

AARC presents the

ARRL affiliated

7300 BEAT

The Alliance Amateur Radio Club POB 3344, Alliance Ohio 44601

2-5-97
MONTHLY

NISL Reports — About a six or eight months ago I ran across someone on the contest reflector on internet asking a question about building a big station. I gave him my opinions and have been exchanging ideas with Sam, K9SD, ever since. We are both in the process of building above average stations and like to hear any new ideas of what to do. I usually talk to Sam about twice a week on average and swap stories and ideas. Back in the fall my friend Bob, WT10 from Massachusetts, was traveling to St. Louis, Missouri on business. He likes to meet new people who are contesters, so I arranged the meeting. At the time Sam didn't have any antennas up, since he just moved into his new house. He had just moved from a subdivision to a bigger house on seven acres of land. The ham shack was to go in the unfinished basement. When I talked to Bob after returning from K9SD's, all he could say is how much sheetrock there was to be hung! Although Sam just turned 50, he is always in the "turbo mode", just a bundle of energy. For Christmas my wife wanted to visit her sister and brother-in-law in Mattoon, Illinois for a long weekend. Not being one to be able to sit in one place for more than a few days, I started planning a trip to see Sam since it was only a few hours away. After checking my route on the map, I noticed that K4VX in Hannibal, Missouri was "just up the road." I made arrangements with Sam to be at his house on the Monday before Christmas and then we would both drive up to see Lew, K4VX. He has one of the largest stations in zero land. We arrived at my brother and sister-in-laws on Saturday at 4PM after about a seven hour drive. By Sunday night I was getting anxious to get on the road to Sam's. At 10:30AM the next morning I made contact with K9SD on two meters so he could talk me in. He was just getting back from checking on a commercial tower that was thirty inches on a face for a possible raising at his place. The drive would have been much shorter if I could have hit the right exit, but I was in the far right hand lane and couldn't get over due the Jersey barriers and construction. After crossing over the Mississippi River, I gave Sam the short and snappy contest exchange that they do from Missouri "your 59 MO" (mow). He liked that one III! After about two hours I was pulling into Sam's driveway, which is incidentally about the same amount of time it took me to find my microphone for the two meter radio! Sam met me as soon as I got out of the car. He was much younger looking than I had imagined, but the same bundle of energy that I had heard on the phone. He gave me a tour of the new house, saving the best for last. When we walked down into the basement I was really surprised. The walls were finished, carpeting down, and looked like it been like it for years. Would Bob be shocked to see the transformation! The shack is really nice with recessed lighting and French doors when you walk in that leads to another big room that he uses for his workshop. On the table was a Icom IC781 and an Alpha 87A, as well as LOTS of accessories in the workshop. After the shack tour we walked outside. Sam calls the property the "driving range." It is a ridge about 250' X 1200', falling off on both sides. Although there were no antennas up other than a 160 meter dipole, there was plenty of Rohn 45 tower and aluminum being stored horizontally. I finally got to see where he was planning to put his antennas and towers after just hearing about it. After about 1 1/2 hours we were on the road for Hannibal, Missouri. We almost didn't make the trip due to tornado warnings. We followed the river up and at one point were almost blown off the road by gail force winds. It was an eiry feeling looking up the river and seeing nothing but darkness and whitecaps on the water. We checked into SKYWARN, but they seemed more interested in getting lots of guys checked in than the actual weather reports, especially since we were in the middle of it. Driving through Hannibal was quite interesting. It looks like a "tourist trap" if there ever was one. Everything was Tom Sawyer this, or Huck Finn that III! About five miles out of Hannibal we finally made it to K4VX's. The first thing we noticed after getting out of the car other than the tall towers was the temperature. When we left Sam's house we left our coats behind, it was about 55 degrees until the storm front came through. We made a quick tour of the towers at Lew's since we were both shivering from the cold. Lew's station was very impressive, consisting of nine towers from 50' to 170'. Antennas included 7 elements on 10 meters on a 48' boom ("the elephant gun"), a full size vertical on 160 meters, 3 elements on 40 meters, and a rhombic fed with 600 ohm ladder line up 100'+ and 350' on a leg! Inside was equally impressive, with two IC765's and single band amplifiers. Lew had family coming in from Virginia, including a baby grandson that he hadn't seen yet, so we didn't stay as long as we would have liked. Lew could have talked radio through the night if we would have stayed, but we thought it was better for him for us to be gone when his company did arrive. It was time to head back to Sam's. The most interesting thing about driving long distances talking about radio is how the time flies. In no time we were back in Alton at Sam's QTH. It's great meeting people in this hobby, and it seems like where ever I go I find some one I can look up. It sure did break up the time at the in-laws!

