



Zero Beat

Serving hams in the Tri-County Area



Volume 9 No. 6

The Alliance Amateur Radio Club-KB8YXT

June/July 1995

P.O. Box 3344, Alliance, OH 44601

Great Ohio Bicycle Adventure

This is just a reminder that the Great Ohio Bicycle Adventure will be pedaling through Alliance on June 19th & 20th. The participants will be well fed and taken care of by many of our local civic organizations. The AARC has been asked to assist with the communications for the event.

GOBA is a fundraising effort of the Columbus HI-AYH (Hostelling International - American Youth Hostels) and benefits bicycling programs within Ohio.

It is a 350 mile tour spread out over 7 days, with plenty of entertainment at night to keep the participants happy. The tour begins Saturday, in Medina, with a

day of workshops, practice rides, & special entertainment.

Sunday, the riders will leave for Hudson, where they'll camp for the night. Monday night, they'll be camping in Alliance. After leaving Alliance, the riders will be camping in New Philadelphia on Tuesday & Wednesday night, in Coshocton on Thursday, Wooster on Friday, and back to Medina on Saturday.

This may be the biggest thing since the Olympic torch came through the area. If you can help with this worthwhile undertaking, or if you need more info, contact K8OMO.

Field Day !

This years ARRL Field Day will be held on June 24th & 25. The operating period for this event will run from 1800 UTC Saturday until 2100 UTC Sunday.

Remember, Field Day is not a contest, but an operating event. The object of Field Day is to set up our stations under less than optimum conditions, and contact as many other Field Day stations as possible during the Field Day period. The main purpose of this event, is to test our emergency preparedness skills.

This year's location will be at the usual spot behind the Marlinton Middle School. The middle school is located about two miles west of Alliance, near the corner of Moulin Ave. & Beeson St.

We plan to begin setting up around 9 A.M. on Saturday, June 24th. Tear-down will begin on Sunday between 11 A.M. and 2 P.M. Plenty of extra help will be needed for both events, as well as operating, logging, and gophering.

At the time of this writing, we're planning on running 3-4 transmitters on all HF frequencies. Also, we might be operating some VHF frequencies, if the equipment is available.

For a callsign, we'll be using KB8YXT, our new club callsign.

Duping will be by computer, although paper dupe sheets will be available at some stations. Instruction will be given on the use of either.

Saturday night's dinner is being provided by Nancy Moretta, whose husband Bill (N8TLY) was a staunch supporter of the AARC. Breakfast on Sunday morning will be handled by David Hostetler, N8NLZ, AKA Chef David. Menus weren't available at press time, but we're sure it'll be great.

If you have some equipment to bring for the cause, let us know at the June meeting. This is already shaping up to be a good Field Day. See you there.

MYERS RESIGNS!

was AARC's first
YL president

Pam Myers, N8IAK has resigned midway through her fourth term. Her letter of resignation citing "some major commitments in my life at this time," was read and approved by Vice-President, K8OMO.

N8IAK, our first YL president, had held the office for over three years. She has also served as newsletter editor, secretary, chairperson of the Christmas party, the Santa Net, and the club picnic during her time with the AARC. She has also filled in as net control numerous times in the past.

According to the bylaws, her replacement will be voted on at the next regular meeting. However, given the time of the year, it was suggested that the naming of a replacement might be postponed until October. Which way will we go? Come to the next meeting and find out.

Meeting Announcement

The next meeting of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club will be at 7:30 PM, June 1st, at the Alliance Community Hospital. Meetings are held in Room A, which is just off the cafeteria. We have a short business meeting, followed by a program.

This months program will be a video, provided by Scott, N18L

The Alliance Amateur
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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 John Myers, WX8G

Hi, everyone. I hope you all made it through the month of May in fine style. It was a pretty busy month, what with a hamfest almost every weekend, and the weather starting to turn nice again. Hopefully, you got your antenna projects done while the weather was nice and cold.

