

# Worldradio

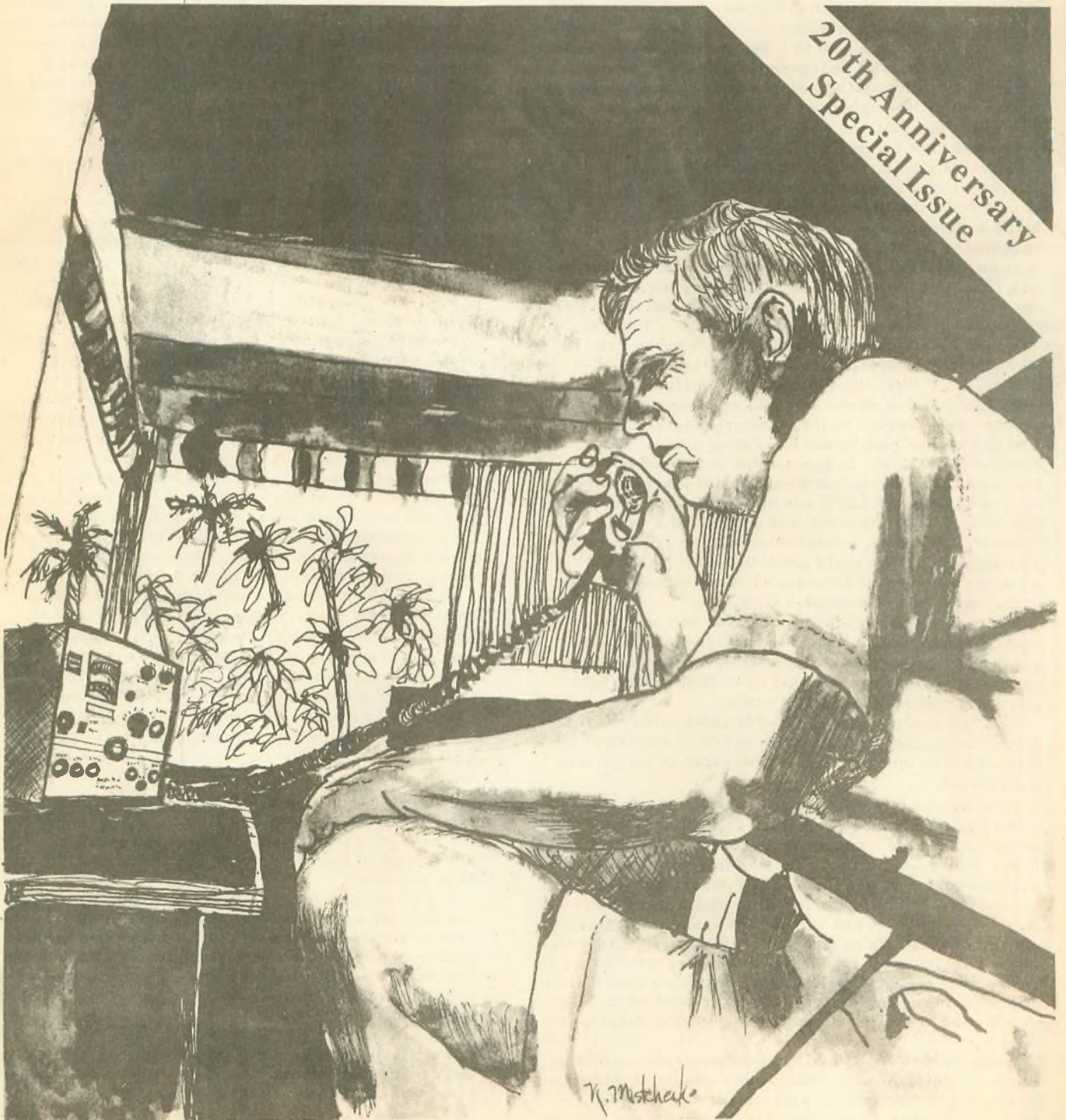
THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

Vol. No. 1

28 June 1971

50¢

20th Anniversary  
Special Issue



VK9FH Fred Hargesheimer

When your editor first discussed issuing this publication, a ham friend - a very conservative and utterly pragmatic-type person, said, "The biggest and longest-established ham magazines are losing money. What chance do you think you'll have of not losing your shirt?"

The editor's wife said, "You don't know anything about business!" And since she was well aware that her husband had spent his adult life as a baggy-pants news reporter, she was (as she usually is) quite correct.

In spite of the above-mentioned, rather imposing factors, we are somehow in existence. That is because this is not just "another ham magazine". Since you have read this far through the paper you have seen that it has a far different mission.

It will obviously appeal to a smaller and more select group of amateurs. Consequently, since we can not expect large advertising revenues, this venture will have to depend for its support on the small group of amateurs who share the goals of Worldradio.

One fact that became quickly apparent (and no study in business administration was needed to grasp the fact) is that printing is quite expensive - as is postage. It is suspected that Howard Hughes made his fortune by being a plumber who moonlighted as a printer. You may have heard the story about a plumber who was called to a home. He fixed the problem in a moment with but one quick twist of the wrist, and reached out his hand to the man of the house saying, "That's 20 dollars." The home-owner, somewhat taken back, said, "I'm a doctor, and I don't charge 20 dollars for a house call!" The plumber replied, "Neither did I when I was a doctor....." Well, that fellow gave up plumbing and went into printing where he could make some real money.

After going around to the local printing firms, the original idea of putting out something to rival the National Geographic in appearance went quickly down the drain. We can see why so many of the magazines such as LOOK and LIFE are having severe financial troubles. We also learned that putting out a paper for a small, but select, subscription list is quite expensive. For example, if we could get 3,000 more subscribers, we could run another 10 pages an issue at no increase in the cost of each individual copy.

We chose the newspaper format for two reasons - both equally important. It is less expensive than the slick paper, and due to the lack of a time-consuming binding process, we can get the latest news in the issue just a few days before the mailing date.

It is felt that the readers of this publication are more interested in content than form, more interested in the message than the medium. A newspaper is faster than a magazine.

You may be interested in the chain of events that led to the creation of this periodical... It all began one night on 20 meters... a contact with WØEBG, in White Bear Lake, Minnesota, brought out the information that he was soon going to New Guinea. He described the project he was involved in and your editor found it the most fascinating thing he had ever heard - one of the greatest stories of gratitude in the world today. (See VK9FH elsewhere in this issue.) WØEBG, Fred Hargesheimer, said he had once taken a camera, but became so busy that he neglected the picture-taking. It was then decided to go with Fred and document, with camera, this great man's efforts.

While on New Britain island we contacted many hams who were quite curious about what a couple of Americans were doing in that remote spot. After our return a letter was mailed to our contacts describing the purpose of the visit. Donations came in, which, due to the electronic nature of the initial contact, were used to purchase a battery-powered tape recorder to be used in Fred's school.

de wb6auh



Armond M. Noble

28 June, 1971

It was obvious that many amateurs were interested in assisting in hands-across-the-sea ham-oriented projects, but there was no central information point for them to gather around.

Another incident occurred during a visit to our house by a journalist and his fiance, a sociologist. Naturally, as it does in every ham's home, a showing of the shack was in order. They received a description of the public service, humanitarian and international friendship aspects of ham radio. The young lady picked up a ham magazine, and after glancing through it, said "All I see are a bunch of squiggly lines. There isn't any of what you were talking about."

It seemed there should be something that the non-ham could pick up and read, as easily as a newspaper, that told what this hobby and service was about.

We now, hopefully, have a complete spectrum of publications to choose from. From the entirely technical (which your editor has subscribed to since it began some years ago) to one that is non-technical and devoted to the human interest area. We do not feel that we are competitors, but rather, as an impartial news medium, we will cooperate with all.

Many wonderful people who could have made great social contributions have been frightened away from ham radio because of the emphasis on technology rather than what one can accomplish with the equipment. We hope that any non-ham who reads Worldradio will think that amateur radio is one of the most useful things in the world - which it is.

Worldradio was in the planning stage for more than two years. A great deal of research was conducted. Formats and styles were studied and analyzed. And the most important aspect - the direction and goals - slowly evolved. Two shaping incidents will be described in the next issue.

One nagging doubt was - were there really enough amateur radio operators interested in the ideas we espouse? It was decided, however, not to dilute the real meaning of the publication in order to make it more attractive to a greater audience. But, in order to make the contribution we believe Worldradio is capable of, we must, of course, survive. Many supporters have purchased subscriptions for friends, both in the US and overseas. This has been a great help.

The response has been heart-warming. The comments from the thoughtful and eloquent readers have been inspirational. The responsibility to the level of readers this publication has attracted is awesome.

But a newspaper does not create news. Worldradio can only act as a funnel, being a forum for those who wish to exchange information. The input from one reader can trigger thoughts and actions of others. We wish to reflect the desires of our readers, and in order to do so, we must hear from them. Knowledge must be shared with others - a fragment of an idea can be the spark for another. The participants in the Worldradio project include some of the most dedicated members of their respective professions. They are busy men with great demands on their time, but they have been able to find the time to contribute material which will be seen in upcoming issues.

Worldradio has been born, it is up to you to guide it to maturity.



# Worldradio

1991  
20th Anniversary

is published monthly by  
Worldradio, Inc.  
2120 28th Street  
Sacramento, CA 95818  
(916) 457-3655

Subscription Dept.  
Worldradio  
201 Lathrop Wy., Ste. D  
Sacramento, CA 95815  
1-800-365-SUBS

Second class postage paid at  
Sacramento, CA & additional offices  
POSTMASTER: Send address changes  
to Worldradio Inc., P.O. Box 189490,  
Sacramento, CA 95818

Worldradio (USPS 947000) is an inter-  
national conversation. You are invited to  
participate.

Our goal is to be a valuable resource of  
ideas and experiences beneficial to the  
Amateur Radio Community. We publicize  
and support the efforts of those who bring  
the flame of vitality to this avocation.

You readers are participants — an all-  
iance of active radio amateurs concerned  
with reality using radio as a communica-  
tions tool to develop the skill, quality and  
full potential of Amateur Radio.

We emphasize the positive aspects of  
this great activity, and desire your contribu-  
tions dealing with dramatic, personal and  
humanitarian uses of Amateur Radio.

Worldradio is an independent newspaper  
not affiliated with any other firm, group or

organization. Its pages are open to all.  
Permission is hereby automatically granted  
to reprint from this publication with appro-  
priate source credit. If there is something  
useful, we wish to share it.

Subscription rates: \$14 per year, \$27  
for two years, \$39 for three years and  
\$140 for life; \$10 extra per year for  
surface mail delivery outside the U.S.  
Please remit international postal money  
order. IRCs will be accepted.

## STAFF

Editor and Publisher ..... Armond Noble, N6WR  
Managing Editor ..... Robin Wortley, KC6RUD  
Associate Editor ..... Norm Brooks, K6FO  
Assistant Editor ..... Kaye Schwartz  
Consulting Editor ..... Lou Ann Keogh, KB6HP  
Advertising Director ..... Helen Noble  
Advertising Mgr. .... Rosalie Hernandez  
Graphics Director ..... Dianne Dunning  
Circulation Mgr ..... Dorothy Campini

*This Worldradio 20th  
Anniversary Special Issue is  
being offered as a handout  
at the '91 conventions we  
attend to better acquaint  
you with the good folks who  
regularly appear on our  
pages — our columnists  
and advertisers. We also  
have included feature  
articles that have not  
previously appeared in  
Worldradio.*

## PUBLISHER'S MICROPHONE

At the International DX Convention on April 13, 1991, a man and wife (both licensed) came up to me to say how much they enjoyed *Worldradio*.

It was a deeply sincere statement as they elaborated, "because it's about people and the good things they do." It's people like those who, for me, made it all worthwhile.

It was 20 years ago that I mailed to 5,000 Amateurs an announcement of a new Amateur Radio publication, described what we hoped to accomplish and invited them to subscribe. From those, 258 accepted, and we started. We currently print about 30,000 a month.

My intention was to continue in my career field (journalism, which had afforded me the opportunity to attend the Watts riots and make two trips to Viet-Nam) and do this as a hobby, assisted by other Amateurs who lived here in Sacramento.

I thought that, like the enthusiastic participants one finds in the little theater, where the cast paints the sets, takes the tickets, and then runs around and performs, we could utilize the varied talents of part-timers to put out a magazine.

I was told of one woman (an Amateur) who was a good typist. I went to see her (as we needed someone to do the typesetting). As I explained what I was doing she yelled, "I type all day for the state, I hate every minute of it and I'm not going to do it at night!"

Over the last 20 years she has probably made more in salary with the state (and now has a good retirement) than I have made with *Worldradio*, but on the other hand, I have truly enjoyed what I do—day, nights, Saturdays and Sundays, and I've never run out of challenges.

Having now a tiger by the tail and not wanting to disappoint all the readers who had put their faith in me, I found it necessary to devote full time to the magazine. (A magazine is very labor-intensive.)

This included days in a (hot in summer, cold in winter) garage, slapping

gummed labels on the magazines, sorting by zip codes, bundling into the proper sacks and hauling them to the post office.

The letters from readers were a consolation and kept me fired up even though I had stepped into a financial black hole for about five years.

In my mid-30s then, instead of amassing what people see as the fruits of their labors, I was selling them. Radios went, photo gear went, insurance policies went.

I'd fall asleep at the drafting table at which I made up the pages, and I was flat broke. There was the time that I had printed 2,000 copies of *Worldradio* (most were to go to non-subscribers with the hopes that they would subscribe) and had not a penny to mail them.

They sat. Then a check came in. Phil Pector, W7JXE, had taken out a lifetime subscription (\$50) and bought 10, one-year subscriptions for friends (\$50), and with \$100 I could then mail all 2,000 copies.

Another time the IBM typewriter we used to set type was broken and we couldn't afford to fix it. Unannounced and unasked for, a donation of \$500 came in from Lee Shaklee, W6BH.

When clothes wore out I went to the thrift shop. Standing in my booth at hamfests I might have had on a three-dollar coat, a fifteen-cent tie and a two-dollar pair of shoes (and probably looked like it).

There would not be a *Worldradio* today if it hadn't been for schoolteacher-wife, Helen, who went uncomplaining through a period of extreme sacrifice.

Some years later, realizing that we were never going to get anywhere unless we got some high-caliber help (which we couldn't afford) she left her good paying job (with terrific vacations) to work here days and nights for peanuts.

What compelled me to do this? One factor was a copy of an Amateur magazine which had as its lead story another article on how to build a 4-811A linear amplifier (really now,

just how many ways can you hook up a grounded grid amplifier while the story about how Amateurs had assisted in the Peru earthquake was buried in the back in teeny tiny type. I thought that approach was backwards.

It was (I believed) *what we did with Amateur Radio* that was of primary importance rather than what we did it with. And I thought there should be a journal which would provide a chronicle of what we did.

Another factor cropped up in 1969 when I was on New Britain Island filming a documentary on Fred Hargesheimer, VK9FH. I was operating as VK9AM, and I would move my mouth and pen as fast as possible, giving contacts to hundreds who had never worked New Guinea. Fred looked at me once and said, "What are you doing, proving that the laws of radio work?" When he was on the rig, he talked to people, and people talked to him.

Not even a capsule history of *Worldradio* would be complete without mentioning Norm Brooks, the world famous K6FO, who besides his many other contributions over these years, would drive us to all the hamfests because he didn't think the old heap I was driving would get us there.

And don't forget Dorothy Campini. She's attended to the thousands of details that make it all possible for nearly two decades.

Someone called me Mr. Worldradio recently. No, YOU are Mr. Worldradio, and Mrs. Worldradio and there are Miss Worldradios also. For, probably like no other magazine, here the readers *are* the magazine. *Worldradio* unlike publications such as *TIME* or *Newsweek*, is a reflection, a mirror, of the readers who are also its writers.

I'm very glad and appreciative that you let me be a part of what you do. *Worldradio*, I believe, will be here forever, because there will always be Amateurs like you.

—Armond, N6WR

# Norm Brooks, K6FO CLUB BULLETINS & Ace Reporter

*NOTE: For this special edition of Worldradio I decided that my story should emphasize how Amateur Radio has helped me get breaks during my lifetime. I'm sure many other oldtimers will agree—being a licensed radio amateur often helps you get ahead!*

This story starts on June 1, 1916, when I was born in Cleveland, OH. That means I will be getting diamonds as birthday presents this year!

My parents moved to a farm in northeastern Ohio when I was in the fifth grade. In the ninth grade, the teacher brought his brother to the general science class. The brother told us about his Amateur Radio station and showed us a transmitter he had built. The huge copper tubing coils were impressive. He also brought along a few copies of *QST* magazine, and gave them to those of us who were interested. I took three copies home and practically memorized them from cover to cover. I sent for the ARRL Radio Amateur's Handbook, which cost \$1.00 postpaid. I was hooked!

I first became a short wave listener. I built a two-tube receiver using a type 30 tube as a detector and a type 33 as an audio amplifier. These tubes were the "cutting edge of technology" back then. I even used the proverbial oatmeal box as the form for the coil. Listening to the short wave bands was exciting, even to my parents.

We moved back to Cleveland so I could go to college there. I was graduated from Fenn College (now Cleveland State University) as an Electrical Engineer.

Still the depression decade, jobs were hard to get. The college placement people sent me to a local company with the advice, "You won't be able to get this job, but go for the experience of the interview, anyway." As part of the meeting, the chief engineer took me through the company's lab. I saw some huge Eimac tubes there and made some remarks that surprised him. I explained that I was a radio amateur, and that Eimac tubes were familiar to me. I got the job.

In 1941, *QST* ran a column entitled "USA Calling." It listed job opportunities brought on by impending World War II. One reported the Army Signal Corps was looking for unmarried college grads in electronics or physics to go overseas on a secret project. I applied. After an interview by a personnel officer and a physical exam, I found myself getting mail addressed to me as "2nd Lt. Signal Corps Reserve." I



didn't even know how to salute! The interviewing officer made it clear that being a Radio Amateur had given me a plus, so I received a direct commission to Second Lieutenant and beat the draft.

On 7 December 1941, I was in London attending a British "radio-location" school. I was in the Signal Corps' "Electronics Training Group," a hush-hush organization to learn radar. The word radar had not been invented yet. We wore civilian clothes and carried passports, just like tourists. On that fateful Sunday evening, we each received a telegram from the American Embassy ordering us to now wear uniform at all times. So Monday, 8 December, we walked to school in our uniforms. The local British citizenry was dumbfounded. "Good Heavens," they exclaimed, "they declared war yesterday, and they're here today already!"

