



# Alliance Amateur Radio Club Zero Beat

Volume XXIII, no 6

<http://www.w8lky.org>

June 2009

Serving the Tri-County area since 1986

## AARC to host Picnic at June Meeting!

This months club meeting will be a bit different. First, it will be on June 4th, the first Thursday of the month. Second, we have a change of venue. We'll be meeting at the log cabin at Silver Park. Third, we'll be having a pre-field day picnic before the meeting.

Since our usual meeting room at the Hospital was unavailable this month, we opted to use the cabin at Silver Park. The cabin was unavailable on the 3rd, so we chose the 4th instead.

So, plan to come early, around 6:00, and

AARC Meeting is on Thursday, June 4th, at the Silver Park Cabin. Come early & bring a covered dish.

bring a covered dish. Your editor will be bringing a grill, and will be eating

*(Continued on page 5)*

## HOF Operators Needed!

We need your help on Saturday Aug. 8<sup>th</sup> for the Football Hall of Fame Grand Parade. 50+ hams are needed to provide communications along the parade route (Cleveland Ave.) from 6<sup>th</sup> Street S.W., to 30<sup>th</sup> Street.

If you wish to attend the appreciation dinner on July 24<sup>th</sup> we need you to sign up before June 12<sup>th</sup> so that we can reserve your tickets. This event is a great time for all who volunteer; good food and music.

Thank you in advance for your help with this event; it is greatly appreciated.

If you can volunteer please email one of the one of the following:

Wade [wd8miu@gmail.com](mailto:wd8miu@gmail.com)

Dottie [kd8dqu@att.net](mailto:kd8dqu@att.net)

Ken [wd8ilb@yahoo.com](mailto:wd8ilb@yahoo.com)

Mike [mike.palmer@xerox.com](mailto:mike.palmer@xerox.com)

## Marlington It Is!

After a vote at the May meeting, it was decided to say "Thanks, but no thanks", to the Alliance Park Department.

At the May club meeting, it was voted to return to our longtime Marlington Middle School site. Don, K8OMO voiced safety concerns regarding setting up his crane truck at the new site. So, the membership voted to return to the Marlington Middle School site.

In other Field Day business, Jim, K8LTG volunteered to co-chair with How-



ard, K8DXR, this years Field Day exercises. Jim replaces Larry, KE8VE, who passed away on April 19th.

At the June club meeting, we will making final plans for Field Day 2009. Hope you can make it.

Following is a calendar of events leading up to parade day:

⇒7/21 Parade Training - Meet the Parade Escorts & Marshals at Sippo Lake @ 6:00pm

## Officers

### President

WA8WHP  
Frank Sanor  
24462 St. Rt. 172  
Minerva, OH 44657  
[wa8whp@verizon.net](mailto:wa8whp@verizon.net)  
330-894-2186

### Vice-President

KD8MQ  
John Myers  
510 West Harrison St.  
Alliance, OH 44601  
[kd8mq@neo.rr.com](mailto:kd8mq@neo.rr.com)  
330-936-5021

### Secretary

AB8KV  
Donald R Kingan  
446 West High St.  
Alliance, OH 44601  
[dkingan@neo.rr.com](mailto:dkingan@neo.rr.com)  
330-821-5819

### Treasurer

KB8IVS  
Mary Ann Royer  
6255 Sandalwood NE  
Canton, OH 44721  
[kb8ivs@aol.com](mailto:kb8ivs@aol.com)  
330-492-0703

### Trustees

K3GP  
George Proudfoot  
P.O. Box 343  
Louisville, OH 44641  
[k3gp@arrl.net](mailto:k3gp@arrl.net)  
330-829-9504

K8OMO  
Don Whitaker  
920 W. Beech Rd.  
Alliance, OH 44601  
330-823-5639

KC8TJQ  
Oliver "Smitty" Smith  
25462 Buffalo Rd.  
E. Rochester, OH 44625  
330-894-2530

### Editor

John Myers, KD8MQ  
(See above)

## Ramblings

By John, KD8MQ

Dayton was great, as usual this year. I went on the Pioneer Amateur Radio Fellowship bus trip. Again, the best Hamvention deal was in Akron! The round trip fare was \$65, and our Hamvention ticket was included! Ridership was somewhat reduced this year, but the folks at PARF ran the bus anyway (possibly at a financial loss), as a service to the Amateur Community. My hat goes off to all the folks at PARF!

