

October, 1988

Officers Pres. - Dave Buckwalter-KC3CL Larry Hillier-M8EWV V. Pres-Allen Dicks-WIST Sec'y-Bric Gwynne, N8HHV Treas-Patti Hillier-KB8KH

trustees Ron Gwynne-WC8F Jim Ferguson-N8DZA
Editor-Pam Myers, N8IAK

It's fall once again, raking leaves and football!

There is no spotliter column this month due to the editor being ill. It will return next month for sure.

HEY! - the next club meeting will be October 3rd at the Alliance Community Hospital in conference room B on the 2nd floor. There will be a program on Navy Mars by NISM, Jack Hubbard from the Department of the Navy. Be sure to be there!

SAARA Portable Communications Facility. They have purchased an enclosure (trailer ect.) So, SAARA is moving ahead. If you would like more information about the Facility, stop by one of SAARA's meetings. They meet on the 2nd Thursday of the month at Salem Hospital at 7:30p.m.

Congratulations to the following: KB8DUX Tom Miller who upgraded to General (written) and KB8DWP Larry Ashburn who upgraded to Technician. Good job!

JOTA

or Jamboree On The Air, as it's more commonly known, will be October 15-16, 1988. Sponsored by the World Bureau of Scouting in Geneva Switzerland, this is a great time to invite some scouts to your shack to participate.

Calling frequencies are as follows: CW- 3590, 7030, 14070, 21140, & 28190 SSB- 3940, 7290, 14290, 21360, & 28350

The Pres Sez! Dave KC3CL, wants us to bring a QSL card to the next meeting. We don't know what he has up his sleeve, but I'm looking forward to it. Support your new President!

CALLSIGNS!!

Once again, here's the latest eighth district callsign allocations. These are accurate to September 1'st, 1988, and are courtesy of the Regulatory Information Department at ARRL headquarters.

Extra-WJ8P(+10) Advanced-KE8TW(+11) Tech/Gen-N8JWS(+79) Novice-KB8FLL(72)

As usual, the number in parenthesis is the number of calls issued last month.

FULL HOUSE

The AARC novice classes began on September 7'th, and we are happy to report that we have our largest class ever. As of the Third session, we have 23 students, and class is moving along full speed ahead. Instructors are, Jim Ferguson(N8DZA), and John Myers(KD8MQ).

We have a few tune in the world kits left, and if you would like one, please contact KD8MQ.

A hearty welcome to the members of our novice classes, who are receiving complimentary copies of the newsletter.

GILBERT!

How about that hurricane? In case you've been hiding out for a couple of weeks, hurricane Gilbert came sliding through the Caribbean during September, leaving quite a bit of damage in it's wake. Among the hardest hit by the level 5 storm, was Jamaica, and the Yucatan Peninsula, with the storm eventually breaking up over the Western gulf coast. At it's worst, Gilbert was packing wind gusts of up to 225 MPH. One of the network news programs, showed a wind tunnel test on concrete blocks in 120 MPH winds, to illustrate the power involved. The 30 pound blocks might as well have been scraps of paper. Of course Ham radio was much in the spotlight during this disaster, as information was passed between the afflicted areas, and the rest of the world, via the only communications available at the time.

The emergency nets seemed to be well run and efficient, despite the jamming and QRM which seems to plague some of the HF nets.

Doesn't it seem kind of sad, though, that it takes such great loss of property, and lives, to put Amateur Radio in the spotlight on this scale?

QRM FROM KC3CL

Well its time for you to write an article for the newsletter. Great and just where do you get ideas to write about? Well you could just babble on about things you saw on TV or heard on the car radio. No that won't work, no one would read it. Besides, this is Ham club newsletter, so why not write about Ham stuff.

This is good, now your on the right track. What about the stuff you heard on the repeater today? No, I don't think so. Some of that was ok, but not real exciting. Then again some wasn't worth hearing much less writing about.

What about club activities? There's the Fox Hunt coming up on Sunday September 25th beginning at 2:00 PM (14:00 EDT for you 24 hour time guys). We will be meeting in the parking lot of the First American Bank on State Street. Be there by 1:45 PM (13:45). The best part of the Fox hunt is the covered dish picnic afterwards. Anytime after 4:00 PM (16:00) we will be meeting at the Rodman Butler Park on State Street. Even Non-Fox Hunters are invited to the picnic. Bring the family and come and eat (Don't forget the covered dish).

