



Earthquake in Haiti

I won't re-iterate what I'm sure everyone is already aware of. Haiti has been hit hard with a massive earthquake. The devastation is indescribable.

The mainstream, and Amateur Radio media appears to be covering this story very well.

But, in case you've forgotten, here's a reminder, as you listen to the emergency nets, unless you can provide some assistance, or

information which no one else on the net is able to provide, then STAY OFF THE FREQUENCY!

Following this one simple rule helps everyone. It is human nature to want to help, but sometimes, when we jump into a situation that we don't fully understand, we can wind up doing more harm than good. So, even though it is against human nature, there are times when silence truly is golden!

WZ8C Resigns as WorldRadio Editor

Nancy Kott, WZ8C is resigning as WorldRadio Online editor. Many of you will also remember Nancy as the contact for Fists CW Club.

Nancy has been the editor of World Radio, for a couple years that I can remember, taking office back when it was a printed magazine.

Richard Fisher, KI6SN takes over with the April issue. He currently writes the "Trail Friendly Radio" column in WR, and also writes for CQ, and Popular Communications.

HF Frequencies for Haiti Return to Normal Use

(Jan 24, 2010) -- Considering the improving communications situation in Haiti, Dr Cesar Pio Santos, HR2P, IARU Region 2 EM-COR, announced the release of HF frequencies, including 7.045 and 3.720 MHz, for normal use. "We thank the world radio amateur community for their support in keeping these frequencies clear during the past days." (Tnx arrl.org)

K8BF 5th Annual Freeze Your Acorns Off (FYAO) QRP Special Event Station

Don't forget that the 5th annual FYAO special event is coming up on Saturday, February 27th. Sponsored by PCARS, operating times are from 1500 UTC - 2300 UTC.

The operation will be in Fred Fuller Park, Kent, OH. Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS).

See last months issue of the Zero Beat for more information.

Meeting Announcement

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, February 3rd, 2010 at the Alliance Community Hospital, in the Cafe conference room.

Meetings begin at 7:30 PM.

There is no program scheduled this month.

Before the meeting, you're invited to join us at

**Luna's Restaurant
2340 W. State St.**

We meet there at 6 PM, for food, & fellowship

Officers

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Editor

John Myers, KD8MQ
(See above)

Rambling

By John, KD8MQ

Hi everyone, The new year is now well underway. At work, we've planned out our 2010 projects, and have been receiving our parts shipments this month.

What's this have to do with the club? Well, we're in planning mode here, as well. We're making plans for some fun club activities this year.

One of the first to arrive is the Stark County VHF QSO Party, on April 10th. The planning is just about wrapped up, and hopefully will be finalized at the next club meeting. It promises to be a fun afternoon. There'll be mobile stations criss-crossing the county, activating as many of the 36 townships, cities, & villages as possible. There will be fixed stations handing out contacts. There will be not 1, not 2, but 3 bonus stations on the air, as well. And, we haven't even talked about prizes!

In addition, we have a monthly slate of fox hunts beginning in March. Look for a return of the ZB's fox hunt column in the March issue. Along with that, there will be an announcement of a new website of interest to fox hunters. Watch for more news next month.

In June, we have the upcoming ARRL Field Day exercises. Our field Day committee has been hard at work, planning for an even better field day experience this year.

Then, starting in the fall, we have a new contest,

(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

January Meeting Minutes

Alliance
Amateur Radio
Club

January 6, 2010

The regular meeting of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club was held on January 6, 2010 at 7:30 PM at Alliance Community Hospital with club President John Myers, KD8MQ presiding. The pledge of allegiance was recited followed by introductions. There were 11 members present along with Miriam Sanor, Rowena Miller and guest Edwin Sarver, KD8MED.

President John acknowledged club members with January birthdays, including Bob, K8RLS and Tony, KD8BBK.

For the Secretary's report Don, AB8KV thanked President John and Frank, WA8WHP for handling the past two month's meeting minutes due to his absence. With nothing else to announce, the Secretary's report was approved on a motion from Tom, KD8JRK and seconded by Frank.

Treasurer Mary Ann, KB8IVS was absent, so President John gave the Treasurer's report with information forwarded to him by Mary Ann. The report was approved on a motion by Howard, K8DXR and seconded by Don, K8OMO.

