

# Zero Beat

Serving hams in the Tri-County Area

Callsign quiz

page 3

Volume 8 No. 4

The Alliance Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 3344, Alliance, OH 44601

May 1994

# GET READY FOR FIELD DAY

Edited by KB8GHZ

Where will you be on field day this year? Doing any number of things, like watching a TV rerun for the umpteenth time? Wouldn't you rather be sitting in front of a portable transceiver in the sweltering heat, slapping at mosquitoes and wolfing down mustard drenched hot dogs?

Given a choice I think the radio will win hands down. After all you can't miss out on Field Day! It's a rite of passage for every ham. Not only will you test the limits of your endurance (and the endurance of your equipment), you'll have fun at the same time.

WHAT IS FIELD DAY? At first glance Field Day looks and sounds like any other on the air contest. It isn't just a contest though. Field Day is a test of your ability to operate under adverse conditions. It prepares you for the day when disaster strikes and you find yourself providing lifesaving communications without the benefit of commercial electrical power or even a decent shelter. In the true spirit of Field Day, hams throughout the U.S. and Canada set up temporary stations operating under emergency conditions, many using emergency power. The goal of Field Day operating is to contact as many stations as possible. Some hams treat this goal with deadly seriousness. Their final scores mean everything and they do whatever it takes to push their stations to the top of the heap. Other hams take a more easy going approach, for them Field Day is an enjoyable outing with friends. Earning respectable scores is secondary to the enjoyment of the event itself. So come out and enjoy Field Day.

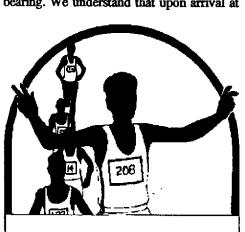
# Dynamic duo snares the fox!

The first fox hunt of 1994 is now history. It took place on Saturday, April 16th, and was won handily by the team of Bill Bennett W8ZZS, and John Bray KF8ZG, who were the first to find the fox. The team of John Myers WX8G, Pam Myers N8IAK, and Dennis Siegfried KB8RJC, took second place. Tom Bert KB8MFV, and Deb Bert KB8MFT, came in third place.

The foxes for this hunt were Jim Ferguson N8DZA, and John Molesky N8PLA, who were hiding in the parking lot on the west side of the Comfort Inn. Total distance between the fox and the starting point was about a mile, which made this one of the easier hunts in recent memory.

The antenna for this hunt was a quarter wave vertical, which was attached to the side of a light pole, making it horizontally polarized. Lacking a source of idle chatter, N8PLA recited passages from his trucks owners manual to keep us entertained.

Hoping for an early victory, Bill & John headed in the direction of their first bearing. We understand that upon arrival at



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the parking lot, they realized that they didn't know what kind of vehicle they were looking for, so John got out of the truck and started walking around the parking lot while looking for the fox.

The humorous side to this is that the fox could not transmit with the hunters so close, so he left the rest of us standing by the side of the road waiting for his next transmission. His only transmissions, at that time, consisted of "N8PLA" spoken very rapidly, every few minutes.

For their trouble, John & Bill win bragging rights, and the responsibility for the next hunt.

## W8ACP SK

It is with deep regret that I note the passing of Bob Hobbs W8ACP who passed away on Sunday, April 17th, at the Alliance Community Hospital. He was retired from the Alliance Manufacturing Company (now known as the Genie Co.). Bob was a member of the AARC since its early days back in the 80's, and was a big supporter of the club. Our condolences to his family.

# Meeting Announcement

Our next meeting will be held on May 5th at the Alliance Community. Hospital. We will be meeting at 7:30 PM, in room A. Visitors are always welcome. Our program this month will be "Traffic handling", by Bud Moser K8DHD.

The Alliance Amateur Radio Club
P. O. Box 3344, Alliance, OH 44601

## Officers

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Jim Wilson KB8GHZ 6974 Rolling Ridge NE North Canton, OH 44721 492-3754

Jim Ferguson N8DZA 115 E. Cambridge Alliance, OH 44601 823-3925

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

Well, by the time you read this, you'll either be:

- A) Packing for Dayton.
- B) Returning from Dayton.
- C) Wishing you were going to Dayton.

We'd just like to:

- A) Wish you a good trip, and hope you have a good time.
- B) Hope you had a great time, and still had room in the car for the XYL/OM on the trip home.
- C) Hey, there's always next year.

