

The Parasitic Emission

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Spring (???) Issue

March 1984

Meeting Notice

by Art Kunst, W3WM

Program for QCARC Meeting 7:30pm March 16, 1984

The March meeting of the Quad County Amateur Radio Club will be held on Friday, March 16, 1984 at the Unilec Building, near the DuBois Sheraton Inn, Route 255 and I-80, north of DuBois.

In this part of the world, in the last weeks of winter, we all are looking for the first signs of spring -- the first robins or the first crocuses. For the radio hams, the first stirrings of spring are accompanied by an early interest in hamfests. Paul Cain, WB3DDA already has a bad case of hamfest fever based on his comments on the DuBois repeater several days ago. Well -- the daddy hamfest of them all is the Dayton Hamfest, and it is only a little over a month away. Many of us have visited this monstrosity and it is always exciting and fascinating.

To get QCARC members quickly in the right spring mood, I am pleased to announce that we are most fortunate in offering as our program a slide collection on the Dayton Hamvention with taped commentary. This ought to be real fun for all of us as it will provide provide an amusing look at the activities at this biggest-in-the-world hamfest. If you have attended this hamfest, then you will enjoy comparing notes. If you have never attended the Dayton Hamfest, then you will find out what all the fuss is about. This program promises to be light and funny, and provide a real lift to the amateur spirit. Bring the XYL/YL so that she can understand your interest in hamfests! This program is a must for dedicated hamfesters. See you at the hamfest!

QCARC

FEB

Minutes for January 1984

by Bryan Simanic, WA3UFN

The regular meeting of the QCARC was called to order February 17, 1984 by past President WA3IHK.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS The latest code classes have been completed, all three students passed the Novice exams.

W3WM commended WA3IHK on his successful Novice classes.

Newsletter editor WA3IHK reported that two pages were accidentally left out of the recent issue and will be in the next edition.

OLD BUSINESS Elections of officers: Due to the lack of interest in the Club, and therefore lack of nominations, elections were postponed again. W3WM expressed an opinion that we want to keep in mind, that good dedicated individuals should be nominated for the club offices and that the job of running the club should not rest upon just a few people. Motion by W3WM seconded by WB3IQE, that WA3IHK be acting President, K3PS and WA3UFN remain in their positions as Treasurer and Secretary respectively, until elections are held. Motion CARRIED

TREASURER'S REPORT Last year's financial report will be out for the next meeting. The club roster has been updated, if you are not up to date with your dues, your name will not be on the new list and you will not be receiving future issues of the newsletter. Question about family membership was raised. The treasurer stated that there was no written policy, if all family members wanted to receive the newsletter all would have to pay the full price, but if only one newsletter would be sent to a QTH with more than one club member the additional members would only have to pay three dollars dues.

(continued next page)

NEW BUSINESS ARRL Volunteer Examiner applications have been received by several club members. This is a petition type application in that signatures are needed to affirm that the information on the application is true, complete and correct. If someone would request your signature, your cooperation in this important program would be greatly appreciated.

The April meeting will be held at the banquet as it has been in recent years. If you plan to attend, please have your reservations in as soon as possible. The banquet is being planned as a buffet style as usual and we have to guarantee a minimum number for the buffet.

A new code class is planned to begin in early March, probably on Wednesday evenings, 7:00 to 9:00. Info on this new class will be in the newsletter and on the FM Net when all is finalized.

Motion to adjourn by WB3IQE seconded by K3PS, carried. The meeting adjourned for the special program on M.A.R.S.

ATTENDANCE KA3FAR, WA3BUX, WA3IHK, WA3GNS, KA3FHV, K3PS, WB3IQE, WA3GQU, WA3JOI, WA3UFN, W3WM, KA3JGN, KA3FAP, K3VQI, WA3IFC, WA3NTL and several newly licensed and associate members.

QCARC

QCARC BANQUET
de W3WM

The Special Plans Committee is active already to make the dinner the club social highlight of the year. Every effort will be taken to secure the largest attendance ever from the quad-county area. This is the time to bring along the YL/XYL and show her that hams can be sociable also. The dinner will be Litts Club buffet style, and of course preceded by an attitude adjustment hour.

The Club is fortunate indeed to have for its principal speaker, Hugh Turnbull W3ABC, Director, Atlantic Division American Radio Relay League. He will be driving up from Maryland to be with us. Hugh will update the audience on the many happenings in the world of Amateur Radio. He is a prince of a person who will be happy to eyeball with you, and talk ham radio.