Field Day is coming up in a few weeks. As in years past, the club will be setting up behind the Marlington Middle School. This months club meeting will be taken up mostly with Field Day planning, though there are some expenditures from the club treasury to be voted on. So, it behooves everyone to try to be there. **Please note the change in night & location for this months meeting (see page 1). Bring food!**

This month, the Zero Beat contain what we hope will be a monthly column on Fox Hunting. At the time of this writing, we don't have a name for it. But, maybe that'll change by publication time.

I'm disappointed in one of votes at the last meeting. For the last 16 months, everyone seems to have been favorable to starting a BSA Venture crew. When the interest didn't appear to be there, we were

*(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 <sup>®</sup>.

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](http://www.w8lky.org)

**E-mail:** [W8lky@w8lky.org](mailto:W8lky@w8lky.org)

## Newsletter Information

The Zero Beat is a publication of the  
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You can submit material to the Zero Beat via e-mail to [kd8mq@neo.rr.com](mailto:kd8mq@neo.rr.com)

## ARRL Seeks Member Support for HR 2160

US House of Representatives bill HR 2160 is the first step toward the Board of Directors' goal of neutralizing anti-ham radio Codes, Covenants and Restrictions (CC&Rs) in private land usage contracts. The CC&Rs in question prevent amateurs from installing Amateur Radio antennas. The FCC has chosen not to extend its PRB-1 rule to cover CC&Rs. If passed, HR 2160 would instruct the Department of Homeland Security to perform a study that would identify impediments to effective Amateur Radio communication during disasters, using the ARRL as a resource. The study would be due to be completed within 180 days and its results reported to Congress for review and possible action.

What is needed at this time is to encourage as many US Representatives as possible to co-sponsor and to support HR 2160. This is where you come in.

We gathered a good number of letters at the ARRL Convention area of the Hamvention® this past weekend, but we need many more of these letters. The more letters, the greater the likelihood we will be successful.

There's a sample letter on the web that can be used as a guide for your own letter it is at <http://tiny.cc/ohqGD>. Personalize it with the name and address of your US Representative and your name, call sign and address, make any additional personalizing comments you feel appropriate and sign it.

Mail your letter -- not directly to the Representative -- to John Chwat, Chwat & Co., 625 Slaters Ln., Suite 103, Alexandria, VA 22314 (or FAX to 703-684-7594). Mr. Chwat heads the company that serves as the ARRL liaison with Congress. He will gather the letters he receives and deliver these personally to each Representative's office to add emphasis to the message contained in them.

Who is your Representative? If you are registered to use the Members Only page at [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org), go to it. When Members Only opens, the name and address of your US Representative will be there, on the left side of the page. If you have not signed up to use Members Only, you can do this easily. You will need to have your membership number (from the QST mailing label). You can also find your Representative by going to <http://tiny.cc/Ugncl>. Enter your state and ZIP code to find your Representative. In many cases, you will need to know your ZIP+4.

At this time, please write only to your US Representative. Do not write to your US Senator or to your State Legislators. Please remember to mail or FAX your letter to John Chwat at Chwat & Co. Please also send an e-mail copy of your letter to Division Legislative Action Coordinator John Meyers, NB4K at [nb4k@arrl.org](mailto:nb4k@arrl.org).

## Wayback-cont.

*(Continued from page 10)*

- had so far netted \$751.37.
- Elections had been held. The new officers were:  
Pres—Dave, KC3CL  
Vice-Pres—Gary, KB8GAB  
Secretary—Gladys, KB8GIA  
Treasurer—Patty, KE8KH
  - The ARES group had been asked to provide communications for the Aerobatic competition at Berlin Aeropark, in June.

