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AARC to operate Ohio QSO Party!

For the second year in a row, members of the Alliance ARC will operate the Ohio QSO Party from rare Mahoning County.

This year, however, more emphasis will be placed on dinner. Will we be ordering pizza? Will we be grilling out? How about a carry in dinner? Come to the August club meeting and find out! We'll send out e-mails after the meeting concerning dinner.

Again this year, we'll be operating from the Sebring Campgrounds, near the corner of Johnson Rd, and Lake Park Blvd (See map pg. 5). This is the same site we used for this year's Field Day operation.

The GPS coordinates are: N: 40° 54.98', W: 81° 01.92'.

Both club radios will be set up, and running. Or, bring your favorite rig & antenna.

Logging will be done by computer, using N1MM, in multi-user mode. Two computers will be provided by John, KD8MQ. If you are bringing a rig, but don't want to mess with interfacing a laptop, don't worry. Just use paper logging. We'll key it in later. **But**, last year, we

What: The Alliance ARC club station will be participating in the Ohio QSO Party.

Who: All interested parties. Anyone interested in Amateur Radio.

When: Saturday, August 27th. The contest runs from Noon to midnight, local time. Setup will begin at 10 AM.

Where: Sebring Campground. The campground is located near the intersection of Johnson Rd, and Texas Ave (See map pg. 5).

Why: Because it'll be fun!

missed out on a few points because we did not record the QSO time on some paper logs. So, **If You Are Planning To Log On Paper, You Must Record All info, Including QSO Time In Your Log.**

It should be a fun filled day of playing Ham Radio, and fellowshiping. Since the camp is also open to others, we may get the opportunity to explain our hobby to others, and make some new friends in the bargain. We hope to see you there.

Meeting Announcement

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, August 10th, 2011 at the Alliance Community Hospital, in the Cafe conference room. Our meetings begin at 7:30 PM

Before the meeting, you're invited to join us at 6pm for dinner

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Editor

John Myers, KD8MQ
(See above)

Rambling

By John, KD8MQ

Hello, and welcome to the August edition of the Zero Beat.

Let's begin this month by talking about last month's issue. It's actually a funny story, although I didn't think so at that time.

The newsletter was already running late, thanks to a multitude of factors, Field Day being one of them. I had taken advantage of a few free minutes at the end of the work day, and finished the newsletter with the exception of the table of contents on page 1. It was almost time to leave for home, so I closed the lid on the laptop, and stowed it in its case. I thought about connecting to the internet, so the newsletter could sync with my other machines, but didn't have the time. Next time I opened the laptop, I wished I had taken the time; it would not start. I had to re-install the OS, and several drivers to get to a point where I could copy the newsletter files to my flash drive.

The newsletter came out later than I intended, but it really wasn't too bad. That is if you don't count the hard drive dying on me three days later. As I write this, all is re-loaded, the RAM has been doubled, and the laptop is almost 100%.

Vacation

We just returned from vacation which, unfortunately, was scheduled at the same time as the Mile Branch Grange Fair.

(Continued on page 5)

Meetings

The Alliance Amateur Radio Club meets on the Second Wednesday of each 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

We are also on Facebook!

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 kd8mq1@gmail.com

July Minutes

July 13, 2011

The regular meeting of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club was held on July 13, 2011 at 7:30 PM in conference room 1A of the Alliance Community Hospital with club President John Myers (KD8MQ) presiding. The pledge of allegiance was recited followed by introductions. There were 22 members present along with guests Mary Maendel and Gary Russell (KD8QFH).

President John announced birthdays for July which included Jerry Steele (K8CMI), Butch Lebold (WA8SHP) and Preston Wegman (WA8NEJ).

