



The Parasitic Emission



Volume 14, Number 3

Spring is Here!

March 1986

Club Program Announcements

by Arthur Kunst, W3WM

March 22 QCARC Annual Banquet

Banquet speaker will be Mike Mowrey Emergency Preparedness Director for Clearfield County. Additional information concerning the evening's event are given in another column. Keep in mind this is a Saturday occasion.

April 18 Antenna Night

Hopefully with no more rescheduling, our long-awaited program will be presented by Tim Duffy K3LR. Tim has been very understanding of us for which he deserves a pat on the back. Many of our members continue to ask about this program so it is to assume that our members want it presented. I won't elaborate beyond this but will save it for our next issue of the Newsletter. If you can't wait, see my first announcement in the December issue. [Editor's note: Mr. Duffy's presentation was originally scheduled for the December 1985 meeting, but was postponed, due to his work schedule. It was rescheduled for March 1986, but due to the banquet, there will be no meeting this month.]

May 16 Presentation FM Radio Station WDBA

We have a tentative commitment for a presentation by the Chief Engineer of this major FM stereo broadcaster in North-Central Pennsylvania. This will give our members a good opportunity to learn about the technical side of a broadcast station that all of us listen to at some time. More information in the next Newsletter.

QCARC

Minutes of the February Meeting

by Bryan Simanic, WA3UFN

The regular meeting of the Quad County Amateur Radio Club was called to order by Vice-President KA3MYQ.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

TREASURER REPORT- Not available.

OLD BUSINESS- WA3UFN announced the menu for the annual banquet and the cost per person of \$8.00. Because of the short time until the banquet, advanced reservations should be sent as soon as possible. W3WM suggested that KA3MYQ be the banquet coordinator. WA3IHK assumed the chair at this time, and thanked KA3MYQ for beginning the meeting. WA3UFN reported that the Club constitution has been updated. A copy of the constitution will be available at the meetings for reference.

COMMITTEE REPORTS- WA3IHK reported that a new code and theory class may begin in late spring. He also reminded members that articles for the newsletter are welcome. There was a discussion about using articles from other newsletters and national publications. WA3IHK stated that the Parasitic Emission tries to maintain an original publication with articles that are submitted directly to the newsletter. Although articles from other publications are published if the article is of major interest to amateur radio, of a timely nature or unique in content. WA3UFN reported on the appointment of K3PS as an ARRL Assistant Technical Coordinator (ATC), if anyone has a technically related problems, in amateur radio, he is the one to contact in this area.

NEW BUSINESS- K3WVR reported that he has been working on an amendment to Section 3314 of the Pennsylvania State Vehicle Code. This section relates to the use of headsets while driving an automobile. Jim stated that he has talked with Representative Distler and that a Bill was being drawn up that would amend

the vehicle code for use of single sided headsets while driving, if that Bill passed. K3WVR suggested, as a Club project, that the Club support the Bill when it is introduced. This support would be in the form of mailing letters to the clubs across the State to inform them of the Bill and how to assist in trying to get the Bill passed. At present there is no number for the Bill, but as soon as one is assigned Jim will report on that and any further information. Motion by WA3UFN, seconded by KC3VA that the Club fully support the Bill to amend the Vehicle Code to allow for the use of single sided headsets. There was some discussion as to what extent the Club was to support the issue. Motion carried.

GENERAL- None

With no further business for the meeting there was a motion to adjourn by K3WVR, seconded by KA3MUJ, carried. The members present adjourned for a program on ARES with an accompanying film titled "At Any Moment".

ATTENDANCE- (15) KA3MYQ, WA3UFN, W3WM, WA3IHK, WB3IQE, K3WVR, KA3OGC, KA3OGD, K3IQN, KC3VA, WA3GQU, KA3MUJ, KA3BAU, B. Barr, W. Elsbj

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Banquet Announcement

by Joe Shupienis, WA3IHK

The 1986 Annual Spring Banquet of the Quad County Amateur Radio Club will be held on Saturday, March 22 at the Lithuanian Club in DuBois. The social hour will begin at 6:00 pm, and dinner will begin at 7:00. The menu is the popular buffet, including Swedish Meatballs, Ham, and many assorted vegetables and other goodies.

The Guest Speaker will be Mike Mowrey, Clearfield County Director of Emergency Management. Presentations will include door prizes and the Ham of the Year Award.

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Everything I know about DX - Part 5

by Bob Netzlof, WB3IQE

Although it was implied earlier, it may be desirable to point it out. Many countries have call sign allocations which are scattered here and there throughout the alphabet. We live in such a country.

Many countries will issue special prefixes. We used to live in such a country, but don't any more.

Consider Canada. The ITU table shows:

CFA-CKZ	Canada
CYA-CZZ	Canada
VAA-VGZ	Canada
VOA-VOZ	Canada
VXA-VYZ	Canada
XJA-XOA	Canada

"Everybody knows" Canada uses VE call signs. "Everybody" is only half right. The provinces of Newfoundland and Labrador use VO1 and VO2 prefixes. Why? Because, until 1948, Newfoundland and Labrador were not provinces of the then Dominion of Canada, and the ITU table said:

VOA-VOZ Labrador and Newfoundland.

(Not too many years before that the table said:

VAA-VZZ British Overseas Possessions)

Also stations in the Yukon Territory use prefix VY1. I'm not sure why, but I think it has something to do with the campaign to become a province instead of a territory.