### **June, 1994, (editor WX8G)**

- Plans were being made for Field Day, 1994. The site was again going to be at Marlinton Middle School.
- WX8G's editorial told of a unlicensed individual who took to the local repeater, trying to find a testing opportunity. No word on how it turned out.
- We ran a very interesting biography on The Old Man, Hiram Percy Maxim, better known as W1AW.

### **There was no June, 1999 newsletter**

### **June, 2004, (editor KE8VE)**

- The figure @ was added to the Morse code set. It was formed by the letters AC.

## FCC Looks to Raise Vanity Call Sign Fees for Second Consecutive Year

(ARLB02)The FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Order (NPRM) on May 14 seeking to raise fees for Amateur Radio vanity call signs. Currently, a vanity call sign costs \$12.30 and is good for 10 years; the new fee, if the FCC plan goes through, will go up to \$13.40 for 10 years, an increase of \$1.10. The FCC is authorized by the Communications Act of 1934 (as amended) to collect vanity call sign fees to recover the costs associated with that program. The vanity call sign regulatory fee is payable not only when applying for a new vanity call sign, but also upon renewing a vanity call sign for a new term. Instructions on how to comment on this NPRM are available on the FCC Web site.

The vanity call sign fee has fluctuated over the 12 years of the current program -- from a low of \$11.70 in 2007 to a high of \$70 (as first proposed in the FCC's 1994 Report and Order). In 2007, the Commission lowered the fee from \$20.80 to \$11.70. The FCC said it anticipates some 15,000 Amateur Radio vanity call sign "payment units" or applications during the next fiscal year, collecting \$201,000 in fees from the program.

The vanity call sign regulatory fee is payable not



Uncle Sam wants to increase our license fees

only when applying for a new vanity call sign, but also upon renewing a vanity call sign for a new term. The first vanity call sign licenses issued under the current Amateur Radio vanity call sign program that began in 1996 came up for renewal three years ago.

Those holding vanity call signs issued prior to 1996 are exempt from having to pay the vanity call sign regulatory fee at renewal, however. That's because Congress did not authorize the FCC to collect regulatory fees until 1993. Such "heritage" vanity call sign holders do not appear as vanity licensees in the FCC Amateur Radio database.

Amateur Radio licensees may file for renewal only within 90 days of their license expiration date. All radio amateurs must have an FCC Registration Number (FRN) before filing any application with the

Commission. Applicants can obtain an FRN by going to the ULS and clicking on the "New Users Register" link. You must supply your Social Security Number to obtain an FRN.

The ARRL VEC will process license renewals for vanity call sign holders for a modest fee. The service is available to ARRL members and nonmembers, although League members pay less. Routine, non-vanity renewals continue to be free for ARRL members. Trustees of club stations with vanity call signs may renew either via the ULS or through a Club Station Call Sign Administrator, such as ARRL VEC.

League members should visit the "ARRL Member Instructions for License Renewals or Changes" page, while the "Instructions for License Renewals or Changes" page covers general renewal procedures for nonmembers. There is additional information on the ARRL VEC's "FCC License Renewals and ARRL License Expiration Notices" page.

License application and renewal information and links to the required forms are available on the ARRL Amateur Application Filing FAQ Web page. The FCC's forms page also offers the required forms.

The links to the above-mentioned websites can be found at, <http://tiny.cc/5tIrl>. (this bulletin comes to us from the ARRL)

## Picnic @ June Meeting — cont.

*(Continued from page 1)*

smoke. The grill isn't big, so we'll probably just do hot dogs, and maybe some brats. So, we won't starve, even if everyone else brings nothing but sautéed guacamole tarts.

