

Jack, W8WEN Visits Copley Middle School

I was asked to go to Copley Middle School Friday afternoon (Feb. 3rd) to their Amateur Radio Club meeting. I took Jeff, ex KB8ETH along with me.

This is truly an amazing middle school amateur radio club. The enthusiasm is astonishing. I gave a talk on QSLing and showed them some of my cards. I explained how sending QSL cards was expensive with today's postage rates. However it is less expensive, I explained, to use the ARRL QSL Bureau and how I send a box of QSL'S to the outgoing ARRL QSL bureau for about \$12 per pound. I explained then that my cards would be sent by the ARRL bureau to foreign bureaus all over the world. Then to receive my cards I told them I have

to send a self stamped addressed envelope to my W manager. I explained that my manager did 8th call area suffix letters beginning with W and T. When my manager gets enough of my cards to fill my envelope he ships them to me. I explained that this process takes a long time. Sometimes years. They asked many questions. I gave each student one of my cards.

They meet in the school library. Their station, WA8CMS is in a club room off of the Library. I don't recall all of the equipment they have. I know they have the equipment from Marlinton and FMP?1000 high frequency transceiver, a computer and vhf gear to hook up to echo link.

After my talk they couldn't wait to show me their radio room and to get on echo link. They really knew how to do their stuff. They said what country do you want to talk to? They tried Mexico no one there--Argentina no answer. They tried USA and got a station in Idaho. Several of them gave their names and call letters. It was truly amazing how they had learned to use amateur radio protocol. This echo link sure gives them good training in operating procedures. They signed with Idaho and went to Europe. They found Bruno in Italy and gave him their names and calls. Bruno said his English wasn't very good. They told him his

(Continued on last page)

AARC Dues Are Due April 1st

Mary Ann, KB8IVS would like to remind everyone that Dues for 2006 AARC membership will be due April 1st. A membership renewal/application form can be found in the Zero Beat and there will be extra copies at the meeting.

You can pay your dues at the meet-

ing or mail to:

Mary Ann Royer
6255 Sandalwood Ave. N. E.
Canton, OH 44721-3340

Please make checks payable to:

Alliance Amateur Radio Club

Ye Olde Meeting Announcement

The next meeting of the Alliance ARC will be on Wednesday, March 1st, in conference room 1A on the west end of the Café in the new 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

President

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Alliance, OH 44601
bob3755@adelphia.net
330-821-5011

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Editor

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Editorial

First, I would like to thank Jack, W8WEN for the very fine write up of his trip to Copley Middle School. The Zero Beat needs interesting articles about local events like that. Good work Jack.

Made it to Mansfield Hamfest, one of my favorites, again this year, albeit a little late. I got off to a slightly late start and then discovered that I had a flat tire. I considered not going at that point, but decided to make the trip anyway. Most of the vendors were still there when I arrived, but some started to close down not long after that.

I didn't see any of the other AARC members that went, but I understand there were several. I guess I passed them going home on my way there.

It seemed like a good Hamfest. Quite a few vendors stayed until about 2:00, but they didn't draw the prize tickets until 3:00 and there were very few people still around by then. I wish they would have the drawing a little earlier.

Hope to see everyone at the meeting. If you haven't been to a meeting since we moved to the new Hospital building, you should come and check it out. It's pretty impressive.

73, ke8ve

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.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

ALLIANCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

February 1, 2006

The regular meeting of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club was held at the new Alliance Community Hospital on February 1, 2006 at 7:30 PM with club president Robert Steele, K8RLS, presiding. There were 19 members and 1 guest present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by introductions. The club welcomed guest Esther Smith, wife of Smitty, KC8TJQ.

The January minutes were published in the newsletter. The minutes were approved on a motion by Frank, WA8WHP and seconded by Smitty, KC8TJQ.

Mary Ann, KB8IVS, gave the treasurer's report. The report was accepted on a motion by Gladys, KB8GIA and seconded by Smitty, KC8TJQ.

Old business:

A number of club members attended the Tuscarawas County hamfest, with mixed reviews regarding its success. Don, K8OMO presented an item he had acquired at the hamfest: a 1928 Hartley oscillator, built by W8JYY (SK) and based on an article in the August 1928 issue of QST. He described its construction and characteristics while also noting that he needed a tube for it (UV210).

