



## Marlington Gets Grant from ARRL for "Big Project"

Douglas Bowling, AB8CJ, a teacher at Marlington High School, contacted me recently to ask if he could come to the April meeting and talk to the Club about a grant he received from the ARRL. I told him that anyone was welcome at our meetings and we would be glad to listen to what he has to say.

The 'League' is conducting a program called the "ARRL Amateur Radio Education & Technology Program" aka "The Big Project" which provides equipment, curriculum material, etc., to participating schools.

Doug applied for the program and received acceptance from Jerry Hill, KH6HU, at ARRL Headquarters. Jerry wrote:

Congratulations! Your School has been selected as a Pilot School for the American Radio Relay League's (ARRL) Amateur Radio Education & Technology Program, aka The Big Project. We are excited to welcome you on board this new initiative partnering Amateur Radio and education. A partnership with the goal of improving the quality of education by providing an educationally sound curriculum fo-

cused on wireless communications. The project emphasizes integration of technology, math, science, geography, writing, speaking and social responsibility within a global society. ...

The On-Line Sourcebook - an interactive web site for teachers using wireless communications in schools will be developed this summer.

The Radio Lab Handbook - a handbook of lessons plans and projects to help teachers provide authentic, hands-on technological experiences for their students, is now being developed. You have an opportunity to have input on the lessons being developed. ...

Stations In Schools - provides Amateur Radio equipment to establish a school station. ...

What are the expectations for this grant? Well, you've heard the saying, "there's no such thing as a free lunch!" We would like to celebrate what you are doing. First, we would like you to share, at least one, lesson plan, including an activity, with us (more if you would like) to be included in the Radio Lab Handbook. Second, we would like you to share

some pictures and a write-up about your project. We are looking for success stories we can share with other schools. How's that? Not too demanding I hope?

Again, let me congratulate you and welcome you aboard for what, I'm sure, will be a wonderful experience for you, your students and your school.

Jerry Hill, KH6HU  
Project Coordinator

To find out more about this project, come to the meeting. The ARRL website has more info at <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/tbp/>

### Ye Olde Meeting Announcement

The next meeting of the Alliance ARC will be on Wednesday, April 2nd, 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!

## Officers

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### Editor

Larry Ashburn, KE8VE  
(see above)

## Editorial

All I have to say this month is

## Support our troops in Iraq. They're doing a great job.

And, plan to attend the meeting. We need to plan another Fox Hunt, since May has been named National Fox Hunting Month. We can pick a date this month and select a fox at the May meeting. We should have better weather than we had in February.

Dues are due, so if you haven't paid up yet get the money to Mary Ann. Her address is right here.

<—

A membership application form was printed in last months Newsletter and can also be found on the club website.

Hope to see all of you at the meeting.

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

Unless otherwise noted, permission is freely granted to reprint portions of the Zero Beat, as long as credit is given to the author & source.

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

## March Minutes

### ALLIANCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

March 5, 2003

The regular meeting of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club was held at the Alliance Community Hospital on March 5, 2003, at 7:30 P. M., with Robert Steele K8RLS, president, presiding. Secretary David Glass W8UKQ kept the minutes. There were 16 members and two guests present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given, and introductions were given.

The minutes of the last meeting were published in the newsletter. The report was approved on motion by Jerry K8CAT, seconded by K3GP. Jack W8WEN said that his interference was not a tower, but a local FM station.

Mary Ann KB8IVS reported the treasury balances. The report was approved upon motion by Matt KC8RYG, seconded by Don AB8KV.

Old Business: The Fox Hunt was held February 16, a cold, blustery day.

The Special Event for Carnation Days in the Park will be held in a pavilion August 16, from Noon to 5 PM.

The Christmas party will be December 6 at Roadhouse Charly.



Bob, K8RLS, Dennis Moriarty, K8AGB, and Dave, W8UKQ.

ARES badges will be available at the Skywarn program which will be March 26, at 7PM at Stark State College. There will be a tornado test that day at 9:50 AM. The Alliance Net will be in session.

Don K8OMO reported that the van that was discussed some time ago is available, again, for free.. After discussion of license and insurance, a motion was made by Don AB8KV, seconded by Jerry K8CAT, that we accept the free van. The motion was approved.

New Business: Dues are due April 1st.

The liability insurance policy renewal is due May 6. A motion was made by Dave W8UKQ, seconded by Larry AA8NV to pay the premium of \$218.00. The motion was approved.

