

## Former AARC Member Plans Trip Around The World

As some of you may know, one of our former members, Larry Hillier, N8EWV, is preparing to sail around the world in his 37 foot 16,000 pound (empty) sloop, Kokopelli. He is currently making repairs and modifications. He has added some solar panels and has been experimenting with loading the rigging for use as an antenna on 40 and 80 meters. He has made a number of contacts including Fred, W8SPR in Salem.

He is planning to sail in the Bermuda Cup with a crew of 4. The rally starts in Hampton, VA on June 21<sup>st</sup> and ends in St. George's, Bermuda, about 640 miles. The rally will last 4 to 6



Patti, KE8KH letters the newly painted Kokopelli

days. He still needs to find one

*(Continued on page 3)*



Larry removes parts in preparation for painting

### De Olde Meeting Announcement

The next meeting of the Alliance ARC will be on Wednesday, March 2nd, in the cafeteria of the Alliance Community Hospital. Our meetings begin at 7:30 PM, and are an excellent opportunity for eyeball QSO's. Directions can be found on the K8LTG Repeater (145.370) See you there!

## Officers

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## News and Info

Mary Ann, KB8IVS wants to remind everyone that dues will be due on April 1<sup>st</sup>. There's a renewal form on the club website or you may find one at the meeting.

Bob, K8RLS has a new e-mail address. bob3755@adelphia.net

We have a new club member, Tom Foos, AB8RZ. Welcome to the club, Tom.

Madison Hamfest will be on April 3<sup>rd</sup> this year. It isn't on the calendar in this issue of the Zero Beat and the April issue probably won't get to you before then so make a note on your calendar. It is sometimes a good one and not too far away.

Mansfield was about as good as it gets this time of year. I know of 5 AARC members who attended. The weather was good. AES even showed up! I think Mansfield was the first Hamfest I ever attended. I've only missed it twice since then. One year I was in Hawaii and one year I was sick.

I received an e-mail from our Ohio section manager a short time ago in which he predicted the winners of the Academy awards. I have no idea if any were right. Since I didn't need a sleep aid at that time, I didn't watch the show, but a few days after Joe sent his predictions, I received an e-mail from our Great Lakes Division Director in which he threatened to have all of Joe's fingers cut off if he was wrong. Claimed to have made a large wager based on Joe's predictions. Gee, I hope Joe got it right. He's just about the only person who sends me any articles for the newsletter. I don't know how he'll type with no fingers.

## 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](mailto:w8lky@qsl.net)

Our club home page is:

<http://www.w8lky.org>

## Newsletter Information

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

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You can submit material to the Zero Beat either electronically, to ke8ve@alliancelink.com, in person, or via snail mail. I can read most word processor formats, but prefer your files to be in straight text, E-mail, or Microsoft Word format.

## February Minutes Unavailable Health Problems Plague AARC Members

The minutes of the February meeting are not available at this time. Our long time secretary, Dave Glass, W8UKQ has had more serious matters on his mind. Several weeks ago he discovered a possible problem with his kidneys and went to University Hospital in Cleveland for some tests. He came home last Friday, Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> but the results weren't good. He has an inoperable tumor and will have to undergo chemotherapy. Dave said

he won't be able to make it to the meeting this month so we will need to find someone to fill in for him. Dave was planning to give up the position as secretary at the next election and now may be a good time to start hunting for his replacement. We all need to send Dave our best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Another club member has just returned home from the hospital. David Hostetler, N8NLZ was in

Aultman where he underwent surgery to remove a tumor from his lung. He said he is sore, but expects to recover completely. The tumor didn't seem to have spread and only the lower part of one lung had to be removed. He won't be able to attend the meeting this month, but I know we all wish him a speedy recovery. Rev. Dave, as he is known to most, has often helped others through troubled times and now it's our turn to support him.

### Kokopelli

*(Continued from page 1)*

crew member. Information on the rally can be found at: <http://www.carib1500.com/bc/>

Larry says he sold 13 acres and now his back yard is 139,400 sq. miles.

The 37 ft. sloop, Kokopelli, was built in 1984 by Pacific Seacraft. She has a fiberglass hull, a 10 foot 10 inch beam, 6,400 lbs of ballast and a 32 hp Diesel engine. She has bunks to sleep six. You can contact Larry on the web at [kokopelliboat@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kokopelliboat@sbcglobal.net) or listen for him on the HF bands.