Don also reported that the Homeland Security radio antenna had been taken down and is to be installed on the second story rear of the new hospital building. However,

the route for the coax has still not been determined. The Homeland Security Net is currently being run from Don's home.

Jim, K8LTG stated that a new location for the local 2-meter repeater had also not yet been determined. As of this date, the repeater is still operating from the old hospital building.

President Bob reported that the location for the club's meetings would remain in the present room (ground floor conference room 1A) for the rest of the year, except for the September 6 meeting. Another location or event will be needed for that date. It was suggested that possibly a club picnic could be held.

He also raised the previous issue of a possible AARC hamfest. John, KD8MQ commented that it seemed many hamfests were busing money these days. No further action was taken on the issue at this time.

New business:

Frank, WA8WHP noted that the spring Skywarn training sessions were scheduled for February 28 at the Columbiana County Career Center on SR 45 and March 20 at 6:30 PM at Stark State College in Canton.

President Bob raised the issue of this year's Christmas party. Larry, AA8NV moved that it again be held at Roadhouse Charly. This was seconded by Don, K8OMO and approved on a voice vote. Bob will call to arrange a date.

Bob asked if the club is still using QTH for the mailing list. John, KD8MQ replied that we were but that he would look into alternatives.

The Lorain hamfest was coming up on February 5 as well as the Mansfield hamfest which was scheduled for February 12.

Dave, W8UKQ noted that the Peter Island Dxpedition in Antarctica had 20 hams attending. He went over some of the facts and operating modes of the event and reminded the club that further info could be found on page 90 of the February issue of QST.

Jack, W8WEN reported on his search for the source of some S6 noise he had been experiencing on 20 meters, so far without pinpointing it.

Dave, N8NLZ, reported that Dean, KA8GRC was in rehab in the Community Care Center, hoping to go home on Friday, while Fritz is in a nursing home in Lisbon with some serious back issues.

George, K3GP reported on the Suit-sat satellite and noted that information about it had been placed on the club reflector. He also noted that the ARRL's proposal to regulate the bands by bandwidth had the potential to do away with double sideband AM. He encouraged everyone to voice their opinions to ARRL on the subject.

Dave, W8UKQ reported that there is an AM night on 80 meters from 7:30-8:30 on the first Wednesday of the month.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Don Kingan, AB8KV, Secretary.

THE WAYBACK MACHINE

ISSUE #25

by **Bill Continelli, W2XOY**

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On December 7, 1941, the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. Less than 24 hours later, the United States was officially at War, and the FCC had issued Order Number 87, which suspended all amateur radio operation in the U.S., and withdrew "our" frequencies from the amateur service. However, the FCC did recognize that limited amateur operation would be required in connection with domestic Civil Defense work.

Thus, in June, 1942, the FCC issued regulations which created the War Emergency Radio Service, or W.E.R.S. for short. This was not an amateur operation, even though the frequencies used were our former bands at 112-116, 224-230, and 400-401 Mc.

Note that the 5 meter band, 56-60 Mc., was not included. The FCC apparently sought to limit operations to the "UHF" frequencies, where long distance skip was impossible. A WERS License was not given to an individual, but rather to a municipality or other local government entity, to cover the operation of all such stations engaged in emergency civilian defense communications. Operations could only be conducted upon authorization of the local Civil Defense Corps.

Operators in W.E.R.S. had to be loyal U.S. citizens, with fingerprints and proof of U.S. Citizenship on file with the FCC. They also needed to have an FCC commercial or amateur license, or an FCC 3rd class operating certificate. Thus, although most operators were hams, many non-amateurs were active in this service also.

Authorized operations in the War Emergency Radio Service were limited to emergencies relating to enemy activity. There was no provision for operations in natural disasters. Practice and training sessions were allowed, and local governments may have used these "practice" activities to provide needed communications during natural disasters.

Technical standards were strict for 1942. The carrier frequency could not deviate more than 0.1% in the lower half of each band, and 0.3% in the upper half. In the 2 1/2 meter band, this meant that the signal could not vary more than 112 kc at the lower end, and 340 kc at the upper end. While this sounds incredibly wide to-

day, remember that in the 30's and 40's, almost all "UHF" transmitters used the "modulated oscillator"--cheap to build, but not very stable. The only receiver useful with this type of signal was the superregenerative. Power was limited to 25 watts input, which is about 10-15 watts output.

