



MANCORAD BANQUET—Members of the Manitowoc County Amateur Radio Club (Mancorad) met recently for an annual spring banquet in Muench Hall at Alverno, Manitowoc County. Standing from left are Leonard Johanek, K9EOS, Mancorad president; Ronald Wernecke, K9DUZ, operations manager, and Donald Schu-

macher, K9CPY, secretary treasurer. Seated from left are Charles Scholten, W9BZU, and John Doyle of Milwaukee, W9GPI, central division director of the American Radio Relay League. Scholten was cited for his 35 years of membership with the A. R. R. L.

Plunge From Antenna Tower Kills Teacher

Paul F. Larsen, Amateur Radio Operator, Victim

MANITOWOC — Paul F. Larsen, 40, amateur radio operator, was killed Saturday morning in a 65-foot plunge from an antenna tower at his home, Rt. 4, Manitowoc.

Larsen, ninth grade instructor at Washington Junior High School, had gone aloft to effect repairs on the tower about 10 a.m. and it was theorized he fell either as he reached the antenna or as he was about to descend.

Wore Safety Belt

He wore a safety belt but it was not attached to the tower. Dr. Theodore Teitgen, Manitowoc County coroner, said it is thought he plunged from the top of the tower as his body wrenched loose one of the uppermost guy wires. The tower was attached to the rear of his garage on property east of Alverno on a town road.

Dr. H. E. Schaefer was called and massaged Larsen's heart in an effort to revive him. Manitowoc County Traffic Dept. was notified at 10:09 a.m. Dr. Teitgen said death apparently was instantaneous.

Larsen was a graduate of Lincoln High School and Stout State College, Menomonie. He had a Masters degree in science from the state institution and had, for a number of years, been engaged in radio operation. As a "ham," he had call letters K9ZKB and was a member of DX Century Club, an exclusive organization for amateur radio operators.

Served in China

He served with the armed forces during World War II and two of his years with the military were in China. He was with the Signal Corps.

Larsen is survived by his wife, the former Annabella Hart, and two children.

Funeral services are tentatively set for 2 p.m. Tuesday at First Presbyterian Church, Manitowoc, with the Rev. Gervase Zanotti officiating. Complete arrangements will be announced Monday by the Mitnacht Funeral Home, Manitowoc.



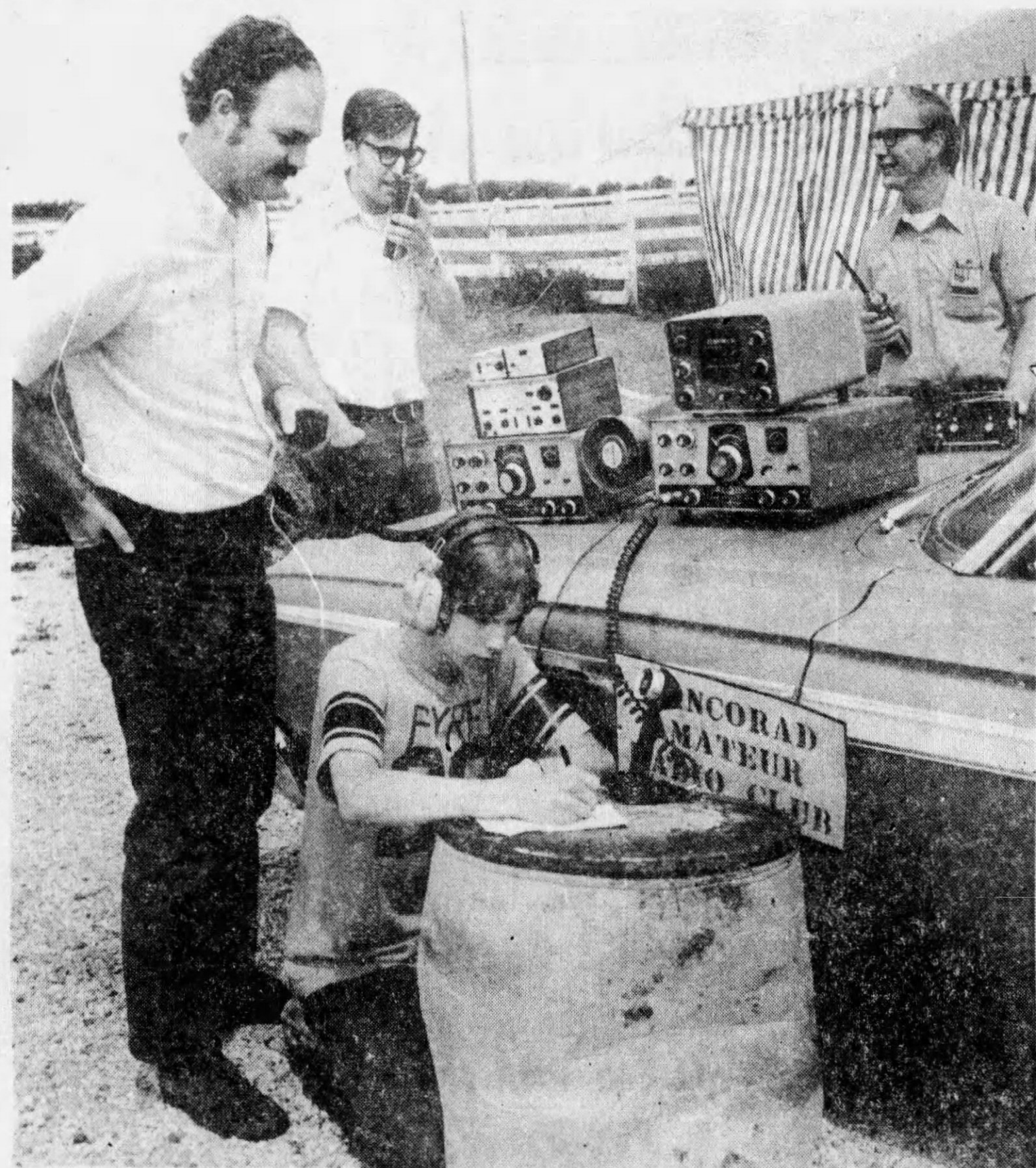
POWER PACK — Two members of The Manitowoc County Radio Club (ManCoRad) start a portable power generator used in emergency operations of radio amateurs in the county. County radio "hams" participated in a nation-