I GUESS ONE OF THE BIGGEST THINGS IN THIS HOBBY OF OURS IS DXING. WHICH IN ITSELF I REALLY DON'T CARE FOR. THERE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE ANY CHALLENGE IN WORKING DX IN A WIDE OPEN BAND WITH A PILE UP TEN DEEP, YOU KNOW THAT YOU CAN WORK THE GUY IF EVERYBODY ELSE WOULD JUST SHUT UP BUT THAT DOESN'T HAPPEN TO OFTEN, SO UP GOES THE POWER IN COMES THE BIG GUNS AND THERE THE LITTLE GUY IS LEFT OUT IN THE COLD CAUSE HIS LITTLE 100 WATT RIG AND A VERTICAL CAN'T COMPETE WITH A FULL KW AND STACKED YAGIES AT 120 FEET. SEE WHAT I MEAN? WELL GREYLINE DXING ISN'T ANY THING NEW AND I SUPPOSE THAT I SHOULD EXPLAIN WHAT IT IS FIRST. SUN RISE AND SUN SET IS THE KEY TO THIS FUN SPORT. WHEN THE SUN IS SETTING YOU CAN WORK THE EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AND WHEN THE SUN IS RISING YOU CAN WORK JAPAN, AND THE ASIAN COUNTRIES. IF YOU ARE LUCKY HI HI. A LOT DEPENDS ON CERTAIN THINGS BEFORE THIS ALL HAPPENS THOUGH. ONE OF THOSE THINGS IS CONDITIONS OF THE BAND. THERE HAS TO BE A LOW NOISE LEVEL BECAUSE THE SIGNALS THAT YOU ARE GOING TO BE HEARING ARE PRETTY WEAK. A ANTENNA UP IN THE AIR AT LEAST 40 FEET WILL HELP. (MINE IS 55 FEET AT THE CENTER AND 20 ON THE ENDS -- INVERTED VEE FOR 80 CW). OH I FORGOT TO TELL YOU WHAT BANDS THIS OCCURS ON, WELL I'M USING 80 CW. AND I GUESS 160 WORKS WELL FOR THIS GREYLINE EFFECT ALSO. I HAVEN'T LISTENED TO 40 METERS YET BUT I SUPPOSE THAT IT ALSO MAY OCCUR THERE TO. THE NEXT THING IS A LOT OF PATIENTS. I HAVE FOUND THE HARD WAY IF YOU GET ON THERE AND MAKE A LOT OF NOISE THE OTHER FELLERS DON'T LIKE IT MUCH AND WILL TELL YOU SO. ALSO I HAVE FOUND THAT THERE ARE A LOT OF PRETTY GOOD OPERATORS THAT WILL LET YOU TAKE YOUR TURN, IF YOU DO LIKEWISE, WORKING THE STATIONS THAT ARE BEING HEARD. YOU CAN GET ON AND CALL A CQ OR TWO, BUT YOU BETTER HAVE A PRETTY GOOD SIGNAL ON THE BAND (A FULL KW AT LEAST HI) BEFORE YOU ATTEMPT ANYTHING LIKE THAT. I FOUND THAT IN THIS SITUATION YOU WILL GET A LITTLE RESPECT MAINLY BECAUSE SOMETIMES SOMEONE HAS TO STILL THE SOUP AS YOU MIGHT SAY AND GET THINGS GOING. THAT MEANS THE EUROPEANS OR WHAT EVER ARE OVER THERE LISTENING AND YOU ARE OVER HERE LISTENING AND NEITHER ONE OF YOU HEARS A THING HI HI SO THERE YOU ARE, STIR THE SOUP. MUST ADMIT IT I HAVE STIRRED THE SOUP SEVERAL TIMES, RUNNING MY YAESU FT-757-GX AND A OLD HEATHKIT SB-220 AMP (LEGAL LIMIT). ANTENNA IS 80 METER INVERTED VEE AT 55 FT. I MUST ADD AT THIS POINT, YOU CAN BE VERY SUCCESSFULLY WORKING THESE STATIONS WITH LOW POWER, THE SECRET TO THAT IS, BE THE FIRST ONE TO HEAR THEM. THAT MAY TAKE SOME KNOB TWISTING. I FOUND IF YOU HEAR A PILE UP FOR ONE STATION THERE IS MORE THAN LIKELY ANOTHER STATION THAT NOBODY IS PAYING ANY ATTENTION TO, THAT IS THE ONE YOU GO AFTER WITH THE 100 WATT RIG AND A DIPOLE. FIRST THING YOU KNOW YOU HAVE GOTTEN A REAL NICE CONTACT AND MAYBE EVEN EXCHANGED SOME OLD WEATHER INFO. THEN YOU SIGN AND UNKEY TO HEAR EVERYONE ELSE IS NOW CALLING THE GUY YOU WORKED FIRST HI HI HERE IS A FEW EXAMPLES THAT I HAVE WORKED ON 80 CW BETWEEN 4 PM AND 530 PM

