



Zero Beat

Volume XXXIV, no 2

<http://www.w8lky.org>

February, 2020

Serving the Tri-County area since 1986

Upcoming Club Programs & Events

February 1st - Club Breakfast
February 12th - Meeting
March 11th - TBD
April 8th - Digital Modes
(Doug, KB8DNQ)

[for other events, see w8lky.org](http://www.w8lky.org)

AARC Raffle Is On!



At the January meeting, it was approved that we will give away an HF rig at the June picnic as a fundraiser.

Tickets have been printed, and our club website has generated a good number of sales so far. Last Sunday the club sold tickets at the Tusco Hamfest. Next Hamfest on the schedule will be Mansfield on February 16th.

Funds raised from this project will replenish the club treasury which has dropped substantially after paying for last years 2 Meter repeater work.

At this time, there are three ways to purchase tickets:

- A)** Online at w8lky.org
- B)** In person at club events, or at a Hamfest
- C)** By mail to AARC, P.O. Box 3344, Alliance, OH 44601.

Club Breakfast

On Saturday, February 1st, we'll be having our monthly breakfast at Don Pancho's Tex Mex Café (2105 W. State St). We meet at 8:30 AM in the party room.

Club Meeting

Our next club meeting is coming up on Wednesday, February 12th.

We begin at 7:30 PM, at the Alliance Community Hospital, in the Cafe Conference room.

Our program will be Homebrew Night

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AARC Meetings

The Alliance Amateur Radio Club meets on the Second Wednesday of each month at the Alliance Community Hospital. For times, and program information, check the meeting announcement in this newsletter, or check our website (see below)
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.radio@gmail.com



AARC Repeaters

2 Meters

145.370 (-) W8LKY
(PL - 110.9hz)

440 MHz

442.350 (+) W8LKY
(PL - 131.8hz)

Nets

Tuesday

Homeland security Net
7:00PM 147.51 Simplex

Thursday

Ten Meters

8:00PM 28.420 MHz (SSB)
8:30PM 28.100 MHz (CW)

Two Meters

9:00 PM 145.37 MHz W8LKY (-)

President's Remarks: AARC is beginning 2020 with a bang

Ron Rittenhouse, KE8HCY



First, the long awaited Ways and Means project is swinging into high gear. We are raffling off a YAESU FT-450D Transceiver, tickets have been printed and are currently being sold on the Internet and purchased by ham operators. We have already attend our first Hamfest at Tusco this past weekend and we had good success. Tickets will be available from John KD8MQ at February's 12th club meeting at Aultman Alliance Community Hospital. We are having a second batch of tickets printed. The tickets are \$5. each or 5 for \$20., the tickets purchased on line are slightly more because of handling fees and postage. Many thanks to the members manning the booths at the Hamfests.

Our second event in January, was Winter Field Day held on January 25th at Tri City Airport from 10am to 10pm. Seventeen operators were present manning Three(3) rigs and the coffee made the day bearable and the Pizza hit the spot. Many thanks to Rick KC8SUI for helping get the site for the club's use and everyone had a great time. The fellowship was priceless, so many enjoyed what we like best, getting on the air and talking to other Ham operators.

The training classes are well underway, and many thanks to Chris AC8VN for assisting Frank WA8WHP teaching the class which is focusing on the General License class. We are using a ARRL power point presentation and answering the questions shown on the screen is helpful with passing the test which will be given at a later date, probably around late March 2020. Anyone who wants to move up to a General class license is always welcome to join us, we have several tools and systems designed to help you to move up to a General Class License. We meet Tuesday night at 6pm in the same location where we hold our club's monthly meeting. Check with Frank WA8WHP if you have any questions.

We will be ordering more business cards and club pamphlets because we are passing them out at the Hamfests and all members should have at least Six(6) cards to hand out to persons interested in becoming an Amateur Radio Operator. We will hopefully have at least one more community service project added to our 2020 calendar. The project will occur in early November 2020, more information will be share at a later date. On personal note, I had to replace my computer and I have also changed my email to: rtrittw8lky@gmail.com. Let us keep Rick WD8AYC in our prayers, and Ben KD8KMQ and Tony KD8BBK who are very active care givers for their parents. May God bless you and yours and keep you safe and well, till I see you at the events or on the Air, 73's to All.

Ron Rittenhouse KE8HCY
President of AARC(W8LKY)

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February Club Meeting Will Be Homebrew Night

At the February meeting, we will be holding our annual Homebrew Night. No prizes, just a chance to bring in something you've built, restored, or just want to show to the membership.

The rules are simple; just bring your item with you to the club meeting. After the meeting everyone will get a few moments to show their item and answer questions.

