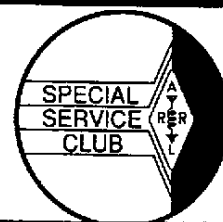




Zero Beat

Serving hams in the Tri-County Area



Volume 8 No. 10

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

December 1994

A Comet Story

by Dave Baysinger WG0N

Clubhouse?

In mid-July, astronomers were stunned as more than 20 pieces of shattered comet Shoemaker-Levy 9 crashed into the gas giant planet, Jupiter.

The fragments ranged in size from 1/2 Kilometer to more than 2 Kilometers and dove to their demise at more than 130,000 miles per hour. The Jovian atmosphere trembled and contorted. Black-eye look-alikes smudged the cloud tops and could even be seen through small backyard telescopes.

That first Saturday evening, when the first chunks were smashing around creating cosmic havoc, a small group of radio amateurs could be seen clinging to the frigid 14,264 ft. summit of Mt. Evans west of Denver. They had white knuckles, but wide grins on their face places.

For on the evenings of July 16th and 17th, Denver Radio Club members Jim White-WD0E, Tim Samaras-WJ0G, and Dave Baysinger-WG0N, assisted by Jeff-KB9HKT, Matt-KB2PCN, Steve-NH6S, and Steve-WB0FPV, recorded a series of "firsts" during two marathon sessions of ATV transmissions totaling 7 hours. The trembling team transmitted "live" color fast scan pictures and sound downhill to the Gates Planetarium and responded to "talk-back" questions from the public in a 250 seat auditorium at the Denver Museum of Natural History.

Program material featured interviews with astronomers working with the large 24 inch telescope on the mountain, weather reports from the summit, descriptions of the various mountaintop experiments in both infrared and visible light and, naturally, demonstrations and explanations of the Ham Radio link.

Technically, the lash-up was awesome! WD0E, Jim received coaxial feeds from the Denver Museum's Ikegami color camera and microphone. He injected the signals into his ATV transmitter running 10 watts in the 432 MHz UHF Band into an 11 element horizontally polarized Yagi beam. Mountaintop on-site TV monitoring insured that the transmitted picture was well synchronized and of high quality.

Each evening at the Gates Planetarium, WJ0G, Tim, positioned himself on the west walkway amid a throng of 2000 people. The received signal arrived at his Yagi antenna, fed a 432 MHz receiver and down converter, then traveled via coax cable to a planetarium outdoor monitor, inside tape recorder, and large screen (6ft. x 8ft.) video projector in the auditorium.

Transmissions began at 6:30 each evening and ended at 10:30 pm; 9:30 pm respectively. Mt. Evans systems, including a 600 watt TV light, were powered by a "field day type" generator.

"Talk back" service was provided to Planetarium Manager, Don Asquin, who spoke to WJ0G from the auditorium, a signal which was uplinked to the mountain summit on 144.34 MHz (2 meters). On Mt. Evans, the signal was received on a trunk mounted duo-band antenna and crosslinked to 446.100 MHz (440 band) for local access to HT's on belts, in cars, and inside the metal dome of the observatory.

During the entirety of the TV feeds, it was possible to see high quality ATV color pictures with clean FM sound in the jammed auditorium. It was also possible

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NO, not really, but the club has been offered the use of an observatory in Paris.

It's too small for club meetings, but it could easily become the focal point of some of our club activities; Field Day, to name one. The observatory has been all but abandoned, and faces certain demolition, as an eyesore, in the next year or two, unless...

The proposal was presented to the club at the November meeting, and was tabled until the condition of the building could be assessed. We'll be going down this month to check out the inside of the structure. We think that the telescope may still be intact. Look in the next Zero Beat, for more information.

Meeting Announcement

Our next meeting will be held on December 1st at the Alliance Community Hospital. We will be meeting at 7:30 PM, in room A, which is just off the Cafeteria.

The program for this meeting is to be announced. Bill reports that the speaker he has in mind can't be scheduled in advance, so just in case, he's lined up a terrific new video from Ten Tec. Either way, it should be a great program!

Also, this is your last chance to get your Ham of the Year ballots in to N8IAK. While you're at it, don't forget to get your dinner reservations in to KE8VE, for the Christmas Party.

