



# The Parasitic Emission



Volume 14, Number 9

Fall is coming soon

September 1986

## More Packet Radio for September Program

by Art Kunst, W3WM

Last month's QCARC meeting featured Packet Radio with discussion and on-the-air demonstration by club members K3PS and WA3UFN. Judged by the large number of members and non-members in attendance Packet Radio is a very popular subject in ham radio. Among the attendees were Old Timers and Young Squirrels, Brass-Pounders and Two-meter Phone-men, and Computer Buffs of all kinds. A number of visitors joined us from the Punxsy Club, and others were first-time-ever visitors. From the buzz of excitement it seems that wedding of computer technology and radio communications into Packet Radio is a marriage whose time has come! The only disappointment in the program was failure to present the 30 minute video tape on packet radio by the Tuscon Amateur Packet Radio Group. The tape did not arrive by mail as scheduled for reasons unknown. In view of the great interest of Packet Radio to our members, we have decide to take advantage of the delivery failure and feature the video tape on Packet Radio in our program on Friday, September 18. It is a logical follow-on to the August meeting, and undoubtedly will offer an extended discussion of Packet Radio by the Tuscon group who started this whole thing. Will Bryan, WA3UFN, give another on-the-air demonstration?? Come to the meeting and find out.

**\*QCARC\***

## Code and Theory Classes Begin

by Joe Shupienis, WA3IHK

Classes for those interested in obtaining amateur radio licenses will begin on Thursday, September 18 and will meet every Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m. at the DuBois Area Senior High School. These classes will last until 9:00 p.m. each evening, and the course will end in December. If you know of anyone who is interested in entering ham radio, please let them know about the classes. There is no charge for the classes.

## Minutes of the August Meeting

by Bryan Simanic, WA3UFN

The regular meeting of the Quad County Amateur Radio Club was called to order by Pres. WA3IHK.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

**TREASURER REPORT-** The Treasurer gave a summary report of the current balances of the newsletter, repeater and general accounts. There were approximately \$100 in current outstanding bills.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS-** WA3IHK stated that he hoped that the newsletter would be out even earlier than the previous edition. Several members commented favorably on receiving the newsletter earlier. WA3UFN commented that the N.W.S. would be contacted about the Sky Warn program for the area. WA3IHK commented that the members of the Club should make a real effort to have at least Novice code and theory classes in surrounding towns, not just in Du Bois.

**OLD BUSINESS-** None

**NEW BUSINESS-** Reminder that the Club picnic would be Sept. 7. A question was raised about the exam schedule for Du Bois. K3PS commented that it appears that November would be the next time exams would be given. The exam schedule has been compromised because of the lack of certified VE's.

With no further business for the meeting, the membership adjourned for a Packet Radio presentation.

**ATTENDANCE:** (20) WA3UFN, K3WVR, N3DEO, KA3MMM, WB3IQE, KA3OHH, KA3MKY, W8JZZ, WA3GQU, KA3OGC, KA3OGD, WB3HPE, WB3HTY, WA3GNS, WA3IHK, K3PS, WA3LVU, W3FF, W3WM

**\*QCARC\***

## SKY WARN TRAINING MEETING

by Bryan Simanic, WA3UFN

There will be a special Sky Warn training meeting September 22, 1986. This is a Monday evening event that will be slated to begin at 7:00 p.m. The Sky Warn meeting will be held in

Punxsutawney at the Presbyterian church. The speaker for the training meeting will be Roger Stears, from the National Weather Service in Pittsburgh. It would be a good idea to bring along writing materials in order to take a few notes. There probably will not be many, since there will be handouts along with a film or slide presentation.

I feel that this is a very important facet of our amateur radio involvement in public service. It is also a service that the N.W.S. is glad to have during times when severe weather is expected and is occurring.

If you are arriving in Punxsy on US 119 from the north, go past the Groundhog Plaza to the traffic light and proceed straight. The street will turn sharply to the right about 200 ft. past the traffic light, proceed 2 blocks and the church will be on your right. There is a parking lot ahead and to your right across the street. If you are arriving from the south side of Punxsy turn right at the traffic light on 119 in the middle of town (Savings & Trust Bank will be to your left).

