



# The Parasitic Emission



Volume 14, Number 6

Field Day is Coming

June 1986

Minutes of the May Meeting by  
Bryan Simanic, WA3UFN

The regular meeting of the Quad County Amateur Radio Club was called to order May 23, 1986 by President WA3IHK.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

**TREASURER REPORT-** The outstanding bills have been paid, leaving a balance in the treasury of about \$200. Currently the repeater electric and lease for the site have to be paid. There are several unpaid banquet tickets.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS-** WA3UFN reported on the Emergency Management disaster drill held at the Clearfield County E.O.C. in May. He stressed the importance of the ARES registration cards the are to be submitted to the county EC's. K3PS reported that the next VE exams have not been rescheduled. The new exam date may possibly be in June or July. WA3IHK reported that both the novice and upgrade classes need instructors, if there is anyone that will be able to teach either of these classes let him know.

**OLD BUSINESS-** Question was raised about the bills that were received from the Ramada Inn, WA3IHK reported that they were taken care of with no cost to the club. W3WM gave an outline of the type of letter that could be written to the appropriate legislators concerning the House Bill that would amend the vehicle code for use of single-sided headsets. He also listed the addresses of the legislators for the area covered by the club.

**NEW BUSINESS-** A question was raised about placing a Handbook in the library in memory of W3GNR. WA3IHK instructed the secretary to place a Handbook in the DuBois library in memory of W3GNR, as the Club has in the past for other members. A

question was raised about this year's Field Day site. WA3IHK appointed a Field Day planning committee: WB3DDA, KA3DWR, KA3FHV, KA3MKY. A motion by WA3UFN, seconded by WB3DDA, that the Club purchase hotdogs, condiments and pop for F.D., motion carried.

**GENERAL-** Hamfest listing was announced for the next month.

With no further business for the meeting a motion was made to adjourn for the program on commercial FM stations.

**ATTENDANCE-** (18) WA3UFN, WA3IHK, KA3MYQ, K3PS, W3WM, WB3DVR, WB3DDA, WB3JZZ, KA3DWR, KA3FHV, WB3IQE, WA3GNS, KA3MKY, KA30HH, WB3HPE, K3IQN, NA3Y, WA3GQU

## QCARC

Program Announcements  
by Art Kunst, W3WM

Our June meeting on Friday the 20th will feature our Field Day Committee which will report on preparations for the annual club observance of this event. The Field Day Committee was appointed by club president Joe Shupienis at our last meeting and consists of Bill Latta KA3MKY, Jeff Rowles KA3FHV, Doug Rowles KA3DWR, and Paul Cain WB3DDA. They were directed by the president to organize the club's Field Day operations on as many bands as possible at the previous year's location at the QTH of Ed Golla, WA3GMT, near Reynoldsville. As usual the club's treasury will pay for food and soft drinks to sustain the energy expenditures of the Field Day crew members. The Committee members were asked to set-up a NOVICE station also, and look toward organization of special credit messages. Last but not least, they need to select a call sign of an EXTRA CLASS member which could be used on all amateur bands and sub-bands. So please be on hand at our regular Club

meeting to provide support for Field Day. While we look at the fun side, we need to remember that the real serious purpose is to provide a simulation of emergency communication practices and procedures.

Our program last month in May featured Jerry Meloon, Chief Engineer for FM stereo station WDBA. The good turn-out of members was not disappointed because Jerry did a grand job with his talk and colored slide presentation. We found out that Jerry has never been bitten by the ham radio bug, and says he is immune to any infection. Is that a challenge? We completed the evening around 2200 hours with our usual coffee hour.

#### July Program

Video cassette film "Fiber Optics"

#### August Program

Video cassette film "Introduction to Packet Radio" followed up by a packet demonstration and discussion of where packet is in the Quad-County area by local packeteers K3PS and WA3UFN.

**\*QCARC\***

#### EMERGENCY SERVICES

by Bryan Simanic, WA3UFN

May 7 turned out to be a rather unique evening for me. I was asked, by Mike Mowery the EMA director for Clearfield County, to participate in a "table-top disaster". I really didn't know what to expect but I felt that I was ready for the problems that might arise during the drill.

Various agencies were represented by some 25 people, with State level Emergency Management personell in charge of the drill. All traffic had to be routed through one person so that the State EMA people would be able to control, to some extent, and monitor the activities of the represented agencies as well as throw a few snags into the operation. Amateur radio had to provide communications at the scene of the hypothetical disaster as requested by the EMA Director. Also links were established to Pittsburgh, Indiana and Harrisburg, by ham radio. I had a number of different stations in operation during the drill, but only on paper. The biggest problem that I saw was that I

didn't really know who might have what equipment and how it could be operated, that is 110 VAC, or 12 VDC and other such limitations of stations. Several problems such as those cropped up during the drill. Fortunately it was a drill! This drill did point out the weak area(s) that we as hams have, one of which is real, active participation in emergency services. An important item that is needed by the EC is a current registration card. With a current card stations can be setup very efficiently, since the person doing the coordination will know who has what before any actual contacts are made.

Many times I hear the story that people hate to handle traffic, but what is handled during an emergency? Yes, it is traffic!! I agree that some of the usual traffic that is passed on a routine basis is boring, but it is by far better to get the training with the usual boring traffic than to goof when the real thing has to be passed with no goofs. Remember that the real thing involves the safety of lives and property and it is no time to be practicing. The little bit of practice in getting familiar with message formats BEFORE an emergency will be well worth the time when you are needed for the real thing.