When we were graduated from the radar school, we were committed to serve in the Royal Army or the Royal Air Force as a sort of "payment" for our training. My group went to Glasgow, Scotland. There were two "choice" assignments in Northern Ireland to be filled. When the Colonel interviewed us for these spots, he chose another amateur and me because we had built our own transmitters and receivers. As it turned out his choice was wise, because my buddy and I were constantly improvising to keep the radars on the air.

Before we came home in 1942, fifty of us were sent to the RAF College to learn radar siting. It seems that Sir Watson Watt, the British "father" of radar had visited American radar installations and convinced U.S. authorities that our sets were in the wrong places. He was right. The VHF radar of that day couldn't be put just anywhere. The terrain had a lot to do with the operation of the equipment. The 50

ETGs trained in siting would go around the world and re-locate our ailing radars. While some of my buddies went to North Africa and the South Pacific, my first assignment was the west coast of California! They later got even with me by making my second siting job Greenland. (Incidentally, the Electronics Training Group never had a reunion. It will have a 50th anniversary "first" reunion in connection with HAM-COMM in Arlington TX on June 7-9 this year, and I plan to be there.)

In 1944 I was a captain commanding a radar company when I was given the opportunity to be the commandant of a new electronics school. I later learned the selection was made by sorting punch cards, and that my British training and being a radio amateur were favorable factors. I had the privilege of selecting officers for the school, and you can bet that I selected radio hams when I could.

Now to more recent times. My Army assignments moved my wife and me around the country, and we learned there are better places to live than Cleveland, Ohio. We were in California when I was separated in 1946. We stayed in California, and I went to work for Pacific Telephone Co.

In 1963, I was in the Company's labor relations organization and on the company committee bargaining a new contract with the Communications Workers of America. This put me in San Francisco on the one day a quarter that the FCC was giving amateur exams. I asked to be allowed to take time away from the bargaining meetings so I could take the (then) new Extra Class examination. I passed. Even the fellows on the union side of the bargaining table congratulated me. As a result, I became the Company's "expert" on radio licenses on the bargaining committee.

In the early 1970s, I met a handsome young fellow at a hamfest in Fresno.

He told me he had started an amateur newspaper, had I seen it, and what did I think of it? I answered that yes I had seen it, but reading it made me cringe, because I am sort of a proofreader by habit, and there were too many misspelled words. Guess what? The very next issue found me at Armond Noble's place, proofreading *Worldradio*. I have had a happy association with the Nobles and *Worldradio* ever since.

I retired from Pacific Telephone in 1981. My wife Rita and I are enjoying it. We have three daughters and four grandchildren whom Rita spoils.

I'll look forward to meeting you all at the *Worldradio* booth at Dayton. □



## Bill Grenfell, W4GF FCC HIGHLIGHTS

First licensed as W7GE in 1930, I was graduated from Oregon State University in 1935 with a B.S. in EE. I worked as a radio technician for the state of Oregon's highway and police department's first radio communications system. I also held a commercial telegraph 2nd class and telephone first class license from 1930-1985.

In 1940, I was Monitoring Officer with the FCC's Radio Intelligence Division in Seattle, WA and in the Portland, OR field office.

From 1943-1957 I was with the US Navy in NYC; Brunswick, ME; Boston and Cambridge, MA; and Washington, D.C. I retired as LCDR in 1957.

I was licensed as W4GF in Virginia in 1946, and was involved with the FCC's Frequency Allocations and Treaty Division; Public Safety and Amateur Division; Land Transportation Division; Amateur and Citizens Division. In 1971 I retired from the FCC.

1972 found me getting my private pilot's license and starting to write "FCC Highlights" for *Auto-Call* and *Worldradio*. □

## Ethel Smith, K4LMB QCWA — "The Owl"

My interest in Amateur Radio began in 1935 when my dad brought home a new "all wave" radio and I heard about hams for the first time. I came home from school the next day with a license manual and a handbook and never quit until I had my license.

I have been active on and/or in Amateur Radio ever since. I immediately got into traffic nets and joined the old Army Amateur Radio System — the forerunner of MARS. After all these years, however, I am still best remembered for having written a letter to QST in 1939 that resulted in the formation of the Young Ladies Radio League (YLRL).

With the beginning of WW II, my Amateur experience led to a career in Navy Electronic Warfare. I served as a Navy civilian for the next 28 years. After the war, I resumed ARES activities and served as the Virginia Section Emergency Coordinator for three years. I signed up for QCWA the day I became eligible and in 1974 became the General Manager/Executive Secretary of the organization. For the next 14 years I served on the Board, holding every position except Treasurer and President. From 1978 to 1982 I wrote the QCWA column for *Worldradio* and then began it again recently, using the nom de plume of "The Owl." I retired



from the QCWA Board in 1988 as the VP of the National organization.

My on-the-air activity has suffered recently from family responsibilities and a consuming interest in computers and desk top publishing. My major activity now is in editing the monthly *Auto-Call* magazine for the Washington DC Foundation For Amateur Radio.

I hold an Advanced Class license, have a good "antenna farm" high on a hill and capability on most bands and modes. I just need a little more time and dedication. I'm making good resolutions! □

## Paul Schmid, W4HET DX PREDICTION

First licensed in 1948 as W3OHC in Washington, D.C., I had WAS by October of the same year. By September, 1954 I had acquired my DXCC with a homebrew CW 100 watter and a W8JK Wire Array. Have operated since 1958 as W4HET.

In 1976 I earned the Bicentennial Worked All States certificate, and my Extra. I also hold Cayman Island license ZF2BN, and in November '78 I worked all continents from the Cayman Islands. Worked All Zones on 14 MHz CW in March '79, Worked All States from the Cayman Islands in April 1984, and in April '87, earned the ARRL 1937-1987 Golden Jubilee DXCC award.

An electrical engineer, over the years I have been employed with the U.S. Army Signal Corps, ten years in industry, 15 years as Engineering Management at NASA as contributor to Apollo Program spacecraft tracking and recovery as well as the Tracking & Data Relay Satellite Program.

I have been involved with iono-



spheric modeling and propagation ever since my initial involvement in Amateur Radio in 1948. At NASA I was responsible for developing the ionospheric model used to correct Apollo radio tracking data during all phases of that most exciting program. Over the past 15 years I have run extensive analyses of worldwide HF propagation paths on all ham bands as personally experienced at Grand Cayman Island as well as in the state of Virginia. □

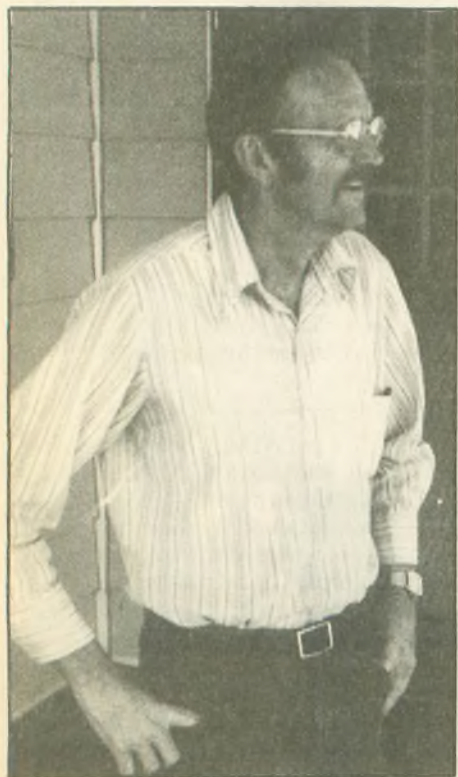
## Dr. Charles "Mert" Moser, W6HS PITCAIRN ISLAND FUEL FUNDERS

Dr. Moser has been licensed for over 50 years, and for over 20 years has communicated regularly with Tom Christian, VR6TC, of Pitcairn Island fame. He has acted as QSL manager for Tom, plus has been active in collecting donations for the purchase of fuel for Tom's generator (Pitcairn Island's generator runs only a limited number of hours per day), and has encouraged others to send boxes of clothing, medical supplies, etc. to that remote dot in the Pacific.

Dr. Moser has also visited Pitcairn a few times, picking cruise ships that had a brief stop there on their itinerary. Tom and his wife Betty, VR6YL have traveled to the United States, also, the most recent trip for a Seventh Day Adventist convention last summer. That time they had their two younger daughters with them, and after some extensive traveling they planned to return to Pitcairn about March of this year. □



Dr. Moser, W6HS, standing in front of the anchor of the *HMS Bounty*.



## Bob Beasley, K6BJH CARTOONS

I was born and raised in Southern California and got my Radio Amateur Operator's license in 1953.

I have been interested in comic art

CALIFORNIA

# K6BJH

**ROBERT BEASLEY**  
26161 HOMELAND AVE.  
HOMELAND, CA 92348  
RIVERSIDE COUNTY

PSE QSL     TNX QSL

THE "HAM" CARTOONIST

AMATEUR RADIO STATION	DATE	TIME	MODE	FREQ	RIG	
					PWR	ANT
CONFIRMING OUR QSO		UR RST				

ever since I can remember, and decided at an early age that I wanted to be a cartoonist. Overcoming a severe obstacle (no talent), took a long time, and I found that lettering seemed to be the most difficult, since my penmanship in school was almost unreadable. I have had no formal art training except for a year of art in high school. My grades were deplorable since the teacher was interested in drawing flower vases and other still life, and I wasn't interested in drawing a vase unless I could show it bouncing off Barney Google's head!

I didn't really get into magazine cartooning until I retired from the workaday world. (I worked as a design engineer and draftsman for a small local foundry.) I guess that after retire-

ment, idle fingers got into mischief and I started thinking up and drawing gags about Amateur Radio and related subjects. I suppose I draw so many Amateur Radio cartoons because there are so many potential gag situations in our magnificent hobby. Occasionally, I will sit down at my drawing table and just stare at a blank piece of paper, but eventually, a whole new set of situations will come to mind, and I start drawing. My XYL hates it when I sit and stare off blankly into space, especially when she's talking to me, but I just calmly explain, "I'm writing gags!"

Maybe someday that blank piece of paper will permanently remain that way, but until it does, I will still keep trying to lay ink on it! □

# Maureen Pranghofer, KF0I WITH THE HANDI- HAMS

I have been a ham since May of 1971, when I obtained my Novice. At that time I was a Junior in high school. Having been blind and physically handicapped since birth I was finding socialization with the other students to be very difficult. I had few friends and not much to do after school and on weekends.

A physics teacher of mine suggested that because I liked talking I might enjoy Amateur Radio. He had once had a Novice license which had expired. That day I went home from school and announced to my parents I wanted to be a ham. Neither they nor I knew anything about it but it was by coincidence that we heard of a new group, the Courage HANDI-HAM System of Minnesota which had just been formed. So I joined this group and through them was able to get study materials and volunteer help to tutor me along toward getting the Novice.

It took me about six weeks to get the Novice license (two weeks to learn the code and four weeks to tackle the theory). Like other blind people, I really glommed onto the code and did well with it. I have been a code person ever since.

Four months after obtaining my Novice I got the General License. The next year I passed the Advanced and eight years later got my Extra.

I have been involved with rag chewing, CW, a smattering of DX and County hunting, MARS, and packet radio. Most recently my main venture has been being the net control for the

*Maureen  
and  
her new  
guide  
dog,  
Desiree.*



## Courage HANDI-HAM Net.

Eleven years ago I was hired by the Courage HANDI-HAM System as Student Coordinator. I work with all of our handicapped students who are studying for their Novices or for their Technician level licenses. It has been fascinating to be involved in Amateur

Radio from this standpoint. Over the years I have worked with close to 2,000 handicapped people around the country and in several foreign countries. Amateur Radio is a wonderful hobby and I appreciate *Worldradio* and what it does to bolster this fantastic avocation. □

# Chuck Imsande, W6YLJ 10-10 INTERNATIONAL

Born in Los Angeles, CA in 1922 and lived in the Southern California area all of my life. Married to LaDonne 49 years this year. We have two children, daughter Gayle, son Don, and four grandchildren (each of our children has a boy and a girl).

Received my ham license, W6YLJ, in 1945, as soon as the FCC began issuing new licenses after World War II. Failed the code at least two times that I can remember, but was determined to pass, so after each failure it was back to the 33 1/3 RPM records for more study. In those days you not only had to receive 13 WPM, but also had to send to the satisfaction of the FCC examiner. Upgraded to Advanced and that is

where it is today!

Have been interested in electronics for as long as I can remember. While in Junior High School, a neighbor kid and I used Ford spark coils powered by old 45 volt "B" batteries to send code signals from our houses a half-block



apart. It's a good thing this was before television as those old spark coils radiated a "mean signal." The "B" batteries were obtained from our electrical shop teacher who got them from the movie studios. In those days all of the sound equipment was powered by batteries as it was thought that "pure DC" would give a better sound track.

Semi-retired from my own electronics business. My son-in-law Mike runs our two retail electronics stores, and my son Don runs our wholesale electronics company.

Have been a member of 10-10 since 1978 and enjoy the friendly associations of the 10-10 organization. Spend as much time as possible on the radio, a Kenwood TS-940S and tri-band beam. Enjoy contests, 10-10 activities, county hunting and a little DX, as time allows. □

## Lenore Jensen, W6NAZ WHO'S WHO

I received my first ticket in 1939 while working at NBC Chicago as an actress. Moving to New York City, I traded W9CHD for W2NAZ, which became W6NAZ when I finally settled in my home town of Los Angeles. Always active on most bands, I particularly have enjoyed phone patching for ARMY MARS.

In 1983, the Dayton Hamvention honored me with their Special Achievement award.

Feeling strongly that Amateur Radio needs to be better known, I have spent many years doing Public Relations work as a volunteer for ARRL and our service in general. The "Who's



Who" column is a result of that interest. □

## Geri Sweeney, N4GHI TRAFFIC

First licensed in 1982 (General) as N4GHI, I upgraded to Extra the next year, retaining my original call. My husband's call is N6ANQ.

I have served as region manager of the Atlantic Area Net (International NTS); International Assistance and



Traffic Net; Mexican American Traffic Net; Swedish American Traffic Net; Traffic Manager of Virginia Section; Net Manager of Virginia CW Net; Net Manager of International Assistance and Traffic Net; member of TCC; member of ARRL ANERCON ad hoc committee on emergency traffic; Past president of Mt. Vernon ARC; editor and publisher of VN and IATN newsletters; A-1 Operator Club. I generally make BPL each month and have had a string of over 18 months in succession. I taught elementary school for 16 years in San Diego and Israel, and currently spend full time as a bum.

I'm active on CW, SSB, RTTY, PACKET, AMTOR (HF), 2m packet, 2m FM, and 70 cm FM, mobile HF CW and 2m FM.

My other activities include sailing, water skiing, swimming, bicycling, flying and tennis. Also enjoy reading, traveling and playing piccolo in the community band.

I became interested in Amateur Radio when my husband reactivated his interest and purchased a station to take with us to Israel in 1979. I got my first license by attending the classes given by our local ARC when we returned in 1981. I thought at first that it would just be a nice togetherness thing. A year later I upgraded and found that it had become a compelling force. I had entered the world of traffic! This was the result of the Virginia Section Manager speaking at our club. Excited by his enthusiasm, I took my first faltering steps with the Virginia Slow Speed Net. Traffic handling is so much fun that it has become my major amateur activity. □



John Minke, N6JM (right) and unidentified female hold down the booth at Dayton.

## John Minke, N6JM DX WORLD

First licensed in June 1954 as K2IKS (Tenaflly, NY), I was a radio operator at Fort Dix, NJ, and assigned to the MARS station and 1st Army Command net station. In those days military operators on the MARS frequencies were not required to be radio amateurs. That wasn't enough; had to get my ticket. The code was no problem as the army taught me. For my first QSO I tuned across two stations in contact and broke in (that was acceptable in those days). They seemed a bit surprised! So was I when someone broke in with "K2WAO, you are out of the American phone band!" And so was my C.O., who was in charge of the station.

After a two-year hitch with the army, I returned to Clarkson College (now Clarkson University), Potsdam, NY, and graduated in 1959 with a degree in electrical engineering. I first went to work with Hazeltine Corporation and was sent to McClellan AFB, near Sacramento. I turned in my K2IKS call for WA6JDT. In 1964 the contract was about to be terminated and as I had married a California girl and started a family I went to work for the Department of Water Resources in Sacramento and have been with them ever since. I was involved with the electrical design of power and pumping plants along the California Aquaduct.

I guess my interest in writing came from the fact that I was Section Communications Manager (now just SM) for Sacramento Valley, and served in that office from 1965 to 1973. A couple of years later I started writing the Awards column for *Worldradio*. In 1978 I took over the DX column and am still with it.

In 1969, while still SCM, I acquired my Extra and a second call, W6KYA. In 1977 I turned WA6JDT in for my present call N6JM. W6KYA was allowed to run out and never renewed again.

As for my family, I'm married with four grown children and two grandsons. XYL did have a ticket once—to please me. She is ex-WN6IZH. We used to operate together. I would copy and she would send.

My other hobbies are genealogy and railroads. I used to really be involved in the railroad hobby until it was overthrown by another hobby in 1954. Also interested in camping/backpacking, but don't do much of that anymore. □



## Gordon West, WB6NOA MOBILE

Gordon West, WB6NOA, was first licensed in 1956. He grew up in a Southern California home perched on a 1,500 foot hill in Southern California, enjoying the benefits of long-range, 2-meter propagation. West was one of the first to begin operating 2-meter single sideband using a Gonset Side-winder transceiver, and one of the first stations to work the California/Hawaii tropo path long before the propagation beacons were in place.

Twenty-five years later, Gordo continues to work weak signal stations on VHF and UHF. Since he was raised aboard a boat, his column on maritime mobile installations comes from an expert who has first-hand experience in trying out different types of rigs and antenna systems.

On the technical side, Gordo holds an FCC First Class General Radiotelephone license with radar endorsement, and has taught commercial license preparation for many years. He was recently named a Fellow of the Radio Club of America, and was nominated "Instructor of the Year" by the American Radio Relay League.

But most important for *Worldradio* readers, Gordo just doesn't talk about mobile ham radio installations — he does them! He goes out on the water, or out on wheels, and tries all sorts of different rigs with different types of antennas. This allows him an inside view of what works, and what doesn't. He also works closely with major manufacturers of Amateur Radio equipment and accessories to help them customize their product line for discriminating mobile hams.

