

## Alliance Amateur Radio Club

October 9, 2019 Meeting Minutes

### Reminders

We need a volunteer to accept the role of Secretary. Our former Secretary is unable to continue in the role for the next fiscal year due to other commitments. At this point, the job is fairly straight forward, and current so it will only require 10 hours per month or less. Anyone willing to accept the Secretary post for the next fiscal year should contact President Ron Rittenhouse (KE8HCY).

We still need the Chairman's Planning Guides for projects that have been done this fiscal year.

We also need to make sure that all of the new equipment is added to the club insurance policy.

We would like to welcome Tom Scoville (WA8VHH) to the club.

Meeting called to order by: President Ron Rittenhouse (KE8HCY)

Devotion led by: Frank Sanor (WA8WHP)

Pledge of Allegiance led by: Ken Moats (KE8NAT)

1) Roll call was taken: 19 members present – 3 guests present

### Members

Dave Moreno (KE8JLP)  
John Myers (KD8MQ)  
Chris McDaniel (AC8VN)  
Paul Richardson (K2ASA)  
Andrew Magda (AC8JR)  
Dwight Turner (KD8YFV)  
Peter Lucke (N8IGZ)  
Bryan Webler (N8WD)  
Ken Moats (KE8NAT)  
Karen Andrews (N8HUC)  
James Andrews (KD8VT)  
Howard Miller (K8DXR)  
Tony Schillig (KD8BBK)  
Ron Rittenhouse (KE8HCY)  
Jerry Shore (N8SH)  
Rick Graber (WD8AYC)  
Frank Sanor (WA8WHP)  
Gwen Snyder (KE8NAV)  
Tomas St. George (KC8ZEH)

### Guests

Benjamin Davis (KD8KMQ)  
Miriam Sanor  
Madison Danchev

2) Introduction of members and guests was done.

3) Members birthday recognition: 10/17 Susan Heiks (K8STH), 10/22 Dakota Markland (KC3FHZ), 10/29 Franklin Sanor (WA8WHP), 10/31 John Myers (KD8MQ)

4) Approval of Agenda: Agenda was approved.

5) Treasurer's Report: Checking: \$XXXX, Savings: N/A

6) Review / Approval of September 11 Meeting Minutes: Waived

7) Officers Reports:

President Ron Rittenhouse (KE8HCY): Ron stated that we are working on the Donation Receipt Letters. Hopefully we'll have that to the general membership for your approval at the November meeting. We've done some tweaking to it. Thank you Peter Lucke (N8IGZ) and Bryan Webler (N8WD) for that.

We did do a Power Point Presentation on the 20<sup>th</sup> at Rodman Public Library for the Alliance Historical society. We had about 14 people in attendance. Ironically, we had 3 Hams that were former members of the club 20 -30 years ago that were there reminiscing. They were talking about running cables from the Mount Union College Stadium, from the radio booth of WRMU all the way over to the radio station, until they got that situation handled. We picked up about 2 prospects for new Hams at the event.

Our current website roster which is up to date as of 13 October has 44 members on it.

I'm also conversing through email with the Salvation Army. Last year we came a little too late to do the "Ring the Bell" project at Christmas Time. We'll probably be bringing this years' project up at the November meeting.

Vice President Doug Matthew (KB8DNQ): Not in attendance.

Secretary Dave Moreno (KE8JLP): Mentioned above in the Reminders section.

Trustees: Nothing until the elections at the end of the meeting.

8) Committee Reports:

a) 2 Meter Net – Tomas St. George (KC8ZEH): on 9/12 we had 11 check-ins, on 9/19 we had 17 check-ins, on 9/26 we had 22 check-ins, and on 10/3 we had 19 check-ins

b) 10 Meter CW Net – Frank Sanor (WA8WHP): 1 to 2 check-ins seems to be the new normal. Last week there were 3. With the new tower up, hopefully it will get better.

c) 10 Meter Sideband Net – John Myers (KD8MQ): Nothing new to report. The band is up and down. It's a little better now with the antenna up on the new tower. John will be putting the net script up on the club website, so if anyone is interested in sharing the hosting, it would be appreciated.

d) Homeland Security Net – Loren Kleinhans (KD8WVE): on 9/17 we had ? check-ins, on 9/24 we had ? check-ins, on 10/1 we had 10 check-ins, and on 10/8 we had 10 check-ins

e) 2 Meter Repeater – John Myers (KD8MQ): If anyone is not aware yet, on 9/22 a team went out and installed our new antenna on the tower at a height of approx. 250 feet above ground for the 2 meter repeater. So, the signal strength has been drastically improved. Tony Schillig (KD8BBK) showed a PPP of photos of the installation. The crew were on the tower non-stop for about 6 hours. There are 3 videos on the w8lky facebook of parts of the installation from the climbers' point of view if you're interested. John stated that he would like to

thank the entire repeater committee as well as Bob Warner (WB8OVQ), James Andrews (KD8VT), and Carl (K7CE) as well as Karen Andrews (N8HUC) for the deal she got the team on the pizzas. He also stated that he would like to thank everyone who voted to approve the expenditure that made this all possible. There is less than 1 dB of loss on the unit and it has an SWR of 1.2:1 – 1.3:1. The power output is 20 watts. We have great coverage to the north, the northeast, the east, the southeast, and to the south. We have a little less coverage to the west due to the tower obstructing the signal, but it's still better than before.