Committee reports:

•President John commented on the Christmas

party then noted that several certificates were still to be handed out to people who were not at the party. One certificate of appreciation was given during the meeting to Secretary Don.

•John then turned to Don, K8OMO for reports on ARES, the Homeland Security hospital net and other items.

Don noted that he was unable to get a discount on the power supply he recently purchased for the club, a 23-amp switch mode supply. At the time of the meeting, the unit was being run for a burn-in. The bill would be turned into Mary Ann.

Don reported that nothing further had been done with ARES, with the paperwork for the hospital emergency drill still to be turned in.

Don further reported that on the last HS hospital net, there were 11 check-ins from three counties. He noted that some participants had apparently improved their signals, but it was still a problem getting other area hospitals to participate. He stated that the hospital radio was still missing and presumed misplaced somewhere. He then reminded the club about the net, held on the last Tuesday of the month at 8:00 PM on 147.510 simplex.

•Tom, KD8JRK then reported on ARRL news. The new question pool for Technician class is being released and will be effective from

July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2014. The General class pool was effective July 1, 2007 and will remain until June 30, 2011. The Extra class pool was effective July 1, 2008 and will remain until June 30, 2012.

He then reported that the Dayton Amateur Radio Association has already had the planning for the next four years of the Hamvention, with contracts signed for 2010 through 2013.

Don, K8OMO added that they had purchased additional property across the street for general public parking and had gotten an agreement with an area hotel.

Tom then noted that Field Day will be June 26 and 27 this year, and extra points will be given for setting up in a public location.

President John then commented on the bus trip to Hamvention held each year by the Pioneer Amateur Radio Club. He had not received any information about this year's trip as yet, but expected to soon.

Old business:

John raised the issue of the club's possibly sponsoring a hamfest, and noted that the cost of renting the Mile Branch Grange fairgrounds for a day was \$100 which includes the restrooms but not the commercial buildings. He then asked if there was anyone interested in forming and being on a com-

(Continued on page 4)

January Meeting Minutes

(Continued from page 3)

mittee to investigate the practicality of holding such an event. He was concerned that our club may not have enough interested people to be able to support the undertaking.

Don, K8OMO suggested that other clubs be contacted and asked to place an article in their newsletters seeking responses from their members as to interest in attending. John said that was something to consider, but was skeptical about receiving enough responses to judge the level of interest.

Frank, WA8WHP suggested approaching the Salem club about jointly sponsoring a hamfest. John responded that some informal discussion had already been held, but no firm decisions or commitments were made.

Larry, AA8NV then raised the issue of contacting TUSCO for information and suggestions about the amount of people required to run an event like this, along with costs and other factors. John said he would email TUSCO about it.

Don, K8OMO suggested that at least initially we could have free admission, instead having a donation jar, which hopefully would make the event more attractive.

John then noted that with the amount of investigation to be done, we would have to plan to hold the event very late this year or,

preferably, next year. K8OMO then made a motion to table further discussion of the hamfest until next month's meeting. This was seconded by Tom, KD8JRK and approved on a voice vote.

•John then addressed the issue of having a Stark County VHF QSO party, which was proposed last month. The target date was April 10. He noted that information was disseminated via the newsletter and handouts at the last meeting. He had contacted the Canton and Massillon clubs about putting bonus stations on the air, but as yet had not heard back anything official from them.

After discussion, one initial decision was to limit the contest to one band, probably 2 meters. John offered to come up with a standard log, while Tom was going to investigate possible web-based software which could be used for logging.

K8OMO asked about gateway stations, with John responding that was a good idea, and that he would like to see three such stations per club.

John said there were 33 possible multipliers, depending upon how the final rules were established. He also proposed a 6-hour contest (12 noon to 6 PM). It was then agreed that further discussion on the QSO party would continue at the next meeting.

New business:

•President John stated that the club has use of the main conference room at the hospital for every month this year except for March. He mentioned that we could make use of the second-floor conference room or hold the meeting in the cabin at Silver Park, which would be free to the club. However, the general feeling seemed to be that the club should not expend its one free usage of the cabin just for a meeting.