"This year promises to be an exciting one when it comes to new innovations in remote mobile rigs, and more compact antenna systems — so stay



tuned," finalizes Gordon West, WB6NOA, the *Worldradio* mobile column editor. □



## Bill Snyder, W0LHS DIGITAL BUS

Bill Snyder, columnist for the "Digital Bus," has been a licensed Amateur Radio operator since the day before Christmas in 1932. At that time a sophomore in high school, his first callsign was W9LHS. When the FCC split the ninth district into two parts prior to World War II, his call became W0LHS.

During his high school years, Bill enlisted in the US Naval Reserve and became a Radioman Third Class. Following his graduation from North Dakota State College in 1942 he was ordered to active duty in the Army

of the United States where he served with the 592nd Amphibious Engineers and the 58th Signal Battalion in the Southwest Pacific Theater of Operations.

It was during his three years overseas during the war that he became interested in radioteletype operations.

After the war Bill joined the Gatti-Hallicrafters African Expedition where he, along with Bob Leo, W7LR, operated DX stations from Kenya and Tanganyika.

Returning to the states after a year in Africa, Snyder joined WDAY radio in his home town of Fargo, North Dakota. Later he switched to television when the station started WDAY-TV. He was the photo and film director for the station. In 1958 he opened his own industrial film and television production business which he operated until his retirement in 1981. At that time he sold the business which is still in operation as Snyder Films and Video. During his business career, Snyder produced over 800 audio-visual films and tapes. Specializing in agricultural films, his productions won over 60 national and international awards in film festivals around the world.

Snyder became interested in amateur RTTY during his early days at WDAY radio. He obtained a model 12 Teletype machine from the Associated Press in 1952. He adapted it for amateur radioteletype prior to the opening of frequency shift keying transmission on the high frequency amateur bands in 1953. W0LHS was on the air the first weekend the FCC allowed the mode to be used on the HF bands. Although Snyder operates CW

now and then, he is active on RTTY and AMTOR most of the time.

Upon his retirement Snyder took over writing the DX column in the *RTTY Journal*, a specialized ham magazine now being published by W6IWO. After two years of writing for the *Journal*, he switched to writing the RTTY column for *Worldradio*. The column title changed to the "Digital Bus" when packet radio became widespread on the ham bands. Now in his ninth year of writing, Snyder enjoys listening on the RTTY, AMTOR and packet subbands. As a result, his "Eavesdroppings" have become a popular part of his monthly column.

Although no longer an active pilot, Snyder owned and flew his own aircraft for many years. In addition to writing for *Worldradio*, Snyder conducts a column in *The Mainstreeter*, a railroad journal published by the Northern Pacific Railroad Historical Association; and he publishes a quarterly for his high school alumni association. He has had other works published in *QST*, *Flying*, and a number of other magazines.

Snyder holds: ARRL certificate for 35 WPM International Morse Code proficiency, DXCC-RTTY number 43 (242 countries confirmed), WAZ-RTTY certificate number 26, and an Extra Class Amateur Radio license. □

---

You know you are really hooked on Amateur Radio when you try to disguise a dipole by draping it with the daily laundry.

—Western ARC, Cerritos, CA □



## Ross Forbes, WB6GFJ AMSAT-OSCAR Schedule

I became interested in the Amateur Radio satellite program in the middle '60s when a friend and I visited Foothill College (Los Altos Hills) and

saw the Project OSCAR headquarters. OSCAR-3 had just been launched and the UHF array was being installed by W6ASH, on the roof. Career moves kept me away from the program until the middle '70s when I again became interested in OSCAR.

While OSCAR-6 was still operational I started getting active. OSCAR opera-

tion was perfect for me since I lived in an apartment and wasn't able to put up much of an HF antenna. However, with my OSCAR array I was able to work all over North America and the Pacific. I have been using OSCAR ever since.

My station is operational on Modes A, B, J, K and T and presently I am working on setting up for Modes L and S. I use the analog and digital modes, and have been capturing telemetry from all the OSCARs. Since 1988 I have been the West Coast Gateway station for UoSAT-OSCAR-11's DCE.

I have traveled overseas and spent many hours visiting AO-10/13 command stations ZL1AOX and VK5AGR. Additionally I represented Project OSCAR at the 50th anniversary of the RSGB and the first international meeting of the Amateur Radio Satellite program at the University of Surrey in 1988.

One of the main reasons for maintaining my interest in the Amateur Radio satellite program is the educational challenges it provides, and for the opportunity to meet and become good friends with many wonderful people around the world.

First licensed in 1963, I hold an Advanced Class license, and am a member of ARRL, AMSAT-NA, RSGB, AMSAT-UK, WIA, Project OSCAR and NCDXF. □

## Rich Arland, K7YHA QRP

I first became interested in radio at the tender age of six years. Although my father refuses to discuss the subject, my mother had told me about the time, when I was two, I stuck my baby spoon into the light socket and "discovered" electricity. This incident, coupled with the problem the doctor had separating me from a Hallicrafters S-38 at birth (Mom had a rough time, too), seemed to be an early indicator that I would pursue a life oriented around radio.

My first encounter with short wave radio was during the early '50s. My mother and father would tune in SW broadcasts on the old Arvin console radio in the living room. I remember hearing the BBC, Radio Moscow and other English language broadcasts while still a very young lad. This inspired me to get the Boy Scout radio merit badge. Mom and I practiced sending and receiving Morse Code using a crude key and buzzer and a flashlight, in preparation for my merit badge test.

It was during my early days in Boy Scouting that our Scout Master took

us to Mel Sim's house to see his radio stuff. Mel's callsign was W7CIS. The bug bit hard and deep. I had to get my ham license. It wasn't until 1963 that I finally took my novice test and passed. George Comstock, W7CJ, who is now 94 years old and lives in Moscow, ID, gave me my novice exam. Six weeks later along came my license, KN7YHA, signed by good old Ben F. Wapple of the FCC!! George, along with Jessie Brabb, K7TWR and her son, Mike, K7TWS kept up the pressure for me to upgrade to General Class.

College came and went, and I was an active member at the club station at Yakima Valley College, WA7CDH. During this time I became intrigued with a new organization called the QRP Amateur Radio Club, International. At this time QRP was defined as 100 watts power output (or less). I joined the QRP ARCI in 1965 and have been a practicing QRPer every since. I am active on all the HF bands and enjoy the various QRP contests throughout the year. The idea of using very low power to communicate worldwide has always intrigued me. The thrill of working DX using QRP is unbelievable.

A 20-year stint in the U.S. Air Force allowed me to operate from some pret-

ty exotic locations. DX callsigns that I have held are: CT2BH (1970-73), KA2AA (1975-79), G5CSU (1979-1984), DA2NE (1982-84). In addition, I was a guest operator at the Norwich Contest Club station, G4ANT for four years, where I *really* learned how to work DX.

After retirement from the Air Force in 1987, I moved to Wilkes-Barre, PA where I am currently employed by the Pennsylvania Department of Education as a Vocational Electronics instructor at the State Correctional Institute at Dallas, PA. (Some people say it is poetic justice that I am locked up for eight hours a day!!).

I have written the QRP column for *Worldradio* magazine for the last four years. In addition I also write the Experimenter's Workshop column for *Monitoring Times* magazine. In July of 1990 I became a grandfather (at the tender age of 44!!). I'm married to a tremendous woman named Tricia who understands my strange radio hobby and my weird radio friends. My 17-year-old daughter, Wendy is also licensed as KB4UNT. □

If a foreign amateur visits your area, do a picture story for *Worldradio*.

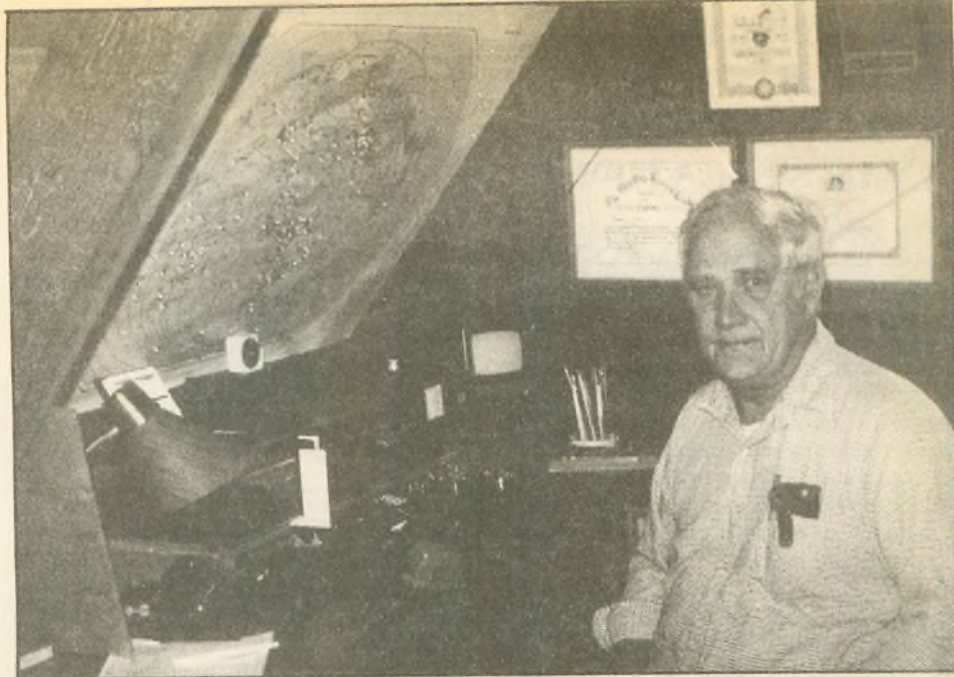
## Bob Brown, NM7M PROPAGATION

I was first licensed at age 14 as W6PDN in 1937 and operated from San Francisco ('37-'38), Sacramento ('38-'39) and Fresno ('39-'41).

Like others, I went off the air on Dec. 7, 1941 and served in the U.S. Navy (Japanese Language Officer in Japan and Korea) until '46. After that, I completed my education (Ph.D. in Physics from UC Berkeley in '50), went about making a living (teaching at Princeton University, the University of New Mexico and UC Berkeley) and raising a family (two girls and a boy).

My early specialty in physics was cosmic rays, those energetic particles coming from the galaxy as a whole. At UNM, I started to get interested in solar events and was standing right beside my recording apparatus when the Great Solar Flare of February 23, 1956 occurred. That was it! After that I got deeply involved in solar proton events, studying them with balloon-borne detectors in the Arctic and Antarctic.

In the process of that work, I became aware of the ionospheric side of those events and began to get interested in



the ionospheric chemistry and absorption that accompanied solar-terrestrial events. It didn't take much to push me into propagation studies, especially when I came back on the air in '81, just before retiring from UC in '82. Of course, that was the time when PCs really came on the scene and made

many things possible that were only dreams before.

So that's my story. Now if you want it in terms of "key-words," try the following: W6PDN ('37), physics (Ph.D. '50), cosmic rays, solar events ('56), Arctic/Antarctic and ionospheric physics ('59-'80), retirement ('82). □



## Mike Cafferky, AA6WQ CONTINUOUS WAVE

I'm a marketing executive, with degrees in public health and business administration, and I also do some freelance writing — a marketing column for the *Long Beach Times* and a column on the war in the Gulf for the *Long Beach Community News*. I'm married

with two boys, both of whom are licensed radio Amateurs. My station at home is a Kenwood TS 520 with a long wire, and in the car I use an ICOM 735 with a mobile whip.

### My Journey into CW

Driving to work every day while waiting for my Novice license (KC6HSF) to arrive gave me a good opportunity (via code tapes) to work on the basics of copying CW. It was at night I practiced handwritten CW on 40 meters.

The Novice ticket came January 7, 1990. The next day I fired up the Swapmeet Special (Kenwood 520) and got on the air for the first time. At that time my goal was to get my General license (N6YHG) and start working single side band. Like many I had considered Morse code more of a barrier than a benefit.

Getting hooked on CW was not really an immediate event. It began to happen when I made the serious push to pass the 13 WPM code test. During this time I met several CW operators who I have later learned are considered some of the very best. Their interest in my progress went a long way to pull me along. For me it was the rag chewing which made CW interesting. It was also the challenge of becoming a better operator which hooked me.

Getting to know some of the Old Timers who still use CW played an important part, too. I liked hearing their stories and wanted to hear more so I resolved to learn more of CW until I could converse with these Amateur Radio giants with ease.

A final influence was getting hooked on mobile CW: The challenge of learning to copy in my head, the challenge of being able to do two things at once: It was one of those mountains which I needed to climb. In the process of climbing, I got hooked.

By the time I passed the 20 WPM test (I think it was the last week of March, 1990), I was really *sick* of those code tapes which pulled me down the sixty mile road to work and back each day. Operating on the air, however, was different. It was this social interaction which provided a lot of positive reinforcement. This kept me coming back for more.

About June 1 I went mobile CW for the first time. A month later I received the Extra Class license in the mail. Ever since then I have been studying CW to learn why it is still popular with some amateurs. Through observations of others and of myself I began to develop a concise list of the "Laws of CW" which reflect my current philosophy of operating. (Cf. *Radioscan*, October, 1990 and January, 1991.) □

## Jerry Wellman, WB7ULH SEARCH & RESCUE COMMUNICATIONS

I've been very active in Search & Rescue, communications and Civil Air Patrol for 20 years. I was licensed as an Amateur in 1977 and hold an Advanced Class license.

I've written several books: "Atex Super User's Guide" (newspaper computers), "Eavesdropper's Guide to Utah" (scanner enthusiasts), "Search Coordinator Reference Manual" (search and rescue), "Utah Air Crashes" (all aircraft crashes in Utah from 1941 to 1990).

I've been a CAP search coordinator since 1976 and have attended quite a few SAR courses and seminars. I've written for *CAP*, *National Jeep SAR*, *Worldradio* and have had articles and photos published in newspapers and carried over wire services.

I became interested in search and



rescue as a Boy Scout when the troop was asked to help in various public service events and a search mission. I was into electronics and it seemed natural to combine SAR and communications as a specialty. I quit keeping track of the missions I've been on but the best ones are the "saves."

Because I had a CAP radio that also had some ham crystals in it, I could

listen to the local nets and rag chewing. Jack, WB7BEG, said "Let's do it!" and gave me the Novice test and I passed. A couple of months later the FCC was in town and the next thing I know I'm on 2 meters. That was so fun I tried the General, passed and then drove to Denver to take the Advanced test several months after that.

When I take trips, I love to chat with the locals, attend their club meetings and when I drive it's great to join the County Hunter's net or just rag chew on the low bands.

There are sure a lot of great operators out there!

I'm married to (the very lovely) Janet Sharp and have three children. Hobbies (besides electronics) include computers, photography, writing, hiking, camping and reading.

I'm very active in the LDS (Mormon) Church and work in the Scouting program.

Among things I enjoy is corresponding with *Worldradio* readers and operating the WB7ULH (S.L. County ARES) BBS. □



## Connie Dunn, KB5LES YL ROUNDUP

In December, 1989, I got my Novice license, but my ham activities began earlier in the year when I began editing the local radio club's newsletter and organizing radio demonstrations for school children. In June, 1990, I passed my Technician exam. And in September, 1990, I began writing for *Worldradio*.

Unlike many YL operators who have had to search for a YL group, I entered into Amateur Radio because of a group

of ladies. My OM, Si Dunn, K5JRN, had been a radio amateur for more than 30 years. When I became pregnant with my youngest child (it was a high-risk pregnancy), I began to think of the benefits of being able to communicate with someone virtually 24 hours a day from home or car.

Si's job took him 40 miles from Denton into the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex and approximately one hour away. Maureen McClain, N5FFB, whose call is used on the local ladies' repeater operated by the YL Roses of Texas, enlightened me as to how Amateur Radio could help my situation. Since there were YLs monitoring the repeater all the time, I could just get on and call for help any time I needed. It sounded comforting and reassuring.

Although I was not yet licensed, I attended the YL Roses of Texas Amateur Radio Club luncheons once a month. Two years later, Maureen asked if I wanted to go to a ham class. I attended the classes, and Maureen came with me. The ladies encouraged me in every way they could. Cindy Brazzel, N5MUJ, who was trying to upgrade, practiced code with me. We even got on the air with K5JRN acting as control operator. When I passed my Technician test, KA5DWR, Dorothy Jones, who had just passed her Extra and gotten her VE to become the first YL in Denton to do either, signed my Form 610.

One important event that catapulted me into the midst of YL operating was beginning the 10 meter net, which

meets on Mondays at 1800 UTC on 28.433. Locally, I had a wonderful group of ladies to talk with and encourage me to operate and learn more about the hobby. However, most of the YLs were involved with YL net operations on other bands, which required a higher class license than I held.

Judi Jaksa, N0IDR/5, who checks in to most of the YL nets, was not only supportive but helped spread the word about the new 10 meter net. It took a couple of weeks for YLs around the country to get the message. Then, one week there were more than 15 people on the check-in list. I met Ann Benway, KE2US in New York, who has since taken over as net manager and net control along with Irma, K6KCI, in California.

When Judi, N0IDR/5, was appointed YLRL (Young Ladies Radio League) Publicity Chairman, she asked me to help. This, too, served to focus me on YL activities. I began to ask questions, such as: "What makes YLs different in the world of Amateur Radio?" Those responses made me realize how important it is that YLs seek out other YLs. Although the entire spectrum of Amateur Radio is available regardless of gender, it is the approach or the goals that differ. The closeness and support found in the YL network is like a sisterhood. □

• People reaching People •  
Amateur Radio is what *Worldradio* is  
all about.

## Paul Scipione, AA2AV MARS

Age 44. Happily married 22 years to wife Linda (librarian). Parents of daughter Leigh (age 11, grade 6 student). We live in Metuchen, a lovely suburban community of 12,000 population, located 45 kilometers southwest of New York City in New Jersey. I'm a consumer psychologist (Ph.D., Rutgers University, 1973). Now a Professor of Marketing in the School of Business Administration at Montclair State University (13,000 students), I also run my own private practice in Consumer Psychology and Market Research in Metuchen. Previously spent 14 years in private business as Copy Research Director at Young & Rubicam Advertising in New York and Vice President/Group Head at Response Analysis Corporation in Princeton. Author of five books, including the Vietnam War novel, *Shades of Gray*. Now at work on two

more books.

Served as sergeant in the Army in 101st Airborne Division at Hue/Phu Bai, Vietnam, 1969-70. Active in veterans affairs. Appointed by Governor Thomas Kean to the New Jersey Agent Orange Commission in 1984. Other hobbies and interests include jogging, reading, and computers (Apple Mac II and an AST 386SX Notebook PC).

