



Zero Beat

Volume XXXIV, no 12

<http://www.w8lky.org>

December, 2020

Serving the Tri-County area since 1986

Upcoming Club Programs & Events

December 5 - Club Breakfast

December 9 - Club Meeting
(On Air)

January 2 - Club Breakfast

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

Club Breakfast

We meet for breakfast on the first Saturday of every month, at Don Pancho's, 2105 W. State St, Alliance.

We hope to see you at our next breakfast on December 5th at 8:30AM.

Club Meeting

Our next club meeting will be held on December 9th at 7:30PM.

This months meeting will again be on our Two Meter repeater

145.370 with a PL of 110.9hz on the Transmit, and receive.



President's Remarks

Good Morning everyone:
Well here we are in the first few weeks of the 2021 Administration of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club. It

seems like it is the same old record, except now there is some real light at the end of the tunnel. Vaccines for COVID are just around the corner and hopefully we will be back to some normalcy in the spring of 2021. All we have to do is remain calm and as they would say, go along with the program.

The club's programming is scaled back to just a Fundraiser and our weekly nets and monthly Club's Business Meeting on air, which takes the place of our normal face to face meeting at the Aultman Alliance Community Hospital located on East State Street at South Arch Avenue. Just a minor clarification, when we hold our monthly business meeting "On Air" we do not quote actual financial figures, that information can be obtained directly from the club treasurer. In the month of November alone, we had to cancel a traditional Alliance Salvation Army Kettle Bell Ringing Project. We also had to cancel a first time community service project the Alliance Salvation Ar-

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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

7:30 PM 28.122 MHz (Olivia)
8:00PM 28.420 MHz (SSB)
8:30PM 28.100 MHz (CW)

Two Meters

9:00 PM 145.37 MHz W8LKY (-)

Presidents Remarks

(Continued from page 1)

my 5 K Project in early November. The project was structured similar to the Alliance Rotary Clubs annual Castle 5K and 10K event.

The traditional Alliance Amateur Radio Club Christmas Party and awards dinner for 2020 has also been cancelled for the month of December 2020, due to CDC restrictions. We are hoping when activities return to normal in the spring of 2021, we can have a big party. We are still working on a way to honor the "Ham of the Year of AARC" and we will let the club membership know soon how that will take place. Frank WA8WHP is the chairperson of the event. Check with Frank WA8WHP if you haven't made your nomination yet.

The newest AARC net is our Digital Net, Doug Matthews KD8DNQ is net control. Check our Website for all the details on the newest club's Web addition, AARC's Digital Net.

The addition of the recently installed DMR Repeater in Alliance Fire Department Station #3 just south of the intersection of State Street and South Union Avenue, will greatly help with Digital traffic in the near future. Please refer to previous articles on the DMR Repeater for more information.

Last but certainly not least is AARC's favorite Fundraiser, normally held at the conclusion of each years October Club business meeting. This year we had to modify how we conducted the fundraiser. This year, we are asking for cash donations only, we are accepting donations via our Pay Pal port on our club web site: w8lky.org. We are also accepting checks and money orders which can be mailed to Alliance Amateur Radio Club PO Box 3344 Alliance, Ohio 44601, any amount would be appreciated. The money raised will be evening divided between the Alliance Police and Fire Department unions to fund their annual Christmas Holiday projects.

AARC has a great group of Ham Radio Operators. Their is one thing that really stands out, the willingness of more experienced members to step up and help newer members with tower and antenna projects, taking a fellow hams radio and putting it on their "Bench" and fixing a members radio. We QSL the hard work of our "Elmers" in the club. Ladies and Gentlemen, you are the greatest friend to anyone in amateur radio. Thank You for carrying on this fine tradition in Amateur Radio.

73's

Ron KE8HCY

Field Day Results Are Online



WWW.ARRL.ORG

Recently, the results for ARRL Field Day 2020 were added to the results Database at <https://tinyurl.com/yxfl26cw>

The results database allows you to do a more thorough search than is possible using the printed results.

It's a good way to kill an hour or two.

The following Alliance ARC members were found:

Call	QSOs	Score	Class
KD8BBK	545	2330	1E
KD8MQ	151	828	1B1C
KB8DNQ	75	284	1D
K8DXR	71	192	1D
N8IGZ	17	84	1D

Good job everyone for getting on the air during this pandemic.

Solar Conditions Added To W8LKY.org

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Solar-Terrestrial Data
28 Nov 2020 1635 GMT
SFI:107 SN: 60
A-Index: 8
K-Index: 2
X-Ray: B3.4
304A: 117.0 @ SEM
Calculated Conditions
Band Day Night
80m-40m: Fair Good
30m-20m: Good Good
17m-15m: Fair Fair
12m-10m: Poor Poor
Signal Noise: S1-S2
Click to Install Solar
Data On your Web Site
http://www.n0n0h.com
Copyright Paul L Herrman 2010

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With the Solar conditions improving as we enter a new cycle, I'll be the first to admit that this is all Greek to me.

