



Zero Beat

Volume XXXIV, no 6

<http://www.w8lky.org>

June, 2020

Serving the Tri-County area since 1986

Upcoming Club Programs & Events

- June 6th - Club Breakfast
- June 10th - Club picnic
- June 27th - Field Day

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

Club Breakfast

No decision has been made on monthly Club Breakfast on June 6th.

Stay tuned. . .

Club Meeting

Our next club meeting will be held at the June picnic on Wednesday, June 10th.

(See the President's remarks this issue.)

President Remarks



Good afternoon everyone:

Covid 19 is still with us and we have to remain vigilant and continue to remain safe and practice Social Distancing.

But saying all that, we are Amateur Radio Operators and the Beat Goes ON!! We have two great opportunities in June of 2020.

We are still proceeding with the annual Spring Picnic. We still have the Jaycee pavilion at Silver Park in Alliance reserved. But, the reservation may be canceled by the city because of the situation with Covid 19. If that becomes the case, we have reserved the pavilion At First Christian Church 1141 West Beech Street in Alliance. We will eat at 6pm and conduct a brief business meeting at 7:30pm. More updates on the picnic are forthcoming in the near future. We will have our new storage trailer at both the picnic and field day so everyone can see their investment in action.

ARRL Field Day will be June 27-28, We have a site reserved, it will be located in the Gym of First Christian Church 1141 West Beech Street. The Pavilion outside is already

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AARC Meetings

The Alliance Amateur Radio Club meetings are temporarily cancelled due the COVID19 Pandemic. For now, our meetings are being held on our two Meter repeater. See pg. 1 for more information.

Find Us Online:

Web: www.w8lky.org

E-mail: w8lky@w8lky.org



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 (-)

Z e r o B e a t

(Continued from page 1)

reserved by someone else. We have a tentative operating time of 8am to? Saturday. There are church services in the church Sunday. We will also be operating out of our own shacks during the ARRL Field Day, more information as to how that will occur will be shared with you as we get closer to the event.

Mayor Alan Andreani of Alliance has created a proclamation for AMATEUR RADIO WEEK June 21-28, 2020. We already have the proclamation in hand and it will be on display at the June 10th picnic and Field Day. I will extend an invitation to the mayor to drop by the Field Day so he can see how our Field Day's function.

We are still working on having breakfast at Don Poncho's on the 6th of June, stay tuned for updates. We are working on alternate sites for future business meetings, Aultman Alliance Community meeting rooms are not available at this time.

AARC VP Doug Matthews (KB8DNQ) will chair the committee to reestablish our Echo Link. He will be contacting a select group of AARC members to help. We expect to have Echo Link up and operating VERY SOON!

John (KD8MQ) will be announcing the winner of 2020 Fundraiser on June 10th.

73's

See you in person or on the air,

Ron KE8HCY

New Officers E-Mail Addresses

Beginning this month, we have new e-mail addresses for our club. They will be incorporated into the website, and newsletter over the next month.

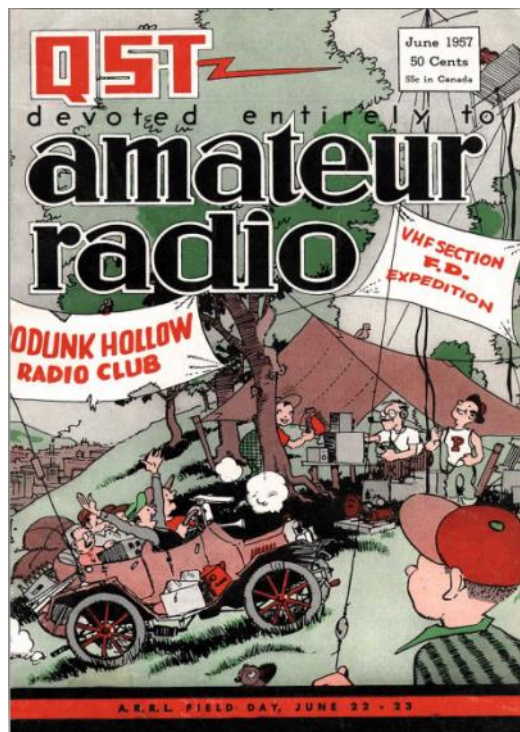
president@w8lky.org	vice-president@w8lky.org
secretary@w8lky.org	treasurer@w8lky.org
trustees@w8lky.org	webmaster@w8lky.org
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Field Day Then & Now

Well, ARRL Field Day is coming up as usual on the 4th full weekend of the month; June 27/28 to be exact. This year's event may not be what you expect, but that's not necessarily a bad thing; just different.

