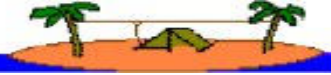




Serving the Tri-County area since 1986

Clipperton Dxpedition planned for 2008



The formal announcement for the 2008 Dxpedition to Clipperton Island has been released. The Dxpedition will be led by N6OX with N7CQQ and K4SV as the management team. The goal is to make 100,000+ contacts, including working as many European, Mediterranean, and African stations where Clipperton is high on the most wanted list. Departure date is 28 February, 2008, arriving on Clipperton March 4±. The team plans to operate 12 to 14 days, depending on conditions, using the call TX5C.

Currently, Clipperton is ranked 35th on the most needed countries list worldwide. The team of 22 or so Amateur operators look forward to meeting or exceeding the performance expectations of modern

Dxpditions. In addition to the Ham activities, there will be a series of scientific studies done by the team.

Clipperton Island is a nine-square-Kilometer coral atoll in the North Pacific Ocean, SW of Mexico, and W. of Costa Rica, at 10° 18'N, 109° 13'W. It has no permanent inhabitants. It is an overseas possession of France, administered by the Minister of Overseas France.

More information about this expedition, including the details of the scientific studies, ways you can help support this expedition, bios on the operators, a sponsor list, and history of this DXCC entity, can be found at the teams website: <http://www.clipperton2008.org>.

(TNX January, 2008 WorldRadio, Nancy Kott, WZ8C ed.)

Ham of the Year



The Christmas party is over, and you're probably wondering who the 2008 Ham of the Year is. Well the Ham of the Year is pictured above. Since they weren't at the party, we postponed the announcement until the January 2nd Meeting.

Tesla's Revenge: The End of DC in NYC

DC is gone from the city of New York. According to the newspaper story, power provider Consolidated Edison ended 125 years of direct current electricity service. Electrical service that began when Thomas Edison opened his power station on Sept. 4, 1882.

Until now, Con Ed as the company is known had been converting Alternating Current to Direct Current for the dwindling number of customers who needed it. This is mainly old buildings on the upper East Side and upper West Side of the borough of Manhattan Buildings that used direct current for

their elevators and other ansuliary equipment.

The end of of Con Ed's direct current system was to take place at a building located at 10 East 40th Street. That building, like the thousands of other Direct Current users have been transitioned to Alternating Current service over the last several years. It now has its own on premises converter that can take AC from the Con Ed power lines and make it into the DC it needs.

And so yet another milestone of technology passes in "da Big Apple." *(TNX ARNewsline)*

Meeting Announcement

The next meeting will be Wednesday, January 2nd at the Alliance Community Hospital.

This months program is a short video from the 1940's, called ??????

Meetings begin at 7:30 PM, in the conference room at the west end of the cafeteria. We hope to see you there!

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Editor

John Myers, KD8MQ
(See above)

Editorial

By John, KD8MQ

Well, here we are again; Ready to close out yet another year. When I was younger, I recall hearing the old folks saying how fast the years go by. I never really understood that statement till recently. There's sure been a ton of stuff happening.

First of all, 'scuse me for crowing a bit. But, I finally finished the last class for my Computer Science degree. Since 2001, I've been attending school part time. What a rush to FINALLY be finished!

OK, enough of that. Congratulations to the newest Ham of the year. Their name is I guess we'll find out at the January meeting, since he(or is it she?) did not attend the banquet. So the mystery continues! Speaking of the banquet, we had a great time. I'm not sure of the head count, but somewhere between 20 - 25 is probably a close guess. Special thanks go out to Gladys, who made the favors for the party, and donated the gifts that were given out. Please make sure to thank her when you see her.

Now's the time to start making plans for 2008. Field Day is just 6 month away. Between now and then, we have some hamfests, and THE hamfest (Dayton).

How about if we start making plans for some fox hunts? There was a time that we had quarterly fox hunts. I'll make some plans to present a fox hunting program at a club meeting in the next few months.

We also need to start thinking about ways to improve our club finances. Whadaya say? Raffle time? There'll be a proposal on the floor at the next meeting, and we need your input. See you there!

73, John, KD8MQ

Meetings

The Alliance Amateur Radio Club meets on the First Wednesday of every month. Check the meeting announcement on page 1, for the location.

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

Web: www.w8lky.org

E-mail: W8lky@w8lky.org

Newsletter Information

The Zero Beat is a publication of the

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P.O. Box 3344
Alliance, OH 44601

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You can submit material to the Zero Beat via e-mail to tvguy07@gmail.com

December Minutes

December 5, 2007

The regular meeting of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club was held at the Alliance Community Hospital on December 5, 2007 at 7:30 PM with club president Jim Ferguson, K8LTG presiding. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by introductions. There were 13 members present, along with Tom and Alfreda Steele.

