



HAM HUM

Published by
AK-SAR-BEN RADIO CLUB, INC. - Omaha 1, Nebr.
Post Office Box 291 - Downtown Station



Vol. XIII
No. 4

April 1963

NEXT MEETING - APRIL 12 4-H BUILDING - AK-SAR-BEN FIELD 8:00 P.M. SHARP

PROGRAM - Mr. Page from Northwestern Bell will present the movie film ALEUTIAN SKYWATCH in color. Also raffle revised and attendance drawing.

DON'T FORGET the Pancake Supper on May 10. Will send flyer as to time and place.

P.S. Bob, KØIAM, to help with programming. Month of June will be builder's month so polish up ur pride and joy. Program will depend on you.

WHY AN AMATEUR CLUB?

FOR BETTER UNDERSTANDING, BETTER PUBLIC RELATIONS,
BETTER COORDINATION AND BETTER PUBLIC SERVICE.

from North Platte ARC

HAM HUM is the official organ of the Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club, Inc., of Omaha, Nebraska, mailed monthly to all members and to others upon request.



Each month with your Ham Hum is included a card addressed to Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club, Inc. and completely blank on the reverse side. The deal is we fill out one side and even pay the postage; it's up to you, the reader, to fill out the other side. Although the percentage is pretty low we do get some back every month. Sometimes we receive them with no signature. As a matter of editorial policy we normally ignore those with no signature as we figure they are probably written by some kind of nut or something and thus we're not sure that it is sent in good faith. It therefore usually hits the round file or file thirteen or whatever you call it at your ham shack. We did receive one this month, however, that reminded this editor of some thoughts he has had for quite a while now. This card reads:

"Have you guys ever wondered why there is not more people on the VHF bands - look on page 12, col. 1 of your March issue for your answer. The only people up there are "sour grapes" Techs. I monitor these bands and my friends and I sure get a lot of discussion material on how not to operate. The only time you'll see me on

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EDITORIAL

VHF is when my HF rig breaks down and I'll probably spend the time fixing it. You people are sure VHF crazy, I guess that's because almost all of your club are Techs.

"Let's be honest now, the way most of the Techs are acting, you'll find the Generals looking at the Techs like the Techs now look at the CB'ers!

"Gee, seems like all the letters you printed think AK-SAR-BEN and VHF are great . . . funny, I don't expect to see this one in print."

Now let's start at the bottom for comments. Your card should not be in print as you did not have the courtesy to give us your handle and call; thus we do not know for sure you even have a license. We do print almost all of the cards received by Ham Hum and you are so right - most of them have indicated pleasure with Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club and VHF. We would, of course, like to receive constructive criticism on the club, the magazine, and I would like very much to hear from someone who thinks HF is great. For a long time now this magazine has been searching for editors who would contribute regularly or oc-

(Continued on Page 4)



“Ham of the Month”

Starting this month we will again resume a feature which has not appeared in Ham Hum for some time, the Ham of the Month, in order that more of the Club members may become better acquainted.

Pictured here in his station is Ed Nelson, W0MKP. First licensed as 9ACV in 1923-24 Ed has had a long and interesting career in amateur radio. He is a member of the Q.C.W.A. (Quarter-Century Wireless Assn.) as well as the O.T.C. and ARRL.

W0MKP operates 75 through

10 meters using the SSB mode and is active in the 75 meter Nebr. Storm Net (3983 kc.)

The equipment at W0MKP is a KWM-2 with a 30L1 linear with a 3 el. Tri-Bander on a 35' tower and a 75 meter doublet doing the radiating.

Ed has been a member of the Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club for many years and when not operating on 75 you might find him working in the carpentry trade.

Photo courtesy of Bob Miller, K0ZLY.

(EDITORIAL - continued from Page 2)
asionally articles of interest to high frequency hams. Among my acquaintances are a great many generals who operate on the high frequency bands whom I would commend for good operating ability and good technical ability but who seem to read reading better than they can write writing. At least I have been unsuccessful so far.

Let's do be honest now in the matter of the different classes of license. As a holder of a tech license I can assure you that many many techs deplore poor operating practices as much as you do. I have monitored all of the bands used by amateurs in the Omaha area since 1945. Whereas there is a lot more activity on all of the bands I don't believe that percent wise we have any more poor operators or any less good operators than we have always had. If you will spend some of your time monitoring the HF bands you will find many examples of poor operating practice there as well.

Now here's the point. In 1945, 1946, 1947, in the days before my license I remember distinctly there were Class B hams and advanced class hams. The advanced class hams were the oldtimers; the class B, the beginners. The spirit of ham radio was finally put into the Class B ham by the oldtimer, by the help the advanced class man was able to give and by precept and example. Every Class B ham had a desire to become an advanced class ham that was driving him forward because the oldtimers made themselves a group that one would wish to join. What have we got today? A novice

and a tech is no different than the beginner you had in the former years but what is happening. The oldtimers in general are not nearly as willing to help the newcomers as they used to be and they are putting forth the spirit of ham radio as they could and thus the novice and tech are not catching on as rapidly as they should. Now many of my general friends are encouraging me as a technician to get a general class license. In fact some of them are so encouraging that they are getting downright nasty about it and I fear that I am going to have to take the final step and learn that CW. But most of the technician licensed hams are not being so encouraged. Instead of that the oldtimer is looking down his nose, calling them names, when instead he should be up there operating with them to help them across the line. This hobby is so good and so much room in it I would think that each of you should start pushing the spirit of ham radio forward. Go get yourself a technician or a novice and teach him what ham radio is all about and when you get him goin', go find another one. The techs will welcome your help and you'll enjoy doing it.