Secretary Don (AB8KV) gave the Secretary's report: He noted that the June minutes were in the newsletter and that Field Day publicity included obtaining the Mayor's proclamation for Amateur Radio week, inviting both the Alliance and Sebring Mayors and city councils and placing an article in the Alliance Review. He reported that he had sent in the registration form along with proof of the club's insurance to Sara Crawford for the Mile Branch Grange Fair. He further reported that emails had been sent to reporter Marc Kovac and the Review senior editor thanking them for the June 8 article discussing Ohio's legislation regarding limiting restrictions on amateur radio antennas. With

nothing further to announce, the Secretary's report was approved on a motion by Frank (WA8WHP) and seconded by Tom (KD8JRK).

Treasurer Mary Ann (KB8IVS) then gave the Treasurer's report. The report was approved on a motion by Smitty (KC8TJQ) and seconded by Alan (WI8T).

Old business & committee reports:

- For the ARES and net reports, Don (K8OMO) reported that there was nothing really new. John noted that the last district 5 ARES meeting was held there at the hospital and was hosted by the club.

- John then reported on Field Day, including a slide show of the activities and participants. He noted that the club ran class 3A and had a GOTA station under Jeff's call sign (KD8QCF). The club had a claimed score of 3234 points before bonus points were added, the club's second best score on record. Field Day award pins were given out for the top three operators which were Duane (W8DHz), Vice President Howard (K8DXR) and Tony (KD8BBK) and also to Jeff, the GOTA station operator.

- John then addressed the Mile Branch Grange Fair which was coming up on July 21-23. He noted that volunteers were needed to go in on Wednesday the 20th to set up as well as man the booth and tear down. Times and

requirements were discussed with some details left to those participating.

New business:

- Dave (N8NLZ) announced that he has a collection of Hallicrafters radios for sale. He passed around a sheet showing pictures of some of the rigs.

- Frank then raised the issue of whether the club wanted to participate in another Elder-Beerman coupon book sale as a fund raiser. After some discussion, it was decided to leave it up to individual members whether to participate. John then asked Frank to check on the status of the last cell phone turn-ins from the club.

- Don (K8OMO) noted that there were still items available from the estate sale of Paul Beane.

- President John then spoke about scheduling licensing classes in September. He was still trying to contact the Red Cross about utilizing their training room. He proposed a 10-week class schedule, with the first week an explanation about ham radio and what the classes would cover. This would be followed by 8 weeks of instruction with the final week dedicated to exams by VE's. John added that more information would be forthcoming in August.

- John announced that two hamfests were coming

(Continued on page 4)

Minutes—cont.

(Continued from page 3)

up: Portage county on July 31 and Cuyahoga Falls the following Sunday. He also reminded the club about the foxhunt scheduled for Saturday, July 16.

With no further business for the club, the meeting was adjourned for a five-minute break.

After the break Jerry (N8SH) showed and talked about an old-style regenerative receiver he had recently built.

The club meeting was then adjourned at approximately 9:10 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Don, AB8KV, Secretary.

AARC Special Event Is Back!

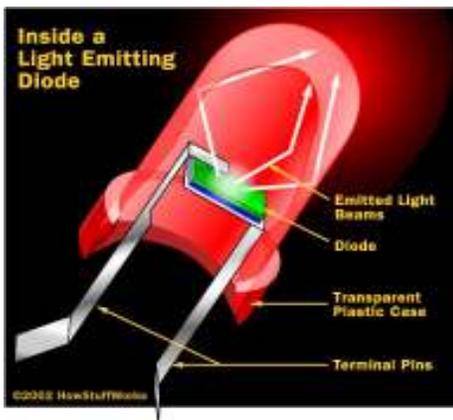


Tony, KD8BBK attempting to wrest the microphone from Smitty, KC8TJQ, While Jim, K8LTG looks for the power button. Tony was heard to say "Friends don't let friends do sideband!"

Trivia Question

When was the first known report of the effect of the Light Emitting Diode, or LED?

(answer on page 6)



After a short hiatus, the AARC special event station is back! After a mix-up last year put the kibosh on our 2010 operation, we will be back at the Jaycee pavilion, in Silver Park, on Saturday, August 20th.

Setup will begin around 9-9:30AM. Operation will be from 10AM - 5 PM local time. Operation will be on 40, 20, & 15 meters, CW, & SSB.

