



Alliance Amateur Radio Club
AARC
Zero Beat

Volume XXIII, no 3

<http://www.w8lky.org>

March 2009

Serving the Tri-County area since 1986

Club Holds DTV Awareness Night



WA8WHP makes a point during the DTV Awareness Night.

On Monday, February 2nd, The Alliance Arc held a "DTV Awareness Night". In December, The FCC had asked the ARRL for help in preparing consumers for the transition to digital television. As it happens, club president Frank, WA8WHP, and Vice-president John, KD8MQ were looking for a club project.

So, those who braved the storm on the night of the January meeting discussed possible ways we could assist the ARRL, help the public, and in turn, get some good local PR.

It was suggested that the library could host such an event. It turns out that not only could they host it, but they would assist in publicizing it as well!

Tom, KD8JRK also played an important part in publicizing the event. Though the library had also

publicized the event, Tom's work resulted in a live interview on WDPN/WDJQ radio in Alliance, and a very nice front page story in the Alliance Review.

The night of the presentation, the room was set up as requested, thanks to the ever-efficient library staff. While the crowd could have been larger, we were joined by a reporter, & photographer from the Alliance Review, as well as Kyle Schwarz from Carnation Community Cable. Her video of the event was replayed on Time Warner Cable Ch 11, on February 17th.

Congress finally did pass an extension. It appears that the new date for the transition is June 12, 2009 is. That means we have four more months in which to publicize it.



Rex Coombs, the morning host at WDPN AM-1310

Meeting Announcement

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, March 4th, at the Alliance Community Hospital, in the 2nd floor conference room.

This month, we'll be welcoming a representative from the Alliance Chapter of the Red Cross to speak on their disaster Assessment course. More information can be found on page 4.

Meetings begin at 7:30 PM.

As usual, some of us get together at 6 PM, for food, & fellowship, at Don Pancho's Tex-Mex Café (2105 W. State St.).

Officers

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Editor

John Myers, KD8MQ
(See above)

Ramblings

By John, KD8MQ

Hi everyone. Welcome to March. That is, welcome to the March issue of the Zero Beat. This editor is very happy to see winter end.

So far, I've been pretty laid back about the whole winter thing. Then came February 19th! This newsletter is likely going to be finished while I'm holed up in a Cleveland area hospital, in the middle of a blizzard. I'll just say **Welcome spring**, and leave it at that.

Now, speaking of spring, The AARC Spring Fox Hunt is coming up on March the 28th. This is covered in more detail later in this issue.

We have quite a sick list this month:

A get well note goes out to Diana Ashburn, wife of Larry KE8VE. Who is recovering from Surgery.

Mary Ann, KB8IVS was unable to make the last meeting, best wishes go out to her as well.

Our president, Frank, WA8WHP has been nursing a hip injury, after taking a fall on the some ice.

Lyn, Your editors wife is also recovering from surgery.

Sorry, if I missed anyone. Everyone has an open invitation to submit info for the Zero Beat. You submit it, and I'll print it. How's that for a great deal?

We submitted a recap of the DTV Awareness night to the league, resulting in a

(Continued on page 5)

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 held:

Ten meters

CW @ 8PM on 28.400 MHz

SSB @ 8:30PM on 28.400 MHz

2 meters

9 PM on 145.37 MHz

The Homeland security Net meets on the last Tuesday of the month, at 8:00 PM, on 147.51 simplex

Internet

Web: www.w8lky.org

E-mail: W8lky@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 via e-mail to kd8mq@neo.rr.com

February Minutes

February 4, 2009

The regular meeting of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club was held at the Alliance Community Hospital on February 4, 2009 at 7:30 PM with club President Frank Sanor, WA8WHP presiding. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by introductions. There were 12 members present, along with Miriam Sanor, Jerry Shore (N8SH) and guest Jessie Evans.

There was no Secretary's report since no minutes were taken at the January meeting due to a low meeting turnout which was thought not to constitute a quorum. However, President Frank noted that upon checking the bylaws, he found that there was no requirement for a minimum attendance to conduct an official meeting.

There was likewise no Treasurer's report as Mary Ann was in the hospital following surgery.