KE8KH and N8EWV



New solar panels on deck

## THE WAYBACK MACHINE

ISSUE #15

by **Bill Continelli, W2XOY**

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The Technician license is, by far, the most popular class of license now held in the amateur community. Most new hams start at the Technician level, to the extent that proposals have been made to eliminate the Novice license as unnecessary. The amateur community accepts the Technician, especially the Technician Plus, as an acceptable mainstream license, either as a steppingstone to a higher class license, or as an end in itself. But it wasn't always like this. For the first 25 years of the Technician class license's existence, it was an official outcast, set apart by the FCC as separate and distinct from the other amateur classes. Why were Technicians considered second class? To answer this question, we must go back to 1951.

On July 1, 1951, the FCC replaced the class A, B, and C licenses with the Advanced, General and Conditional classes and created three new licenses--the Extra, Technician, and Novice. The FCC was specific about the purpose of the Technician class license, as shown in the following quote: "This class was established expressly for serious minded experimenters who need spectrum space in which to air test their equipment. It was not established as a communications service and should not be regarded as a stepping stone between the Novice and General operator classes. The Technician class of amateur license has as its purpose the provision for serious amateur experimenters to explore the higher frequencies and otherwise contribute to the art".

Thus, the Technician was an experimenter, not a communicator. For this reason, the FCC initially allowed Technicians privileges only on frequencies above 220 Mc. The FCC did not intend for the Technician to engage in casual conversations on the air. Other than allowing a Technician to simultaneously hold a Novice license (which at that time was valid for only one year and non-renewable), it was expected that the Technician operator would stick to experimentation, not communication.

Although many of the early Technicians were indeed pure experimenters, many others obtained the license as

a means to communicate without having to pass the 13 WPM code test. These "Technician communicators" became restless with the limited frequencies available above 220 Mc., and wanted access to the more mainstream VHF bands at six and two meters. They were joined by a small number of "Technician experimenters" who also wished access to 50 and 144 Mc., for the purpose of studying Sporadic E skip, building equipment for these bands, or even using their license for radio control.

Thus, in early 1955, a proposal was submitted to the FCC to allow Technicians access to six and two meters. Knowing that the FCC regarded the license as an experimental one, these proposals avoided mentioning "communication"--rather phrases such as "greater experimentation" were used. The ARRL supported Technician access to six, but not two meters. In announcing their decision, the ARRL stated that six meters was far less occupied than two meters, and could use the influx of Technicians to study the band, and thus contribute to greater understanding of the unique characteristics of 50 Mc. The ARRL went on to say that permitting Technicians on two meters would appear to make the Technician license too attractive. Many amateurs also wrote the FCC on this--some said that Technicians should have full access to all frequencies above 50 Mc., while others opposed the move, citing the FCC's original intent for this license, and expressing fears that by allowing Technicians to use six and two meters, they would become mere communicators.

On April 12, 1955, the FCC amended Part 12 of the rules and regulations to give the Technician class operator six but not two meters.

The fears of those opposed to Technician communicators were amplified in 1958 when, at the peak of the sunspot cycle, thousands of Technicians used F layer skip on 50 Mc. to work vast amounts of DX--with some earning the W.A.S. award. Nevertheless, allowing Technicians on six meters had a beneficial effect--it helped populate a band that was underutilized, and it allowed a greater study of E and F layer skip. For this reason, early in 1959 another proposal was submitted to the FCC to allow Technicians full access to the 144 Mc. band. This time the ARRL agreed. They stated that things had changed since 1955 and Technicians on two

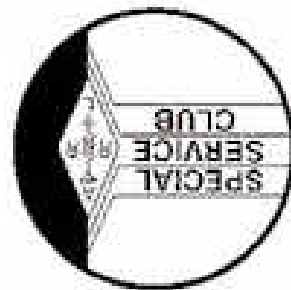
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# March 2005

