



# Zero Beat

Volume XXXV, no 11

<http://www.w8lky.org>

November, 2021

Serving the Tri-County area since 1986

## Club Programs & Events

November 6th - Club Breakfast

November 10th - Club Meeting  
([for all events, see w8lky.org](http://www.w8lky.org))

## Club Breakfast

At 8:30am on the first Saturday of each month, we meet for breakfast at

**Don Panchos Restaurant  
(2105 W. State St, Alliance)**

All are welcome.

## Club Meeting

This month, we will be meeting at Don Pancho's Tex-Mex (2105 W. State St, Alliance)

Dinner at 6-ish, and meeting promptly at 7:30PM

## Nets

Tuesday  
7PM - FM Simplex on 147.51

Thursday  
8PM - SSB on 28.420  
8:30PM - CW on 28.100  
9:00PM - FM on 145.37

## Starting 2022 With A Bang!



We have just completed our 2022 Elections. The 2021 Executive Committee minus our VP will stay on for 2022. We are still looking for a new VP for the 2022 administration. If you are interested, contact the club trustees. We hope

and pray that we will be able to conduct the next election of officers in person in October 2022. We will strive to continue to upgrade current members licenses and hopefully have the Alliance Rotary Club's Castle Run on our schedule of projects on Labor Day 2022.

The Salvation Army project was a success. We had Six(6) operators and for the most part the project was very good. We were short three(3) operators and those post were covered except for one by the team we had in place. The Attendance of Walkers/Runners was low, but that could have been because of the rain and cool temperatures. All of us felt good working the project. Our team included: Frank(WA8WHP), TOMAS(KC8ZEH), Dallas(N8XTJ), Mike(KE8CXL), John(WG8X) and Ron(KE8HCY).

The VE Sessions have slowed down in the number of people taking the tests. We have decided not to conduct any testing in November or December 2021. We are hopping to resume testing in all four quarters of 2022. please continue to talk to people about ham Radio and pass out our business cards. By the way, we have attained a 36 Percent

# Officers

## President

KE8HCY  
Ron Rittenhouse  
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## Vice-President

## Secretary

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Howard Miller, K8DXR [hmiller32@neo.rr.com](mailto:hmiller32@neo.rr.com)

## W8LKY Callsign Trustee

John Myers, WG8X [WG8X1@gmail.com](mailto:WG8X1@gmail.com)

## AARC Meetings

The Alliance Amateur Radio Club meets on the Second Wednesday of each month at **Don Panchos Tex-Mex Cafe**. 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](http://www.w8lky.org)

**E-mail:** [w8lky.radio@gmail.com](mailto: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)

8:20PM 28.100 MHz (CW)

#### Two Meters

9:00 PM 145.37 MHz W8LKY (-)

## **Starting 2022 With A Bang! - cont.**

increase in our membership over the past three years.

The 2021 AARC Christmas Dinner including Awards Presentation will take place December 8<sup>th</sup> at the First Christian Church Fellowship Hall starting at 6pm, casual business attire is requested. We do not have the Menu Yet, but as so as we get it, it will be passed along. The cost per person has not been determined yet, Tom Sly, ARRL Ohio Section Director and wife Mary will be our Guests. We may have other guests added to the list. We are still working on a vocal group and Sierra Charlie has included AARC in his surprise visit list.

The November club breakfast will be held November 6<sup>th</sup> at Don Ponchos 8;30am. The club's November Business meeting will also be at Don Ponchos November 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm. The pre meeting dinner will be at the same location starting at 6pm. These meetings are also a great way for you to bring a guest and hopefully a potential new member.

I wanted to repeat a statement I made, three(3) years ago when had about 44 members, we could not have foreseen the growth that we have with our present roster of 60 members or 36 percent increase. We did this as a team, our programming is outstanding, both internally and externally. We are fully functional and is all because of YOU. If someone hasn't told you Thank You, for all the things you do to make this a Great Amateur Radio Club, let me simply say it, THANK YOU!!

See you on the air or in person.

