



## AMATEUR RADIO GIANT BILL ORR, W6SAI, SK

Another Amateur Radio legend is gone. William I. "Bill" Orr, W6SAI, of Menlo Park, California, died in his sleep January 24. He was 81.

An ARRL member, Orr was best known for his numerous amateur radio books and reference works, many aimed at beginners. His titles include The Radio Handbook, The Beam Antenna Handbook, The Quad Antenna Handbook, The VHF-UHF Manual and The W6SAI HF Antenna Handbook, some written in collaboration with Stu Cowan, W2LX. Ironically, friends say, the lack of an antenna in recent days had kept Orr off the air.

Licensed in 1934 at age 15 as W2HCE in New York, Orr graduated in electrical engineering from the University of California in the early 1940s. In his younger years, Orr was a well-known DXer and DXCC Honor Roll member. He also was involved in DXpeditions to various exotic locations, including St. Pierre and Miquelon and Monaco, among other locales.

From the 1940s through the 1980s, Orr was a frequent contributor to QST, writing about tube-type amplifiers, Project OSCAR, and other topics. Orr constructed some of the amplifiers once used at ARRL Maxim Memorial Station W1AW.

For many years Orr worked with tube manufacturer EIMAC. Orr's application notes for EIMAC products were favorite

reading within the amateur community. In later years, Orr penned columns for Ham Radio magazine and, more recently, for CQ, where he edited "Radio Fundamentals."

In 1996, Orr was named the Dayton Hamvention Technical Excellence award winner. Chip Margelli, K7JA, of Yaesu, called Orr "one of the technical giants in Amateur Radio." Margelli said a hallmark of Orr's talent was that he always published information for designs that had actually been proven in the field. "He also was a true gentleman, and I shall miss him greatly," Margelli said.

Long-time friend Willard "Tiff" Tiffany, W6GNX, said Orr had a knack for making technical topics easy to follow and understand. He remembered Orr as "a friendly, helpful guy who wrote from the heart because he enjoyed doing it."

Another friend, Marv Gonsior, W6FR, says Orr "had a great sense of humor, a lot of wit about him."

Orr owned a condominium in Maui, Hawaii, and operated from there two or three times a year as KH6ADR.

Orr's wife, Sunny, died about five years ago, and he lived alone. He is survived by four daughters and a son. Arrangements are incomplete at this time.

*From the ARRL Letter (vol 20, no. 4)  
Rick Lindquist, N1RL, Editor*

## Alliance ARC gets honorable mention!

Our club has been awarded honorable mention in the ARRL's Club 2000 Achievement award Program,

Clubs were asked to submit entries, detailing their activities during the year 2000. The entries were tabulated at the ARRL board meeting in Dallas, and awards were issued.

In our category, the under 100, more than 25 member category, the winner was the Big Rapids Area Amateur Radio Club, in Paris, Michigan,

During the Christmas season, while the rest of us were relaxing, our president, Jerry, KG8RN, was gathering information, and preparing our clubs entry. Thanks, Jerry!

## Meeting Announcement

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, March 7th, in the cafeteria of the Alliance Community Hospital. Talk-in on the K8LTG repeater on 145.37 MHz.

Visitors are always welcome.

**Don't forget— Dues are due at the end of March. Mary Ann requests that you send in a renewal form, with your payment.**

## Officers

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John Myers, KD8MQ  
(see above)

## Editorial

By John Myers, KD8MQ

Would you consider yourself frugal? Do you believe that sometimes, you can save money, by spending money? Well, if you answer to those questions were yes, then the league has a deal for you. You can renew your league membership for five years, for only \$146. This amounts to only \$29.20 a year, and is a \$49 savings over the new membership rates. Nobody likes a dues increase, but this is one way to soften the blow to our wallets.

The mall show is coming up on memorial day weekend. It's time to start thinking about the role you will play. Do you operate any special modes? This is a great time to show it off. The mall show is a great time to demonstrate your hobby to the general public, and hams, alike. Is it just me, or has the weather forecasting gotten less accurate in the last few years? With tornado season beginning this month, Weather is on our minds, a little more. Sky warn classes are due to be held pretty soon. Check out the Schedule in this months issue.