By default, 2 1/2 meters became the band of choice for W.E.R.S. operations. In fact, it came to be known as "The Civil Defense Band". The most popular radio in W.E.R.S. operation was the TR-4, by Abbott Instruments of New York City. The unit measured only 9" x 8" x 4.5", ran on 6 volts DC or 110 volts AC, had a range up to 75 miles, and cost less than \$40.

Although W.E.R.S. served a valuable purpose, it did not satisfy the needs of an active amateur suffering under the wartime radio silence. Fortunately, the WWII amateur had it far better than his WWI predecessor. For one thing, amateurs did not have to disassemble their stations and take down their antennas. Contrary to popular belief, the FCC did not ban shortwave listening. AM broadcasting was still allowed, W1AW was authorized to remain on the air. QST was still published. But, even with all this, the restless amateur wanted more. And, believe it or not, some hams legally got on the air and had QSO's. How?

"Wired Wireless". Have you ever heard of it? In summary, "wired wireless" was a Carrier Current type of operation. A transmitter, usually running 10-25 watts output, was inductively coupled to the AC power line. The signal would follow the power lines throughout the city, up to a maximum of about 5 miles. Anyone within 300 feet or so of the AC power line would be able to copy the signal. Even though the range was a 5 mile radius from the transmitter, the actual radiation distance was only 300 feet, thus it was legal. Amateurs found that carrier current operations worked best in the long-wave spectrum, and set up hundreds of stations in the 160-200 kc range. Ironically, the 160-190 kc segment survives to this day as a legal, unlicensed low power band, with one watt and 50 foot antennas permitted.

Some amateurs experimented with Audio Frequency Induction Field Communications. This involved no RF--an audio oscillator was coupled to a large inductor. At distances of 2000-3000 feet away, an audio amp coupled to a similar inductor received the signal.

QST was active during the War years, running articles

(Continued on last page)



W8LKY Alliance Amateur Radio Club

<http://w8lky.org>
E-mail: w8lky@w8lky.org
P.O. Box 3344
Alliance, OH 44601
Renewal-Membership Application

Call- _____

	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 first licensed _____

E-Mail Address _____

Special Interests (DX'ing, Contesting, Hunting, Model Airplanes, etc.) _____

Pro-rated Dues Schedule (New members only)

	April - June	July - September	October - December	January - March
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	\$0.75	\$0.50	\$0.25

Please do not write beneath this line

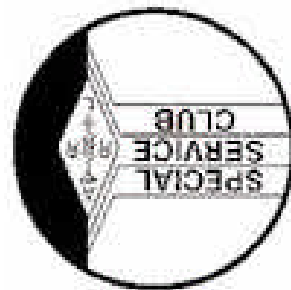
Dues paid- Sustaining() Full() Associate() Family() \$ _____ on _____, 19____ Signed _____

