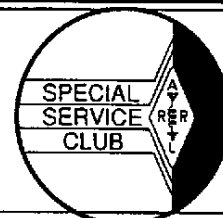




Zero Beat

Serving hams in the Tri-County Area



Volume 9 No. 2

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

February 1995

CQ St. Nick

Art Linkletter used to say, "Kids say the darndest things." The AARC's 2nd annual Santa Net sure proved that to be true. The net was held on December 15th, at a special time of 7:00 PM.

Thanks to a tie-in with the 146.805 repeater in Lisbon, tikes from all over were able to talk to the Jolly Old Elf. And did they talk.

We had a bunch of kids from all over eastern Ohio and western PA check in to talk with Santa Claus. Some non-believers were converted, some bashful ones had mike fright, and a few were not at all shy about telling Santa what they wanted for Christmas.

Overall, everyone seemed to have a great time, including N8IAK, the net control, and of course, Santa & Mrs. Claus.

Ten meter net

Since it's beginning, about a year ago, the Tri-County News & Information Net (ten meter version) has had a total of 35 reported sessions.

Net manager, Don Whitaker-K8OMO reports 642 checkins, for an average of 18.6 checkins per night. That's not bad for a net on a dead band, huh?

The net convenes every Thursday night (except the first Thursday of the month) at 8:30 PM, on 28.400 MHz +/- QRM.

Of course, if ten meters isn't your cup of tea, or if you haven't gotten your fill of net type operating by 9:00 PM, you can check in on the two meter version of this net. It meets on the N8DZA repeater (145.37), and is the perfect follow up to the ten meter net.

Bray & Hostettler take the prize!

Help from above suspected

Well, the day was warm, and the rain stopped long enough for KF8ZG & N8NLZ to win the first fox hunt of the new year.

The weather for this years winter fox hunt was quite an improvement over last year. The 1994 winter hunt had to be cancelled due to sub-zero temperatures.

Four teams participated in this years hunt, which started at Butler-Rodman Park, and ended in Louisville, about a mile SW of the intersection of Paris Ave, and Easton St.

The foxes for this hunt were Dave Beatty, KC8WY & John Ziccardi, N8GIE. John couldn't make it however, so Dave went solo. He hid at the base of a microwave relay tower, and used various power levels to confuse and confound the hunters. The top three finishers all arrived at the finish line within 5 minutes of each other, making this one of the closest hunts in recent memory. Afterwards, everyone retired to Roadhouse Charlie's for refreshments and tall tales.

The next hunt is tentatively scheduled for April 8th, with John Bray-KF8ZG & David Hostettler-N8NLZ as the foxes. Watch the *Zero Beat* for details.

1995 AARC Winter Foxhunt

1st Place KF8ZG & N8NLZ 54.4 pts
2nd place K8OMO and Sherry 55.9 pts
3rd Place WX8G & N8IAK 56.5 pts
4th Place N8DZA 84.0 pts

Scoring for this hunt was figured by adding time & mileage.

AARC officers again voted among the funniest in NE Ohio!

Trolls say, "It must be the donuts"

Every Wednesday night at 9:30, the Austintown Repeater System runs the Night Owl Net. The last session of every year is dubbed the "Joke Net." Well, the trolls must be right, because three of the top six jokes were again told by AARC members.

Jim Miller-N8MAA took 2'nd place with his story about an old woman. Our president, Pam Myers-N8IAK was the 3'rd place winner, with her story about a West Virginia divorce, and last, but not least, our Vice-President, Don Whitaker-K8OMO landed in 6th place with his story about a construction worker. All winners recieved a certificate, and a prize, compliments of the Austintown Repeater System.

Anybody who doesn't think these three are a riot, hasn't attended a club meeting recently. Congratulations to everyone. Complete text of these jokes are on page 5.

Meeting Announcement

Our next meeting will be held on February 2nd, at the Alliance Community Hospital. We will be meeting at 7:30 PM, in the back of the Cafeteria.

This month, Scott Detloff-NI8L, will be doing a presentation on his antenna farm which is taking shape to the south of Alliance.

