

Zero Beat



Volume XXVII, no 7

<http://www.w8lky.org>

July, 2013

Serving the Tri-County area since 1986

Random Access By Frank Sanor, WA8WHP

Another Field Day in the books. Most of us had fun and made some contacts. What did we learn? What can we improve and how can we do that?

One thing I learned, long hours for an old timer are very wearing. I tried to last all night. I ended up going to bed at about 4AM. This leads me to the idea of maybe more operators and shorter shifts. Let me know what ideas you have for improvements. Some of our members operated for the first time. Others are old timers at this. Why are some reluctant to operate? They don't know what to do? Ask. They aren't proficient? Practice or team up with another member. I saw this at least twice this weekend. A different set of ears may help dig that CW signal out of the noise. Do not have skills at the computer logging? Ask for a logger to help. Don't know how to use a particular mode? Find someone who has done some or is interested in that new mode, for you. CW is daunting for some. The answer is practice, practice and more practice.

We have a CW net on Thursday nights at 8PM local time. Check in. Get a computer tutorial for CW. I do not encourage the records or tapes as you tend to memorize them instead of learning the code. The random nature of the computer generation is easier to learn the code. Do not learn the alphabet in order. You then tend to go through the list until you get a match. That will make you miss two or three letters that followed the one you were trying to copy. The best way is the frequency of occurrence. That would be :

- First group, E,I S,H,5,T,M,O,0.
- Second group: A,W,L,J,U,V,1,2,3,4.
- Third group: N,D,B,6,G,Z,7
- Fourth group: C,Q,P,R,F,K,X,Y,8,9.

When you are hearing these with recognition, go on to the punctuation and other characters. Using the Farnsworth method, letters sent at 18 WPM spaced at 5 WPM, you will not hit the 10WPM wall. This is a hard plateau to overcome as at lower letter speeds we tend to count dits and dahs. At the higher speed this is less likely and you will learn the complete sound of each character.

Even old dogs can learn new tricks. There are many new digital modes using an interface between our rigs and computers such as PSK31, WSPR, RTTY (not really new but now using computers instead of teletypes). Again, let me know your thoughts. What do you want to see? What do you want to learn? Any complaints?

73 until next time.

DE WA8WHP Frank AR

Officers

President

WA8WHP
Frank Sanor
14345 Bandy Rd
Alliance, OH 44601
wa8whp@juno.com
330-206-2639

KD8RFZ
Mary Maendel
14345 Bandy Rd
Alliance, OH 44601
mmaendel152@gmail.com
330-428-2923

Vice-President

Secretary

AB8KV
Donald R Kingan
446 West High St.
Alliance, OH 44601
dkingan@neo.rr.com
330-821-5819

Treasurer

KB8IVS
Mary Ann Royer
6255 Sandalwood NE
Canton, OH 44721
kb8ivs@aol.com
330-492-0703

Trustees

KD8BBK
Tony Shillig
8980 Paris Ave
Louisville, OH 44641
kd8bbk@aol.com
330-875-0085

KD8KMQ
Ben Davis
4561 Anderson Ave, NE
Homeworth, OH 44634
drpepper9x@gmail.com
330-257-3301

KB8RFE
Steve Collins
10690 Maple St
Minerva, OH 44657
kb8rfe@yahoo.com
330-868-5083

Webmaster

Ben Davis, KD8KMQ drpepper9x@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor

John Myers, KD8MQ kd8mq1@gmail.com

QSL Manager

Howard Miller, K8DXR hmiller32@neo.rr.com

W8LKY Callsign Trustee

Don Whitaker, K8OMO k8omo@juno.com

AARC Meetings

The Alliance Amateur Radio Club meets on the Second Wednesday of each month, at the Alliance Community Hospital. Check the meeting announcement on page 1, for times, and program information. Talk-in on either of the club repeaters. Meetings begin at 7:30 PM. Visitors are always welcome.

Find Us Online:

Web: www.w8lky.org

E-mail: W8lky@w8lky.org



Find us on:
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AARC Repeaters

2 Meters

145.370 (-) W8LKY
-W8LKY Echolink node

440 MHz

442.350 (+) W8LKY
(Neither club repeater uses PL for access)

Nets

Thursday is our "net night," with the following nets held, beginning at 8 PM

Ten Meters

8:00PM 28.100 MHz (CW)
8:30PM 28.400 MHz (SSB)

Two Meters

9:00 PM 145.37 MHz W8LKY (-)

Homeland security Net

(Meets on the last Tuesday of each month
8:00 PM 147.51 Simplex)

June Minutes

June 12, 2013

The regular meeting of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club was combined with the pre-Field Day picnic and was held on June 12, 2013 at 7:30 PM in the cabin at Silver Park with club President Frank Sanor (WA8WHP) presiding. The pledge of allegiance was recited followed by introductions. For the meeting portion of the event there were 24 members present along with spouses, friends and guests including Alfreda Steele, Esther Smith, Miriam Sanor, Jesse Evans (KD8KDK), Rick Smith (KC8SUI), Carl Mani (K7CE) and Judy Kingan.