Minutes

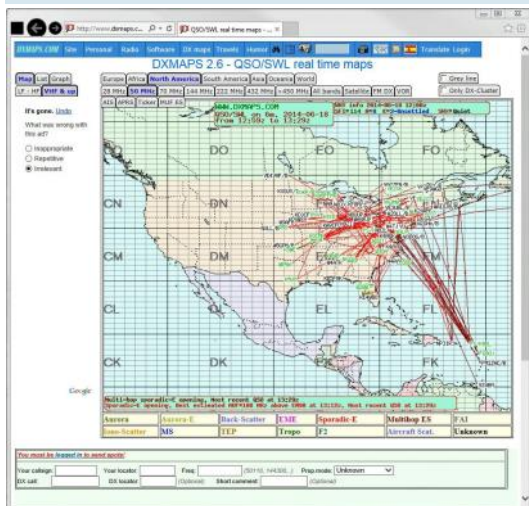
The minutes from our meetings are now being posted to the website. You can find them at <http://www.w8lky.org/about-us/minutes/>. All meeting minutes going forward will be posted here. I'll be working with Jeremy, KE8NAU to get as many of the previous minutes posted as possible.

The 2019 minutes have been added. The rest will be added as time permits.

Thanks for your patience and encouragement.

73 DE John, KD8MQ

DX Maps



Are you wondering if a band is open and where it's open to? Turning on your radio and calling CQ is the best way to find out. But suppose you aren't near a radio or just want to see if it's worth heading to the shack. DX Maps is a good way to check activity.

DXMaps.com pulls info from the online spotting network, and displays it graphically. You can drill down and show the data per band, continent, and more. Check it out.

Winter Field Day 2020

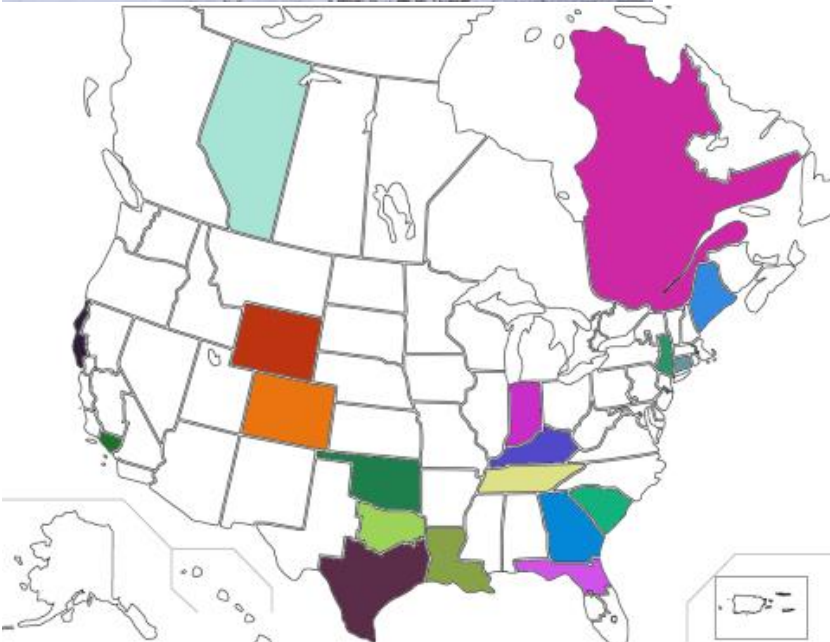


Well, Winter Field Day 2020 is in the books. We put in a single day effort, from the Tri-City Airport.

Setup began at 10 AM on Saturday, the 25th, and went very quickly. Teardown happened at around 7 PM, and went even more quickly thanks in part to a snowstorm that moved through.

We had a lot of help from club members, who unanimously gave a thumbs up to this site. It looks like the AARC has found a new home for Winter Field Day.

Watch the Winter Field Day page on the website for our final submitted score. For now, please enjoy these pictures from WFD 2020.



Total Contacts by Band and Mode:

Band	CW	Phone	Dig	Total
40	0	20	0	20
20	0	12	0	12
Total	0	32	0	32

Above - map showing all of the ARRL sections that we worked.

Rt, - Our "Operating Room"

Far Rt - Doug, KB8DNQ

Lower Rt - KD8YFV's BuddiPole



How did we get here? Miscellaneous Rambling about Ham Radio by N8SH

How did ham radio get from nothing to where we are?

Radio was primarily invented by Marconi around the turn of the century. It is an interesting story if you take the time to dig into that. The next major step was adding vacuum tubes to the mix. The regenerative receiver, the superhetrodyne radio and FM radio was invented by Armstrong. Armstrongs' original superhet receiver is in the Smithsonian Museum. When I was there it was an unimpressive small display in a quiet corner.