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

Officers

President

Pam Myers N8IAK

510 W. Harrison St.

Alliance, OH 44601 821-5513

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Alliance, OH 44601 823-3925

Ray Scoville K8DEN

14096 Bandy Rd

Alliance, OH 44601 823-2304

The Alliance Amateur Radio Club meets on the first Thursday of every month, at The Alliance Community Hospital. Our meetings are held in room A, and begin promptly at 7:30 PM. Visitors are always welcome.

Editorial

by WX8G

This month I'm cleaning out the "random thought's" file. Whenever I see an article or an idea that I think should be in the editorial, I file it away. So with this months editorial, I'll clear that file out and be ready for a whole new set of random thoughts this year.

I'm writing this on New Years Day. 1995's already started off on a good note. I started by participating in Straight Key Night. It was a lot of fun, considering that I wasn't the only one on the band who was not accustomed to using a straight key. In fact, this was my first straight key QSO ever! I feel pretty good about that, although I'm sure the VE2 I was in QSO with could tell that it was my first time. I only managed one QSO, but that will change next year, after I get a little more practice on my homemade straight key.

I saved a part of the "Canton Repository," dated August 23rd, 1994. When I found it in my file, I wasn't immediately sure why I'd saved it. The baseball strike was by then only a few weeks old, and there was still a chance that some of the major league season could be saved. The largest exodus of refugees since 1980 was underway from Cuba. The US government stated that they were prepared to hold the refugees indefinitely at its base at Guantanamo Bay.

I think that what caught my attention was the local headline, "Stark MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Drivers) calls it quits". The Stark chapter had fallen on hard times lately, as the number of active volunteers had declined. The Stark chapter was founded in January, 1983, by a small group of people, eventually grew to quite a large organization. But, over the years, volunteers became harder to find, until many of MADD's programs in Stark county were severely understaffed, or non-existent. In May, 600 invitations were sent out to a reorganizational meeting for the Stark chapter, only the original ten people showed up.

At that time, I wondered if this could happen to us? Maybe, but probably

Continued on page 3

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Credits

Thanks to the contributors to

this months Zero Beat

KB8GHZ

KB8GIA

KD8UU

K8OMO

N8IAK

N8MAA

The Zero Beat is a publication of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 3344, Alliance, OH 44601. Contributions to the Zero Beat are welcome, and can be given to any board member. Articles can be submitted in hard copy, or on IBM formatted disk (3.5" or 5.25" IBM). We can read most word processor formats. Transfer via Packet can be arranged by contacting KE8VE. Direct telephone transfer, via modem can be arranged by calling WX8G at 821-5513. Submissions can also be forwarded as E-mail, to 75027,1342 @ Compuserve.com.

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The editor & board reserves the right to edit all submissions.

not. Personally, I tend to have more faith than that in our membership.

As K8OMO said at the banquet, one thing that holds us together is the comradery that we show for one another. When help is needed, you usually come through. This is impressive in itself, considering the increased demands on our time these days. Sometimes it's tough to find time for club activities, let alone to get on the air. Anyway, I guess what I'm trying to say, is: Great Job, Everyone! Well, that takes care of it for this month. One of my New Years resolutions involves keeping my editorials to only one page. 73 and see you next month. 73 DE WX8G DIT DIT

- Tech/General classes were in full swing at the Alliance Community Hospital, with N8DZA & WX8G instructing. at that time, we had six students and a couple people that had inquired about the classes.
- Jim Wilson, KB8GHZ was excited about giving his first Novice code test. It was to Mary Ann, (now KB8IVS). He wasn't sure who was more nervous, the testee, or the testor.
- Jim also reflects on a visitor who had been at the November meeting. His name was Jurgen Wetzel-DD9SZ. He wanted an American call, so on November 25'th, he went to the the Canton ARC exams, and passed his Novice, Tech, General, and Advanced exams in one sitting.