f) 440 Repeater – John Myers (KD8MQ): It's working! In the future, we're going to get a new antenna for it, but for now it's working well.

g) 2019 – 2020 DX Contest – John Myers (KD8MQ): The contest began on October 1<sup>st</sup>. It runs until March 31<sup>st</sup> of the following year. The contest is among club members to see who can work the most number of countries. It's scored by you exporting your entire log for that period and emailing it to John. John will load it into his logging program which will quantify the number of countries you've worked. If there is more than 1 entry, the winner will receive a prize or certificate or something. You must be a club member and must be able to export your log in the ADI format. Most of the logging programs in use now will do that.

h) Ways & Means – Andy Magda (AC8JR) / Doug Matthew (KB8DNQ): Nothing at this time. At the beginning of the year we will raffle off a base unit to replenish our funds, as well as raffling off an Alinco DJ-MD5 DMR HT in January. It's new. It's been tested. It works perfectly. It has never been used. The only caveat is that it was purchased more than a year ago, so it has no warrantee.

i) Training Classes – Frank Sanor (WA8WHP): Frank stated that he has 2 people that have shown interest in the classes. He then stated that the venue and time will be announced later as they probably won't start until after the 1<sup>st</sup> of the year.

j) AARC Power Point Presentation – 9/20/2019: Ron (KE8HCY) stated that the most updated version of the PPP is on the club website, which includes the installation of the 2 meter repeater on the new tower, and a few new historical slides.

k) Toy Drive Auction for the Fire Fighters Toy Drive: The auction will be held at the November 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. So far we have a UHF /VHF radio, some UHF / VHF antennas, some HF antennas, a \$50 gift certificate to DX Engineering, and a foot switch that will be in the auction. The auction will be done the same as last year with each item / items having its / their own can for the tickets. That way, you can put all of your tickets in the can for what you'd like to win. If for some reason, you would like to donate money instead of buying auction tickets, you can simply write a check for the donation amount to the club. You can simply state on the check that it is for the Toy Drive. Also, any donations of items you'd like to make for the prize table would be appreciated. Last year we raised \$625 for the Toy Drive. Lets see if we can match or beat that this year.

l) 2019 December Meeting: The December meeting will be at a special time. It will be the Club Christmas Dinner. Our Christmas Dinner will be at 6:00 P.M. on Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at First Christian Church. The address is 1141 W. Beech St. in Alliance. It will be promptly served at 6:15 P.M. The requested dress is business casual attire (no t-shirts or jeans please). If you have special dietary requirements, please let Ron know ASAP so they can try to accommodate them (such as diabetic or gluten allergies). We will have entertainment in the form of music provided by Alliance High School students. We are working on how to fund it. We're trying to come up with \$50 to \$100 to pay the kids. We will have the hall from 6:15 P.M. to whenever we need it until. No rushing like last year. The price is \$10 per person and needs to be paid by the November 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. You will also need to choose your meal (baked chicken or ham loaf) by that date and include the information with your payment so they know how much of each to prepare. There will also be a vegetable, salad, and a desert item. We will not have to tip the servers.

There will be no meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of December. We will be handing out the Ham of the Year Award and other certificates at the dinner like last year. Again: Payment and food choice must be made by the

November 13<sup>th</sup> club meeting. You can refer to The Presidents Notes email that went out to the members for further details.

9) Old Business:

a) 2 Meter Repeater Relocation – John Myers (KD8MQ): Already discussed above.

10) New Business:

a) Radio & Technology Museum Visit: John Myers (KD8MQ) stated that it's a 4 hour drive trip each way. It's in Huntington, WV. It's a nice trip. He was thinking sometime in November, January, February, or March. At this point he's just trying to gauge interest in carpooling down there for a trip. There seemed to be enough interest from the club members at the meeting to take it a step farther. Date dependant on weather.

b) Winter Field Day – John Myers (KD8MQ): He stated that he's interested in different locations for the Winter Field Day. It will be in late in January. Tony (KD8BBK) said he would look into a new location in Sebring. It was decided that we need to nail down the location soon. We will revisit this next month. Any suggestions, email John.

11) Announcements:

Breakfast: November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8:30 A.M., Don Poncho's Restaurant – 2105 W. State St. Alliance

Pre-meeting Dinner: November 13<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 P.M., Don Poncho's Restaurant – 2105 W. State St. Alliance

November Program: AARC Fire Fighters Toy Drive Auction

12) Next Meeting Date: November 13<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 P.M., Alliance (Aultman) City Hospital / Café Conference Room

13) Round Table: Tomas (KC8ZEH) stated that he's still trying to get people that can / will talk to Herb Graybill (AC8UE) on the Millersburg repeaters. Frank (WA8WHP) asked about interest in a General Class. Let him know if you're interested.

14) Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned.

15) Elections: The floor was turned over to the trustees for the elections.

The results are:

President: Ron Rittenhouse (KE8HCY)

Vice President: Doug Matthew (KB8DNQ)

**Secretary: Position is open and needs to be filled. Contact President Ron Rittenhouse if you would be willing to help.**

Treasurer: John Myers (KD8MQ)

Trustee: Dwight Turner (KD8YFV)

16) 50/50 Drawing: The drawing was held and the winners' proceeds were donated back to the club.