

ARRL

MONTHLY

Zero Beat

DECEMBER 1996

THE ALLIANCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB ALLIANCE OHIO 44601

DECEMBER 1996 QRP MONTH

We Build the "The Ugly Transceiver" from ARRL Handbook

Chapter 30 of the '94 (I think) handbook has a 1 watt 40 meter transceiver created by Roger Haryward KA7XEM son of legend W7ZOL. Construction was started last year one Sunday afternoon. I laid out my own quick and dirty PCBs and etched them. Parts were added and the subassemblies wired together. Then I put it in a cardboard box and let it age for a year or so. Good electronics requires ageing! OK so maybe I get enough pain designing super regens that are put in production at half million + units a year (requires a sadistic nature).

Anyway, so next step is to debug this radio gadget. This kid author has three stages cascaded together with no D.C. blocks. Now the HFE of 2N3906 like devices varies from 50 or so to 250 or so. Page 30-38 says "Transistor selection is not critical ...". The looks of circuit on page 17.18 of '95 handbook looks like a better radio (have not built). Me -- well I build a lot of what shows up -- just to see what I can learn. I ended up changing the bias on the circuit a little rather than selecting devices that make the unit work.

So now the circuits are working on the bench. I used the turn counter from a *OLD* microwave tube amplifier unit that had been ransacked internally before I bought it (from Goodyear hamfest). The counter was cut out using a metal cutting band saw to use in new units vfo. The case is a *ugly* home made pine box. I built it about 6 times the volume of the handbook unit for ease of building and/or future modification.

Continued inside

Meeting Anounce

Our next meeting will be held on December 5 at the Alliance Community Hospital at 7:30 PM in the back of the Cafeteria.

From ARRL Letter by American Radio Relay League

Most recent Callsigns Issued: AA8YM - EXTRA

KG8ZL -- ADVANCED KC8FFX -- NOVICE

Sunspot numbers are up FINALLY!

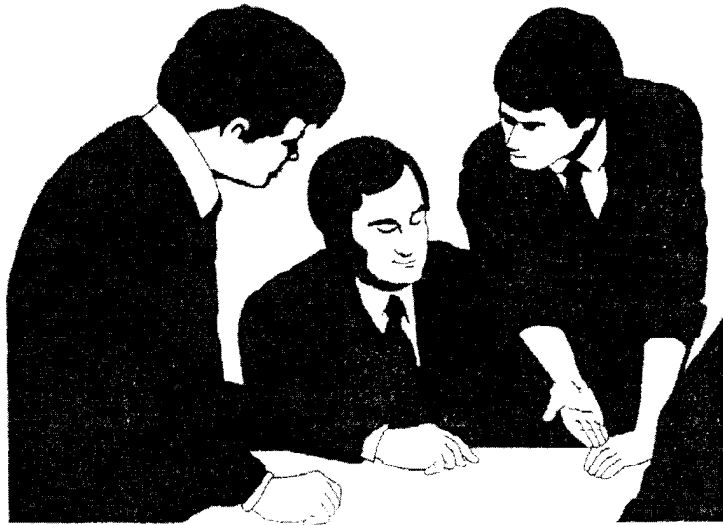
From The Presidents Desk

Well here we are again another month has gone by and we have snow on the ground and it's great antenna weather. HI HI. I don't really know where the idea came from but I hear everyone say that. I guess when you put a antenna together in foul weather you may be a little more careful doing things therefore they stay up longer. I've also heard the saying that if it doesn't fall down it wasn't HIGH enough. You can believe me I have had both things happen to me, antennas that stay up forever and also ones that come down every other day HI HI !

I guess the VANITY CALL SIGN program is in full swing. If you haven't noticed there are a lot of voices on the air that sound familiar but their calls aren't quite right. I have made a game of trying to recognize the voices and putting their old calls with them, sometimes I'm right but most of the time not. Back in 1979 (I think) the FCC allowed the holders of a old call to get it back, since I had let my license lapse in 1962 (original license issued in 1959) and didn't get back on the air 'till 1969. I was issued a new call WB8SBT . I was happy with the call but still wanted the old "OMO" back. So when the fellers in D.C. decided ,to let us old timers (HI) get their old calls back I applied and received the K8OMO I started with when I was 12 years old.