**\*QCARC\***

#### Election Notice

by Joe Shupienis, WA3IHK

Election for all QCARC offices will be held at the October meeting. Nominations for office will open at the September meeting, and will remain open until the election in October. Plan on attending.

The September meeting of the Quad County Amateur Radio Club will be held on Friday, September 18 at 7:30 p.m. at the DuBois Area Senior High School. Refreshments will be served and a video presentation is planned. Please plan on attending.

**\*QCARC\***

#### Everything I know about DX - Part 7

by Bob Netzlof, WB3IQE

Since it seems that you can always use the ITU table to figure out what country a station is in, why bother with the DXCC list? Well the "countries" in the DXCC list aren't the same thing as the countries in the ITU table. These days, the term "DX" mingles the ideas of far-away/hard-to-contact/foreign-country. There are five or six rules which more or less define whether a particular piece of ground is DXCC country. I say more or less define, because over the years, various hair-splitters have run the rules into the ground.

By insisting on a very rigid interpretation of the rules, a group of Japanese amateurs got a "place" called Okino-tora-shina declared a DXCC country. The silly thing is that Okinotorashina is a chunk of rock about the size of a one car garage, which sticks out of the water about 2 feet at low tide (and is under water at high tide). However, by the "open water" rule, it is far enough from Japan to count as a separate "country".

A couple of years ago, the DXCC committee announced that henceforth, Okinotorashina was not a DXCC country, and that in the future they were not going to define any place as a country unless people lived there or it seemed likely they could.

But it remains that lots of places that aren't countries in any customary sense are DXCC countries. In the DXCC list, one finds:

G	England
GM	Scotland
GW	Wales
GI	Northern Ireland

Why? Because there are four countries, all of which bear allegiance to a single sovereign (hence the name "The United Kingdom of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland"). But it gets worse. In addition to the four countries above, one finds:

GD	Isle of Man
GU	Guernsey
GJ	Jersey

That's because hundreds of years ago, there were alliances between these odd places and the then King of England, in which the rulers of the places surrendered some, but not all of their powers to the Throne of England, in return for certain protections and benefits offered by said sovereign. Hence they don't have quite the same government as that of the United Kingdom.

For that matter, Alaska (KL7, AL7, NL7, WL7) is a DX "country", distinct from the US of A where we live. So is Hawaii, so is Puerto Rico, so are the US Virgin Islands, so are half a dozen Pacific islands, and so is the Guantanamo Bay Navy Base.

In sum, you need the DXCC list because the ITU table tells you what government issued the license, but doesn't tell you what DXCC country the station is in. You need the ITU table though, because governments can, and do, issue "odd" prefixes which aren't listed in the DXCC list.

**\*QCARC\***

Don't read this if you have a weak heart:  
WA3IHK put a 2-FM 1/4-wave antenna on his car!

## Editorial

by Joe Shupienis, WA3IHK

### Propagating the Species

I touched on this subject at the last meeting, and the enthusiastic discussion that followed indicated the high level of interest in this topic. We are faced with a decline in interest in our hobby, both by ourselves and by those outside our ranks. Certain doomsayers (who shall remain unidentified - after all, they are still recovering from the embarrassment suffered when their WARC '79 predictions of gloom were proven to be 180 degrees out of phase with the eventual reality) have been pointing fingers of blame in every conceivable direction, and have apparently given up hope that ham radio can be saved from extinction.

Baloney! I say, and here is why: I have received numerous inquiries about the upcoming code & theory classes from prospective hams. Recently licensed hams have expressed interest in upgrading both their stations and their licenses. Participation in our local club activities has been steadily improving. I really believe that the doldrums ham radio experienced in the first half of this decade was a temporary phenomenon, caused by such external factors as a troubled economy, manufacturers' interest in computers to the exclusion of all else, and an upswing of other social activities. Now that the economy has stabilized in an upward trend, and people have more time to pursue hobbies, the interest in ham radio is making a natural comeback. Let's not wring our hands about the past, but instead devote our energies to fostering this renewed interest in our hobby.