At this point, Frank offered to host the meeting at channel 17. After some brief discussion, Tom made a motion to take Frank up on his offer. This was seconded by Don, AB8KV and passed by voice vote. John noted that the announcement could be placed in the next two newsletters.

•Concerning upcoming hamfests, Jerry, N8SH noted that the Shelby hamfest is still a 3-day event. John then pointed out that the TUSCO hamfest is January 31, the Mansfield event is February 14 and the Cuyahoga Falls hamfest is April 18.

After the break, a video presentation was shown about the RUFZXP CW trainer program.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM on a motion by Howard, K8DXR and seconded by Sam, KC8ETZ.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Don, AB8KV, Secretary.

A most dangerous radio.

by Huck Huckabe , AA5BU

In the 1930s the merchant marines of Great Britain and the United States dominated the world. And I, as a teenager, wanted to become a ship's radio operator.

So I learned to be a Morse operator. Many of my friends did likewise. Marine radio gear, then as now, was usually the minimum that met legal requirements.

Most ships had a simple crystal-controlled CW transmitter and a two- or three-tube receiver. The National SW-3 (a collector's piece today) was typical-with a regenerative detector and on or two stages of audio amplification. A CW signal requires some type of "beat oscillator" to produce an audible tone.

Those regenerative detectors oscillated to produce the tone. The oscillation power was a fraction of a watt, but with the world's best ground and no isolation

from the ship's antenna, that QRP signal could be detected at a distance. German submarine torpedoes sent about three fourths of the U.S. merchant fleet to the bottom. The British fleet suffered even higher losses.

One of my friends survived two sinkings by

"U-boats." Another survived the sinking of five small freighters. How did the Germans find the ships? The U-boats would surface at night and listen for the signal of one of those radios. Finding one, they could trail the ship-sometimes a member of a convoy.

They radioed the ship's location and course to other U-boats, who converged to form a line ahead to ambush the convoy. It took a long time for our side to learn how the Germans located our ships. After the discovery, our orders for "radio silence" specified that both our transmitter and receiver were to be off. But until then, that cheap little radio led to the death of many ships and their seamen.

Yet it was only doing what it was designed to do oscillate.

(from the February 1995 ZB, WX8G editor; Originally printed in the August, 1994 Austin (TX) ARC Newsletter, Steve Means, N5PSW editor, via the ARNS Bulletin)



New ARRL Web Site Coming Soon!

(Jan 19, 2010) -- It's almost here! After more than two years of planning, designing and writing, the ARRL is anxiously awaiting the launch of the new ARRL Web site. We've been able to make the online experience easier for our members -- from the online store, to registering for a class, to finding a club -- plus we've created a new, enhanced member profile with many more options available. We've made improvements with you in mind, making sure that we've created the easiest, most enjoyable online experience possible. The new Web site will be available the first week of February.

Rambling—cont.

(Continued from page 2)

just for club members. We'll give you more details this summer, on that one.

That's just a taste of some of what is coming up in 2010 for the AARC.

It's looking like it's going to be a short newsletter this month.

I've been caught up in several rather large projects, both on the workbench, and at the computer.

I promise that next month, we'll be back to 12 pages, or more.

See you at the meeting, folks!

Ham Radio Extra Class Now Forming

As an Upgraded Ham Radio Operator You Get To

- Use More Bandwidth
 - Talk Hams In Other Countries
 - Become a VE and Help Others
-

There will be an Amateur Radio Class in February.
An eight-week class to be held
Starting February 24, 2010.

At 7:00 PM in the EMA office, 700 Industrial Road, Youngstown, OH.

Registration and Text Book is required.

For more information please contact:

Allan Avnet, AB8AA, 330-549-3051, ab8aa@arrl.net



ARRL, The national association for Amateur Radio --
Helping Hams Get Started Since 1914.



AARC Swap n Shop!

Welcome to a new feature in the Zero Beat. Do you have something Ham-related for sale, or something you are wanting to buy? Let me know. My contact info for placing an add is at the bottom of the page.

For Sale - Paul, NW8C has the following for sale.

- Hallicrafters HT-37 Transmitter
- Hallicrafters SX-110
- Pyramid 22A Power Supply
- Kenwood TR-9000 2M All Mode

You can contact Paul, NW8C @ 330-938-0851

For Sale - Frank, WA8WHP has the following for sale.