73

Ron(KE8HCY)

**LEARN MORSE CODE - CW**

**WITH THE LONG ISLAND CW CLUB**

**HELPING TO EXPAND THE  
USE AND POPULARITY OF CW**



[longislandcwclub.org/](http://longislandcwclub.org/)

## ARRL Clean Signal Initiative on the horizon

In recent message to his Northwest Division membership, Mike Ritz, W7VO, described a new program that he's gotten the ARRL to take on—the Clean Signal Initiative. He writes:

“After a few months gathering support from the amateur community for the project, the ARRL Clean Signal Initiative (CSI) is finally getting off the ground. The Board's Programs and Services Committee approved the concept several months ago, and since then I have been canvassing some of the best known RF engineers in amateur radio to get their support and input. As a result, the team will be conducting our first Zoom call next week to lay out the next steps for the project. All I can say at this time is that there are some amateur radio “heavy hitters” behind this, and I believe will be a game changer for the ARRL.

For those that may be unaware of this project, here is a synopsis (or at least my vision):

1. The CSI gets the ARRL formally in the “technical standards” business. (Other technical organizations already do it: IEEE, UL, ASTM, and SAE, and others.) The ARRL currently tests new products to informal standards, with no real hard benchmarks for manufacturers to meet, other than the minimal standards outlined in FCC Part 97.307.

2. Creates and incorporates documented “best practice” standards and testing methodologies to ensure commercial amateur radio transmitters and amplifiers meet not only minimum FCC requirements for signal cleanliness, but push the envelope.

3. These new standards can be “home grown”, or passed through the IEEE, but I think it's important they be also branded as “ARRL Technical Standards.”

4. Test new commercial transceivers and amplifiers against these standards.

5. Certify the transmitters and amplifiers that pass the standards: “CSI certified by the ARRL.”

6. Work with manufacturers to ensure compliance of those that don't. (Market pressure will drive this.)

7. Market the program to the amateurs through QST.

8. Work with manufacturers and social media experts to create training materials to teach hams how to set up their equipment to ensure the cleanest transmitted signals. (This education part is key!)”

Rob Sherwood, NCOB, of Sherwood Engineering, who is most well-known for his ranking of receiver performance (<http://www.sherweng.com/>)

ARRL Clean Signal Initiative on the horizon—cont.

table.html), is part of this effort. You can see a video of a talk that he gave recently to the Sutton & Cheam Radio Society by going to <https://youtu.be/IioApKRecrI>. Also on the committee is Ward Silver, N0AX.

Based on my knowledge of how IEEE standards committees work, I stressed that the initiative should make every effort to get as many stakeholders—including manufacturers and users—involved as possible. Involving so many people may be cumbersome at times, but standards require consensus for them to be effective, and the only way to do that is to get everyone involved. I'd suggest that if you feel that you have something to contribute that you contact Mike directly. His email address is [w7vo@arrl.org](mailto:w7vo@arrl.org).

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Dan Romanchik, KB6NU, is the author of the KB6NU amateur radio blog (KB6NU.Com), the "No Nonsense" amateur radio license study guides (<https://KB6NU.Com/study-guides/>), and often appears on the ICQPodcast (<https://icqpodcast.com>). When he's not worry about how clean his signal is, he operates CW on the HF bands and teaches ham radio classes.

Let's See Your QSL Card!

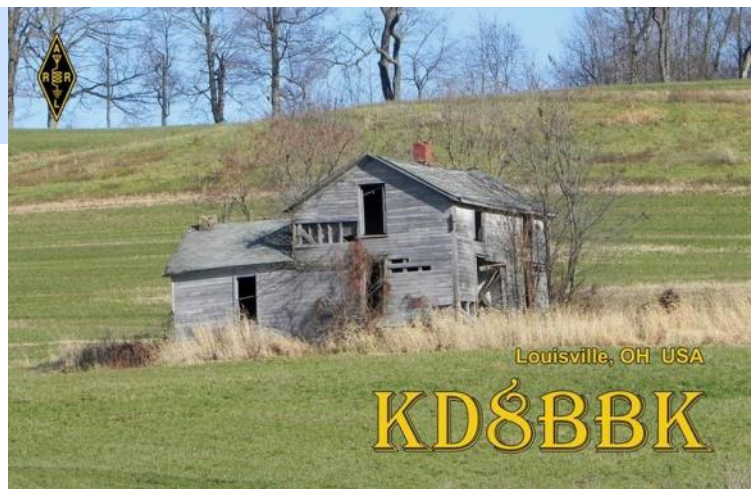
Back in the day, the QSL card (**NOT QSO card**) was referred to as the final courtesy of a Ham Radio contact on HF. It's kind of fallen by the wayside in recent years for domestic contacts, but some of us still exchange cards.

There are on-air awards nets such as 3905 Century Club that require the receipt of a card for awards purposes.