Committee reports:

- Nets: Don (K8OMO) reported that the HF CW net has been very slim with the HF SSB net averaging 6-8 check-ins. Smitty (KC8TJQ) reported that the 2-meter net has been averaging 12-15 check-ins, but that he would like to see more.
- For the repeater committee, Don (OMO) noted that the 2-meter club repeater would soon have an 88.5 tone squelch added to help alleviate interference from another repeater in West Virginia.
- Website: John (KD8MQ) reported that the Field Day page is constantly updated and that after FD, the results will be posted as soon as they are available. President Frank asked if silent keys are being posted with John answering yes. Frank added that the club's silent key plaque is full and needs an addition soon.

Frank then asked for a moment of silence in respect for two hams who had recently become silent keys: Gloria Lazear (N8PLN) and Larry Newton (N8BGJ).

- President Frank then announced birthdays for the month. These included George Matinides (W8AKU), Dianna Ashburn, Jerry Wheeler (KG8RN) and Dana Evans (KC8LKB).
- Frank noted that operating events can be found listed in QST and the website. He added that the only testing site he knew of in the next few weeks was being run by the Western Reserve club at the airport in North Lima, on FD Saturday.

Secretary's report:

Secretary Don (AB8KV) gave the report, noting that last month's minutes are in the current newsletter. He went on to report that he had sent a condolence card on behalf of the club to Chuck Lazear (N8PLM) for his wife Gloria. He stated that he had submitted the information for the special event station during Carnation Days in the Park to QST, CQ, World Radio and eHam, with the submission to QRZ to come later due to their threading by date. He reported that he and Tom (KD8JRK), who had volunteered to help, were working on the publicity for FD. This included items such as attending an Al-

(Continued on page 4)

June Minutes - cont.

(Continued from page 3)

liance city council meeting, preparation of a newspaper article for the Review, public service announcements for the radio and letters to various officials. Don concluded the report with the comment that he believed all the membership cards for this year had been given out or mailed.

Don (OMO) then asked if the reservation for the Jaycee pavilion in Silver Park had been made to accommodate the special event station. It was realized that no one had done so. Secretary Don volunteered to secure the reservation. The Secretary's report was then approved on a motion by Tom and seconded by Smitty.

Treasurer's report:

The report was given by Treasurer Mary Ann (KB8IVS). It was approved on a motion by Smitty and seconded by Tom.

Old business:

- Regarding Field Day, Frank noted that food requirements had pretty well been taken care of, as had the large sign (provided by Tony—KD8BBK) at the camp entrance. He reminded the club that this year the class would be 4A, so operators were needed. John added that anyone wishing to learn about the N1MM logging software should attend a training session on Tuesday, June 18 at 7:00 PM at the hospital main conference room. Frank and John reiterated the tentative schedule, with wire antenna setup on Friday evening and the balance of setup done on Saturday morning.
- Frank stated that the intention is to start licensing classes in September, probably on Tuesday evenings from 7-9 PM. They would hopefully be held again using Ben's (KD8KMQ) facilities. Frank noted that he had one person lined up so far to teach, but more help was needed.

New business:

- Frank raised the issue of the Ohio QSO party, which is scheduled for the fourth Saturday in August. He asked for suggestions as to where the club might have it, but follow-on discussions indicated a general feeling that participating in that a week after the special event station was a bit much. A motion was subsequently made by Tom to skip the QSO party as a club function this year. This was seconded by Tony and passed on a voice vote.
- Frank then mentioned the upcoming Alliance city council meeting which was to be addressed by Don (AB8KV) or Tom or possibly others. He encouraged other club members to attend the meeting. There were then extensive discussions involving suggestions for approaching the council, what to say, documentation, and general issues of amateur involvement in emergency situations or public functions. At the conclusion, it was decided to keep the presentation simple and invite the council to Field Day to see amateurs operate under simulated emergency or adverse conditions.

(Continued on page 5)

June Minutes - cont.

(Continued from page 4)

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Tom, seconded by Dave (KD8RFY).

Minutes respectfully submitted by Don (AB8KV), Secretary.

