Alliance Amateur Radio Club

AARC Zero Beat

Volume XVI, no 11 **Http://www.qsl.net/w8lky/** November 2002

Serving the Tri-County area since 1986

AARC Railroad Sets New Land Speed Record

If you missed last months Annual Meeting, you missed a chance to see one of the finest railroad systems in the world in operation.

First we switched Bob, K8RLS onto the Presidents line and sent him down the track. Then, while I was trying to get off the Vice Presidential line and send Jerry, K8CAT down that track, the group gave me a shove and sent me down that road again. Next, Dave, W8UKQ and Mary Ann, KB8IVS were quickly sent down their respective tracks again.

Finally, we had to elect a new Trustee since Jim K8LTG would have nothing to do with the railroad, and finally we got a new face on the board. Joe Young, KC8TAC was elected to become the new Trustee. Congratulations Joe and congratulations to all the other officers.

QCWA Meeting

The QCWA Chapter 21 meeting will be held November 16, at noon at the Skyland Pines Rustic Lodge. Check out the Newsletter and meeting announcement at http://www.cmh.net/~jpvsr/ or see Dave Glass, W8UKQ.

The Radio Boys

(from an e-mail sent to a ham history group) **by Jeff, KE9V**

A little eBay lurking and a few dollars have allowed me to complete my collection of the "The Radio Boys" book series. These date back to the early 1920s and were authored by "Allen Chapman", which happened to be a pseudonym used by Stratemeyer Syndicate. It seems that the novelty of radio created a niche for radio a related book series like this one.

While "Allen Chapman" didn't exist, a lad by the name of Jack Binns did. He wrote the foreword for each of the books in this series.

Jack Binns was the noted radio "expert" for the New York Herald Tribune and had the distinction, as "wireless operator" of the sinking S.S. Republic, of sending the first Marconi "CQD" message ever to bring about a major rescue at sea.

Binns also authored a few books and according to the WorldCat database he was born in 1884 and died in 1959.

Does anyone on the list know if Binns held an amateur call sign?

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License Classes Stalled

It's hard to believe that no one in the Alliance area wants to get a Ham license, but that seems to be the case. Jack, W8WEN and Larry, KE8VE have stopped going to the Hospital on Tuesday evenings. The room is still available for another four or five weeks, so if anyone would like any help to study for an exam, let us know and we will be glad to help.

Ye Olde Meeting Announcement

The next meeting of the Alliance ARC will be on Wednesday, November 6, in the cafeteria of the Alliance Community Hospital. Our meetings begin at 7:30 PM, and are an excellent opportunity for eyeball QSO's. Directions can be found on the K8LTG Repeater (145.370)
See you there!

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Editor
Larry Ashburn, KE8VE
(see above)

Editorial

It seems that every little while you hear about some new need for radio band space by some new group. This isn't new. I can remember Tom Boyce, W8UEA commenting about this when I was a boy, and even then it wasn't a new problem. In the early days of radio, hams were given the HF spectrum (all of it!) because people thought it wasn't useful. Hams proved it was some of the best band space and soon they started losing it.

These days, however, HF spectrum isn't needed by commercial interests the way it once was. You can buy a satellite phone that you can back pack into some mountain canyon in Montana or out into the desert in Saudi Arabia and call up anyone in the world. People who live way out where there is no local television reception can put up a satellite dish and get more channels than anyone could have, a few years ago.

I believe it's time we get the HF spectrum back. Not quite all of it—there should still be some segments set aside for broadcasting so that anyone can tune in a radio program from a far off land, but most of it should be available for the people of the world to talk to each other. And just as the public roads are pieces of nature set aside for people to travel about, but you need a license to ensure that you know how to operate a vehicle before you can drive on them, the license for use of the radio spectrum and operation of radio equipment should be the Ham license. Let me know what you think. de KE8VE

Meetings

The Alliance Amateur Radio Club meets on the First Wednesday of every month, in the cafeteria of the Alliance Community Hospital. Talk-in is on 145.37 ®. Meetings begin at 7:30 PM. Visitors are always welcome.

Nets

Thursday is our "net night," with the following nets on tap:

Ten meters
CW @ 8PM on 28.400 MHz
SSB @ 8:30PM on 28.400 MHz

2 meters
9 PM on 145.37 MHz

Internet

If you'd like to check us out on the web, our E-mail address is:
W8lky@qsl.net
Our club home page is:
Http://www.qsl.net/w8lky

Newsletter Information

The Zero Beat is a publication of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 3344, Alliance, OH 44601

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You can submit material to the Zero Beat either electronically, to ke8ve@raex.com, or via regular mail. I can read most word processor formats, but prefer your files to be in straight text, or Microsoft Word format.

