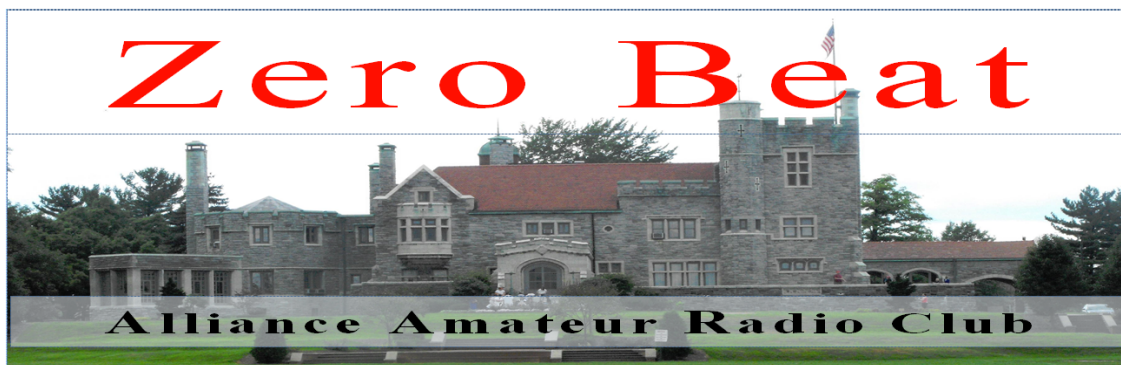


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Volume XXX, No 3

www.w8lky.org

February 2016

Welcome to another issue of the Zero Beat. This is a Monthly newsletter devoted to announcements of upcoming news, & events of interest to members of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club. More information on the Alliance Amateur Radio Club can be found on our website at www.w8lky.org. I'm your editor, John, KD8MQ.

Unless otherwise noted, feel free to copy anything you see here for use in your club newsletter. All we ask is that credit to be given to the Zero Beat.

KD8MQ Rambling

Well, here we are again. The Zero Beat is a tad later than I'd intended, but that's how it goes when you burn the candle at both ends with a blowtorch.

It's been a great year so far. I missed out on winter Field Day with the club, but had a blast working the K8PRC special event that weekend.

so, what's coming up? We have the following items of interest this month.

- The February club meeting will be at the hospital. The program will be your first/most memorable QSO / Ham Radio Memory.
- PCARS will be doing their annual Freeze Your Acorns Off on the 13th. Give a listen on the bands for stations signing /FYAO.
- The Mansfield Hamfest is on the 21st.

Meeting Announcement

The Alliance Amateur Radio Club meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the alliance Community Hospital. Our meetings begin at 7:30, and are held in the Cafe Conference Room, which is just off the Cafeteria.

Before the meeting, feel free to join us for dinner at Frank's Alliance Family Restaurant at 428 E. State St., Also in Alliance. We meet there at 5:45.

January Minutes

13Jan16 Meeting

At 7:30 PM President Rex, NX8G, opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and a round of introductions. There were 14 members and 5 guests in attendance.

The birthdays announced were Tony, KD8BBK, on the 8th and Rex, NX8G, on the 21st.

Committee reports were next starting with ARES and HF net report from Don, K8OMO. Don reported due to his injuries WA8WHP, Frank called a few nets. The ARES net had check-ins from 4 counties.

The two meter nets were reported by Tomas, KC8ZEH, net control as some fewer check-ins possibly due to the holidays. He has been talking up the net to other areas. This may increase participation.

The repeater committee report was given by Don, K8OMO that the repeater is on low power at 18 watts until he is capable of going down the stairs to repair the amplifier to get it back to the usual 50 watts.

The 440 repeater is still on hold while the hospitals finish their modifications to their systems.

The classes have started again with a small but determined class of 2. We have the use of the Red Cross building at 234 South Arch as long as we take care of the facility. If the schedule holds we will be holding our next test session on 29March. The classes are 7PM-9PM Tuesday nights. The Red Cross thanked the club for our thank you card.