- The wrap up of the Christmas banquet tells us that 40 people were in attendance. Dave-KC3CL started the evening by presenting gag gifts Some of the more memorable were: Frank-KA8FUZ got a box of modes; Hal-KE8II got a pink slip; Jim-N8DZA got a QSL from nowhere; and Matt-N8EAD got a bottle of No-Doze.
- Also at the Christmas Banquet, Jim Ferguson-N8DZA was the recipient of the first annual 'Ham of the Year' award, and Jack received a nice plaque for winning the club's DX contest.
- It was also announced that for the next year, for every club function you attended, you would receive a chance in a drawing for \$100.00 to be awarded at the 1990 Christmas banquet.
- Jim-N8DZA reported that the boys in the YMCA radio club received a generous donation, that allowed them to outfit a ham station at the YMCA.
- In their column, Dennis & Janice explained that due to a lack of articles, the January newsletter was not produced.
- They also announced that Dave Buckwalter-KC3CL would be taking over the newsletter in the May issue, and wished him luck.
- We were also raffling something off. That's it, no explanation what it might have been. Oh, well. Maybe we'll find out next month.

Minutes of the January 5th meeting of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club

The January 5th meeting of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club, was called to order at 7:30 pm by President, Pam Myers N8IAK. The Pledge of Allegiance was given followed by a round of introductions by members and guests. There were 20 members and 1 guest present.

The Secretary's report was approved as printed in the *Zero Beat*.

The Treasurer's report was given and approved as read. As of Jan 1st, 1995, there is a total of \$3,902.87 in the treasury.

Committee Reports

Newsletter Deadline is January 14th.

Classes Start on January 10th at 7 pm for Novice/General Programs;
Program at the February meeting will be given by Scott-N18L.

Old business

Christmas Party-Congratulations to KE8VE and Dianna for a job well done.

Call books- They are in stock and will be ordered this weekend.

Club House- Will be checked on by K8OMO.

New Business

Mall Show-April 1st and 2nd. Announcement will be in QST, about the special events station, KE8VE and Dianna will design the certificates.

Silent Keys-A motion to make room for silent keys at the bottom of the club roster was approved by all.

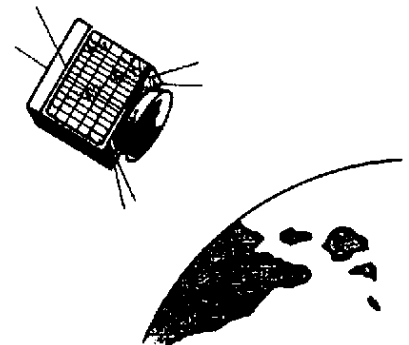
Fox Hunt-January 14th, meet at the flag pole at Butler-Rodman Park at 2pm.

Announcements

- Mansfield Hamfest February 12th.
- Tusco Hamfest Feb 29th.
- The Feb, March, and April meetings will be held in the cafeteria.
- The 50/50 drawing was won by KB8GIA for a total of \$9.50.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm by N8IAK and seconded by K8OMO.

Respectfully submitted, Gladys Wilson, KB8GIA.

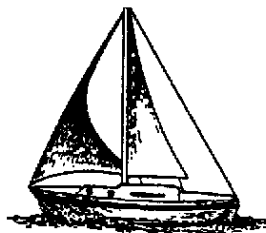




Where's DX

?

By Jack Bennett, W8WEN



North America

12/5 J87CO 14025 1749Z
12/10 HP1XBH 28 2023Z
12/10 VG1AOE 28 2143Z
12/10 VY2OX 28 2153Z
12/10 VP5MP 28 2207Z

South America

12/10 LU5EW 28 2115Z
12/10 CX7BY 28 2131Z

Asia

12/4 VU2BK 14025 1337Z
12/20 JA1JAN 14033 2235Z
12/20 HL9DC 14027 2251Z

Europe

12/13 CT1ELZ 21037 1720Z
12/13 ZB2EO 14.004 1803Z
12/14 EI6HM 14021 1915Z
12/20 1C0ZZ 14010 1531Z

Africa

12/5 J28CI 14019 1735Z
12/9 3B8FQ 14009 2003Z
12/9 ZD8KJ 14012 2046Z
12/13 D2RU 14027 1754Z
12/20 EL2NB 21010 1500Z
12/21 5N0AIP 14010 2245

Oceania

12/20 ZL1BSG 21020 2208Z

This month, Jack includes some tidbits from his log book.