wide contest over the weekend which showed their operating skill, stamina and emergency preparedness. From left are James Wenzel and Clarence Meneau, call letters K9WIX. (Photo by staff photographer)



RADIO TESTS—Manitowoc County Radio Club members participated over the weekend, in a contest of skill, stamina and emergency preparedness in competition with other radio amateurs throughout the United States. The exercise was conducted at the Donald Pieschel

home near Shoto. From left are Pieschel, call letters K9TIO; Emmett Bubb, K92MQ, and Leonard Johaneck, K9EOS. Operators in the county were on the air continuously from 3 p.m. Saturday to 3 p.m. Sunday. (Photo by staff photographer)



CLUB RALLY — Members of the Mancorad Amateur Radio Club of Manitowoc held a rally from Saturday noon until Sunday noon at the Manitowoc County Expo site to test their skills in the case of an emergency. From left, -

Mark Scheuer, Club President Gene Buesing, Vice President Larry Steeno and John Glaeser, try to make contact with other amateur radio operators. (Photo by staff photographer)

Ham radio operators have way of getting around world

By JACQUE DICKENSHIED
Community Scene Editor

Ham radio operators aren't omnipresent, but they do have a way of getting around.

"The whole world is theirs," Jim Hinstorff, president of MANCORAD (Manitowoc County Radio Amateur Radio Club), said.

Jim was referring to the cross-country and international messages that are possible for the operators to send and receive.

Their around-the-world communication however, is a "cyclical thing." It "changes with sun spot activity," Jim explained.

Jim has had the hobby for a long time and he can recall reaching such distant shores as the coast of Africa, South America, an island off the Pacific and the Aleutians.

When only a high schooler he was in contact with a hospital in Nicaragua that was having a problem with a light on an operating table it had purchased in the U.S.

By running a "phone patch" he was able to connect it with Wisconsin General Hospital from which instructions on installation of the light were received.

"Ham radio is the king of hobbies."

Another time Jim talked to a man in Michigan who had lost his wallet. He asked him where he had last been, then through another phone patch, called the site and located the missing item.

There was also the time he spoke to a missionary in the Yucatan Peninsula, and through the phone patch arrangement, connected him with his family in Texas.

"There's a lot of personal satisfaction in being a ham radio operator," the club's president said. "You're not just passively sitting there and watching the 'tube' doing its thing. There's a whole pile more of adventure in being a ham radio operator."

Jim says ham radio is the "pioneer of radio and TV."