Was a Novice ham for one year in 1963-64 during high school. Relicensed again in October 1989 and enjoying radio all over again! QRP CW enthusiast (QRP/ARCI #7147). Member of ARRL. Member and officer of Piscataway (NJ) Amateur Radio Club and the Green Brook (NJ) 146.94 two meter repeater club. I am also National Director of Public Relations for the Army MARS (Military Affiliate Radio) System (AAA9PR) and monthly MARS columnist for *Worldradio* magazine. I hold an FCC Extra Class license and am now an



ARRL Volunteer Examiner. Avid DXer, Paper Chaser, and County Hunter (MARAC #2337). Like nothing better than to share a QSL and letter with new friends all over this little planet of ours!! □

## Keith Berglund, WB5ZDP AMATEUR SATELLITES

### Keith Berglund, WB5ZDP AMATEUR SATELLITES

Keith first became interested in Amateur Radio as a college freshman at Texas A&M. The campus had a club station, W5AC, and there were occasional classes describing Amateur Radio and what was necessary to become a licensed operator. He only attended a few of these classes, however, before becoming frustrated with the slow pace. He picked up the *Callbook* and the ARRL manuals and, a week later, passed his Novice exam (1976), a self-taught Amateur. Later, in his junior year, he went back and taught some of the Amateur Radio classes himself. In 1980, he graduated with a degree in Electrical Engineering, and he now works as Senior Antenna Engineer for Sabre Communications.

In many ways, Keith says, Amateur Radio shaped his choice of profession. He started his college education studying industrial engineering and then went into electrical engineering. He soon discovered that he wasn't so hot with electromagnetic theory, but through his experience with Amateur Radio, he realized that antennas weren't so complicated. He took his first job in the petroleum industry doing instrumentation. Following that, he was offered a position with General

Dynamics designing aircraft antennas. His experience with trying to explain mathematically what he'd observed in practice helped him the most.

Keith doesn't cite any one thing about Amateur Radio which attracted him at first. He says that he was influenced by his familiarity with the world of computers and mass communications. His interest became more focused on Amateur satellites after he participated in a few contacts with the OSCAR-7 and -8 satellites (1977-78). At the time, he says, he didn't think much of it. Then he chanced to hear a satellite on 10M one day and it struck him that he already had all the necessary equipment in his shack for an Amateur satellite station. This is when he decided it was going to be fun!

Keith likens the excitement of one's first satellite contact to the thrill of that first CW QSO. For him it's particularly exhilarating because all of his equipment is home brew; he even designs and makes his own antenna systems. He recalls one experience in particular when he arose early on a cold morning and attempted a Mode B contact with the then very sick OSCAR-10. Despite his doubts about being able to make contact with the bird, his self-built equipment worked just fine and the contact was successful.

Now Keith is heavily involved in AMSAT, a non-profit organization which is made up entirely of volunteers who help others get started in Amateur satellites. He'd seen numerous presentations about Amateur satellites which were invariably highly technical, and

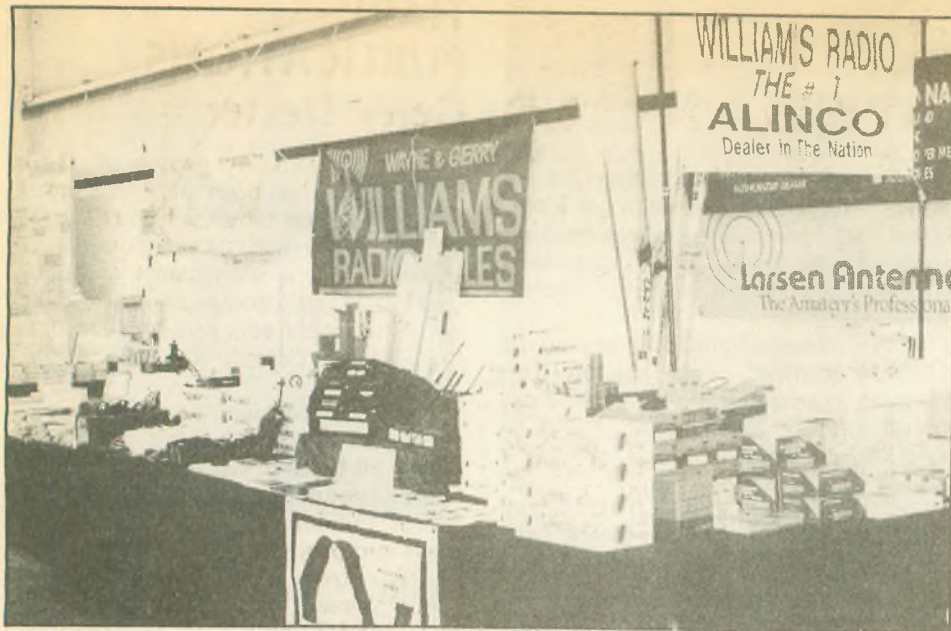
he recognized a need to help beginners understand the fundamentals before getting into the technical aspects of Amateur satellites. He offers his services as an Area Coordinator, covering the hamfest circuit and giving presentations. In addition to his many how-to antenna building articles, Keith has written a book, "A Beginner's Guide to OSCAR-13" (available from AMSAT, 850 Sligo Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20910).

He donated the rights of this book to AMSAT; in fact, all services and materials are donated by those who volunteer for AMSAT, including the rights to all the tracking software contributed. Any money collected from AMSAT goes entirely to building and launching new satellites. Keith doesn't mind the costs incurred from attending the area's hamfests or donations such as his book. In his words it's "in effect, paying your dues to get new satellites launched."

And his motivation in writing the Amateur Satellites column for *Worldradio* is based solely on his desire to spread the word about Amateur satellites. He says he's glad to have an opportunity to reach so many people. □

---

You know you are really hooked on Amateur Radio when you become the center of attention at your Condo Committee Meeting, explaining RFI and how nobody really wants to watch *The Late Show* on Channel 2 anyway. —Western ARC, Cerritos, CA □



## WILLIAMS RADIO SALES

Wayne C. Williams,  
K4MOB

First licensed in 1958, after serving in U.S. Navy 1954-1958 as a radio-man, I started in business in a limited way with my brother in 1972, bought him out and started Williams Radio Sales (of North Carolina) in 1974.

We attend approximately 25 ham-fests per year in the Southeast, and have the privilege of attending some of the shows our 17th year in 1991.

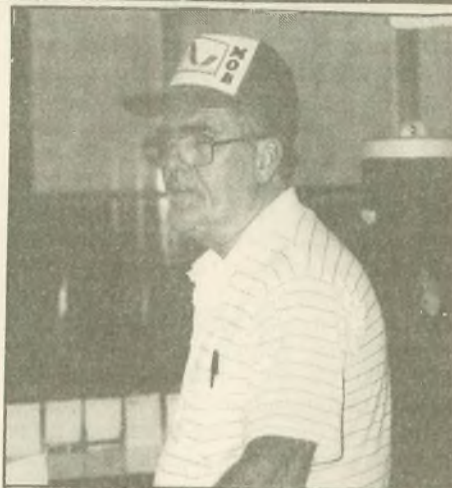
In the early years we sold ICOM and were a major crystal supplier, fully utilizing the pages of *Worldradio* every month for many years.

We have kept our company small and generally try to carry just one brand name for each product (i.e. Larsen Mobile Antennas, KLM Beams, Mirage Amplifiers and ALINCO VHF/UHF transceivers).

Staying small and specializing in limited varieties of brand names has been most successful for us, allowing us to concentrate on that one product and give the customer the service he so much desires, but usually never expects to get in the Amateur Radio industry.

*Worldradio* has been good to us all these years, and generally we stay with the magazine advertising as much as our budget will allow. They play an important part in our mail-order sales, which represents about 60% of our overall business.

We wish Armond and Helen much success in the future, and know they will continue to put out the best "news" magazine in the Amateur market. If you want to keep up with



what's going on *Worldradio* is must reading. □

## A & A ENGINEERING Stas, W6UCM, and Holly Andrzejewski

A & A Engineering was started in 1974 and is owned by Stas J. and Holly R. Andrzejewski.

The company specializes in providing electronic engineering and manufacturing services to small and medium size companies who cannot justify having an engineering staff or electronic manufacturing capability.

Originally from New Jersey, Stas, W6UCM was first licensed in 1956 as a novice with the call WN2ROU. Shortly thereafter he upgraded to general and became W2ROU, a call he held throughout his college days at Texas A&M University. Upon graduating in 1967, he joined the aerospace industry which helped him relocate to southern California.

Getting involved with "ham radio"

## PERSONAL DATABASE APPLICATIONS Dennis Hevener, WN4AZY

I became interested in Amateur Radio as a child, probably as a result of reading. I met some other teenagers who were hams, and became licensed at about the age of 16. I upgraded to General Class less than a year thereafter, and received the call WB4AZY.

I heard through the grapevine that people were requesting and receiving their original novice calls, so I applied, and sure enough, I got it. I may well have been the only Extra-class licensee with a novice callsign! I later heard that re-issuing the novice calls was a mistake, but we were allowed to keep them.

In 1984 I graduated from Loma Linda University with a Master's degree in health care administration. I have been involved in computers one way or another since age 18.

In 1987 I formed Personal Database Applications to provide professional-quality database products for personal computer users. Our first ad for LOGic, our ham radio software system, was run in *Worldradio* approximately May of 1989.

Our other products are Personal Music Librarian and Personal Video Librarian, with more on the way.

I am blissfully married to my business partner, Fe, N6MRQ, and have one son, a cat, and a few fish. □

products was mostly a self defense move. Local hams would visit A & A on a regular basis to ask Stas to make various construction projects work. They would drink the coffee pot dry, rummage through the stock room and constantly ask why we didn't carry the specific part they needed to complete their construction project.

By entering the ham radio "construction project" business, A & A has been able to help create construction projects that work and assure that parts for the projects are available. We want to get involved with the author before a project is published. We create prototypes, check out designs and aid the authors in finalizing their design.

Although the ham radio products account for only about 10% of our business, we are committed to the ham business and want to expand our ham radio product line. We therefore encourage authors to contact us for possible involvement with their project. □

## IMRA (International Mission Radio Association) The Rev. Michael Mullen, WB2GQW

Got a license in 1968. Had been visiting a missionary in Panama a few years before and saw him running a phone patch to his sister in Albany. I thought this was a great help to missionaries in the boondocks.

When I got my license, I found out that the IMRA had started in the early '60s, when 50 priests and brothers who were hams decided to start a network for missionaries. It had started as the Catholic Mission Radio Association but a few years later the name was changed to "International," thus opening the net to lay people and missionaries of all denominations. We now have over 1000 members in 40 countries.

The twofold purposes of IMRA are to establish a communication link for missionaries and anyone needing con-



Fr. Ray Lambert, WA1MTS (left) and Fr. Mike Mullen, WB2GQW at IMRA booth in Boston.

tact with the mission field, and to provide radio equipment for these missionaries. The association runs a net on the air Mon.-Sat. from 1900-2000 GMT, and averages 10,000 check-ins and 5,000 pieces of traffic in the course of a year. IMRA works closely with MARCO to provide needed medical supplies and advice to missionaries. □

## TIARE PUBLICATIONS Gerry Dexter

Gerry L. Dexter, owner of Tiare Publications, has been an active shortwave broadcast monitor and DXer for 40 years. In addition to operating Tiare, Dexter is a freelance writer on shortwave radio and related areas and writes monthly columns and features for *Popular Communications Magazine*.

Tiare Publications is entering its sixth year of operation and now offers nearly 30 titles in the Amateur Radio, shortwave and scanner listening fields. Tiare, incidentally, welcomes book ideas and proposals from writers.

Aside from shortwave, Dexter's other interests include reading, current affairs and the music of Stan Kenton. □

## HAAM RADIO 4 + 5 + 9

The primary function of the HAAMS, established in 1953, is to coordinate contacts through nets and other schedules for those members unable to attend regular AA meetings because of their remote location or personal physical condition. We currently have several members at sea and two members in the Persian Gulf area. □

## QCWA

Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA) is an international organization of radio amateurs who held a license 25 years ago and hold one today.

QCWA was organized 43 years ago and at present has a membership of approximately 10,000. Among the many projects sponsored by QCWA is its outstanding Memorial Scholarship Program. At the present time, seven scholarships are issued each year and this year each scholarship was in the amount of \$750.00.

QCWA sponsors a QSO Party each year with the CW portion in Feb. and the SSB portion in March. A taping program brings the *QCWA Journal* to sight-impaired members, and awards are issued to members who have held a license for 50, 55, 60, 65, 70 and even 75 years. Honor Awards bestow recognition on those who have contributed significantly to the advancement of Amateur Radio.

If you are eligible and would like to become a QCWA member, write for information and/or an application: QCWA, Inc., 1409 Cooper Dr., Irving, TX 75061. □

## HENRY RADIO Ted Henry, W6UOU

I was born into Amateur Radio as the brother of Bob Henry, W0ARA, founder of Henry Radio in Butler, MO. Bob is now deceased. Walt Henry, W6ZN, another brother, is a retired Navy Captain and lives in Fullerton, CA.

In 1941 my wife, Meredith (W6WNE) and I founded Henry Radio

L.A. We both are still active in the business along with our son, Ted Shannon Henry, W6YEY. We specialize in all areas of Amateur Radio! □

*Ed. note: In 1968, when Armond and I drove into Los Angeles on our honeymoon, the first stop we made was Henry Radio in Los Angeles. This was a giant step up in the world of Amateur Radio after listening to white noise all across the country on the 6 meter rig in the car—Helen Noble*

## PALOMAR ENGINEERS Jack Althouse, K6NY

I first became involved in Amateur Radio via the SWL route. I built a four-tube shortwave radio from a kit with the help and guidance of a junior high school science teacher, Mr. Otto Oakes. My next building project was a one-tube five meter transceiver, on which I talked to a friend across town until the FCC stepped in on him.

First licensed in 1938 as W0OKQ in Kearney, Nebraska, I later became interested in contesting and in building better equipment to improve contest scores. One piece of this gear, the first electronic keyer to use integrated circuits, worked very well. After looking



Behind this wry smile lurks the soul of one who can tell you more than you ever wanted to know about noise bridges, Jack Althouse, N6NY.

at other keyers available, I decided to market it. Thus was born Palomar Engineers in 1965. □



Texas Towers' sales staff — Cheryl Williamson Fossee, Matthew and Gerald Williamson.

## TEXAS TOWERS Gerald Williamson, K5GW

I was first licensed in 1956 as a Novice, KN4LXT. Other calls I have held are K4LXT, W5SID and my present call, K5GW.

Texas Towers started in 1977 as a mail order business out of my garage. The company was founded to provide a ready source of quality tower hardware, which previously had been very difficult to locate. We sold towers, antennas and rotors. The company now sells all major lines of ham equipment, and the sales staff now includes Kathryn Williamson, Matthew Williamson, and Cheryl Williamson Fossee—we're definitely making this a family business! □

## MFJ ENTERPRISES, INC.

Martin F. Jue, K5FLU

Martin F. Jue, K5FLU, was first licensed as an Amateur in 1960. His Elmer was neighbor Chuck Sudduth, W5VMC, of Hollandale, Mississippi.

In the early 1970s, just out of engineering school, Martin founded MFJ with a product idea—an audio filter to enable one to pick out a single CW signal from a pileup on a crowded band. In addition, the filter eliminated ringing. This product was unlike anything available at the time and became very popular.

A second breakthrough came when MFJ designed an affordable antenna tuner. This made a tuner practical for virtually any amateur who had a need for one.

Martin works at MFJ daily. His primary function remains to design and perfect new products.

Some recent innovations include the MFJ Artificial RF Ground and the MFJ SWR Analyzers for HF or VHF.

MFJ is also a leader in packet radio and multi-mode data controllers. MFJ offers the only affordable multi-mode (below \$300.) that includes reception of multi-gray level AP news photos and weather maps directly off the HF airwaves. The MFJ multi-mode also offers the standard modes of Packet, AMTOR, RTTY, ASCII, Navtex, FAX/WeFAX and CW. Additional modes included in the MFJ multi-mode are a powerful Contest Memory Keyer and multi-gray level SSTV.

MFJ acquired Ameritron in 1988. The first new product Martin introduced is the high-quality low-cost

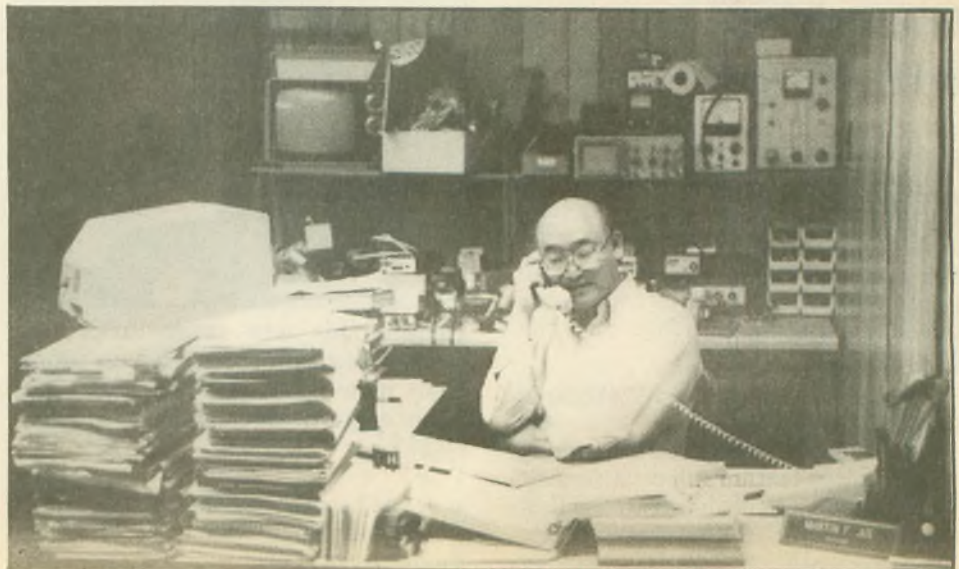
linear amplifier—the Ameritron AL-811—that makes amplifier ownership practical for many more hams than before.

Ask Martin what makes an idea good and he answers you with one word.

“Simplicity,” he says, a twinkle in his eye revealing that he is again busy turning that old-fashioned concept into another new and useful Amateur Radio product.

Martin invites any ham to visit the MFJ manufacturing facility in Starkville, Mississippi during normal business hours. □

*Right: MFJ's catalog*  
*Below: As you can see, Martin is a busy man!*





## RUDY PLAK ANTENNAS Rudy Plak, W6TIK

I was born and raised in Dayton, Ohio, and lived there until 1976 when I retired from the U.S. Air Force (civilian engineer at Wright-Patterson AFB).