### Self policing

I always try to look at the positive aspects of any subject, but there are none to this particular topic. I become extremely upset when I even think about it, and I am compelled to take action against those who perpetrate these offenses.

Topic: You cannot legally buy a ham radio amplifier which includes the ten-meter amateur band. Why? Because outlaw, unlicensed radio bootleggers use them on CB, and worse - on frequencies between CB and the ten meter band, and so the FCC punished the innocent (us hams) by making it illegal to manufacture 10 meter amplifiers **or amplifiers that cover 10 meters.**

Not only that, the bootleggers use **amateur radio transceivers** to carry on these illegal operations. In many cases, they have even **purchased equipment from licensed hams!** I

know, because **I have heard the hams saying so on the air!!!**

This is totally disgusting to me. It sickens me to think that I have had privileges taken away from me - even though I obey the laws - because some scofflaws and jerks (those are the **printable** terms) think its fun to operate outside the law. These anal orifices (**you know** what I mean) are ruining ham radio for the rest of us, and we should not tolerate or condone their illegal operations.

If you hear someone blithering about how he works on bands other than those he is legally entitled to use, **record the conversation** and forward it to the FCC. If you know of anyone who is selling amateur equipment to CBers, report him to the FCC. If you have knowledge of anyone selling, manufacturing or modifying illegal amplifiers and rigs for CBers, **report them to the FCC.** By doing nothing, you are helping them commit their crimes.

When someone suffers TVI, the first to be blamed are "ham radios". If the jerks doing and fostering the bootlegging are causing the problem and you are getting the blame, it **IS** your problem, so do something about it now. If the problem persists, what will be the next step? Perhaps the FCC will eliminate the sale of rigs that cover 10 meters at all. Or 15 and 20. What is the next target of the bootleggers? 6 meters has been mentioned. Or 2??? **ACT NOW!**

\*QCARC\*

Special Feature Article  
by Those Who Promised...

Get the message?

\*QCARC\*

Shorts

by Joe Shupienis, WA3IHK

It's now mid-September. Do you know how your antenna is? Before the snow flies (K3X's "Hard antenna" theory notwithstanding) it's a good idea to check the ol' antenna system and make sure it will withstand the rigors of the upcoming season. Check support structures and ropes for wire antennas, check the tape on coax fittings, and inspect towers and beams for loose hardware and missing pieces. (So **that's** why the SWR is 27.185 to 1!) Might not be a bad idea to winterize the shack, too. Plug that hole; fix that broken window...

\*QCARC\*

The QCARC annual Fall Picnic was a big success. Held on September 7, many local hams and their families enjoyed the outdoor feast at WA3GMT's QTH. Between bites, K3PS and WA3IHK both demonstrated their expertise at frisbee throwing to the throng's delight (\$&#!@% tree).

\*QCARC\*

WA3GMT has added a new ICOM HF rig to his well-equipped shack. Rig looks and sounds really nice. And wow! The features!!!

\*QCARC\*

WPXZ-FM in Punxsutawney is now broadcasting in stereo, thanks to the efforts of WA3IHK and KA3OHH. As you may recall, Ron Drummond, W3FF was Chief Engineer there for many years before retiring.

\*QCARC\*

Don't forget that Code and Theory classes are starting on Thursday, September 18 at 7:00 p.m. at the DuBois Senior High School.

\*QCARC\*

Periodically, non-denominational memorial services are held in the chapel of the DuBois Regional Medical Center -- West (formerly DuBois Hospital) for patients who have passed away. As you all know, Jim Albert, K3TFL passed away in July at DRMC. The memorial service for Jim will be held on Wednesday, September 24 at 7 PM. Please understand that this is a combined memorial service for many people, but it would nevertheless be a nice gesture in Jim's memory if his fellow hams would attend. Please give it some serious consideration. - K3PS

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The Parasitic Emission  
Newsletter of the  
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