



## HI ALL FROM N8GOB



David, N8GOB

As most of you have probably heard by now, I have resigned my post as Trustee. I would like to thank everyone for your backing over the years. I need a little break in the action, so to say, and I will consider running again when elections come up.

It's been a pleasure doing what I have been able to do, and look forward to doing what I can in the future. I will be available for the activities that will be coming up this year. Thanks again for what everyone has done to better the club.

Don't forget Skywarn training on March 18, with Registration at 6:30 P.M., with training starting at 7:00 P.M. It will be held at the Col. Co. Career Center, across from the State Highway Patrol post in Lisbon.

The Super NATS will be on the weekend of June 19, 20 and 21 and understand that they have some better sponsorships this year compared to past years. We may be asked to help assist with communications this year so put his on your calendar.

Field day which is the following weekend June 27/28.

Along that same line, we will need help with communications for the Memorial Day Parade. We will be going the long route this year. Grandview Cemetery near Southeast Plaza

The Parade in July this Year will be on July 18 at 6:00 P.M. with the start at State and Union, going west on State thru downtown, North on Ellsworth, and disbanding at 2nd St. We will need communications help there also.

We want to remember before that our yearly club dinner which will be on March 21 at 6:00 P.M. at the memorial building on the second floor where the annual Ham of the year award will be presented. The cost of the dinner should be known at the meeting this month. **(\$13 per person -ed)**

For those that might be interested Skywarn in Mahoning County, it will be on March 24 at 6:30 P.M. at the Austintown Fitch auditorium.

Don't forget the club net every Tuesday Evening at 9:00 P.M. on the 146.805 Machine. Which has a PL of 162.2. Hope to see everyone at these activities. This net is easy to check into as the antenna is up 225 ' on the Marcs tower on the South side of Lisbon.

Fireworks are to be on Friday, July 3 with a rain day of Sunday, July 5. We have it on these off days so as to get a better cost for the fireworks like they give us more for less. They are having a 50/50 drawing this year, so get your chance so as to help pay for the display which is around \$8000. They will be located around some stores around town as well as members of the patriotic Society.

Dave N8GOB

**SAARA MEETS THE FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH, 7:00P.M., AT THE SALVATION ARMY BUILDING 1249 N. ELLSWORTH AVE., SALEM**

**K8BTP**

## SPRING IS AROUND THE CORNER

Now that we have most of winter past us, it is time to be thinking about what we, as hams, should be doing about our equipment. Winter, as we



Bill, KB8MNE

all know can and, in a lot of cases, has damaged our antennas and coax. A good place to start is a good visual inspection of your antennas from the ground up. I like to look closely at the base of our towers where they are fastened to the cement base. If one has used bolts to anchor it to the base, are they in good shape? How rusty are they? If they even look questionable replace them.

If the tower is getting rusty, it should be taken down, and a nice coat of paint applied to it. Don't forget to clean the rust off first. If you have taken the tower down, I would suggest that you disconnect the antenna coax from the antenna. If you have an antenna analyzer, check the coax and the connectors. If there is not an analyzer available, you may use a dummy load on the end of the coax with a volt ohm meter at the other end, and see if they have 50-ohms resistance, and go from there.

All of our towers are free standing, and they do move a bit in a strong wind. I do check to make sure that everywhere they are fastened to the base, the holes have not elongated where the bolts pass through. To prevent problems in the future, it is always a good idea to check everything possible that one can when the weather permits.

While summer doesn't bring snow and ice, it still may give us a multitude of problems. Wind can and has damaged antennas. We have had antennas and mast pipe bend in the summer from the wind. One night while having a QSO with someone, I noticed that the SWR suddenly went way high. I went outside to see what I could find, and there on the quad, that we had up at the time, was a squirrel on the antenna trying to chew the coax. I shook the tower, but he did not want to give up his lunch or whatever he was having. It took a lot of shaking to get him to stop and leave. We never know what fate may be in store for our equipment, or when.

