Dayton 2k6

By John Myers, KD8MQ

This year, I figured it'd be fun to check out the Dayton Hamvention. It'd been about 10 years since I've made the trip, so I thought I'd see what kind of bargains I could find.

So, checked with Allen, WI8T & found he was open to a road trip. We decided to help the environment, as well as our wallets by taking the bus, rather than driving. The bus charter was sponsored by the Pioneer Amateur Radio Fellowship (http://www.qsl.net/w8ctt/), in Akron. The cost was a very reasonable $55/person, which included our tickets. Of course that meant getting up at 3:45 AM, which was not fun, but it was all worth it a few hours later.

The bus left promptly at 5:30 AM, from the SW side of Akron, and after a stop at the golden arches, arrived at the Hamvention about 4 hours later. They deposited us practically at the front door of Hara Arena. After discharging the passengers, the bus driver parked alongside the fence near the entrance to the flea market, and was available should we need to drop off our latest purchases, or just sit & relax.

We had a great time exploring the Hamvention. After dropping our ticket stubs at the prize table, we set off to explore the flea market.

It was smaller than I remembered from 10 years ago, with several empty spaces. Possibly a lot of this was due to the extremely wet weather during the previous week. We started off not looking for anything in particular, but the call of the bargains on the hoof was too much. Within the first hour, we were both loaded down with bargains.

But the inside exhibits were the icing on the cake. For those who have never been to the Hamvention, it's made up of the main arena, large enough for basketball, Ice hockey, etc. But, on top of that, are five additional rooms for commercial spaces. According to the program, there are 657 commercial spaces under roof in the complex. And that doesn't even count the food concession area. There could have been more than that, but the ARRL took up half of the ballroom for the ARRL Expo. If there was anything you wanted to know about the league, you could get it answered there. They also had free internet access terminals & a WiFi hotspot set up for everyone's convenience.

The handicapped scooter concession seemed to be the most lucrative booth of all. Ask Jack, W8WEN how much he paid for a

Field Day Plans, etc

This month's meeting will be the last chance to make plans for Field Day 2006. Field Day, Amateur Radio's most popular operating event, will be held June 24th and 25th this year. Field Day is always the fourth full weekend in June, usually but not always, the last weekend. If you have any final suggestions, questions or comments, bring them to the meeting.

The most important thing after making contacts is logging them. Is everyone clear on that process and familiar with the software? That always seems to be a little fuzzy for many operators. And what about

Ye Olde Meeting Announcement

The next meeting of the Alliance ARC will be on Wednesday, June 7th, in conference room 1A on the west end of the Café in the new Alliance Community Hospital. Our meetings begin at 7:30 PM, and are an excellent opportunity for eyeball QSO's. Directions can be found on the K8LTG Repeater (145.370) See you there!

Dayton 2k6, cont.

(Continued from page 1)

one day, then step back, cause I bet he'll tell you all about it. We met Jack at the Fists booth, where he was helping out. Or, was he on display? I guess we never asked.

I found a DVD+-RW drive, and did some business at the CQ & ARRL booths. There was also time to look over the state of the art in HF rigs. They've come a long way since I last checked them out. I've never before seen an HF rig with monitor hookups. These will be great for the all types of operators, but I bet the visually impaired Hams are going to love it!

After a stop at the Hometown Buffet, we arrived back in Akron around 10 PM. There was even a movie on the way back. I would wholeheartedly recommend this trip. In fact, if we make the trip next year, that's how we'll get there; we will take the bus.

Field Day, etc.

(Continued from page 1)

food, etc. And what about the night shift; can you help us out there?

Larry, N8EWV is back in town and the sloop Kokopelli is in dry dock. With the help of Larry's 80 year old father-in-law, they survived the voyage home to North Carolina from Antigua in the Lesser Antilles.

The trip which lasted around 20 days, was largely uneventful, except for a lack of wind, fuel shortages, and then finally in the last couple of days, two huge wind storms that nearly destroyed Kokopelli. They lost most of their electronic equipment, including two ham radios by salt water washing over everything, but all's well that ends well. Both are safe and sound.

See you at the meeting.

Meetings

The Alliance Amateur Radio Club meets on the First Wednesday of every month, in the cafeteria of the Alliance Community Hospital. Talk-in is on 145.37 ®. Meetings begin at 7:30 PM. Visitors are always welcome.

