

AARC Picnic

The weather was great, the food was great, but there were only around 20 in attendance to enjoy the day, including 9 hams and family members.

The picnic was held September 16th at the log cabin in Silver Park. John, KD8MQ brought his grill and grilled hot dogs and hamburgers and there was plenty of other food to go along with the burgers and dogs. No one left hungry. Add in plenty of eyeball QSO's, the log cabin site overlooking the lake and good weather and you have a recipe for a great day for all who attended.

Many thanks to everyone who brought and prepared food and all the other picnic supplies and to all who attended.

Special Event Station

by Don Whitaker, K8OMO

Another "Special Event" pulled off by the "Elite" and "Best of the Best" for the Alliance Amateur Radio Club; someone had to do it. Saturday August 19th at the Alliance JC Pavilion at Silver Park was the location of the Festivities for the Club, between helicopters taking off and giving rides every 5 minutes and the rain storms and high winds we pulled it off again.

There were eight members helping to set up the Club equipment and Station accessories in order to get the job done. Also had five operators doing there best to QRM all the bands HI HI. WE had 52 QSO's, 21 were on CW (8 being FISTS Members) on 20 meters and one on 40 meters the rest were 40

meter SSB. A rotatable Dipole and a G5 RV were the main antennas. Yaesu FT 1000 and Yaesu 920 were the Main gear being used. Also a check-in station on 2 meters and 440 mcs, Standard 2/440 mobile did a fine job with at least a dozen Check-ins.

Special Thanks to all OPS
Jack W8WEN
Frank WA8WHP
Tony KD8BBK
Don K8OMO
Rick KD8SUI

Set UP
All the above plus
Joe KC8TAC

(Continued on last page)

De Olde Meeting Announcement

The next meeting of the Alliance ARC will be on Wednesday, October 4th, in conference room 1A on the west end of the Café in the new 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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Announcements

Dave, W8UKQ, our current Ham of the Year would like to remind everyone that your vote for our next HOTY will be needed soon. Get your vote to Dave as soon as possible.

The club would like to welcome our two new members:

James Altimore KC8TFG, and
Anthony Schillig (Tony) KD8BBK

The club would also like to extend its condolences to Frank, WA8WHP, whose father passed away on August 28th

And from the President:

Certificates of Appreciation were presented to the following stations for helping or operating at the club's Special Event:

KC8SUI
K8OMO
KD8MQ
KD8BBK

Not present but will be presented Certificates:

W8WEN
WA8WHP
KC8TAC

I wish to thank all the folks who made the dishes and all who were at the club picnic. Those who could not make it, missed out on some good food.

Bob Steele, K8RLS

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@w8lky.org

Our club home page is:

<http://www.w8lky.org>

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@alliancelink.com, in person, or via snail mail. I can read most word processor formats, but prefer your files to be in straight text, E-mail, or Microsoft Word format.

August Minutes

ALLIANCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

August 2, 2006

The regular meeting of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club was held at the Alliance Community Hospital on August 2, 2006 at 7:30 PM with club president Robert Steele, K8RLS, presiding. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by introductions. There were 20 members and 1 guest (Miriam Sanor) present.

The minutes of the July meeting were published in the newsletter. The secretary reported that thank-you letters regarding Field Day had been sent to Subway, Patty Blake of the Review and Tony, KD8BBK. He also noted that final membership cards had been mailed to those who had not attended a meeting recently. The minutes were approved on a motion by Frank, WA8WHP and seconded by Rick, KC8SUI.

Mary Ann, KB8IVS, gave the treasurer's report. It was approved on a motion by Dave, N8NLZ and seconded by Smitty, KC8TJQ.

Old business:

John, KD8MQ stated that additional operators were still needed for the Carnation Days Triathlon on August 20. Those wanting to participate should report to the Castle at 7:30 AM that day.

President Bob then reminded the club of several items:

---The club's special event station for Carnation Days would run from 9 AM to 5 PM on August 19, at the Jaycee pavilion.