The club station site committee is in a waiting period until the city gets back with their information.

The discussion of the 501C3 status is still in a hold pattern.

The secretary's report was in the Zero Beat. There were some spelling errors noted. It was moved by KD8KMQ, Ben to accept as printed, seconded by KD8MQ, John. Motion passed.

committee. KD8MQ, John volunteered to email the treasurer for checks to cover the invoice and the Winter Field Day site rental.

Old Business:

The Christmas Party was reported that all who attended seem to have had a good time. KD8MQ, John passed out certificates to those who were at the meeting, but had missed the party. They included K8DXR, Howard, NX8G, Rex and (via Rex) W8DEA, Don for their services to the club.

Thanks were tendered by KC8TJQ, Smitty and AC8UE, Herb for their get-well cards and The Alliance Fire Fighter's Association for our donation to their toy drive.

Winter Field will be 30-31 January at the Sebring Campgrounds. Noon Saturday to noon Sunday. There will be a covered dish dinner at 5PM Saturday. There are plans for 2 or 3 stations with computers interfaced for logging. Come out and join us for operating and food.

New Business:

WA8WHP, Frank, suggested the start of an Extra Elmer Net on W8LKY/R. After extensive discussion the day was set to start on 22Jan at 9PM. If you are in search of the Extra class license, bring our questions. If you are an Extra, bring your answers. The text we will use is the No Nonsense Extra Manual by KB6NU. It can be found at www.kb6nu.com.

WA8WHP, Frank also requested assistance with two stations to be sold from residents of Copeland Oaks. KD8MQ, John, volunteered to help. Wednesday 20Jan, they will visit and talk with the owners as to their wishes.

K8OMO, Don, asked if he should reserve the pavilion at Silver Park for the Carnation Days in the Park Special Event Station this year. Operation is slated for 20Aug16 It was agreed.

KD8ZEZ, Shawn, volunteered as PR Liaison with the Alliance Review newspaper.

KD8MQ, John, announced the operation on 30-31 January of the Special Event station for Cabin Fever from the wilds of Carroll County.

Field Day was brought to our attention by requesting, unsuccessfully, for a volunteer chairman. KD8ZEZ, Shawn, was thanked for his efforts last year. He did not say "yes" or "No" for this year. The quest was tabled until the February meeting.

For the Good of the Order:

Further discussion was ongoing with Forrest, offering his experience with the 501C3. More on this later.

Hamfests were announced.

At 8:23PM KD8KMQ, Ben, moved to adjourn. Seconded by KD8TFV, Dwight.

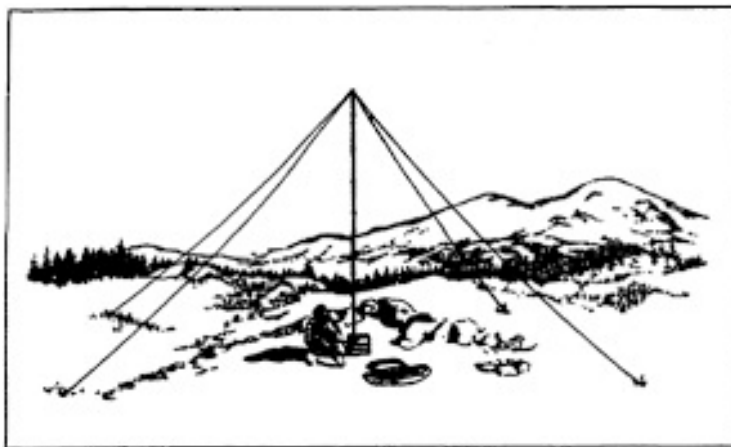
Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted by WA8WHP, Frank Sanor, Secretary.

Announcing the

"Ohio NVIS Antenna Day"

April 23, 2016



Working with antennas has been an integral part of the Amateur Radio hobby since the first hams went to the airwaves. Having the 'right' antenna becomes even more important when we're acting in the interest of public safety! The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) organization

in Ohio will put these two concepts together in another "NVIS Antenna Day" activity April 23, 2016.