Nets

Thursday is our "net night," with the following nets on tap:

Ten meters
CW @ 8PM on 28.400 MHz
SSB @ 8:30PM on 28.400 MHz

2 meters
9 PM on 145.37 MHz

Internet

If you'd like to check us out on the web, our E-mail address is:
> **w8lky@qsl.net**
Our club home page is:
> **http://www.w8lky.org**

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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You can submit material to the Zero Beat either electronically, to ke8ve@alliancelink.com, in person, or via snail mail. I can read most word processor formats, but prefer your files to be in straight text, E-mail, or Microsoft Word format.

ALLIANCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

May 3, 2006

The regular meeting of the Alliance Amateur Radio Club was held at the Alliance Community Hospital on May 3, 2006 at 7:30 PM with club president Robert Steele, K8RLS, presiding. There were 18 members and 2 guests present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by introductions. The club welcomed guests Rodger Trompower KA8FTS, and Miriam Sanor, wife of Frank, WA8WHP.

The April meeting minutes were published in the newsletter. The secretary's report was approved on a motion by Frank, WA8WHP and seconded by Howard, K8DXR.

Mary Ann, KB8IVS, gave the treasurer's report. The report was approved on a general voice vote.

Old business:
President Bob reported that the club's insurance had been paid and reminded everyone that club dues were due.
The discussion then shifted to issues concerning Field Day June 24-25.
--Don, K8OMO reported that the bandpass filters previously used would not work with radios having internal tuners unless the internal tuner was disabled and an external tuner used. One tuner was already available, with John, KD8MQ and Dave, N8NLZ volunteering to supply extra tuners, 2 and 1 respectively.
--Joe, KC8TAC raised the issue of

contacting local officials and media about Field Day. The secretary stated that he would take care of that.
--John, KD8MQ reiterated that he was getting the port-a-pot but that this year the club was being charged tax. The question was raised about whether the club is considered to be a non-profit entity. The issue was not immediately resolved, requiring further research.

President Bob asked John, KD8MQ if enough help was going to be available for the Triathlon on August 20. John stated that he felt it was still early to be lining up workers and he would concentrate on that later.

Bob then reminded the club about the Dayton Hamvention.

Jack, W8WEN related his experiences of the past few months regarding power line noise in his area and his efforts in dealing with the power company attempting to resolve the problems. Howard, K8DXR offered to try to intervene with the power company to assist Jack.

New business:
Don, K8OMO noted that he has been told the club call is a vanity call though he was told when originally obtaining it that it was supposed to be an original club call sign. He said he would have to pay the vanity call fee and then request a waiver from the FCC to resolve the problem. He further stated that the confusion might be due to the fact that the club's name is not the same as years ago.

President Bob noted that a new spot was needed for the monthly trus-

tee's dinner / meeting since Taster's Choice was discontinuing its evening meal schedule. After brief discussion, it was decided to meet at Pancho's at 6:00 PM on the first Wednesday of each month. He then reminded everyone of the upcoming Breezeshooter's hamfest, and flyers were then handed out.

Bob then raised the issue of the club's possibly establishing a Silent Key scholarship, with a monetary amount going to someone in the high school who wants to enter the electronics / electrical engineering field. The discussion that followed centered on questions involving obtaining legal advice, the amount of the reward, how to fund it, the qualifications required to receive it and how or through whom to disburse it. Dave, N8NLZ related how the Lion's Club has handled the setting up and disbursement of their local scholarship fund. It was obvious that considerable further discussion would be needed, probably requiring a committee to be established. The issue would be taken up again in future meetings.

Jack, W8WEN related an article regarding a circular quad antenna design for DX work.

Don, K8OMO then presented a video about the Handi-Ham program in which handicapped individuals receive assistance in obtaining and using their amateur radio licenses.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Don Kingan, AB8KV, Secretary.

THE WAYBACK MACHINE

ISSUE #28

by Bill Continelli, W2XOY

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Where were you in '62? Lets take a snapshot of amateur radio 40 years ago.

In January, 1962, there was one word on the lips of every amateur, "OSCAR". No, I'm not talking about the Academy Award, but rather Orbital Satellite Carrying Amateur Radio. OSCAR I was launched on December 12, 1961. By today's standards it was extremely simple--a one cubic foot package containing a 2 transistor, 140 mw crystal controlled cw transmitter sending "hi" on 144.98 Mc. The beacon lasted only 3 weeks--long enough for thousands of hams to hear it. Amateur radio was now in the space age. Congratulations came in from Vice President Lyndon Johnson and Mrs. Lee De-Forest--widow of the famous inventor. OSCAR I was followed in June by OSCAR II. Other notable 1962 space activities included John Glenn's first flight in February, and the launching of Telstar--the first communications satellite--in the summer.