MANCORAD has reached maturity, too. The local organization is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year. Meetings take place at 8 p.m. the third Wednesday of the month at the Manitowoc Red Cross Building.

Members gather to keep abreast of changes in Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regulations and to receive an update on the latest equipment and operating techniques.

There are also films on radio communications and guest speakers with such topics as emergency situations and severe weather. The group also has one of its meetings at the Civil Defense Command Center at Manitowoc.

Actually, "the bent of MANCORAD is disaster communications," Jim pointed out.

Affiliated with the American Red Cross and "tied through direct radio communication" with it, as well as with Civil Defense and the Search and Rescue Team, MANCORAD "becomes the arms, legs and eyes of civil authorities in emergency situations," the organization's president said.

Club members are issued Red Cross cards that "get them into the disaster scene."

"There are no restrictions for becoming a ham radio operator."

The Emergency Corps section of the club is routinely involved in "SET" — simulated emergency tests which are part of national exercises.

SET "scenarios" are drawn up on a city or county-wide basis, and in a recent mock disaster concerning Cleveland, the club worked with Red Cross personnel at Sheboygan as well.

The organization also sets up stations, working hand-in-hand with other groups, during mock disasters sponsored by Two Rivers Community Hospital.

During "emergencies," members use a "repeater station" through which they can communicate at greater distances and can also make phone calls.

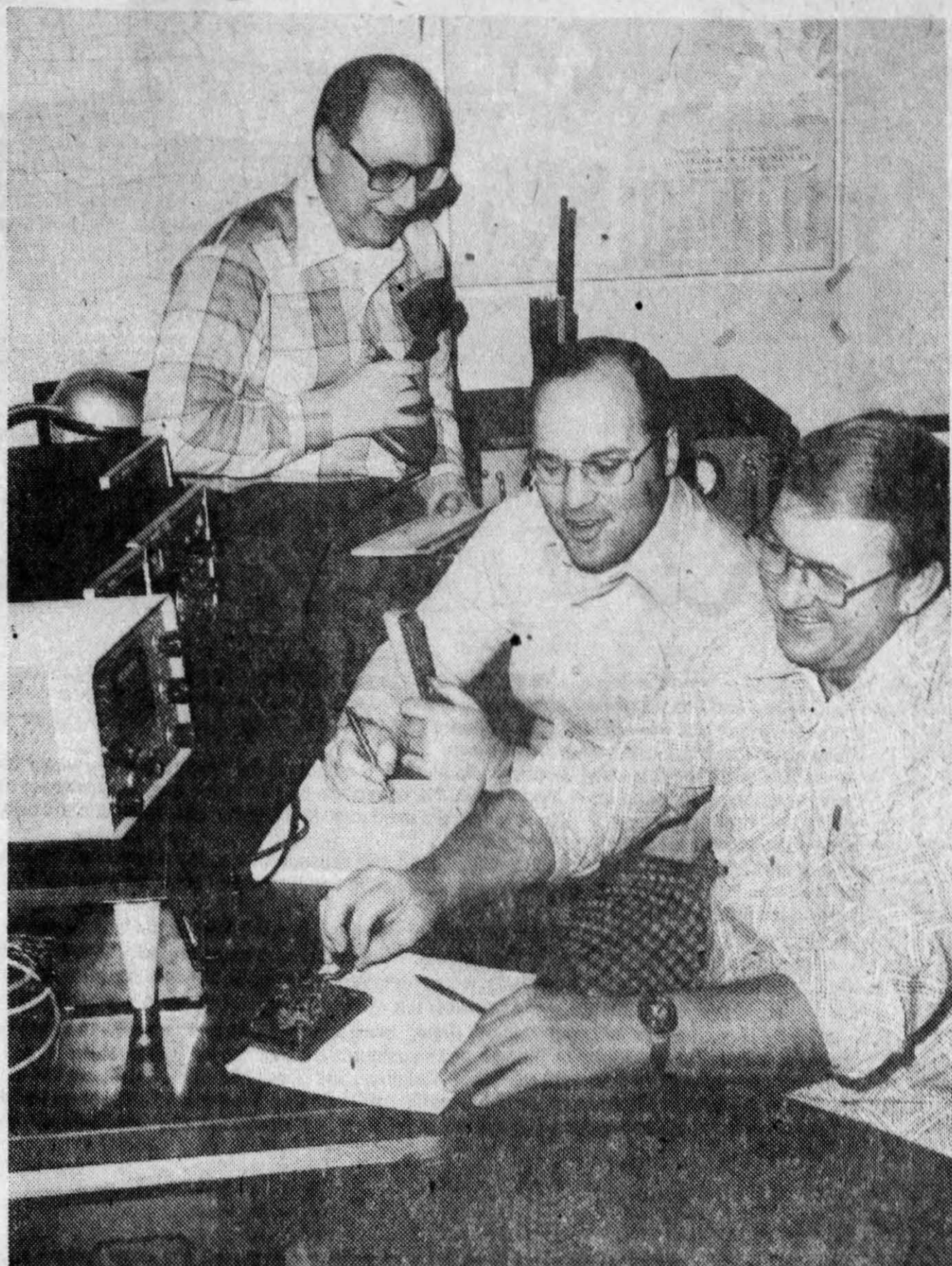
The repeaters, Jim said, have their own emergency generator and "flexibility is their bonus." They make it possible to talk at a distance of 50 miles with a hand-held radio, he pointed out.