The AARC Wayback Machine

Here again are some of the highlights from the last 25 years of the Zero Beat. you can access all issues of the Zero Beat on the club website at www.w8lky.org.

July, 1988, (editor N8IAK)

- Pam announced that she was discontinuing the "Ham of the Month" feature, in favor of a "Spotlight on local Hams" feature.
- On May 31, the Roadway terminal burned, sending a chemical cloud over the north end of town. Many people were evacuated, and lots of businesses closed for the day. (ed. Note – We could hear the sounds of cans popping over a mile away.)
- The local ARES group was not called out, however, the city began thinking seriously about putting together some emergency preparedness plans.
- AARC members had assisted with communications for an aerobatic competition at Berlin Aeropark.
- The club had been offered space to set up an information table, and special event station during the Taylorcraft fly-in at Barber airport.
- Planning was getting started for Novice classes to be held in the fall.

July, 1993, (editor N8LVO)

- John, your publisher, gave a first person account of the bitterly cold spring fox hunt. Dan N8LVO, who was the fox for the hunt challenged that he would never be found. Don, K8OMO asked him what made him think anyone was looking for him?
- OMO lost his tower to an early June storm.
- We were putting together a covered dish dinner for Field Day 1993. Dave, N8NLZ volunteered to cook the evening meal, and breakfast the next day.

The AARC Wayback Machine - cont.

- The Zero Beat received an excellent rating from the Amateur Radio News Service.
- Current club membership stood at 43 members

July, 2008, (editor KD8MQ)

- The AARC was invited to operate from Seven Ranges Scout Camp in Kensington.
- This issue came out before Field Day, consequently no information concerning Field Day was included.
- Your editor was complaining about his new Memorex Flash Drive, which had just corrupted the latest issue of the Zero Beat.

World Radiosport Team Championship



Are you aware of the World Radiosport Team Championship? It is also known as WRTC and is held every four years and consists of approximately 50 two-person teams of Amateur radio operators from around the world competing in a test of operating skill.

Unlike most on-the-air competitions, all stations are required to use identical antennas from the same geographic region. In 2014 the WRTC will be hosted in New England in the Boston area.

You may be able to contact some the test stations this year during the IARU Contest, July 12-14 2013.

Hear you in the contest.

Joe - W8KNO

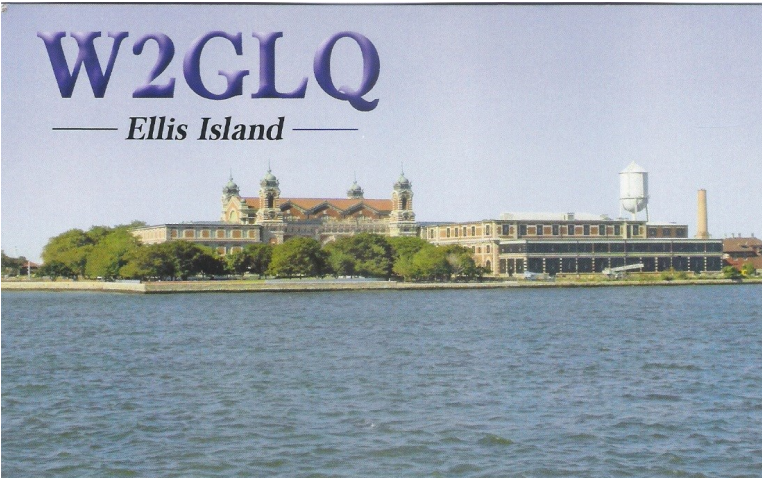
Paper Chase

by Joe, W8KNO

A couple of months ago, I wrote about important peoples' QSL Cards. I have, since, received a QSL card from Bruce Frahm, K0BJ, the 2nd Vice President of the ARRL. Will this cause me to collect QSL Cards from all the ARRL Officers? A nice idea but probably not.

This past month I also received a QSL Card commemorating "Ellis Island". For you who are Islands on the Air enthusiasts, it is USi NJ036S. How many islands have you worked? Take a count and you will probably surprise yourself!

Ellis Island is in Upper New York Bay. It was the gateway for millions of immigrants to the United States as the nation's busiest immigrant inspection station from 1892 until 1954.



The island was greatly expanded with land reclamation between 1892 and 1934. The island was made part of the Statue of Liberty National Monument in 1965, and has hosted a museum of immigration since 1990. The island has been closed to the public since Hurricane Sandy in October 2012 with no re-opening date projected.

A trivia question: Do you know who the first immigrants to off load at Ellis Island? The answer is Annie Moore and her two brothers on January 1, 1892. A statue commemorating this appears on the landing in Cobh, Ireland. You can see the statue behind KD8EPF and her girlfriend Phyllis of Vidor, Texas.

