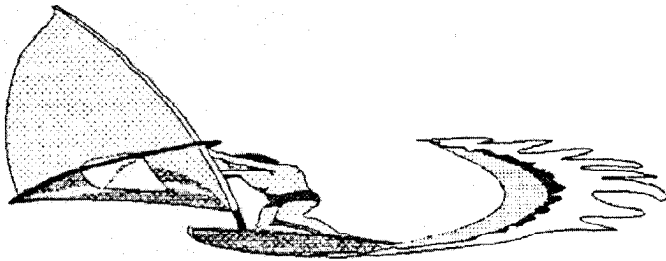


Zero Beat

September, 1997

Alliance Amateur Radio Club



Gate 3 Open --

Gate 3 opened August 6th for Advanced Class amateur radio Operators.

Propagation Picking UP!

The 10.7 cm mean Flux for last month was 79.2! The mean Sunspot number was 54.7! Well its not in the 100's yet but I heard Finland and Africa on 20 meters IWB at night this week. 40 meters at night is expected to improve.

Propagation and Gate 3 info from APRS Letter via www.aaarc.org

Electromagnetics --

When you read about moment method antenna software the computations solve integral equations. Finite element software uses differential equations.

Reference: Generalized Moment Methods by Johnson Wang (Wiley \$74.95)

Since We Last Talked....

The Randolph Hamfest was attended by W8WEN, K8OMO, Rev. Dave N8NLZ and son in law Don, K8LTG, KC8ETZ, KG8RN, N8EAD, KC8DKM -- I think -- well any way its been a while. I bought a 1945 handbook, 100 feet of Coax (IEEE 802.3 ethernet) stuff and is Bright Yellow. The loss was measured at work as 2.4 dB for 100 feet at 2 meters. The loss at 28 MHz was .8 dB for 100 feet. The price was like \$5 for 50 feet with N connectors. Not bad if you can take the color. I think I was the last to leave.

The Warren Hamfest was attended by the Rozaieski's, NW8C, K8LTG, K8OMO and Sherie. I bought a MFJ antenna tuner that needs a new 2 pole switch on the output and the inductor switch was missing 5 of 12 contact fingers (melted away -- under sized for the rating). Replaced one switch and bent fingers enough to make other switch work. I used it this week on input to amplifier. Bought two mil type 1/4 inch plugs with cable \$1 each new.

Looked like rain --some probably chickened out!

Next Meeting:

7:30 pm September 4th 7:30 Alliance
Hospital Cafeteria

ALLIANCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

August 7, 1997

The regular meeting of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club was held at the Alliance Community Hospital on August 7, 1997, at 7:35 P. M., with Don Whitaker K8OMO, president, presiding. Secretary David Glass W8UKQ kept the minutes. There were 20 members present. The pledge of allegiance was given, and introductions were made.

The minutes of the last meeting were read by the secretary and were approved on motion by Jim N8MAA, seconded by Larry KE8VE.

Mary Ann KB8IVS reported the treasury balances. The report was approved upon motion by Dean KA8GRC, seconded by Sam KC8ETZ.

Old business:

Triathlon: Mike N8XER needs more volunteers for the Triathlon on August 17. Operators will be needed from 7:30 AM to noon. Since 145.37- repeater is not working, a portable repeater may be available, or 145.39- might be used for part of the event.

Mall Show: The event is September 6 and 7. John WX8G gave rental prices of tables: \$3.90 for 6 ft., \$4.10 for 8 ft., and chairs 50 cents each. It was moved by John AA8XQ, seconded by Jerry KC8DKM, to order and pay for 8 tables and 24 chairs. Motion approved. **Coax will be put in Saturday, August 23, at 1 PM.** The club call W8LKY will be used. Mention the event on all nets.

Field Day: John WX8G sent our entry to ARRL, and it should be in the November QST.

New business:

Corn Roast: This event will be held Saturday, August 23, at 7 PM, at Bob Rickard's KB8GAG QTH on North Rockhill.

The 50-50 drawing was won by Mary Ann KB8IVS and was donated to the club.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 P. M., upon motion by Don K8OMO, seconded by Dave W8UKQ.

Respectfully submitted, David Glass W8UKQ, Secretary

Eat Transistors for Breakfast? - here's how to cook 'em

N8SH

Last week I needed to test a regenerative radio's range at 160 degrees Fahrenheit. A wood box roughly 24" long 14" wide 8" deep was built. A ceramic tile insulates the bottom and a 6" heating element replacement unit from a kitchen stove heats the box. A metal drip liner tied down with metal brackets locates the heater. A shelf was built above the heater element. The element is roughly 1000 watts when operated from 250 volts (RMS) -- it yields roughly 250 watts from 115 VAC. A standard light dimmer (400 watts) was used to control the heater. A electronic thermometer from Radio Shack was installed on the side with the remote sensor in the box. Supplies were mostly obtained from Lowes. **Unit is not operated unattended.** The unit could be used to test electronics for vfo drift etc.

Mass Quantities Consumed --

Meteors, some probably homosapiens -- fall from sky -- even after dark

Bob Ricard again allowed the club to use his farm for our annual corn roast. K8OMO I believe came up with the idea originally of having an outing featuring the wonderful local corn. I dare anyone to find a better example of eatin' corn. (My relatives think corn is for drinkin'.) Bob built a nice fire for the cool evening. K8OMO had a sail boat (human sized). And one of our usual RC sailors -- WC8F Ron Gwyn took plane to the air via a RC airplane. Others in attendance Dana Barnes KB8SWV and his wife. Also attending were: Paul Beane NW8C, Jack Bennett W8WEN and Martha, Sam Eberling KC8ETZ, Jim Miller N8MAA, John Meyers WX8C and new bride (just back from honeymoon to Grand Canyon), Jerry Rozaeski who provided the refreshments -- some custom made!, Jerry Wheeler KG8RN -- just returned from a trip down in my neck of the woods --Charlotte-- (Bring back some 3-500Z drivers? or receivers hardly used?).

People just kept jumping out of airplanes for our entertainment. One had a strobe on his person-- after dark.

The food, location, and puppies

Corn Roast Contd.

I may have left off some people from the corn roast list -- hey my memory is not perfect.

Thanks to K8OMO and Sherie for picking up the corn and setting up and bringing much of the fixings.

Cutting Steel?! --

I had to replace a door hinge bushing in the Mustang today. The pin was cut using a large (roughly 1 1/2 inch) cutting disk (the ones that smell like sulfur) on a dremel tool.

This was a steel pin about 3/8 inch diameter! probably not hardened. Try out the large size cutting disks. -- Surprised me it was able to cut this big a steel pin. The bushing was bought at Forrest City -- as the local stores were closed or didn't have the part.

Yesterday I had to do plumbing --snaked a sink and replaced trap and associated pipe non-standard thread size on trap!

You guys really need to send me some articles! or its the *The Zero Beat Plumbing Gazette*!

20 METERS IS BACK!

This month I've worked 9A2DQ, XL2MOS,

YO2BES.

Heard GOORS@14.009, JB6 @ 14.010 G3PY @ 14.0174 he answered my call to UAOKY so could not copy either! (note similarity in calls)

OE2 @ 14.022, G2DZF @ 14.031 another G0 @ 14.027 all these within a few minutes.