I first became interested in Amateur Radio in 1935 at the age of 15, and got my first license in 1939 (operator's license only) and my first call, W8ZOF, in 1946.

I was a General Chairman for the Dayton Hamvention in 1956 and 1957.

My schooling and Air Force experience taught me the basics of antennas but it was a very small property lot that taught me how to build an antenna that would work on Amateur bands below 20 meters. Building beams from 20 meters up to 2 meters were, of course, easy to make and get going. However, 40, 75, 80 and 160 meters was something else for a lot that was 35 ft. by 60 ft. That's where I had to develop limited space antennas that could put out a signal that was good enough to be able to talk to most everyone I heard.

I, of course, read every article in every ham magazine and book I could get my hands on. Over a period of about 15 years I must have tried at least 200 different types of antennas and many, many modifications to those types. As you would guess, nearly all of them had severe limitations. However, the experience was rewarding in many ways to provide me the knowledge to solve most of the problems. In other words, antenna design and construction became a hobby within Amateur Radio.

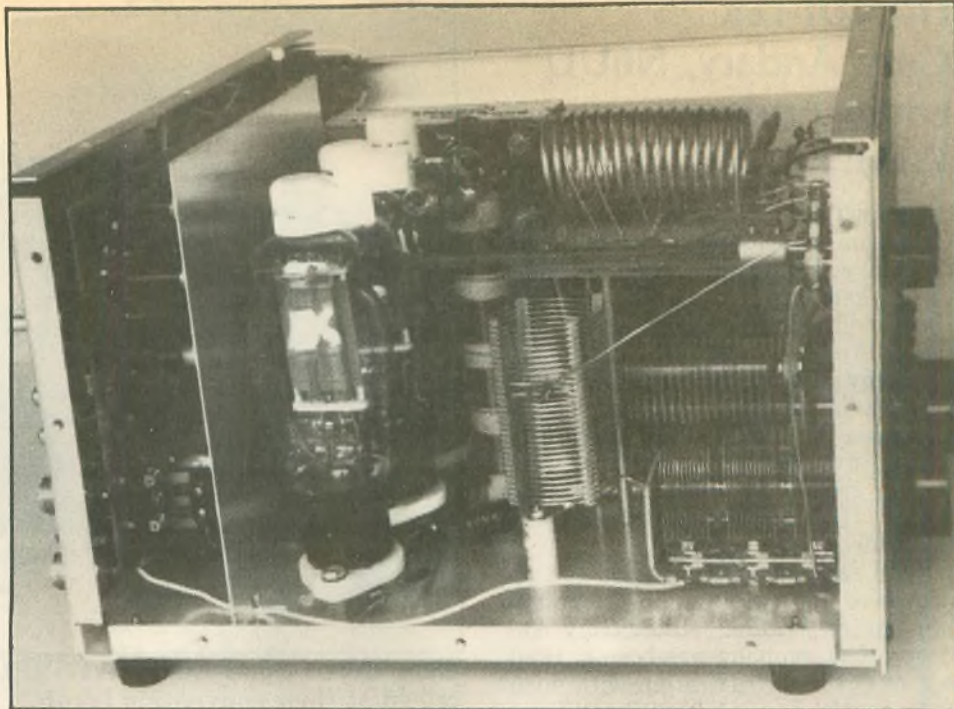
When I retired I decided to go into the business of producing and selling Antennas to Radio Amateurs. In late 1976 I moved to California and got my present call W6TIK. □

## FALLERT'S ENGRAVING Adrian Fallert, WB8GEW

I got started in Amateur Radio back in 1945 as a short wave listener and had QSL cards from 350 countries which I used to display at Dayton and many other hamfests. Got into ham radio in 1970.

Got into engraving at hamfests in the early '60s and am still doing it at 78 years young! □

Worldradio = Information!



## MIKE FORMAN ELECTRONIC TUBES Mike Forman, WA6LHR

My name is Mike Forman. I own and operate Mike Forman Electronic Tubes, a small business dealing in vacuum tubes in Oakland, CA.

My involvement in Amateur Radio

began in 1959 when I frequented military surplus stores to purchase tubes. I became licensed in 1960. At the present time I maintain one of the most extensive inventories in the United States. □



Peter and Phillip Onnigian raising their 1989 Field Day antenna.

## HAM-PRO ANTENNAS Peter Onnigian, W6QEU

This firm is one of *Worldradio's* most recent monthly advertisers. Headed by Peter Onnigian, W6QEU, he was first licensed in 1938, and has been in radio and electronics in one form or another ever since.

In the late '50s he founded Jampro Antennas which designed and built FM and TV transmitting antennas, in competition with GE and RCA.

Ham-Pro believes amateurs deserve much higher quality in their tubular beam antennas than is currently offered. Peter says, "The quality and performance of rotatable beams should meet industry specs for mechanical and electrical performance."

Ham-Pro produces a line of monobanders from 20 meters up to 432 MHz meeting all the tough Electronic Industries Association RS-409 standards.

Ham-Pro is exhibiting in booth 546 at the '91 Dayton Hamfest. □

# HANDI-TEK

## Gary Andary, N6UU Eddie Andary, WB6NPL

Handi-Tek, located in Pinon Hills, California, is celebrating its 10th anniversary serving radio amateurs and a long association with *Worldradio*. Founded by Gary Andary, N6UU and Eddie Andary, WB6PNL, this small company produces battery eliminators for hand-held radios, allowing operation from the mobile, ships, aircraft, or a base station supply. The units provide a regulated voltage source to match H.T. requirements, and are available for most radios.

"The early hand-held radios had no provision for external power and a large battery drain," states Gary Andary. "The company was born in 1980 out of our own frustration with such radios as the Yaesu FT-207R and Tempo S-1."

Although most of their units are produced for the older hand-helds for which accessories are hard to find, the company also produces units for newer models, such as the Yaesu FT-411, 470, 911 series. All units are available for

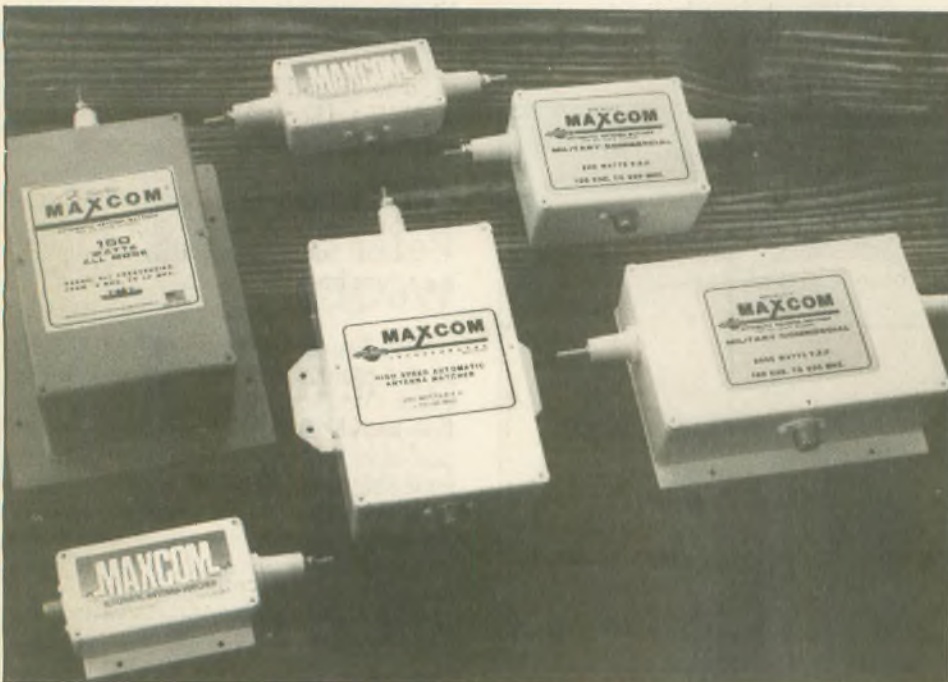


Gary (N6UU) and Eddie (WB6NPL) Andary await the onslaught of the crowd at their convention booth.

\$29.95 postpaid (CA add \$1.70 tax) and are unconditionally guaranteed.

This year, the company has added a service to provide battery pack conversions to install a regulator in any H.T. dead battery case for \$19.95. All units are unconditionally guaranteed.

The father-son team can frequently be found manning their booth at hamfests and swap meets. For further information, write: Handi-Tek, P.O. Box 357, Pinon Hills, CA 92372. Be sure to specify the model(s) of hand-held radios you own. □



# MAXCOM

## Sonny Irons, KA4LEG

Sonny's first experience with Amateur Radio was observing his father's radio and TV research work in the '50s. As a delivery captain for many types of marine vessels, Sonny has extensive experience in radio communications.

When stationed in the Turks and Caicos Islands on his salvage/rescue tug for five years in the '70s, Sonny operated as VP5SI. During that time, his wife, Judy, received her Novice license, KA4HSZ. When they returned to the states, Sonny received his state-side call, KA4LEG, and Judy upgraded to Extra class, changing her call to KC4AP. She also holds a

General Class Commercial License.

Together, Sonny and Judy have participated in many sea rescues. While at sea, their constant trouble with radio tuners led to Sonny's development of the Maxcom automatic antenna matcher.

Sonny and Judy have three sons who work with them. They hope the boys will become Amateur Radio operators in the future. □

# BRIAN BEEZLEY

## Brian Beezley, K6STI

I first became interested in radio when my mother was driving me somewhere and I spotted this huge, mysterious "thing" in someone's back yard. (It turned out to be stacked monobanders from 40m to 10m.) One thing led to another and I got my Novice in 1956 when I was ten.

That first big Yagi stack (at W6YY) apparently made quite an impression, as I've loved fooling around with antennas ever since.

A few years ago I became tired of working for other people, so I decided to see if I could support myself by offering a ham product—something I've always wanted to do. I wish I'd done it years earlier—it's fun! □

## W9INN ANTENNAS

### Bill Fanckboner, W9INN

When the *Titanic* sank in 1912, my father was so intrigued with the "wireless" reports, he taught himself the code and built a long-wave receiver so he could hear the ships on 500 kHz and lower. So I grew up hearing the code every night as Dad listened to the ships.

Thus, when I went to New Trier High School in 1938 and discovered the New Trier Radio Club, I became an addict! They gave me science credit for a "communications course" that required you pass the Class "B" amateur exam (General today). There was a second semester that required you pass the Class "A" exam (Advanced today). So in Jan. 1940 I was given the call W9INN.

During WWII, I became an Aviation Radioman in the Coast Guard.

Post war, I obtained commercial Radio telephone and Radiotelegraph licenses. A wealthy local ham hired me full time to build equipment, experiment with antennas, and have a ball "working" at Amateur Radio at his three homes.

I was absolutely enthralled with antennas! I made everything from Rhombics, Sterba Curtains, to Yagis and mobile antennas. What a job!

I hated to leave that activity, but met a girl and decided a little more education would be an asset. Went to Northwestern U. and worked as an engineer at the radio station WNUR.

I subsequently worked for Motorola for several years in the Commercial and Electronic division, and later was hired by W9FJB and worked in the Farm Silo Hardware Manufacturing business for 22 years.

In the mid-70s the industry collapsed, so I retired!

After a couple of years I discovered Jim Meadow, WD9JBV, who was in the antenna business at Antenna Supermarket. Just for something to do I tested all of his antennas for him to correct some problems, and finally designed the Eavesdropper SW BC Antenna, which Jim still makes.

His amateur business was declining and the market for SWL antennas was good, so he discontinued the amateur part of his business and I re-retired.

While fooling around I discovered the RESONACTOR principal, which made possible a multi-band antenna that worked something like a trap antenna but was different. It permitted making a 160M-80M antenna that could handle high power without burning up a trap since it was not a trap

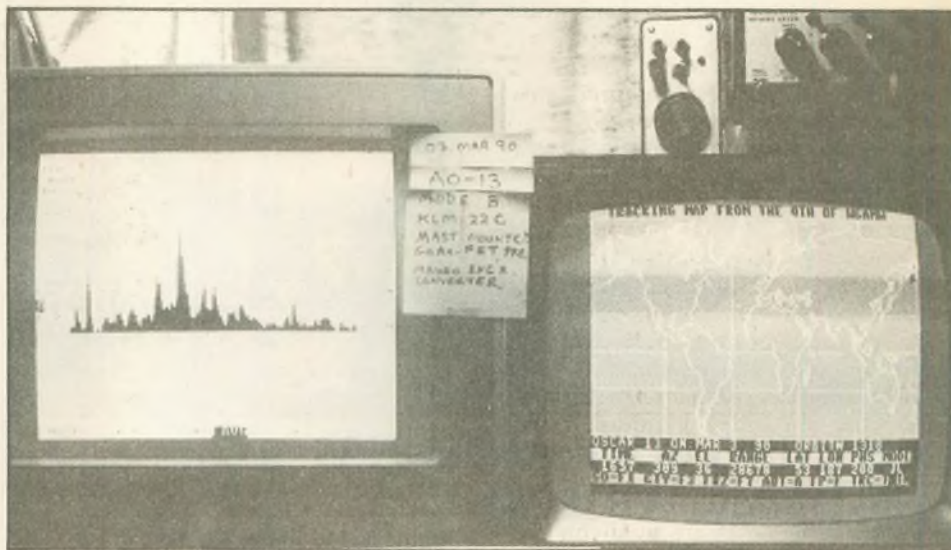
antenna.

I discovered I could make Multi-Band Slopers and Dipoles that had some unique features, so I went into the antenna business. That was 1981. I have developed almost 100 different models in the past 10 years, including MARS and Commercial antennas, and met (or serviced) over 6000 hams and others. What great fun!

My tiny ads in the magazine are

made that way on purpose, as I am a one-man operation and I don't want to work too hard and can only produce so many antennas per week. Each is custom-made and I like to have a personal contact with each customer, if possible. The business is as much "hamming" as "business."

If the bod holds together and they don't take our frequencies away, I hope to be doing this for some time to come!



RLD's two main items, pictured in operation are the AMSPEC-3 (left) and Super VR85 (right) — the perfect combination for the satellite operator.

## RLD RESEARCH

### Bob Dalleske, W6AMW

First got involved in Amateur Radio in 1954. Licensed first as K6DVB in Millbrae, CA. I then moved to Colo-

rado to attend college and was issued K0WWA there. When I returned to California in 1964 my present call, W6AMW, was issued.

Got hooked on Amateur Radio satellites in 1978 after being off the air for about ten years. Satellites got me back into ham radio!



Gene Hansen's Supertenna installed and ready to go.

## GENE HANSEN COMPANY

### Gene Hansen, W5HWJ

I was first licensed in 1950, as W5HWJ. For 30 years I worked for Sandia Laboratories in connectors and mobile antennas. Since my retirement, we have been making Amateur antennas and custom antennas for the military.

Our Supertenna is a five-band antenna for mobile applications and features an in-line SWR bridge. Performance is rated as excellent by numerous users on boats, cars, trucks, vans and other recreational vehicles, including mobile homes. Overall length is 8 ft., lower mast is 30 inches. It includes a Quick-Disconnect on top for easy garaging.



## LIGHTNING BOLT ANTENNAS

### Mike Duddy, WB3ECM

I became interested in Amateur Radio in 1976 and currently hold an Advanced Class license. I also have a degree in electronics and hold a commercial license. This has given me a background in many fields.

One day my wife and I were considering what we could do to advance our

business and make a better living. She jokingly said, "Why not make radio antennas?" So we did!

Since then we have had many adventures to new places, meeting new people and making friends along the way. So sometimes it takes a joke and some interest in your work to make it a success! □

## PC ELECTRONICS

### Tom and Mary Ann O'Hara W6ORG and WB6YSS

I (Tom) got my Novice license in 1957 while a sophomore in high school. I liked converting military surplus gear or building from scrounged parts from old TV sets.

Saw a demo of ATV at a local radio club in 1960. I added a one transistor cathode modulator to a twin 6J6 tube oscillator module out of a surplus APS13 transponder to make my first TV transmitter. Wrote it up and was published in *73 Magazine* in the early '60s. From that and following articles on ATV and RTTY I got requests for PC boards and kits. The number of requests grew to where I could not work a regular job and come home and take care of all the amateur orders at night and weekends

In 1977 I got a nice big bonus from

my boss, upon which I said thanks and I quit. I hoped it would be enough along with the orders to carry me long enough to establish PC Electronics as a full-time business. While it was very lean for a few years, it has been worthwhile for 14 full time years now.

The PC name came from the printed circuits that I first started supplying for RTTY and ATV in 1965. I get calls from those today who think I have something to do with Personal Computers, but the name originated well before they came on the scene.

Mary Ann, WB6YSS got her tech in 1965 after a few years of prodding. I think the fact that she could keep track of me when I'm out in the mobile had something to do with it. She left elementary education to help the business full time about 10 years ago.

The great thing about Amateur Radio is the wide variety of modes and activities. When you get a little burned out on one there are plenty others and applications to try. I have been involved with traffic during 15 years in Air

## THE LANZ COMPANY

### Bob Lanz, N4ISL

I was a radio repairman during World War II and involved in electronics for the next ten years. I then was involved in an entirely unrelated business.

In 1980 I purchased a motor home that had a CB radio in it and that rekindled the interest in radio. It didn't take long for me to become disenchanted with this media. I talked to those who were Amateur Radio operators and decided that I would try to get a Novice license.

It wasn't easy for me at the age of 58, particularly the code. At that time the FCC came to Louisville every six months for testing and I would take the test, pass, and prepare for the upgrade the next time. I was determined I would get an Extra class license.

My other hobby is computers which as you know is closely related and used extensively in ham radio. While studying for the Extra class I began to think this could well be used to prepare for examinations, so I wrote the program that I produce to this day for the Extra class to study with. I passed my test and took the program to the next Hamfest here in Louisville to see if others might think this would be a good alternative to printed manuals and code tapes.

The results were encouraging, extending what had been a hobby to another business after I retired from the night club business. □



Force MARS, lots of public service with parades and races, RTTY, UHF weak signal, DX, etc., but ATV as a form of communication to show others what you are doing in addition to describing it on audio has kept my interest the longest over the years. □

## MEDIA MENTORS

**Carole Perry,  
WB2MGP**

Became a ham in 1976 when the engineers in the electronics firm where I worked dared me to do it. When the company relocated three years later, I went back to my first love, which was teaching.

I convinced an open-minded principal to let me combine my teaching skills with my newly discovered exciting hobby of Amateur Radio. It began as a pilot program at Intermediate School 72 in Staten Island over ten years ago.