The amateur radio population hit two milestones in 1962. The number of hams passed the 250,000 mark by the end of the year, and membership in the American Radio Relay League hit 100,000.

With the increase in the amateur census, the FCC was running out of "WA" prefix callsigns in the 2nd and 6th Call Areas. Soon, "WB" callsigns would appear. As for the ARRL, it was running out of space. The old building in West Hartford was filled to the rafters. So, the ARRL proposed a new Headquarters at the site of W1AW--225 Main St., Newington, Conn. The new building would cover 25,000 sq. ft.--vs. 14,000 sq. ft. for the West Hartford location. To finance the $250,000 cost, the ARRL started the Building Fund. They hoped to be in the new Headquarters by 1963.

On May 11, 1962, Herbert Hoover Jr, W6ZH, was elected President of the ARRL. Son of Herbert Hoover--the former President and Secretary of Commerce--W6ZH was famous in his own right as an inventor, Corporate President, and engineer. Licensed since 1915, he was active on all bands from 160 through 2 meters.

In regards to licenses, there was good news and bad news. The FCC decided in 1962 that an individual seeking an amateur or CB license no longer needed to have the application Notarized. No longer would you solemnly stand before a Notary Public, right hand raised, and swear that the application was accurate and complete to the best of your knowledge. Given the sorry state of some CB and ham frequencies, I, as a Notary, believe this requirement should be brought back. The bad news from the FCC- license fees. Public comment was solicited on the FCC proposal to institute license fees of between $5 and $10. The ARRL was strongly opposed to the idea.

For Technicians, 1962 was not a good year. A proposal to amend Part 12 to allow Technicians on 10 meters was denied by the FCC. The FCC strongly reinforced their policy that the purpose of this license was experimentation, not communication. The license was not designed for communications service, and was not to be regarded as a stepping stone between the Novice and General Classes. The ARRL supported the FCC decision. There was one bit of good news for Technicians-- a new magazine called "VHF Horizons". The focus of this publication was ham radio above 50 Mc, and, for the first time in the amateur community, there were editorials in a national magazine supporting Technicians as full fledged hams. Unfortunately, after only 2 years, "VHF Horizons" ceased publication.

In technical areas, SSB was passing AM as the favored voice mode. Transistors now existed that could handle 2 watts or more above 50 Mc. As a result, many "all transistor" 6 meter portable units were described in the pages of QST.

For those who preferred kits or factory built equipment over homebrewing, there were lots of choices. Heathkit had the "Pawnee" and "Shawnee" 2 and 6 meter transceiver kits. These were AM/CW mobile units, which used 15 tubes and a vibrator power supply. Clegg and Gonset also had many 2 and 6 meter rigs, including the Clegg Zeus, a 6 and 2 meter transmitter for $675. Polytronics introduced the Poly-Comm 62, a dual band 6 and 2 meter transceiver for $379.50. For the HF operator, Johnson had a full Viking Line, including the Invader, a 200 watt CW/SSB/AM transmitter for
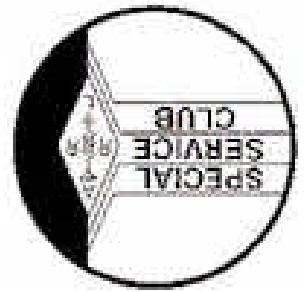
June 2006