And one more comment to you, Mr. Card Sender, Sir - I think we have more generals than technicians in our Club. But why not come to club meeting and make your survey. When you see the fellows personally and look at their calls it's mighty hard to tell the difference. And by the way, my handle is Dick, my call is WØYZV. What is yours?



Cecil D Witt, WQRMB/M on 6 mtrs.

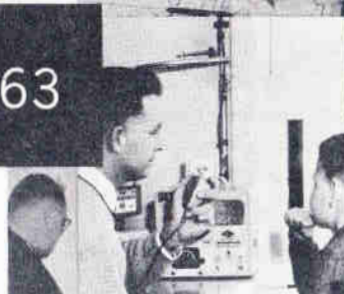
Jerry Armstrong, WONKG at Hdqtrs map.



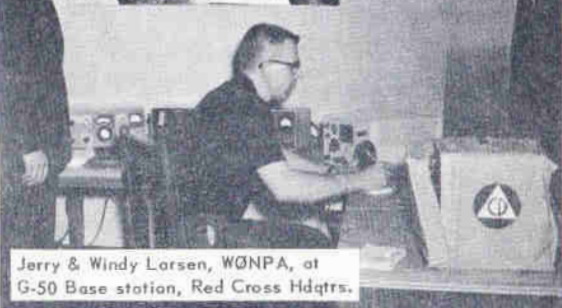
Heart Sunday '63



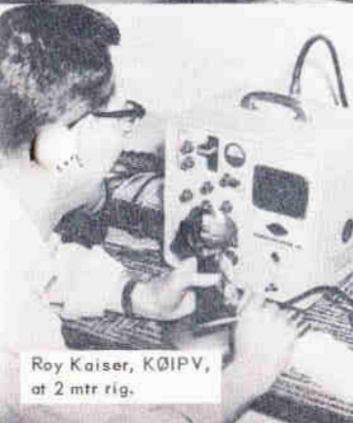
photos by Erv Heinz, WA0EEM



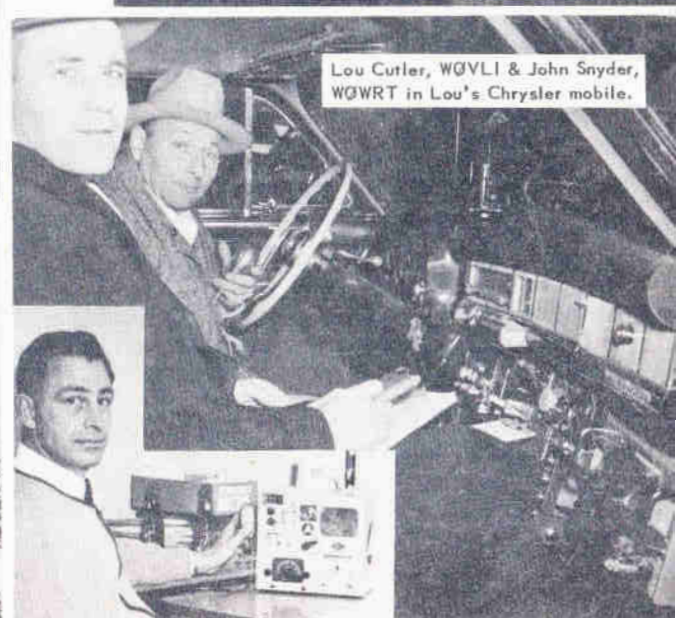
Fred Fischer, W0EGP, son, Kurt at 2 meter link in Heart Hdqtrs.



Jerry & Windy Larsen, W0NPA, at G-50 Base station, Red Cross Hdqtrs.



Roy Kaiser, K0IPV, at 2 mtr rig.



Lou Cutler, W0VLI & John Snyder, W0WRT in Lou's Chrysler mobile.

3139 So. J St.
Oxnard, Calif.

Dear John:

Was surprised to see my name in your column in the last issue of Ham Hum.

Thought perhaps you might be interested in VHF activity here in Ventura County.

Unfortunately, there are not too many "builders." Most of the gear on the air is commercially built with the Heath Twoers probably the most popular. Gonset Communicators are probably second in popularity with the other Heath VHF rigs and surplus conversions following. In antennas the new "skeleton slot" is far and away the most popular with 5 and 10 element beams running second. Only poor slobbs like me run ground planes.

My own rig is a homebrew "Little Tiger" that I whomped up. The measured output to the antenna is just a shade over one watt. The antenna as I mentioned is a ground plane with an extra set of radials a quarter-wave below. The antenna height above the roof is only 4 feet and the feedline is an even 50 feet of RG-8/U.

In spite of the very low power and somewhat poor antenna setup, just to give your readers some idea of the capabilities of 2 meters, I work the entire Ventura County area which includes Moorpark and Santa Paula which are in behind some rather high mountains. I work Santa Barbara, 40 miles up the coast with ease. The one that really tickled me was working Mt. Wilson in Los
6

Angeles last Field Day, this is about 65 miles with some very rough country in between.

Some of the fellows running higher power than I do work into L.A. consistently and San Diego (no problem with a beam.

I myself use the band primarily as a local rag chew band and I think everyone will agree 2 meters is better by far for this sort of thing than either 75 or 40 during the evening hours.

Another point of interest, John. One of the local boys works San Diego regularly on 1296 Mc. I don't know what sort of xmtr he runs but his antenna is a "dish" mounted up about 20 feet on the tower that also supports his 2 meter antenna.

Well, I guess that's about it. Enjoy reading Ham Hum each month and a great big "hello" to all my friends back there in snowball land. Hi!