At 1932Z on December 24th, 1994, Jack reports calling CQ ARTIC CIRCLE. He was answered by VE1OR, one of Santa's helpers. Roy, reported that Santa had left 15 minutes previously, and to make sure the grandchildren were in bed early.

QST DE WIAW NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS- 9:45 P.M. E.S.T. DECEMBER 7,1941 BY ORDER OF THE FCC--ALL AMATEUR RADIO OPERATIONS IN THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES, ITS TERRITORIES, AND POSSESSIONS IS HEREBY PROHIBITED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, EXCEPT FOR STATIONS SPECIFICALLY AUTHORIZED BY FEDERAL, STATE, AND MUNICIPAL AUTHORITIES IN CONNECTION WITH EMERGENCY MATTERS-STOP-THIS IS A PRECAUTIONARY AND TEMPORARY CLOSE-DOWN PENDING AN EXAMINATION OF THE AMATEUR SITUATION-FURTHER NOTICE PROMISED WITHIN 48 HOURS-STOP-LEAVE ANTENNAS UP AND DO NOT DISMANTLE RIGS-STOP-IN CASE OF LOCAL COMMUNICATION EMERGENCY, AMATEURS REQUESTED BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES MAY OPERATE FOR THAT PURPOSE-STOP-LOOK TO WIAW FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

This message was received at 12:35 AM EST, December 8, 1941 by Jack W. Bennett W8WEN.

W8SNX Pittsburg, PA on 40 CW was Jack's first out of town contact and first 40 CW QSO. What a thrill. His rig was a 6L6 tritet Xtal oscillator into a 30 ft. wire antenna. He was so excited, that he forgot to throw the knife switch from receive to transmit. This meant that he was transmitting on six feet of wire from the rig to the knife switch down in his fathers basement. His receiver was a Spiegel Aircastle table model all wave radio. In order to copy CW, he connected a wire from the IF can to the grid of a 6DG6 tube, it would act like a BFO (you youngsters will have to look that one up in your handbook).

Jack also notes that in those days when your callsign would denote your current call area, W8SNX was in western PA; W3JNC was in VA; W9EGN in KS; W9JBG in MO; W9WVV in SD; W8 was KY. Boy, how things change.

A most dangerous radio

By Huck Huckabee, AA5BU

In the 1930's the merchant marines of Great Britain and the United States dominated the world. And I, as a teenager, wanted to become a ships 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 collectors piece today) was typical-with a regenerative detector and one 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 worlds best ground and no isolation from the ship's antenna, the 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 ships 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 August '94 Austin (Texas) ARC "AARC Over"--Steve Means, N5PSW, Editor, via the January '95 ARNS Bulletin.

Ham Humor

Well, Here they are. Following are the 2nd, 3rd, and 6th place winners in the Austintown Repeater Systems 19th annual Joke Net.

N8MAA-(2nd place) There was a very old woman that was sitting alone with her cat polishing a very dusty lamp she found in the attic when a genie popped out and offered her three wishes. Thinking quickly she said, "I'd like to be rich. I'd like to be young and beautiful again. And I'd like my cat to turn into a handsome prince." There was a puff of smoke and she found herself young and glamorous, surrounded by riches. The cat had disappeared and a gorgeous prince stood beside her holding out his arms. She melted into his embrace. Now he whispered softly in her ear, "Aren't you sorry you took me to the vet and had me neutered?"

N8IAK-(3rd place) Do you know what a tornado, a hurricane and a West Virginia divorce have in common? Well, in each someone's gonna lose a mobile home.

K8OMO-(6th place) This construction worker, he was working on a building that's about 5 stories high and, carrying some materials across the roof he tripped and fell and over the side he went and landed on the sidewalk down below. 'Course a big crowd gathered and a policeman ran up and says, "Hey, man, what's the matter? What happened?" The guy that fell looked up to him and says, "I can't tell you, man!" he says, "I just got here!"