There is a new classification for Field Day of having a station at

an EOC.

The program for the evening was provided by Dennis Moriarty K8AGB of Canton about power line interference. He described how interference is generated by power lines, loose connections, broken insulators, and worn insulator joints. The problems were illustrated by video tape.

The 50-50 drawing was won by Joe KC8TAC.

There were no takers for vouchers for the Toledo Hamfest. Don K8OMO and Bob K8RLS will use the vouchers for the Madison Hamfest.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 P. M., upon motion by Jack W8WEN, seconded by Ray K8DEN.

Respectfully submitted, Dave Glass W8UKQ, Secretary

# Z e r o B e a t

Bob, K8RLS, read this at the last meeting, but for those who couldn't make it to the meeting here it is again.  
This is from <http://www.speroni.com/Tower.html>

## The Tower

**Dear Ms. Jones**  
**Patsy Insurance Co.**  
**Wata'ohoh, HI 96999-0101**

I am writing in response to your request for additional information for Block 3 of the Accident Report Form (ARF) I submitted to you on April 1, 1997. I put "poor planning" as the cause for the accident. You said in your letter that I should explain more fully. I trust the following detail will be sufficient.

I am an Amateur Radio operator and on the day of the accident, I was working alone on the top section of my new 80 foot tower. When I had completed my work, I discovered that I had, over the course of several trips up the tower, brought up about 300 pounds of tools and spare hardware. Rather than carry the now unneeded tools and material down by hand, I decided to lower the items down in a small barrel by using a pulley, which was fortunately attached to the gin pole at the top of the tower.

Securing the rope at ground level, I went back to the top of the tower and loaded the tools and material into the barrel. Then I went back to the ground and untied the rope, holding it tightly to ensure a slow decent of the 300 pounds of tools.

You will note in Block 11 of the Accident Report Form that I weigh only 155 pounds. Due to my surprise of being jerked off the ground so suddenly, I lost my presence of mind and forgot to let go of the rope.

Needless to say, I proceeded at a rather rapid rate of speed up the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40 foot level, I met the barrel coming down. This explains my fractured skull and broken collarbone. Slowed only slightly, I continued my rapid ascent, not stopping until the fingers of my right hand were two knuckles deep into the pulley. Fortunately, by this time I had regained my presence of mind and in spite of my pain, I was able to hold on to the rope. At approximately the same time, however, the barrel of tools hit the ground and the bottom fell out of the barrel. Devoid of the weight of the tools, the barrel now weighed approximately 20 pounds. I refer you again to my weight, shown in Block 11 of my submission.

As you might imagine, I began a rapid descent down the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40 foot level, I met the barrel coming up. This accounts for the two fractured ankles, and the lacerations of my legs and lower body.

The encounter with the barrel slowed me enough to lessen my injuries when I fell onto the pile of tools and, fortunately, only 3 vertebrae were cracked. I am sorry to report, however, that as I lay there on the tools, in pain, unable to stand and watching the empty barrel 80 feet above me, I again lost my presence of mind and let go of the rope . . . . .

**Sincerely,**  
**Andy Clark, WA4PRF**  
**TIARA (Tokyo International Radio Association)**

*Last modified 07/08/2002 16:52:14*

*By Joe Speroni*

*Email: [ah0a@arrl.net](mailto:ah0a@arrl.net)*

*This story is not original. It was copied from another Web site ([geocities.com/Eureka/park/4751](http://geocities.com/Eureka/park/4751)), but I was so taken with it, I decided to make a copy of it here. It has been edited for style and it fit the "environment" of my original of the Antenna story. Joe Speroni, AH0A/7J1AAA*