So, now its June, and you can look forward to relaxing for the summer. Don't count on it. We've got plenty of things to keep us busy in June.

First, Don Whitaker, K8OMO has been hard at work planning our participation in GOBA on June 19. We still need volunteers for this. Please don't wait for the last minute to sign up. This just makes it harder on Don.

June 24-25 is Field Day weekend. The site will be the same as last year. Maybe we can have a hot dog eating contest. I wonder who'd win?

Have you heard that The Alliance ARC now has its own (hopefully temporary) callsign? It's KB8YXT, and will be used for Field Day this year. Once the new forms arrive, we'll be applying for our old call, W8LKY.

By now you've probably heard that Pam Myers, N8IAK has resigned as president. Her letter of resignation was read and accepted at the May meeting by Don Whitaker, K8OMO.

Editor takes a vacation. That would make a fine headline, wouldn't it? Well, I'm not taking a vacation, but I do need to slow down for a couple of months, so here's what I'm going to do. There will be no July or September issue of the Zero Beat. Instead, we'll have a June/July and an August/September issue which will be out around August 1st. The deadline for the August/September issue will be the 2nd Saturday of July. Thanks for your understanding.

How can you be sure to receive the Zero Beat when it does return? Simply pay your dues. The mailing list will be purged after the July issue is mailed, so make sure to get those dues in.

Well, that about does it for this month. See you at the meeting. De WX8G

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Credits

Thanks to the contributors to
this months Zero Beat

KB8GHZ

KB8GIA

W8WEN

K8OMO

KE8VE

The Zero Beat is a monthly 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 as an ASCII file, on IBM formatted disk (3.5" or 5.25"). Direct transfer via Packet or modem, can be arranged by contacting KE8VE at 821-9808.

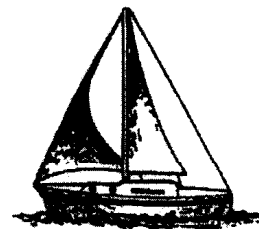
Submissions can also be forwarded as E-mail, to 75027,1342 @ Compuserve.com.

Permission is freely granted to reprint portions of the Zero Beat, as long as credit is given to the author & source.

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

Where's DX ?

By Jack Bennett, W8WEN



Well, it looks like another busy month on telegraph hill. Here's the latest excerpts from the W8WEN logbook.

North America

5/2 VP5/JA7XBG 3.506 0305Z

South America

4/16 ZX3T/1 10.110 320Z
5/4 CE3WD 14.042 0025Z

Europe

4/17 SM6YD 14.033 1856Z
4/17 SV1BSX 14.010 2013Z
4/25 T92A 14.013 2101Z
4/26 RZ9UA 14.005 0057Z



Asia

4/18 RA0BU 14.004 103Z
4/18 UN6T 14.020 116Z
4/26 R0/UA8LV 14.019 0255Z
4/28 XV7SW 14.017 1231Z
5/2 UA0YM 14.006 0159Z
5/2 JK7KIH 14.030 0250Z

Africa

4/16 3B8CF 10.102 0319Z
4/20 J28FD 14.002 2257Z
5/4 C53HG 14.020 2130Z

Oceania

4/20 VK5WL 14.044 2324Z

June 1995

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7:30 PM AARC Meeting	2	3
4 Breezeshooters Hamfest, Butler	5	6	7	8 8:30 PM Tri-County News & Info Net	9	10
11 Akron VE Exams (216) 836-8869 Goodyear Hamfest	12	13	14 Flag Day KB8GJAG Birthday	15 8:30 PM Tri-County News & Info Net	16	17 Dianna Ashburn Birthday
18	19 GOBA	20	21 Summer begins	22 8:30 PM Tri-County News & Info Net	23	24 ARRL Field Day
25 ARRL Field Day	26 N8XTJ Birthday NW8C Birthday	27	28	29	30	