Remember Mike, KA8JRM? He's a former member of the Salem, Youngstown, and East Liverpool Clubs. I heard from Jack W8WEN, that Mike is now stationed in Bahrain, as a chaplain in the US 5<sup>th</sup> fleet. He now has a Bahrain callsign, and is active on HF, as A92GM. Jack worked him on January 26, on 10 Meter CW.

Well, again, that's it for now. 73,  
DE KD8MQ

## 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**

Our club home page is:

**Http://www.qsl.net/w8lky**

## Newsletter Information

The Zero Beat is a publication of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 3344, Alliance, OH 44601

Unless otherwise noted, permission is freely granted to reprint portions of the Zero Beat, as long as credit is given to the author & source.

You can submit material to the Zero Beat either electronically, to kd8mq@qsl.net . I can read most word processor formats, but prefer your files to be in straight text, or Microsoft Word format.

We also accept handwritten copy. My address is to the left.

# Z e r o B e a t

## February Minutes

The regular meeting of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club was held at the Alliance Community Hospital on February 7, 2001, at 7:39 P. M., with Jerry Wheeler KG8RN, president, presiding. Secretary David Glass W8UKQ kept the minutes. There were 20 members and five guests present. The pledge of allegiance was given, and introductions were made.

The minutes of the last meeting were published in the newsletter. The report was approved upon motion by Jim N8XTJ, seconded by Gladys KB8GIA, and approved.

Mary Ann KB8IVS reported the treasury balances. The report was approved upon motion by Jerry K8CAT, seconded by Jim K8LTG.

### Old business:

- Don K8OMO reported that he sent envelopes to the Area 8 QSL Bureau.  
John KD8MQ has set up reservations for the Christmas party for December 15 at Mike's Road-house. They seem to be very cooperative.
- The Mall Show will be May 26 and 27.
- Jerry KG8RN suggested that RF filters be provided for the equipment at the Mall Show. Should the club buy an antenna for special events? Maybe there could be an antenna party to build something.
- Mile Branch Grange -- Salem representatives will contact the Red Cross there. The Alliance Red Cross will be contacted, also.
- The Salem VE session will be March 5, at 6 PM.

### New business:

- Mel KA8OEB reported that the Salem club's spring dinner will be March 17. The Salem club wishes to be able to cooperate with Alliance and the tri-counties, Stark, Columbiana, and Mahoning, for weather alerts and emergencies. Salem has nets on Tuesday on 28.310, and 147.255 (156.7) at 9 PM.
- Hamfests: Cuyahoga Falls on February 25, Toledo on March 18.
- Dave W8UKQ made the motion to file with the Secretary of State of Ohio the Statement of Continued Existence of Corporation - Not for Profit, and to pay the filing fee of \$5.00. The motion was seconded by Don K8OMO, and approved without objection.
- AARC received Honorable Mention in the ARRL Club 2000 Achievement Award, and Honorable Mention in the FISTS Coast to Coast Net in which Jack W8WEN participated.
- Jack W8WEN suggests more promotion of CW. He also called attention to Bill Orr W6SAI who is now a Silent Key. The FISTS will have four sprints on February 10.
- Jerry K8CAT announced the Breezeshooters contest on February 24.
- It was noted that the ARRL dues are being increased.

The meeting adjourned at 8:41 P. M.

Respectfully submitted, Dave Glass W8UKQ, Secretary

## ARRL BOARD APPROVES DUES INCREASE

Meeting in Irving, Texas, January 19 and 20, the ARRL Board of Directors voted to increase membership dues from \$34 to \$39 annually for full members younger than 65, and from \$28 to \$34 for full members 65 and older. The dues hike goes into effect July 1, 2001. The last ARRL dues increase was in July 1997.

The dues increase resulted from a need to fund initiatives to

expand the League's advocacy activities on behalf of Amateur Radio--including the defense of amateur spectrum--and to enhance ARRL Headquarters' abilities to serve members during a period of projected deficits. The Board okayed a \$1 greater increase for seniors in an effort to narrow the dues gap, as more and more ARRL members fall into the senior category.