So, I'd like to give you an opportunity to share your QSL card here. Maybe your card will be an inspiration to others who want to do a card, but aren't quite sure where to start.

This month, we have KD8BBK's card, ripped from his QRZ page ([qrz.com/db/KD8BBK](http://qrz.com/db/KD8BBK)).

If you would like your card to grace our pages, please send me a scan, or a card at [kd8mq1@gmail.com](mailto:kd8mq1@gmail.com)



## AARC Repeaters

### 2 Meters

145.370 (-) W8LKY  
(PL - 110.9hz)  
Echolink:

### 440 MHz

442.350 (+)  
W8LKY  
(PL - 131.8hz )

## Nets

### Tuesday

**Homeland security Net**  
7:00PM 147.51 Simplex

### Thursday

#### Ten Meters

7:30PM 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 (-)

## Minutes

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

The treasurers report can be obtained by e-mailing the treasurer at [WG8X1@gmail.com](mailto:WG8X1@gmail.com)

## AARC Monthly VE Testing

The Alliance ARC is now doing monthly VE testing.

### **Our November & December VE sessions have been cancelled.**

Our 2022 dates will be announced shortly.

Testing is held at the First Christian Church, 1141 W. Beech Street, in Alliance

Registration will be between 8-9AM, and testing will begin at 9 AM

The cost for testing will be \$15.00

Applicants Need to Bring the following;

- Copy of any current Amateur Radio License
- You must have an E-mail address for the FCC form. This is how they will contact you.
- If not licensed please go to the FCC website and register for an FRN. Bring this number with you as it is needed for your application.
- Photo ID showing current address like a Driver's License
- One additional ID, like a CCW Permit, Passport or work ID
- \$15.00, Cash only and exact change is encouraged
- A calculator is optional for math problems

For any additional questions please contact VE Team Liaison

**Karen Andrews, N8HUC**  
**(330)206-0563**

## Technician License Training Course Added to ARRL's YouTube Channel



ARRL's YouTube channel, *ARRLHQ*, has launched a series of amateur radio Technician-class license courses. This series of videos features Dave Casler, KE0OG, QST's "Ask Dave" columnist, who leads viewers through [The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual](#). These videos supplement the manual and provide an overview of the sections you'll be studying, along with a few videos on how things work. Share this excellent resource with those who are preparing to take their Technician exam, and visit the [ARRLHQ YouTube channel](#) for more great amateur radio videos. ([ARRL.org](#))

## Print an Official or Unofficial Copy of Your Amateur Radio License

(By Anthony Luscre, K8ZT)

As of February 17, 2015, the **FCC no longer routinely issues paper license documents** to Amateur Radio applicants and licensees. The Commission has maintained for some time now that the official Amateur Radio license authorization is the electronic record that exists in its Universal Licensing System (ULS). The FCC will continue to provide paper license documents to all licensees who notify the Commission that they prefer to receive one.

Licensees also will be able to print out an official authorization — as well as an unofficial "reference copy" — from the ULS License Manager. I've created a set of instructions on how you can request an **"official" printed copy of your license\***



[Click here to download the instructions](#)



[www.arrl-ohio.org](http://www.arrl-ohio.org)

# WG8X Rambling

Hi everyone; yes, I've changed callsign to WG8X. But let's talk about something more important first.

Last month, I asked for your help in pushing our total donation for the fall fundraiser over the \$1000 mark. Thanks to your generous support, we raised an additional \$420 to bring our total donation this year to **\$1020!**

A special THANK YOU to the folks who stepped up to donate prizes for this years drawing. Without you, we would not have a drawing! Thanks to KD8BBK, KD8YFV, and our Section Manager, WB8LCD for their generous donation.

Also many thanks to those who voted for Ham Of The Year. Voting is now closed. The Ham of The Year plaque will be presented at our Christmas Party in December.

So, back to the callsign. I've been watching the vanity callsign websites for several years, watching for a 2X1 call that I liked, and would be good on CW. When WG8X came available, I knew that I had found it. It is so nice on CW. The fact that it was the opposite of my assigned Extra call of WX8G, made it better. Some think that I'm nuts for changing calls, but I don't really care. I'm still working to get my LOTW working again, and new QSL cards are on their way. Yes, I still send out QSL cards in response to cards received. Here's a screenshot of the new card design. Want one? You have to catch me on the air, then send me one of yours. **73 DE WG8X**



## 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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[www.W8LKY.org](http://www.W8LKY.org)