July 1995

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Dominion Day (Canada)
2	3	4 Independence Day	5	6 7:30 PM AARC Meeting	7	8 U of Akron VE Exams (216) 972-7677
9	10	11	12 N8IAK Birthday	13 8:30 PM Tri-County News & Info Net	14	15 AARC Summer Fox hunt
16	17	18	19	20 8:30 PM Tri-County News & Info Net Youngstown VE Exams (216) 534-1394	21 KE8II Birthday	22
23	24 K5TQN Birthday	25	26	27 8:30 PM Tri-County News & Info Net	28	29
30	31					

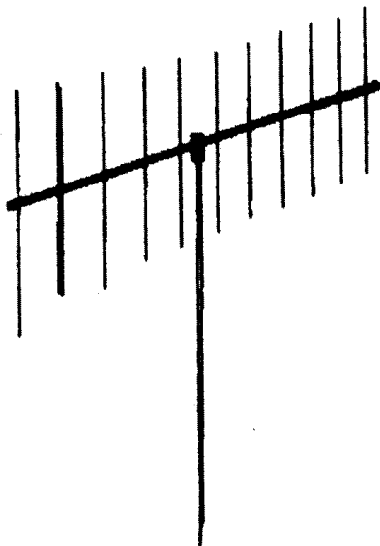
Fox confounds the hunters!

Lets not let this be the headline in the August/September issue of the *Zero Beat*.

The next fox hunt will be on July 15th, and K8OMO will be waiting, just daring anyone to find him. Are we going to put up with this? Heck, no!

To have your chance at bagging the fox, be at the flagpole in Butler-Rodman park by 1:45 PM on July 15th. Don will start transmitting promptly at 2 PM.

Remember, there's usually plenty of empty seats, so even if you're not a fox hunter, you can still ride along and experience the thrill of victory.



5 years ago

from the June, 1990, *Zero Beat*.
Dave Buckwalter-KC3CL ed.

- On the front page, Dave proclaimed that "Ham Radio is Dead." He was, of course, speaking of the magazine, which had been purchased, and executed by CQ Communications, Inc.
- The most recent AARC mall show had resulted in 31 people filling out requests for more information about Amateur Radio.
- In April, 1990, 330 Novice licenses had been issued in the 8th call area.
- The annual meeting was over for another year. When the smoke had cleared, the new officers were:
President- Jim Wilson, KB8GHZ
Vice President-John Myers, WX8G
Secretary-GladysWilson,KB8GIA
Treasurer-Patti Hillier,KE8KH.
- The drawing was held for the Two Meter handheld. The winner was Jim Ferguson, N8DZA. Second prize, an antenna rotator was won by Fred Hobbs (W8ACP's son).
- Jim Ferguson, N8DZA was the recipient of a special award from the YMCA, in recognition of his dedication and effort on behalf of the YMCA's Amateur Radio Youth program.
- Allen Dicks, WI8T was proclaimed the winner of the latest fox hunt.
- Field Day plans were being made. To this end an article on Field Day operating appeared. It must've been an old article, though, as there was no mention of computers at all.
- A technical article was included on the subject of adding a CW filter select control to the Kenwood TS-520/820.

Minutes of the May 4th, 1995 meeting of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club.

The May 4th 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 28 members and 8 guests present.

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

The treasurers report was given and approved as read. As of May 1, 1995, there is a total of \$4021.44 in the treasury.

Committee reports

Newsletter- Deadline for the June issue is May 13th.

Program- June meeting will be on Field Day.

Old Business

Great Ohio Bicycle Adventure was discussed. K8OMO asked for volunteers to sign up.

Club pins are still for sale at \$3.00 each.

Silent Key plaque was done and passed around for all to see.

A temporary callsign for the club is KB8YXT.

Fund-raiser Information on the Canton ARC's Coffee break was presented by Gary, AA8NP.

New Business

The next fox hunt will be held in July.