Memories are as good or better than paper. So get on the air, make contacts and when you receive a QSL card it will bring back memories.

Hear on the air.
Joe - W8KNO

Confirming QSO with		Day	Month	Year
W8KNO		31	May	2013
UTC	MHz	2xMode	RST	
0146	50'	SSB	518	

CQ Zone 4 / ITU Zone 7
Tnx Joe
Bruce

ARRL VICE PRESIDENT



Rambling

by John, KD8MQ

Welcome to July. The FT-840 which I purchased off of EBay worked well on it's trial run. Lyn & I took it camping with us. It worked flawlessly during the 2013 WV QSO Party. We camped in Coopers Rock State Forest; on the Mon county side.

I made a lot of QSOs with some interesting folks. The name of the county is actually Monongalia, but everyone spells, and pronounces it MON. Looking it up on line, the name may have come from a unintentional misspelling of the name Monongahela. Sorry to digress, but I'm a bit of a trivia buff.

Judging by the number of LOTW, & EQSL confirmations I've gotten so far, I bet a few more people were able to scratch WV off of their need list.

The FT-840 was running 100 watts, or so. The G5RV was hung in an inverted V configuration. The apex being about 25' up. I left the potato gun at home, lest I upset any of the other campers. I chose the rock & rope technique to get a line over the branch.

It was a great weekend. We had some rain on Sunday morning, but the station had been disassembled by then.

Our next trip is to Geneva, OH, on 4th of July. I think it is in Ashtabula County. I haven't decided whether to bring the HF stuff, or not.

Field Day is just a memory. We did significantly better this year. Thanks to everyone who helped to make it a great weekend.

I won't be posting the final results till next month, but we'll have some preliminary numbers in this issue.

Looking back, I've been your Field Day Chairman more times than I care to think about over the last 32 years. To say that I'm ready for a break is a major understatement. Over the years, I've enjoyed organizing the club Field Day effort. But, it's time to step aside.

So, now is the time to begin thinking of how you can best serve your club. Thanks for all your support.

That's all for this month. Hope everyone has a fun Month! 73, de John, KD8MQ

Club Roster Update Scheduled

As mentioned in the June ZB, The club roster on the website will be trimmed during the first week in July.

Take a moment to check the roster. If you don't see your name on it, please check with Mary Anne, KB8IVS.

Tomas' Hot Corn Dip Recipe

2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
1 cup shredded Monterey jack
2 tbsp. chipotle peppers in adobo sauce (diced small)
1 [4oz] can diced green chilies (undrained)
½ cup mayo or sour cream
¼ tsp. garlic powder
1 [11 oz.] can corn (drained)
1 small tomato
2 tbsp. cilantro (chopped)
2 tbsp. green onion (sliced thin)

Preheat oven to 350. Mix the cheeses, chipotle, green chilies, mayo, garlic powder and corn together, pour into oven safe dish.

Bake 20 min or until golden brown and bubbly. Top with diced tomato , green onion and cilantro. Serve immediately with tortilla chips.

That's it yum, yum, yum!

Tomas, KC8ZEH

Tomas' Jalapeño Popper Dip Recipe

6-8 slices of bacon (diced and cooked crispy)
2 8-oz packages of cream cheese (soft)
1 cup of mayonnaise...I use sour cream...
4-6 jalapeños (chopped and deseeded - the seeds will make it fiery hot)
1 cup of cheddar cheese (shredded)
½ cup of mozzarella cheese (shredded)
¼ cup diced green onion

Topping

1 cup of crushed crackers [I use Ritz]
½ cup Parmesan cheese
½ stick of butter (melted)

Pre heat oven to 350. combine all of the ingredients into a medium bowl. stir well. Transfer to an oven proof dish. The size of the dish depends on how thick the dip is. The thicker the dip the longer it may need to warm up. I used this stoneware dish that is round and measures 12 inches across. My dip is usually about an inch thick. Combine the topping ingredients and sprinkle all over the top of the dip. Bake the dip for 20-30 minutes or until bubbly. Serve with tortilla chips. YUM, YUM, YUM !!!!

Tomas, KC8ZEH

13 Colonies Special Event Set



The annual 13 Colonies Special Event will take place during the first week of July, with participating 13 colonies' stations on the air from 1300 UTC July 1 until 0400 UTC July 6. Event sponsors say at least two special event stations will operate from each colony state. The theme for 2014 is "Banners of the Revolution," and the certificate -- available to all participants regardless of the number of stations worked -- will reflect that theme.