But, we've added a graphic to W8LKY.org which will make solar forecasts easier even for folks like me.

If it works and updates as it's supposed to, then you'll be able to go to the club website to see the current solar numbers



Ho! Ho! Ho!

Santa's on Ham Radio

Share the magic of Ham Radio and Santa Claus with your children, grandchildren, and neighborhood kids.

The Santa Net is held every evening between Thanksgiving and Christmas on 3.916 MHz at 7:15PM Central Time.

The above is from the CQSANTA.com website.

Universal Radio Closing Owners retiring



Dear Friends Of Universal Radio

Time waits for no one, and that includes Barbara and myself. We have decided to retire and our current location in Worthington will close on November 30, 2020. Even though the store is closing we will fulfill all existing customer orders and have a large amount of inventory to close-out. The Universal Radio website will be maintained for the foreseeable future to sell this remaining stock, publications and some select products. Unfortunately the lack of a store front showroom will preclude us from carrying some manufacturers' products.

I am very fortunate to have been in the radio business for over 50 years, 13 at Radio Shack and 37 at Universal Radio. We have met many wonderful people along the journey who have supported me personally as well as Universal Radio. It has been a privilege to have a continuous career in the fascinating field of radio since 1969.

Please accept our sincere "Thank You" for your support of Universal Radio for these many years, and for the months to come.

Our new address for correspondence and mail order is below. This is not a store front.

Universal Radio Inc.
752 N. State St. Unit 222
Westerville, OH 43082

Phone: 614 866-4267

Thank you.

73,

Fred Osterman N8EKU
Barbara Osterman KC8VWI

New Thursday Night Net

On October 1st, Doug, KB8DNQ began a new digital net on Ten Meters. It begins each Thursday night on 28.122. Set the mode on your digital software to Olivia 8/500.

According to Doug,

To check into the net:

"AARCDN de (your call), name. city, with or without a comment"

Then when making a comment or addressing the net use

"AARCDN de (your call) ' and then your comments.

I've done a bit with Olivia, and can confirm that if you are set up for other modes such as RTTY, PSK, etc. using Fldigi, then you should be good to go on Olivia. I'm using a Signalink USB sound card interface, and it works just fine for the net.

For more information, contact Doug, KB8DNQ at kb8dnq@gmail.com.

AARC DX Challenge

Remember, the AARC DX Challenge begins at 0000Z on Wednesday, September 30th, and continues until 2359Z March 31st. It's similar to [CQ Magazine's DX Marathon](#). The challenge part of it is to see just how many different DX countries you can work in 6 months.

The rules are simple;

- 1) You must be a AARC member during the 6 month period.
- 2) All DX entities count once, Regardless of Band, or Mode.
- 3) All bands & Modes are eligible
- 4) You are on the honor system. Just send in your logs at the end, and we'll score them.

Questions or entries can be directed to [John, KD8MQ](#) at kd8mq1@gmail.com.

"The Night Before Christmas" Ham Radio-style

Twass the night before Christmas, when all through the town,
the snowstorm was raging, the phone lines were down;
The wind it did howl, the tree limbs did crack,
I hope that St. Nick isn't forced to turn back.

The wife making cookies, the kids making noise,
while away in the shack, by my rig I was poised.
The finals were glowing, the mike gain was set,
I was chasing DX to see what I could get.

The bands were all empty, the frequencies clear,
except one lone station that sounded quite near.
He was calling CQ and my interest did pique,
When he ended transmission with the words,
"Old St. Nick".

I answered back quickly, I used great dispatch,
If this were St. Nicholas, good God, what a catch!
We exchanged information, it was really quite graphic,
then he came back and said, "I've emergency traffic!"

His reindeer were tired, his elves in a grump,
If he didn't land soon, then his sleigh he would dump. I
thought
very carefully, I thought very hard,
Then I gave him directions to my snow covered yard.

As he flew past my window, his hair like a mane,
He reined in his chargers and called them by name:
"Whoa, Anode! Whoa, Cathode! Whoa, Zener! Whoa, Diode!
Stop, Heater! Stop, Grid leak! Stop, Bias! Stop, Triode!"

You're flying too low! You're flying too fast!
Look out, you dumb reindeer, his antenna mast!"
So into the backyard the reindeer did drop,
St. Nick, the elves, and the sleigh went kerplop!

Then at the back door, I heard this loud knocking,
"Open up in there, or I won't fill your stocking!"
As I turned off the light and was leaving the shack,
into the house Saint Nicholas came from the back--

His two-meter rig held to his hip with a strap,
"Hams do it in the shack" on the front of his cap.

The sack that he carried made his aged brow furrow,
and he handed me a card that read,
"QSL Via Bureau".

His clothes were all sooty, from his shoes to his vest;
I felt like a novice taking his test.
His fingers were calloused and from what I could tell,
this came from a straight key that Ill bet he used well.

I offered him coffee, I offered him smokes,
I tried easing the tension by telling ham jokes.