HB9ATA IZ2AVK GW3YDX 8P9EM F5IN 3DA0CA YU1EXY GM3POI GL7GV G0DXX RA2FB.

I HAVEN'T TRIED THE EARLY MORNING GREYLINE DXING BUT I'M SURE IT WILL PROVE TO BE AS EXCITING AS THE EARLY EVENING DXING. I'M NOT SURE WHAT THE CAUSE OF THIS EFFECT IS BUT IT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE SUN'S ANGLE AND CHARGING THE UPPER ATMOSPHERE AND REFLECTING THE SIGNALS BACK DOWN TO EARTH. ANYHOW GIVE IT A TRY I'LL BE GLAD TO LET YOU HAVE A TURN HI HI. DE OMO

ALLIANCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

AARS February 1997

January 2, 1997

The regular meeting of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club was held at the Alliance Community Hospital on January 2, 1997, at 7:37 P. M., 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 as printed in the newsletter were approved on motion by Frank WA8WHIP, seconded by Jim K8LTG.

Mary Ann KB8IVS reported the treasury balances. The report was approved upon motion by Jerry KG8RN, seconded by Ray K8DEN.

Old business:

Mid-winter party: Reservations must be in by Wednesday, January 8th to Jerry N8SH for the dinner on Saturday, January 11th.

Ham of the Year: Votes must be given to Gladys KB8GIA by the end of this meeting.

Newsletter: Editor needs items submitted to him.

New business:

In response to inquiry by Jim N8MAA, the secretary stated that the club sent a donation to the ARRL Fund for the Defense of Amateur Radio Frequencies following the November meeting. An acknowledgement should be received soon.

No information has been received regarding the K8JZN scholarship fund.

Jerry N8SH asked for e-mail addresses for publication.

A notice was read about the Canton ARC novice-tech training classes beginning Saturday, January 4th, at 9 AM at the County Safety Building. Jerry KA8AHF has information.

There was no information about our club classes. It was suggested to put notices about classes and meetings in the newspaper.

Jerry N8SH announced several hamfests.

Jim N8MAA is concerned about the lack of activity on the repeaters and 10 meters.

Testing sites are listed on the QRZ site.

Hal KE8II inquired about RF power testing. It was noted the requirement is on hold for a year.

Dana KB8SWV reported there is an Alliance City home page on WEB site. He will investigate putting meeting dates on it. Regarding participating in Safety Breaks, it was noted that scheduling requires six months lead time. Dana reported that Paul NW8C is in the hospital.

Vic KB8ECQ called in via the repeater to call attention to a hamfest at Castle Shannon, PA, south of Pittsburgh, on February 23, 8 AM to 3 PM. Talk-in on N3NX, 146.955-.

The 50-50 drawing was won by Gladys KB8GIA.

Since there was no program planned, David N8NLZ offered to retrieve an old sermon from his car. The president ruled him not in order, and subsequently broke his gavel trying to quiet the rioting membership.