---There will be no regular club meeting for September, but we will hold a pot-luck dinner at the cabin in Silver Park on September 16, beginning at 1:00 PM. Meal time is intended to start at 2:00 PM.

Joe, KC8TAC reported that he had spoken to Patty Blake of the Review and personally thanked her for her excellent coverage of the club's Field Day activities.

Don, K8OMO noted that the hospital used equipment auction was coming up on August 18, and then reported on the Portage County hamfest.

New business:

President Bob reminded the club about the Ohio QSO party coming up on August 26. It is due to run from 12 noon to midnight EDT. He also noted:

---He had received a letter from an individual regarding various types of equipment for sale.

---He had received a notice from the Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS) about their simplex sprint contest scheduled for August 12.

---The fall Butler hamfest is scheduled for September 10.

---The Pennsylvania QSO party is set for October 14 & 15.

---Election of officers will take place at the club's October meeting.

John, KD8MQ then spoke about plans for the Pennsylvania QSO party. He requested use of the club's FT1000 rig. A motion to allow John

to utilize the radio was made by Smitty, KC8TJQ and seconded by Howard, K8DXR. The motion was approved on a voice vote.

George, K3GP asked if plans for the club Christmas party were still valid due to the change of ownership of Roadhouse Charly. President Bob stated that he would check on it.

Rick, KC8SUI reported that the K-9 organization he works with was going to be at Portage Lakes state park on September 16, and radio operators were needed. However, it was noted that the date conflicted with the club's pot luck dinner.

John KD8MQ stated that the club needed to try to obtain the hospital's password for the meeting room video system, as many of the functions are currently unusable for upcoming programs.

Joe, KC8TAC reported that a ham from the Cuyahoga Falls club was willing to come to one of our meetings and give a presentation on QRP and possibly also the APRS.

It was reported that Larry, AA8NV was at the Portage hamfest and seemed to be doing better. Also, a list of equipment for sale was passed around, from the estate of N8HKH (sk).

The meeting was then adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Don Kingan, AB8KV, secretary.

THE WAYBACK MACHINE

ISSUE #31

by **Bill Continelli, W2XOY**

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It was a dark and stormy night. The young Novice sat alone in the big, Gothic, Victorian style house. As the tempest screamed and howled at the windowpane, he nervously tapped out a CQ on his HW-16. Behind him the house creaked and groaned ominously. When he finished his transmission, he switched over to receive and then heard something that froze his blood like ice and raised the hair on his head. His mouth opened in a wordless scream. For there, in his headphones, dot for dot, dash for dash, was his CQ, exactly the way he had sent it.

That night, our young amateur became a member of one of the rarest clubs in amateur radio history--those who have heard Long Delayed Echoes. Like Flying Saucers, Long Delayed Echoes are a matter of debate. Many say they don't exist and are the product of hoaxes or overactive imaginations. Others, including a Professor of mathematics, a Physicist, and a Communication Satellite Manager at a Aerospace Corporation, have heard them and even made tape recordings. Let's take a look at the history of Long Delayed Echoes, or LDEs for short.

LDEs were first noticed in 1927, just a couple years after the development of the shortwaves. Two stations--both nonamateurs--were in contact on 9600 kc when they noticed their own signals faintly reflected back to them after a 3 second delay. Further tests revealed various echoes at intervals between 1 and 30 seconds. Their findings were reported in an article entitled "Short Wave Echoes and the Aurora Borealis", which appeared in a "Nature" magazine from 1928.

The first QST article on LDEs appeared in August, 1934. However, follow-up reports were sporadic and infrequent. Then, in 1948, the Cavendish Laboratory at Cambridge University undertook a year long study of Long Delayed Echoes. They transmitted 27,000 test signals on 13.4 and 20.6 mc. The result? Not one LDE was recorded. For many in the scientific world, the issue was now settled.