Layout for this issue of the Zero Beat was done by exhausted trolls. The poor guys have been frantically crisscrossing the countryside, looking for the foxes den. We just haven't had the heart to tell them that the fox hunt was last week.

Silent Keys

If you look at the roster, you'll see a list of Silent Keys. They were all AARC club members at one time, since 1986. Please, if you see any errors or omissions in this list, let Larry-KE8VE know about it. His number is 821-9808.

From HamNet

Subj: Ham Humor Section: HamNet Roundtable From: Bill Edgar N3LLR
76276,2204 # 335772, 1 Reply To: All Date: 01/03/95 19:20:16

How many of you have had people wondering who or what you are walking about with your HT with you? Well, there was one time that we were able to play it up to a 'T'.

One spring day, Merle N2KZA, Dave N2KZB, Steve KD3OI and Bill N3LLR, met for lunch at the Lighthouse in Bradford. As is the practice for any dedicated amateur, Merle, Dave and Steve brought their HT's in with them and placed them in the middle of the table with the antennas sticking straight up in the air.

During the time that we were looking at the menu, we noticed that two women in the restaurant in different locations could not keep their eyes off of the three radios in the middle of our table.

The one woman was quite close to our table and she was all but obvious in trying to overhear our conversation to find out who or what we were. Coupled with the fact that the four of us had on four different style clothing ranging from jeans to a suit, we gave her no clues.

Shortly after we ordered, Jillena KB2LHJ called for Merle on the 85 repeater. Merle picked up his HT and answered the call. The two women's interest were v-e-r-y noticeable now with Merle talking. One woman was literally hanging on to the end of the table trying to listen in to what was going on, while the second woman was giving Merle her undivided attention.

Steve and Bill started talking about what type of reaction one would get if one of us started to talk into his shoe, "Maxwell Smart" style. Immediately, Steve took his shoe off, and started to talk into the sole.

The woman hanging on to her table lost grip and hit the floor.

Dave, and I started to laugh.

The second woman just got red in the face having realized she got caught. The look the other patrons gave us was simply stupendous.

So intent in his own conversation, Merle had no idea what was going on. Once he was done talking to Jillena, we quickly filled him in, and one more person joined in the laughter.

This is one of those times you'd give almost anything to have a camera to record the event. But this day will definitely live on in my memory!

Why not share your stories?

73 de Bill

Subj: Ham Humor Section: HamNet Roundtable From: 'Geri' Kinzel, DK8KW
100326,2627 # 336187, 2 Replies To: Fred Doob 70531,1772 Date: 01/05/95
00:38:25

Hello, allow me to contribute a story, which I heard from my late friend Bill, DJ1PK, a real oldtimer who lived in Clausthal-Zellerfeld, a small town near Hannover in Northern Germany. Bill had his house just opposite the church. It was in the 50's, the good ol AM time. Some visitors in the church did not hear well, so it was decided to install a public address system. On the occasion of first using this system, Bill happened to be QRV in AM on 20 meters. After the preacher said his final words and "AMEN", a loud voice was heard in the church:

"YES MY FRIEND, I RECEIVED ALL THAT VERY WELL".

People in Clausthal-Zellerfeld talk about this "miracle" even nowadays...