Certificates are available for an SASE to AARC-W8LKY, P.O. Box 3344, Alliance, OH 44601.

This year's certificates are designed by Tony, KD8BBK.

Welcome New Members!

I'll never get tired of running this column. I'd like everyone to join me in Welcoming our newest member aboard.

A warm welcome goes out to Gary Russell, KD8QFH.

Remember everybody, this column is up to you! Keep talking up the club, and what we're doing.

If you're excited, others will be, too! If you aren't excited about this club, I'd like for you to tell me why.

Rambling—cont

(Continued from page 2)

I was able to make it to the fair on the first night. The temps were in the 90's, and crowds were practically nonexistent.

We left on Saturday to find temps at the beach in the range of 105°–115°, depending on where you were. There was just no getting away from the heat.

As we were driving through Maryland & Delaware, I glanced periodically at the APRS display. What I saw impressed me. In that part of the country, APRS is being used more as designed. By the time I arrived at the beach,

- I knew the location of all the local fire stations, complete with frequencies.
- I saw that a local scout troop had set up a portable station at the nearby state park.
- I could view up to date weather conditions from several private weather stations.
- I was able to read Information about two tankers which were anchored off the coast, as well as several more which had passed earlier in the day.
- I saw Location, and frequency information about several nearby repeaters.

I came away with a greater understanding of what APRS can do. If used properly, it provides a real time snapshot of activity in a given area. Hamfests, club

meetings, VE Test Sessions, etc can all be posted to the APRS network. I can't wait to try out some of what I saw on this trip.

I'd like to thank everyone who came out to help with the booth at the fair. I know it was a hot, boring three days, but hopefully it'll all be worth it when classes begin.

Classes

Which brings up the subject of classes. At this time, we are still working on finding a room for the 10 week class. I hope to have something nailed down by the night of the club meeting.

How I got into Ham Radio

I'm running more of your stories this month. But, we're not through yet. Thanks to a mention in the Section Journal, I recently received the first of maybe several stories from outside the area.

If you haven't already sent in your story, please consider doing so now.

August Club Meeting

This month, we'll be making some plans for the upcoming **Ohio QSO Party Picnic**. Hope you can attend.

The Last Word

That's all I have for this month. I hope to see you at the next meeting.

73, de John, KD8MQ

Help Wanted

Are you interested in spending some time to help out the club? If so, then do I have a deal for you! There are a couple positions available. I'd like to get some volunteers to help me out with the newsletter each month.

Neither job will take a lot of time, but will really help me out.

The first item I need help with is the **New Hams column**. I need someone to check the FCC database around the first of each month, and e-mail information on any new, or upgraded Hams to me. I'll walk you through it, and supply you with all the links, and information you need.

Secondly, I'd like someone to take over the **Wayback Machine column**. This one requires some writing skills. I'll provide you with a disk with all the Zero Beats for the last 25 years. Your job, should you choose to volunteer, will be to peruse the old newsletters and write a brief synopsis of what was going on in the club 5, 10, 15, 20, & 25 years ago.

If you are interested in any of these positions, please let me know. You can e-mail me at kd8mq1@gmail.com, or call me at 330-936-5021.

Ohio QSO Party is coming up!

(Editor's note - *The following is a reprint from the August 2010 Zero Beat.*)

The Ohio QSO Party (OhQP) is just a few weeks away, and the excitement is building. Stations from across Ohio are making their plans to be on the air for one of the premier state QSO parties in the nation. Small stations from Ohio can make hundreds of QSOs during this short 12 hour event.

Run by the Mad River Radio Club, the Ohio QSO Party is a chance for Ohio stations to play center stage, and hand out some of the rarest of the rare counties in the state.

It's also a great excuse for clubs across the state to host get togethers for their members. Besides the Alliance club, the Portage County, and Canton clubs are activating their club calls for this event.

Even if you're not operating from a club station, please get on the air, and hand out contacts. As always, the goal of the OHQP is to see all 88 Ohio counties on the air.

If you are planning on operating, please let everyone know by posting your county of operation on the "Planned Operations" website at ohqp.org.