There was tremendous student support and parental enthusiasm for "Introduction to Amateur Radio." I now teach this curriculum to 6th, 7th and 8th graders. I have 11 classes every term. The concept of the program is to use Amateur Radio as a motivational tool in all other areas of the school's curricula. This high-motivational program allows every child to succeed at something and to leave the course with a new degree of self-esteem.

The children learn that school can be fun and that there is a big world out



there filled with lots of nice and interesting people with whom they can communicate. Our CQ All Schools Net meets every Tuesday and Thursday at 1730 UTC (winter) on 28.303 MHz.

Due to my work with youngsters, I have received the Dayton 1987 Ham of the Year Award, the ARRL 1987 Professional Instructor of the Year

Award, and the 1988 CONEX (QCWA) Teacher of the Year Award.

I am presently the chairperson of the Educational Task Force in the Hudson Division, Assistant Director in the Hudson Division and an Educational Consultant for the ARRL. I am President and founder of Media Mentors, Inc., the company which markets the school Amateur Radio curriculum. □

MINNESOTA  
ANOKA COUNTY

Denny Johnson  
**WAØWCX**  
6600 Lucia Lane  
Minneapolis, MN 55432  
U.S.A.

Style #4

PSE QSL  
TNX QSL

TO RADIO	CONFIRMING QSO						
	DAY	MONTH	YEAR	UTC	MHZ	RST	2-WAY

## NEW DIMENSION QSL

**Denny and Mary  
Joyce Johnson**

I have been a ham for over twenty years, which is also how long I have been in printing. Designing my own QSLs has been part of the fun of the hobby. A little over a year ago I design-

ed a new card on my MAC and got a pretty strong feeling that others would be interested, too. So . . . I started New Dimension QSL based on the concept of sharp dimensional designs for low cost.

Things have evolved from one color to a beautiful new design I call American Rainbow. This card is printed in red and blue as a split fountain, which gives a smooth blending of the two colors like a rainbow. Interest is high—can't beat it for only \$39.95/1000! □

## B.A. FOX Larry Abelkop, WA4LPV

First licensed in 1963 at the age of 13, I now hold an Extra Class license. I have a B.S. in mechanical engineering, live in Spartanburg, SC and work as a merchant in our family business. My main interests in radio are DXing, traffic, ragchewing and contests, all in CW mode. I have functioned as an Official Observer and an Official Relay Station (NTS). My other interests are martial arts, sports cars and motorcycles.

I became convinced that "What this country needed was a good 24-hour clock!" I looked for a good 24-hour wall clock at a reasonable price for years. When I found one I immediately started selling them.

Seth Thomas clocks are the only ham-related items we sell and I do this more for the fun of it, than as a big money maker. Current price is \$29.95 + \$3.50 shipping in USA. Worldwide shipments are sent US Air Mail at small packet rates. All orders shipped same day as received. Payment by VISA, MasterCard, Discover, Am-Express, check or money order. Phone 803/582-6464; FAX 803/582-6744; P.O. Box 6206, Spartanburg, SC 29304. □

## LAKEVIEW ANTENNAS

George WD4BUM,  
Rosie WD4RUA,  
Butch N4WHB and  
Betsey Shira

Lakeview Co., Inc. grew from a few antennas made in WD4BUM's hobby shop and sold at local hamfests in 1980 to a major supplier of Mobile Ham Antennas today employing five full time employees and supplying over 75 dealers around the world.

George Shira, WD4BUM, was first licensed in 1979. Although he had many years engineering experience, with antenna manufacturers including Shakespeare and True Temper, his hobbies of auto racing and fishing had not permitted time to take up Amateur



Who says the sun always shines at Dayton? (1984)

Radio until he first retired in 1974.

George and his wife, Rosie, WD4RUA, attended up to 40 hamfests a year including eight consecutive years at the Dayton Hamvention. In 1990 they decided to "hang it up" and turned active management and a 50%

interest in Lakeview Co., Inc. to their son Butch, N4WHB.

Even though retired, George, Rosie, Butch and Betsey Shira plus two employees, Frank and Evelyn Lloyd, will all be in attendance at their booths and flea market spaces this year. □

## GGTE MORSE CODE Warren Hoffnung, KF6VV

I first became interested in Amateur Radio in 1949 when a chum of mine (aged 13) showed me his station with his big Hallicrafter receiver and home brewed everything else. His SWL and QSL cards captivated me and when I heard him talk to someone far away I was hooked. Unfortunately, no matter how many code records I listened to, I was unable to master Morse code. Finally in 1984, after my son Greg (KB6BUT) passed his Novice test after studying with Gordon West (WB6NOA) and Lorraine McCarthy (N6CIO) I decided that I had to try one more time. Gordon and Lorraine were wonderful and in no time I was an amateur. I upgraded to Extra Class in 1985.

After not using the code for about a year following my upgrade to Extra I once again got the bug for CW. I found I had slipped back to six words per minute. I got out my tapes and started listening, only to find I had memorized them in their entirety. I thought about buying more tapes and decided that the end result would probably be the same. I would get my speed up, not use the code, and have to buy more tapes to recover. At that point, in 1986, I decided to write a simple code program which would satisfy my desire for a little random practice at various speeds.

After commenting about my little project on two meters, several ham friends gave me freeware disks at our West Coast Amateur Radio Club

meetings so I would not have to undertake the project. Unfortunately, I was just not happy with the programs I tried, mostly because of the timing and the difficulty of using them. Once again, I decided to write a simple program. As I discussed progress with ham friends, they suggested little things here and there. Before I knew it, my little project turned into about a 2,000-hour effort. When I was through (I thought), several of my friends tried the program. They recommended that it be distributed commercially as it seemed to have all of the features they could ever want. Many hours later, a decent user interface was completed (after all, I had only intended the program for my own use, and maybe to share it with a few friends) and in September 1987, sales efforts were launched.

Significant improvements were made to the earliest versions because of comments from the technical folks at the ARRL and from many of the early purchasers who liked what they saw but thought it could be better. Now, several years downstream, Morse Tutor is the world's leading Morse Code software program and has been purchased in over 30 countries. Our latest product, Morse Tutor Advanced Edition has incorporated all of the features of the original Morse Tutor and has added numerous new features such as 5-character letter groups for random character drills; guaranteed appearance of every required character, punctuation mark and pro-sign in the random QSOs; the ability to create drills and save them to disk; and to import and convert text to code for additional practice. Many of these new

features were suggested by Gordon West and by the folks at the ARRL who wanted to use the software to create new practice and test tapes.

Because we strongly support Amateur Radio and have delighted in the comments we have received from the many thousands of users of the software, we decided that rather than improving Morse Tutor and increasing its price, we would maintain the product at its low price (\$19.95) so that new folks to our hobby could get involved at a very modest cost. Over time, we intend to migrate some of the features of Morse Tutor Advanced Edition to Morse Tutor (as we continually improve Morse Tutor Advanced Edition) but we will keep the retail price of Morse Tutor where it is until inflation or costs won't let us. Hopefully, that will be years from now. □

## ICM Royden Freeland, WB5KDC

ICM (International Crystal Manufacturing) began operation in 1950 under the leadership of Royden Freeland, Sr., W5EMH. Over the past 40 years ICM has been involved in most aspects of the communications industry including Amateur Radio.

After the death of Royden Sr. in 1978, operation of ICM fell to Royden Freeland, Jr., WB5KDC. Royden has been an Amateur for 20 years and is active in most areas of ham radio. Satellite and ATV are his current favorites. □

## RF CONCEPTS/ KANTRONICS

### Phil Anderson, W0XI

RF Concepts was founded in early 1987 by Ev Gracey, WA6CBA and Ken Holladay, K6HCP, who were the original co-founders of Mirage Communications. The company was purchased in early 1989 by Kantronics, Inc., of which Phil Anderson is the President.

Phil gained his first license as KN0HSB in 1953 while in junior high, and is now a QCWA member. He likes CW and Packet, and holds an Extra class license.

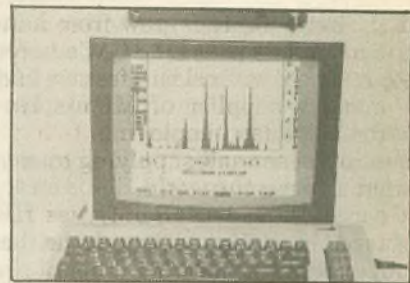
Karl Medcalf, WK5M is North American Sales and Service Manager for Kantronics. He was first licensed in 1962 and is also a QCWA Member and an Extra. You'll generally see both Karl and Phil at conventions and Kantronics seminars. Look for them at Dayton 1991, booths 41-44. □



Karl and Gloria Medcalf, WK5M and KA5ZTX, and Phil Anderson, W0XI at the '90 ARRL National Convention in Kansas City. □

## MAURO ENGINEERING Kerry Mauro, W6LXK

First licensed in 1957 as WN7ILB, I moved to California the same year and became W6LXK. I currently hold an Advanced Class license.



Our product was a result of my years of work with computer hardware and software and the belief that there were a lot of computer-based applications that could be applied to Amateur Radio. □

## AXM, INC. Gardner Harris, W6AXM

Gardner L. Harris, W6AXM, known as "Gar" to most of his friends is president and CEO of AXM Incorporated.

AXM actually began as a part time repair operation back in 1965 while Harris was attending college in Los Angeles. So many hams were bringing him equipment to be repaired that he finally had to call the company something, so he chose his Amateur

callsign suffix AXM as the name of the company. Since it was a sole proprietorship, it became AMX Enterprises.

The company operations were put on hold every summer from 1965-70 while Harris served as sound engineer for the King Family Television Show's summer tours and again from 1971-76 while he was working full time on a communications project in New Jersey. Harris still keeps his fingers in the entertainment business and can be seen in several films including "The Return of the Incredible Hulk" and "Torch Song Trilogy". He also worked as a stand-in on the David Lynch film, "Wild at Heart". He is actively involved with the United States Air Force MARS program and currently holds both National and Region executive positions.

In the spring of 1976 the company recommenced operations from a location in West Orange, New Jersey, again part-time but now heavily oriented toward the commercial two-way radio industry and in 1981 Harris quit his "day" job and began operating AXM full time, and in February of 1984 AXM changed its name from AXM Enterprises to AXM Incorporated.

From 1981 until mid-1986 AXM was the sole service agency for People Express Airlines ground radio systems, until that company declared bankruptcy.

Upon moving its headquarters office to Garden Grove, California, in September of 1986 AXM began to solicit a different clientele, eschewing the large corporate user in favor of the in-

dividual user who was in need of equipment which could be legally used on both Amateur and commercial frequencies.

The TAD line of two-way mobile radios filled that niche perfectly with equipment covering 138-174 MHz or 430-512 MHz in a single "split" depending upon the model purchased. In addition the equipment can be re-programmed in the field by any qualified personnel without the need for a computer interface or anything else external to the unit. AXM is currently the only U.S. distributor of TAD radio equipment apart from the factory office and is soliciting retail dealerships in selected areas.

Since the original TAD M-8, the TAD MD-150 and MD-450 lower cost units have become available and cater to the smaller budget and today's much smaller and lighter vehicles. In addition AXM also handles the American designed and manufactured RITRON equipment which is also programmable but only over 15 MHz (VHF) and 20 MHz (UHF). The RITRON line is even less expensive than the TAD MD series, beginning at only \$389.95 for the RPM-150 radio.

Finally, AXM also stocks several antenna makes and models including Mobile-Mark, Larsen and STI-CO as well as many common accessories such as power supplies, autopatches, amplifiers, batteries and RF cable and connectors.

While AXM does not plan to replace AES or HRO, it hopes to offer amateurs an alternative source for their professional communications needs. □



Gardner Harris, W6AXM

# EPO SOFTWARE

## John, AE7P, and Donna, WB7FDE, Mollan

John was first licensed in 1964 and was active on the air as WA7ATU until he received his extra class ticket, AE7P, in 1978. He is an active ham with 5BWAS and has DXCC with over 200 countries confirmed. You can find him on nearly all HF and VHF frequencies in a variety of modes.

Donna became WB7FDE (Females Delight Everyone) in 1976. She is an active contester and DX hunter on HF SSB and is always a few countries ahead of John on the DXCC count. In 1989, she won the Gold Cup from YLRL for first place in the world in the SSB section of the YL-OM contest.

Our first ham related business, now known as Northwest Buttonworks, began in 1977 when we printed up 500 "dah-di-dah-dit dah-dah-di-dah"

bumper stickers to give us something to sell when we went to hamfairs. This later became a complete advertising specialties firm and expanded out of the exclusively ham market.

With the boom in home computers in 1983, John started writing programs for a variety of machines. Naturally, the first applications he developed were for ham radio. This company, EPO Software, has marketed ham software by mail, at hamfairs and through

dealers to such far corners of the globe as Mongolia, Kuwait and Iceland.

There are many other hams in the extended family. Other licensed amateurs include John and Donna's daughter Kari, KA7PTO; Donna's brother Jerry, AF7P; and John's parents: Joe, WB7WDB and Edith, KA7ITE. The Mollans' main regret is that the businesses have taken so much time that they aren't on the air as much as they would like to be. □

# N4EDQ AMATEUR RADIO SALES & SERVICE

## Henry Fehrmann, N4EDQ

I'm Henry, N4EDQ of Radio Buffs' N4EDQ Amateur Radio Sales. I've been a ham since 1957. Retired from the heating and air conditioning business, I sold my full A/C service shop in January 1991.

In January 1990, I started Radio Buffs. I had always dreamed about having a ham radio store. God has blessed us for years with our A/C and

heating shop, and made it possible for me to open a ham radio store in Lake County, FL. Since we do not have one near us, it was a good idea and a dream come true!

We sell and service all types of Amateur Radio gear, and lend a helping hand to retirees in central Florida. We give God the glory for making this possible. □

# Japanese Kata Kana code

If you think Morse Code is tough, try this on for size. Below is a sample of the Japanese Kata Kana Code taught to military telegraphers during WW II.

HA	- . . .	A	- - - - -
HE	. . . .	E	- . - - -
HI	- - - . -	I	. - . . .
HO	- . . .	O	- . . . .
HU	- - - . .	U	. . . . .
KA	- . . . .	N	- . . . .
KE	- . - - -	NA	. - . . .
KI	- . - . .	NE	- - - . -
KO	- - - - -	NI	- . . . .
KU	. . . - -	NO	. . . - -
WA	- . - . .	NU	. . . . .
WE	- . - . .	TA	- . . . .
WI	. . - . .	TE	- . - . -
WO	. . - - -	TI	. . . . .
MA	- . . - -	TO	. . . . .
ME	- . . - -	TU	. . . . .
MI	. . - . -	SA	- . - . -
MO	- . - . .	SE	- . - . -
MU	- . . . .	SI	- . - . -
RA	. . . . .	WO	- - - - -
RE	- - - - -	SU	- - - . .
RI	- - - . .	YA	- . - . -
RO	- . - . -	YO	- . - . -
RU	- . - . .	YU	- . - . -

— Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon, CA

You know you are really hooked on Amateur Radio when the house lights dim when you "key up."

— Western ARC, Cerritos, CA □

## U.S. AMATEUR POPULATION BREAKDOWN BY AGE

As compiled by TSIRAC statistician, Michael Kersenbrock, WB4IQJ (memb. #2764), Aloha, Oregon

7	3	0.00	-	53	7604	1.58	■■■■■■■■■■
8	7	0.00	-	54	7401	1.54	■■■■■■■■■■
9	51	0.01	-	55	7062	1.47	■■■■■■■■■■
10	146	0.03	-	56	7476	1.56	■■■■■■■■■■
11	333	0.07	-	57	7893	1.64	■■■■■■■■■■
12	534	0.11	■	58	7870	1.64	■■■■■■■■■■
13	834	0.17	■	59	7682	1.60	■■■■■■■■■■
14	1341	0.28	■■	60	7866	1.64	■■■■■■■■■■
15	1745	0.36	■■	61	8163	1.70	■■■■■■■■■■
16	2119	0.44	■■■	62	8285	1.73	■■■■■■■■■■
17	2426	0.51	■■■	63	8670	1.81	■■■■■■■■■■
18	2744	0.57	■■■	64	8850	1.84	■■■■■■■■■■
19	2929	0.61	■■■	65	8446	1.76	■■■■■■■■■■
20	2860	0.60	■■■	66	8495	1.77	■■■■■■■■■■
21	2823	0.59	■■■	67	8858	1.85	■■■■■■■■■■
22	3099	0.65	■■■	68	8637	1.80	■■■■■■■■■■
23	3226	0.67	■■■	69	7575	1.58	■■■■■■■■■■
24	3746	0.78	■■■■	70	7370	1.54	■■■■■■■■■■
25	4259	0.89	■■■■	71	6913	1.44	■■■■■■■■■■
26	4772	0.99	■■■■	72	6122	1.28	■■■■■■■■■■
27	5302	1.01	■■■■	73	5626	1.17	■■■■■■■■■■
28	5456	1.14	■■■■	74	5200	1.08	■■■■■■■■■■
29	5379	1.12	■■■■	75	4460	0.93	■■■■■■■■■■
30	5640	1.17	■■■■	76	3820	0.80	■■■■■■■■■■
31	6319	1.31	■■■■	77	3340	0.70	■■■■■■■■■■
32	6871	1.43	■■■■	78	3125	0.65	■■■■■■■■■■
33	7532	1.57	■■■■	79	2826	0.59	■■■■■■■■■■
34	8237	1.72	■■■■	80	2726	0.57	■■■■■■■■■■
35	9076	1.89	■■■■	82	2271	0.47	■■■■■■■■■■
36	9443	1.97	■■■■	83	1720	0.36	■■■■■■■■■■
37	9703	2.02	■■■■	84	1299	0.27	■■■■■■■■■■
38	9875	2.06	■■■■	85	941	0.20	■■■■■■■■■■
39	10428	2.17	■■■■	86	658	0.14	■■■■■■■■■■
40	11136	2.32	■■■■	87	529	0.11	■■■■■■■■■■
41	12623	2.63	■■■■	88	396	0.08	■■■■■■■■■■
42	13748	2.86	■■■■	89	278	0.06	■■■■■■■■■■
43	10418	2.17	■■■■	90	199	0.04	■■■■■■■■■■
44	11032	2.30	■■■■	91	168	0.03	■■■■■■■■■■
45	11869	2.47	■■■■	92	122	0.03	■■■■■■■■■■
46	13216	2.75	■■■■	93	76	0.02	■■■■■■■■■■
47	11489	2.39	■■■■	94	45	0.01	■■■■■■■■■■
48	10382	2.16	■■■■	95	31	0.01	■■■■■■■■■■
49	9555	1.99	■■■■	96	21	0.00	■■■■■■■■■■
50	9294	1.94	■■■■	97	11	0.00	■■■■■■■■■■
51	8488	1.77	■■■■	98	11	0.00	■■■■■■■■■■
52	7854	1.64	■■■■	99	13	0.00	■■■■■■■■■■



# The Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service

EVA DUNLAP, N4WGY

The Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service was founded in 1952, with the help of the Amateur Radio Relay League. The RACES is sponsored by the Federal Emergency Management Administration and works principally at the local level through local and state civil preparedness agencies organized by state government to provide emergency communications.