But that's not the end of it. The Canadian Government will authorize special call signs, either retail or wholesale, for all manner of reasons. Since 1977 was the 25th anniversary of the coronation of Elizabeth II, Canadian amateurs were authorized the use of CG prefixes. Because 1979 was the 75th anniversary of the founding of Saskatchewan province, amateurs in Saskatchewan were authorized use of XJ prefixes. The London Amateur Radio Club wanted to run a demonstration station in a shopping mall; station license XM3LON was issued.

If you check the ITU Table, you'll find all of those prefixes allocated to Canada, so it's all Kosher. Canadians aren't the only ones doing this. 1978 celebrated the millennium (yes, the 1,000th anniversary) of the founding of Brussels. Certain Belgian stations used prefix OR instead of the usual ON. 1977 was the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Swiss Amateur Radio Society, so they dropped their HB9 prefixes and replaced them with HB7

(since Switzerland has only HBA-HBZ, they couldn't do much).

The upshoot is that at any moment you may hear a call sign which you never heard before and never will again. Just this morning, I heard EM3C, and after a little listening, I found that he was in Minsk (Bielorussian SSR, UC2-land). Yes, EMA-EMZ belongs to Russia. No, I don't know why the special call. 67th anniversary of V.I. Lenin's stepping off a train in the Central Railway Station to buy a newspaper, perhaps.

In the DX world, EM2C = UC2ADD = UK2CAG = RZ2CPD in that they're all in the Bielorussian SSR, and you get credit for that country if you work any of them, or all of them. So, the special prefixes and special call signs are just another complication. However, they may mean something. Perhaps the Central Radio Club Named After Ernst Kreukel is running a special contest. "Present proof of working 12 stations using EM prefix, and receive handsome certificate signed by Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev personally." That can be an interesting activity, although not to me.

If you are interested in operating awards, I think CQ Magazine tends to be the best source of information on who's handing out what. CQ also seems to be the Holy See for Prefix Collectors. I have met only one prefix collector, and if you think I'm weird, you should see him! His entire knowledge of call signs was:

- a. There are a bunch of different prefixes.
- b. Some are rarer than others.

He seemed unaware that various prefixes are reserved for various governments; that 4K (Russian Antarctic stations) was quite different from K4. In my view, prefix collecting is in the same league with bottle cap collecting, but maybe you feel differently.

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Editorial

by Joe Shupienis, WA3IHK

Are you an actor or a reactor? In this world there are two kinds of people: those who make things happen, and those who things happen to. So often, we see

something that needs to be done, only to say, "Let George do it."

What if George says that too? The answer is simple. It doesn't get done. Think: To the "other guy", YOU are the "other guy."

Here's a story about four characters: Somebody, Anybody, Everybody and Nobody...

Once upon a time, Somebody saw something that Anybody could do. Everybody knew it was important, and thought that Somebody would do it. Anybody could see that it wasn't too hard, and was sure that Everybody had the time. However, Nobody did it, and soon Everybody was accusing Somebody, because Anybody could see the consequences.

Nobody took the blame because Everybody was accusing Anybody who was involved. Finally Somebody was singled out to receive the blame because he didn't do what Everybody knew that Anybody could do, and Nobody wanted to blame himself. Somebody got mad and left, and Everybody followed, leaving Nobody. He said that Anybody could have prevented the whole situation, if only Somebody had done what Everybody wanted.

In the end, Nobody was talking to Anybody, and Everybody was mad at Somebody, so they all lived miserably ever after.

This story has a familiar ring to it. I have been involved with this club for years, and each time an idea is offered for something to do, there is a mad rush for the door. Why do our members fear involvement? Why are the same few people the only ones who ever do anything? What could be so terrifying about volunteering to help? Why do the people who never do anything sit back and fire snipes at "The Clique"?

There is no "Clique". As I see it as a "member" of that mythical group, there are only a few of us who care enough about amateur radio in our area to put forth the effort to do anything to help it along. The rest seem to be content to sit at home, planning how to criticize everything the "Clique" does or doesn't do.

If you were to spend the same energy helping the club that you do chopping at its foundation, this would be the most energetic club in the world!

How to Kill A Club

1. Never come to meetings. When you do come, complain about some trivial matter.
2. Never accept office. Then complain about the same old "Clique" running things.
3. If the meeting starts on time, come late and complain. If the meeting starts late, come early and complain.
4. Never volunteer to do anything. Then complain that nothing ever gets done.
5. Sit quietly at the meetings. Then complain that nobody ever asks for your opinion.
6. When asked to serve on committees, decline. Then complain about the selection of committee members.
7. If there is a good program, be sure to leave early. Then complain about the "boring meetings".
8. Think up several new excuses for not attending each meeting. Then complain about poor attendance.
9. When discussing the club, do nothing but criticize. Then complain about declining membership.

10. At every chance, do everything in your power to destroy the club. Then blame everyone else for "lack of interest".

If you see yourself in the above, why not make a promise to change your behavior? If we all pull together, this can be a better club. If we all pull it apart...

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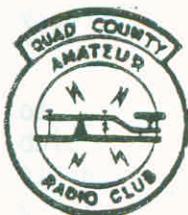
Shorts

By Joe Shupienis, WA3IHK

Congratulations to Bryan, WA3UFN who took First Place in Clearfield County during the 1985 Pennsylvania QSO Party.

QCARC

Participation was "impressive" during the March 14 simulated weather emergency. Stations from the Quad County area were active on both VHF nets and HF nets. Traffic was passed into and out of our area, and the test was deemed a success by FEMA and the National Weather Service.



The Parasitic Emission
 Newsletter of the
 Quad County Amateur Radio Club
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