Birthday Greetings: Mrs. KE8VE, KG8RN, N8XTJ, NW8C.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May S M T W T F S 　　　1　2　3　4　5　6 7　8　9　10　11　12　13 14　15　16　17　18　19　20 21　22　23　24　25　26　27 28　29　30　31		**July** S M T W T F S 　　　　　　　　1 2　3　4　5　6　7　8 9　10　11　12　13　14　15 16　17　18　19　20　21　22 23　24　25　26　27　28　29 30　31		*1* **AARC Nets 8:00, 8:30, 9:00** QCWA Net 7:30 *Thursday NCCC Sprint Ladder*	*2*	*3* IARU Region 1 Field Day, CW **LAKE COUNTY ARA VE, KIRTLAND, OH** QRP TAC Sprint RSGB National Field Day SEANET Contest **SILVERCREEK ARA VE, RITTMAN, OH**
4 **BreezeShooters Hamfest, Butler, PA**	*5* Columbiana Cty. Train. Net 8 pm RSGB 80m Club Champ-ionship, Data	*6* ARS Spartan Sprint Canton ARES Net 7pm 147.12 **CUYAHOGA FALLS ARC VE, STOW, OH** N. Columbiana Cty. ARES Net 9 pm 147.255	*7* **AARC Meeting 7:30 p.m.** Carroll Cty. Net 1:00 UCT 147.075	*8* **AARC Nets 8:00, 8:30, 9:00** QCWA Net 7:30 *Thursday NCCC Sprint Ladder*	*9* Massillon Net 8pm 147.18	*10* ANARTS WW RTTY Contest ARRL June VHF QSO Party Asia-Pacific Sprint, SSB GACW WWSA CW DX Contest Portugal Day Contest REF DDFM 6m Contest
11 **Fulton County ARC Hamfest, Tedrow, OH**	*12* Columbiana Cty. Train. Net 8 pm	*13* Canton ARES Net 7pm 147.12 N. Colu-mbiana Cty. ARES Net 9 pm 147.255	*14* Carroll Cty. Net 1:00 UCT 147.075 NAQCC 80m Straight Key/ Bug Sprint RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	*15* **AARC Nets 8:00, 8:30, 9:00** QCWA Net 7:30 Thursday NCCC Sprint Ladder	*16* Massillon Net 8pm 147.18 SARL Youth Day	*17* AGCW VHF/UHF Contest All Asian DX Contest, CW Kid's Day Contest **Milford ARC Hamfest, Milford, OH** **Mrs. KE8VE** Quebec QSO Party SMIRK Contest West Virginia QSO Party
18 DIE Contest	*19* Columbiana Cty. Train. Net 8 pm **KG8RN** Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	*20* Canton ARES Net 7pm 147.12 N. Columbiana Cty. ARES Net 9 pm 147.255	*21* Carroll Cty. Net 1:00 UCT 147.075	*22* **AARC Nets 8:00, 8:30, 9:00** QCWA Net 7:30 RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB Thursday NCCC Sprint Ladder	*23* Massillon Net 8pm 147.18	*24* ARCI Milliwatt Field Day **FIELD DAY** His Maj. King of Spain Contest, SSB **TWENTY OVER NINE ARC VE, AUSTINTOWN, OH** Ukrainian DX DIGI Contest
25 **FIELD DAY**	*26* Columbiana Cty. Train. Net 8 pm **N8XTJ** **NW8C**	*27* Canton ARES Net 7pm 147.12 **Homeland Sec Net 7:30 147.51 SIMPLEX** N. Columbiana Cty. ARES Net 9 pm 147.255	*28* Carroll Cty. Net 1:00 UCT 147.075	*29* **AARC Nets 8:00, 8:30, 9:00** QCWA Net 7:30 Thursday NCCC Sprint Ladder	*30* Massillon Net 8pm 147.18	

Amateur radio - when all else fails ...

WAYBACK MACHINE

$619.50, the Ranger, a 75 watt CW, 65 watt AM transmitter for $249.50, and the Adventurer, a 50 watt CW crystal controlled transmitter for only $54.95. Why don't you match your Viking transmitter with a Hammarlund receiver? Try the HQ180 for $429, or the HQ 170 for $379. By the way, Radio Shack carries the full line of Hammarlund equipment--at their 8 stores coast to coast.

Note that these are 1962 prices-- multiply them by 4 to get today's equivalent. Adjusted for inflation, today's radios are 3 times cheaper than those of the 50's and 60's.

CB radio was booming in 1962. There were more CB'ers than hams, and an ugly rumor started that the FCC was going to give 10 meters to the CB crowd. The FCC put out an announcement that the rumor was 100% false. CB radios were everywhere--even in the pages of QST, tucked away in full page ads from Eico

and Lafayette.

The National Calling and Emergency frequencies in 1962 were 3.55, 7.1, 14.05, 21.05, and 28.1 Mc for CW, and 3.875, 7.25, 14.225, 21.4, 29.64, 50.55, and 145.35 Mc for phone.

And, finally, CONELRAD was still alive at the beginning of 1962. Every ham had to monitor 640 or 1240 kc while on the air. However, the basis for CONELRAD was becoming obsolete and, on July 13, 1962, CONELRAD ended. It was replaced by the Emergency Broadcast System.

In our next installment, we are going to look at CONELRAD, and the role it played in the lives of every amateur, CB'er, and U.S. Citizen. So, until then, keep monitoring 640 and 1240 kc, and remember to "Duck and Cover".

Editors Note: Last month's installment of the Wayback Machine was incorrectly labeled #24. It was actually #27.