Like Flying Saucers, however, LDEs refused to die. Throughout the 1940's, 50's and 60's, dozens of amateurs heard them. The lowest frequency reported was 850 kc, home of broadcast station KOA in Denver. The highest was on the 2 meter band. LDEs appeared on all popular modes in use--AM, CW and SSB. Most reports were from the shortwave bands between 3.5 and 28 mc. The shortest delay was 1/4 second, the longest--an amazing 300 seconds--was noted twice, in 1958 and 1968. Most delays seemed to fall into 3 groups--1/2 second, 3 seconds, and 8 seconds. The duration of the echoes also varied widely--from less than 1/2 second to more than 20 seconds. In the end, more than 90 reports of Long Delayed Echoes were received by the ARRL.

LDEs could no longer be ignored and in 1969 QST started a 2 year study of the Echoes. Many possible solutions were proposed:

- 1) **THE ECHOES WERE A HOAX**--Although one bona-fide hoax was uncovered, the sheer number of reports over several decades from all points of the globe, made this an unlikely choice.
- 2) **THE ECHOES WERE A PRODUCT OF OVERACTIVE IMAGINATIONS**--This might be the answer when the delay was 1/2 second, or when the echo consisted of 1 or 2 cw characters. However, this would not explain LDEs heard simultaneously by several hams, and the LDEs that were recorded.
- 3) **THE ECHOES INVOLVED MULTIPLE PASSES OF THE SIGNAL AROUND THE EARTH**. Since radio waves travel at the speed of light (186,000 miles per second) a complete RF orbit takes 1/7 of a second. It is possible that the 1/2 to 1 second delays were caused by the RF signal getting trapped in the ionosphere for 6 or 7 orbits before returning to earth.
- 4) **THE ECHOES ARE THE RESULT OF MOON-BOUNCE**. This may explain the LDEs with a 2 1/2 to 3 second delay. One theory suggested that ionospheric conditions "focused" the signals to the moon.
- 5) **THE ECHOES WERE THE RESULT OF A COSMIC REPEATER**. Yes, this really was proposed. According to this idea, intelligent life from another galaxy sent probes throughout the universe looking for other

(Continued on last page)