The Alliance Amateur Radio Club

P. O. Box 3344, Alliance, OH
44601

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The Alliance Amateur Radio Club meets on the first Thursday of every month, at The Alliance Community Hospital. Our meetings are held in room A, and begin promptly at 7:30 PM. Visitors are always welcome.

Editorial

by John Myers, WX8G

Well, I hope you had a great Thanksgiving. As I'm writing this, Turkey Day is still a couple weeks away, but recent events have reminded me just how much we all have to be thankful for. I won't bore you with the details. Just turn on your TV news, and you'll see what I mean.

Well it's been a year since I took over as editor of the *Zero Beat*. At the time, things were pretty topsy-turvey. We weren't sure when the publication of the *Zero Beat* would resume. Heck, we weren't even sure if it would resume.

In the last year, I've received a lot of compliments on the newsletter, and each one was appreciated. I hope, though, that when you compliment me, you also compliment the people whose names appear in the credit box. Without their input, you wouldn't be reading this.

I mentioned Jim & Gladys last month, as well as Jack, so I won't repeat those comments here. They may decide to ask for a raise.

You know, writing for the *Zero Beat* is not brain surgery. Compared to taking an Amateur Radio exam, it's a snap. All I have to do is write what I think you'd like to read, and try to make it coherent. Then I proofread it to take out as many of the spelling errors as possible. Then, I turn the file over to two of the best proofreaders you ever saw, to keep me from looking like a total idiot.

Larry & Dianna Ashburn do a lot of work proofreading this newsletter. Then they print the masters, and take them to the printer, then to the Post Office. So, just remember, what you're reading here is the combined work of quite a few of your fellow club members.

I'll have the new 1995 calendar on display at the December meeting. How about reading it over and penciling in any changes, or corrections. Remember that old programmers saying? Garbage In, Garbage Out (GIGO). Well, here's your chance to help me eject the garbage before it hits print.

Well, that's it for now. See you next month. 73 DE WX8G

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Credits

Thanks to the contributors to

this month's Zero Beat

AA8GY

KB8GHZ

KB8GIA

K5TQN

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 welcomed. Deadline is the 2nd Saturday after the club meeting.

Articles can be submitted in hard copy, or on IBM formatted disk (3.5" or 5.25" IBM). We can read most word processor formats. Transfer via Packet can be arranged by contacting KE8VE. Direct telephone transfer, via modem can be arranged by calling WX8G at 821-5513. Submissions can also be forwarded as E-mail, to 75027,1342 @ Compuserve.com.

Permission is freely granted to reprint portions of the *Zero Beat*, as long as credit is given to the author & source.

The editor & board reserve the right to edit all submissions.

This month, we're starting something new. It was decided at the last club meeting, that the minutes should be printed in the *Zero Beat*.

After 6 months, we will decide whether to continue with it, or not. It was felt that printing the minutes in the *Zero Beat* would better serve those members who are unable to attend the monthly meetings-WX8G

What I did this summer, by AA8GY

This summer I :

- Painted my house.
- Built an 80 meter preamp from Solid State Basics.
- Laid out and etched the PCB myself. It works.
- Laid out and etched PCB's for The Ugly Transceiver in the 1994 handbook.

- Put up a 40 meter 8JK w/300 feet+ of wire. Made insulators from PVC angle from Quality Farm and Fleet. Fed with open wire line from AES.
- Built kw antenna tuner.
- Repaired and calibrated SWR bridge I blew out in 1979.
- Replaced tube in HW101.
- Bugged Darryl at work to get Novice license. It's working. He tested on Nov. 12th.
- Helped NI8L put up his 48 foot 20 meter Yagi's.
- Showed how to cut 1/2 wavelength multiple cable.
- Built a zillion regen radios at work. All are surface mount.
- Went to three hamfests. Helped KC3CL take down tower.
- Boiled and ate corn with club.
- Built 1296 antenna.
- Went to surplus store (Electronics Exchange) at 547 McKinley, Akron Ohio (Ph. 216-724-3500). Open 12-5 Saturday. Call for hours.
- Bought 30's homebrew transmitter. No, you can't have it; its mine! Hi.
- I haven't straightened or cleaned up hardly anything.
- Kept the Camaro running - sort of.
- Cleaned the leaves from the gutters.
- Went to mall show. Shot the breeze. Took down some antennas.
- Operated a little on 6 meters at Field Day.
- Read "Disclosure," by Michael Crichton.
- Read "The Shipping News," by E. Annie Proulx (it won Pulitzer in 1994).
- Read "The Client," by John Grisham.
- Ordered "Microwave Update Proceedings" plus a new microwave projects book from League, and new 1995 Handbook.
- Bought one of those \$40 Chinese drill presses at Don Pancho's and put it together. Not bad for the price. There has to be a joke here! Where else can you get a burrito and a drill press for under \$50?