Vy73 Geri, DK8KW & WD3B

AARC MEMBERS

30-Jan-95

CALL SIGN	LABEL NAME	PHONE #	STREET ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP	CLASS
	Dianna Ashburn	821-9808	1080 W. Beech St.	Alliance	OH	44601	
	David Walker	823-6737 or 821-8818	68 E. High St.	Alliance	OH	44601	
	Barbara Been	358-2131	5432 McClintocksburg Rd.	Newton Falls	OH	44444	
K5TQN	Larry Amann		964 Tenderfoot Dr.	Larkspur	CO	80110	E
N8BGJ	Larry Newton	894-2825	23550 Sandy Creek Rd.	Minerva	OH	44657	G
NW8C	Paul Beane		255 E. Vermont	Sebring	OH	44672	E
K8DEN	Ray Scoville	823-2304	14096 Bandy Rd R4	Alliance	OH	44601	T
N8DZA	Jim Ferguson	823-3925	115 E. Cambridge	Alliance	OH	44601	G
N8EAD	Matt Thomas	823-3067	8439 Shubert Ave. N.E.	Alliance	OH	44601	A
KB8ETH	Jeff Bennett	724-2903	291-E. Archwood	Akron	OH	44301	T
N8EWW	Larry Hillier	938-9435	18334 Rt. 62	Beloit	OH	44609	A
WX8G	John Myers	821-5513	510 W. Harrison St.	Alliance	OH	44601	E
KB8GAG	Bob Rickard	823-4613	12446 Rockhill NE	Alliance	OH	44601	T
KB8GHZ	Jim Wilson	492-3754	6974 Rolling Ridge N.E.	North Canton	OH	44721	A
KB8GIA	Gladys Wilson	492-3754	6974 Rolling Ridge N.E.	North Canton	OH	44721	T
AA8GY	Jerry Shore	823-7816	880 Parkway Blvd.	Alliance	OH	44601	E
N8IAK	Pam Myers	821-5513	510 W. Harrison St.	Alliance	OH	44601	A
N8IGZ	Peter B. Lucke	821-7269	425 E. Milton St.	Alliance	OH	44601	G
KE8II	Hal Kelley	938-9135	505 W. Ohio Ave.	Sebring	OH	44672	E
KB8IQZ	Chuck Bench	821-3138	12574 Greenbower St. NE	Alliance	OH	44601	T
KB8IVS	Mary Ann Royer	492-0703	6255 Sandalwood NE	North Canton	OH	44721	T
KB8JBG	Tom Scoville	525-5248	725 Westville Lake Rd.	Beloit	OH	44609	T
KE8KH	Patti Hillier	938-9435	18334 Rt. 62	Beloit	OH	44609	A
KB8LEH	Stacy Yendrich	938-2465	18323 Derr Ave.	Beloit	OH	44609	T
KB8LEJ	Dave Mangus	823-4299	13970 Helen Ave.	Alliance	OH	44601	T
KA8LKQ	Dick Bontrager	821-0931	1658 Burt Ave., Apt. B	Alliance	OH	44601	G
N8MAA	Jim Miller	875-2629	413 Woodard Ave.	Louisville	OH	44641	T
N8NLZ	Rev. David Hostetler	821-8423	2230 Clark Ave.	Alliance	OH	44601	T
KB8NQL	Lance Farkas	821-9606	648 Parkway Blvd	Alliance	OH	44601	T
KB8NSH	Thaddeus Walker	823-6737 or 821-8818	68 E. High St.	Alliance	OH	44601	T
AA8NV	Larry Beaver	875-1922	1210 E. Main	Louisville	OH	44641	E
K8OMO	Don Whitaker	935-2443	8775 Edison St. NE	Louisville	OH	44641	E
N8PLA	John R. Molesky	821-7427	11240 Aebi Ave.	Alliance	OH	44601	T
N8PLM	Chuck Lazear	938-9023	355 N. 12th St.	Sebring	OH	44672	T
N8PLN	Gloria Lazear	938-9023	355 N. 12th St.	Sebring	OH	44672	T
KB8RJA	Steve Been	358-2131	5432 McClintocksburg Rd.	Newton Falls	OH	44444	T
KB8RJC	Dennis Siegfried	588-7460	General Delivery; Cedar Point Station	P.O. Box 5006, Sandu	OH	44871-8006	T
KB8RMP	Paul R. Boggs, Sr.	821-3356	153 E. Cambridge St.	Alliance	OH	44601	T
N8RNG	Mark Hanna	823-4761	2067 Center Ave.	Alliance	OH	44601	T
KB8RNV	Glenn Martin	821-3494	21331 Oak St.	Alliance	OH	44601	T
KB8SAV	Tom Jones		1701 Westwood Ave., Apt. B	Alliance	OH	44601	T
KB8SKS	Dallas Underwood		1024 S. Seneca	Alliance	OH	44601	T
KB8SWV	Dana Barnes	525-7698	25133 Bowman Rd.	Homeworth	OH	44634	T
N8SYF	George Ziga	821-0549	2425 Crestview	Alliance	OH	44601	T
W18T	Allen Dicks	875-4344	8870 Alberta Beach	Louisville	OH	44641	E
N8TLY	Bill Moretta	875-1402	7700 Georgetown Rd.	Louisville	OH	44641	E
W8UKQ	Dave Glass	823-4855	217 W. Simpson St.	Alliance	OH	44601	T
KE8VE	Larry Ashburn	821-9808	1080 W. Beech St.	Alliance	OH	44601	A
N8VPA	Grant Kelley	938-9135	505 W. Ohio Ave.	Sebring	OH	44672	T
W8WEN	Jack Bennett	821-9779	3591 Mountview Ave	Alliance	OH	44601	E
WA8WHP	Frank Sanor	894-2186	24462 SR 172	Minerva	OH	44657	E
N8XER	Mike Duke	823-6873	2161 Center Ave.	Alliance	OH	44601	T
N8XTJ	James Lilley	821-1308	67 E. Columbia St.	Alliance	OH	44601	T
N8YMQ	Brian Dicks	875-4344	8870 Alberta Beach	Louisville	OH	44641	T
KF8ZG	John Bray	823-4404	1624 Denwood St.	Alliance	OH	44601	A
W8ZQX	Sam Simon	799-8464	2834 Rexford Rd.	Youngstown	OH	44511	G
W8ZZS	Bill Bennett	627-3600	2246 Scroll Rd.	Carrolton	OH	44615	E