73

George Hladik, Jr.
WA6JBA

Tri-City Amateur Radio Club will hold its 6th annual Hamfest picnic at Riverside Park (home of Nebraska's largest free zoo) Scottsbluff, Nebraska, Sunday, June 30th. Everyone invited, bring your picnic lunch, prizes galore and mobile hup-Tune 3850 for radio guide or follow condenser \leftrightarrow signs. See you there.

Club Secretary,
Ira Cartwright,
KØDZG

MORE EDITORIAL COMMENTS

We want to mention that in last months Ham Hum, photo credits for the very fine shots of the Bottle-ker II were inadvertently omitted. Credit for these goes to Erv Heinz, WAØEEM who also took all of the recent Heart Fund Drive pictures in this issue of Ham Hum.

We are also grateful to Bob Miller, KØZLY for furnishing us with many pictures for the "Ham of the Month" feature.

In a letter received recently from our Midwest Division Director of ARRL, Bob Denniston, he urges all amateurs to make their contributions now toward the ARRL building fund. Send your contributions direct to ARRL in West Hartford or give them through our Club treasurer, Ed Donze, and even if it is only a half dollar or quarter, it all adds up.

Mr. Denniston's letter also mentions the next Midwest Division ARRL Convention which will be held in Wichita, Kansas on Oct. 26th. and 27th, 1963. Make your plans early to attend - save an extra day or two from your vacation so you won't be rushed in driving to and from Wichita.

There are several ways in which one of our Ham Hum issues may have come to your attention. There are occasional complimentary copies sent out to non-members and sometimes extra copies are available at the Club meetings. Then, too, a copy may have come your way through a friend.

If you are a member of ARC and you are not getting your Ham Hum each month, please contact either Dick Eilers, WØYZV, or John Synder, WØWRT, and tell us so. We'll do all we can to straighten out the problem. Non-members of ARC may receive Ham Hum also for the contribution of \$1 per year.

We want to remind our readers that there is a special membership rate in ARC for students - the normal cost is cut in half for any bona fide full-time student.

Want ads in Ham Hum are free to all members and subscribers...we encourage you to use this service. We hope you will keep your ads concise, however, to give everyone a chance. Commercial ads are also available - write for a rate card.

After you've read Ham Hum, you are no longer a stranger to ARC. How about joining us at our next Club meeting and lending your support and your ideas for making ARC a better Club?

WØWRT

P.S. We now are getting some equipment lined up for the visually handicapped amateur, Tom, WNØEXP, through the very kind offers of Charles Brinkley, WØFNB, and Dayton Phifer, WØVEA, of North Platte.

ANSWERS to last month's "Guess What?"

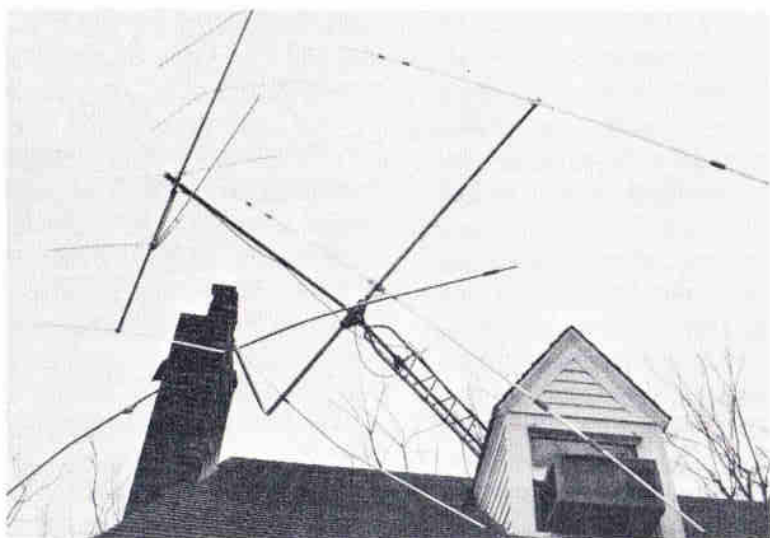
Photo 1. - Fuse

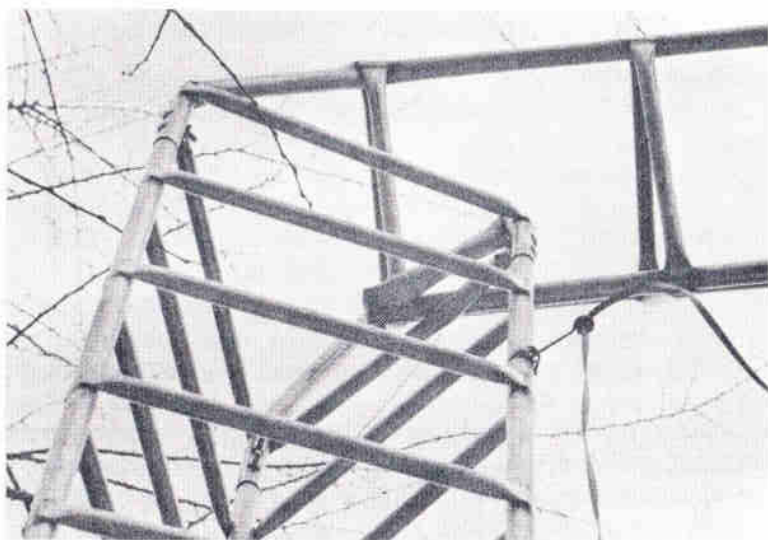
Photo 2. - Potentiometer

ON WIND AND TOWERS

Last Friday there was at the shack of Erwin Darge, WØMHB, a 60 foot tower supporting a four element Thunderbird and a five element 6 meter antenna. On Sunday when these pictures were taken it is now a 20 foot tower with a 40 foot cross

member, a three element Thunderbird, and a five element 6 meter antenna, both vertical. By vertical I mean the beam on China, straight down. Saturday and a 60-mile wind took care of the situation nicely.