For the secretary's report Don, AB8KV noted that the November minutes were in the newsletter. He then reported on information submitted by Vice-President John, KD8MQ on the club's meeting room for next year. The hospital had notified him that the club had use of the 1A conference room as usual except for the months of March, September and November. The club's meetings for those months will be held in the second floor conference room. The secretary's report was approved on a motion from George, K3GP and seconded by Howard, K8DXR.

Mary Ann, KB8IVS gave the treasurer's report. The report was approved on a motion from Don, K8OMO and seconded by Bob, K8RLS.

Old business

President Jim reminded the club about the Christmas dinner coming up on December 8 at Don Pancho's. Drinks were to be at 6:00 PM with ordering at 6:30.

Jim then advised the club that he could not be reached via email at present, due to problems with his service provider.

New business

President Jim announced that via Bob, K8RLS, Preston Wegman, WA8NEJ had donated to the club an 811H amplifier, a D104 microphone and a mobile antenna. Also, Merriel Burkhead (KB8IAB) had donated to the club a PA amplifier and Eico signal generator. An offer of \$500 for the RF power amplifier had already been received along with a separate offer of \$50 for the antenna. Jim then opened the floor for discussion of whether to sell the items or retain them for club use.

After some discussion, the general opinion was to sell the items. A motion to sell was made by Don, K8OMO and seconded by Frank, WA8WHP. A further motion by Don to designate President Jim as a go-between to handle the items was seconded by Bob, K8RLS. Bob then moved to send thank-you letters to the two persons who had

donated the equipment. This was seconded by Don, AB8KV.

Don then added that the club had an FT-480 HT that was not frequently used and proposed that it also be sold. This motion was seconded by Bob, K8RLS.

Voice votes were then taken on each of the above motions, with all of them being approved.

Don, K8OMO then brought up the subject of a Yaesu speaker owned by the club, and whether it should also be sold. The subject was tabled until the next meeting in order to check on the current value of the speaker.

Vice president John, KD8MQ then announced that he had renewed the club website for another year, with the bill submitted to Mary Ann.

President Jim also announced that he had renewed for another year the repeater coordination.

After a break, the regular portion of the meeting was then adjourned at 8:15 PM on a motion by Larry, KE8VE and seconded by John, KD8MQ. A video program was then presented.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Don, AB8KV, Secretary.

Interesting Web Links

8 element, 20 meter beam at 185 ft!!

<http://www.nq4i.com/>

WA1KPD old Tyme Radio Calendar .

<http://home.comcast.net/~chnord/wa1kpd.html>

Streaming video versions of the TV Show, "The Secret Life of Machines:.

<http://www.exploratorium.edu/ronh/SLOM>

E51A operation to the Cook Islands. Photos & stories

<http://picasaweb.google.com/bizacord/E51RAROTONGA>

Quote o' the month

"The greater danger for most of us is not that our aim is too high and we miss it, but that it is too low and we reach it."
- Michelangelo

Geosynchronous Amateur Radio Satellite in planning

The weekend of 26-28 October 2007 has likely changed the face of Amateur Radio space operations. Two leaders in the Amateur Radio space program speaking at the AMSAT-North America Space Symposium in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania announced the first-ever geosynchronous Amateur Radio Satellite is now in its initial planning.

In satellite talk, geosynchronous means stationary in the sky. From the standpoint of a ground station user, it means always knowing where to point an antenna. There is no tracking, and no guesswork.

At the symposium, AMSAT President Rick Hambly, W2GPS, and Vice-President of engineering Bob McGwier, N4HY, announced that AMSAT was in consultation with Intelsat regarding an application of an Intelsat platform carrying Amateur Radio Satellites into geosynchronous orbit.

The Phase IV Lite Geosynchronous Payload is planned to consist of similar transponders already under development for the Phase 3 satellites.

Accelerated development on the digital Advanced



Communications Package is anticipated. The Intelsat geosynchronous platform would be able to provide the AMSAT Phase IV Lite payload with approximately 400 Watts of DC power for 15 years.

In addition to the on-orbit payload, AMSAT plans to develop an earth station attainable by the average Amateur Radio Operator so that users can immediately take advantage of the audio, digital messaging, and video services of the Phase IV bird. The Advanced Communications Package would be a self-contained earth station that could be sent with Amateur Radio communication teams or delivered to disaster areas to provide for 24-hour-a-day, 7-day-a-week and 365-days a year emergency

communications. These teams would be able to point a small dish at a predictable spot in the sky and immediately begin delivering disaster communication support without depending on the vagaries of High Frequency propagation.

In addition, Hambly and McGwier report that the Phase IV payload could also be used to provide a Tracking and Data Relay system Satellite-like relay of ARISS communications. The current 10-minute school contact could now be expanded to hours-long contact with the International Space Station, which opens possibilities for extended student involvement with experiments aboard the space station.