We should always keep our eyes on our equipment no matter what time of the year it is. Each season brings with it, its own type of problem. We never know when that emergency will show up. We need to be ready at all times. Remember that emergencies do not call up and make an appointment before they happen. It is up to us to be ready for them.

73 Bill KB8MNE

*'For out of the overflow of the heart, the mouth speaks. A good person produces good things from the treasury of a good heart, and an evil person produces evil things from the treasury of an evil heart.'*

Matthew 12: 34-35

Thought:

*'He who waits to do a great deal of good at once, will never do anything.'*

## GETTING TO KNOW YOUR OFFICERS



Jane K8JAA

### One year Trustees Allan AB8AA and Jane K8JAA Avnet -

Allan, AB8AA and I were first licensed August 1992 in Long Beach CA. Al had held a license when he was a teenager, but this was my first experience with Amateur Radio. My original call was KD6ODV. His was KD6ODW. My goal at the time was public service. Al upgraded to Extra

class within a year receiving the call AB6UB. I upgraded to Tech Plus, June 1998, General April 2000, and Extra September 2000, when I took the vanity call of K8JAA, reflecting my initials. We both completed Level III of the ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course in 2005.

As soon as we were first licensed, we joined the West Coast Amateur Radio Club, WCARC, in Fountain Valley CA. Over the time we were members, I served as Secretary, Database Manager, Vice President, Web Mistress, and Special Events Coordinator. I still maintain the WCARC Website. Al also held a number of offices, including two terms as President. We started working their Public Service Events as soon as we joined WCARC, and within a couple of years, I was asked to take over that position. With Al's help, we worked events almost every weekend during the year for about nine years. I was given the Spark Plug award by the Club for all the work I'd done for them.

Al became a contact VE as soon as he became an Extra. He is a contact VE for W5YI and ARRL. I became a VE when I upgraded to General. I upgraded to Extra to be able to be a more valuable member of Al's VE team.

Allan worked with two other local Hams who held six repeaters in our area of Southern California. As a result, we both joined the Two-Meter Area Spectrum Management Association for S. CA., TASMA. Al served two, two-year terms as Chairman of their Technical committee, and I served one two-year term as Secretary of the Organization. I did their Newsletter, helped to build their initial Repeater Database, and updated their Website, which I still maintain. This was my first experience as a newsletter editor.

I was asked by the Chairman of the Orange County Council of Amateur Radio Clubs, OCCARO, to build a Website for the Council. Which I did. I also built and maintained a Database of Hams willing to work Public Service Events from clubs all over the Orange Section, and was the Public Service Events Coordinator for the Orange County Council. We were the representatives to the Council for five years from WCARC. We resigned these positions in 2002 when we moved back to Ohio.

Al and I, together with one other couple, reorganized the RACES group attached to our local Police Department. We revamped the Constitution and Bylaws, planned and put on training exercises for the group. We both served on the RACES Board while working closely with the FVpolice. We both hold security clearances, and were bonded while working with them.

After moving back to Ohio in 2002, we wanted to remain active in Amateur Radio, we joined three clubs in our area. We currently maintain membership in two of them, 20/9 and SAARA. I volunteered to do the Newsletter for the 20/9 Club when they were looking for an editor. Their newsletter sub-

sequently won the Newsletter Contest in 2005. Al and I were both trustees of this group. He is currently their President. We both work as VE's in Mahoning and Columbiana Counties. I was asked by SAARA to take over their Newsletter in late 2005, and subsequently took over the web page. I am also Secretary and Newsletter Editor for a small Ham camping group.

We are both active with ARRL. I am a PIO. We are both OOs on the local LIC Committee, and LAAs. We were asked by Jim Weaver K8JE to take these LAA positions. I was appointed LAA Team Leader for our area. We both work directly with the Great lakes Division Director and the Ohio Section Manager. Al is an ARRL Technical Specialist. I am also a member of YLRL, and the Buckeye Bells.