Although the finances of the club and the low cost of the tickets restrict the magnitude of our prizes, we plan to offer several worthwhile items. More on this later.

Right now we need our members to make their personal plans to attend, and talk it up. You will be contacted later for your commitment.

Last but not least, we will award for the first time, a plaque to recognize the QCARC Ham of the Year. If you have a recommendation please let me know and I will pass it to the selection committee.

So, please, reserve April 14 on your calendar and plan to attend your club's gala dinner event.

QCARC

Afterthoughts on Last Month's MARS Programs
by W3WM

We were fortunate to have before us members of Army, Navy, and Air Force MARS (Military Affiliate Radio System). To my knowledge a club meeting of this calibre is only available at the largest Hamfests. Two of the presenters came from State College and are members of the Nittany Amateur Radio Club -- Luther Bissey WA3IFC and Paul Cowen K3VQI. The third member representing Navy MARS was Boyd Paul from Snowshoe. Most of us didn't know that Boyd is a member of QCARC and operates an important station in the Navy MARS communication system. Boyd was a last minute substitute for Joyce Dover WB3ECT/NNORMO of Montoursville. We learned that Boyd headed the Navy MARS in Western Pennsylvania for many years. From a description of his heavy operating activities for MARS, we could understand why this was the first QCARC meeting he has attended!

Each of the MARS speakers gave us a good understanding of his system, its operator requirements, and the differences between each service. My observation is that each service MARS is more alike than different. At the conclusion of the formal presentation we had a very energetic question period which indicated considerable interest by our audience. Fact sheets and write-ups on each MARS was provided by each representative.

Three principal requirements which each candidate for MARS should be willing to accept are: 1) commit a few hours a week to the service, 2) take pride in being of service to others, and 3) don't consider formal communications a constraint on freedom of speech. So if any of our members want to serve their country in a practical, tangible manner by phone patching calls from servicemen overseas to their families, delivering countless 'grams, and serving as a practical emergency back up for the military communication system, then I urge you to contact personally the MARS organization of your choice. Follow the instructions given at the meeting or contact the following MARS speakers:

NAVY

Boyd Paul WA3NTL/NNOEDF
Snowshoe 814-237-4825

AIR FORCE

Luther Bissey WA3IFC/AFA1DC
State College 814-237-4825

ARMY

Paul Cowen K3VQI/AAR3JC
State College 814-238-3891

There is a recognized MARS station void in this area which could be relieved by a volunteer communicator for Army, Navy, and Air Force MARS.

QCARC

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Yes, Virginia. It's that time again. It's Novice class time. The next QCARC sponsored Novice code and theory class will start on March 14, 1984. It will meet from 7 to 9 PM every Wednesday for ten weeks. The class meets in the DuBois Area Senior High School. There is no charge for the course but students will be expected to beg, borrow, buy, or steal the book that will be used.

Instructors are K3PS, WA3IHK, and WA3UFN. The class will be limited in size so advance registration is almost a necessity. If you know of any aspiring (and hopefully aspirating) Novices, send them our way on March 14.

-K3PS

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BANQUET
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No, it's not a Christmas Banquet; but it is the annual QCARC Banquet for 1984! Don't miss it!

It's April 14, 1984 at the Lithuanian Club in DuBois. The Festivities start at 6 PM with Happy Hour (cash bar). Dinner is at 7 PM and is buffet style. The menu includes roast beef and ham, scalloped potatoes, green beans, and many more goodies. The cost is \$8.00 per person -- not bad since the last several years were \$7.50 without the roast beef (it costs us \$.50 more).

Following dinner we are pleased to announce a REAL guest speaker, Hugh Turnbull, W3ABC. Hugh is from College Park MD and is the Atlantic Division Director (no menial position) of the ARRL.

This banquet is open to all interested persons, hams or not, members or not. Come on out for an evening of ham radio fraternity good fun.

Reservations ASAP to K3PS
(PLEASE!!!!!!).

QCARC

REPEEETER DOOOSE
AR D000

Yes, they are. Repeater dues for 1984 are due. They're \$10. The dues pay the electric bill for the repeater and the lease on the repeater site. We need 35 dues paying members each year to stay in the black. Pay your dues now!! And, please note that the repeater dues are NOT the same as dues for the Quad County ARC (\$6 or \$3). The repeater is operated from a different account.

This year there WILL be an autopatch. It is being tested now and will be on the repeater when testing is finished.