Last year, numerous operators, teams, and EOC's participated to find the best NVIS antenna to use across the Ohio Section. The differences weren't as dramatic as one might expect; those fashioned after the military AS-2259 cross-dipole configuration appeared to be the best but other designs worked nearly as well.

This is not really a contest- there is no score. The purpose is to have teams (counties, groups within counties, friends, even individuals) research and determine the NVIS antenna designs they think will work the best- then actually get together to build and try them!

Starting at 10AM Saturday, April 23 teams begin making contacts to compare their antennas. They do not have to be at portable locations, but there should be room for several antennas. This year, we're offering the concept of "anchor" stations around the state which will be in place to provide consistent signal reports to all who contact them. For example, Team A puts together a low-altitude G5RV. They contact Anchor A in Toledo, Anchor B in Dayton, and the Ohio EOC station ("The Sarge") for signal reports. They then either adjust their design, or try antenna number 2 contacting the same anchors. From their signal reports, they can determine right away which antenna is better and by how much! We don't have an "end time" set- because some stations had so much fun (and so many pile-ups) that they went on for quite a while past dark.

allow stations to plot their coverage “footprint” to get a good idea of their capabilities for a real emergency.

After the contest, all teams file reports with their call and location, operators, number of contacts and most important, all antenna details- antenna design, height, specific comments, and pictures. Each station then can rank its top (3) antenna performers with comments and ideas. Pictures are very much encouraged! Our Marion County ARES team is sponsoring the event this year. They will compile the documentation, and narrow down the best performing antennas across the region – antennas we might all want to put in our ‘go bags’ as proven performers.

In something like a grid-down situation, our emergency communicating would not be limited within the boundaries of Ohio, so I’m asking our neighboring states to get involved with us! We would really like to make this a regional event with stations in their state EOC’s and around the Ohio border to test their own capabilities.

We’re hoping to make this a regional event in 2016!



Dayton Hamvention 2016

Saturday, May 21, 2016 - 5:30 AM



Don't miss out on this year's PARF Bus Trip to the world's largest topical conference and product exhibition. Save on gas, parking, and walking by riding with us! Leave the driving to us and you can come and go to the flea market with your great purchases and leave them on the bus. The bus will be parked close to the flea market entrance.

You can save \$10* if you book before April 15th.

The cost of the **Bus & Entrance ticket** to the Hamvention:
\$70* before April 15, 2016

The cost of the **Bus Only** to the Hamvention:
\$55* after April 15, 2016

(You will need to get your own Hamvention Entrance Ticket at gate \$25, or order by phone & have held at Will Call—possibly getting Advanced \$20 price.)

P.A.R.F. reserves the right to cancel this trip should a minimum of 22 riders not be secured by April 15th. If that happens, a full refund will be made. Otherwise, cancellation by you at any time results in a \$5 deduction of refund for handling.

We will take riders right up to departure that morning (if there are seats available) on a first come, first served basis.

Departure time is 5:30 AM SHARP, so please be on time so you don't miss the bus!

Parking will be in the back of the church.

There will be a stop for breakfast @ McDonald's and a dinner stop @ Golden Corral Buffet (out of pocket expense).

Transportation is being provided by the Crossroads Transportation Company.

This bus is a smoke free bus, so there will be no smoking permitted.

To Order - Complete application & send with check/money order (payable to "PARF") to:

Joy Spencer [KASTDF](mailto:KASTDF@arrl.net)

2101 Bigelow St

Akron, OH 44314

Or call 330-745-5115

E-mail: KASTDF@arrl.net

Please supply a return e-mail address for your receipt confirmation.

Location of Departure**:

Akron Baptist Temple, 2324 Manchester Road, Akron, Ohio 44314

Located on Rt. 93 just north of Rt. 224

*** The church is currently up for sale. We will keep you up to date should that happen and an alternative departure location is needed. (Rest assured, we will work to keep it within the local area.)*

Repeaters 147.135 & 146.610

Please pass the word out to all of your ham friends & computer geeks.