There will be no august issue of the *Zero Beat*.

A collector calendar brought back from the Dayton Hamvention was presented for auction. Lucky bidder was Lance Farkas, KB8NQL.

Announcements

- N8IAK's resignation from office of president, was read and accepted by Vice-President, Don Whitaker, K8OMO.
- Lisbon Hamfest- May 7th.
- 50/50 was won by WX8G for a total of \$10.00.
- The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM on a motion by K8OMO, and seconded by N8IAK.

Respectfully submitted by Gladys Wilson, KB8GIA, Secretary, AARC.

The Trolls are still hard at work, this month, but paused just long enough to recognize N8IAK for all her hard work on behalf of the Alliance Amater Radio Club.

Sa-lute!!

Notes from the net

Every so often I catch something on Hamnet that, by virtue of its intelligence, or lack thereof, bears reprinting. All reprints are done with permission. This month's selection for your perusal involves the No-Code license.

Subj: NO CODERS Section: Ham-Net Roundtable To: ALL REAL HAMS Saturday, May 06, 1995 7:14:13 AM From: JEFF DAVIS

I am going to say this and probably get flamed for speaking my mind. I find that these no-code tech tickets are being passed out like candy, and then the person who gets the ticket in the mail has the nerve to call themselves hams. Here is how I see the process working for someone to obtain a no-code ticket with full VHF and UHF privileges. I would like someone to correct me if I am wrong.

The average John Doe hears about 2 meter FM and decides he wants to get him and his wife and child one so that they can keep up with each other on the road and at home. They know nothing at all about radio except what they have learned during their last 5 years as a CB'er. Lets say the date is 05-01-95, and the next scheduled VE testing in his town is scheduled for 05-08-95. Well it seems John runs down to radio shack and picks up that book, "NOW YOU ARE TALKING". He briefly looks over it the first day as does his wife and 14 year old child.

Day two, 05-02-95, John has a little free time to glance at the book again during his morning coffee and does so for about 15 minutes. His wife will glance at it during the commercial breaks while watching her two favorite soaps. Junior comes in from school and looks at it for 15 minutes while having his milk and cookies.

Day three, 05-03-95, John takes the book into the throne room while taking care of his morning business on the pottie and discovers that there is a question pool in the back where the *EXACT* questions and *EXACT* answers will be taken from to be given on his test. This is

such great news to him and he gets so excited to tell the rest of the family he almost forgets to flush the toilet.

Day four, 05-04-95 John doesn't get to read the question pool today, since junior has had it for an hour and mom has had it for the hour after that. Dad goes to bed.

Day five, 05-05-95. All three members of the family sit around the dinner table for 45 minutes asking each other the questions from the question pool and then giving each other the right answer. They figure that this will be a breeze.

Day six, 05-06-95. They take 15 to 20 minutes each memorizing the question pool.

Day seven, 05-07-95. All three sit down and ask each other questions from the pool for about 20 minutes.

Day Eight, 05-08-95 the big day of the VE test to be given at 6:00 p.m.. All three family members load up in the family car and stop by Burger King and get 3 whoppers to go, someone had suggested they pack a lunch and make sure they had a least \$15 in cash each on them. The Doe family couldn't be more ready to get that HAM license, after all they had spent a total of about 3 hours each memorizing the questions and answers they know they will be asked.

They go in and pay their \$5 each to cover the cost of materials and begin to take their "test". Mr John Doe gets done in 20 minutes and he passes with flying colors after a whole 3 hours of studying. The news isn't so good for Junior or Ms. Doe. They both fail the test. All is not lost though. They simply go pay another \$5 each and are given a different set of questions from the question pool. Now this time Junior passes with a 80% grade, and they have been there for a total of 1 hour and 30 minutes so far. All is not lost yet though. The VE's have a little more time, and after they finish eating their whoppers they find they have just enough time to let Ms. Doe take her test again. She pays the \$5 again, sits down and is given another set of questions from the pool and attempts a third time during the same night to pass her no-code tech. Well as luck would have it she passed by one

question. Now the Doe family can get on two meters and check on junior to make sure he is home doing his homework, John can check with his wife on the radio to see if she needs any milk, and Junior can call all his friends on the autopatch to "SEE HOW I AM COMING IN".