The meeting adjourned at 8:29 P. M., upon motion by Ray K8DEN, seconded by Jerry KC8DKM.

Respectfully submitted, Dave Glass W8UKQ, Secretary

E-Mail Addresses:

M. A. Royer K8SIVS -- K8SIVS@AOL.COM Ray Scoville K8DEN -- K8DEN@CANNET.COM
 Jim Ferguson K8LTG -- N8DZA@AOL.COM John Meyers WX8G -- WX8G@JUNO.COM
 Don Whitaker K8OMO -- K8OMO@JUNO.COM Jerry Shore N8SH -- AA8GY@IMPERIUM.NET
 Dana B. Barnes callsign -- dbarnes@IMPERIUM.NET Scott Detloff N18L
 N18L@IMPERIUM.NET
 Grant Kelley N8VPA -- GRANTLYK@IMPERIUM.NET

So Boot up and put these in your mail address files now before you forget ok? They will come in

FROM THE PRESIDENTS DESK

WELL HERE WE ARE INTO ANOTHER WINTER MONTH. I CAN ONLY SPEAK FOR MYSELF BUT I'M NOT REAL HAPPY WITH THIS HOT AND COLD WEATHER. I'M WRITING THIS AND AT THE MOMENT IT IS 65 DEGREES OUTSIDE, NOT HARDLY WINTER WEATHER IS IT? I SHOULD EXPLAIN, IT IS JAN 4TH RIGHT NOW WHILE I'M WRITING THIS. I DECIDED TO GET A EARLY START ON THE FEB NEWSLETTER BECAUSE LAST MONTH I GUESS I DIDNT GET IT IN ON TIME HI. NEEDLESS TO SAY NOT ALL MY FAULT THO, THE EDITOR DECIDED TO TAKE A WEEKS VACATION AND I DIDN'T REALIZE THAT HE WAS GOING TO PUBLISH THE NEWSLETTER BEFORE HE LEFT. OH WELL NO HARM DONE I GUESS. THE TURNOUT FOR THE DECEMBER MEETING WAS QUITE ENCOURAGEING TO ME. ALTHO WE DIDN'T HAVE A PROGRAM SCHEDULED THE ENSUEING DISCUSSIONS THAT FOLLOWED LASTED A GOOD WHILE. THIS IS A GOOD THING IN MY MIND AND SHOULD HAPPEN MORE OFTEN. PEOPLE GET TO DISCUSSING THINGS AND SOMETIMES GOOD IDEAS COME OF IT. THIS IS WHAT THE CLUB NEEDS "GOOD IDEAS". WE NEED A GOAL. SOMETHING TO STRIVE FOR. COME UP WITH SOMETHING THAT THE CLUB MEMBERS MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN DOING. I THINK I VAGUELY MENTIONED IT AT THE LAST MEETING, BUT REALLY DIDN'T PERSUE IT. COME UP WITH SOME IDEAS. THERE WAS A FEW MEMBER THAT WERE INTERESTED IN HAVEING A COFFEE BREAK. THIS WAS BROUGHT UP LAST SUMMER AND DISCUSSED SOME EVEN HAD ONE OF THE OTHER CLUBS MEMBER COME OVER AND TALK ABOUT IT. THIS IS ALL WELL AND GOOD TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE CLUB BUT WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO WITH IT WHEN WE GET IT ??? ARE WE GOING TO BUY STATION EQUIPMENT? BUILD A CLUB HOUSE? OR RENT ONE? OR DONATE THE MONEY TO THE POOR(K8OMO), I DON'T KNOW. SO LET ME KNOW AND THE MEMBERSHIP. I'M WRITING THIS BEFORE THE DINNER WE ARE GOING TO HAVE ON THE 11TH SO I REALLY CAN'T COMMENT ON THAT EXCEPT WE WILL ALL HAVE A GOOD TIME HI. THERE WILL BE ABOUT 25 PEOPLE THERE SO I HOPE THAT YOU ARE ONE OF THEM, IF NOT YOU WILL HAVE MISSED THE BIGGEST BULL SESSION OF THE YEAR HI HI SEE

NET REPORT FOIR TENMETERS TRI COUNTY NEWS AND INFORMATION NET --TEN METER - K8OMO
NET MGR.