Now this should remind us to go out and look at our own towers as the next wind could be even stronger and yours might be the next to go. So go out and take a look at yours now and if you want some help figuring out do you need guys or stronger guys or will yours stand up in a 90 mile wind, drop us a card to Box 291, Downtown Post Office, Omaha, and we will be glad to find somebody to help you figure out the problem. It's not only the danger and damage it can cause but

as the money hungry bootlegger can tell you by this time, it's even a trifle expensive.

The only other damage we have heard of due to Saturday's wind was damage to the 6 meter antenna of WØCCD and KØTVD. Somebody told me half of it broke off and I'm wondering if it's the half that belongs to Chuck or the half that belongs to Grandma. Frank, WØEMS, has a bend in the mast which will hamper him on two meters.

FOR SALE:

Heathkit Twoer - with mike - \$45.00.

Joe Lofreddo, K2VB/8
Route 1, Box 394
Oscoda, Mich.

Bill Renker - KØANL, is now stationed in Germany. He sends his vy best 73s to every one in Omaha and would like to hear from some of the gang.

de WØCCD

MARS ACTIVITIES

The following MARS Nets are working in Nebraska under the authority of the Air Force Communications Service:

| Net | Frequency | Net Manager | Time |
|-----------|-----------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Nebr. 1 A | 2374 KC | Dwain Sutton, AFAØRRL | 0100-0158 ZULU Friday |
| Nebr. 2 A | 2374 KC | Ed Donze, AFØYEV (Temporary) | 0100-0158 ZULU Wednesday |
| Nebr. 1 V | 143.95 MC | Ed Land, AFAØCZO | 0300-0358 ZULU Friday |
| Nebr. 2 V | 49.98 MC | Royal Enders, AFAØLYO | 0300-0358 ZULU Monday |

You will note that the times of the various Nets are expressed in ZULU or GMT. All MARS Official times and the times of messages that cross time zones are always expressed in this manner. For instance:

| ZULU Time | (GMT) | Omaha Time |
|-----------|--------|------------------------|
| 0100 | Monday | 1900 Sunday |
| 0200 | Monday | 2000 Sunday |
| 0500 | Monday | 2300 Sunday |
| 0600 | Monday | 0000 Monday (Midnight) |
| 0700 | Monday | 0100 Monday |

Up until recently the High Frequency Nets operated on frequencies such as 4300 KC, but now the frequency of 2374 KC has been assigned to Nebraska; as a result, many of the HF Net Members are now engaged in modifying their amplifiers and antenna systems to operate at the new frequency...so there is a lot of potential traffic that is not now being handled for Nebraska. The writer has been compelled to install a new grid tuning coil and an extra plate tank coil in order to reach 2374 KC.

It is hoped that all HF MARS Members will be able to complete all the modifications and be able to

operate on 2374 not later than March 1. We plan to divide up the work load so that 2374 can clear Nebraska Traffic every night in the week, which means that in many instances we must make use of the VHF Nets for relay purposes.

Hams who are willing to handle traffic, and who would like to receive MARS training, both operational and technical should contact Ed Donze, AFØYEV, Nebraska State Director, or the writer.

CUL
Royal Enders,
AFAØYLO
Assistant Nebraska
State Director

REMARKS BY WENDELL LARSEN, WONPA

The following was written at the unholy hour of 1:00 A.M. and was done so in order to utilize the anger smouldering inside me and to contribute a few remarks that I might not ordinarily come up with when in a more sedate state of mind.

The cause of this disgust manifested itself when tonight at our meeting of the Board of Trustees it was mentioned that several committee chairmanship posts were as yet still unfilled due to the fact that requests by the club president to various members of the club were met with no response whatever.

Now, it is understandable that there are a certain number of the membership who positively cannot actively participate in making the club prosper and move ahead. This could be due to certain personal or professional obligations that must be fulfilled and no doubt there are many legitimate reasons involved. To these individuals I say, your help and participation will be more than welcome when conditions permit it.

Let's look at another type of club member which type, I'm sorry to say, represents a *majority* of the membership. This type can be variously described as "deadwood," "free-loaders," "goof-offs" and a few others that cannot be used due to the limits of propriety. This is the type that might be described as selfish, complacent, unambitious, or just plain lazy. This is the type that can be likened to the howling dog that is sitting on a cocklebur,

too lazy to get up. This is the type that in an underhanded manner will spread the old, tired and worn-out charge that a clique is running the club but wouldn't think of offering assistance to the so-called clique which in reality are the only workers in the club, a small group that would genuinely appreciate having their clique broken up by the offering of assistance from the membership. This is the type that ruins field day, when they wait 'till the work is done before they show up and leave before the site is knocked down and cleaned up. This is the type that comes to meetings just to be fed and entertained and feels that he is a good member just for showing up. Do these descriptions anger you? If so, then possibly they apply to you to some degree.

Surprising as it may be (or ridiculous depending on your point of view) to some of the deadbeats in our club, we have several members who have carried a heavy portion of the work in the club for five or ten years or more. Why do they do this? Undoubtedly because no one else can be depended on to do this work and it must be done in order that the club can exist and hopefully grow and prosper. This situation has always existed more or less. But, the tragedy of the situation is that the group of workers is growing smaller and the number of free-loaders is increasing. This condition results in driving more and more of the workers, usually members of long standing, out of

the club in disgust. You can test this statement at the next club meeting by looking around to see how many of those present were attending 3, 4, 5 or more years ago. I'm afraid it won't be many.