Minutes of the November 3rd meeting of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club

The November 3rd, 1994 meeting of the *Alliance Amateur Radio Club*, was called to order at 7:30 PM, by President Pam Myers-N8IAK. Pledge of Allegiance was given, followed by a round of introductions by members and guests. There were 26 members, and 4 guests present. The Secretary's report was given and approved by WX8G and seconded by KB8GHZ. The treasurer's report was given by Mary Ann Royer-KB8IVS. As of November 1, 1994, the total in the treasury is \$4095.98. Treasurer's report was approved by N8MAA, and seconded by W8WEN.

Committee Reports

Newsletter- WX8G announced that the deadline for articles would be November 12th. A motion was also made by WX8G to put the minutes of the meeting in the newsletter, on a six month trial basis. It was seconded by N8MAA, and the motion passed.

Mall Show- WX8G stated that the Mall Show is confirmed for April 1st & 2nd, 1995. Suggestion for a special events station and special QSL cards was discussed. Motion was made by WX8G, seconded by N8MAA to approve the idea. The motion was passed.

Classes- KE8VE stated that everyone was doing fine.

Programs- W8ZZS stated that no program has been confirmed for the December meeting.

Old Business

Christmas Party- N8DZA reminded everyone to have their reservations in by December 5th.

Ham of the Year Award- Please get your nomination to N8IAK as soon as possible.

Fox Hunt- WX8G reported that the fox hunt was won by Dave-KC8WY, and John-N8GIE. A motion to send a \$25.00 donation to the Isreal Lutheran church for use of their grounds was made by WX8G, seconded by N8DZA. The motion was passed.

Discussion of the Y-kids joining the club was tabled for the December meeting.

Santa Net will be on December 15th at 7 PM. Please give a few hints about the children to N8PLM, or N8IAK. It will help Santa a lot.

New Business

Callbooks- A motion was made by Ray-K8DEN, to order the international call book, seconded by K8OMO. The motion passed.

Clubhouse- WX8G brought up a motion about a clubhouse, and a motion to table it until more information is available was made by John-KF8ZG, seconded by K8OMO. The motion passed.

Announcements

- K8OMO's 1922 crystal set was on display.
- Massillon Auctionfest was to be held November 6th
- Glen-KB8RNV had a heart attack, send a card.
- The winner of the 50/50 was WX8G. \$13.00 went to John.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM by N8MAA and seconded by KB8GHZ.

2800 Jupiter Drive
Fairfield, OH 45014
November 11, 1994

Editor, *Zero Beat*
Alliance Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 3344
Alliance, OH 44601

Dear Editor;

I want to congratulate you and the Alliance Amateur Radio Club for your 1994 entry in the ARRL-Ohio Section 3rd Annual Newsletter Contest. The *Zero Beat* achieved 70 points of 100 total and this was close to the total of honorable mention awards. For a first time entry this is an impressive initial score.

You in Alliance are already doing the things we seek across Ohio in Ham Radio newsletters. Numerous local items, submitted by a number of members, and lots of items serving a wide variety of members. Please keep it up. Your newsletter will be used by me as an example of what a well edited letter should look like. A well edited newsletter, like *Zero Beat*, strengthens your club and ham radio in the process.

Congrats again and thank you for reminding us why the Ohio section runs this newsletter competition in the first place.