Old business:

- President Frank briefly recapped the subjects brought up at the January meeting. These mostly centered around the club's discussion and plans concerning holding public information forums about the digital TV transition.
- VP John, KD8MQ along with Frank then reported on the club media

activities that resulted from last month's discussions. They reported that the library presentation went well as did the WDPN radio interview done by John and Tom, KD8JRK. John further noted that the Review had responded by granting the club significant print space. Also, John reported that he had sent the ARRL information on the club's activities regarding the digital TV change.

- Frank then asked if anyone had thought about individual projects or contests that club members could participate in and show to the members.
- Jerry, N8SH suggested members could build simple versions of basic radio receivers, such as a 3-tube regen, then bring them in. Several members wondered if projects were to be confined to older technology, but it was clarified that it was up to the individual what would be attempted. VP John suggested having one or more show-n-tell events at meetings to highlight potential projects.
- President Frank reiterated about a club DX contest, which could range from something very simple to more difficult. He then encouraged the members



Tom, KD8JRK listens to a question during an interview on WDPN

to email their ideas to him so that the club could get started on something soon.

New business:

- George, K3GP reported that he and Howard, K8DXR had run a RTTY demonstration at a Methodist church for a Scout group, which had gone very well.
- Tom, KD8JRK noted that the current licensing class was progressing. It was also announced that Duane, KD8JSB had passed his Extra exam, which elicited a round of applause from the members.
- Tom then raised a question about an individual assuming control of W8LKY's net during an emergency. The answer was that permission would need to be obtained from Don, K8OMO who is the holder of the club's license. In Don's absence, an individual could establish

(Continued on page 4)

February Minutes—cont.

(Continued from page 3)

- an emergency net utilizing his/her own call sign.
- Tom then further suggested that some instruction should be provided to the club about protocols for emergency communications and net operation. Discussion among Frank, VP John and Don, K8OMO resulted in John volunteering to contact Terry Russ of the local ARES and/or Dana concerning giving a talk at a club meeting about this subject.
- VP John then reported that for the most recent newsletter distribution, he had sent 74 via email with 14 going out via regular postal mail.
- John reminded the club that the March club meeting will be held in the hospital's 2nd floor conference room.
- He also noted that he had spoken with John Essick of the local Red Cross chapter regarding addressing the club about subjects of mutual interest. As a result, he or someone from the Red Cross will address the club at the March meeting about disaster damage assessment.
- John noted that an internet-based class is available on this subject, and once completed, is to be followed by a live class in Lisbon on March 11

from 6-10 PM.

- VP John then added that Skywarn training for both Columbiana and Stark counties this year is on March 18, with Stark's again held at Stark State in Canton.
- George, K3GP noted that DX Engineering has two job openings, one for an electronics technician and one for a sales-technical support person.
- After the break, VP John had a video presentation on the KP5 DX-pedition. This was followed by everyone listening to the recorded interview about the digital TV transition, with John and Tom at WDPN.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:28 PM on a motion by Larry, KE8VE and seconded by George, K3GP.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Don, AB8KV, Secretary.

Fox Hunt Practice Run to be held on Feb 28th

Coming up this Saturday is the clubs last practice run before next months AARC Spring Fox Hunt. As usual, the fox box will be hidden someplace in Alliance, and turned on at 1 PM. The fox frequency will be the usual 147.51 MHz

Unlike next months hunt, this is just a practice run; a chance for you to test your DF equipment, and hone the skills which may someday be called upon in a real emergency.

The foxmeister for this months hunt will be Dana, KC8LKB. If you'd like to volunteer as foxmeister for a future fox hunt, or practice run, let John, KD8MQ know (Contact info is on pg2).

The fox box goes on the air come rain, snow, or shine, and will stay on for two hours. We will NOT shut it down early this time. :-)



Don - K8OMO - gets a 64th birthday "wet willey" from Tomas - KC8ZEH as Richard, KD6MPN, & Roger KA8FTS look on.

K3TUP SK

Word is received via the ARRL Letter of the February 18th passing of John Kanzius, K3TUP. For an excellent story on John's life, check out the February 20th issue of the ARRL Letter.

He made headlines a couple years ago with his concept of killing cancer cells by injecting nanoparticles & heating them in a 13.56 MHZ RF field.

He has been chronicled on 60 minutes, as well as other places, including QST, Readers Digest, and others.

In the process of his research, a process was also discovered that would cause saltwater to burn. For more info on John's work, check out the following videos on YouTube.