The OHQP is a fun time for Ohio stations to be on the air and be the hunted station, or "DX". People from around the world are seeking out Ohio stations in this

event. There are 88 counties in this great state, some of which are seldom, if ever available on HF.

The OhQP occurs on Saturday, August 27, 2011 from local noon to local midnight. In the basic QSO exchange, Ohio stations send a consecutive serial number + county, and non-Ohioans (who can only work Ohio) send a consecutive serial number and state/province/DX. Suggested frequencies are:

CW: 3545, 7045, 14,045, 21,045, 28,045 kHz;
SSB: 3825, 7200, 14,250, 21,300, and 28,450 kHz.

Don't be shy - Call CQ, or searching and pounce. Remember that the world will be looking for Ohio stations - your CQ's will be answered! Full details and an OhQP operating guide can be found on the official website at: www.ohqp.org/.

This is a great event for a club activity or a training ground for new(er) hams. QSO rates are as high or higher than Field Day, and there's virtually no QRM in this event. Round up the club and have some fun. If you are in the mood to enjoy the great Ohio countryside, try operating portable or mobile from a rare county.

Remember, the ultimate goal is to just have some fun!

73 and we hope to hear you on the air.

Stark County VHF QSO Party Changes

There was a major error in the scoring for this years Stark County VHF QSO Party. One that shouldn't have happened, but it did.

After the awards had been presented for this year's contests, it was brought to my attention that the AK8CC entry from the Crenshaw Middle School Radio Club had not shown up in the results.

Looking back through my records, it was discovered that the entry had indeed been received well within the deadline posted for logs. At the time the e-mail arrived, we were taking care of my father, and I absent-mindedly acknowledged it, then archived it. It did not make it into the folder with the rest of the entries. Consequently, their score was never added to the final results. Under the circumstances, I had no choice but to rescore the contest.

The AK8CC entry has knocked the K8BF team out of 1st place. They also knocked PCARS out of the high club score category. Certificates, and an amended plaque will be presented to all concerned at the earliest opportunity.

Trivia Question— Answered

H.J Round, reporting in the February, 1907 issue of *Electrical World*, that some crystal detectors emitted light when a direct current was applied to them.

AARC Swap n Shop!

Do you have something Ham-related for sale, or something you are wanting to buy? Nothing to list this month. If you have something, contact KD8MQ; His e-mail address is below.

Icom 756 Pro HF transceiver 30khz-60Mhz dsp 2x 2rx	\$1125
Alinco credit card sized radio	\$40
2 Meter Mirage Amp 10 in/160 out	\$140
6 Meter Mirage Amp 10 in/170 out	\$140
D104 Mic for Yaesu	\$45
Heil HM10-4 mic	\$45
2 Meter 4 Element Quad	\$10
Vibroplex Paddle (Brown base—1960's)	\$80
Lots of Meters	\$5 & up

Don K8OMO ([330-823-5639](tel:330-823-5639)) or
Jim k8ltg ([330-823-3925](tel:330-823-3925))

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 (e-mail: kd8mq@arrl.net)

AARC Swap n Shop!

Do you have something Ham-related for sale, or something you are wanting to buy? Nothing to list this month. If you have something, contact KD8MQ; His e-mail address is below.

Chuck, N8PLM, sends the following:

For Sale - Cushcraft A-4S 10-40 Meter multiband HF Yagi with
 Model 744 40 meter add on kit. still in boxes
 \$700.00, or best offer

Looking to buy 2 meter or 440 repeater

Looking to buy a diamond 500hna, or x510hdn, or x510hdm base antenna

Chuck can be reached at 330-938-9023 or n8plm@yahoo.com

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 (e-mail: kd8mq@arrl.net)