It should be obvious that the club would be better off if the free-loaders all quit the club and amateur radio too, although the latter is too much to hope for. Then, instead of a membership of 125 consisting of 80% free-loaders and 20% workers (this figure is probably far from conservative) we would end up with a membership of 25, that is 100% workers. This small group would be many times more effective than the larger one.

So, to the free-loaders in our membership, I plead: Arise, impeach the board, and exclude all the live wood from the club. When this is accomplished then the club name can be changed to, for example, the D.N.A.R.C. or Do Nothing Amateur Radio Club. After that then we can all sit back and live up to our new club motto: "Don't just do something, sit there."

EDITOR'S NOTE: Wendy has been a member of our club for many years and has seen members come and go and has been on the working end of our club all the time he has been a member. I have heard him make this statement: "To get any real pleasure out of joining an organization you must do something in that organization. To sit still and do nothing is boring and does not provide any real sense of belonging." A number of us feel the same way, fortunately, and it is necessary

that every organization have a number of members who will willingly put forth some effort for the good of that organization. The "Do Nothing Amateur Radio Club" has to fail immediately because it takes some effort to even choose the place to meet and to select the date. His statement of 80% free-loaders is no doubt an exaggeration but having been occasionally on the working side I must admit it sure seems that way sometimes.

Now those of you who read his remarks are probably in two classes. The first will possibly say, "I don't know what he's griping about-somebody always does the work." The second group might get the idea that they maybe should help a little bit if the job isn't too big, so right now while you are thinking about it give Wendy Larsen a call. He can be reached while mobile on 28.8 mc or at 393-5728.

Now I am assuming that those members who are already working didn't read it because they didn't need it.

3/18/63

Dear Editor:

After 9 years of "Hamming" and listening, I was finally able to work W6VLI. After "QSOing" with him twice in one week, I found out that he too was in the building an engineering business. What a coincidence?

Sincerely,

Lou, W6VLI

MOBILE EAST Bob Schoening, W0TKX

Around here, six meters is a pretty lively band for local rag-chewing, but two meters needs a hot in the arm. Not so in most large (and in many smaller) cities, however, where 6 meter TVI problems have scared the hams up to 144 mc. This summer we took a trip to Massachusetts, and--not particularly fond of trying to work the long-distance bands mobile--took along a 2 meter rig.

Just before entering Chicago, we had our first contacts and in spite of the rather late hour, held QSOs with Chicago area (including Indiana) hams all the way through that region. With a W0 call, we attracted attention and had no trouble making contacts. With our VFO, we found Novice and Technician hams listening only in the middle of the band and the old time DXers hanging around the low end. This same situation prevails everywhere (except the Twin Cities where it's hard for technicians to get a QSO). A Gary, Indiana ham helped us find the right freeway, and we headed for Detroit. Since we got to Detroit in the early morning hours (4 A.M. or so) and crossed into Canada there, we had no more QSOs till returning to the U. S. a day or so later.

Crossing the border into Buffalo, we put the antenna back up and immediately started having QSOs. Buffalo, Syracuse, Albany: Along the N.Y. Freeway these towns are especially active on two, and in

spite of being in a ditch, we could hold a QSO for 40 miles or so. Rochester, not large, takes the prize for the most activity at all hours. Just before leaving New York for the Massachusetts Turnpike (we didn't go to New York City, where 2 meters is rumored to be a mass of heterodynes) we had our last QSO with a W2 operating portable on a mountain. We didn't operate during our week in Mass.

The story was the same on the way back with plenty of QSOs near cities during the daylight and evening hours, and everything going blank west of Chicago.

Six meters used to be quite dead around here if you didn't know when to get on, but it has picked up tremendously now. We hope two meters will follow the national trend soon, and recommend the band to everyone, especially the technicians--LET'S GET THAT SECOND MEGACYCLE POPULATED! Mobilizing around here (which we don't have much time to pursue) has resulted in working W0MDL and others almost to St. Cloud, and the St. Cloud and Annadale stations up to Little Falls. There are some big guns on two meters around here (W0IFW was mentioned by a number of New York stations who had either worked or heard him), but what we need are some active little stations to develop their equipment gradually and keep the band populated.