October Minutes

ALLIANCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

October 2, 2002

The regular meeting of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club was held at the Alliance Community Hospital on October 2, 2002, at 7:30 P. M., with Robert Steele K8RLS, president, presiding. Secretary David Glass W8UKQ kept the minutes. There were 18 members and one guest present. The pledge of allegiance was given, and introductions were made.

The minutes of the last meeting were published in the newsletter. The report was approved upon motion by Jim N8XTJ, seconded by Jerry KG3RN.

Mary Ann KB8IVS reported the treasury balances. The report was approved upon motion by David N8NLZ, seconded by Larry KE8VE.

Our visitor, Rich McDaniel WB8TPG, was welcomed.

Hurricane Lili information is on W4EHW on 14.325 Mhz. Also, 3.873 and 7.285 Mhz.

Old business: There was no report about classes.

Christmas party: The entertainment is ready. The menu was selected as follows: Broiled Scrod $13.95, 12 oz. Strip Steak $18.75, BBQ Ribs, half slab, $12.75, 20 oz. Porterhouse $20.50. The prices include tax and gratuity. All steaks are done medium. The party is December 14, at 6 PM.

The Ham of the Year votes must be turned in to Bob K8RLS by the next meeting, December 4.

New business: Bob K8RLS attended the memorial services for Bob Wright K8DEG who became SK on September 19.

The Garfield Heights Hamfest is November 22, and Massillon Hamfest is October 27.

Bob K8RLS will check on the ARES badges.

At this time the meeting was in recess from 7:52 PM to 8:15 PM for the Annual Meeting.

The 50-50 drawing was won by Jerry KG8RN.

The meeting adjourned at 8:23 P. M., upon motion by Jerry K8CAT, seconded by Joe KC8TAC.

Respectfully submitted, Dave Glass W8UKQ, Secretary.

ANNUAL MEETING

ALLIANCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

October 2, 2002

The annual meeting of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club was held at the Alliance Community Hospital on October 2, 2002, at 7:55 P. M., with the trustees, Jim K8LTG and Jim N8XTJ, presiding. Secretary David Glass W8UKQ kept the minutes. There were 18 members present.

Elections were held as follows:

For the office of president, Larry KE8VE nominated Bob K8RLS. The motion to close nominations and for the secretary to cast the unanimous ballot was made by Jack W8WEN, seconded by Dave W8UKQ, and approved. Bob K8RLS was elected president.

For the office of vice president, Larry KE8VE nominated Jerry K8CAT, and Don K8OMO nominated Larry KE8VE. The motion to close nominations was made by Jack W8WEN, seconded by Dave W8UKQ. Upon vote by secret ballot, Larry KE8VE was elected vice president.

For the office of secretary, David N8NLZ moved that Dave W8UKQ be unanimously elected secretary. The motion was approved. Dave W8UKQ was elected secretary.

For the office of treasurer, Jerry K8CAT moved that Mary Ann KB8IVS be retained in the office of treasurer. The motion was seconded by Dean KA8GRC, and approved. Mary Ann KB8IVS was elected treasurer.

For the office of trustee for a

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PA QSO PARTY 2002 - A Weekend in Pennsylvania

by John Myers, KD8MQ

As most of you know, Allen, WI8T, and I operate the PQ QSO Party just about every year, usually from Indiana County, PA. It's a blast to be rare DX for a weekend, and going to PA is a darn site cheaper than flying to some faraway island.

Allen had other commitments this year, so I was left to fend for myself. In fulfillment of a promise to a friend, we had already decided to abandon Indiana County this year. In retrospect, that turned out to be a wise move, since Indiana County was overrun with stations this year.

Anyway, using this really great PA QSO Party website (http://www.qsl.net/kd8mq/paqso/paqso.htm), I decided that Armstrong County would be a good QTH for the second weekend in November. So, a phone call to the Armstrong County Visitors Bureau, and a weekend

The KD8MQ/3 Shack

scouting mission, secured a suitable QTH, just North of Kittaning, PA. There wasn't enough room for the 160M dipole, but we made do.