We're adding another new feature to the Zero Beat this month. It's tentatively called "Q & A". Just as it's name implies, I'll take questions that I've heard from different sources, and try to answer them in print. Now this won't be a one man, "let me show you how smart I am" type of column. In our club, we've got experts on a wide range of subjects, and I intend to pick everyone's brains to the fullest.

Speaking of Q & A, have you checked out the "Columbiana County Question & Answer Information Net" that is run by the members of the Lisbon ARC? As stated in their net preamble, "The only dumb question is the one that is not asked". You can ask questions about any Ham related subject, and usually get a good answer before the net is over. The "Columbiana County Question & Answer Information Net" meets on Wednesdays at 9:00 PM, on the 146.805 repeater.

What did you think of the net directory in the last issue? This was the first copy, and we'll be reprinting it as the corrections and the new listings come in. If you have any corrections or additions, please let me know.

Andy Warhol once predicted that everyone would receive 15 minutes of fame. Here's your chance. We are open to guest editorials. We only ask that:

- 1-The subject be something of interest to the club members.
- 2-No personal attacks.
- 3-No libelous or slanderous editorials.
- 4-The editorial should be in good taste. So get your pens out. You too can be read by dozens.
- **73 DE WX8G**

# Staff

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Larry Ashburn KE8VE Dianna Ashburn

# **Credits**

Thanks to the contributors to this months Zero Beat

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KB8GIA

N8IAK

W8WEN

K8DEN

The Zero Beat is a 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 on IBM formatted disk (3.5" or 5.25" IBM). We can read most word processor formats, and telephone transfer via modem can be arranged by calling WX8G at 821-5513.

Packet submissions are not available at this time.

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

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29-Apr-94

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N8EWV	Larry Hillier	938-9435	18334 Rt. 62	Beloit	ОН	44609	A
N8GIE	John Ziccardi		P.O. Box 43514	Cleveland	ОН	44143	T
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NSMAA	Jim Miller	875-2629	413 Woodard Ave.	Louisville	ОН	44641	<del></del>
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N8PLA	John R. Molesky	821-7427	11240 Aebi Ave.	Alliance	ОН	44601	T
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N8SYF	George Ziga	821-0549		Alliance	ОН	44601	T
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WA8WHP	Frank Sanor	894-2186	24462 SR 172	Minerva	ОН	44657	E
WB8ZQX	Sam Simon	799-8464	2834 Rexford Rd.	Youngstown	ОН	44511	G
WI8T	Allen Dicks	875-4344	8870 Alberta Beach	Louisville	ОН	44641	E
WX8G	John Myers	821-5513	510 W. Harrison St.	Alliance	ОН	44601	E

May 1994

المرات منتقي						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
, <b>1</b>	2	3	4	5	6	7
Dayton Hamvention N8SYF Birthday		7:00 PM 20/9 VE Exams		7:30 PM AARC Meeting		Ravenna VE Exams
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
				8:30 PM Tri-County News & Info Net KB8JBG Birthday	K8DEN Birthday	N8EAD Birthday
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Wheeling Hamfest/ Computer Show		N8MAA Birthday		8:30 PM Tri-County News & Info Net		QCWA Canton Chap ter 21 Meetings
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
20/9 Hamfest				8:30 PM Tri-County News & Info Net		Canton VE Exams
29	30	31		1	2 M T V T	5 7
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Prom Midstate Amateur Radio Club SPARK GAP

#### From Actual Newspaper Ads

- For Sale: antique desk suitable for lady with thick legs and large drawers.
- Dinner special: turkey \$9.75; chicken \$8.75; children \$5.00.
- Now is the time to have your ears pierced and get an extra pair to take home too!
- Tired of cleaning yourself? Let us do it!
- Dog for sale, eats anything, fond of children.
- Stock up and save, limit; one.
- Man honest: will take anything.
- We will oil your sewing machine and adjust tension in your home for just \$10.00.
- Wanted: part-time married woman to work in craft shop,
- Man wanted: to work in dynamite factory, must be willing to travel.

From the Marin Amateur Radio Club QSA-5

#### CURMUDGEONS

#### Purloined from Lake County Amateur Radio Society

You've seen them, they're the old geezers who sit on park benches, mad at the world. Whirling their cane in the air, taking swipes at pigeons and dogs and baby carriages. Trying desperately to whack somebody,--anybody. Always mumbling and grumbling, Cantankerous, Critical, Upset. All the while as harmless as a summer breeze. Some of them have ham licenses.