de--Splatter

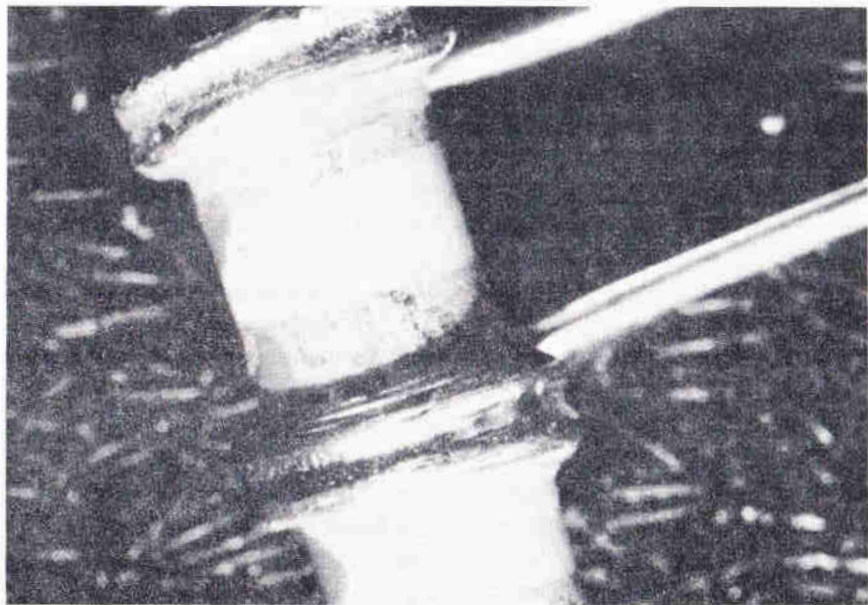
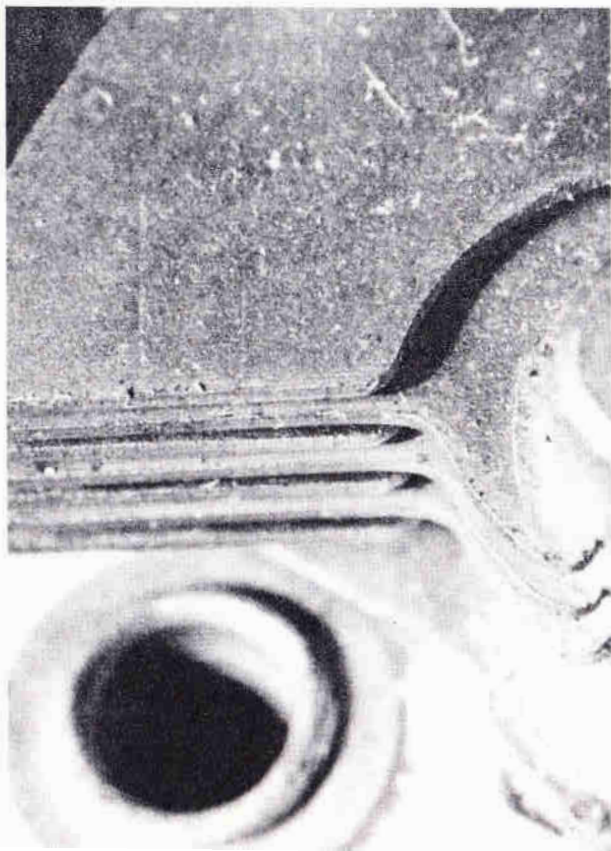


Photo 1.

Photo 2.



Guess
What

?

(Answers next month)

HOSPITALITY - WØYZV

On a recent trip to Florida I enjoyed very much visiting the St. Petersburg Amateur Radio Club. Upon arriving at the club house I was made immediately welcome by the president and secretary of the club and was invited to join with a group of the members for the usual chit chat before the meeting. The meeting itself reminded me quite a bit of our own and it causes one to believe that hams are about the same wherever you go. They had the usual discussions of items of interest to the club - a report on their booth at the county fair where they handled some 800 messages for the general public, and they discussed at some length the editorial in the February and March QST. This was followed by a program and then coffee.

The highlight of the evening, however, as far as I was concerned was the tremendous example of amateur hospitality on the part of the greeting and welcome given to my XYL. Here's an idea we can use in our own club should the XYLs desire it. In a room adjacent to the meeting room were a couple of card tables, chairs, and a half dozen XYLs and a couple licensed YLs. Upon our entering the building one of them immediately came over, introduced herself, and invited my XYL to sit with them. She had a most enjoyable evening talking about the things

YLs talk about - not being one I don't know - but it sounded something like kids and knitting and cards and drapes. My special thanks goes to the St. Petersburg Amateur Radio Club. If some of the XYLs of our club are

interested in such a side meeting I am sure your officers can arrange for the room. Let them know by sending a card to P. O. Box 291.

OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 888 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS WEST HARTFORD CONN MARCH 7, 1963 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

A reciprocal operating bill, designed to overcome objections to last year's reciprocal licensing bill, has been introduced into the Senate by Senator Barry Goldwater, K7UGA, with 23 Senators as cosponsors. The text of the bill, S. 920, which would provide arrangements similar to those we now have with Canada, will appear in the May issue of QST AR

OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 889 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS WEST HARTFORD CONN MARCH 14, 1963 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

On March 13 the Commission granted the League's request for relaxed mobile logging requirements, eliminating the need for separate time entries opposite the call of each station worked. Under the new rules, effective March 21, an amateur may, at the first convenient stopping point, list the starting and ending times of his mobile operation, together with a list of the stations worked during that interval. The date, band, mode of emission, power and the like must still be entered in the log whenever there is a change in this information. Further details will appear in May QST AR

What happened to "Dear Mabel"?

Only part of magazine I enjoyed.

XYL of
WA6ZFD
(formerly KQGPR)
John W. Hartung
5120 San Bernardino
Apt. 1
Montclair, California

Editor's Note: "Dear Mabel" appears in this month's issue for the benefit of our readers. We are indebted to FLORIDA SKIP for the privilege of copying "Dear Mabel" and other articles. As the name would imply, FLORIDA SKIP enjoys a good circulation in the State of Florida and all over the country as it is an interesting magazine. Should any of you wish to subscribe send your name, call and address with your \$2.00 for one year to P.O. Box 501, Miami Springs 66, Florida.

Dear Mabel,

I was glad to get your letter and tell Clyde I will watch myself from now on. After all, I want Homer to be proud of me or his friends will think I'm a "lid" or something. Maybe some of them do already.

Yesterday, I went down to our local ham store (where Homer has a charge account) to shop for a birthday present for him. He needs socks and shirts and underwear, but he'd rather have something for the shack, I know.

When I went in I didn't know what I was looking for even, and after a few minutes I was more confused than ever! Everything was so expensive, plus I wanted to find something he didn't already have.

Well, Homer isn't bad at all, Mabel, because there were lots of things there he didn't have. One thing I really liked had a round glass in it and lit up green. When you talk

a line goes zig zag across it. A lot of fun to watch but I can't see much good in it except for looks. Besides it cost a pretty penny.

They were sure nice to me in there, hooking everything up the way they did so I could see how it worked.