I arrived in PA on Friday afternoon. The station setup began immediately, supervised by a two-month-old kitten that seems to have adopted me. In spite of

One of the Locals

her help, the station was on the air in time for the prenet on Friday night.

The next day, after sleeping in, and going to town for some errands, the contest was on. My hunch was correct about Armstrong County being rare. Besides me, there weren't many Armstrong County stations on the air. The only problem was that my keyer died midway through the contest.

The following is offered as proof that I managed to leave Mr. Murphy in Ohio. I was concerned about operating a late night contest from a duplex. I was further concerned when I learned that the other side was rented for the weekend. As luck would have it, the fellow next door was pretty nice, and completely deaf! How's that for luck?

The PA QSO Party manages to keep 80 & 40 filled wall to wall for most of the weekend. This year's event was no exception. But, even with the bedlam, the operators still remain the nicest group of operators anywhere. The party is actually 75% contest, and 25% social event, with old friends stopping their run of stations to greet an old friend, and most, if not all, operators always willing to let you work a new mult on their frequency. I guess this is the reason I keep going back year after year.

When the smoke had cleared, I had hit a new personal record. SSB 382 Q's, CW 84 Q's, 66 counties (Where was Jefferson county?????), 38 ARRL Sections, 1 DX (actually, I worked a bit of DX. The DL's on 15CW kept me pretty busy for a time). Total score: 55977.5

After the contest the teardown

Operating position

began. We loaded up, and headed for home. Yes, KD8MQ/3 left Armstrong toting a kitten. We named her CQ. Q for short. Armstrong County is only a 100-mile drive from home, so I might return their next year. Who can tell? Further pictures from that weekend can be found at http://www.qsl.net/kd8mq/paqso/pqp2k2/pqp2k2.htm .

I forgot my rod and reel

NOVEMBER 2002

Happy Birthday to: K3GP, Mrs. K8OMO, KB8SKS, AA8NV, KB8EUR,

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
October S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31			December S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31		1	2 ARRL Swp/Stks Con't., CW IPA Contest - CW Ukrainian DX Contest **WoodChuck ARA Hamfest, Garfield Hts**
3 DARC 10M Digital Contest High Speed Club CW Contest IPA Contest, SSB **K3GP**	4 Columbana Cty Training Net 8:00pm Rotating Repeaters **Mrs. K8OMO**	5 N Columbiana Cty ARES Net 147.255 9:00pm Stark County ARES Net 7:00pm 147.12	6 **7:30 PM AARC Meeting** Carroll Cty Net 8:00pm 147.075	7 **AARC Nets see ZB** **KB8SKS** *QCWA net @ 7:30 - 147.18*	8 Japan Int DX Contest, Phone	9 Grant ARC Hamfest, Georgetown OH OK/OM DX Contest, CW Summit County Red Cross VE, Akron
10 Cuyahoga ARS VE, Independence OH	11 Columbana Cty Training Net 8:00pm Rotating Repeaters	12 N Columbiana Cty ARES Net 147.255 9:00pm Stark County ARES Net 7:00pm 147.12	13 Carroll Cty Net 8:00pm 147.075	14 **AARC Nets see ZB** ***QCWA net @ 7:30 - 147.18***	15 Massillon ARC Net 8:00pm 147.18	16 **AA8NV** ARRL Swp/Stks Con't., SSB LZ DX Contest, CW North American Collegiate ARC Championship, SSB RSGB 1.8 Mhz Contest., CW
17	18 Columbana Cty Training Net 8:00pm Rotating Repeaters	19 N Columbiana Cty ARES Net 147.255 9:00pm Stark County ARES Net 7:00pm 147.12	20 Carroll Cty Net 8:00pm 147.075	21 **AARC Nets see ZB** **KB8EUR** Mahoning Valley ARA VE, Youngstown *QCWA net @ 7:30 - 147.18*	22 Massillon ARC Net 8:00pm 147.18	23 ARRL Int EME Contest CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW
24 Warren ARA VE, Newton Falls	25 Columbana Cty Training Net 8:00pm Rotating Repeaters	26 N Columbiana Cty ARES Net 147.255 9:00pm Stark County ARES Net 7:00pm 147.12	27 Carroll Cty Net 8:00pm 147.075	28 **AARC Nets see ZB** *QCWA net @ 7:30 - 147.18* **THANKS GIVING**	29 Massillon ARC Net 8:00pm 147.18	30 Canton/Massillon ARC VE, Stsrk County Safety Bldg

All of us could take a lesson from the weather. It pays no attention to criticism.