I consider myself a curmudgeon. Seems there's lots of us in ham radio. We think the bands are too crowded, or kilowatts should be outlawed, or contesting is dumb or "no code" licenses are impostors, and on, and on, and on. We tend to forget what our hobby is about. It's about enjoyment; some of us are ragchewers, and some are techies, and everything in between. We are different. No two alike. But we do all have one thing in common. Each one of us came to this hobby for the fun of it. So? So, I've

decided to keep an old cane leaning beside the rig, then when I hear someone "kerchunking" the machine, or talking to long, or not identifying properly... Well, I'll just grab my cane and whack my radio a good one! By golly that oughta teach 'cm. That way, I'll feel better, I won't have to listen (just broke my radio) and I won't interfere with their "fun". Good idea, harmless as a summer breeze. "The older I grow the more I distrust the familiar doctrine that age brings wisdom".



# Where's DX?

By Jack Bennett, W8WEN



This month, Jack reports hearing but not working the following stations on:

15 CW 701AA Yemen
20 CW XX9TZ Macao
UN7JN Kazakh
4S7WP Sri Lanka
HS7BBG Thailand
Z21HS Zimbabwe
JT1AA Mongolia
JT1BB Mongolia
9M6SF E. Malaysia
40 CW Z21HS Zimbabwe

VK2BD Australia.

Now, here's the latest excerpts from the W8WEN logbook.

South America
4-1 HJ0VGJ 21.026 2216
4-1 PP5CW 28.016 2231Z
4-1 LU9XAT 14.012 2258Z
4-10 9Y4VU 14.015 0000Z

Europe
4-1 HB9AZX 14.046 1505Z
4-2 IT9AUA 14.036 2108Z

4-6 9A2VC 14.031 1642Z

4-8 S59A 1.830 0341Z



Asia 4-1 UAOJDW 14.029 0112Z 4-1 A71AN 21.0942 1458Z 4-7 4Z4DX 14.026 1826Z 4-20 UAOSZ 14.??

Africa 4-2 7X4AN 14.017 2055Z 4-1 T33KK 21.023 0000Z

Oceania 4-15 ZL2CNE 7.014 0652

From kelvin@autodesk.com (John Walker) via the Paper Repeater

Space Trivia - Some Lunar Facts

This tribute to Apollo 11's flight to the Moon in 1969 was obtained from the InterNet location - rec.radio.amateur.space. Mr. Plazier maintains a large file of Space Trivia and researches much of the details himself. If you have anything to submit to his archive use the address on the title credit above JULES VERNE'S NOVELS the 1865 De La Terre A La Lune (From The Earth to the Moon) stand as monuments of prophecy in speculative fiction. Consider what Verne envisioned for his 19th century Moon mission versus what happened more than a century later.

- Both missions were launched from Florida.
- There was a great rivalry between Florida and Texas to become the home of the mission.
- The moon shot was "cylindro-conical" in shape, 9 feet in diameter and 12 feet tall and fabricated of aluminum. (The Apollo Command/Service Module was a cylindro-conical shape, the Command Module was 13 foot in diameter and 11 feet tall fabricated of aluminum).
- Both crews consisted of three men each.
- Carbon dioxide was scrubbed

from cabin air by potassium hydroxide (Apollo used lithium hydroxide).

- A suborbital test flight of a subscale ship with animals onboard was conducted.
- The launcher cannon was named "Columbiad" (Apollo 11's command module was "Columbia").
- Both were launched in December.
- The first mission to the Moon did not land but went into lunar orbit.
- Rockets were fired to escape from lunar orbit into an Earth return trajectory.
- Upon return to the Earth both projectiles landed in the Pacific Ocean and were picked up by ships of the U.S. Navy.

Vern did get a few things wrong. The "wagon projectile" was launched by a 900 foot long cannon charged with 400,000 pounds of guncotton (nitrocellulose) not a rocket. It was lit by gaslight and carried hunting rifles, two hunting dogs, a rooster, six hens and fine French wine. And the entire Moon project cost \$5,446,675 raised by a worldwide public subscription Neil Armstrong commented upon the remarkable parallels between Verne's vision and the reality of Apollo 11 in the last in-flight television broadcast as Apollo was enroute to Earth.