What I'd like is for someone to step up and cover drinks, buns, and/or accoutrements (plates, plastic utensils, napkins, etc.). If you can help, please let me know. My cell number is 330-936-5021. The meeting will begin around the usual time, more, or less.

This month, we'll be finalizing our Field Day plans. Even though we do it every year, Field Day is not a time to take chances. We hope to see a big turnout at the June Meeting.

## HOF ops needed—cont

*(Continued from page 1)*

⇒7/22 Parade Training – Meet the Parade Escorts & Marshals at Sippo Lake @ 6:00pm

⇒7/24 Appreciation Dinner (time to be announced)

⇒8/8 HOF Grand Parade

73's,  
Mike – KD8ENV

## Ramblin—cont.

*(Continued from page 2)*

asked to possibly partner with the canton folks to assist with their venture crew. It came to a vote at the last meeting, and was voted DOWN! Granted, anyone who's interested can help out the Canton crew on their own, but the vote of the membership sends the message that we are no longer interested in pursuing this outreach.

My question to the members of this club is, "Just where do you expect the next generation of Hams to come from?"

Well, that's all I have for this month. See you at the meeting.

John, KD8MQ

## Wayback - cont.

Remember the scene in the movie "Back to the Future", where Marty is trying to re-start the DeLorean in 1955 as he prepares to return to 1985? Did you notice that the headlights flash SOS?



KD8MQ poses with Tesla statue, at Niagara Falls,



Dave Sumner, K1ZZ, and Joe Phillips, K8QOE at the Dayton Hamvention

## Fox Hunt News

It's been no secret that I'm slightly interested in Fox hunting, so I decided to write a monthly column on the subject, instead of random articles here or there, all the fox hunting info will now be in one place. Please let me know what you think.

### Fox Hunt Practice Run

Due to a conflict with the Memorial Day weekend, and my travel schedule, the May FHPR was pushed back to May 30th, from 1—3 PM. The frequency will again be on 147.51. As always, the Volunteer foxmeisters are welcome. Just contact KD8MQ for details.

The June FHPR, if approved, will be a short range hunt held at the Field Day site (See page 1 for location). I'm offering this as the 100 point educational activity bonus. Actual date & time will be sent out on the NEO-Foxhunt reflector, and to those on my Foxhunt list as soon as the details are nailed down.

### Cuyahoga Falls Foxhunts

I've attended a couple of the Cuyahoga Falls foxhunts this spring, and can heartily recommend them. At the mic, Gay, WB8VNO adds the personal touch that our lil old fox box just cannot match.

The hunts are held on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Wednesdays of each month (Mar-Oct). They are evening hunts, so the start times vary, depending on sunset.

For the current times, check with KD8MQ, or better yet, sign up for the NEOFoxhunt reflector on Yahoo.com.

After the fox has been found, the group usually meets at some local restaurant. Let me tell you, the Cuyahoga Falls foxhunts have been murder on my diet. HI HI.

### [neofoxhunt]

One way to keep abreast of fox hunts in the area is to watch the neofoxhunt reflector. To sign up, go to the neofoxhunt page and click on join this group. The page is at

<http://tiny.cc/zpHz7>.

### Inter-Club Fox Hunt

Planning for the inter-club fox hunt is moving along, with the date of July 11th being discussed. We're talking about the fox(es) being hidden in the Canton area. Full details will be in the next issue of the Zero Beat.

### Parma Fox Hunts

The Woodchuck ARC, in Parma has a monthly fox hunt schedule posted on their website. Coming up next is a hunt on Sunday, June 14th, starting at 2 PM.

The starting point is The North end of the Kmart Parking Lot (7701 Broadview Road, Parma, Ohio 44131). The hunt frequency is 146.675. For Talk-In, or help, use the hunt frequency, or the 145.31 repeater (PL is 110.9). Their

Website is at

[www.woodchuckradio.org/](http://www.woodchuckradio.org/)

### Ninth USA ARDF Championships coming up!

The US ARDF championships are coming up June 5th—7th in Boston. On foot RDF competitions will be held using 2 & 80 Meters.