According to the June, 1933 issue of QST Field Day was conceived as a means to "test 'portables' wherever they may be available". The winning Ohio entry in that first Field Day was W8GDM (Buckeye Short Wave Radio Assn) with 37 QSO points, 12 sections/Foreign countries, and a final score of 444.

Today, the act of running portable is as simple as deciding to do it. But, in 1933, according to the Field Day Announcement in QST, you began by notifying your radio supervisor. You not only needed a license for a portable station, but the Federal Radio Commission (FRC) had to be notified of any portable excursions.



Your challenges didn't end there, either. Today, you toss a couple of 12V batteries into your go kit, string up a simple antenna, and you are on the air. But, this was 1933. The transistor wouldn't be a thing until 1947. So, battery power back then consisted of an "A" battery for your vacuum tube filaments, and a "B" battery for the power (B+) to run the radio circuits. Not cheap to come by either, I bet. Maybe you could score a location that had commercial power, but that wasn't guaranteed. The challenges that a 1933 Ham had to overcome just to get on the air were huge, but getting on the air from a portable location was an even bigger challenge.



Logging has improved as well. There's no more wretched paper dupe sheets to contend with. Those of us who were contesting before the mid-1980s still remember what a pain in the neck those dupe sheets were. In case you've never had the pleasure, here's how they worked.

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Each callsign you were thinking about calling (or answering) had to be looked up on the dupe sheet to ensure you hadn't already worked them. If they weren't there, you were clear to call (or answer) the station. After working them, you could enter them into your log. But, don't forget to add them to your dupe sheet as well!

Today, not only do we have computer logging, but computerized contest submissions too. A few hours after Field Day ends, you can already have your entry submitted to the league, and posted to the 3830 website, where you can watch to see how you did against other stations who also use 3830. Back then, of course, there weren't any internet, computers, printers, etc. So, your log had to be checked; not only for accuracy, but read-

ability as well. Once your entry was ready, then into the mail it went. Granted, the entry requirements in 1933 were pretty simple.

First of all, only those stations that were actually portable in the field were eligible to submit logs. Similar to today, ARRL sections, and DX countries count as multipliers. Each contact would count for one point; 2 points if it was with another portable station; 3 points for contacting a DX station. It's interesting to note also that you had only a week to submit your logs; not 30 days as they did later.

The ARRL Communication director F.E. Handy hoped that this "Field Day" would be successful enough to make it an annual affair. I think we can guess the rest of the story from here. Field Day flourished, and is still around 87 years later. If you'd like to read more about Field Day history, I highly recommend an article by K3RA in the December, 1999 issue of QST. It is titled "Field Day, A Mirror Of Amateur Radio History". If you are an ARRL member, you can find it in the QST archives on ARRL.org. If not, a quick Google search on the title should turn up something.

So, your local club is practicing social distancing? Maybe the site has changed, or the event has been cancelled? Don't let that stop you my friend! Get out, get on the air, and have some Radio fun! 73 DE KD8MQ

AARC Repeaters

2 Meters

145.370 (-) W8LKY
(PL - 110.9hz)

440 MHz

442.350 (+) W8LKY
(PL - 131.8hz)

Nets

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7:00PM 147.51 Simplex

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8:00PM 28.420 MHz
(SSB)

8:30PM 28.100 MHz (CW)

Two Meters

9:00 PM 145.37 MHz
W8LKY (-)

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/>.

73 DE John, KD8MQ



WWW.ARRL.ORG

Field Day 2020

FD2020 is still on. The league suggests taking a creative approach to this years Field Day. They have, however temporarily waived a couple of the rules for this years event.

First of all, rule 4.6 of the rules has been modified to allow Class D stations to contact each other for point credit. In light of this, a new version of the N3FJP FD Logging program has been released that takes this rule into effect. If you are planning to use this program, please check your version. It should be V6.3. If you aren't planning to operate Class D, then V6.2

will work (All club-owned computers have been updated to V6.2).

Also, the league will list club aggregate scores in this years results. If you are planning to operate on your own this year, please consider listing the AARC as your club. This will help our aggregate score.

The Presidents Remarks (pg1, this issue) for this month lists plans to operate Field day from the First Christian Church on Saturday, the 27th. Stay tuned for more information on this.