*From the ARRL Letter (vol 20, no. 4) Rick Lindquist, N1RL, Editor*

## ARRL OFFERS NEW FIVE-YEAR MEMBERSHIP PLAN

With a membership dues increase going into effect July 1, 2001, the ARRL is offering a special five-year membership plan until then, so members can lock in at the current, lower dues rates. Effective immediately, current or prospective ARRL members in the US and US possessions can obtain a five-year renewal or membership for \$146 (\$122 for those 65 or older)--a saving of \$24 (\$18 for those 65 or older) from the cost of year-to-year renewal at current rates!

Due to postal considerations, this offer cannot be extended to those living in other countries.

The special five-year membership offer expires June 30, 2001, the last day the present dues schedule is in effect. After that, annual dues will increase to \$39 for individuals (\$34 for those 65 and older).

Another option is to apply for an ARRL Life Membership for \$850. Special discounts apply to senior and visually impaired applicants. A complete rate schedule and application form is available on ARRLWeb, <http://www.arrl.org/join.html>.

*From the ARRL Letter (vol 20, no. 6) Rick Lindquist, N1RL, Editor*

## Our Condolences

Our condolences go out to Bob, K8RLS, and his wife, for the loss of their son, James, on February 19th.

## How fast was it?

From the July, 1994 issue of World Radio, comes this excerpt from an editorial by Armond Noble, N6WR

"a few years ago, at the Pacific Convention, a young amateur told me a very interesting story. He wanted to become a ham, and spotted an antenna in his neighborhood. Visiting the amateur, he relayed his wishes, and was told to show up twice a week, after school, and he would be taught the code. He did exactly that.

When he showed up for the FCC exam, the inspector turned on the tape machine. The young man sat with his pencil down on the paper. The inspector told him to get started. He replied that he would, when it got up to 13 words per minute. He was told that was 13 WPM, and he started writing.

His after school instructor, Katashi Nose, KH6IJ, had taught him the code right off the bat, at 20 WPM."

## Famous quotes

**"I feel that there is a world market  
for as many as five computers"**

Thomas Watson, IBM corp. - 1943

The Mahoning Valley Amateur Radio Association  
celebrates its 82<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary by presenting

**AN EVENING WITH  
RILEY HOLLINGSWORTH**

**Thursday, March 8, 2001 in Youngstown, Ohio**

**Meet FCC Special Council Riley Hollingsworth  
K4ZDH. He will speak about the FCC's latest  
enforcement actions and what lies ahead for the  
Amateur Service. He will also take your questions.  
The program begins at 7:30 PM and will be held at  
McKay Auditorium of the new Beeghly School of  
education on Rayen Avenue at Youngstown State  
University. Free admission. All amateurs invited.  
For directions see below or visit our web page at**

**[www.mvara.org](http://www.mvara.org)**

**Talk in directions and parking information  
available at 146.745 beginning at 6:00 PM**

Easy access from I-680.

**From I-680 SOUTH** take Exit 6B then stay to the left and follow the HUBBARD signs

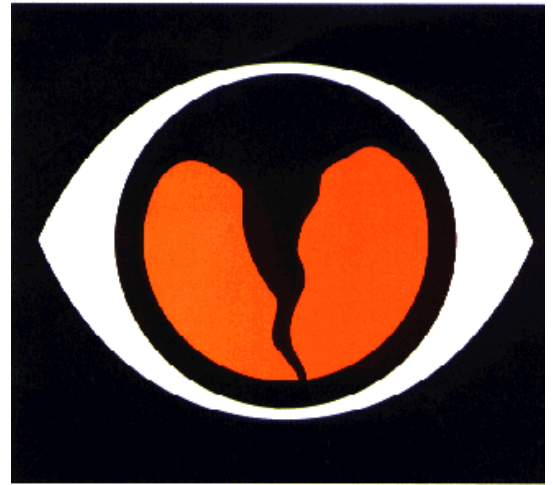
**From I-680 NORTH** take the HUBBARD exit 6A. Then take the exit marked 422 WEST WARREN which puts you on the Madison Expressway. Take FIFTH AVENUE exit. At the top of the ramp turn LEFT onto FIFTH AVENUE. At the FIFTH light (not counting the light at the top of the ramp) turn LEFT onto RAYEN AVENUE. Beeghly School of Education is on your LEFT, parking on the RIGHT.