Ok you could read a book on Marconi to get the start of radio and then **200 Meters and Down** published by the ARRL to get up to WW2 or so.

In Huntington WVA there is a radio museum that has a lot of old radios that will give a feel for older radios as they have a room with old ham radios and a separate ham station. John Myers even has suggested we take a club trip there. I had fun the day I went. The Museum has a face-book page.

Back to regen receivers – if you have never owned one they were usable receivers if well built. I plan to bring one to the February meeting if that is still on Johns agenda.

How did we buy radios in the past? Some of you may recall the Sears catalog. Some of you may remember Sears. There used to be one in Canton Ohio at the mall. Regardless, for a century or so Sears and Roebuck published a catalog yearly with a variety of items for the home. They even sold homes as kits. Many of the homes in Alliance were Sears kits. For some years the catalog included ham radios. Sears also had the Howard Radio Company produce a rather nice superhet called the Sears Precision. I brought one to the Alliance ARC many years ago. Other mail order radio sellers included Allied Radio (https://www.radiomuseum.org/dsp_hersteller_detail.cfm?company_id=1865), you can read any Allied catalog here!

Lafayette(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lafayette_Radio_Electronics) and Heathkit

(<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heathkit>) The 1955 Allied radio catalog was 304 pages long and included parts, test equipment etc. sort of the 1955 version of Digi-Key.com. In the more recent past before we got DX Engineering nearby there was AES in Wycliffe near Cleveland it was probably opened in the 1960s before I moved here and closed around 2016.

Regarding more current technology from you can buy a network analyzer on eBay for less than \$50 that will among other things measure the impedance of say an antenna from the HF bands up to somewhere in the 900 MHz range. You can find more information on youtube or in this month's QEX magazine look for nano-VNA. The price of Chinese FM 2M/ 440 MHz handheld radios has dropped even further. I read an article in QST comparing brands and performance. You can buy an antenna for a 2M handheld on e-bay for \$1.70 shipped directly from China you can also get RF cable adapters, short RG-316 cables, and similar there at pretty low prices but I would not recommend many of these items for moderate (say 10 watts) power levels and up. Some of the lead times are 2 weeks and much higher.

Z e r o B e a t

New topic – Dave a ham I work with told me the magnetic field on sun has reversed possibly signaling the start of the next solar cycle. I certainly hope so. He said there is even a couple of sunspots.

There is a million stories in the city some TV program said (might have been Sargent Friday on Dragnet). I have a "new" TR4C from the Shelby NC hamfest (a 3 plus day affair). Shelby is not Dayton but they do have a southern drawl often times that I love and miss. I lost a knob on the trip home for the TR4C somewhere but I got a new replacement off eBay easily for a reasonable price. The TR4C worked without repair. I need to replace the connector on the speaker but that is not hard --if I can find where I put them! Yeah I have newer radios but older radios have character. All I had to do was plug in a mike and key and it worked first time. I had to figure out you have to unplug the Key to use SSB. My "new" Massillon hamfest HO-10 scope I put in the TR4C setup died when I plugged it in the first time but it was just a resistor that opened up. I had it going in no time. A thing I want to point out is that typically you should not put more than around 250 to 350 volts on some quarter watt resistors. Check the data sheet. No one ever mentions this and I suspect it is not common knowledge in the ham community. See: https://www.seielect.com/catalog/sei-cf_cfm.pdf I think Heathkit slightly over voltaged the resistor that failed in the HO-10 -- but it still lasted 60 years or so that is pretty good.

OK before this turns into a book I'm going to stop. Ham On! N8SH

How to Find Old Amateur Radio Call Signs

From Anthony Luscre, **K8ZT**

Many times, persons doing research about their ancestors know that a relative was a ham radio operator, and they are interested in learning the call sign held by that person. Depending on the year when the person was licensed, this can sometimes be a very difficult process. However, in some cases, it is possible to find this information online, and this article gives you some pointers.

<http://w0is.com/oldcallsigns/oldcalls.html>

For hams listed during the early days of radio (1913-1923), the process is quite easy, since government call books are available online and are easily searched. And for hams who had a license in place as of 1993 (which could have been issued as early as 1983), the search is also easy. But for the intervening decades, you will have to do some detective work. In some cases, it will not be possible to find this information online. But in some cases, it will, and this site gives you some pointers for searching. The information on this page applies specifically to the United States, but the same principles might apply to persons searching in other countries.

Wayback Machine

A Look back At The Last 30 Years Of AARC History

Here again are some of the highlights from the last 30 years of the Zero Beat. you can read most of the issues of the Zero Beat at www.w8lky.org.

(The January/February 1990 issue of the Zero Beat was covered last month.

