



The Parasitic Emission



Volume 14, Number 12

Merry Christmas to All

December 1986

Meeting Notice

by Joe Shupienis, WA3IHK

The December meeting of the Quad County Amateur Radio Club will be held on Friday, December 19, 1986, at the DuBois Area Senior High School, Orient Avenue and Division Street, in DuBois. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. Please plan on attending.

QCARC

Minutes of the November Meeting

by Bryan Simanic, WA3UFN

The regular meeting of the Quad County Amateur Radio Club was called to order Nov. 21, 1986 by Pres. WB3IQE.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

TREASURER REPORT- None available. WB3IQE reminded the members that dues are due and payable for next year.

OLD BUSINESS- None

NEW BUSINESS- Pres. WB3IQE asked the members if they would think about what they wanted the Club to consider doing during the upcoming year. Comments can be sent to the Club PO box or voiced at the meeting. With the resignation of the current newsletter editor there was discussion on how to get the newsletter job taken care of. A motion that the Club send a letter of thanks to WA3IHK for his years as newsletter editor was made by WA3JOI seconded by W3WM, motion carried. The secretary was instructed to send a letter of thanks to WA3IHK for the many years he put in as newsletter editor. After discussion on how to handle the editing of the newsletter Ray Meholic volunteered to do the typing of articles that are mailed to the PO box. All articles that are to be entered into the newsletter should be sent to the Club PO box, to Ray's attention as early as possible. WA3UFN commented that a letter had been sent to the ARRL in reference to the article in the first September edition of TIME magazine. W3WM commented on the new ARRL publication, "FIELD RESOURCES

DIRECTORY".

With no further business for the meeting the members adjourned for a program on Shortwave Listening by Bob Thunberg, N3DIR.

ATTENDANCE: (14) WB3IQE, WA3UFN, N3DIR, W3WM, WA3JOI, KA3FHV, KA3DWR, KA30GC, KA30GD, K3LIX, NA3Y, KA30HH, R. Menolick, P. Phillips.

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W3USS Special Event Station

by Paul Silinsky, K3PS

The Capitol Hill Amateur Radio Society, whose club station, W3USS, is in the US Senate Russell Long office building, will commemorate the 100th convening of Congress with a special-event operation. The station will operate continuously from Saturday January 3, 1400 UTC until Sunday, January 4 at 2300 UTC. Look for W3USS on SSB on 3825, 7220, 14240, and 21300 kHz, and on CW 30 kHz above the bottom of the 80-through 15-meter bands. (From "The ARRL Letter" vol. 5, no. 23)

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Editorial

by Joe Shupienis, WA3IHK

This is the last editorial I will ever write as Editor of the Parasitic Emission. It is with some sadness and regret that I write these words, but circumstances make it impossible for me to continue in the capacity of Editor of this newsletter. I would like to thank all of you for your support and encouragement through the years - the kind words of friends are not soon forgotten. In April 1975, I wrote the first Parasitic Emission, and since then, I have edited more than 100 issues of this newsletter. It has always been a struggle to try to bring you the very best club newsletter each month - one that is filled with items of local interest, written by local hams, and not - as many other newsletters -

stuffed with excerpts from other magazines and bulletins that take up space but provide little of real interest.

Through the intervening years, I have documented in these pages the ebb and flow of the club's activities. I have used these pages as a vehicle to stimulate interest and activity by the membership. Many announcements have appeared herein, and as such have caused local hams to participate in activities they otherwise would not have. So often in the past, a local ham would gain interest in another aspect of our hobby as a direct result of reading about it in the pages of this newsletter.

I have for the most part enjoyed bringing you this newsletter each month. Unfortunately, I can no longer continue. I have come to a point in my life and career where the time I could invest in editing this newsletter is no longer available and must be dedicated instead to my personal and professional life. I have reached this decision after months of soul-searching and attempts to free up the time for the QCARC, which I founded, and which means so much to me. However, the reality of my current situation is such that I am no longer able nor available to be of any further service to the club. Thus, I have refused election to any club office, and I am permanently resigning as editor of the newsletter, effective December 31, 1986.