During a disaster, mock or real, the Emergency Corps "attaches itself to key emergency personnel," the ham radio operator said. After each mock run-through, the club has a critique and later all groups involved gather for a "post-mortem."

Jim refers to ham radio as the "king of hobbies."

With CB, he said, "you just have to be alive and technically 18 to get a license. CB, he said, differs because it was intended for "small businesses and to dispatch trucks, etc." Ham radio, he says, provides a "public service and the states realize this."

The club conducts special courses to enable persons to pass the FCC examination for



CLUB WITH CAUSE — Jim Hinstorff, Manitowoc, center, president of MANCORAD (Manitowoc County Amateur Radio Club); John Glaeser, Manitowoc, left, operations manager; and Stan Kowalski, Two Rivers, right, secretary-treasurer, operate equipment at the club's meeting site at the Red Cross building, Manitowoc. Through its American Red Cross and Civil Defense affiliation, the club becomes the "arms, legs and eyes of civil authorities in emergency situations."

the first step in ham radio — the "novice-class license."

An FCC ham license is required for full-membership in MANCORAD. Associated members are those interested in the medium as a hobby or those working toward a license.

A novice, Jim explained, "can only communicate by radio-telegraph."

According to international regulations, the applicant must demonstrate his basic ability with the Morse Code and operate at five words per minute. He must also know basic operating rules and basic electronic theory.

"There are other steps or classes in licensing which are an incentive to improve," Jim pointed out.

The second level, or "technician's class," requires the same code test as the novice, but more advanced theory and rules. These operators have novice privileges, plus limited use of other frequencies with voice, Jim said.

The "general class" involves the same theory test as the technician's and the operator must be adept at 13 wmp with the Morse Code. The "general" carries all but a few amateur privileges, the club president explained.

In the "advanced" class, the same code requirement prevails as in the general. The most advanced theory and exam are required and the class conveys the privilege of more frequencies.

The "ultra" in the levels is the "amateur-extra" attained by taking "an extremely difficult" test and being able to tap out an 18 wmp code, Jim said. This class carries all amateur privileges he said.

Advantages of ham radio over CB, jim said, are the "legal use of up to 1,000 watts of

Farmland prices called unrealistic

EAU CLAIRE, Wis. (AP) — "Farmland now costs more than can realistically be repaid through its use," bankers attending an agricultural credit conference were advised Wednesday.

Leslie W. Peterson, chairman of the agricultural bankers division of the American Bankers Association said land often costs so much that its produce cannot pay for it.

"Farmland prices are unrealistic. That should be a warning to you," he told the lenders.

Gary Rohde, state agriculture secretary, said Wisconsin farmland averaged \$615 an acre last year and that many farmers were willing to buy all they could at that price.

The price is considerably higher in some other states, he said.

The 200 bankers at the conference adopted a resolution calling for speedier financial assistance to farmers whose production is interrupted by flood, drought and other natural fates.

The resolution proposes that municipalities rather than counties be the units for identifying areas eligible for federal disaster aid.

power and literally millions of channels in addition to being able to communicate around the world and through satellites circling in space."

People of any age are welcome to join MANCORAD.

"There are no age restrictions for becoming a ham radio operator," Jim said. "No one's ever too old, either," he said, adding that there are "hams" in every walk of life.

"Even if a person is sick he can be a ham. If he's able and well he can get involved in other things with it. There are so many sub-hobbies and special interest lines ... maybe 50 of them."

