

RADIO AMATEURS OF CORRY

VOLUME 6 No. 1

March 2000

RIPLEY HAM RADIO SWAP MEET IS APRIL 9TH

Believe it or not there will be a Ham Radio Swap meet in Ripley, New York on Sunday April 9th at the Ripley Fire Hall located on Route 76. The Six Shooters Club sponsors the event. Doors will open for Vendors at 7 a.m. and at 8 a.m. for the general public. Admission will be \$2.00. Tables are available for \$2.00 each. V.E. Tests will start at 10 a.m. Pre-registration will take place 9 a.m. For more information, Contact Joe, N3MLX at (814)-825-5565, e-mail, n3mlx@velocity.net; Fred N2LXD at (716)-736-4688, e-mail: emily2@cecomet.net

--John Lis, N3NKV

RAC HOME PAGE IS UPDATED

The Radio Amateurs of Corry Web Site has been recently updated. The new URL for the site is http://www.qsl.net/w3yxe. The old URL of http://www.qsl.net/n3nkv redirects users to the new site. A new layout has been designed for ease in surfing. The site contains information about club repeaters, nets, activities, and contacts. Links to other amateur radio related sites are listed on the site. As of this newsletter, there are still a few problems that need to be ironed out in the html coding of the web site. In the future, I am looking at adding more pictures from club events. If anyone has pictures from the old repeater site, club activities, or old club newsletters from days long gone, please drop me a line on e-mail at johnjlis@visto.com

--John Lis, N3NKV

K3PLV RETURNS TO JERSEY ISLAND

Well, it's that time of the year again. I'm returning along with my friend Pete (K8PT) to Jersey Island for a DXpedition. I will arrive on Jersey on March 22 and stay seven nights. Operation will be on all bands, 160 meters to 10 meters, including the WARC bands. We will use single sideband, CW and RTTY and operate with the calls MJ/K3PLV and MJ/K8PT. CW operation will be at 3525 kHz, 7025 kHz, 10103 kHz, 14025 kHz, 18070 kHz, 21025 kHz, 24895 kHz, and 28025 kHz and SSB operation will be on the standard DX frequencies, 3795 kHz, 7060 kHz (QSX 7250), 14195 kHz, 18145 kHz, 21295 kHz, 24,945 kHz and 28495 kHz. However, we will try to operate SSB on in the general portion of the band. Especially check 14260 kHz. RTTY will be on the standard RTTY frequencies with operation probably limited to 20, 15, and 10 meters.

An easy way to find us if you have Internet capability is to connect to *www.dxer.org* and click on *DX Summit*, then *Last 250 spots* and you should see people locating what frequency we happen to be on. You can also plug in our calls under *Spot History*. Make sure when you work me to mention that you know me as after many hours of operation all calls seem to sound alike. Point your antennas toward France, if they're rotatable, as Jersey is the largest of the Channel Islands and is 14 miles off its coast. Of course Jersey counts as a separate country as they have their own government and issue their own currency and postage stamps. I'm looking forward to contacting as many of my friends here as possible.73, --Craig Hill, K3PLV

VFW BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER IS BEST YET

Eleven club members turned out early Sunday morning February 20 for what was to be one of the best fundraisers yet. The first crew pulled into the parking lot about 6 a.m. The morning crew consisted of WB3AYW, WD4OOX, N3LBI, KB3CAT, K3KI AND KF3DJ. They got under way by cracking a case of eggs, preparing gallons of pancake batter, preparing the bacon, and sausages, heating the sausage gravy, opening the cans of fruit and all the other things necessary for a buffet breakfast. By 8 a.m. the doors opened and the race began.

(Continued on page 2)

At 9 a.m. the second shift turned up. They consisted of WA3HDK, N3XSR, W3AHH, W3GHO, and WA3HJC. Their first task was to take over the jobs of making the toast, manning the two griddles that made pancakes and French toast and scrambled eggs and home fries. The breakfast crowd was coming fast and furious now. Crack more eggs. More bacon. More sausage patties. More orange juice. More, more, more. .