Since I'm writing this before the December meeting I can't comment on the meeting we are going to have. The old call book, I haven't been able to find any real old ones because they were lost in a fire but I do have a few so plan to bring them to meeting and comment about them.

Well that's it for this month -- be seeing you at the meeting.
de K8OMO



RADIO RADIO FICTION -- Jonathan tried to flirt with the Tammy the petite dark haired librarian. "If you would go to a movie with me I would consider my life a success". She tells him he will remain a failure. He tells her "I'll fix Pain Perdu" -- she giggles and says I've had french toast and your going to have to do much better. He offers Duck in Madeira sauce. She asked if she can bring her boyfriend. He thinks of the infantile acting jerk he'd seen her with and he shuffles away. He likes her quick replies and quick smile, but she has a thing for simple guys.

He started building a transmitter with parts from a junked tube TV receiver he found on a curb last trash day. Well it is recycling he thinks. That night Jonathan ordered a crystal by Jan Crystals from a QST advertisement. He has a few tools to build a transmitter but he doesn't have the confidence to start a receiver at this point, or the cash.

After a supper of a peanut butter sandwich he heads for library for break. Cold, cloudy sky he turns a corner, Tammy is there. "I've broke up with Jimmy -- stop by sometime if you want to". She walks away pulling at her collar.

Jonathan goes to the library stacks, finds the old QSTs, and looks through a 20 copies. In one QST he finds a receiver he likes the looks of the receiver. After making a pencil copy of the schematic he starts to the dorm room. This receiver doesn't have a expensive crystal filter. Maybe life isn't bad -- he smiles and remembers how much homework he still has to do tonight. end

FCC ISSUING GATE 2 CALLS AGAIN

I'm still waiting to find out if I'll get a call under gate two. For a few days FCC had put additional calls on hold. Some hams complained after their applications were dismissed -- because a carrier had delivered them early. FCC has started issuing gate 2 calls again. I'm waiting to see if I get new call from the gate 2 process. Information abstracted from ARRL LETTER.

UGLY RADIO CONTINUED

So the radio functions are basically working -- it is time to assemble the PCBs to the VFO capacitor, adjust the band spread test the keying, mute, sidetone, switching, and other functions.

The sidetone bias had to be tweaked in my unit to get it oscillating. The side tone is an old standard design, that usually chirps, and it does in this unit as well. The mute works -- with no changes.

The keying on the transmitter looks good on the 'scope but I had to chop out a series RC circuit -- Had chirp when key was released on my unit. Keying now sounds OK -- think they have value wrong on schematic on series RC.

Worked rare DX station K8LTG (thanks again Jim) and rare DX country North Canton first night on air with 1 watt of raw rf power (12/2/96) -- Next weekend maybe I can get into 4 land! -- AA8GY

ALLIANCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB November 7, 1996

The regular meeting of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club was held at the Alliance Community Hospital on November 7, 1996, at 7:31 PM, with Don Whitaker K8OMO, president, presiding. Secretary David Glass W8UKQ kept the minutes. There were 21 members and one guest present. The pledge of allegiance was given, and introductions were made.

The minutes of the last meeting and of the annual meeting as printed in the newsletter were approved on motion by Jim K8LTG, seconded by George K3GP.

Mary Ann KB8IVS reported the treasury balances. The report was approved upon motion by Jim N8MAA, seconded by Ray K8DEN.

Old Business:

Newsletter: Jerry AA8GY appreciates the items submitted for the newsletter and wishes to encourage future items.

Mid-Winter Party (Christmas): No report.

New Business:

Ham of the Year: A ballot will be in the next newsletter for voting and to be forwarded to Gladys KB8GIA to determine the selection.