The above pricing does not include any tips...a hat will be passed for driver's tip.

[Please click here for an application form](#)

Extra Elmer Net

The latest venture of the Alliance Amateur Radio club is the Extra Elmer Net. run by Frank, WA8WHP, it's a place to go to help you with your studying for the Extra exam.

The net runs each Friday night at 9 PM. Your net "MC" is Frank, WA8WHP.

If you are studying for your Extra, bring your questions. If you already have your

For more information, Frank can be contacted at wa8whp@gmail.com.



Cleveland NWS Posts 2016 Skywarn Schedule

The latest Skywarn schedules from the Cleveland NWS Office have been posted at www.weather.gov/cle/SKYWARN schedule. No word yet from the Pittsburgh office, but we'll pass that along ASAP.



Mansfield, Ohio

Sunday, February 21, 2016
Richland County Fairgrounds
750 North Home Road



NEW DATE!

Talk-in on W8WE
146.94 71.9PL

Gates Open at 7am

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Visit us at www.iarc.wo

Forums and VE Test Session

9:00 am—Ohio Army MARS Forum
10:00 am—ARES Forum
11:00 am—OSSBN Forum
12:00 noon Digital Forum
12:00 noon VE Test Session
(Pre-registration for test is required, e-mail steve@n8smb.com to register)

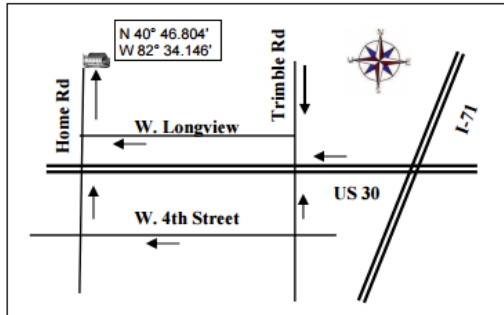
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Tickets: Advance \$5
At the Door \$6
Tables, *Advance Only*: \$15
Ticket and Table Deadline- January 22
Online ordering-<http://hamfest.w8we.org>

Advance orders (**must include SASE**) to:
Danny Bailey, W8DLB
70 Euclid Street
Shiloh, OH 44878
419-896-2165 (After 3 P.M. Please)
kb8stk113@gmail.com



**Mid❄️ Winter Hamfest & Computer Show
Mansfield, Ohio**

Sunday, February 21, 2016
Richland County Fairgrounds

Gates Open at 7am

No Overnight Parking

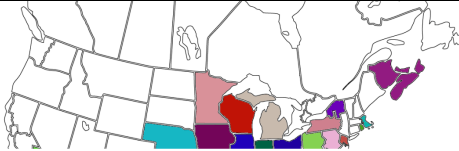
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Mansfield, OH 44906-1324

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On the final weekend in January, a small number of club members participated in Winter Field Day from the Sebring campgrounds.

I've inherited the pictures & log files. Only two operators were shown in the log. NX8G, and N8WD. we're hoping that more



eastern half of North America.

Here are the map, and some pictures. Some problems with an errant potato gun prevented the G5RV from being used, so the entire weekend appears to have been worked with a pair of buddipoles.

While I wasn't participating, I was listening over the weekend, and the activity level seemed much higher than last year.

The potato gun will be thrashed within an inch of it's miserable life once I get my hands on it. :-) DE KD8MQ



Officers

	E-mail	Phone
President - Rex, NX8G	nx8g.01@gmail.com	330-832-0609
Vice-President - Tomas, KC8ZEH	saint445@yahoo.com	330-452-2390
Secretary - Frank, WA8WHP	wa8whp@gmail.com	330-206-2639
Treasurer - Mary Anne - KB8IVS	kb8ivs@aol.com	330-936-4460
Trustee (expires 2016) - Tony, KD8BBK	kd8bbk@aol.com	330-875-0085
Trustee (expires 2017) - Howard, K8DXR	hmiller32@neo.rr.com	330-353-1888
Trustee (expires 2018) - Peter, N8IGZ	luckepb@me.com	330-206-6555

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