<http://tinyurl.com/bffyd5>

Here's a link to the ARRL story:

<http://tinyurl.com/c4aksz>

Rambling - cont.

(Continued from page 2)

nice complement from Allen, W1AGP, their media & PR manager.

Since the DTV transition has been pushed back to June 12th, we may get some more opportunities to generate some positive PR for the club. Keep your eyes & ears open, and let your faithful editor know if there's anyway I can help.

The Dayton Hamvention is coming up in May. I'm planning to attend, but I've found that the best Hamvention deal is not in the flea market, but rather in the trip down.

Since 1997, The Pioneer Amateur Radio Fellowship has been running a yearly bus trip to this Ham Radio Mecca. For \$65 (including ticket), they drive you there, drop you off at the front door, and take you home again.

I've taken this trip twice now. It definitely receives the KD8MQ seal of approval. Their current flier

is posted on page 7.

Suppose that you're out somewhere; Say, at a hamfest, the grocery store, Field Day, etc. when someone complains of chest pains, and collapses. Or, maybe someone is injured, and needs a emergency first aid. What would you do? Of course, calling 911 is a given. But, what do you do next?

I'm not sure either. That's why I asked John Essick at the Red Cross about CPR & Emergency First Aid classes.

They are extremely affordable at \$35 for CPR & first aid training. The classes are held every 3-4 weeks, at the Alliance chapter house. Call them at 330-823-0660 for more information. Please, do it today!

Well, that's about all the rambling I feel like for this month. See you all at the next club meeting. DE KD8MQ.

Spring Fox hunt Scheduled

The Alliance ARC's Spring Fox hunt is scheduled for March 28th. From 1 to 3 PM. Hunters should gather at the usual starting point; Glamorgan Castle, a few minutes early, for check in. The Fox box will be turned on shortly after 1

PM.

The foxmeister for the hunt is to be announced. If you are interested in the foxmeister duties, please contact, John, KD8MQ (Contact info is on pg 2).

The hunt will be scored using a

combination of elapsed time & mileage.

Up to now, we haven't awarded prizes, but that may change this time. The prize, if there will be one, will be on display at the March club meeting.

Disaster assessment classes Offered by the Red Cross

In an emergency, it is important to have trained volunteers that can be relied upon. While all volunteers are welcome, those who are trained are simply that much more valuable to the agencies we serve.

John Essick, from the Red Cross has pointed one such opportunity, which is the Disaster Assessment class available through Red Cross . The class consists of Parts one and two, both free.

This course introduces the critical role of disaster assessment, explores related preparedness tasks, and teaches workers how to collect and communicate disaster assessment information. It creates an understanding of how disaster assessment supports service delivery decisions.

Part 1 consists of **Fundamentals of Disaster Assessment Part 1**

(DSIMS200C - online component) - 6 self-paced learning modules taking approximately 3.5 hours to complete. Complete this before Part 2. Do the "Challenge Me Exercise" from Module 4 of Part 1 (online) and bring it with you to Part 2. You can sign up and take the course at <http://tinyurl.com/acsvzn> . If this is your first online course, you will need to register first.

Part two consists of **Fundamentals of Disaster Assessment Part 2 (DSIMS200A - instructor-led component) Must complete both parts to get certificate.** Part two is held on Wednesday, March 11 from 6-10pm at the Columbiana County EMA in Lisbon.

More information can be had by calling the Alliance Chapter of the American Red Cross at 330-823-0660.

Wayback Machine -cont.

(Continued from page 10)

move. 40 or so of the critters had been tagged with radio transmitters. Hams were asked to monitor 1712 KHz for the signal.

- Jerry, N8SH had penned a story on hooking up a better microphone to your sound card.

March, 2004, (editor KE8VE)

- Dues were due. The cost of membership was still only \$10 per year.
- The FCC had released a NPRM (Notice of Proposed Rule Making) on something called BPL (Broadband over Power Line).
- Peggy Sue, made famous in the Buddy Holly Song had gotten her Ham ticket. Her call sign was KE5AKW. She went to school with Buddy Holly, and eventually married the drummer in his band.
- Joe Walsh, WB8ACU, and Bob Heil, K9EID were planning to work the ARRL DX contest. Joe had been with the Eagles, and Bob was the founder of Heil Sound.