And then the place started to thin out. Finally it was eleven o'clock and the doors closed. Now it was time for the dreaded clean up. Wash the tables down, sweep the floor and mop it. Clean the griddles and the fryer. Pick up dozens of pans, and wash them. Clean the serving tables. Run the serving utensils through the dishwasher. Empty the garbage bags and replace the liners. And finally, about 12:45 we were done. We could have used more help for cleanup.

The revenue from the breakfasts constitutes a considerable amount of our operating budget. For this reason, the breakfast is an extremely important event for us. While we get by with the people who turn out, we would like to see more of you volunteer for these events--especially for the second shift. The next breakfast will be on the 16th of April. Won't you please consider helping out. Chairman for the breakfasts is Leonard, WB3AYW.

--Bob Bair, WA3HDK

THE RADIO AMATEURS OF CORRY MINUTES 11 January 2000

President Leonard, WB3AYW, called the Meeting to order at 7:30 PM. The following officers were present: Vice President, Jim, WT3O; Secretary, Jerry, W3GHO and Treasurer, Mike, N3GCY. There were five other members and two visitors present.

The minutes of the November meeting were read and, after corrections, were approved. The Treasure's report was read and accepted.

Old business: Bob WA3HDK commended Norma W3CG on behalf of the entire membership of the Radio Amateurs for the outstanding job she did as Christmas Party Chair and suggested the Club reimburse her for the cost of the many door prizes. Norma respectfully declined and said the cost of door prizes was her donation to the Club. A discussion followed concerning changing locations for the 2000 Christmas party because of complaints about the quality of the food. W3GHO is to check on availability and prices at the Corry American Legion Post and report back at the February meeting when a decision will be made.

The subject of selling ads for the Club Newsletter to help offset the cost was discussed but no action was taken.

WA3HDK stated that Jim, KC2FBP, had paid dues for 1999 but received no membership card or newsletters. It was moved and seconded that he be credited for the year 2000 dues to correct for the oversight.

Correspondence was read from the ARRL regarding the RAC Club re-affiliation with the League, Foundation for Amateur Radio scholarships for 2000, a field bulletin from the ARRL Atlantic Division Director and notification of the Baltimore Hamfest on March 25th, 2000.

New Business: President, WB3AYW appointed Bob, WA3HDK and Mike, N3GCY to serve as our representatives to the WPA Repeater Council.

Bob, WA3HDK gave an interesting report on a visit from FCC field engineer David Dombrowksi to his radio shack. David was checking all of the local repeaters for interference with the Air Control frequencies. Bob said he enjoyed the tour of the FCC monitoring vehicle with megabux worth of electronic equipment inside.

Bills were presented for the Annual Insurance Premium and supplies for the JOTA material. There was a motion by WA3HDK and seconded by Mike N3GCY to pay the bills.

Ron, KF3DJ stated that the CCFMA Club would be having several special VE Exam sessions coming up on 26 Feb, 11 Mar, 25 Mar and 8 Apr all to be held at 8:00AM at the Jamestown, NY City Hall. Also a informative discussion followed concerning the new License structure effective 15 April.

Norma, W3CG, won the 50-50.

Respectfully submitted, Jerry W3GHO, Secretary

RF SAFETY--MORE THAN QUESTIONS ON A TEST

A few weeks ago, I had a fellow on 40 M. SSB, ask me what I thought about the restructuring, and what was I going to do when the FCC came around to shut me down for RF Safety? After I answered question number one, I asked him to repeat his question on RF Safety. He said that at a club meeting the other night, their club president told them that if everyone had not completed an RF Safety Study, they would be ordered off the air! He was extremely concerned because he had not done it yet, and was overwhelmed by all the "stuff' he had to do. I asked him the same questions you read about in my first articles, and then proceeded to talk him through his RF Safety Study right on the air. It only took about 10 minutes to look over two charts, and give him the answers he needed. In just that casual conversation, he was LEGAL! Not only that, he was probably more legal than over 80% of the hams he talks to every day!