Sincerely,

Joe Phillips, K8QOE
Public Information Coordinator
ARRL - Ohio Section

Ohio/Penn DX Bulletin No. 182

The Ohio/Penn Dx PacketCluster DX Bulletin
No. 182 BID: \$OPDX.182 November 14, 1994
Editor Tedd Mirglotta, KB8NW Provided by
BARF-80 BBS Cleveland, Ohio Online at
216-237-8208 14400/9600/2400/1200/300 8/N/1

Thanks to the Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society, Northern Ohio DX Association, Ohio/Penn PacketCluster Network, WM2C, ND3A, WX3N, KD4ND, K4CEF & the Southeastern Cluster Group, N8HTT, K8UNP, K8MFO, WD8LLD, WD8NSD, DL5EBE, F6AJA, JAPAN DX NEWS, JE1JKL, ON6TT and VE1UK for the following DX information.

9M6, EAST MALAYSIA. Saty, JE1JKL will be active as 9M6NA for CQWW CW Contest on 20 meters single band. QSL to JE1JKL. Although he prefers exchanging QSLs via the bureau, please note that his home address has been changed recently if you want a QSL direct. The new address is: Saty Nakamura, 1-27-2, Kamiya, Ushiku, Ibaraki, 300-12 JAPAN.

A2, BOTSWANA. Dave, A22MN, says he will be operating 160 meters starting at 0300Z (November 14th) on 1827-1828 kHz. He will start on 160, then as propagation permits he will move to 80 meters (3511 kHz), then to 40 meters (no frequency mentioned). He plans to run this operating schedule for one week, then this schedule will be run every other week due to his work schedule (one week on and one week off). Dave will be leaving A2-land in mid to late March 1995. Then he is off to Helsinki for 4 years. Also, he said that ARRL CW weekend will probably be his last contest from A2.

C6, BAHAMAS. Operators WS4E, KOPP, KE7X, NF6S, and WM2C will sign C6AHX as a Multi/Single entry during the CQWW CW Contest. The group will be operating from Treasure Cay, and will have 3 stations plus lots of antennas set up. Before the contest they will operate mainly on CW, and on the high and low ends of the spectrum on 160, 80, (at EU sunrise, and local sunrise) and 10 meters, checking propagation and antenna performance. QSLs

THE TWELVE DAYS OF A HAM'S CHRISTMAS

Melody Traditional
Lyrics by Mac and Judy MacDonald
(K2GKK & KA5BJS)

Copyright 1979 Publication OK if
authors credited.

On the twelfth day of Christmas, My
true love gave to me:

Twelve ham club meetings,

Eleven tubes from surplus,

Ten theory classes,

Nine new transistors,

Eight rectifiers,

Seven co-ax relays,

Six eight-oh-sevens,

Five open bands,

Four microphones,

Three CQs,

Two repeater guides,

And a beam on a ninety foot tower.

An original performance by "The
Four Macs" "MORI" Christmas
Party, Oklahoma City, 1979

Publication OK if authors credited.

for C6AHX go to WA4WTG, and directly to the individual operators CBA or proper W-bureau outside the contest.

CR3/CT3, MADEIRA ISLANDS. Dominik, DL5EBE (DX-editor of CQ DL), along with DL2HYH, HB9CRV and a few others will be on Madeira Island from November 25th until December 1st. They will be active during the CQWW CW Contest as CR3U (DL2HYH, 15m), CR3X (DL5EBE, 40m) and CT3FN (HB9CRV, 80m) each in single op/single band class. The DL's will be signing CT3/homecall before and after the contest on all bands including some RTTY, AMTOR, PACTOR. QSLs will be via their homecalls.

Continued on Page 6

Dit and Dah talk radios

-A sound improvement

by Tim and Al Megahertzi

Dear Tim and Al: I've heard talk of DSP. What is it?

Eddie-on-the-hill
Auburn, CA

Tim: "Thanks for your inquiry, Eddie, but I think you've already got it. DSP is Deprived Sensory Perception. You know, the opposite of ESP. Hams over 40 who live above 1000-foot altitude are susceptible."

Al: "Tim is partially correct. I know Eddie and he certainly is deprived ... or is it depraved? But I think he's asking about Digital Signal Processing, which is now finding it's way into Amateur Radio."

"DSP uses digital methods to process signals such as the audio in a receiver. The signals are converted to digital, processed, then converted back to audio. If all goes as planned, the output sounds better or clearer than the input."

Tim: "That's the nicest thing you ever said to me, Al."

"Eddie, DSP is great for certain types of noise. Hams in less-desirable neighborhoods like yours can use DSP to reduce noise from low-rider sound systems, clashing motorcycle chains, and small arms fire."