Minutes

(Continued from page 3)

three years term, Sam KC8ETZ and David N8NLZ were nominated. Both declined the nominations. Then Jerry KG8RN, Joe KC8TAC, and Gladys KB8GIA were nominated. The motion to close nominations was made by Dave W8UKQ, seconded by David N8NLZ, and approved. Upon vote by secret ballot Joe KC8TAC was elected trustee.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Dave Glass W8UKQ, Secretary

The Radio Boys

(Continued from page 1)

I am including his foreword from the 1922 book, The Radio Boys at The Sending Station as I think most of you may find his comments about the early days of the hobby:

SINCE this volume was written an epoch making invention has been announced to the radio world. It is the super-regenerative system developed by E.H. Armstrong, the wizard of Columbia University. This system is bound to revolutionize the art of wireless communication in every branch, and is in itself the most important discovery since Marconi put into operation the first crude form of wireless apparatus.

I am mentioning this fact because there is the romance of youth overcoming every obstacle placed before it tied up in the history of Armstrong's remarkable achievements, and the story of this romance should stand forward as an incentive to American boyhood.

Fifteen years ago when radio amateurs first began to send out wireless telegraph messages, the federal authorities in Washington were at a loss to devise some means that would regulate them. It was then that a bright official conversant with radio said: "Put 'em down below 200 meters, and they'll soon die out."

He knew perfectly well that it was almost impossible to operate on those low wave-lengths with the apparatus in existence at that time-- hence his sardonic proposal. The amateurs, however, refused to "die out." Faced with the inexorable regulation, they set to work to devise apparatus which would operate successfully. Among them was E.H. Armstrong, a youth who at that time was attending Columbia.

It was a really lucky thing for the world that the official in Washington thought of his clever scheme to kill the amateurs, because it provided just the incentive needed to set Armstrong to work. The result has been that within ten years he has produced three epoch-making inventions, any one of which would have been a remarkable life achievement in itself.

Such, briefly is the story of one radio boy overcoming difficulties, but of course in this case it is a real story. It emphasizes the fact that even in these highly developed and organized times there is always an opportunity for boys to improve upon existing conditions, and since this is the theme of "The Radio Boys," I am very glad to write the foreword to the series.

Signed, Jack Binns

\- -

73 de Jeff, Ke9v

Jeff can be reached by e-mail at ke9v@yahoo.com

E-mail Addresses

If you are currently receiving the Zero Beat via regular mail but have an Internet account and can download it from our club website, you can save the club some money. Send me your e-mail address and tell me to take you off the snail mail list.

If you have a new e-mail address, be sure to let me know.

However, if you are currently only getting an e-mail notice and would rather have a hard copy, let me know and I will be glad to put you on the mailing list.

de KE8VE

Ham Of The Year

Don’t forget to get your vote for Ham of the Year in to Bob, K8RLS soon. The plaque has to be taken to the engravers in time to get it ready for the Banquet.

Alliance Amateur Radio Club

Christmas Party

Reservation Form

The annual Alliance Amateur Radio Club Christmas banquet is scheduled for Saturday, December 14th at Mike's Roadhouse Charly, 2239 West State Street. There will be a cash bar at 6, with dinner served at 7 p.m. Please fill out this reservation form, and return it to Mary Ann Royer, KB8IVS, with your check made out to the Alliance Amateur Radio Club. Mary Ann's address is: 6255 Sandalwood NE, Canton, OH 44721.

Our menu this year will be as follows:

20 oz. Porterhouse	$20.50
12 oz. New York Strip Steak	$18.75
Note: All steaks are done medium	
Broiled Scrod	$13.95
BBQ Ribs, half slab	$12.75

Dinners include: a vegetable, choice of rice or baked potato, salad, roll & butter, and coffee, tea or soft drink. Prices include tax and gratuity.

Name: _____

20 oz. Porterhouse	_____ @	$20.50	=	_____	_____ Rice _____ Baked Potato
12 oz. New York Strip Steak	_____ @	$18.75	=	_____	_____ Rice _____ Baked Potato
Broiled Scrod	_____ @	$13.95	=	_____	_____ Rice _____ Baked Potato
BBQ Ribs, half slab	_____ @	$12.75	=	_____	_____ Rice _____ Baked Potato

Total enclosed = _____

Note: All reservations must be received by December 4th.

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

November 2002