RACES, as a part of the Amateur Radio Service, provides these emergency communications for civil preparedness purposes only, during periods of local, regional or national civil emergencies. These emergencies are not limited to war-related activities, but can include natural disasters such as fires, floods and earthquakes. RACES is governed by Subpart F of the Federal Communications Commission Rules and Regulations.

The legally appointed Director of Civil Preparedness or his authorized representative in accordance with an approved civil preparedness communications plan may call on RACES in any emergency concerning safety of life, preservation of property, maintenance of law and order, alleviation of human suffering and need, dissemination of warnings of enemy attack to civilian population in case of actual or impending attack and any disaster or other incident endangering the public welfare. In peacetime RACES members are often asked to handle messages for police, fire, public welfare, public utilities and other emergency services.

In wartime RACES stations will have absolute priority use of specific frequencies within the authorized frequency bands and will operate under the direct supervision of duly designated and responsible officials of the civil preparedness organization. It is important to note that RACES operation is authorized only by the FCC after it is requested by a local, state or federal official and is strictly limited to civil preparedness activities in the event of an emergency communications situation. Regular Amateur operations will be suspended in time of an actual wartime national civil defense emergency.

The RACES stations are assigned to one or more radio nets; each net is under a Net Control Station. RACES nets operate under the direction of government officials in accordance with civil communications plans. These nets are capable of connecting

city emergency operating centers (EOCs) and control communications between EOCs at various levels of government.

Each RACES operator must hold a valid radio operator license of the proper grade and a valid written certification by the chief of the local or State Civil Preparedness organization of the area in which he serves.

All of the authorized frequencies and emission allocated to the Amateur Radio Service are also available to RACES on a shared basis. But, in the event that RACES is activated by the FCC following a request from a local, state or federal official, Amateur Radio stations engaged in RACES operation will be limited to the frequencies assigned by the FCC. In cases not

specifically covered by the RACES rules, Amateurs engaging in RACES operation will be governed by the provisions of the rules governing Amateur Radio stations and operators.

The difference between RACES and the Amateur Radio Emergency Services is: ARES is the "emergency" division of the ARRL Field Organization and is administered by the ARRL on a local, section-wide and national basis. RACES is sponsored by the federal government and is under the jurisdiction of the FCC. It is intended that RACES, when properly authorized, will remain on the air in the event of any officially declared emergency, although the rest of Amateur Radio may be silenced. —*Florida Keys ARC, Big Pine Key, FL* □

## Dreamtime DX: Amateur Radio in the Northern Territory

THOMAS E. KING, VK2ATJ

Despite Darwin's position as Australia's most remote city, this, the Northern Territory's biggest center, once played a highly important, but now almost forgotten, role in the development of communications in the country.

The date was Nov. 20, 1871; the event was the receipt of the first message which had been sent on the submarine cable from London to Port Darwin. The laying of the cable by the British Australian Telegraph Co. and its subsequent success provided the first means of telegraphic communication between Australia and other countries. The rest of Australia was brought on-line with the completion of the overland telegraph link to the southern colonies on Aug. 22, 1872.

This solitary steel core "snake" was in use until 1902, when the Darwin cable was supplemented by cable outlets in both the Indian and Pacific

Oceans, and eventually superseded by these routes. The Darwin cable was taken out of service in 1938, and finally abandoned in 1950.

The intent of the Darwin cable through its 67 years of use was public service, and such an activity has been a part of the achievements of the Darwin Amateur Radio Club.

The club was founded in November 1966, when 16 VK8s (including still active foundation members VK8TA and VK8DI) met at ex-VK8BB's QTH. Since then the country's northernmost city's only radio club has gone from strength to strength.

During the International Year of the Youth, in 1983, the club put forth a solid proposal to the Dept. of Youth, Recreation, Sport and Ethnic Affairs. The request cited the need for premises based on the educational and recreational benefits of Amateur Radio, and in particular detailed how the hobby

Despite its isolation from the other parts of the massive continent/country, the rapidly expanding city of 70,000 is well served by satellite-assisted radio and TV broadcasts.



would be a worthwhile activity for youth.

Through its extensive educational program and variety of radio-related social activities, the Darwin Amateur Radio Club continues to fulfill its commitment to youth. Since moving into a single room within the department's premises in 1984, the Warratan Crescent, Fannie Bay-headquartered club has thrice organized successful Novice classes. Using the professional videotapes from the Gladesville ARC and six volunteer instructors, a dozen Darwinites are currently involved in the 3½ month-long course being held in the classroom/clubroom. Like Darwin itself, the class is youth oriented, although one would-be Novice is in his early 50s. Three Novice students are YLs.

The fee for the Novice course is \$50, which goes for tape rental and supply of written material. Any surplus is reinvested in the club and provides more facilities for members.

The club is responsible for the VK8RTE repeater, located at Palmerston (18W on 7000); the VK8RDA repeater, located at the Fannie Bay clubroom (18W on 6700) and is considering a 70 cm repeater, as there are eight VK8s on that band in the city. (Both 2M repeaters have an approximate 80 to 90 km radius, although Indonesian police and prawn trawler officers are familiar "squelch breakers" when the band opens!)

Band openings have produced some interesting QSLs. The 7W 144.480 MHz beacon has been heard in Japan, while the 7W 52.200 MHz beacon has been monitored in Canada. (A 28.268 MHz beacon was established in late 1986.)

Who's worked who is one of the topics of discussion at DARC meetings, which are set for the first Monday of the month. (Directions to the clubroom in North Darwin can be obtained from Bill "Spud" Murphy, VK8ZWM, Club President, on (089) 271616 or Barry Burns, VK8DI, Vice President, on 851 068.)

"Business meetings are pruned as much as possible," Spud said, "so we can learn something more on topics such as antenna construction, packet radio (three on this mode in Darwin are led by VK8KJJ), RTTY operation, computer interfacing, etc., and then get on to the fun bits of planning barbecues, fox hunts, picnics and Field Days."

Details of DARC events are sent to the 35 club members through "Ground Wave," the sporadically published newsletter. News also gets around the "traps" via the Sunday morning VK5WI WIA HF broadcast on 146.500 and the Australian National



A surge of development, such as the Beaufort Hotel and adjoining Darwin Centre, has encouraged vast tourism growth and migration from other parts of Australia to the territory's capital.

Amateur Radio Teleprinter Society Sunday evening broadcast, relayed on 146.600, thanks to the untiring efforts of VK8HA. Club nets are held after the Sunday broadcasts, on 146.600, 147.000 or sometimes 3.555 MHz.

A strong club framework with top-notch facilities, excellent internal club communications and the special "NT Spirit," combine to bind the Amateurs of Darwin together, but so does their involvement with emergency communications. A number of DARC members are on 24 hour call to provide secondary support to the Red Cross. Other members continue to volunteer their skills to provide communications

for such events as the local carnivals and the Beer Can Regatta.

"We are very happy to supply communications for such events," Spud said, "but they can provide a problem. Members may become interested in these activities and end up with less time for Amateur Radio."

Amateur Radio in Darwin certainly does have strong competition, because of the many other activities available in this city of 70,000. As Australia's topmost "metropolis," it is truly tropical, with an average of 137 cloudless days a year — many more than any other city in the country. Life revolves around the great outdoors,

particularly during the May to September dry season.

There are numerous sports and outdoor associations and societies, representing everything from sailing and surf racing to fishing and 4-wheel driving. Despite such sporting appeals, I discovered that many of these outdoor pursuits combine well with Amateur Radio.

During my two week stay in Darwin and environs, I took my handy IC-2A 120+ km southwest of Darwin on a 4-wheel drive "Dial-A-Safari" expedition, to the back tracks of the rugged Reynolds River region and 200+ km east on Ansett Pioneer's photographic study of the flora, fauna and rock art-filled Kakadu National Park. Admittedly, I was unable to access the city's two repeaters, even using high power and elevated locations. But I had fun trying!

It was far easier to contact Darwin after I had flown the 80 km across Beagle Gulf to Bathurst Island, for 2M operations as "Portable Tiwi," and ferried 10 km west across massive Darwin Harbour on an afternoon "scone cruise" for VHF operations at the isolated Mandorah Hotel, on Cox Peninsula.

As I left the "Billy J" cruise boat and walked down the gangplank to the sandy beach in front of the hotel, I noticed a breakwater constructed of odd shapes of concrete and twisted iron. The unlimited force of nature struck me, as I learned that this wreckage used to be part of the antenna masts for Radio Australia before its devastation by Cyclone Tracy in 1974.

On the return trip to Darwin, my eyes swept across the city skyline. The prominent wharf and old Government House, which the Japanese pilots saw on their raid of Darwin in 1942, were still there. Nowadays, however, these two landmarks share the horizon with the intriguing architecture of the luxurious Beaufort Hotel and Darwin Centre for the Performing Arts.

This recently opened marble-lined "desert palace," with its 235 harbor-facing rooms, was designed so that its brown and blue colors represent the rich earth and eternal sky of the Northern Territory. Such highly sophisticated accommodation coupled with Ansett Airline's wide body Boeing 767 flights to Darwin mean that visitors can now be assured of first rate facilities when planning their holiday to this increasingly important tourist destination.

Because of improvements in accommodation and transport infrastructure, the Darwin Amateur Radio Club was able to invite Amateurs from around Australia for a 21st "coming of age" birthday party in November

1987. Planning began in 1986 at a dinner meeting.

"Why not invite the Queen to light the birthday cake candles?" came one suggestion during the small get-together/barbecue organized by Barry.

"No, security would be too much of a problem, and besides, we might get so much publicity we'd all have to quit our jobs and become professional Amateurs," came the reply from a dark corner of Barry's patio.

"Why not organize a trial dingo race and use Amateur Radio for communications?"

My question generated only a few "cat calls," but it did stir the friendly crowd to discuss a dingo trial; the still buoyant economy of Darwin; the ABC's extensive use of AUSSAT and VK8BN's involvement as a broadcast engineer officer in maintaining the vital earth link; beer and barrimundi consumption; the lack of any Aboriginal Amateurs in the NT; Radio Australia's 250 kw signal and its Sterba Curtain antenna on Cox Peninsula; the Japanese raid of February 1942, which resulted in the sinking of 25 ships in Darwin Harbour; the certificate of merit which VK8HA (mobile in Darwin) and VK8KK (Alice Springs) received from Telecom for their role during Cyclone Tracy; DARC's plans for more club station activity in 1987; Carpentaria College; the last example of Tracy's fury in Darwin and the formation of the Territory Radio Teleprinters Society (TARTS) and the

Packet Happy Amateur Radio Transmitting Society (PHARTS).

After opening another Darwin Stubby beer, we continued with future mining possibilities in Kakadu National Park; foreign-based medium-wave broadcasters regularly heard in Darwin (using my portable Sony WA-6000 shortwave receiver/tape recorder, I logged Radio Moscow, the Voice of America Philippines transmitter and an unidentified Chinese station); swimming in crocodile infested waters; VK8ZLX's achievement of working all Australian states on 2M; the Amateur scene in Gove (around 12 Amateurs and a 146 repeater) and Alice Springs (about 20 Amateurs and another 146 machine); the ease of working JAs on 6 and 2M and even the patented "DARC JA filter" (an on/off switch!).

It was getting late and we were winding up the evening with a few words on 144 MHz propagation, when the squelch opened on Barry's 2M rig and we heard VK4KUY/6 on Coolun Island, some 1000 km away, looking for contacts. In the rush to get to the shack, a glass of Darwin's finest amber cascaded across my half-eaten dinner.

I exchanged signal reports and then went back to the soggy mess. Hoping to evoke a little sympathy from the hangers on and perhaps a souvenir Darwin Stubby, I hollered out, "OK, who wet all over my barramundi?"

From a dark corner of the patio came the reply, "The dingo did it!" □

## Take the time to learn from ham radio

### JEFF EMBRY, WI2T

I am a person who believes that one is never too old to learn. I derive quite a bit of pleasure in exchanging and sharing new ideas on the air. Whether it is a local contact on 2M or talking to someone halfway around the world, there is much to be learned while on the air.

I have always been fascinated about things that I do not understand. I have found that I am not the only person who feels this way. In several QSOs, locally and abroad, I have discussed such things as satellite technology, modifications of different pieces of equipment (ranging from radios and TNCs to computers) and have even talked to a heart surgeon about how a bypass operation is performed.

It took me a while to get out of the mode of passing out signal reports, especially being stationed in a place like Guantanamo Bay (KG4-land). But

once I did, I found that talking to someone was certainly worthwhile.

Some of the tools I use to get a feel for developing a meaningful QSO are the world atlas, almanac and a set of encyclopedias. The atlas can be any brand available. I would suggest that one order a map of the DXCC countries from the ARRL. The reason for this is that some of the countries recognized for DXCC are not recognized for their standard political boundaries.

I have found the *World Information Almanac* to be extremely helpful. I find a quick bit of information about most places in the world in one particular section in this reference.

While in QSO I usually do a bit of reading about the country that I am talking to. If I have any questions, it makes them much easier to ask. I also ask about different customs that are unique about that particular country.

After the QSO I take a few minutes to check the Encyclopedia for different aspects that were talked about on the air. This may provide the knowledge for more meaningful QSOs with that part of the world in the future, as well as expanding on present information.

Learning need not be limited to just knowledge about the country or customs. There is a variety of knowledge, hobbies and specialties that are represented by ham radio operators throughout the world. All you need to do is ask.

Take the time to sit back, enjoy a QSO and learn a bit at the same time.  
— *Montgomery Amateur Radio Club, Gaithersburg, MD* □

## But what about the old-timer?

DAVE F. MILLER, NZ9E

I have a weekly sked on Saturday evenings with a longtime friend and former co-worker, Ken Guge, K9KPM. One Saturday evening we were discussing the pros and cons of the modern drive to enlist more young people into the Amateur Radio ranks, when Ken asked a very thought-provoking question. He said he felt it was all well and good to try to enlist younger people in the hobby, if they are at all interested in fact in Amateur Radio, "but," he asked, "what about the old-timers who are already licensed Amateurs?"

I asked him what he meant by that, and he went on to explain that he has run across many old-timers who would like to be on the air during their "Golden Years," but simply cannot because of the amount of physical work needed to set up an Amateur Radio station and antenna system... "what about them?"

Are we doing anything at all to help get these already licensed people on the air and to keep them there? If our bands need more occupation by Amateurs, and if lack of activity by many of our numbers needs to be increased so that we can hold on to our portions of the spectrum, then perhaps we are overlooking a growing number who *would* be active if they *could* be active!

Putting up and maintaining an effective antenna system is no small task for those in the best of physical shape, so how does an old-timer whose doctor has told him not to climb a ladder at all do it? For many, even erecting a simple 40M dipole is out of the question. A basic outside 2M vertical to be able to get into the repeater two suburbs away may be more a task than many old-timers can handle.

WORLD RADIO

## REPEATER TYPES

YOU'VE SEEN THEM, I'M SURE, ON YOUR LOCAL REPEATER. I'M SURE YOU'RE NOT ONE OF THEM, (BUT I KNOW WHICH ONE I AM.)

BEASILY  
K6BJH



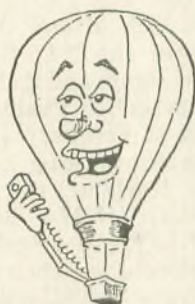
**THE DOUBLER**  
DOESN'T WANT TO SEE IF IT'S HIS TURN -- JUMPS RIGHT IN ON TOP OF THE GUY WHO'S SUPPOSED TO GET IT.



**THE PICKET-FENCER**  
TRIES TO WORK THE REPEATER MOBILE WITH MILLIWATT POWER AND A RUBBER DUCK.



**THE TIMER-HOG**  
DOESN'T LET THE TIMER RESET --- WORKS OFF OF YOUR TIME. USUALLY WINDS UP TALKING TO HIMSELF.



**THE HOT-AIR BALLOON**  
TALKS ON THE REPEATER FOR AN HOUR AT A TIME. USUALLY DOESN'T SAY MUCH.



**THE KER-CHUNKER**  
HAS A WELL DEVELOPED MIKE BUTTON FINGER. LOVES TO HEAR THE TIMER RESET BEEP, OVER AND OVER AND OVER.



**THE MAD HAMMER**  
GETS A LITTLE UPSET WHEN BREAKERS INTERFERE WITH HIS COMMUNICATION --- DOESN'T MIND LETTING PEOPLE KNOW.



**THE DEMONSTRATOR**  
BREAKS INTO QSO'S TO SHOW PEOPLE THE VIRTUES OF AMATEUR RADIO --- CAN'T WAIT FOR A CLEAR SPOT.



**THE FORGET-ME-DO**  
USUALLY FORGETS WHO IS SUPPOSED TO GET IT AFTER HIM. THIS GUY CAN TURN A ROUNDTABLE INTO A CLOVER LEAF.

If the figures are correct and our Amateur population is growing older, it could be that this situation will only become more of a problem as time goes on. Maybe you and I, too, will be in the same situation some day!

The local radio clubs are always looking for "club projects" to keep their memberships interested and perhaps perform some public service. Why not

try seeking out some of the old-timers in the area and see if perhaps they could use some help from club members in setting up their station or antenna system on a Saturday afternoon? There is always a sense of satisfaction in helping others, plus you would be making a donation toward fuller occupation of the Amateur bands; two birds with one stone! □

**SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT AMATEUR RADIO!!!**

# The new Novice Class class

JIM HUNDLEY, N8AYQ

I have taught Amateur classes for seven years and have almost given up several times. I have also talked to other instructors who have in fact stopped teaching. Their excuses are all about the same: first and foremost, 13 to 15 weeks of teaching wears them out; second, no one will study; and finally, the low pass rate. If all this sounds familiar and you would like to help Amateur Radio grow, please read on.

About three years ago I started teaching the Novice class a little differently. The pass rate is up to 80 percent plus, and those who do get their Novice license continue on and upgrade. The hardest thing about teaching a Novice class now is learning all the new Novice frequencies and privileges available.