I graduated from McDonald High School and Youngstown College with a BA. I also took some classes at Penn Ohio Tech. I worked nineteen years for McKay Machine as a Key punch/Unit record Operator, and subsequently worked into a programming position. I also worked as a Programmer, Programmer Analyst for Wean, Wean United, E. W. Bliss, and Copperweld Steel here in NE Ohio. While in Southern California, I worked for nine years with Northrop/Grumman as a Senior Programmer Analyst working on a still classified program. I retired in 1994. Al, Principal Mechanical Engineer, retired from Beckman Coulter, a medical Plastics company in Southern CA, in 2002.

Our other interests include beekeeping and bicycling. We are both officers in the Columbiana and Mahoning County Beekeepers. I do their newsletter. Al has had bees off and on as long as I've known him. Al and I met while members of the local bicycle club, the Outspoken Wheelmen. We both held offices, were on the newsletter staff, worked on their wheel building project, helped to promote bicycling locally and were members of Legue of American Wheelmen.

The Ohio Section has set the week of March 22nd to the 28th as Spring Severe Weather Awareness Week with the Statewide Tornado Drill set for Wednesday, March 25th at 9:50 AM. Many Ohio Counties and Ohio Section Clubs have scheduled SKYWARN Training Sessions to coincide with this Ohio Schedule. Make sure your Club makes your session available to the Public if you decide to sponsor one of these sessions. Advertise in your local paper or even e-mail your County Officials and First Responders. Fliers can be placed on Bulletin Boards in stores and don't forget to invite your local Police and Firemen.

**Section Manager: Joseph J. Phillips, K8QOE**  
k8qoe@arrl.org

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

- **Columbiana County Skywarn** training March 18, 1830L
- **Club Dinner**, March 21 at 6:00 P.M. - \$13 per person reservations by Sunday, March 15. Call Lela 330-337-9270 or e-mail KB8MNE@sbcglobal.net
- **Mahoning County Skywarn**, March 24 at 6:30 P.M. at the Austintown Fitch auditorium
- **Alliance ARC Fox Hunt** Saturday, March 28, 1 to 3:00 P.M. <<http://www.w8lky.org/newsletters/current.pdf>> for info
- **Super NATS** June 19, 20, 21
- **Field Day** - June 27, 28.
- **Memorial Day Parade**, July 18 at 6:00 P.M.
- **Fireworks** Friday, July 3 - rain day Sunday, July 5.
- **Grande Parade** Saturday, Aug. 22. Time is 6:00 P.M.

**THE EDITOR'S MUSINGS**

The January SAARA meeting was interesting. The election was held for your officers. We had one visitor, and Emily Wells KC8RAL was our speaker.

Election results:

- President Ernie KC8QPH
- VP Ginger KC8ZFK
- Secretary Roger KC8CTV
- Treasurer Lela KB8YPD
- Trustees Bob W8HZ - two years
- Jane K8JAA - one year

Other members who ran for offices were Mel Lippiatt KA8OEB and Mike Grate KB8WWQ. The Trustee race was not cut and dry, we had to have two separate elections to elect me to the one year Trustee position. Thanks to all who elected me, I appreciate your votes of confidence.

Emily gave us a report on the newsletter contest, and ARRL as a whole. I was able to chat with her for a short while. She gave me some suggestions, which I will attempt to incorporate into future newsletters. She suggested more information on members, and what they are doing with Amateur Radio. Hint, hint, please, this is a very good idea one I've asked for before. We all think everyone knows us and what we do, but you are still interesting to new members.

We met Emilys OM, Gail KC8LRH. He drove in with her from Warren. He was also interesting to listen to. He has had lots of experience with Amateur Radio. Thanks to everyone who attended the meeting and voted. Welcome back Mike and Linda Grate, who we haven't seen in about a year.