February, 1995, (editor WX8G)

- We had a report on the latest Santa net. This years net had been linked in to the Lisbon repeater.
- The clubs Ten Meter net was about a year old, according to Net manager, Don, K8O-MO.
- Our first fox hunt of the year was won by John, KF8ZG, and David, N8NLZ. The fox, KC8WY, was hidden to the SW of Alliance. This appears to have been a very close finish, since there were only a 2-point spread between the top three finishers.
- Three of the top six jokes told on the Austintown repeater systems joke net were told by AARC officers. This led the editor to refer to this as the "Funniest Club in NE Ohio".
- The program for the upcoming meeting was to be Scott, NI8L describing his antenna farm which he was building South of Alliance.
- There was a story entitled "A Most Dangerous Radio". This very interesting story from WW2 is reprinted in this issue.

(There was no February, 2000 issue of the Zero Beat)

February, 2005, (editor KE8VE)

- The weather kept all but 8 Hams, & one XYL from the January, 2005 meeting. As Larry reported, the whole meeting lasted only 20 minutes from start to finish.
- Joanne, KJ3O was again our Ohio section Affiliated Club Coordinator (ACC), after a 5 year break from the job she had started in 1986, and holds to this day.

February, 2010, (editor KD8MQ)

- In the Rambling column, Yours truly outlined some things that were upcoming in 2010, but other than that, not much club news in this issue.
- At the meeting, the possibility of a club Hamfest was broached with not a tremendous amount of interest shown.

February, 2015, (editor KD8MQ)

- Tomas, KC8ZEH was presented the award as the 2014 Ham Of The Year
- In the Rambling column, Yours truly outlined some things that were great about WFD 2015; most namely the three Fs (Food, Fun, and Fellowship).
- KD8MQ was stepping down (again) as editor. I know, nothing new about that.

AARC Swap & Shop

MFJ- 336S This magnetic mount is a 5 Inch Triple Magnetic Mount Antenna Base - 17 Feet RG-58AU - SO-239 Mount, New \$44.95 plus tax. Asking \$25.00

KENWOOD TS-480 PAN Adapter kit for a Kenwood TS-480SAT /TS-480HX. I received this as PAN adapter kit with a Kenwood TS 480SAT that I purchased for mobile use. Therefore, I have no need for this kit. There is a CD marked "TS-480 PAN adapter Instructions & Videos". Also complete setup instructions can be found at <https://www.pa9x.com/how-to-setup-a-panadapter-for-the-kenwood-ts-480/>
\$40.00

KENWOOD TH-K2AT, Pair of 5 Watt 2 meter handi-talkies including an original Kenwood wall wart charger, an aftermarket rapid charge stand and a spiral bound instruction manual with plastic covers. Both batteries are about 1 year old with little use and were charged every 30 days to keep them in good shape. \$100.00

Alpha 77DX with all of the Dick Byrd upgrades. These upgrades include the following; higher voltage plate transformer providing 4300 Volts idle, 7500 Volt rectifiers, 5000 Volt 35 μ f filter capacitor, wide spaced loading capacitors like are used in the 77SX, all new step start components, large 10x38mm fuse holders, all new electrolytic capacitors on timer & QSK boards as well as LED lighting for the meters. This amplifier has **ZERO HOURS** since being upgraded as it was my back-up amplifier. \$5000
Call or text KD8VT at (330)-206-4909

Editor's Rambling

The rewrite of W8LKY.org continues. I haven't been able to get as much time as I'd hoped, but I've not given up. Each time I sit down with the laptop, I find more items to add. If you have ideas for improvements, by all means, let me know. If it makes sense, and is technically possible, I'll add it to the to-do list. I can be reached at kd8mq1@gmail.com.

Another new item since last month is that the club now has a Paypal account. So far, it's only been used to for sell raffle tickets on W8LKY.org, but it can be used for so much more. Stay Tuned!

The field trip to the Museum of Radio & Technology is still on my to do list when the weather is better. I also found one called the Auman Museum of Radio & TV in Dover. If you have been to that one, I'd like to hear your perceptions.

As you've read in the rest of this issue, Winter Field Day 2020 is behind us. I hope you got a chance to come out and enjoy socializing with your fellow Hams. The results are being tabulated, and will be sent in to the Winter Field Day folks by our next meeting on February 12th.

Also, the tickets for the FT-450D will be on sale at the next meeting. Tell your friends.

Lastly, the next meeting will be Homebrew Night. It could also be called Show & Tell night. Bring something in that you have built, bought, written, or restored, and show it off. If you need access to the projector in the meeting room, just let me know.

And that's all I have for now. 73 All, DE KD8MQ

Newsletter Information

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