The following Silent Keys were members of the AARC.

KB8AXA Robert L Godfrey
 WB8MEK Paul P Papulias

W8ACP Robert W Hobbs
 KA8FUZ Frank R Robison

W8BGI Harold R Kelley
 N8JKZ Eugene V Smythe

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February 1995

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 7:30 PM AARC Meeting	3	4 KB8LEH Birthday
5	6 20/9 VE exams 216/755-1000	7	8	9 8:30 PM Tri-County News & Info Net	10 KA8LKQ Birthday N8RNG Birthday	11
12 Mansfield Hamfest	13	14	15	16 8:30 PM Tri County News & Info Net	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 8:30 PM Tri-County News & Info Net	24	25
26 Cuyahoga Falls Hamfest W8WEN Birthday	27	28 N8PLN Birthday				

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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26	27	28	29	30	31	

Dit & Dah Talk Radios

Lightning and your ground by Tim and Al Megahertzzi

Dear Tim and Al:

I plan to install a tri-band yagi and tower on the roof of my home. I'm concerned about lightning and would also like to know how to determine the effectiveness of my ground system. What can you tell me? Rob, KC6IRK

Tim: Excellent question Rob. Al and I will handle it in two parts. We will start here, then tell you more about effective ground systems in next month's column.

As everyone knows, lightning searches for the path of least resistance—the path of highest conductivity. So don't walk outside wearing a steel helmet during a thunderstorm, the way Al did last fall. You can see what it did to him.

Al: That had nothing to do with anything, Tim! Being charged up is just a natural state of existence for me. Rob, I'm certain your wife and kids wouldn't want your tower to "drop in" for a visit. They might not like having their house "fried," either, so do ground your tower.

A safe installation requires good design. You must connect the tower to the ground system using number 8 AWG or larger wire, wide, flat wire braid, or wide strips of sheet copper. The distance to the ground needs to be as short and direct as possible. Avoid sharp bends in the wire and space the wire away from the house with insulators.

Tim: That sounds complicated to me, Al. I suggest putting a 75-foot metal flagpole in front of my house, with a large metal American flag on top. Connect the flagpole to the metal sewer line running under the street with 4/0 wire borrowed from the neighbors power pole. Use silver soldered heavy-duty connector lugs bolted securely to the tower and sewer line, to provide a low-resistance path for lightning bolts.