I cannot overstate my sincere thanks to all of you who offered your help and genuine encouragement and support to this great undertaking. I could not have done it without you. Special thanks to the people at Gnomon Copy of State College, who for years printed the newsletter on a moment's notice without a single complaint. And more recently, thanks to the staff and management of Business Machine Products in DuBois who have put forth yeoman effort in copying the newsletter.

Many, many thanks to all of you who have contributed articles for the newsletter. You have made it well worth reading. Thanks to WA3UFN, K3PS, WB3IQE, WA3GNS, KA3MYQ, WB3HPE, KA3MUJ, KA3MKY, KA3OHH, WB3ERA, WB3IQD, WA3GQU, WA3UKE, WB3BQ0, W3WM, "K3X" and many more. And of course, no one can forget the immeasurable contributions of Jim Albert, K3TFL and Gary Boucher, W3GNR, both who tragically became Silent Keys this past year.

I will miss all of you, and sincerely

hope that the efforts I have put into building and rebuilding the club will not prove to have been wasted. Please pick up the ball and run with it. I'm wishing you all the best. The most sincere 73, Joe

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Club Program Information

by Art Kunst, W3WM

Just in time for the Christmas Holiday, our December 19 program will present a video film cassette entitled "SAREX: Shuttle Amateur Radio Experiment. This is the very latest report of ham radio in space and was commissioned by the ARRL. Our club has been fortunate to see the earlier video film reports, and our members have enjoyed them greatly. So this program looks like another winner that is bound to appeal to technical and non-technical people. Being the Christmas season, why not bring along a friend, a spouse [If you have more than one spouse, you must select -Ed.] or anyone you might wish to impress with Ham Radio. Remember - the time is 7:30 p.m. on Friday, December 19 at the DuBois, Area Senior High School.

In January at our next program [...and hopefully meeting -Ed.] I am happy to confirm that we will present a very special video cassette by Harry Mack, SVODL/WA3UGW of his Mediterranean Adventures. This is possible only by the cooperation of our near sister [not to be confused with weak sister -Ed.] club The Indiana County Amateur Radio Club. Seeing this program might be the closest thing to southern sunfilled warm winter vacation. In closing I wish to congratulate our own club member Bob Thunberg N3DIR for the very excellent and interesting program The World of Short Wave Listening. Bob spent much time preparing his presentation and gave each attendee [sic] a personal short wave listener portfolio including an engraved pen! By the end of the program we all knew and agreed that Bob is a real professional in the special hobby of short wave listening. Did you know that Bob had to re-arrange [sic] his work schedule to be with us? Thanks, Bob, for all your efforts to provide a quality program to your fellow club members at the November meeting.

Merry Christmas and may all our members be granted a Happy New Year! 73 es SK.

Shorts

by Joe Shupienis, WA3IHK

Congratulations to those who upgraded at the recent VEC exams held in DuBois.

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Happy Birthday to K3HWJ.

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WA3UFN and K3PS recently purchased the big, 27 inch Heathkit Color TV kits. UFN has his built and working, and really is pleased. PS on the other hand - who as you recall "builds no kit before its time" - is reportedly aging his...

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Santa Claus came early to KA3OGQ, and brought her a brand new Kenwood TM2550 as a congratulatory prize for upgrading to Technician.

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Remember the on-again, off-again .97 McKeesport repeater? Now it's gone-again and on again - this time in Armstrong County near Apollo. Coverage up this way is pretty reasonable, so you can give it a try on 146.37/.97.

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Wanted - TRS-80 Model 1 or III with Disk System. Price must be right! Contact WA3IHK.