Some, he said, make a hobby

of counting the number of states and countries they have reached. Others are interested in foreign relations.

"There are communication experiments and lots of technical frontiers that still can open up," Jim said.

All that's necessary to be a ham radio operator, according to Jim, is the "interest and gumption to learn and a modest amount of money to put together a station."

Potential members of MANCORAD may contact Jim at Manitowoc. For those interested, the group will have its next meeting Wednesday on the Submarine Cobia where a tour of the radio room will be given.

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Photo by Bob Franke

Ham radio operators

December 28, 1982.

Doug Fencil's and Bob Franke's science classes at L.B. Clarke School, Two Rivers, have been studying electro magnetic spectrum and, as part of the course, three area ham radio operators put on a clinic on the subject at the school recently. From the left are students Tom Carron, Scott Tadych and Scott Braun who received instruction from George Cox, who is better known in radio circles as N9BCX. Other ham operators who put on the clinic were Al Schmitt (K9DIN) and Chuck Scholten (W9BZU).

These ham radios have long reach!

By DENNIS HERNET

Two Rivers Bureau Manager TWO RIVERS — Did you ever get the feeling you were living through an episode of "Gilligan's Island?"

Picture if you will, three supposedly mature men, sitting huddled in a compact car parked behind WRTR radio station, shivering in 22-degree temperatures, attempting to talk to the astronauts of the Columbia space shuttle.

Here was Mark Heller, owner of the station, repeating his short wave (ham) call letters and a message over and over and over... "WB9WRT, Whiskey Bravo Nine Whiskey Radio Tango calling W4FLF."

And there was morning man Jeff Slager, laying across the back area of Heller's hatchback, on top of rubble Heller referred to as "my filing system," and yours truly...shivering.

W4FLF was Owen Garriott, one of the six astronauts aboard the shuttle.

The situation was all part of NASA-approved experiment in connection with this space shuttle flight whereby Garriott, an electrical engineer, would attempt to communicate with ham radio operators on earth.

Garriott used a two-pound transmitter-receiver with five watts of power, while Heller used a 25-watt transmitter-receiver on this end.

"Once we get beyond 16 miles up, there's no interference," Heller said.

What Heller also knew was that there would probably be thousands of persons attempting to make contact with the shuttle.

"Bearcat published an 800 number which could be called for information about the shuttle and how to make contact," Heller said. "I tried that number for three days and couldn't get through."

The first flyover where contact could be made was between 11:10 and 11:25 a.m. Wednesday, with the second opportunity coming between 7 and

7:15 p.m.

The 11:10 opportunity came as the shuttle flew southeast to northwest from Florida through the Ohio River Valley, with the second crossing coming over the western United States, in the proximity of Denver. The shuttle orbits about 200 miles above the earth.

At least three other persons in the Lakeshore Area attempted to reach the shuttle during the morning session.

All broadcasting was done between 144.91 and 145.09 on the ham radio operator's dial, while Garriott would respond at 145.55.

According to the plan published for the experiment, broadcasting from earth was to be done on the odd minutes, while the shuttle was to respond on the even numbered minutes.

But like all experiments of this nature, some people just did not get the message and were broadcasting during the receiving time or were broadcasting on the receiving channel.

John Glaser (WB9ESM) who is located near the old WCUB tower was working 144.91, while we had 144.95, and Jack Douville (WB9GTX) of Sheboygan, who came up to work from a wayside on Memorial Drive, had 144.99. Douville came up here because Two Rivers is more out into the lake than Sheboygan, thus there would be less interference and more of a chance to be heard.

We also made contact with Wally Shellingosky of Sheboygan.

Garriott was supposed to respond to all the numbers he could identify by repeating those numbers during his alternating minute on the air.

In addition, a tape recording was to be made of what Garriott heard and The American Radio Relay League was going to listen to that tape. It was going to send cards to all persons whose transmission were heard.

"It would really be great to get one of those cards," Heller



Staff photo by Dennis Hernet

CONTACT? — Mark Heller, owner of Two Rivers Radio Station WRTR, attempted to make contact with astronaut Owen Garriott during an experiment Wednesday morning.

commented.

Ham radio operators around the world would have five chances to contact the shuttle. Garriott was scheduled to be at his listening post one hour a day on five different days, or at five different times, according to the preliminary report.

Garriott is using his free time — not regular crew time — to work this experiment.