Happy Birthday to: WC8F, KC8HUU, K8CBB, KB8IVS, KE8VE, KC8UMG, W8UKQ, K8OMO, N8LGE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																										
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>February</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</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></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </table> </div>		S	M	T	W	T	F	S			1	2	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						<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;"><b>1</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 2px;">             STARK COUNTY ARES NET 7PM 147.120         </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 2px;">             AGCW YL-CW Party CUYAHOGA FALLS OH - YOUNGSTOWN, OH         </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 2px;">             Home Security Net 7PM at ACH         </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">             NORTHERN COLUMBIANA ARES NET 9PM 147.255         </div>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;"><b>2</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p><b>AARC Meeting</b></p> <p><b>7:30</b></p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-top: 2px;">             CARROLL CTY NET - 8PM - 147.075         </div>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;"><b>3</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p><b>AARC NETS</b></p> <p><b>8:00, 8:30, 9:00</b></p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-top: 2px;"> <b>QCWA Net 7:30</b> </div>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;"><b>4</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;"><b>5</b></p> <p>ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center; margin: 5px 0;"> <b>KC8HUU</b> </div> <p>Open Ukraine RTTY Championship Wake-Up! QRP Sprint</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center; margin: 5px 0;"> <b>WC8F</b> </div>
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<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;"><b>20</b></p> <p>9K 15-Meter Contest</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center; margin: 5px 0;"> <b>KE8VE</b> </div> <p><b>TMRA Hamfest, Toledo, OH</b></p> <p>UBA Spring Contest, 6m</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;"><b>21</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 2px;">             COLUM. COUNTY TRAINING NET 8:00PM         </div>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;"><b>22</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 2px;">             STARK COUNTY ARES NET 7PM 147.120         </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 2px;">             Home Security Net 7PM at ACH         </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 2px;"> <b>KC8UMG</b> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">             NORTHERN COLUMBIANA ARES NET 9PM 147.255         </div>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;"><b>23</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 2px;">             CARROLL CTY NET - 8PM - 147.075         </div>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;"><b>24</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p><b>AARC NETS</b></p> <p><b>8:00, 8:30, 9:00</b></p> </div> <p>QCWA Net 7:30</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-top: 2px;"> <b>SKYWARN TRAINING 6:30pm</b> </div>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;"><b>25</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 2px;">             MASSILLON NET 8:00PM 147.18         </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center; margin: 2px 0;"> <b>W8UKQ</b> </div>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;"><b>26</b></p> <p>CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB</p> <p><b>MAHONING VALLEY ARA VE, YOUNGSTOWN, OH</b></p>																																										
<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;"><b>27</b></p> <p>Low Power Spring Sprint Spring QRP Homebrewer Sprint UBA Spring Contest, 2m</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;"><b>28</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 2px;">             COLUM. COUNTY TRAINING NET 8:00PM         </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center; margin: 5px 0;"> <b>K8OMO</b> </div>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;"><b>29</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 2px;">             STARK COUNTY ARES NET 7PM 147.120         </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 2px;">             Home Security Net 7PM at ACH         </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">             NORTHERN COLUMBIANA ARES NET 9PM 147.255         </div>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;"><b>30</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-bottom: 2px;">             CARROLL CTY NET - 8PM - 147.075         </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center; margin: 5px 0;"> <b>N8LGE</b> </div>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em;"><b>31</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p><b>AARC NETS</b></p> <p><b>8:00, 8:30, 9:00</b></p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-top: 2px;"> <b>QCWA Net 7:30</b> </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>April</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</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> </div>		S	M	T	W	T	F	S						1	2	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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42.7% of all statistics are made up on the spot.



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

## Wayback Machine

*(Continued from page 4)*

meters would benefit not only the advancement of the radio art, but would also allow all classes of amateur licenses to share at least one voice band in common, as Novices had access to the 145-147 Mc. segment of two meters.

Despite the ARRL's support of Technicians on two meters, there was opposition. Again, the argument as to the purpose of the license was brought up. Many amateurs wrote to the FCC stating that a Technician was an experimenter, not a communicator, and that the license should not be used for the routine exchange of communications. One ham complained that Technicians were rag chewing and not experimenting. A few amateurs not only wanted Technicians kept off of 144 Mc., but asked the FCC to incorporate their statement as to the purpose of the license into Part 12, presumably so that Technicians caught "communicating" rather than "experimenting" could be fined or have their licenses suspended. Others, including the ARRL, did bring in valid "experimental" reasons to allow Technicians on

two meters. Once again, the FCC compromised. They restated their official position that a Technician was an experimenter, not a communicator. However, they acknowledged that VHF studies could be made on two meters, and that it was beneficial to have one common meeting ground for all classes of license. Thus, on August 21, 1959, Part 12 was amended to allow Technicians access to the 145-147 Mc. segment of two meters--the same subband that Novices had.

And so Technicians entered the 1960s as a distinctly second class license. They were not eligible for RACES station authorizations. They could not hold many ARRL appointments. And, despite the ARRL support of full Technician access to all frequencies above 50 Mc., the FCC's official position had not changed. Although no Technician was ever actually fined or suffered a license suspension for the "crime" of communicating, many hams felt that Technicians were merely "glorified CBers" who were violating the spirit, if not the letter of the law.