar so you won't miss a thing! Did anyone catch the faux pas that I made on the last Tri County News and Information Net? Should I even tell you? Nah, I'll let you guess, it's more fun that way. Jim is still looking for volunteers to be net control. It's easy and so much fun. Let Jim know if you're interested. That's about it from the President's desk. See you in March! (N8IAK)



Dave Glass WBUKQ
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Alliance, OH 44601