**QCARC**

A proposed county-wide ordinance was not enacted in Warren, that would have effected the construction of amateur radio stations as well as any other transmitting station that is licensed by the F.C.C. I do not have all the particulars about the meeting that was to have taken place May 29, but I know that there were many concered hams both residents and non-residents of Warren County that wrote letters of concern to the County Commissioners about the restrictive legislation that was to be enacted. There was input from the county EC through the ranks up to ARRL HQ that helped everyone in Warren County stop the imposing regulations.

**\*QCARC\***

WA3IHK came home from the Breezeshooters hamfest with a brand new ICOM IC-02 AT handheld. Now that he's on two again, you still can't hear him. The more things change, the more they stay the same...

**\*QCARC\***

The June meeting of the Quad County Amateur Radio Club will be held on Friday, June 20, 1986 at 7:30 p.m. at the DuBois Senior High School. The program will be on Field Day - then and now. Plans will be finalized by the FD committee, and WA3IHK will present slides of past Field Day activities.

**\*QCARC\***

The Meadville hamfest will be held July 5, 1986 from 8 AM until 3 PM. This year's hamfest will be at a new location, the Meadville Area Recreation Complex Arena. Talk-in will be on 144.53/145.13, W3MIE/R.

**\*QCARC\***

#### Tech Tip

By John Bishop, KA3OHH

Just when I thought I couldn't learn anything else, Mason Freeman, W3DQF showed me how to clean drive surfaces in VCR'S and tape players. I used to clean drive wheels and belts with plain rubbing alcohol but the better way is with acetone or, as it is sometimes called, cement thinner. After cleaning it helps to "work" the old rubber with a fingernail or a rough surface.

**\*QCARC\***

#### Everything I Know about DX - Part 6

by Bob Netzlof, WB3IQE

Short Wave Listeners - There are people who spend a lot of time listening to shortwave radios. I'm one of them. Some go farther, and send reports to the stations they hear, hoping they will get a card from the station. I don't do that, but have been tempted at times. (Although, come to think of it, I did once send a card to the Amateur Radio Society of Bermuda, reporting that their 10-meter beacon was developing a hitch in its gitalong).

From time to time, you may receive a card from someone, somewhere, telling you that at such-and-such a time, on some frequency or other, you were heard saying this-and-that to so-and-so. First, look carefully at the thing. Ask yourself 2 questions:

1. Is this thing pink? ( )Yes ( )No
2. Is there an FCC form number in the lower right corner? ( )Yes ( )No

If you answered "Yes" to either question, you are seeing your tax dollars at work. Prepare to explain to the FCC how you came to do this thing, and what measures you are taking to prevent its ever happening again.

Otherwise, you have received an SWL, or Short Wave Listener report. What you do about it is your business. For myself, I would send a card stating that indeed, I was doing what he says I did, but only if the report came from outside the US. If members of the Podunk Valley Montessori Day Care Center student body want to learn CW and eavesdrop on me, I can't stop them, but I'm not going to encourage them.

However, the DX-folk are, or may be in a different boat. Many of the national radio clubs in Europe include both amateurs who are permitted to transmit, and also folks who just listen. Lots of countries license receivers as well as transmitters. (Before you get too righteous, be aware that one such country is the United Kingdom of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland).

In some of the less prosperous places, nobody can afford to buy a radio, even a receiver. So, grigorio or Ladislav may have been receiving your signals on a home-brew double conversion superheterodyne which makes up for so-so front end sensitivity by clever antenna design. In short, that SWL in DX-land may be a better radio engineer than you and I put together, and if he wants proof that the thing works, I'm not going to keep it from him.

Finally, a number of countries have a sort of probation for amateurs. Forst, you demonstrate that you can receive, then you're allowed to think about transmitting. The Russians, I understand, must present proof of copying correctly transmissions from at least one station on each continent plus a number of regions in the USSR before they can take the test for a transmitting license.

So, I send DX SWLs a card saying, "According to station records, I was in QSO with ..... at ..... on ..... . Your report is correct. etc."

It can be irksome to receive a report from Riga, Latvia, bearing witness

to your first and only QSO with a station in, say Andorra; when you have not received a QSL from the station in Andorra.

I heartily recommend listening. It's a good way to learn what people say in QSOs. Remember that most DX-folk do not speak her the English only a small bit perhaps. So if you say something he isn't equipped to deal with, the situation can disintegrate into clouds of question marks, and that right quickly. Listen a lot, and you'll start to pick up the scheme of things. If you think about what you're hearing, you'll start to see subtle things like:

Germans like to call CQ DX CQ DX DE DK1HA DK1HA CQ DX PSE K

Almost nobody else says "Please".

Almost everybody says HR for "here", but the British say ERE.

US stations say TNX for "thanks", but the rest of the world says TKS.

Big deal? No. But by listening, listening, listening you learn, learn, learn and aren't appearing stupid, stupid, stupid.

\*QCARC\*

## Field Day Announcement

by Joe Shupienis, WA3IHK

My favorite ham radio activity is Field Day, and from what I've seen, a lot of other hams share that feeling, too. Field Day can be a lot of things to a lot of people. Call it Public Service training, a contest, a picnic, a camp-out, a mini-vacation, DX-pedition - whatever - Field Day is a fun-filled activity for everyone.

This year, Field Day will be held at the usual location, Ed Golla, WA3GMT has graciously offered his facilities once more. The location is Route PA-310, 4 miles south of Reynoldsville. The date is Saturday, June 28 through Sunday, June 29. Let's start setting things up around 2:00 P.m.

See you there!

\*QCARC\*

Amateur radio emergency nets were called on the evening of June 16 when severe thunderstorms swept Jefferson and Clearfield counties. A report of a funnel cloud in Jefferson County was relayed via amateur radio.



The Parasitic Emission  
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Post Office Box 352  
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