There are less than 90 days till the club Christmas banquet. Whoops I probably shouldn't have said that 9 letter word.

October 8th and 9th is the weekend of the Pennsylvania QSO Party. Some of our club members are planning DXpeditions to rare PA counties to participate in the contest. Look for John and Alan (Pam says she is going too) from Indiana county. The call sign will be KD8MQ, or maybe that new Extra Class call N18T. I will be somewhere also, but the location is presently undecided. Maybe Washington, Forest, Cambria or even Greene county. This contest can also be operated from Ohio. So you guys that stay home can get in on it. The complete rules are in the September QST, page 95. Basically the object is for PA stations to work as many contacts in the 67 PA counties, and ARRL sections as possible, while non-PA stations work only PA stations. This is a fun contest (although 40 meters can be murder) and it even stops during the night so you can sleep until Sunday morning. The club is eligible for an award if aggregate score of the membership is the highest of all clubs submitted. This award has never been won by an out of state

The next club meeting is Monday
October 3rd. The activity is to decide
what activities we, the club (Your
Club) should or will be doing in the
future. Meeting attendance has been
down somewhat, but that is because
it was summer. Well summer is over
and its time to put the lawnmower
away and get back to some serious

Ham Radio stuff. What we need to do is come up with some really good ideas for the club to do. How about some technical projects that we all can get involved with? Maybe with the sunspots on the rise we could come up with some easy conversions to 10 meters for all those CB radios laying around. If you don't have a CB they can be picked up at flea markets and yard sales for under \$20.00, add another \$5.00 worth of parts, a new crystal and you have a nice 10 meter FM rig. Another idea is antenna building. Maybe we could have an antenna design and gain measuring contest. Speaking of contest what about a DX contest for club members only? Maybe our own DXCC contest. Lets say we start 1 January and all contacts must be worked after that date and see who gets 100 countries worked and confirmed first. The club could even offer an award, nicer than the ARRL certificate to the person who reaches DXCC first. Technical talks ! Remember those ? It's been awhile since we've had any at the meetings. But then again it was summer. Lets get everyone out to the next meeting and talk up those ideas. It is time you come out and support your club and share your ideas. There is a lot of talent and knowledge in our club, and there are a lot of new Hams who are looking to gain some of that knowledge.

See you at the hospital on October 3rd

73s

Dave KC3CL

QST -I'll bet you weren't aware that you can join or renew your membership in the ARRL through the club and help expand the club treasury at the same time. Just see Patti Hillier(KE8KH) when it's time to join the league or renew.

Also, how many of you are aware that the club keeps on hand, a stock of FCC form 610's? We also have license manuals for Novice through Extra. Just contact John, KD8MQ(821-5513 or 5.37R) for more info.

CONTEST!!

Lest we forget, the 31'st Annual Pennsylvania QSO party is coming up on Saturday & Sunday, October 8'th & 9'th. contest is the easiest way that I know of for you county hunters to polish of a whole state in one weekend(If only they were all that easy!), and have loads of fun besides.

The contest runs from 1600Z Oct.8-0500Z Oct.9, and 1300Z-2200Z Oct. 9. PA. stations can work anyone for point credit, while out of state stations can work only PA stations.

KC3CL will be in somewhere in Pennsylvania, as will the team of Allen Dicks(WI8T) & John Myers(KD8MQ). Complete rules and info is in QST, & CQ, so, jump in and have some fun.

They found the fox!

last Sunday was a busy day. There was a hamfest in Berea, and for those who skipped the hamfest, there was a fox hunt followed by a club picnic at Butler-Rodman park.

The fox was hiding in Early Hill Park, on the northeast side of Alliance, and using a 5/8 wave vertical antenna The winning team was Rich & Janey McDaniel (WB8TPG & WB8TPF). found the fox in 23 minutes & traveled 4 miles to find the fox. The fox this time was KD8MQ & W8IAK (John & Pam Myers). Complete details follow.

The picnic followed with plenty of food, fellowship, and fun (and Volleyball!). Some of the folks even managed to make it back from Berea, in time to share in the fun.

By the way, as usual. the winners of the for hunt get to

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