Those working all 13 colonies qualify for a "Clean Sweep" certificate designation, and a special endorsement will be attached for stations working WM3PEN in Philadelphia. The suggested exchange is call sign, name, signal report and state/province/country. The event's sponsors report that more than 62,000 contacts were logged in last year's 13 Colonies Special Event. [More information](http://www.13colonies.info) is available on the web. (www.13colonies.info)



AARC FD Summary

As promised, here are the preliminary numbers for the AARC's 4A effort at Field Day. The final numbers will be posted on the website after they have been submitted to the ARRL. Most likely, the final paperwork will be available at the July AARC meeting.

This year, we capitalized on not all, but most of the bonus point opportunities.

As noted earlier, this was my last year in a leadership role with the AARC Field Day. As FD Chairman, I'd like to thank everyone who helped make my job a little easier, not only in 2013, but in the many years previous. 73, de John, KD8MQ

Score - 2,792 Points

Band	Mode	QSOs	Pts
3.5	CW	100	200
3.5	LSB	21	21
7	CW	89	178
7	LSB	138	138
14	CW	174	348
14	USB	165	165
21	CW	62	124
21	USB	172	171
28	CW	12	24
28	USB	27	27
Total	Both	960	1396
Score:		2,792	

The Irony of Safety On Field Day

I am subscribed to Larry's List, a list by hams, for hams primarily out in the Zero Call area. However, Larry sports members all over the US, and possibly further.

The following came across the list recently. It is being reprinted with permission of the author.

Though Richard refers to the Midwest, this is a good idea **anywhere**. Club Leadership, Let's discuss this, and pass it on to our next FD Chairman as a **strong recommendation!**

Larry,

Thought you might like to pass this along.

As safety officer for the Raytown club a few years ago I had the idea to distribute a simple form to be filled out and kept in a sealed envelope in a person's pocket. It had all of the information that an EMT might need to begin first aid.

Such things like existing conditions, the doctors involved, their phone numbers, medicine being taken (name, dosage, frequency) and emergency contact information. It also included a preferred hospital and family doctor's name and phone number. Allergies were also included.

For three years it was never necessary to use it....then came 2013 field day.

I had to use it! Heat exhaustion combined with other things and took me to the ground. The envelope was given to the ambulance personnel. On the way to the hospital, as oxygen and cooling began to work, they expressed their appreciation of the form.

You never know.....it could be you.

I strongly recommend this idea for every club since field day in the Midwest is always (so it seems) hot and humid and has other dangers as well.

Richard Zolnowski,
rzolnows@kc.rr.com
WORPZ

AARC Two Meter Net Summary

From Smitty, KC8TJQ comes the following info on the Thursday night Two Meter Nets. Smitty is the Manager for the Tri-County News, Information, and Swap & Shop Net.

January: With four sessions, we had a total of 53 check-ins for the month, for an average of 13¼ check-ins per week.

February: With three sessions, we had a total of 40 check-ins for the month, for an average of 13.3 check-ins per week.

March: With four sessions, we had a total of 62 check-ins for the month, for an average of 15½ check-ins per week.

April: With three sessions, we had a total of 36 check-ins for the month, for an average of 12 check-ins per week.

Smitty would like to encourage all to check in every Thursday night at 9 PM, either on the club repeater at 145.370, or via the W8LKY node on Echolink.

Lost & Found

Tony, KD8BBK is looking for a 50 foot extension cord that is missing the ground lug on it.

He asks that we check our Field Day Stuff. Please contact him directly if found.

He was looking for his crescent wrench, but that has turned up.

Tony can be reached at kd8bbk@aol.com



Old-Timey Magazine

This also came across Larry's list this week.

A PDF copy of Electrical Experimenter Magazine from 1917. It's a 68 page PDF (7.6Mb download). I perused the first few pages, and it looks interesting.

If you turn to Pg29, it is evident that this is a Hugo Gernsback publication. There is an add for the "Radio League of America", managed by H Gernsback, and such honorary members as Nikola Tesla, Dr. Lee DeForest, among others.

You can find this at: tinyurl.com/njmkkbt



July 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
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Alliance Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 3344
Alliance, OH 44601

This Months Meeting

will be on Wednesday,
July 10th in the Café conference room at:

Alliance
Community hospital
200 E. State St
Alliance, OH.

Our meeting will begin at
7:30PM

This Months program will
be presented by
John, KD8MQ
on
**Portable Operations
& Miscellaneous**

Feel free to Join us for
dinner at

**Frank's
Family Restaurant**
480 E. State St, Alliance
at 6 PM that night.

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 via e-mail to
kd8mq1@gmail.com

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