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Help Wanted - Part time computer programmer. Must be able to work independently to develop data processing systems in ANSI-COBOL and/or Structured ANSI-BASIC. Ideally will own a microcomputer which operates with MS-DOS or CP/M-80, and will have extensive background and experience in all phases of business accounting procedures and programming practices. Documented experience with Graphics and Windows as implemented in Microsoft GW-BASIC a plus. Pay commensurate with proficiency. Contact Joe, WA3IHK at (814) 371-3725, anytime.

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Reflections

by Joe Shupienis, WA3IHK

Once again the end of another year is rapidly coming upon us. As always, I would like to take this space one final time to reflect on the year gone by, and share some of my observations with you.

Twenty years ago, amateur radio was to me a fascinating hobby. In some ways, it still is. This year has seen some new faces, and the sad passing of familiar ones. No one will ever forget the contributions Jim Albert, K3TFL and Gary Boucher, W3GNN have made to amateur radio in the DuBois area. Jim taught many of us the code and theory, and was of immense support to most of us throughout our ham careers. Gary was the organizer of many operating events, and his avid interest and competitiveness in ham contests is the stuff legends are made of.

Both of these hams shaped my participation in ham radio, and I am sure that nearly every other active ham in our area has had his or her life touched by these fine friends. Each year there are many Silent Keys, but none are so sorely missed as those who were active and so much alive to their friends.

Looking back at my log book (Yes, I still keep one - old habits are hard to break), I find that I made only 3 HF contacts all year. In fact, the HF rig was unplugged for Field Day, and never put back on the air since! I think maybe tonight, I'll go fire it up and get some return on that \$1,000 investment. How about you?

As a VE, I helped conduct license examinations, and I was happy to see many of you upgrade. To those who "just missed", better luck next time. I know you'll make it!

Each year, it seems that I see fewer and fewer of the friends of days gone by. Field Day used to be a time to see folks from all over, but each year the ranks seem to get thinner and thinner. It could be that everybody else is busy, too. But I think not. Where have all the good old guys gone that used to talk on the repeater all the time? I really haven't seen or heard from folks like WA3BUX, and K3QEQ, and WA3UKE, and W3IE, W3KQR, W3QKP, W3QIV, and the list goes on and on and on... These are people who used to be pillars of the QCARC. Where have they gone? Has our hobby become boring?

Maybe the magic has worn off. But I don't think so. Why is it that everyone has suddenly "lost interest"? All at once. It has been this way for about four years, now. What happened in 1983?

Well there are a lot of answers, and yet, no answers. I guess that we will just have to do one of two things: A. Carry on with business as usual and try like bandits to perk things up, or B. Give up. I've subscribed to Plan A for most of my life, but you know, I think I have reached the point where Plan B looks mighty inviting.

Just a thought - if Plan B looks good to me, how many thousands of other hams across the country and around the world feel the same way? If activity falls off, where does that leave the rest of us? Probably out in the cold.

Rather than knock something I haven't tried, maybe I should follow Plan B. So far, I've written my last newsletter, so in the future: I'll attend my last meeting, go to my last Field Day, visit my last hamfest, check into my last net, give my last exam, teach my last class, make my

last QSO, and finally, breathe my last breath. That's right! That's where it leads. Plan B is a death sentence. Is that where you are heading? Every time you quit doing something - especially something which has brought you pleasure - you take one more step toward the grave. The secret of staying young is no secret at all: Stay Active.

So how about it? Let's do something that just might be fun. After the net on Sunday, December 28, let's have a "Christmas Party" on the air with a big roundtable for all of you "youngsters" who we haven't heard from in a while. Just check in with your season's greetings to all your fellow hams, and hear some old friends you have missed for some time. You don't even have to leave the house, or drive long miles or anything like that. Just do what you got your license for in the first place - talk to your friends on the radio! See you there: 147.39 repeater on Sunday, December 21, 1986 immediately following the 7:00 p.m. net.

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The Parasitic Emission
Newsletter of the
Quad County Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 352
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FIRST CLASS MAIL



Member:

73 BRYAN
[Handwritten signature]



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WA3UFN