My point of these articles all along has been to show you that RF Safety is important, but it isn't rocket There are charts, graphs, and diagrams science! designed by leading RF Experts that eliminate the need for big buck equipment, and in this article, we will begin the process of using the first valuable tool. It comes from Ed Hare, W1RFI. His article on RF Safety appeared in QST Magazine a couple of years ago. I have based a good deal of my articles on what he did. In Bulletin 65, there is a small (almost impossible to read) list of numbers. I discovered that it was a key to who really has to do an RF Study. It's a list of basic maximum power levels you can run before you are required to complete one! Ed Hare reprinted this list in his QST article, and here it is:

IF	PEAK	ENVELOPE	POWER	DELIVERED	ТО	THE
AN	TENNA	INPUT IS LE	SS THAN	:		

HF BAND	MAX POWER	VHF/UHF BAND	MAX POWER
160	500W	6M	50W
80	500W	2M	50W
75	500W	1.25M	50W
40	500W	70CM	70W
30	425W	33CM	150W
20	225W	23CM	200W
17	125W	13CM	250W
15	100W		
12	75W	SHF ALL	250W
10	.50W	EHF ALL	250W

It's important to remember a few things here:

FIRST: These power levels are NOT limits. The RF Safety Rules do not change the maximum power you can use on HF or VHF/UHF. Full legal limits remain unchanged.

SECOND: If you run more than these levels, you simply are required to do an RF Safety check of your station.

There it is! The magic list. If you operate under the power levels shown, you have met the basic requirements of RF Safety. Use this as a guide, and make a note in your log that you have examined the power levels of your station. This notation should be done simply to show you have done it. You aren't even required to do it, but I would anyway.

Remember that the power levels listed are based on power fed to the antenna. That means if your transmitter output is 50 watts, on Ten meters, but your antenna has a huge amount of gain, say 10 DB or so, you're still okay!

But to determine safe distances in situations where an RF Safety Study will be required, you'll want to know how much gain your antenna has. Now you do not need to figure this out by yourself. The charts used by the ARRL and the FCC do everything for you. But now and then, you may build an antenna that doesn't really fit the categories they list. Knowing the DB gain will become important in those situations. So put this list in a handy spot for reference:

TYPICAL ANTENNA	A GAINS IN FREE	E SPACE
TYPE	DBI	DBD
1/4 wave Ground Plane	1.0	-1.1
¹ / ₂ wave Dipole	2.15	±0.0
2-element Yagi	6.0	3.9
3-element Yagi	7.2	5.1
5-el3m3nt Yagi	9.4	7.3
8-element Yagi	13.2	11.1
10-element Yagi	14.8	12.7

Loops, driven dipoles, phased singles, and other sophisticated configurations will take some study of the ARRL Antenna Handbook, or you may actually have to use one of the many antenna design programs to come up with your specific antenna.

The RF Safety rules are actually pretty liberal. Since the FCC has no plans right now to stop by your antenna farm with a tape rule, all you really need to do is check your plant out, and make adjustments to comply. Of course that is if you even need to.

Next month, I will get out the dreaded charts. You'll be surprised to find out how simple they are to use. --Ron Reiff, KF3DJ

RADIO AMATEURS OF CORRY MINUTES 8 FEBRUARY 2000

The meeting was called to order by President, WB3AYW at 7:30 PM sharp with Secretary W3GHO, Treasurer, N3GCY present and seven others in attendance.

The minutes of the January 2000 meeting were read and approved followed by the Treasurer's report, which was also approved.

Old Business: W3GHO gave a report on the availability and price structure for the 2000 Club Christmas Party possibly being held at the Corry Post 365, American Legion with the price slightly lower than the Dutch Treat in Spartansburg. After discussion, a motion was made by WA3HDK and seconded by N3YPT, to hold the 2000 Club Christmas party on December 9th at 6:30 PM at the Corry American Legion Post 365 located on Sciota Street.

A discussion concerning the cost of the Club Newsletter followed and it was suggested that members sell advertising space to offset costs for future issues. Newsletter Editor WA3HDK agreed to publish the cost of ads as follows 1/8 page \$5.00, ¹/₄ page \$8.00, ¹/₂ page \$15.00 and full page \$25.00.

W3GHO to check the Corry Public Library to see if the copy of the RAC Newsletter sent there was being displayed for reading. There was also a discussion of the other copies that are sent free.

The subject of the Club dues structure was brought up and President WB3AYW asked the By-law Committee to meet and make a recommendation at the March meeting.