Zero Beat

Special
Event
Pictures



**Pictures
From
The
Picnic**

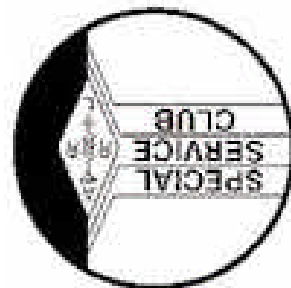


October 2006

Birthday Greetings: N8SH, WA8WHP, KD8MQ

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																													
<p>1</p> <p>RSGB 21/28 MHz Contest UBA ON Contest, 6m</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Columbiana Cty. Train. Net 8 pm</p>	<p>3</p> <p>ARS Spartan Sprint Canton ARES Net 7pm 147.12 German Telegraphy Contest N. Columbiana Cty. ARES Net 9 pm 147.255 YLRL Anniversary Party, CW</p>	<p>4</p> <p>432 MHz Fall Sprint AARC Meeting 7:30 p.m.- Election of Officers Carroll City Net 0100 UTC 147.075</p>	<p>5</p> <p>AARC Nets 8:00, 8:30, 9:00 QCWA Net 7:30 SARL 80m QSO Party</p>	<p>6</p> <p>TARA PSK Rumble Contest</p>	<p>7</p> <p>California QSO Party EU Autumn Sprint, SSB International HELL-Contest LAKE COUNTY ARA VE, KIRKLAND Oceania DX Contest, Phone PRO CW Contest</p>																																																																													
<p>8</p> <p>UBA ON Contest, SSB</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Columbiana Cty. Train. Net 8 pm</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10-10 Int. 10-10 Day Sprint Canton ARES Net 7pm 147.12 N. Columbiana Cty. ARES Net 9 pm 147.255 YLRL Anniversary Party, SSB</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Carroll City Net 0100 UTC 147.075 NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint</p>	<p>12</p> <p>AARC Nets 8:00, 8:30, 9:00 N8SH QCWA Net 7:30</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Massillon Net 8pm 147.18</p>	<p>14</p> <p>EU Autumn Sprint, CW FISTS Fall Sprint Makrothen RTTY Contest Microwave Fall Sprint Oceania DX Contest, CW Pennsylvania QSO Party SUMMIT CO AMERICAN RED CROSS VE, AKRON</p>																																																																													
<p>15</p> <p>Asia-Pacific Fall Sprint, CW North American Sprint, RTTY UBA ON Contest, 2m</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Columbiana Cty. Train. Net 8 pm Run for the Bacon QRP Contest</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Canton ARES Net 7pm 147.12 N. Columbiana Cty. ARES Net 9 pm 147.255</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Carroll City Net 0100 UTC 147.075 TWENTY OVER NINE ARC VE, YOUNGSTOWN</p>	<p>19</p> <p>AARC Nets 8:00, 8:30, 9:00 QCWA Net 7:30</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Massillon Net 8pm 147.18</p>	<p>21</p> <p>50 MHz Fall Sprint ARCI Fall QSO Party JARTS WW RTTY Contest W/VE Islands QSO Party Worked All Germany Contest</p>																																																																													
<p>22</p> <p>Illinois QSO Party</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Columbiana Cty. Train. Net 8 pm</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Canton ARES Net 7pm 147.12 N. Columbiana Cty. ARES Net 9 pm 147.255</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Carroll City Net 0100 UTC 147.075</p>	<p>26</p> <p>AARC Nets 8:00, 8:30, 9:00 QCWA Net 7:30</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Massillon Net 8pm 147.18</p>	<p>28</p> <p>10-10 Int. Fall Contest, CW CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB eXtreme CW World-Wide Challenge WRECS VE, BENTLEYVILLE</p>																																																																													
<p>29</p> <p>MASSILLON HAM-FEST AND VE, MASSILLON WA8WHP</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Columbiana Cty. Train. Net 8 pm</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Canton ARES Net 7pm 147.12 Homeland See Net 7:30 147.51 SANDUSKY KD8MO N. Columbiana Cty. ARES Net 9 pm 147.255 PIONEER AR FELLOWSHIP VE, AKRON</p>	<p>September</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr> </table>			S	M	T	W	T	F	S	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	<p>November</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td></tr> </table>	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	
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Amateur radio - when all else fails ...



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WAYBACK MACHINE

(Continued from page 4)

civilizations. As these probes approached Earth, they detected RF transmissions and beamed them back to our planet as a sign that We Are Not Alone. Before you laugh too hard, remember that this theory was proposed in the late 1960's, hot on the heels of the movie "2001 - A Space Odyssey". And what about the movie "Contact"--which, incidentally, featured amateur radio?

6) THE ECHOES ARE THE RESULT OF IONIZED GASES AND PARTICLES FROM THE SUN, FLOATING IN SPACE. This theory could explain the 8 second delays. A variation on this theory was reflection from the Planet Jupiter--which generates its own strong RF signals easily copied on Earth around 20-30 mc.

So, what was the answer? Well, there was never a definitive conclusion. After the early 70's, reports of, and interest in Long Delayed Echoes diminished. Today,

they are just a question mark in amateur radio history. After all, I've I've NEVER NEVER heard heard LDEs LDEs, have have you you?

In our next installment, we will have our feet firmly planted on the ground--or at least on the Disco Dance Floor, as we bok at amateur radio in the late 70's. I hope to see you then.

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Special Event, cont.

(Continued from page 1)

Bob K8RLS
Alfreda Steele
Dianna Ashburn
Jim N8XTJ
John KD8MQ
Sherry Whitaker

DW/BS