March 2006

Birthday Greetings: WC8F, KB8IVS, KE8VE, W8UKQ, K8OMO

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
<p>February</p> <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></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	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>April</p> <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></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td></tr> <tr><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	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								<p>1</p> <p>20/9 VE, CAN-FIELD, OH</p> <p>AARC Meeting</p> <p>Carroll Cty. Net 9pm 147.075</p>	<p>2</p> <p>AARC Nets 8:00, 8:30, 9:00</p> <p>QCWA Net 7:30</p>		<p>4</p> <p>ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB</p> <p>Open Ukraine RTTY Championship</p> <p>SILVERCREEK ARAVE, RITTMAN, OH</p> <p>Wake-Up! QRP Sprint</p>
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<p>5</p> <p>DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest</p> <p>Open Ukraine RTTY Championship</p> <p>WC8F</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Columbiana Cty. Train. Net 8 pm</p>	<p>7</p> <p>AGCW YL-CW Party</p> <p>ARS Spartan Sprint</p> <p>Canton ARES Net 7pm 147.12</p> <p>CUYAHOGA FALLS ARC VE, STOW, OH</p> <p>N. Columbiana Cty. ARES Net 9 pm 147.255</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Carroll Cty. Net 9pm 147.075</p>	<p>9</p> <p>AARC Nets 8:00, 8:30, 9:00</p> <p>QCWA Net 7:30</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Massillon Net 8pm 147.18</p>	<p>11</p> <p>AGCW QRP Contest</p> <p>Idaho QSO Party</p> <p>Oklahoma QSO Party</p> <p>RSGB Commonwealth Contest</p>																																																																																											
<p>12</p> <p>CUYAHOGA ARS VE, INDEPENDENCE, OH</p> <p>KB8IVS</p> <p>North American Sprint, RTTY</p> <p>NSARA Contest</p> <p>UBA Spring Contest, CW</p> <p>Wisconsin QSO Party</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Columbiana Cty. Train. Net 8 pm</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Canton ARES Net 7pm 147.12</p> <p>N. Columbiana Cty. ARES Net 9 pm 147.255</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Carroll Cty. Net 9pm 147.075</p>	<p>16</p> <p>AARC Nets 8:00, 8:30, 9:00</p> <p>MAHONING VALLEY ARAVE, YOUNGSTOWN, OH</p> <p>QCWA Net 7:30</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Massillon Net 8pm 147.18</p> <p>SARL VHF/UHF Contest</p>	<p>18</p> <p>10-10 Int. Mobile Contest</p> <p>AGCW VHF/UHF (144) Contest</p> <p>CLARA and Family HF Contest</p> <p>Russian DX Contest</p> <p>Virginia QSO Party</p>																																																																																											
<p>19</p> <p>9K 15-Meter Contest</p> <p>TMRA Hamfest and Computer Show, Maumee, OH</p> <p>UBA Spring Contest, 6m</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Columbiana Cty. Train. Net 8 pm</p> <p>KE8VE</p> <p>Run for the Bacon QRP Contest</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Canton ARES Net 7pm 147.12</p> <p>N. Columbiana Cty. ARES Net 9 pm 147.255</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Carroll Cty. Net 9pm 147.075</p>	<p>23</p> <p>AARC Nets 8:00, 8:30, 9:00</p> <p>QCWA Net 7:30</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Massillon Net 8pm 147.18</p>	<p>25</p> <p>CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB</p> <p>W8UKQ</p>																																																																																											
<p>26</p> <p>Lake County Amateur Radio Association Hamfest, Madison, OH</p> <p>UBA Spring Contest, 2m</p> <p>WARREN ARAVE, NEWTON FALLS</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Columbiana Cty. Train. Net 8 pm</p> <p>Spring QRP Homebrewer Sprint</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Canton ARES Net 7pm 147.12</p> <p>Homeland Sec Net 7:30 147.51</p> <p>SIMPLEX</p> <p>K8OMO</p> <p>N. Columbiana Cty. ARES Net 9 pm 147.255</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Carroll Cty. Net 9pm 147.075</p>	<p>30</p> <p>AARC Nets 8:00, 8:30, 9:00</p> <p>QCWA Net 7:30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Massillon Net 8pm 147.18</p>																																																																																												

A government that can do anything for you, can do anything to you.



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

WAYBACK MACHINE

(Continued from page 4)

on secret communications and ciphers, the latest 112 Mc W.E.R.S. equipment, visual signaling (including the semaphore alphabet), a course in radio fundamentals, a multi part series in Cryptanalysis, and the Japanese Morse Telegraph Code, with notes on the Japanese language. Towards the end of the War, QST ran several articles on the postwar amateur allocations. Two columns focused on amateurs serving in the Armed Forces; "In the Services", and "Hams in Combat". And, as a grim reminder of the horrors of War, the column "Gold Stars" listed those amateurs who made the ultimate sacrifice.

In our next installment, we will look at amateur life in the postwar world.

As a postscript, the ARRL has asked that the 160-190 khz band be reallocated to amateur use. Will the ghosts of the WWII operators be listening as we once again activate that band with CQ's? You decide.

W8WEN Visits Copley

(Continued from page 1)

English was fine. They were not only young but diplomats as well. Incidentally the ones doing the operating were all yls.

The club meeting was about over so the station operation had to shut down. There were 11 students and three instructors plus the School principal, who did photography for the school paper, plus Jeff and I. There were 5 techs studying for general and 6 studying for their technician license. It was like a miracle in front of my eyes to see that amateur radio was not dying. These are 6th through 8th grade students. All I can say is WOW!. My son Brad KD8BBS gave me a synopsis of the clubs beginning which I will send you later. 73, Jack