No payee, no patchee! If you don't pay repeater dues for 1984, you can forget using the autopatch. It is an extra for Autopatch Members of the Quad County FM Association only. (There will be additional dues for autopatch membership. You wouldn't believe what the phone company charges to install a new phone these days!)

The entire repeater installation --autopatch included-- has cost some people a bundle of cash over the years. It's all available to you. Send your dues now for 1984 to:

Quad County FM Association
PO Box 352
DuBois, PA 15801

AMATEUR RADIO SCHOLARSHIPS

THE FOUNDATION FOR AMATEUR RADIO, INC., a non-profit organization with Headquarters in Washington, D.C. plans to award fifteen (15) scholarships for the academic year 1984-85. The Foundation composed of fifty local area amateur radio clubs, fully funds two of these scholarships from the proceeds of its annual Hamfest. It administers without cost to the donors, three scholarships for the Quarter Century Wireless Association, two for the Dade (FL) Radio Club and one each for the Radio Club of America, the Richard G. Chichester Memorial, the Young Ladies' Radio League, the Edmund B. Redington Memorial, the Amateur Radio News Service, the Columbia (MD) Amateur Radio Association, the Baltimore (MD) Amateur Radio Club and the Lewis G. Wilkinson Memorial.

Licensed Radio Amateurs may compete for one or more of these awards if they plan to pursue a full-time course of studies beyond high school and are enrolled or have been accepted for enrollment in an accredited university, college or technical school. Most of the scholarships require the applicant to hold at least an FCC General Class license or equivalent. The scholarship awards range from \$350 to \$900 with preference given in some cases to residents of specified geographical areas or the pursuit of certain study programs.

Additional information and an application form can be requested by a letter or QSL/postcard, postmarked prior to May 31, 1984 from:

FAR Scholarships
6903 Rhode Island Avenue
College Park, MD 20740

The foundation is devoted exclusively to promoting the interests of Amateur Radio and to those scientific, literary and educational pursuits that advance the purposes of the Amateur Radio Service.

*** EDITOR'S NOTE: The following article was submitted well in advance of last month's deadline. It was typed and ready to go a week before press time. Then I forgot to print it. My sincere apologies to Art, W3WM; and to our readers for this unfortunate oversight on my part.

Traveling with W3WM

by Art Kunst, W3WM

In a previous article, on this subject, I stated that I would relate my experiences and observation as a radio amateur while visiting the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, and Israel. This visit took place last October at the time of the Beirut Marine bombing, and the Grenada invasion.

Because of the political sensitivity of the Middle East, I decided against taking along any ham gear. However, I did bring my ham license in case an opportunity developed unexpectedly. I also copied the list of licensed hams in both countries from the Callbook with the hope that I might visit with a local ham.

My wife and I left DuBois by auto for the JFK airport on Long Island. With my 2 meter mobile unit, it was fun to work the repeaters along the way. East of Harrisburg, I became acquainted with the newest 2 meter repeater wrinkle; i.e. ability to translate to 10 meter FM and work international DX. Sure is a very interesting innovation! I noted that the DuBois repeater is out of reach around Snowshoe on I-80. Contrarywise, the Blue Knob repeater demonstrates its outreach by being available for service almost to Harrisburg.

Once we entered New Jersey at the Delaware Water Gap, we became aware of a much larger number of repeater stations. Of course, the number seemed to multiply once we came into working distance of stations in the New York City metropolitan area.

We were assisted very nicely in the amateur tradition by local hams in getting us through the heavy evening traffic. It saved us time and frustration, and gave us safety.

We were introduced to one of the banes of big city life. We found that many of the repeater frequencies were haunted by deliberate interference. The usual am-

ateur response was to ignore it or move to another repeater frequency and hope that the interferer would not follow.

We left JFK airport at about 10:00 p.m. aboard a Boeing 747 of the Royal Jordanian Airline. After some eight hours of flight, we landed in Vienna, Austria for fuel. We left in two hours and flew over the Balkans, Turkey, Syria and finally the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. We landed at sundown at the very new Queen Airport, some twenty miles outside of the capital, Amman.

As every DXer knows, Jordan is JY land and one of the most popular DX countries in the world. Although the Callbook lists about 100 JY hams, the fact is that very few are on the air. Also every ham in the world knows that one of the most prestigious world amateurs is JY1, his Royal Highness King Hussein.

The next several days were spent in sightseeing in and around the capital city of Amman. It is a beehive of construction because most of the West Bank Palestinian refugees have settled there. In fifteen years time, the city has grown from 20,000 population to a half million people!