Radio History, and Ham Antennas N8SH

One of the early radio articles that was published was in American Electrician see

<https://earlyradiohistory.us/1899nd.htm> The same web site has a lot of ham radio historical information: <https://earlyradiohistory.us/> . While most Hams know of Hiram Percy Maxim many probably don't know he played a significant role in the development of the automobile and a gun silencer. If you read of early cars you may see his name without any reference to radio. **"In 1899, with Maxim at the controls, the Pope Columbia, a gasoline-powered automobile, won the first closed-circuit automobile race in the U.S.** at Branford, Connecticut. Columbia continued to produce gasoline cars until 1913, and was also a major manufacturer of early electric automobiles and trucks." from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hiram_Percy_Maxim and yes it is the same person.

In my last article I mentioned **Edwin Armstrong**. I forgot to mention he also invented the super regenerative receiver. While most of us have seen super regenerative receivers as VHF, UHF radios it was also used at HF for a short time – see the 1922 QST articles – I think it was June or July where there are 2 construction articles for HF versions where it seems that was the big new idea with a commercial version also advertised in the magazine. Old versions of QST are online available to QST subscribers for free.

If one is serious about radio history Morse code related things should be included. Vibroplex keys were advertised in QST since the early days one site to read about them is: <http://www.vibroplexcollector.net/>

So in the March newsletter there was a mention of **NVIS day** coming up on April 25. I put up an **NVIS style antenna** yesterday in my back yard. To fit my backyard I made it a Horizontal V facing south. The antenna has a few more dB gain North- South than East-West at some elevations based on the EZ Nec model of it I created. It is virtually OMNI directional but the radiation is highest at the highest angles. I plan to model others from the March newsletter as well -- I think they may fit my uses better than what I have up today. Regardless I made 20 or so contest contacts from it on **40 meter SSB** just verifying that it does work using the TR4C I mentioned before. One limitation that the TR4C has is that there is no audio compressor and my voice could really use some for radio effectiveness.

The **end feed L antenna** has become really popular in the last 10 years again. They can be really effective if they fit your property and if done well. Typically they use a RF transformer with a 49 to 1 impedance ratio or similar. Check out this guys videos: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xfqlun3bdI0> . He is from the Shelby NC area. He also has a video of the Charlotte hamfest a few weeks back at the start of the Pandemic and there were few people there.

Later, **N8SH**

W8LKY

Alliance Amateur Radio Club

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W8lky.org

w8lkyradio@gmail.com

Renewal/Membership Application

Call _____

Dues

Sustaining \$15.00

Full \$10.00

Associate \$5.00

Family \$1.00



Name _____ Phone # (____) _____ - _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Birthday _____

Occupation _____ ARRL Member (Y/N)? _____

License Class _____ Expiration Date _____ Year First Licensed _____

E-Mail Address _____

Special Interests (DXing, Contesting, Hunting, Model Airplanes, etc.) _____

Pro-Rated Dues Schedule

(New Members Only)

	April-June	July-Sept	Oct-Dec	Jan- Mar
Sustaining	\$15.00	\$11.25	\$7.50	\$3.75
Full	\$10.00	\$7.50	\$5.00	\$2.50
Associate	\$5.00	\$3.75	\$2.50	\$1.25
Family	\$1.00	\$0.75	\$0.50	\$0.25

Please Do Not Write Below This Line

Dues paid- Sustaining() Full() Associate() Family() \$ _____ on _____, 20____ Signed _____

Editor's Rambling

Hi everyone, It's almost June, and a big month is upon us. Personally, the biggest thing coming up is the June 10th drawing of the winning ticket for the FT-450D that we've been selling chances on. The ticket will be drawn at our June picnic (See pg. 1). If you can't attend, please join us in our Facebook group. We'll be broadcasting the drawing of the winning ticket on Facebook Live.

Best of luck to all who are participating in Field day 2020. It promises to be an interesting weekend. The Gymnasium at the First Christian Church has been reserved for the 27th. If you can't participate there, I hope you can get on from home as we spend this years event under the cloud of social distancing.

This is another quickly put together newsletter. The kitchen remodel is still in process. I hadn't been keeping track for the last few months, but this is the 366th issue of the Zero Beat.

Not counting the issues that I co-edited, or just published, **this is my 190th issue of the Zero Beat.** Number 200 will be a big deal for me.

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

DX Contest

Here're the standings for the AARC DX Challenge:

- **Winner: James, KD8VT (95 countries worked)**
 - 2nd place: Rex, NX8G (90 Countries Worked)
 - 3rd place: Tony, KD8BBK (76 countries worked)
 - 4th place: Karen, N8HUC (42 countries worked)

Congratulations to all; see you next year!

Newsletter Information

The Zero Beat is a publication of the

**Alliance Amateur Radio Club
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www.W8LKY.org