2009 Skywarn Training Schedule

Skywarn training is coming up. Please take note of these dates for 2009 Skywarn training.

- **Columbiana County** 3/18/2009 6:30 PM Columbiana County Career Center
- **Mahoning County** 3/24/09 6:30 PM Austintown Fitch Auditorium 4560 Falcon Drive, Austintown, OH 44515
- **Portage County** 4/8/2009 6:30 pm Maplewood Career Center 7075 State Route 88. Ravenna, Ohio 44266
- **Stark County** 3/18/09 6:30 pm Stark State College Stark State College, Student Center 6200 Frank Ave NW North Canton, OH 44720
- **Summit County** 3/23/2009 6:00 pm Akron Red Cross 501 Market St Akron, OH 44303

Pioneer Amateur Radio Fellowship, Inc.



W8CTT

Dayton Hamvention Bus Trip

Bus Fare & Hamvention Ticket: \$65.00

(Ticket fees cover your transportation down and back and entrance to the Dayton Hamvention.)

Bus Fare Only: \$50.00**

**For any requests received after April 28, 2009.

You will need to purchase a Hamvention ticket at the door for \$25.00 on your own.

We will take riders right up to departure that morning if there are seats available.

Saturday, May 16, 2009

The bus will leave the back parking lot of the Akron Baptist Temple 2324 Manchester Road, Akron, Ohio 44314 (located on Rt. 93 just north of Rt. 224) - **promptly at 5:30 AM.**

To order tickets, write to:
Pioneer Amateur Radio Fellowship, Inc.
2101 Bigelow St.
Akron, Ohio 44314-2521
(Checks can be made payable to "PARF")

You can also contact Joy Spencer via phone 330-745-5115 or e-mail KA8TDF@arrl.net

Web page www.qsl.net/w8ctt

There will be a Breakfast & Dinner stop on your own.

There will be a collection at the end of the trip for the Driver's Tip which is not included in the above costs.

Transportation provided by the Crossroads Transportation Company

This is a smoke-free bus. There will be No Smoking Permitted.

**Dayton
Hamvention®**
Sponsored by Dayton Amateur Radio Association
Since 1952



W8LKY Alliance Amateur Radio Club

Renewal – Membership Application

Mail to: Mary Ann Royer
6255 Sandalwood NE
Canton, OH 44721

Callsign- _____

	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 you were first licensed _____

E-mail Address _____

Special interests? (i.e. Dxing, Contesting, Hunting, 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 Member	\$1.00	\$0.75	\$0.50	\$0.25

Please do not write beneath this line

Dues paid – Sustaining() Full() Associate() Family() \$ _____ on _____, 20__ signed _____