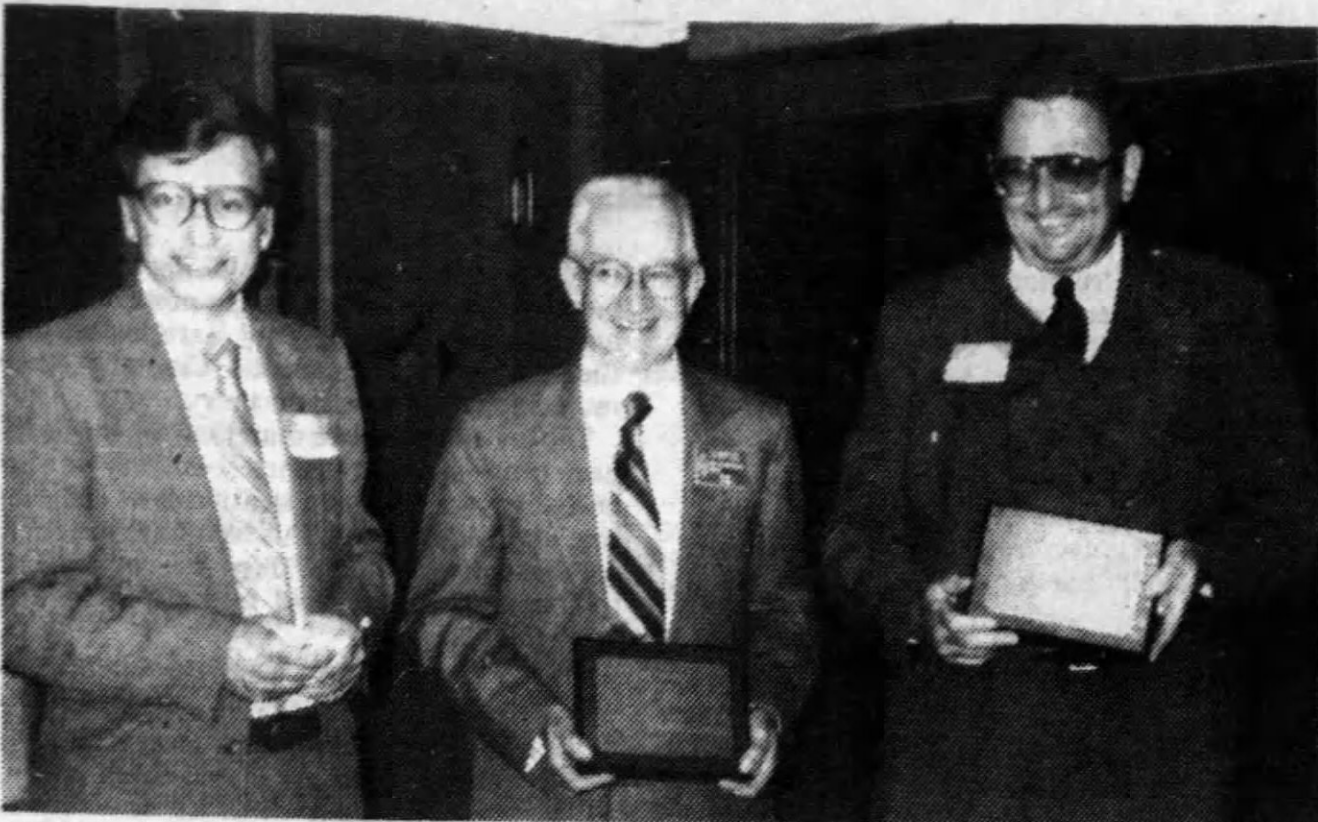
As far as the success of the local experiment...Gilligan talked with the astronauts.

Heller did not.

But it was worth it.

Just ask the three guys who shivered in that black compact car parked behind WRTR radio.

May 30, 1984.



Radio League members honored

Mancorad photo

Two persons from the Amateur Radio Relations League were honored recently at the spring meeting of the Manitowoc County Radio Club (Mancorad) at Machut's Supper Club, Two Rivers. Larry Steeno, left, president of Mancorad, presented awards to Roy Pedersen,

center, of Juneau, the retiring section communication manager for the state of Wisconsin, affiliated with the American Radio Relay League, and Ken Ebnetter of Portage, who was vice director of the 9th Region of ARRL. A total of 59 persons attended the event.