I looked at lots of tools and test equipment. They suggested test equipment, but none of it seemed too good for a birthday present. The more I saw of those black boxes with the big S-meters it dawned on me he had some of those. Then there was a nice looking suitcase that when you opened it there were several gizmos that you test your own tubes on. I knew he'd like that. But, I didn't get it after all because Homer would balk at having a bill that big to pay, even if it was his birthday. Goodness knows I tried to find him something nice. I was in there for two hours!

I bought myself a small soldering iron because it's handy for lighting cigarettes. Promised Homer I wouldn't light up with his anymore. Also got him a new log, as my coffee spilled on his and soaked it pretty bad.

So, for all my shopping, I finally got him socks and underwear. He'll just have to make the best of it. At least he won't be embarrassed to slip his shoes off. I know a lot of hams who spend seventy-nine cents for wire instead of socks. Homer is one of them. The socks do have flashes of lightning up the side and he may like that.

I had a little bit of trouble last week when a ham came to the door to meet me. I had told him I was twenty years old and he said he was twenty-five and single. I was joking, of course, but I didn't send any hi his. I've learned my lesson tho' and Homer was very nice to him. They talked rigs all evening and I kept out of the way. When he left Homer was pretty mad at me and told me I'd better not do THAT again! He will have to agree that we've had more hams come to see the rigs since I've been on the air! altho' Homer says they're

coming to take a look at me because they can't believe what they're hearing and want to check for themselves that it's REAL!

Well, Mabel, there's lots more to tell you, but it will keep until I make the birthday cake. I'm going to make it with chocolate frosting and put marshmallow knobs, so it will look like a rig. I know it will load all right...in Homer's stomach, because he loves cake.

Love,
Gladys

ARRL BUILDING FUND

At the last meeting of the Board of Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club, Inc., our treasurer was authorized to match donations by individual members for the ARRL Building Fund, up to the maximum of \$50.00. If you haven't sent in your contribution, do it today, or bring it to the April membership meeting.

Let's help put the ARRL Building Fund over the top! ARRL works for us, for our Club, and for amateur radio as a hobby. Many of our present amateur privileges are due to the activity of ARRL and we should actively support this project.

FOR SALE:

Hallicrafters transmitter HT 37
USB DSB CW - like new - \$385.00.
M. W. Costello
4714 North 81 Street
Omaha, Nebraska
Phone 393-2087

MARS NEWS

Ed Donze, AFØYEV, State Civilian Director of Nebraska Air Force Mars, is trying to get all Nebraska members to check in on 3315 Kc at least one night per week and accept traffic for this state. In the near future Ed will have the Nebraska Command Net set up on 3315 Kc, for all supervisory personnel such as Net Managers, N.C.S., A.N.C.S., Net Monitors, etc., so he urges all Air Force Mars members to set up for activities for that frequency. The Command Net maybe set up in conjunction with the Iowa Net, but we are trying to get a time and day allocation for Nebraska alone. At least for the time being either AM or Lower Side Band may be used.

Nebraska Army Mars has an excellent News Letter which is published each month by Cy Wolfe, AØLJO, Hastings, and the Army Mars State Director is AAØDGW, Clarence Heiden, Benedict, Nebraska.

We notice that each issue has an excellent technical article. Congratulations to Nebraska Army Mars!

Hams who are interested in technical and building matters, traffic, or operational training can find all that in Air Force Mars. For more information contact Ed Donze, AFØYEV, or Royal Enders, AFAØLYO.

THE WORLD OF THE LITTLE PEOPLE

Submitted by Jim Loehrke

How many of you can remember when baseboard service outlets were of the open type? They have long been obsolete and have been replaced with recessed fixtures. Have you ever stopped to consider the reason for the change? Primarily it was because they constituted a lethal trap in the jungle of the world of the little people. Those lovable, bright eyed, inquisitive fingered, wonder what's in here people.

We are all prone to forget that we may be invaded at anytime by these two foot high creatures whether they be our own clan or visitors from a neighboring tribe. Does the world you present them bear a critical inspection?

How about that open power supply on the shelf under the operating position? Sure you know it's there, and it's far enough back so your legs don't touch it, but to the little people it is a mysterious cave filled with gleaming lights just begging to be explored. And if it should be bleederless, even the day after tomorrow, those filters can bite and bite hard.

How about that modulator nicely tucked in the B plus lead, but handy for gain adjustment? Standoff insulator, open screw connector strip? A brush with this, and the hair stands straight up. And don't forget, it's eye-catching, head high, in the world of the little people.

What about that antenna relay?

110 just soldered on the primary? The magnet that throws the contacts makes wonderfully intriguing sounds to the little people. It could become a lure that attracts and invites investigation. Maybe you are a plug pyramider. Four tap cube ... four tap cube makes seven leads, doesn't it? Sure, you can't get everything in tight, matter of fact, we leave them loose so we can give them a good swift kick if something starts getting too hot. That octopus of wires can swiftly trap it's tentacles around any little hands that dare to wander into its maze.

Perhaps it's time for us to descend from our grownup world and take a good look at the world of the little people. Wouldn't you rather get on your knees and look now, than get on your knees later to weep or pray.

Wm. B. Eksre

de--"Ham Shack Gossip"

(Ed. note: Need anymore be said?)

Rampacek Earns Master's Degree

Jan Rampacek, son of Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Rampacek, 4311 Ridgeway rd., has received his master's degree in electrical engineering from the University of Southern California.

A 1956 graduate of Westside High, he received his bachelor's degree from the California Institute of Technology in 1960.

He has been associated with the Douglas Aircraft Co. in Santa Monica, Calif., since 1960.