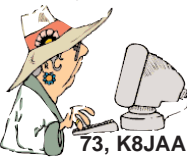
There were no speakers at the February or March meetings. But it is fun to sit and chat with other members to find out what they are currently doing as Hams, or anything else they might be doing.

At the February meeting Dave Sprouse N8GOB resigned his post as trustee. We are sorry to see Dave leave office, but he promises he will run again sometime in the future. He has been a wonderfully productive member of SAARA since it started, and continues to work hard to make the club what it is today.

At the March meeting we had a special election to fill the Trustees' office vacated by Dave Sprouse. Dave needed to take some time off to recharge his batteries. Don't we all? The new Trustee elected to fill out Dave's post, which expires in January 2010, is Al Avnet, AB8AA. Thanks to everyone who came out and voted.

**Wireless**

*"The wireless telegraph is not difficult to understand. The ordinary telegraph is like a very long cat. You pull the tail in New York, and it meows in Los Angeles. The wireless is the same, only without the cat." -- Albert Einstein*



**ARE YOU READY??**

When the general public thinks about Ham Radio, it gets a picture of operating in a Disaster. That's great. It underscores one of the five purposes behind the Federal Communications Commission's granting us use of the various valuable frequencies. We tend to forget that those frequencies are a "limited resource." Once they are gone, THEY ARE GONE. Numerous deep pocketed corporations are eager to take over "our" frequencies. Slowly they have been encroaching. The camel's nose is in the tent. Stop them!

What stops them is that the FCC sees and hears that we are providing a Service that no one else does. Cell phones crash, Internet is down, Edison has no power, police and Fire have no communications. To provide that needed Service takes every one of us. So my question to you this month is, "Are you ready?"

Do you know how to clearly and efficiently transmit Priority or Emergency information on your handheld radio? What form does your Emergency group use? Do you know how to program in the frequency, offset, and PL if something happens and your radio goes blank? Yes, I know that you already have the necessary data in memory, but in an emergency situation things do not always go smoothly. You get excited; push the wrong button and EVERYTHING IS GONE!!!! Your transceiver locks up!! How do you get it back in operation??? I kid you not. You need to be ready to put it all back into memory. Don't rely in your husband, friend, or brother. They may too busy doing their job and you are on your own. Make a card with all the data on it and keep it with your radio. If you need to, write down how to program your radios. Tape the card to the radio. Keep your directions book in your Grab-and-Go-Bag. Get ready now before you need it. Then it would be too late.

**73 (Not 73s-that would be "best regardSES")  
Cam Hariot K86WK**

*Cam is the president of West Coast Amateur Radio Club. I stole his article from the **March issue of the WCARC Intermod**. Thanks Cam for the timely article, and to Dick N6ISY, the editor, who does a great job putting the Intermod together.* **-ed**

**TEN THINGS ENGINEERING SCHOOL  
DIDN'T TEACH YOU**

1. There are at least 10 types of capacitors.
2. Theory tells you how a circuit works, not why it does not work.
3. Not everything works according to the specs in the data book.
4. Anything practical you learn will be obsolete before you use it, except the complex math, which you will never use.
5. Engineering is like having an 8 a.m. class and a late after noon lab every day for the rest of your life.
6. Overtime pay? What overtime pay?
7. Managers, not engineers, rule the world.
8. Always try to fix the hardware with software.
9. If you like junk food, caffeine and all-nighters, go into software.
10. Dilbert is not a comic strip, it's a documentary.