Al: Tim, we already have enough evidence that you need a straight jacket! I agree on making the connections to the ground as direct as possible. If you can

do it without terminal lugs, all the better. Other factors to consider are multiple ground rods, in lieu of only one, and enhancing soil conductivity. We will cover that in next month's column.

Two reference books that provide lots of information on grounding and lightning protection are the ARRL "Antenna Book" and Joseph Carr's "Practical Antenna Handbook".

Tim: I hope our suggestions have been helpful, Rob. As Al suggested, further study on these subjects is necessary to gain an understanding of what you need to do, and why you need to do it.

Thank you for the Question. Al and I look forward to talking to you again next month.

from the April '93 River City ARC "The Readout" Terry Seeno, N6YQD Editor, via the June '93 issue of the ARNS Bulletin--AF6S ed.

The real authors of this series are Tim Dolan, KM6AS, and Al Thearle, WB6RUU.

Short Circuits

- Congratulations are in order for Jerry Wheeler. Jerry received his call for Christmas. His latest call is KB8VVW. I say latest, because Jerry was licensed years ago as KN8DDZ. This was in the early days when Novice licenses weren't renewable. You either upgraded within a year, or you were out. Congratulations, Jerry!
- Congratulations to Steve Huwig-KB8NDM. He was honored January 17th at the National Teen Day assembly at Salem High School for an essay he wrote which was ranked first among 300 entries. Steve won \$250 and a certificate, for his essay on the theme of "Select a character from literature who not only inspires you to be a good teen, but also provides youth with a role model for life. Explain how their thoughts, actions, and/or attitudes inspire you." Steve is a General class operator, and has been licensed since November, 1991.
(from the Alliance Review-Saturday,

- January 7th, '95 edition)
- Our club president learned a valuable lesson for the new year. The lesson? Always enter the vehicle before closing door. Ask Pam for more info. Oh well, it's not like she broke off a windshield wiper, is it?
- HALLELUJAH! The FCC finally got the recorder updated. Here's the latest call signs for the eighth call area. These are accurate as of January 1st, 1995.

Extra AA8RS

Advanced KG8NW

Tech/General/Novice KB8WEE

Also, the FCC reports that the average processing time for FCC license applications is 4-6 weeks after they arrive at the FCC.

- Well, classes have begun again. The instructors for this session are Larry Ashburn-KE8VE on theory, and Jack Bennett- W8WEN on CW. Larry reports 6 students so far, and possibly more coming. If you are interested, classes meet every Tuesday night at 7 PM in Room B at the Alliance Community Hospital. General code practice is given, as well as Novice, Tech, & General theory. Call Larry at 821-9808 for more info.

Prez Says

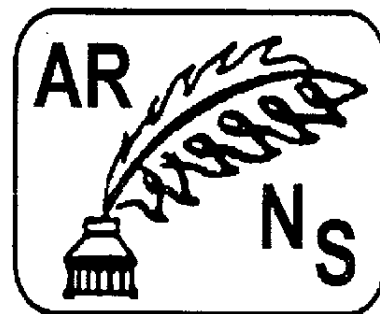
by Pam Myers, N8IAK

After leaving the last club meeting, I was more than a little upset. It's not an easy job to run the club meetings, but the job gets a lot tougher when the membership isn't paying attention to what is being said, but instead talking among themselves.

There is plenty of time after the meeting to talk to your buddy next to you. Please try to have some respect for your fellow club members (who may want to listen to what is being said) & also the officers.

I'm looking forward to hearing Scott-NI8L's program. Don't forget, we'll be meeting in the cafeteria for the months of February, March, & April. See you in February.

MEMBER



Amateur Radio News Service

Quote of the month

"Ouch, That hurt!"
Pam Myers, N8IAK

ed. note-While this might not be an exact quote, I think it's close. After all, this is a family newsletter.

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Alliance, OH 44601

QCWA eligible:
JERRY P. WHEELER
18 STANLEY COURT
BELDIT OH 44609
KB8VVW
OLD CALL
KN8DDZ

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4 Keys N8IAK
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