**From Pennsylvania via I-80** take Exit 227 Salt Springs, turn left and follow road to I-680 interchange. Take I-680 South and follow directions above.

Call W8QLY on 146.745 for additional parking .

# **2001 Severe Storm Spotter Training Schedule**

**All sessions Conducted by the  
National Weather Service**



# **SKYWARN**

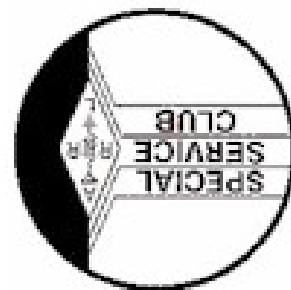
County	Date	Time	Location
Ashland County	April 26	7:00 PM	Ashland County Sheriff's Department
Carroll County	April 3	7:00 PM	Carroll County Fire Station 1101 Kensington St. Carrolton
Columbiana County	March 29	7:00 PM	Columbiana County Career Center 9364 S. R. 45, Lisbon
Holmes County	April 19	7:00 PM	Berlin Fire Department
Medina County	March 13	6:30 PM	Fire Station #1, Medina
Ottawa County	March 15	7:00 PM	Portage Fire District Station, Oak Harbor
Summit County	April 5	6:00 PM	TBD
Stark County	March 21	7:00 PM	Stark State College, Canton
Trumbull County	March 20	7:00 PM	Trumbull County JVS, Warren
Wayne County	March 28	7:00 PM	Wayne County Emergency Operations Center, Wooster

**SKYWARN Training is FREE and Open to the Public. Please attend any of the**

# March 2001

## Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
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4	5 6:00 PM SAARA VE Exams Contact Bob Tullis, W8HZ (330) 337-6544	6	7 7:30 PM Alliance Club Meeting	8 6:00 PM Riley Hollingsworth Youngstown see announcement Tri-county News & information Net - see page two	9	10																																																																																				
11 9:00 AM Cuyahoga ARS VE Exams Contact Gary Dewey (216)642-1399	12	13	14	15 7:30 PM Mahoning Valley ARC VE Exams James Viele, (330)534-1394 Tri-county News & information Net - see page two	16	17																																																																																				
18 Toledo Mobile ARC Hamfest <a href="http://www.tmrahamradio.org/">http://www.tmrahamradio.org/</a> Talk-in 147.27, or 442.850	19	20	21	22 Tri-county News & information Net - see page two	23	24																																																																																				
25 6:00 PM Warren VE Exams William Showers (330)872-1929 Lake County ARA Hamfest <a href="http://hamradio.org/lcara">http://hamradio.org/lcara</a> Check-in on 147.81	26	27	28	29 Tri-county News & information Net - see page two	30	31																																																																																				



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

## Excerpts from other clubs newsletter

(ed note-This is kind of a first for the newsletter, and done at the last minute, to boot. So, Be patient. I hope to expand this column, in the coming months.)

### Feedback (Massillon ARC)

#### *From the January issue*

- On November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2000, the Massillon ARC held a public radio demonstration, and recruitment exercise at the Radio Shack store, in the new Massillon marketplace. Several modes of communication, including ATV, were on



display to the public. The store manager was impressed enough, to offer ask the group to return next summer, and do it again!

- The 2001 Radio Shack catalog is out. Weighing in at a bit over 2 pounds, and 443 pages, it sounds like a must-have.
- The 442.85 MARC repeater is back on the air.

#### *From the February Issue*

- Congratulations to Terry Russ, N8ATZ, as the 2000 MARC Ham Of The Year.

### Feedpoint (Carroll ARS)

#### *From the February issue*

- The 147.075 repeater was temporarily off the air
- The Skywarn schedule from the Pittsburgh office of the NWS was published. Excerpts of that appear elsewhere in this issue.