Then he nodded his head and raised up his thumb,
He smiled like an Elmer, did I ever feel dumb.

He grabbed up his sack and went straight for the tree,
and placed in it a large present for me.

When he finished his work, he stood up, took a bow,
then out the back door to his team he did plow.

But I heard him exclaim as he flew o'er the land,
"Beware the FCC, friend, we were both out of band!"

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Minutes

Remember, our club minutes (with the financials redacted) can be found on our website at w8lky.org.

HAMVENTION 2021 THEME "THE GATHERING"



The theme for the 2021 Hamvention is "The Gathering". Rick Allnutt, WS8G, Hamvention General Chairman, said the theme reflects what has been missing from our lives most of this year.

"We have spent the last six months being bound to our

house and small groups. We are very optimistic that when May arrives we will be allowed to get together," Allnutt said.

The chairman, who is a medical doctor with a master's degree in public health, said Hamvention management is following the corona virus situation closely and believes that the situation will improve enough by May that government restrictions on travel and large groups will be relaxed.

He and his team will continue to follow developments closely which they hope will make The Gathering possible. "We hope we will all be able to get together, talk about ham radio and share the interaction we have missed," Allnutt said.

Hamvention has long been the place for hams from around the country and the world to meet face to face and share information and fellowship. The theme acknowledges the role that Hamvention plays in amateur radio.

Allnutt said the Hamvention committee has been working hard to make Hamvention 2021 a reality. He thanked all the volunteers, vendors and organizations that support amateur radio's biggest gathering

(from Hamvention.org & Facebook)

Swap & Shop

For Sale: Yaesu FT-450 (This is not the D version). This has been my camping/POTA rig for the last 4 years. When not in use, it's kept in a Pelican-style case. I'm selling it because I'm looking at purchasing something smaller. It comes with the hand mic, power cable, instruction manual, box. Asking \$425.

For Sale: Yaesu FTM-400XDR Dual Band Fusion rig. New Nov 2018. Has both Bluetooth & Voice modules installed. Original box & mount - \$450.00

Contact: John, KD8MQ at: kd8mq1@gmail.com or phone 330-936-5021

Local Man Does, In Fact, Own The Frequency

PORT O' GLOOM, GEORGIA — A Chickasaw County man has become the first amateur radio operator to officially purchase an HF radio frequency, the Federal Communications Commission announced today in a noon hour media luncheon.

Between bites of cucumber sandwiches and small squares of bread slathered with pimento cheese, FCC spokesman Pontus "Smokey" Blumenthal told reporters gathered at the Tri-County Technical College dining hall that the sale is "... part of the government's plan to generate revenue from 'under-performing' slices of the radio spectrum."

Using a lottery system, local ham radio operator Buzz Sanders (175 Fisherman's Landing), accepted purchase of 14.281 MHz in the 20 meter amateur radio band.

A retired auto industry worker, Sanders says he'll pay \$2500 for the frequency over 35 monthly payments with a large balloon payment in month 36.

"It seemed like a fair deal to me," he said. "When I get ready to work a contest, have a rag chew, want to tune up on the air, or just create some random QRM, I can use 14.281. And if someone gets belligerent, I'll remind them that as a matter of fact I DO own the frequency!"

Sanders says he's already thinking about subletting the frequency after several large contesting organizations contacted him in recent days.

Blumenthal shared that the FCC is also considering a "lease-to-own" frequency program, with the option to return the frequency to the government at the end of the lease term if propagation isn't suitable to the operator.

By [WBØRUR](#), on the scene
From [Ham Hijinks.com](#) [HUMOR ALERT]

Editors Rambling

Hi everyone, This Friday is a milestone I never expected; 40 Years as a Ham. In 1980, my station consisted of a Drake 2C/2NT setup with a homebrew VFO, running 50-60W to a end fed longwire that ran over my folks backyard. They were fun days indeed. I just can't believe 40 years has passed so quickly.

"Black Friday" specials continue. The stores I drove by yesterday didn't seem overly crowded. A couple of us headed out to the parks that day, and ignored the whole "Black Friday" thing.

Tony, KD8BBK, and I each activated three Ohio State Parks on Friday. Tony drove north; I drove south. While I can't speak for Tony, I am continually amazed at the beautiful scenery we have here in Ohio. My travels took me down to Meigs County Ohio, along the Ohio River. From there, I worked my way back through Athens, and Muskingum Counties, and arrived home around dinner time.

Each year, one of the outdoor gear retailers close on Black Friday, and sponsor the #optoutside event. This involves getting outdoors instead of getting up at 5am for a \$20 crockpot.

In the last month, my Ham radio activity has been pretty sparse, so getting out and knocking three parks off my bucket list felt good.

So, that's it for this month. See you all down the page.

This is the 371st issue of the Zero Beat, and **my 196th issue.**

73 DE KD8MQ

Newsletter Information

The Zero Beat is a publication of the

Alliance Amateur Radio Club
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www.W8LKY.org