(He notes that all proceeds will be donated to the club)

Meters

1	0-50uA DC	4.5 "
1	0-75A AC	3.5"
2	0-30V DC	3.5"
1	0-50uA DC	edge mount
3	0-25A DC	3.5"
2	0-15A DC	3"
1	0-10V DC	3.5"

Klystrons

6 8907

timer switch 120 VAC 2 pole

Power resistors

1	5 ohm 200 Watts
2	4 tap 250 kilohm @ 200 watts
4	4 tap 62.5kilohm @ 200 watts

(Continued on page 8)

Swap & Shop rules: We'll keep the rules simple.

1. All ads will run for two months, unless you contact me to cancel, or extend it.
2. You are allowed to post anything as long as it is Ham Radio, or Computer related.
3. Please, no converted CB equipment.

To place an ad: contact John, KD8MQ (Cell: 330-936-5021, e-mail: kd8mq@arrl.net)

AARC Swap n Shop! -cont.

fans

- 1 160 cfm 120 VAC
- 2 65 cfm 120 VAC
- 2 115 VAC .19/.15A Comair rotron muffin
- 1 115 VAC .07/.06A Comair rotron muffin

Time Delay Relay 0-5 Min. DPST 120 VAC 10 Amp contacts

Powerstat 0-120VAC 22A

Powerstat 0-140VAC 22A with knob

Staco 0-240/280VAC 3.5A

Powerstat 0-280VAC 3.5A with knob and scale

Relays

- 3 3PDT 10A 12VDC coil P&B
- 3 DPDT 10A 120VAC coil P&B
- 4 DPDT 10A 115VAC coil #3A993
- 26 DPDT 10A 120VAC coil #11AG120
- 19 3PDT 10A 120VAC coil #14AG120
- 10 CHASSIS MOUNT SOCKET
- 6 3PDT 10A 120VAC coil #14DG120

If interested in any of this, please contact Frank, WA8WHP, via e-mail (wa8whp@verizon.net), or phone (330-206-2639)

For Sale - Don, K8OMO reports the following for sale item:
Heath Kit singlebander 20 meters drake mobile power supply to run it
problem with transmit low output \$100.00 Don, K8OMO email
k8omo@juno.com, or phone: 330-823-5639

Swap & Shop rules: We'll keep the rules simple.

1. All ads will run for two months, unless you contact me to cancel, or extend it.
2. You are allowed to post anything as long as it is Ham Radio, or Computer related.
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February 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																															
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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/>.

(The January/February 1990 issue of the Zero Beat was covered last month.

(There was no February, 2000 issue of the Zero Beat)

February, 1995, (editor WX8G)

- We had a report on the latest Santa net. This years net had been linked in to the Lisbon repeater.

- The clubs Ten Meter net was about a year old, according to Net manager, Don, K8OMO.

- Our first fox hunt of the year was won by John, KF8ZG, and David, N8NLZ. The fox, KC8WY, was hidden to the SW of Alliance. This appears to have been a very close finish, since there were only a 2-point spread between the top three finishers.

- Three of the top six jokes told on the Austintown repeater systems joke net were told by AARC officers. This led the editor to refer to this as the "Funniest Club in NE Ohio".

- The program for the upcoming meeting was to be Scott, NI8L describing his antenna farm which he was building South of Alliance.

- There was a story entitled "A Most Dangerous Radio". This very interesting story from WW2 is reprinted in this issue.

February, 2005, (editor KE8VE)

- The weather kept all but 8 Hams, & one XYL from the January, 2005 meeting. As Larry reported, the whole meeting lasted only 20 minutes from start to finish.

- Joanne, KJ3O was again our Ohio section Affiliated Club Coordinator (ACC), after a 5 year break from the job she had started in 1986, and holds to this day.

WD8MPV & KJ3O out of Hospital

As many of you know, Larry & Joanne lost their home to fire early in the morning of January 13th. Both were hospitalized with smoke inhalation, but have since been released.

While Joanne works to get her house back in order, Scott Yonally, N8SY has been temporarily appointed Affiliated Club Coordinator for the Ohio Section.