SK: Attention was called to the passing of Anne Ziga, XYL of George N8SYF, and Mike Goshorn N8KNU. A motion was made by Don K8OMO, seconded by Jim N8MAA, to add the name of Mike Goshorn N8KNU and Franklin L. Trubee KB8ZWV to the memorial plaque. The motion was approved.

Call Signs: Jerry AA8GY has a list of 8's calls issued since Gate 2 opened about September 20.

The Fund for the Defense of Amateur Radio Frequencies: Jack W8WEN suggested that the club make a donation to this fund because ARRL has significant presence before the FCC. After considerable discussion a motion was made by Jack W8WEN, seconded by Larry KE8VE, and passed, that our club make a donation to the fund. (A subsequent motion established the amount of the donation. See the official minutes.)

Repeater: Jim K8LTG reported that the 442.350 repeater is on the air on a temporary basis.

Field Day: John WX8G reported that station N8MAA was omitted from the scores by QST and a correction will be noted.

The 50-50 drawing was won by Mike N8XER.

Program: Jim K8LTG demonstrated how he packed all the equipment used in the Pennsylvania QSO Party into a small bag.

Jack W8WEN discussed antenna front-to-back ratios and described his experiences with VHF antennas.

Don K8OMO suggested that members bring old log books to the next meeting to report any interesting items or occurrences.

The meeting adjourned at 8:31 PM, upon motion by Jim N8XTJ, seconded by Ray K8DEN.

Respectfully submitted, Dave Glass W8UKQ, Secretary

Mark Your Calendar: Dover Hamfest -- January 26, 1997 Tusco ARC, Dover OH Howard Blind KD8KF

Mansfield OH Hamfest -- February 9, 1997 Inter City ARC and Mansfield Emergency Repeater Pat Ackerman N8YOB

Cuyahago Falls OH -- Feb. 23, 1997 Cuyahoga ARC Bob Recny N8SQT

You are invited to attend the A.A.R.C Christmas in January Party!

Where: Roadhouse Charlies 2239 West State Street Alliance Ohio

AARC December 1996

When: The second Saturday of January - January 11, 1997

When: 7:00 PM EST

Advance Registration is strongly recommended as they must be called in 3 days prior to party Please register soon so you won't forget!

I had a great time last year and think everyone else who attended did as well

Banquet Menu

Strip Steak 8 ounce \$13.50

Broiled Boston Scrod \$9.75

1/2 Honey Glazed or BBQ Chicken 8.75

Prices include Taxes and Gratuity

You should pay when you register

Please keep a note of what you ordered.

Party Registration Form For your Convenience

Your Name: _____

Meal Number 1: _____ Amount _____

Meal Number 2: _____ Amount _____

Meal Number 3: _____ Amount _____

TOTAL _____

Please Mail To: Jerry Shore 880 Parkway Blvd. Alliance Ohio 44601

AA8GY email address should you get inspired to write an article and desire to email the same:

J.SHORE.AA8GY@WORLDNET.ATT.NET and AA8GY@imperium.net (please use both for now)

ARTICLES MAY BE SUBMITTED IN ALMOST ANY FORM

PLEASE DO NOT ENTER MATERIAL WRITTEN ON ORANGES!

HAM of the YEAR Ballot

I wish to Reccomend for Ham of the YEAR _____

Comments _____

Please Give ballot to Gladys KB8GIA

December 1996 AARC

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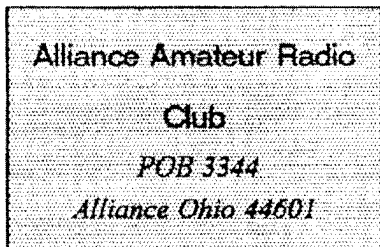
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Editor and Trustees reserve right to edit all submissions. Permission is given to reprint portions of Zero Beat as long as credit is given to author and source. Author unless otherwise noted is AA8GY. Contributions are welcome and can be mailed to editor. Email address inside.



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