"They can also be effective against the receiver hash generated by low-flying police helicopters. In your case, Eddie, don't stay in town without one."

Al: "Talk about oversell. Granted, DSP works wonders on noise, but an Uzi?

"DSP can reduce atmospheric noise, the kind your receiver's noise

blanker misses. But another nice thing is the automatic tracking and elimination of carriers- a feature that should warm the hearts of net operators and listmongers."

"One West Coast Swapnet Operator I know claims DSP radically reduced his blood pressure."

"A DSP makes a neat CW filter, reducing bandwidth to as little as 30 Hz. And a DSP in CW filter mode doesn't have the "ringing" common to other types."

Tim: "Right on, Al. During a recent CW contest, my DSP made the difference between easy copy and nearly impossible."

"Also, I work an old friend on 75 meters every Sunday. The DSP cuts the heavy static and allows us a longer QSO as the band deteriorates. So, Ed, I suggest you purchase a DSP unit."

Al: "Ed, I think you'll be impressed with what your new DSP can do for you. I also think DSP units will become a standard part of most future ham gear, because the performance truly is astounding. DSP is already built into some new rigs."

"If you want to learn more about DSP, read the article by Bruce Hale, KB1MW/7, in the July '91 QST. Bruce does a fine job describing DSP functions and features."

"I hope Tim and I have answered your questions. Best of luck and 73!"

reprinted from the Dec. '92 River city ARCS
(Sacramento, CA)

'Newsletter'-N6YQD ed.

Via the February '93 ARNS bulletin.

Comet
from page 1

for the "reporter", WG0N, Dave, and photographer/ATV operator on the mountain to hear questions from the public directed to the summit. Since the entire system was full duplex, it was even possible to interrupt Asquin for question clarifications. Regarding the "firsts," it's difficult to say for sure. We're still debriefing, not to mention thawing out. Surely it was the longest and farthest ATV transmission from a Colorado 14er. It was one of the largest public audiences that Ham Radio and ATV has ever had, with a 2 night total of 4000 people. It was probably the first "live" full duplex ATV public direct transmission in O-land, not to mention the "DX" path of nearly 40 miles with a (????) MHz bandwidth. The public was extremely pleased with the coverage. Comments, applause, and letters received by the gates Planetarium attest to that. Fascinating Ham Radio technologies were super-glued together with gratifying success. Field engineers from Denver TV stations, peering from their \$250,000 microwave remote trucks, were heard to ask more than once, "...but, how are you doing this?" High on the mountain, above 45% of the earth's atmosphere, there was a dark starry sky above and the countless lights of Colorado front range cities scattered 9000 feet below. The 35 degree cold and wind driven chill factor combined to insure that microphones stayed firmly affixed in the hands that gripped them. "But, gosh, it's adventure, mom." "We're Amateur Radio Operators." "There's a comet hitting Jupiter, and we have to be first."

This story was submitted by Larry Amann, K5TQN.
The source and editor are unknown

CQ Santa Claus

Are you afraid that your little one's letters to Santa might not make it on time? Well, don't worry. The Alliance Amateur Radio Club is coming to the rescue. Santa Claus will soon be on the air to take your requests. The big event will happen on December 15th at 7 PM on the N8DZA(145.37) repeater.

Parents & grandparents, you can

help out by writing and telling Santa a little bit about your little ones. He'd like the normal information, such as names & ages. But, he'd also like to know a little about each child.

Do they have a favorite pet? What was their favorite Christmas gift? Their most memorable Christmas? What do they like to do? I think you get the idea.

Please address all responses to:

Operation Santa Claus
C/O Alliance Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 3344
Alliance, OH 44601.

You can also give your letters to Pam Myers N8IAK. Just remember to get those cards and letters in by December 8th.

Merry Christmas & HO! HO!
HO!

Faster licensing:

FCC sets date for electronic filing

On October 24, the FCC released a 7-page order amending its amateur rules, effective December 20, 1994, to reflect what the Commission calls "nonsubstantive procedural changes:"

1. To permit electronically filed data from VECs (paper applications also will still be accepted).
2. To authorize operation as soon as the new license data appears in the amateur service licensee data base, rather than (as now) when the license document has been delivered (details of how the new licensee can determine his call sign will be announced later).
3. To add a new rules section, "Examinee Conduct," to emphasize that an examinee must comply with the instructions given by the administering VEs.
4. To treat "Technician Plus" as a license class.
5. To provide for a "renewal short form," which the FCC says will be mailed to licensees in advance of their expiration date beginning sometime in 1995.