To encourage first timers, and foreign visitors, the registration fee has been waived for Anyone who has never participated in a US ARDF championship, and for anyone coming from outside North America.

### Dual Polarization Quad For Fox Hunting



While surfing on [www.homingin.com](http://www.homingin.com), I found plans for a dual polarization quad for Fox Hunting.

The page is located at <http://tiny.cc/2YLKl>, and gives all the info needed to make one, or to modify a commercially available antenna.

Till next month, 73.  
(KD8MQ)

## Scientists Predict Solar Cycle 24 to Peak in 2013

SB SPACE ARL ARLS003

ARLS003 Scientists Predict Solar Cycle 24 to Peak in 2013

Scientists predict that Solar Cycle 24 will peak in May 2013 with 90 sunspots per day on average. At the annual Space Weather Workshop held in Boulder, Colorado last month, an international panel of experts led by NOAA's Space Weather Prediction Center (SWPC) predicted that Solar Cycle 24 will peak in May 2013 with 90 sunspots per day on average. If the prediction proves true, Solar Cycle 24 will be the weakest cycle since Solar Cycle 16 which peaked with 78 daily sunspots in 1928, and ninth weakest since the 1750s, when numbered cycles began.

The panel predicted that the lowest sunspot number between cycles -- the solar minimum -- occurred in December 2008, marking the end of Solar Cycle 23 and the start of Solar Cycle 24. If December's prediction holds up, at 12 years and seven months Solar Cycle 23 will be the longest since 1823 and the third longest since 1755. Solar cycles span 11 years on average, from minimum to minimum.

An unusually long, deep lull in sunspots led the panel to revise its 2007 prediction that the next cycle of solar storms would start in March 2008 and peak in late 2011 or mid-2012. The persistence of a quiet Sun also led the panel to a conclusion that Solar Cycle 24 will be what they called "moderately weak."

Although the peak is still four years away, a new active period of Earth-threatening solar storms will be the weakest since 1928. Despite the prediction, the scientists said that Earth is still vulnerable to a severe solar storm. Solar storms are eruptions of energy and matter that escape from the Sun and may head toward Earth, where even a weak storm can damage satellites and power grids, disrupting communications, the electric power supply and GPS. A single strong blast of "solar wind" can threaten national security, transportation, financial services and other essential functions.

The most common measure of a solar cycle's intensity is the number of sunspots -- Earth-sized blotches on the Sun marking areas of heightened magnetic activity. The more sun spots there are, the more likely it is that solar storms will occur, but a major storm can occur at any time.

"As with hurricanes, whether a cycle is active or weak refers to the number of storms, but everyone needs to remember it only takes one powerful storm to cause huge problems," said NOAA scientist Doug Biesecker, who chaired the panel. "The strongest solar storm on record occurred in 1859 during another below-average cycle." The 1859 storm shorted out telegraph wires, causing fires in North America and Europe and sent readings of Earth's magnetic field soaring, as well as produced northern lights so bright that people read newspapers by their light, he said.

Biesecker cited a recent report by the National Academy of Sciences that found if a storm that severe occurred today, it could cause \$1-2 trillion in damages the first year and require four to 10 years for recovery, compared to the \$80-125 billion of damage that resulted from Hurricane Katrina.

The Space Weather Prediction Center is part of the National Weather Service and is one of the nine National Centers for Environmental Prediction. It is the nation's official source of space weather alerts, watches and warnings. SWPC provides real-time monitoring and forecasting of solar and geophysical events that impact satellites, power grids, communications, navigation and many other technological systems.

## Military Vehicle Preservation Association To "Convoy" through the area



On Monday, June 15th, folks along the old Lincoln Highway will be treated to glimpse of history; a convoy of restored military vehicles will be coming through the area on its way from East Palestine, to Wooster.