Ed. Note - Rudy Rampacek, WØRMC, is a former member of Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club.

NEW Galaxy 300 SSB Transceiver



SSB/AM/CW

\$299⁹⁵ wired

300 Watts - ALC
Selectable Sideband
80-40-20 Meters

Write or Visit W R L
3415 West Broadway
Council Bluffs, Iowa

A World Radio Exclusive.

The ALL NEW GALAXY 300 offers any amateur the ultimate in easy "arm chair" hamming. Compact and versatile as either a fixed or mobile station. . . the Galaxy 300 has sacrificed nothing in order to provide "EVERY IMPORTANT FEATURE THE AMATEUR COULD WANT".

FEATURING: ALC circuit has been incorporated, and effectively boosts talk power at maximum power level and safeguards against "flat-topping". A dual function panel meter, with separate calibration color scales provide final plate and S meter readings. Precision frequency control is made easy by a unique dual planetary drive, coupled to precision anti-backlash gears providing 12:1 fast tuning or 72:1 vernier tuning. This provides smooth easy tuning. A hinged cabinet top cover allows ease of inspection and service. A plug-in multi-contact relay switches all internal functions. Plug-in feature eliminates maintenance difficulties normally encountered with permanent type relays. Chassis constructed of extra heavy 18 gauge steel and is both cadmium plated and iridite treated to resist oxidation and corrosion. The panel is heavy .09" aluminum: gold anodized to a luxurious, gloss finish. Exact harness wiring and modular assemblies of most R/C components assure minimum parts failure and breakdown. Three "Compactron" and other multi-section type tubes offers 20 tube performance and allows a clean compact layout. The GALAXY 300 is supplied to operate Push to Talk or from the panel transmit switch. A plug-in VOX accessory is also available at \$24.95

Audio Derived AVC action provides a relatively constant audio output level over a wide range of input signal levels. A product detector further provides detection of the incoming signal with a minimum of distortion. Three stages of audio amplification provide over 2 watts of clean audio output. Mobile mounting bracket (Order 66BR042) \$14.95
GALAXY 300 Mechanical Specification: Size-7"H.x15"W.x13-5/8"D., Shipping weight 27 lbs.

ELECTRICAL SPECIFICATIONS

POWER IN: 300 watts - P.E.P. SSB/CW,
175 watts carrier AM

POWER OUT: 200 watts - P.E.P. SSB/CW,
35 watts carrier AM

FREQ. RANGE: 3,800-4,000 Kc, 7,050-7,350
Kc. 14,200-14,400 Kc.

MODES: Upper or Lower S.B. on all
bands.

CALIBRATION: Dial accuracy within 5 Kc.

DRIFT: Less than 100 cycles in any
15 minute period after warm-up

BACKLASH: Dial backlash less than 50
cycles.

BANDWIDTH: 2.7Kc. @6db points (crystal
filter).

SENSITIVITY: Better than 1uv for 10db
S/N ratio.

CONVERSION: One at 9.1 Mc.

Power Requirements: 800 VDC @ 400 Ma. 325
VDC @ 200 Ma. -90/110
VDC Bias @ 30 Ma., 12.6
VAC/DC.

* Final features two 6HF5 tubes, a new GE heavy duty, higher frequency version of the popular 6DQ5, but with greater plate dissipation; hence the GALAXY at 300 watts input is operating very conservatively.

EDITORIAL

Who Is to Blame - You!

We agree wholeheartedly with "Snooper" regarding the inactivity on the part of the Ham, but that is as far as we will go with our agreement.

The blame does *NOT* belong on the shoulders of any radio club or the Council.

The blame belongs on the shoulders of *YOU - THE HAM!!!*

YOU, as a ham, *DO NOT* have to be a member of any club!

YOU DO NOT have to be a member of *AREC, RACES, or CIVIL DEFENSE* to offer *YOUR SERVICES* in any emergency!

A *CLUB DOES NOT* have to be a *MEMBER* of the *COUNCIL* to offer its services!

When you applied for your license, *YOU* agreed to *BE OF SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC!*

The Police and Fire Departments both know that this service is available to them, but perhaps they *DO NOT* know *WHO* to contact for such set-up.

Not to be unfair, perhaps some of the blame also belongs to the members of the Police and Fire Departments, not on duty at the fire, who are hams.

The blame *STILL* comes *BACK TO THE HAM!*

--de Pack Rats Cheese Bits

"REMEMBER WHEN?"

Regarding the sporadic six meter openings of now, remember back just a short four years ago, 1958, when the Sun Spot activity was so great?

That was the time that, every evening, Frankie would go up to the shack and throw on the 6 X-Mitter, and a 6 came back, each time, with, "OK, Frankie, what do you want?"

That was also when he worked ExW2UK, Tommy, now KH6UK Hawaii, our old two meter buddy from New Jersey.

According to Sun Spot Activity propagation, we must wait 5 or 6 more years for another such opening. Can we wait that long? I don't know, but I feel that those Sporadic E, and Double-Hop openings are more of a challenge. Don't get me wrong, I think it is a wonderful thing to go up and flick on the X-Mitter and talk to California or other Western States every night. But, to be able to work them without the assist of a great Sun Spot opening, is a greater thrill.

--de Pack Rats Cheese Bits

OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 890 WEST HARTFORD CONN MARCH 21, 1963 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

With increasing FCC citations, as noted in April QST, and OO observance of phone splatter, key clix, and out of band operation, all amateurs are urged to examine their own signals as well as give honest direct critical signal reports. Application for Official Observer appointment is invited from experienced amateurs of General or higher class license. Official Observers are needed to expand the work of sending friendly advisory notices. Those qualified are invited to apply to their SCM for an OO appointment AR