The FCC added that renewal applications would be accepted no more than 90 days before the expiration date. Because of the nature of these rule amendments, there is no notice or comment period required by federal law. Again, these changes do not take effect until December 20, 1994.

from the ARRL letter, V13, No.20

DX from page 4

FK, NEW CALEDONIA. Serge, F6AUS, will be active as FK/F6AUS from November 17th to December 8th. He hopes to be active from Loyalty Islands (IOTA OC-033), from Huon Island (IOTA OC-058) and Belep (IOTA OC-079). He will operate on all bands CW and SSB, but watch on IOTA frequency.

FR/G, GLORIOSO ISLAND. Jacques, FR5ZU, will be active as FR5ZU/G

HOW TO AFFORD THAT NEW DREAM RADIO

Sure, new radio's are getting expensive. So you have to do a little more scheming, otherwise it will be all dreaming. You have to put more effort into finding creative ways to manage your money so you have more left over for buying toys. A penny earned right? Well here's a true story I ran across which illustrates how a little creativity can pay off.

A customer walked into a bank in Columbus, Ohio and made his way to a loan officer. He said "I'd like to borrow some money." Do you have any collateral? asked the loan officer. "Yes I have a \$10,000 bond" the customer said, offering the bond. "Okay" the loan officer said, "You can borrow anything up to \$10,000." "Right I'd like to borrow a dollar" "You can't do that" "Then you lied to me" the customer said. "You said I could borrow anything up to \$10,000. I want to borrow one dollar." "Very well" relented the loan officer, "Lets fill out the paperwork." The customer took his dollar and left. A year later the customer went back and found the same loan officer. "I'd like my bond back, Here's \$1.15 to pay off my loan." "Glad to be of service" said the perplexed loan officer, "but before you go can you explain why you wanted to borrow only one dollar?" Sure the customer explained, "a year ago I came in here because I wanted a safe place to keep my bond." and "I was told that I would have to pay \$26.75 to rent a safe deposit box for a year. So I accomplished my purpose for 15 cent's." Jody K3JZD

(with thanks to Midrange Systems, Dec. 14 1993 issue for the true story)

from November 17th to December 8th. Look for him to show up on some of the French DX nets. QSL for America/Europe via VE2NW.

V4, ST. KITTS AND NEVIS. John/WZ8D and Joe/WB8GEX will be operating on all bands 160-6 meters CW and SSB, from November 19-27th. Their calls will be V47WZ and V47NF, respectively.

Skin dat fox!

The Alliance Amateur Radio Club's fall Fox Hunt was held on October 22nd. John-WX8G, and Pam-N8IAK were the foxes for this hunt, and chose a parking lot across from the Isreal Lutheran church in Paris, as their hiding place.

Four teams participated to find the fox, including N8GIE, who was eating lunch with his parents at Roadhouse. That is, until Dave-KC8WY came back, and picked him up.

The day was perfect for fox hunting, with clear skies, and temperatures in the 70's. We got underway 15 minutes late, but this didn't deter the hunters.

Within 30 minutes, the team of KC8WY and N8GIE had found the fox, followed by K8OMO and Sherry, N8DZA and W8ZZS, and KF8ZG brought up the rear.

After the hunt, everyone continued south to the home of Larry Newton N8BGJ, for a bonfire. Many hot dogs and marshmallows were consumed, as well as mass quantities of baked goods. Many thanks to the Newton family, for a great time!

Scores from the AARC Fall Fox Hunt

- 1st place KC8WY N8GIE 300 pts.
- 2nd place N8DZA W8ZZS 714 pts.
- 3rd place K8OMO Sherry 783 pts.
- 4th place KF8ZG 945 pts.