Because the city sits at the edge of the desert, the days are very clear. Also, few buildings are high-rise, so it is possible to see far in any direction and spot any ham-type antenna. Most of the listed amateurs in the Callbook are located in Amman, but the addresses are always box numbers without street identification. In traveling about the area, I saw numerous triband Yagi antennas which probably were locations of amateurs. Unfortunately, I was part of a tour and unable to stop and visit.

On another occasion, we drove around the Royal Palace, and sure enough, I quickly spotted the King's multi-band Yagi high frequency antenna. It was perched atop a standard amateur type tower of some estimated 70 feet in height. The palace is on a high location overlooking the city of Amman.

In our modern hotel, called "The New Jerusalem Hotel", we had a color TV set made in Europe with excellent PAL (editor's note: Phase Alternate Line color sync) definition. We quickly learned that the English news was broadcast nightly at 10:00 p.m. with complete coverage of local and world-wide events. During the course of the evening, many US and French programs are rebroadcast on this only station in Amman. A good number of the people are

multilingual. On another day, I found the head end for the satellite reception at the Royal Military Academy just outside Amman.

Two weeks later, I was returning from Amman, and met a Jordanian on the plane who was acquainted with the ham radio situation in Jordan. He was interested in ham radio, but felt that it was too risky politically to be licensed. Amateurs are subject to much scrutiny and observation, he said. I showed him the Callbook list of JY amateurs and I was surprised that he could identify a large number. He said that licenses issued from JY1 through JY4 were to family members, and to various government officials like prime ministers past and present. Most of these persons have no idea what ham radio is, and of course, do not operate. Schools are licensed as JY6, and do operate occasionally. I worked one of these some years ago but could not get a QSL. Foreign amateurs are licensed as JY8 and JY9, but these are usually short term licenses. My only confirmed JY QSO is with JY5KC.

Next time, I will report on my ham radio observations in Israel.

QCARC

Challenges in 1984 for the Quad County Amateur Radio Club and Its Members
by Art Kunst, W3WM

I was one of the members of the Club's Steering Committee which met on December 4, 1983 for the purpose of analyzing the Club's activity and recommending changes for improvement. This matter was well presented at the December meeting by Joe, WA3IHK, but unfortunately did not provoke much discussion by the membership. One of the observations was that the club more active and successful when the club was involved in a project of general interest to most members. I would like to use this observation as a springboard to recommend the following activities to generate enthusiasm by our members.

New Novice Class starting soon and using the successful multiple instructor concept of the Nittany Amateur Radio Club. Instead of one person with all the responsibility, we could involve at least a dozen of our members and distribute the load accordingly. The NARC curriculum is on hand, also. I have three interested aspiring NOVICES.

Help a Cerebral Palsy Person Obtain a License. I know of such a person in the DuBois area who has this interest, and who has a modest electronic background. He is now on CB. The project of getting this person licensed would be a real challenge to all, and require some of our best smarts to solve the variety of problems involved. It ought to be very satisfying, also.

Provide an Amateur Radio Demonstration in the DuBois Mall. This would be a real bell-ringer which would expose amateur radio to thousands of persons on one shopping weekend. To be successful, it would require careful planning, and contributions from most members. Based on a successful demonstration, we should be prepared to follow immediately with a NOVICE license class. A guide from the League is on hand to provide a blueprint of action.

The VHF Contests, Field Day, and ARES are also important activities which have supporters and weld the club members together.

Anyone else with ideas? Let your views be known to other club members.

QCARC

The Parasitic Emission
C/O QCARC
Post Office Box 352
DuBois, PA 15801

Pres.: Joe Shupienis, WA3IHK (acting)

Secy.: B.J.Simanic, WA3UFN
Trea.: P.S.Silinsky, K3PS



American Radio Relay League
Affiliated Club

Things You Gotta Watch by WB3IQE

Foreign Languages If you speak Yorick's language, fine. He will be pleased to hear you do it, assuming you do it reasonably well. I once received a note from a French GI, thanking me for taking the trouble to speak to him in French. (That he was stationed in Germany at the time, and may have been more than a little home-sick may have had a lot to do with it.)

On the other hand, I once dropped 4 of my 7 words of Portugese into a QSO with somebody in Lisbon, and he turned around and addressed me for 5 minutes in Portugese. Few things are as disheartening as copying 5 minutes of CW that you can't read when you're done. Worse, what do you say when it's your turn again?

If you're bound and determined to use foreign languages, be sure you know how to say "I speak only the words written on this little card here".

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

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WA3UFN