HAM IT UP

Aussie visits airwave buddy

By MICHAEL HOEFT
Staff Writer

MANITOWOC — There's no doubt that Australian Alan Anderson's voice is known around the world. At least it's known to the 198 members of an international ham radio organization who call themselves the "Magnificent Group."

Anderson, the man behind the distinctly accented voice, is on a five-week visit of North America to personally meet the friends he has gotten to know over the last six years through his home transmitter in Brisbane.

This week, he's been staying with Erv Busse, 1811 Viebahn St., Manitowoc, a member of the group who is better known to hams as W90MO, his licensed call signal.

The members, who hail from the United States, Canada, Australia, England, Denmark and Venezuela, listen in together — clear airwaves permitting — to chat about topics ranging from car repair to fishing. One member, Dan the Weatherman, got his name from his habit of giving daily weather reports.

"We don't discuss religion or politics, but we talk about everything else," said Busse, a retired appliance repairman. Busse started as a ham operator in 1940, then worked on submarine production in Manitowoc until the war's end. He cranked up his rig again in 1946 and has worked up to a

Class A license for ham, or amateur, operator.

In September, 1979, several operators were discussing early airplanes when Anderson called in and addressed them as "the magnificent men in their flying machines." The name stuck, said Busse.

"I feel I know them personally," Anderson said. But he is nevertheless surprised when meeting airwave friends for the first time to note that "their faces don't always match the voices I'd been talking with."

When Anderson arrived at the Milwaukee airport this week, he was wearing a hat inscribed with his own call letters, VK4AND, so Busse wouldn't miss him.

"I got the idea to visit these blokes several years ago," Anderson said. "I wanted to just drop in and say hello."

During the visit, Busse took his Aussie guest to the USS Cobia, the Manitowoc Marina and the Point Beach Nuclear Power Plant.

In between sightseeing jaunts, Anderson got on the air Tuesday using Busse's rig, and signed on as "VK4AND portable QTH (location) of Manitowoc." To hams in California, Nebraska and Missouri, he offered thanks for hospitality during his recent visit. He also got in touch with KC4VW in Washington, D.C., to make ar-

rangements to meet there later in the week. A Portland, Ore., ham offered news on the amount of Japanese cars being moved in from the docks.

"The propagation (airwave clarity) isn't very good," Anderson said, "but I can read you. Hi! hi! That'll put a smile on the dial. This is VK4AND."

After wishing 73s (Morse code for cheerio) to the men and 88s (love and kisses) to the wives, Anderson tallied up 15 station contacts for the hour on the air.

"They'd keep him on the air for three hours if he let them," said Busse.

Anderson, 56, usually goes on the air from 5 to 6 a.m., takes a breakfast of tea and toast, then takes a train into Brisbane to work as a technician for the Central Telephone Exchange. He averages about 14 hours a week at the radio.

This is his first visit to the other side of the world from Down Under, and he cannot get over the changes.

"Everything's backwards," he said. Cars drive on the wrong side of the road, he feels, light switches turn the opposite way, and summer is Australia's coldest season.

The 18-hour time difference between Brisbane and the United States also proved somewhat unsettling. "I actually arrived here before I left Australia," he said.



Staff photo

ON THE AIR — Australian Alan Anderson, seated at microphone, and his Manitowoc host Erv Busse, listen in from other members of the international ham radio group.

ManCoRad Celebrates 50 Years

By Thomas H. Stinson, KB9GRC

The ManCoRad Club (Manitowoc County Radio Club) is celebrated its 50th Anniversary on December 10th of this year. The club was organized on December 10th, 1946.

It was organized by eight amateur radio operators; Ralph Klein, W9DKH, Manitowoc; Al Schmidt, K9DIN, Two Rivers; George "Bud" Woida, W9KQB, Manitowoc; George Honold, W9GI, Manitowoc; Bob King, W9-RKT, Valders; Russ Eggars, W9FMH, Bemidji, Minn.; Hubert Willis, W9TQV, Manitowoc; and Chuck Scholten W9BZU, Manitowoc.

In February of the following year the ManCoRad Radio Club was affiliated with the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). The Club incorporated itself on June 20th, 1954.

ManCoRad also includes in its membership the first licensed woman in Manitowoc County, Denise Beyer, N4WGK (formerly WN9OOR). She joined the club in late 1954.

Since December 10, 1946, starting with the original eight members, the club has grown over the 50 years to a club consisting of 87 members.

Happy 50th, ManCoRad!