Scores were determined by multiplying the elapsed time, by the distance traveled

from Midstate Amateur Radio Club-Spark Gap

BAILOUT

by KI7SY in the Garden City
Wireless

A pilot was flying an old biplane over some farmland. Unfortunately, it's engine caught fire. Fortunately, the pilot was able to bail out. Unfortunately, his parachute failed to open. Fortunately, there was a large haystack on the field below. Unfortunately, there was a pitchfork sticking up out of the haystack. Fortunately, the pilot missed the pitchfork. Unfortunately, he also missed the haystack.

5 years ago

from the December 1989 Zero Beat.

Dennis & Janice Barber,

KB8GCF & KB8GCE Editors.

- With the No-code license being talked about seriously, someone (who shall remain anonymous) in a feeble attempt at humor, advertised a set of "No-Code CW study tapes". This study kit was to come with 2 90 minute tapes loaded with No-Code CW practice. If these sold well, a line of blood test study tapes was also planned.
- Tech/General classes were due to start after the holiday, with Jim Ferguson-N8DZA as the instructor.
- Pam Myers-N8IAK vented her spleen about a couple of topics, including the lack of participation by all but a few club members. Also on her list was her displeasure with the idea of making the *Zero Beat* into a bimonthly publication.
- The 1989 AARC Christmas Banquet was to be held on December 23rd at Roadhouse Charlie's. Dave-KC3CL and Kitty-N8LIP Buckwalter were in charge.
- The series on "Couples in our club" concluded with a biography of N8EWV & KE8KH.
- My question is answered. Jack Bennett-W8WEN won the AARC DX contest by being first to confirm 100 countries.
- The latest roster was included in the *Zero Beat*. 43 members were listed. 21 of these are still club members today.

Comics funding sought



All kids like comics. Every year, ARRL HQ provides some 50,000 copies of an Archie ham radio comic to amateurs, who then give them to interested youngsters as part of the league's effort to tell them about Amateur Radio.

Print runs of 100,000 (the minimum) cost about \$19,000. The comics come with a reply card for more information and a list of companies and clubs that have contributed to the comics program.

So, please help, by asking *your* club to consider giving \$50, \$100, \$250 or what your members can afford-or asking your club newsletter editor to run this article in the next issue. Contact the ARRL Educational Activities Department for details. And thanks.

from the Signal Report

RETIREMENT

From A Child's Point Of View

After a spring break a teacher asked her young pupils how they spent their holidays. One small child wrote the following:

"We always used to spend holidays with Grandma and Grandpa, they used to live here in a big brick home but Grandpa got retarded and they moved to Florida."

"Now they live in a place with a lot of other retarded people. They all live in little tin boxes. They ride on big three wheeled tricycles and they all have name tags because they don't know who they are. They go to a big building called a wrecked hall, but they must have got it fixed because it's alright now. They play games and do exercises there, but they don't do them very good."

"There is a swimming pool there, but they all just stand in it with their hats on. I guess they don't know how to swim."

"As you go into their park there is a doll house with a little man in it. He watches all day so they can't get out without him seeing them. When they can sneak out, they go to the beach and pick up shells."

"My Grandma used to bake cookies and stuff, but I guess she forgot how. Nobody cooks; they just eat out. They eat the same thing every night, Early Birds. Some of the people don't know how to cook at all so my Grandma and Grandpa brings food into the wrecked hall and they call it pot luck."

"My Grandma says Grandpa worked all his life and earned his retardment."

"I wish they would move back up here but I guess the little man in the doll house won't let them out."

Author unknown: from the J.A.R.P. Repeater
Joplin Mo. July 1994

Layout for this issue of the Zero Beat was done by trolls hiding out behind N8IAK's washing machine. They do good work, but are cranky about being mistaken for dirty laundry. Cranky, but Clean.

AA6EE is offering Alliance ARC members discount prices on Radio Amateur Callbooks, ARRL books & QRZ! Ham Radio CD-ROM.