March 2009

Happy Birthday to: WC8F, KB8IVS, KE8VE, K8OMO

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																	
<p>1</p> <p>KD8AMX Carroll Cty. Nets 8,9PM</p> <p>PCARS Net - 8pm</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Columbiana Cty. Train. Net 8PM</p> <p>JLRS Hina 3.3 Contest</p>	<p>3</p> <p>AGCW YL CW Party</p> <p>ARS Spartan Sprint</p> <p>Canton ARES Net 7PM - 147.12</p> <p>N. Columbiana Cty. Net 9PM 147.255</p> <p>SAARA Net 9PM 146.805 pl 162.22</p>	<p>4</p> <p>AARC MTG - 7:30PM</p>	<p>5</p> <p>10 meter NAC</p> <p>AARC Nets 8,9, 9:30PM</p> <p>Pesky Texan Armadillo Chase</p> <p>WC8F-Ron</p>	<p>6</p> <p>HA3NS Memorial Contest</p>	<p>7</p> <p>ARRL International DX Contest</p> <p>DIG QSO Party (10 - 20 m)</p> <p>Oklahoma QSO Party</p> <p>RSGB Commonwealth Contest</p> <p>SOC Marathon Sprint</p>																																																																																																	
<p>8</p> <p>CIVIL RIGHTS VE. INDEPENDENCE</p> <p>DIG QSO Party (40-50 m)</p> <p>KD8AMX Carroll Cty. Nets 8,9PM</p> <p>NSARA Contest</p> <p>Oklahoma QSO Party</p> <p>PCARS Net - 8pm</p> <p>SKCC Weekend Sprintathon</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Columbiana Cty. Train. Net 8PM</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Canton ARES Net 7PM - 147.12</p> <p>CLARA & Family HF Contest</p> <p>N. Columbiana Cty. Net 9PM 147.255</p> <p>SAARA Net 9PM 146.805 pl 162.22</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>AARC Nets 8,9, 9:30PM</p> <p>Massillon Net 147.18 8PM</p>	<p>13</p> <p>KB8IVS-Mary Anne</p>	<p>14</p> <p>AGCW QRP Contest</p> <p>CLARA & Family HF Contest</p> <p>Idaho QSO Party</p> <p>Virginia QSO Party</p>																																																																																																	
<p>15</p> <p>KD8AMX Carroll Cty. Nets 8,9PM</p> <p>North American Sprint Contest</p> <p>PCARS Net - 8pm</p> <p>UBA Spring Contest 6 m</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Columbiana Cty. Train. Net 8PM</p> <p>Run For The Bacon QRP Contest</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Canton ARES Net 7PM - 147.12</p> <p>N. Columbiana Cty. Net 9PM 147.255</p> <p>SAARA Net 9PM 146.805 pl 162.22</p>	<p>18</p> <p>MOON Contest</p>	<p>19</p> <p>AARC NETS 8,9,9:30PM</p> <p>MAHONING VALLEY AREA VE. YOUNGSTOWN</p> <p>Massillon Net 147.18 8PM</p> <p>NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint</p>	<p>20</p> <p>KE8VE-Larry</p>	<p>21</p> <p>10-10 International Mobile QSO</p> <p>BARTG Spring RTTY Contest</p> <p>DARC HF-SSTV Contest</p> <p>Feld-Hell Club Sprint</p>																																																																																																	
<p>22</p> <p>9KCC 15m-Contest</p> <p>KD8AMX Carroll Cty. Nets 8,9PM</p> <p>PCARS Net - 8pm</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Columbiana Cty. Train. Net 8PM</p> <p>QRP Homebrewer Sprint</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Canton ARES Net 7PM - 147.12</p> <p>N. Columbiana Cty. Net 9PM 147.255</p> <p>SAARA Net 9PM 146.805 pl 162.22</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>AARC Nets 8,9, 9:30PM</p> <p>Massillon Net 147.18 8PM</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>CQ WW WPX Contest</p> <p>K8OMO-Don</p> <p>QCWA QSO Party</p>																																																																																																	
<p>29</p> <p>KD8AMX Carroll Cty. Nets 8,9PM</p> <p>PCARS Net - 8pm</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Columbiana Cty. Train. Net 8PM</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Canton ARES Net 7PM - 147.12</p> <p>Homeland Security Net 147.51SIMPLEX - 8PM</p> <p>N. Columbiana Cty. Net 9PM 147.255</p> <p>SAARA Net 9PM 146.805 pl 162.22</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">Feb 2009</th> <th colspan="7">Apr 2009</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td> <td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td> <td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td> <td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> <td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Feb 2009							Apr 2009							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25								26	27	28	29	30		
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www

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/>.

March, 1989, (editor N8IAK)

- This months spotlight column focused on Jack, W8WEN.
- 5 truckloads of equipment from the estate of K8JBE were taken to the Mansfield Hamfest. 4 truckloads of equipment were brought back.
- As of January 31, 1989, the 17 meter band was open for Amateur use. We were given shared use at first, with it to become exclusive on July 1, 1989.
- The cost to use the ARRL Outgoing QSL Bureau was due to increase to \$2 per pound. Consequently, a lot of large shipments of QSL's were arriving at HQ. The largest shipment totaled 54 pounds.
- This was Pam's last issue of the Zero

Beat. She felt it was time to "move on, and let someone else take charge".

March, 1994, (editor WX8G)

- This month's issue included part 1 of a story on the early days of the ARRL.
- Larry, KB8NIQ (AA8NV) had just passed his extra.

March, 1999, (editor K8LTG)

- Mary Ann, KB8IVS had just been elected Ham of the year.
- Paul, NW8C had returned home from the hospital. According to our editor, they had to "clean some of that slow scan TV sludge out, so he could run some good clean morse code through his systems".
- John, N8PLA wrote a story bemoaning some of life's modern conveniences.
- The rare burrowing owls were on the

(Continued on page 6)