Upcoming Fox Hunts

<u>Date</u>	<u>Start Time</u>	<u>Hunt/Talk-in Freq</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Start Line</u>
August 3 rd	7:00 PM	147.525	Cuyahoga Falls ARC	2850 Church St, Stow, Ohio
August 14 th	2:00 PM	146.475	Woodchuck ARC	State & Pleasant Valley Plaza (Behind the Marathon Station) 7411 State Road Parma, Ohio 44131
August 17 th	7:00 pm	147.525	Cuyahoga Falls ARC	2850 Church St, Stow, Ohio
August 31 st	7:00 PM	147.525	Cuyahoga Falls ARC	2850 Church St, Stow, Ohio

For changes, or additions, e-mail kd8mq@arrl.net

W8LKY FD results

	2011 3A			2010 (3A)		
Band	CW	Digital	Phone	CW	Digital	Phone
160	0	0	0	0	0	0
80	98	0	36	64	4	122
40	173	0	169	178	2	84
20	98	0	279	60	0	164
15	169	0	19	0	0	37
10	8	0	6	0	0	26
6	0	0	0	0	0	37
Satellite	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total CW/Phone	546	0	509	302	6	471
GOTA	16			0		
Total Q's	1071			779		
100% Emergency Power	300			300		
Media Publicity	100			100		
Set-up in Public Place	100			100		
Information Booth	100			100		
NTS message to SM/SEC	100			100		
Message Handling	0			10		
Satellite QSO	0			100		
Alternate Power	100			100		
W1AW Bulletin	100			100		
Educational activity	0			100		
Visit by an elected official	0			0		
Visit by a representative of a served agency	0			0		
Web submission	50			50		
Bonus points	950			1160		
Claimed Score	4,184 PTS			2,174 pts		

Amateur Radio Cruise-In



So you think that you have one of the best amateur radio mobile installations to be found? Well here is your chance to show off that mobile rig and have the opportunity to compare it to dozens of others, HF, VHF, UHF, you name it.



On Wednesday, August 17, 2011, starting at 5:00 p.m., the Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS) will be sponsoring an Amateur Radio Cruise-In Night at the **A&W** Restaurant located at 769 East Main Street in Ravenna.



Hams from all over Northeast Ohio will be cruising in to check out the wide variety of mobile radio setups and get some ideas for their own vehicles. Prizes will be awarded for the most unique and the ugliest installations and for the farthest DX station worked by an HF mobile rig from the A&W between 5:00 and 7:00 p.m.

Have you wondered how well screwdriver antennas perform? Confused about how best to run your power cables from the battery to the passenger compartment? How have other hams dealt with all that noise generating equipment in newer cars? Can you work DX from your truck? Need a solution for mounting that remote control head?

Well come on by and get those questions answered while you enjoy a burger, some fries, and a mug of **A&W** root beer. Enjoy an evening of ham radio fellowship and fun and get to know other hams from throughout the area.



Talk-in will be on the N8EQJ repeater,
146.895 MHz, PL 110.9

More information can be found at the PCARS web site,
www.portcars.org or contact
Jim, KC8PD, at KC8PD@portcars.org or 330-297-7979.



August 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																													
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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/>.

There was no August 1991 issue of the Zero Beat.

August, 1996 (Editor, WX8G)

- Field Day 1996 was behind us. We ran class 4A, and made 625 Q's.
- Gary, KB8GAB was the fox for our summer foxhunt. He was hiding at Quail Hollow State Park. Dave, KC8WY would have won, had the battery in his van not died. The official winner was John, WX8G, who then drove Dave to the service station so he could buy a battery.

August, 2001, (Editor, KD8MQ)

- It was Fair Time. The club was setting up

a table at the Mile Branch Grange Fair.

- We had received a OO notice regarding our 40 meter Field Day operation. I can't remember who was running 40 meters at the 2001 FD site.

- We had an unusual alignment of dates in 2001. The Carnation triathlon was scheduled for a date which did not conflict with any local hamfests.

- We had finished our latest mall show. With K-mart gone, the turnout was pretty anemic.

- We had two Silent Keys to report. Steve, KB8RJA, and Sam, WB8ZQX.

June, 2006, (Editor, KE8VE)

- The 2006 AARC Field Day operation made 5,010 points for a 41% increase over 2005.