AMSAT says that engineering studies, funding studies, and other negotiations are continuing, so no specific date can be set. However, McGwier reports that the project is far enough along that AMSAT needs to begin planning engineering work and possible construction of such a geosynchronous payload so it is ready if Intelsat says they have a ride for it. (TNX January, 2008 WorldRadio, Nancy Kott, WZ8C ed.)

Peter W. Dahl Company goes out of business

The Peter W. Dahl Company in El Paso, Texas, will be closing its doors as of December 31, 2007, according to Peter Dahl, K0BIT, owner and founder of the company that has made custom transformers for more than 40 years. Dahl, 67, has Parkinson's Disease.

The company manufactured a wide variety of transformers and reactors for Amateur Radio and commercial radio and television

applications.

According to Dahl, many are direct replacements for original equipment components that are no longer available from the manufacturer, while others have general-purpose applications in any number of different transmitters. He said that they had more than 4000 individual transformer designs on file.

QST columnist John Dilks,

K2TQN ("Old Radio"), said the closing of the Dahl Company was "sad news for those of us who restore the big iron."

Dahl told the ARRL, "I want to thank everyone for their business throughout the years. I have enjoyed making each Amateur Radio transformer." (TNX ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No. 45)

January 2008

Happy Birthday to: K8RLS, KD8BBK

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																										
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<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">20</p> <p>ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes Hungarian DX Contest LZ Open Contest North American QSO Party, SSB S.C.A.R.F. Hamfest, Nelsonville Tusco Amateur Radio Club Hamfest, Strasburg UK DX Contest, RTTY</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">21</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Columbiana Cty. Train. Net 8pm</p> </div>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">22</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Canton ARES Net 7pm 147.12</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> <p style="text-align: center;">N, Col. Cty Net 9pm 147.255</p> </div> <p>Run for the Bacon QRP Contest</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">23</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">24</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> <p style="text-align: center;">AARC Nets 8:00, 8:30, 9:00</p> </div>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">25</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Massillon Net 147.18 8pm</p> </div> <p>NAQCC 160m Straight Key/Bug Sprint</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;">26</p> <p style="color: green; font-weight: bold;">WRECS VE, BENTLEYVILLE</p>																																										
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Amateur Radio... When all else fails.

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

The AARC Wayback Machine

Here again are some of the highlights from the last 20 years of the Zero Beat. you can read them at <http://www.w8lky.org/newsltrs/>.

January, 1988, (editor N8IAK)

- Our club meetings were being held at the First American Savings Bank (Now Charter One) building on State St.
- We had just achieved Special Service Club status.
- This months Ham of the Month was Pam, N8IAK.
- Novice classes were winding down. We had new Hams to crow about: Paul & Anthony Lattavo, Dr. Carl Busch, Thomas Miller, and Kitty Buckwalter.
- We were planning to start Tech/General classes the next month.
- Planning was on for our 2nd annual Mall Show.
- Allen, KA8CIY (Now W18T), and Dave, KC8WY were foxes for the latest fox hunt. Their station consisted of 80 watts into a Quagi antenna. They set up a couple blocks N. of State St, and aimed the Quagi across State St, towards McDonalds. We got our strongest readings S. of State St, at Mill Circle apartments. It was a real challenge to track down.
- The winners were John & Pam, KD8MQ, & N8IAK. Second place went to Larry & Patty, N8EWV, & KE8KH.

January, 1993, (editor N8LVO)

- John, WX8G (Now KD8MQ) was chosen Ham of the Year. He characterized it as "A complete shock". The front page shows him accepting the award from outgoing Ham of the Year, Jack Bennett, W8WEN.

- In 1993, we had 43 members, 76% of them ARRL Members.
- Our clubs General classes were soon to begin. The Salem club was planning Novice classes.
- Al, KF8LZ, Don, K8OMO, and a host of others worked to install a 13 Element Cushcraft boomer atop N8LVO's TV tower, thus ending a string of poor signal reports from Minerva.
- In 1993, 2 teams made the trek to PA for the PA QSO Party. While John, & Allen, WX8G, and W18T were set up in Indiana County. Dan, N8LVO, and Bill W8ZZS operated from Washington County.

January, 1998, (editor K8LTG)

- The latest Ham of the Year was Jim Wilson, KB8GHZ. Jim accepted the plaque from the outgoing HOTY, Jim Ferguson, K8LTG.
- Jim re-printed som good information on the ARRL Outgoing QSL Service.
- Jerry, N8SH was down with the flue. He was taking advantage of his time, and upgrading his computer.
- John, N8PLA contributed an article on how the tractor collector keeps peace in the household. It also applies to Ham Radio.

January, 2003, (editor KE8VE)

- Ham of the Year was Sam Eberling, KC8ETZ, who accepted the award from outgoing HOTY, Bob Steele, K8RLS.
- According to the minutes, It was suggested that a fox hunt be held in February.
- The 50-50 drawing was won by Larry, KE8VE.