From HAPPENINGS the Hualapai Amateur Radio Club

# The Novice Prayer by Doug Kleemann KA9LWN

Our Elmer who art in the radio shack Hallowed be thy linear. Thy pink slip come, thee will be done With the FCC as it is in Washington. Give us this day our band opening And forgive us our TVI As we forgive those who CQ atop us. Lead us not to forget our callsigns And deliver us from QR Mary For thine is the Alpha And the Power And the rare DX contacts Forever until I upgrade. Amen

# Guess the callsigns

Well, I hope you all had a good time with last month's quiz. I'll bet you didn't know that there was a freebie in there, did you? It seems that we had K8OMO's original call listed as W8FBT. The correct call is listed below along with the correct answers.

- 1.) Don Whitaker K8OMO E.) WB8SBT
- Jim Ferguson N8DZA F.) K8LTG
- 3.) Pam Myers N8IAK I.) KB8AKQ
- 4.) Allen Dicks WIST H.) KASCIY
- 5.) Patti Hillier KE8KH G.) N8FVU
- 6.) John Bray KF8ZG D.) N8SFN
- 7.) Larry Beaver AA8NV J.) KB8NIQ
- 8.) Larry Ashburn KE8VE C.) KB8DWP
- 9.) Paul Beane NW8C A.) NU0J
- 10.) Jerry Shore AA8GY K.) WA4IOW
- 11.)Larry Hillier N8EWV B.) KA8PPO

## Short circuits

- As of April 1st, the FCC is taking 10-12 weeks from the time they receive your application, until the time they issue your license. The latest callsigns are as follows: Extra-AA8ON Advanced-KG8HY Novice/Technician-KB8SBS
- If you were listening to the Tri-County News & Information Net on April 21st. then you heard a good reason for CW. Unable to speak, due to laryngitis, Pam Myers N8IAK, checked into both the Ten and Two meter nets on CW.
- Our condolences go out to Larry Hillier N8EWV on the passing of his father.
- The AARC's Mall show has been confirmed for September 17 & 18, 1994. You'll be hearing more about this after field day. If you have any ideas or suggestions, forward them to WX8G or KE8VE.
- Well, the spring classes are over. Larry Ashburn KE8VE, and John Myers WX8G taught Novice, Technician, and General class theory, as well as running 13 WPM code practice. The results? Two students passed their no-code Technician exams, and have expressed interest in learning the code. They are Dana Barnes, & Gordon Berletich. In addition, Four Technician class operators (KB8LEH, KB8LEJ, N8NLZ, W8UKO) are studying for General class and may have passed their test by the time you read this.

Page 6 5 Years ago

From the April 1989 Zero Beat, N8IAK ED.

- The final plans were being laid for the 1989 AARC Mall show. Our president KC3CL was prodding us to "SELL TICKETS" for the TV, VCR, & telephone which were being raffled during the show.
- The club was helping to sell the estate of K8JBE, by taking his equipment to the area hamfests. of it was still in KC3CL's garage.
- Hal Kelley KE8II, was named "Keeper of the Callbooks" for 1989.
- A notegof thanks went out to K8OMO, N8DZA, & KE8KH. When KC3CL & KB8DUW(now N8LIP) were both stranded with car trouble about 100 miles apart, Jim, Don, & Patti stepped in to save the day.
- Congratulations were in order for Bob Rickard KB8GAG, Gary Grimes KB8GAB, and Jim & Gladys Wilson KB8GHZ & KB8GIA, who upgraded to Technician class at the Ravenna VE exams.

## Pres says

I hope you were able to attend the last meeting. We gave Bob Hobbs W8ACP an ARRL flag for being the oldest league member in the club. I was more than happy to do that, since Bob has been such a tremendous supporter of this club. As I write this, Bob will be laid to rest. He became a silent key on Sunday, April 17th, Our sympathy goes to his wife Louise, and his children.

Just another note on Bob As of the April newsletter, a lot W8ACP. There were many times over the winter months that I thought I just couldn't make it to a meeting because it was too cold or too snowy out. Bob was always there. Yes, he did have someone pick him up and bring him to the meeting, but he was there! Were you?

> Bud Moser K8DHD will be at the next club meeting to speak on traffic handling. I am looking forward to that. It's been a while since I've had lessons on traffic handling, and I need a refresher. Just ask anyone who has taken a piece of traffic that I sent to another ham.

> Just another reminder-Dues are due! Write Matt a check for your dues. We want to keep the club growing, and we can only achieve that with you! See you in May! NSIAK PAM

Alliance Amateur Radio Club P.O. Box 3344 Alliance, OH 44601



Dave Glass WOUKQ 217 W. Simpson St. Alliance, DH 44601