1995 Callbooks

North American (retail \$35)	\$26.50
International (retail \$35)	\$26.50
Both	\$51.25

ARRL Antenna Book 17th ed.-----	\$27.95
Antennas & Techniques for Low-band DXing---	\$18.95
1994 ARRL Handbook-----	\$18.95
1995 ARRL Handbook-----	\$28.95
QRZ! Ham radio CD-ROM (retail \$29.95)-----	\$14.95

All items postpaid. Duane Heise, AA6EE -Callbook Distributor, 16832 Whirlwind/ALL, Ramona, CA 92065. (619-789-3674) ('95 Callbooks available 12/12; Handbook 11/22)

Alliance Amateur Radio Club

Christmas Party



Reservation Form

The annual Alliance Amateur Radio Club Christmas banquet is scheduled for Saturday, December 10th at Roadhouse Charly, 2239 West State Street. There will be a cash bar at 6, with dinner served at 7 pm. Please fill out this reservation form, and return it to Larry Ashburn, KE8VE, with your payment made out to the Alliance Amateur Radio Club. Larry's address is: 1080 West Beech St., Alliance, OH 44601.

Our menu this year will be as follows:

- Choice One - 8 oz. Strip Steak \$12.95
- Choice Two - Boston Broiled Scrod \$9.25
- Choice Three - 1/2 Honey or BBQ Chicken \$8.25

Dinners include: baked potato, salad and choice of coffee, tea or iced tea. Prices include tax, gratuity.

Name: _____

1 Steak # _____ @ \$12.95 = _____
2 Scrod # _____ @ \$ 9.25 = _____
3 Chicken
 Honey # _____ @ \$ 8.25 = _____
 BBQ # _____ @ \$ 8.25 = _____

Total enclosed = _____

*Note: All reservations must be received by December 5th.

December 1994

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7:30 PM AARC Meeting	2	3 North Olmstead Hamfest
4	5 20/9 VE exams 216/ 755-1000	6	7	8 8:30 PM Tri-County News & Info Net	9	10 AARC Christmas Party
11	12	13	14	15 7:00 PM AARC Santa Net	16	17
18	19	20	21 	22 8:30 PM Tri-County News & Info Net	23	24
25 	26	27	28	29 8:30 PM Tri-County News & Info Net	30	31 

from the Bulletin

Great Radio Lies

Don't forget to vote for your choice of "Ham of the Year"

Vote for your choice and return your ballot to last year's "Ham of the Year,"

Pam Myers N8IAK, 510 West Harrison St., Alliance, OH 44601

My choice is _____

Reason _____

- I'm from the FCC and I'm here to help....
- I never run excessive power....
- I fixed it right the first time! It must have failed for some other reason....
- We shipped your new linear yesterday....
- All you have to do is follow the manual....
- No need to look it up; I've got it memorized....
- It's a quick job; We'll be home for lunch...
- I thought YOU brought the connectors....
- Sure you can test the high voltage; just grab the wire fast and with one hand....
- You can't hurt it; just tune up and look for smoke....

Short Circuits

- The Dayton Amateur Radio Association is once again accepting applications for its scholarship program, open to all FCC-licensed amateurs who will graduate high school in 1995. The DARA offers eight scholarships of \$2000 each. For more information and application forms, write to: DARA Scholarship Committee, 45 Cinnamon Court, Springsboro, OH 45066

- After reading this issue, you might have wondered, Where's "Where's DX?". Well, Jacks tower has a severe case of "Lying on the ground for maintenance-itis". Hopefully, it won't be a long case. He reports that the patient is responding well to some new paint, hardware, etc.

- Quote of the week: Don't keep your feet under the table too long; It makes your pants shrink.. KB8KKA

- Best wishes go to David (N8NLZ) and Mildred Hostettler, on the occasion of their upcoming 50th wedding anniversary on December 31. The event will be marked by an open house at the church. Additional information will available at the next club meeting.

- N8MAA has a plastic owl on his antenna as a deterrent to other birds. It must either be very realistic, or there are some nearsighted owls out there. On the evening of the 11th, hearing a noise from outside, he muted the sound on the TV, and heard an owl hooting. He went outside and shone his light on his antenna in time to see a great horned owl who was attempting to display his amorous intentions towards Jim's owl. The Romeo flew away when he realized he had an audience. The only question I have is: who gets pick of the litter?

Prez Says

What nice weather we've been having for November! Hopefully, winter won't be hard on us this year.

If you haven't sent me your nomination for Ham of the Year, you must do it now! I only have 3 at this time, which is a little disheartening.

I'm looking forward to the Christmas party. Don't we always have a great time? See you in December. N8IAK



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Alliance Amateur Radio Club
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Dave Glass W8UKQ
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 Alliance, OH 44601