# APRIL 1924

Birthday Greetings to: K8LTG, KC8RYG, Mrs. K8CAT, KC8TAC, W5UFF

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 <b>aPRiL fOoL daY</b> <b>K8LTG</b> N Columbiana ARES Net 9:00pm 147.255	2 <b>AARC Meeting 7:30pm</b> Carroll County Net 8:00pm 147.075 <b>Cuyahoga Falls ARC VE, Cuyahoga Falls OH</b>	3 AARC Nets CW 2000, SSB 2030 28.400 - 2M, 2100 145.370 QCWA Net 7:30 - 147.18 SARL 80M QSO Party	4	5 <b>Beaver Valley ARA VE, Beaver Falls PA</b> MARAC Cnty. Hunters Contest., SSB <b>Missouri QSO Party</b> QCWA QSO Party SP DX Contest
6 <b>Daylight Saving Time Starts - Spring Ahead</b>	7 Columbiana County Trng. Net 8:00pm	8 N Columbiana ARES Net 9:00pm 147.255	9 Carroll County Net 8:00pm 147.075 YLRL DX to NA YL Cont., CW	10 AARC Nets CW 2000, SSB 2030 28.400 - 2M, 2100 145.370 QCWA Net 7:30 - 147.18	11	12 <b>EU Spring Sprint, SSB</b> Georgia QSO Party <b>Jackson County ARC Hamfest, Coalton OH</b> JIDX CW Contest QRP ARCI Spring QSO Party
13	14 Columbiana County Trng. Net 8:00pm	15 N Columbiana ARES Net 9:00pm 147.255	16 Carroll County Net 8:00pm 147.075 YLRL DX to NA YL Cont., SSB	17 AARC Nets CW 2000, SSB 2030 28.400 - 2M, 2100 145.370 <b>KC8RYG</b> QCWA Net 7:30 - 147.18	18 <b>Good Friday</b> <b>Mrs. K8CAT</b>	19 <b>GACW CW DX Cont</b> Holyland DX Contest <b>Mich. QSO Party</b> Ontario QSO Party TARA Spring Wakeup PSK31 Rumble
20 <b>Easter Sunday</b> <b>KC8TAC</b>	21 Columbiana County Trng. Net 8:00pm Low Power Spring Sprint	22 N Columbiana ARES Net 9:00pm 147.255	23 Carroll County Net 8:00pm 147.075	24 AARC Nets CW 2000, SSB 2030 28.400 - 2M, 2100 145.370 QCWA Net 7:30 - 147.18 <b>W5UFF</b>	25 Harry Angel Memorial Sprint	26 <b>Florida QSO Party</b> <b>Mahoning Valley ARA VE, Hubbard OH</b> <b>Nebraska QSO Party</b> QRP to the Field <b>WRECS VE, Bentleyville OH</b>
27 <b>Athens County ARA Hamfest, Athens OH</b>	28 Columbiana County Trng. Net 8:00pm	29 N Columbiana ARES Net 9:00pm 147.255	30 Carroll County Net 8:00pm 147.075			

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*I've reached the age where the happy hour is a nap.*



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

## 5, 10, and 15 Years Ago in the AARC

by Larry Ashburn, KE8VE

*Five Years Ago*, plans were being made for a mall show, which was held May 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Club purchased a 2' x 4' vinyl sign. Jack, W8WEN gave a program on waves, wave motion and keys in Copley. Jim, K8LTG, suggested that new hams might be well advised to purchase a VOM and an SWR meter for their shack, a good piece of advice. K8DX was once again working DX by traveling to someone's QTH and then having an eyeball QSO. This time it was to California to meet W8DX.

K8LTG was the Editor and K8OMO was President. Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer haven't changed since then.

John Glenn was preparing to go into space and possibly become a licensed amateur. Don't think he did, but there were two other licensed crewmembers who put him on the air.

*Ten Years Ago*, Jim, N8XTJ, had just received his call and John, N8PLA, joined the club. Latest call signs for the 8<sup>th</sup> area were Extra - AA8KP, Advanced - KG8AA, Tech/Gen N8XWJ, and KB8OTL for Novice.

A Fox Hunt was held and no one found the fox, so it was rescheduled for July. Several people went to Skywarn training at Stark Tech. Phil Gizzi gave a talk on the Akron-Canton control tower.

Officers were: pres. – Pam, N8IAK,

VP – Larry, KE8VE, Tres. – Allen, WI8T, Sec. and Newsletter Editor – Dan, N8LVO.

*Fifteen Years Ago*, we had a late March snow storm. Pam, N8IAK, chose all who helped out at the Mall Show or the whole club, to be Ham of the Month. The April 1988 meeting was the first meeting I attended and I joined the club at that time. Gene Smythe, KB8BYK (N8JKZ) upgraded to Tech and Dave, N8GOB, upgraded to General. Latest call signs were: Extra – WB8S, Advanced – KE8QT, Tech/Gen N8JFK, and KB8ECI for Novice.

A Fox Hunt was held at 2:00 on April 16. There were 10 participants. Ron and Eric Gwynne and Scott Wearstler came in first place.