**Welcome Back Former Member  
Nathan Kimber Ford KC8OCE**

**2009 SAARA Members**

|               |                 |                                   |
|---------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Allan AB8AA   | Virginia KC8ZFK | Dave N8GOB **                     |
| Jane K8JAA    | Don NN8B        | Roger KC8CTV                      |
| Steve KC8SOY  | Dale KC8OCG     | Bob W8HZ **                       |
| Nathan KC8OCE | Mel KA8OEB **   | Dave KB8NYS                       |
| Linda KD8FTM  | Bill KB8MNE     | Frank Zamarelli - Honorary Member |
| Mike KB8WWQ   | Lela KB8YPD     |                                   |
| Ernest KC8QPH | Sue KD8CGW      |                                   |

\*\* Life Members



**2008 OFFICERS**

|                  |                 |        |
|------------------|-----------------|--------|
| President        | Ernie Greenisen | KB8DUX |
| Vice President   | Ginger Grilli   | KC8ZFK |
| Secretary        | Roger Thawley   | KC8CTV |
| Treasurer        | Lela McClaren   | KB8YPD |
| <b>Trustee's</b> |                 |        |
| 1 Yr.            | Jane Avnet      | K8JAA  |
| 1 Yr.            | Al Avnet        | AB8AA  |
| 2 Yr.            | Bob Tullis      | W8HZ   |

**Club Dues Structure**

|                       |                                     |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Full Membership       | \$15.00/Year                        |
|                       | (Includes immediate family members) |
| Full Retired          | \$12.00/Year                        |
| Associate Member      | \$10.00/Year                        |
| Non-Member Newsletter | \$ 3.00/Year                        |

Join the ARRL through your local ARRL affiliate club. When you do, the club gets \$15.00 for new members. A great way to support our club and have privileges that come with ARRL membership.

**OFFICIAL CLUB ADDRESSES**

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <b>Web Page</b>  | www.qsl.net/saara/                             |
| <b>E-mail</b>    | GingerGrilli@aol.com                           |
| <b>U.S. Mail</b> | S.A.A.R.A., P.O. Box 696, Salem, OH 44460-0696 |
| <b>Editor:</b>   | k8jaa@arrl.net                                 |

**NEWSLETTER Articles and Submittals**

**SAARA** claims no liability for articles published in this newsletter. The viewpoints in the articles are not considered the viewpoints of **SAARA** membership.

All submittals for **SAARA** Speaks must be received by the Editor (k8jaa@arrl.net) or hand delivered no later than December 10, March 10, June 10 or September 10 enabling the newsletters to be mailed and received prior to the months covered by them.

Advertisements for equipment for sale must also adhere to the same schedule. Newsletters are emailed to current members who have email addresses, and mailed to other subscribers, clubs that send newsletters to **SAARA**, and to selected officials.



**SAARA**  
**P.O. Box 696**  
**Salem, OH 44460-0696**  
**Address Service Requested**

[www.qsl.net/saara](http://www.qsl.net/saara)



One Nation Under God

**Columbiana County NETS**

|  |                                  |                   |   |
|--|----------------------------------|-------------------|---|
| Sunday   | 9:00 P.M. East Liverpool         | 146.700           | Triangle ARC NET                                    |
| Monday   | 8:00 P.M. Columbiana County      |                   | Columbiana County Emergency Training NET(ARES)      |
| This NET alternates (lowest to highest) between 146.700, 146.775, 146.805, 147.255 and 147.285 repeaters in Columbiana County. |                                  |                   |   |
|  | 8:30 P.M. Bible Study on the Air | 147.285           | KB8MNE  |
| Tuesday  | 7:30 P.M. Salem                  | 147.510 Simplex   | Homeland Security Net (last Tuesday of every month) |
|  | 9:00 P.M. Salem                  | K8BTP 147.255     | Northern Columbiana County SAARA NET                |
|  | 9:30 P.M. Salem                  | KB8MNE 28.310 SSB | SAARA Rag Chew Net                                  |
| Thursday   | 8:30 P.M. Alliance               | 28.400 SSB        | Alliance ARC NET                                    |
|  | 9:00 P.M. Alliance               | 145.370           | Alliance ARC NET                                    |
| Saturday   | 8:00 P.M.                        | 146.805- PL162.2  | Skywarn net   |