33 SESSIONS 391 CK INS 15 OUT OF STATE CK INS

AMATEUR RADIO STATION K8OMO VOICE MAIL---1-330-935-2960----
STANDBY FREQ. 145.370/ 442.350 REPEATERS

REMEMBER THE CHOICE OF ONE (YOUR CHOICE) MAY NOT BE THE CHOICE OF ALL. OMO

K8OMO Ham of the Year

The Club's annual party was fun with good conversation and good natured kidding. Gladys presented the Ham of the Year Plaque to Don Whitaker K8OMO with a nice speech lauding the recipient for his contributions to ham radio and the club. Don is a ready participant in emergency preparedness activities and when there is a community event to assist with. I am proud to call him friend. However this not mean we will not continue to shower him with more than his share of verbal abuse! Congratulations Don you've more than earned the award.

**ARRL Board PROPOSES NEW LICENSE to Replace NOVICE Class !!
WITH CW PRIVILEGES SIMILAR TO GENERAL AND ADVANCED!!!** Information
abstracted from ARRL Letter w1aw buletin:

I will bring the text of the W1AW buletin detailing the Boards proposal to the next meeting .

*The proposal would create an intermediate class license to replace tech plus requiries 10wpm 1 minute copy cw
band priviledges:*

3.525 to 3.5700 MHz ; 7.025 to 7.050 MHz ; 21.025 to 21.150 MHz ;

28.050 to 28.300 kHz

SSB 1.950 to 2.1125 ; 3.900 to 4.000 21.350 to 21.450 28.300 to 28.500 200W PEP

*Editors opinion -- the 80 and 40 meter cw segment is inapropriate for the
skill level and should be higher in the band. Also 200 watts pep is
excesive and should be more like 3 to 10 watts for these two bands and
skill levels.*

Misc: * From ARRL prop. bulletin Jan solar flux mean = 73.7. Sun spots mean = 10.4

* AA82B issued last week by FCC. From QRZ webb page.

* Vibroplex sales a pennant and a key chain per their Webb page.

* Real time MUF for Alliance was near 12 MHz at 8:00 PM (now). See real-time muf Webb page.

* *Many thanks to: W8UKQ, N18L, and K8OMO for their newsletter articles. I trashed a lot of computer files
unintentionally this month -- so the newsletter would not be here without their contributions.*

The Alliance Amateur Radio Club

POB 3344 Alliance, Ohio

Officers: Vice President and newsletter editor:

Jerry Shore N8SH

880 Parkway Blvd.

Alliance Ohio, 44601

823-7816 AA8GY@imperium.net

President:

Don Whitaker K8OMO

8775 Edison Street NE

Louisville, OH 44641

Secretary: David Glass W8UKQ

217 West Simpson St.

Alliance OH 823-4855

Treasurer: Mary Ann Royer KB8IVS

6255 Sandalwood NE

No. Canton 44721 492-0703

Trustees:

Jim Ferguson K8LTG

115 East Cambridge, Alliance Ohio 44601,
823-3925

Ray Scoville K8DEN

14096 Bandy Road

Alliance Ohio 44601 823-2304

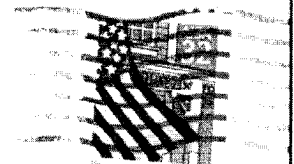
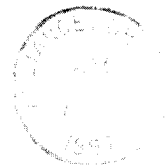
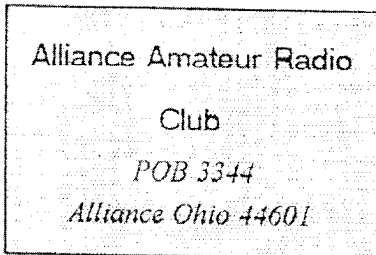
Trustees Continued

Jerry Wheeler Sr. KG8RN

18 Stanley Court

Beloit, Ohio 44609 525-7176

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 N8SH. Contributions are *extremely welcome* and may be mailed to editor. Please write a few words about what's happening with you and send to editor — everyone's life is important.



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POB 3344
ALLIANCE OHIO 44601