This convoy is being sponsored by the "Military Vehicle Preservation Association" Whose website link was included in the February issue of Contact<sup>1</sup>. While researching this article, I was directed to their website (<http://www.mvpa.org/>)

The following excerpt from their website explains the purpose of the convoy better than I could.

"In 1919, the US Army's Military Transportation Corps (MTC) undertook



a transcontinental Convoy to demonstrate the need for a mechanized Army. This "hooves to wheels" plan to modernize America's fighting force needed an attention-getting event to energize Congress and the citizenry, and parading the Army's military might from coast-to-coast along the new Lincoln Highway was a great way to get demonstrate new vehicles

As part of its mission to honor our country's military vehicle history, the MVPA has decided to recreate the famous 1919 Convoy in 2009 as a 90th Anniversary celebration of the achievement and in conjunction with the nation's President Lincoln Bicentennial celebration. "

Hams along the route were being solicited to help with communications.

1 - Contact is an e-zine for people in the Amateur Radio PR field. It is put out each month by the league PR department. Their home page can be found at

<http://www.arrl.org/pio/contact/>

### Publicity Opportunity for 2009 - Transcontinental Drive

Here's the original story from the October, 2008 Contact.

*In the summer of 2009 we are going to reenact the first transcontinental convoy by the U.S. military across the United States. This was done in 1919. Our organization would like to see if the ARRL's hams would have an interest in providing communications along the route. We will have a "primitive" flavor to this convoy with many of the military vehicles being over 90 years old and most at least 50 years old. We will be traveling US 30 which was the Lincoln highway for most of the route.*

Lew Ladwig is in charge, write him at [lladwig@kumarus.com](mailto:lladwig@kumarus.com)



# June 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 7PM Canton ARES Net 147.12 9 PM N. Columbiana cty net 147.255 9 PM SAARA Net 146.805 pl	3	4 AARC Nets 8, 9, 9:30 8 PM Massillon Net 147.18	5	6 Alabama QSO Party
7 Alabama QSO Party Breezeshooters hamfest	8	9 7PM Canton ARES Net 147.12 9 PM N. Columbiana cty net 147.255 9 PM SAARA Net 146.805 pl	10	11 AARC Nets 8, 9, 9:30 8 PM Massillon Net 147.18	12	13 June VHF QSO Party
14 June VHF QSO Party  Flag Day	15	16 7PM Canton ARES Net 147.12 9 PM N. Columbiana cty net 147.255 9 PM SAARA Net 146.805 pl	17  Dianna Ashburn BD	18 AARC Nets 8, 9, 9:30 8 PM Massillon Net 147.18	19 KG8RN BD	20 WV QSO Party Kids Day
21 WV QSO Party Kids Day  Father's Day  First Day of Summer	22	23 7PM Canton ARES Net 147.12 9 PM N. Columbiana cty net 147.255 9 PM SAARA Net 146.805 pl	24	25 KC8LKB BD  AARC Nets 8, 9, 9:30 8 PM Massillon Net 147.18	26 N8XTJ BD NW8C BD	27 ARRL Field Day  QRP ARCI milliwatt Field Day
28 ARRL Field Day  QRP ARCI milliwatt Field Day	29	30 7PM Canton ARES Net 147.12 8PM-Homeland Security net 9 PM N. Columbiana cty net 147.255 9 PM SAARA Net-146.805 pl				

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/>.

**June, 1989, (editors KB8GCE, & KB8GCF)**

- This was the first Zero Beat from the desk of Dennis (KB8GCF), & Janice (KB8GCE) Barber. Dennis came to the US from England, after completing 13 years in the Royal Navy, and was a chef by trade. Janice was a housewife. If memory serves,

they had one son, Damien.

- Patty (KE8KH) was beginning her fourth year as treasurer, and was also enrolled in the police academy.
- The winning raffle tickets had been drawn. After expenses, the club had made a profit of \$399.00. Thanks were offered to all who sold tickets.
- The estate sale that the club was holding

*(Continued on page 3)*

**ELMER**

**by Rich Regent, K9GDF**