I have discovered that the frequency of practice is by far the single most important factor in learning something new. I have achieved success for the students by applying this theory to the Novice Class class.

You must choose your nights carefully. I choose Tuesday and Thursday nights for six weeks. In our area this practice has several advantages. First, it leaves weekends open, as well as the Wednesday nights that, in our area, are traditionally church nights; and second, it enables students to study Monday nights for Tuesday and Wednesday night for Thursday, so, of course, materials for those days were discussed in class on Tuesday and Thursday. This boils down to four consecutive days students are exposed to theory and code.

Tricked them didn't we? It is now a habit to study, not something to forget until next week!

How you teach is also important. I start out with seven or eight characters the first night and they learn five or six right then, and they learn them by sound! Not by counting dits and dahs, which can be done if only one or two letters are taught each night. But keep reading, there's more.

I also start each class with seven to eight minutes of code, then 15 to 20 minutes of theory, then code again, then theory and so on. Code at the start and end of class isn't enough, but more important than that is the length of practice they're getting. As a VE I have watched many people copy at the exams and not have the endurance to last much more than 4 to 4½ minutes because they used five-minute practice sessions. They need seven or eight

minutes in class to build up their endurance for the five-minute code test.

Beginning on the third class session, we have a "sample" code test; of course if someone is able to answer the questions or copy the 25 consecutive characters correctly, they will pass. However, more importantly, this type of test removes the fear of tests, and lessens that "do or die" attitude so many have about the code.

Of course there are no guarantees in teaching and success rates vary. However, if CW is to remain a part of Amateur Radio, it has to be taught as a useful, as well as enjoyable aspect instead of just as something to get out of the way.

I also have a few thoughts on theory instruction that seem to work well. First, this is only the very beginning of what should be a continual learning process, not just memorizing 300 questions and answers in an attempt to just "make it."

In teaching, don't be a preacher. Listen for areas of misunderstanding in the questions you are asked and encourage discussion. Try and explain theory in a way that is easily understood. As students they should understand Ohm's Law, but Thevenin's Theorem is not necessary.

And please don't "strut your stuff." As teachers we aren't there to show them how much we know, but rather to guide them and help them get excited about learning something new

and how to apply it. An example would be this discussion: Two 10 ohm resistors in series add up to 20, but two 10 ohm resistors in parallel divide and appear as 5 ohms. This may be enough, but if we show them that in a series they are a voltage divider and in a parallel they are a current divider, we have given them a need to know, a use and the beginnings of the knowledge they need to apply in homebrewing.

Finally, try to incorporate a lot of show and tell. Old parts are great aids in helping to remember what a part and schematic symbols look like.

Get an old crystal that you can take apart in class, as well as other components. This will help in relating textbooks to the actual part in question and maybe, in the process, learning and teaching will be more fun.

You should have one instructor to every five or six students. That way everyone gets the individual attention he or she needs.

Here is something that I am going to try in my next class. Our club has 140 members and after the first class I am going to try to match up each student with a licensed Amateur, not as an elmer program, but as a shepherding experience.

Instead of continuing to pat our current teachers on the back, we truly need to recruit more. Let's give it another shot, you ex-instructors. Try this six-week Novice Class class method, and let me know how it goes. □

## How Brer Coyote caught his ham dinner

RICH LEACH, KJ6TL

Brer Pig had lived all his life near the antenna patch. He knew well the dit and dah sounds that emanated from the strange trees with no leaves. Why, he'd heard them sounds all his life and whenever he and his siblings was up on that hill nibbl'en on the few grasses they could find, he'd think back to his beginnings.

Though he had no idea what in tarnation them sounds was, they gave him a certain comfort, like they was connected to his past. Life was hard up on that antenna patch, to be sure. Indeed, in the last few years, the piggies numbers had been dwindling, but when they was there, they always felt safe, like it was the place where they were suppose to be. Why, the very day Brer Pig came into the world his Mama had told him them sounds would always be a haven to him, cause they was where his roots was at.

But a change was a'comin to the antenna patch and it spelled an ill omen for Brer Pig and his family. That change was none other than ole' Brer Coyote hisself!

You see, Brer Coyote didn't like that hard climb he had to make every day gettin up the antenna patch to get his supper. So, one day he suggested that Brer Pig and his friends come down from the antenna patch, away from them dits and dahs, down the hill where there was a lot more nice tender grass to eat and where life was easier.

True, they'd no longer hear them strange sounds, but a lot of the little piggies felt them dits and dahs were something left over from the past and should now be left behind anyway. The feeling was that, except for a few of the old pigs, nobody paid much attention to them sounds anymore anyhow.

The way the piggies figured, if they no longer had to worry about them dits and dahs, then thousands of other little piggies would flock together and join their family.

Well, once Brer Pig and his folks was away from their roots, separated from their beginnings, once they was a'lookin for the easy way to get their supper, why, it was then that ole' Brer Coyote invited them all to lunch and that's exactly how it happened. □

# Helping hams

The column I had started to write appeared to be a waste of space so I scrapped it. Instead I spent some time pondering the question, "How do you get there from here?" or rather, "How did you get here from there?"

The "there" I'm referring to is the fact that you are a ham. But how did you get to be a ham? Did you do it by yourself, or did you have some help? Do you need to repay anybody for where you are today and the privileges that you have?

Some take code and theory classes, and others may have someone willing to help them study and answer questions (elmers). Okay, you did it by yourself, or did you? Do you look up to

or respect someone who helped you? Have you received a new license or upgraded your previous one since 1984? If you have, then you took your test from a volunteer examiner who certainly wasn't there to earn a profit. Who gave you your first Novice test—another volunteer?

We all stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before us so that we can see a little further. Who has helped you? If we never take the time to build and maintain our hobby then nobody will, and it will die—and I do mean *die*—when we do.

I hear people complain of Novice enhancement, but I rarely see them do anything to enhance Novices.

Lynn, our vice president, knows of people who have expressed an interest

in elmers in order to get a license or upgrade. Have you helped anyone? Will you help anyone?

You are a member of a club that is an ARRL Special Service Club, but have you really helped the club serve? Part of our SSC status is that we hold code and theory classes every year. Will you help? How will others get here from there? How did you get here from there?—*Dave Parnin, KD9SX, Allen County ARTS, Ft. Wayne, IN* □

## Traffic-handling: an attitude check

G.R. "Scott" Cundiff, N5ASD

Three or four local regulars are enjoying their nightly round table on the major 2M repeater of the area. The conversation is not particularly inspirational, but they are having a good time and no harm is being done. A station from out on the fringe of the repeater coverage area breaks and is invited into the QSO.

"I have some routine, written traffic for someone there in the city, and since you guys are on the local phone system I need you to deliver the message." Before they know it, the traffic is being sent.

Later that evening, the conversation on the repeater returns to the subject of traffic handling. "Can you believe some guys would waste their time passing traffic around the country?" someone says.

Another replies, "It must take a real cheapskate to send traffic instead of picking up a phone and calling them."

Although it goes unsaid, it is plain that the next person who attempts to pass traffic to this group is going to be in for an unpleasant surprise. And that is unfortunate because those on both sides of this issue have gotten off on the wrong foot.

The first mistake was made by the fellow who had the traffic. For some reason, he assumed that the guys in town were obligated to take the traffic just because they could deliver it. One might argue that their taking it would be in the spirit of Amateur Radio, which would probably be correct. Strictly speaking, however, the QSO in progress is of the same importance as was the message.

No one can be forced to take written routine traffic. The reasonable approach in this situation would be to ask, "Would anyone in the city take formal traffic?" Nine times out of 10, someone will.

The second and third mistakes were made by the non-traffic handlers on 2M. For one thing, dealing in traffic is fun and quite rewarding. We suspect



Station 6DEC was in use in Oakland, California from about 1928 to 1932.

### Worldradio:

With due deference to the "Shambolic" shack" (a lesson in how NOT!) and WB6DRG's "Booby prize" in the March edition of *Worldradio*, I submit for your approval photos of how it was done in the alleged "Good Ole Days."

The photos are of my station, 6DEC, in use in Oakland, California from about 1928 until 1932.

The "rig" consisted of a UV 210 master oscillator into a Western Electric 211-D tuned buffer and a WE 211D as a power amplifier. The station was powered by a 3kW pole transformer through a 26-jar chemical rectifier. The antenna was the old reliable 66 ft. Zepp. The wall mounted unit above the transmitter was a rudimentary antenna tuner; a 4PDT switch permitted



either series, or parallel tuning. Inside the shack the feedline ran up the wall in 1/2-inch tinned copper bar stock to feed through insulators and out.

Trusting the photos will trigger a bit of nostalgia among those present, I remain, fraternally yours, Ed Lomba, K6PX, Hayward, CA. □

the problem is mainly one of ignorance concerning the format of formal traffic. Many operators, especially Technicians on 2M, have never even heard traffic passed, or if they have, they didn't know what was going on.

No one wants to look incompetent with the "whole world" listening in on the repeater, so it is easier to come up with reasons why traffic handling is a waste of time than to admit they don't know what the "count" or what "ARL FIFTY" means. The truth is, traffic handling is habit-forming because it is fun and rewarding. Fun, because people get a kick out of receiving a message sent "over the air." Rewarding, because traffic handlers feel they are doing something with their hard-earned ticket and expensive gear for someone else rather than just for rag-chewing or chasing DX.

The third mistake probably touches the heart of the matter. Why doesn't the originator of the message just pick up the phone and call? It would be quicker, simpler and more sure. It would be cheaper, too — that is, if you take into account the value of the equipment and man hours involved.

The answer lies in one of the primary purposes of Amateur Radio: public service and emergency communications. In certain situations, formal traffic can become of life-and-death importance. This is especially true when Amateur Radio becomes the link between a disaster area and the civil government. Suddenly, the count is not verifying the number of words in "Happy birthday, Grandma." Instead, it is assuring that a call for "15 medics and supporting staff" gets through exactly as it was initiated.

Just as the repeater ragchew insures that our gear is in top shape and the DX pileup sharpens our operating skills, formal traffic trains us to pass a message along — and to do it right! You may only need the knowledge once in a lifetime, but when you do need it, you will need it right then!

So let's go back to our opening scenario. The 2M QSO is taking place and an out-of-town station breaks. He says, "I have some routine traffic for the city. I wonder if anyone on the repeater would handle it for me? (Not telling—asking.)"

A member of the round-table (now more open-minded about such things because he has read this article) responds, "I've never handled written traffic before, but if you will go slow I'll give it a try!"

The results? The traffic gets delivered. A traffic handler is born. Several listeners are exposed to this interesting and rewarding part of Amateur Radio, and harmony and camaraderie prevail on the repeater! □



**Amilcare F. Persichetty, W2NHB, has reason to smile, as do the three people whose rescue he was instrumental in bringing about when their sailing vessel encountered dangerous weather.**

## The last voyage of the NAMAR V

**EDWARD R. LaTOUR, KA2TXL**

The year was 1987, a beautiful morning in May, when the *Namar V* left harbor in Italy on its transatlantic voyage for the United States.

The *Namar V* was a beautifully furnished 42 ft. sailing vessel; all mahogany planking and teakwood decking. All of her bright work was gleaming in the early morning light.

On board was her captain and owner of ten years Edo Guzzetti, I2NSG, and a crew of two. Edo was setting his course through the Straits of Gibraltar, outward bound for the Azores, his mid-Atlantic stopover. All was well on the vessel, which was named after Edo's daughters, NADI and MARIE.

From the beginning of the voyage Edo had been in daily contact on 20M with his old friend Liebero Massoni, I1VHQ. He in turn relayed messages via landline to Edo's wife, Anna, at home in Milan. She was given daily updates as to the ship's position, sea conditions, and the crew's well being.

Amilcare Persichetty (Percey), W2NHB, another friend in New York, had been in contact with both stations almost from the outset. As the *Namar V* neared the Caribbean on May 6, contact with Italy was lost due to poor propagation. Percey, on the other hand, maintained contact with both stations and thus became their relay. All the conversations were in Italian, since no one on board spoke English.

The *Namar V* continued island hopping around Martinique, Santo Domingo, Haiti and Jamaica's Montego

Bay. They went over to the Yucatan Peninsula, up the Mexican coast and over to Miami for some minor refitting and supplies.

While in port, captain and crew enjoyed some shore leave and sightseeing. Percey maintained his sked at 08:30 and 14:00 hours, keeping *Namar V* in touch with the home base in Milan.

W2NHB had mentioned the Italian sailboat to his pals on Staten Island and they were listening on frequency. The folks on the 14.313 MHz nets were reporting an occasional tropical depression in the east Atlantic, some with northwest headings—not storms or hurricanes as yet. No names were assigned to them, as they were, at this point, only advisories.

The vessel left Miami and was two days out to sea when Percey reported the *Namar V* had a generator malfunction and was having trouble maintaining the ship's batteries at full charge. Lights, radio and satellite navigational equipment were all battery operated. The *Namar V* returned to Moore Head City, North Carolina for repairs on July 21.

While in port awaiting parts delivery, Captain Guzzetti telephoned to inform Percey that he had contracted pneumonia and bronchitis and was in the hospital in Moore Head City. The return trip had to be postponed until August 5th. Percey informed his friend that it was getting late in the season and told him of the advisories being transmitted on 14.313 MHz.

Edo acknowledged that this was also

"heavily on his mind," and due to this unforeseen delay, both of his crew members had to fly back to Italy to return to work. (His crew were friends who had agreed to sail with him during their summer vacations.)

Percey then contacted Anna back in Milan, who was an experienced sailor herself. She arranged to fly to the United States with another crew member to meet Edo in Moore Head City. The return trip would be 2,500 miles east to the Azores, a quick stop-over, and off on a short sail back to their home port.

On schedule now, the *Namar V* left North Carolina on August 5th with W2NHB maintaining his watch—daily tracking relays at designated hours. Edo reported outward bound; nice weather and breezes, everything was fine once again.

On August 9 Edo reported a slight increase in winds, but *Namar V* was handling well and making good time.

On August 11 the crew reported brisk winds; they were making good time, approximately 1,335 miles west of the Azores. But remember those maritime net advisories? One of them now had a name. *Arlene* was packing winds of over 50 miles per hour, and the *Namar V* was in her path.

On August 12th Percey received a message from the *Namar V*: rough seas all last night . . . rudder damaged, unable to maintain steering and running before the wind with jib sail only; position, approximately 1,235 miles west of the Azores.

Percey notified the Coast Guard of the *Navar V*'s situation and her location. Two ships were available. A freighter, the *Star of Texas* was 180 miles away enroute to Norfolk. The *Margaret Lykes*, enroute to Rotterdam, was closer and steaming in the same direction as *Namar V*.

Edo was not yet ready to relinquish his beautiful vessel to the sea, but facing such odds, and at the Coast Guard's urging, he reluctantly requested assistance; the rescue was under way.

Ed Ricca, K4PT, net manager of INTER-CON, came on frequency to offer the services of the net. He was acknowledged by the Coast Guard, and requested to remain on frequency on standby. The net stations from Canada, the United States, Central and South America, were all turning their beams toward the rescue operation—ready, but maintaining a strict radio silence.

This stand-by was kept through the long night. The only voices heard were those of W2NHB and Edo—a relay in Italian, hourly updates, then Percey in English to the Coast Guard.

The *Margaret Lykes* was the first vessel to arrive at approximately 2200 hours. With darkness, high seas and heavy wind, rescue could not begin until dawn. The *Star of Texas* was reporting a delay of a few hours due to winds and high seas. The *Margaret Lykes* maintained its position, circling at a safe distance and keeping the *Namar V* in her search lights.

At dawn the rescue of the crew took place via lines and bosun's chair from the *Namar* to the *Lykes* . . . but before Captain Guzzetti left his vessel, he had to open the sea cocks and scuttle her. It had to be done. She would have been a menace to navigation if left adrift.

As Edo stood safely on the deck of the *Lykes*, one can only guess the pain he was feeling as his beloved *Namar V*

slowly settled by the stern and slipped beneath the waves. She now lays on the bottom 1,133 meters at about 38 degrees, 44 minutes north, near the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, 1,000 miles or so west of the Azores.

The next day Percey received a message from the *Margaret Lykes*. The radio operator on the *Lykes* turned out to be a fellow Amateur, G.W. Patrick, WI4W, of Irvine, Kentucky. Pat received his radio experience as a U.S. Navy radio operator and is now a commercial radio operator at sea.

Captain Guzzetti explained his plans for a grand reunion in Milan to honor all those involved, especially his new-found friend, Amil Persichetty, W2NHB, for his devoted efforts in a successful rescue. □

## Amateurs or hams?

PAUL LEVEY, KC1PQ

Are you fond of the name "ham?" Personally, I am. It's a term used by hams about hams.

It's used as a noun, "I'm a ham." As action, "I hammed all weekend." As an adjective, "My ham shack."

It's been a part of our vernacular as long as there have been hams. "Honorable Amateur Members" or "Hailing All Mortals," perhaps.

It's also a term used by some XYLs, usually with an endearing suffix attached to it, like: hamhead, hambone, hamhock or "ham anymore and I'll whack your shack to smithereens!"

I don't think the term "ham" will ever die. But should I have a different feeling about the term "Amateur?" Sure, the Amateur Radio Relay League's name was chosen for its fair and proper representation of hamdom at its inception. And when referring to our hobby to non-hams, I speak of Amateur Radio operators, or simply, Amateur Radio.

But are we Amateurs? Are we just one grade above initiates? Or are we radio engineers? Radio specialists? Communication technicians? Are we a society of caring specialists who give of ourselves in time of others' needs?

No, for the most part we can't step in during emergencies and take the place of police, fire or medical services because they are professionals paid to be there during a crisis. Hams do, on the other hand, handle the health and welfare traffic that is crucially essential during those unforeseen times.

So maybe we're not Amateurs at all. Could we be benevolents? Donators? Imparters? Charitablites?

We support walkathons, hospitals, bike races, marathons, freedom marches and many large gatherings that

need reliable, efficient, professional communications that paid professional services could not otherwise handle alone.

So we're also a communications support service. Indeed, we are a lot of things. But when I listen to hams in a pileup, yup, we're Amateurs. When the fire's out of control, the earth quakes or UNICEF needs a hand, we're professional.

Perhaps Amateur isn't such a bad name after all, considering the multifacets of ham radio. Or maybe we're Amateurs because we do it not-for-profit.

Amateurs or hams, dwindling ranks or not, code or no-code, a facelift, both internal and external, might be in order. — Zygo ARC, Middlefield, CT □



YEAH, I KNOW I'M SCUZZY INTO THE REPEATER, BUT I'M ON THE HIGHEST GROUND I CAN FIND!