What I have just related may sound like humor and laughable, but I swear it actually happened. These people don't deserve to be called hams. I know several VE people that will give the test at LEAST 3 times during one test session until the guy passes it or the sun comes up one.

I had a friend of mine tell me that a certain CB Club, yes the good buddies, all went down and took their no-code tech test and 98 % passed it and they put up their own 2 meter repeater in Jackson, Mississippi. They use their CB jargon over there and everything. I think that we deserve it. We brought this upon ourselves. The next time you hear some CB jargon on your local repeater just remember we brought it upon ourselves. I'll invite any comments and I am prepared to back up everything I said with facts.

73 GOOD BUDDY

Reply

Subj: NO CODERS Section: Ham-Net Roundtable To: (Name withheld), 311 Saturday, May 06, 1995 6:58:14 PM From: Hans Brakob KOHB, 71111,260 #370031

How refreshing! We haven't had a Technician basher here for weeks! It was getting downright boring, so you've done us a great service by opening this discussion. Of course it's an old discussion, which was first heard over 40 years ago when the Novice class was first instituted. Then the cry was "They're handing these licenses out to kids who barely know 5WPM and don't even have to go to the FCC to take their test!" My first license was Conditional class, and of course I heard the same thing too - they called us "make believe Generals".

See Hamnet
page 6

Short Circuits

Nice to hear all three of the Doe family passed their exams. If they are "typical" of the statistics, one of them will upgrade to General or Advanced within the next year. Another might upgrade to Technician Plus, and the third will lose interest in the hobby. Interestingly those averages are slightly better than the upgrade percentages back when Novice was the only entry-level license.

But the better news in your note was the 49 new Technicians who abandoned CB. (98% indicates 49 out of 50) Some of them must be rather sharp if they assembled and are maintaining their own repeater. Looking down the road, assuming we'll see the national averages, about 50% of them will upgrade, 20% will stay as Technicians, and 30% will lose interest. Roughly 18 months from now about 21 of them will be General or Advanced, 3 will be Extra, 10 will be active Technicians, and the remaining 15 will have lost interest. All in all, it looks like a nice net gain.

Just oh by the way, I found it interesting that the FCC data base does not contain any Jeff Davis with a WA4---Advanced license. Just as interesting is your CIS 6x3 membership number which doesn't seem of US origin.

73, de Hans, KOHB

Alliance Amateur Radio Club
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● (ed note-I picked this item out of porters people in the April 30th edition of the Beacon Journal, edited by Mickey Porter. He got it from Life Magazine's special WWII issue.)

While driving through Coldwater Canyon in L.A., Lucille Ball felt the dah-dit of the Morse code buzzing in one of her teeth. This led to the FBI's discovery of a Japanese spy who was transmitting to an offshore sub.

● Here's the latest info from the FCC. Current license applications should take 4-6 weeks. Those that are filed electronically are taking no more

than one week. The latest calls as of May 1st are as follows:

Extra-AA8TL
Advanced-KG8QY
Novice/Technician-KB8ZEI

● Here's a belated congratulations to Mike Simpkins, KB8WWP. Mike received his callsign months ago, but I keep forgetting to congratulate him. Mike works at the Radio Shack store at the College Plaza, and also operates a BBS system on the side. Congratulations, Mike.

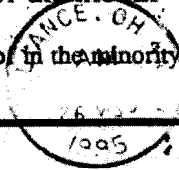
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Quote of the month

"Us old farts are kind of in the minority" - N8DZA



Dave Glass W8UKQ
217 W. Simpson St.
Alliance, OH 44601