WT3O reported via notes that his bill from December for Christmas cards had not been paid. WB3AYW asked Treasurer, N3GCY to please pay Jim by the end of this week (8 Feb).

Posters were passed out to members present to advertise for the February 20th Breakfast fund-raiser at the Corry VFW. WB3AYW stated that he had barely enough help and more would be nice.

WB3AYW appointed WA3HDK Official Club Record Keeper of net rosters and Club membership.

President WB3AYW reminded members using the W3YXE repeater on 147.09 to wait five seconds before speaking after the repeater has been idle because of the delay which cuts off the beginning of the first transmission. Also WB3AYW asked WA3HDK to call Lance Howell to make arrangements for a tune up of the 147.09 repeater.

New business: There was one bill read from W3GHO for \$3.49 for a new binder for keeping the Club Minutes. Motion by WA3HDK and seconded by N3XBA to pay the bill.

WB3AYW announced that the program for the March meeting would be an ARRL video. The April program will be by Ron, KF3DJ on RF Safety. WA3HDK reported a Hamfest sponsored by the Six Shooters at the Ripley Firehall on April 9th and the Madison, Ohio Hamfest on March 26th. He had some new web addresses of interest to the members. The new RAC address of the Club Home page is http://www.qsl.net/w3yxe. New e-mail addresses were read for K3CKO@intergrafix.net and gwilliams@ tanglewoodinv.com.

WB3AYW asked Ron, KF3DJ about the upcoming tour of the new WWCB local broadcast station. Ron will check on a date and report back.

Ron KF3DJ gave an interesting report from the W5YI Newsletter indicating there were 24,169 Radio Amateurs in PA as of December 31.

The 50-50 was won by N3YPT.

Motion to adjourn by WA3HDK.

Respectfully submitted, Jerry W3GHO, Secretary.



Arnold, N3UBZ is starting his grandson, Andrew, in Ham Radio training. Andrew's father, Scott, is Arnold's youngest son.

MEN FROM MARS

--A quarterly report of PA ARMY MARS in Pennsylvania



It is nice to be able to report that Pennsylvania Army MARS is alive and well in this New Year of 2000. With all the reports of things that could happen when Y2K arrived, none of us knew just what to expect. The PA Army MARS emergency operations plan went in effect at 9:00 AM on December 31, 1999 with an hourly check-in on 4441.5 kHz. This was in addition to the operation of the normal nets throughout the day and evening. The original plan called for MARS operators to be at National Guard Armories throughout the state--starting on December 31 and as long as necessary. But the plans changed. Just before Y2K, we were asked to support the National Guard as backup Communication from our home stations. The hourly call-up continued until the final call at 0200 hours 01 January when the State MARS Director told net members to stand down because nothing happened to cause further concern and all systems, public and private, were functioning normally. He thanked us for being ready and giving up a portion of our Holiday.

MARS members can now look forward to several events in 2000 along with the regular traffic nets both digital and voice. MARS station AA3USA at Fort Detrick, MD is now testing a PACTOR port on 4921 kHz lsb which operates like a packet board, processing incoming and outgoing messages. On a personal note, I have tried this port and it responded to my request on the first try. I then left a message to the sysop noting how well the system worked into NWPA.

The next special event on the MARS calendar will be Armed Forces Day on 20 May 2000. A request was made for volunteers to operate special event stations at several Military Posts including the one at Fort Indiantown Gap near Harrisburg. Operations for this event will include cross-band Amateur-to-MARS frequencies. A nice QSL card will be sent for each contact.

On 3 June 2000, the annual PA Army MARS Conference will be held at Johnstown, PA. It is always a pleasant experience to see and visit with the station operators that we work with throughout the year.

MARS members will be happy to relay messages from the folks at home to your servicemen. If you want a radiogram to be sent, all we need is a Military mailing address and it will be on its way.

--Jerry Owens, AAR3GF/W3GHO



Bob, K3CKO, sent us this picture of him and Mary Jane dancing at the 1999 BOBOLI Christmas party. Bob's e-mail address is <u>k3cko@intergrafix.net</u>. (You are invited to submit your own pictures for inclusion in the newsletter--editor)

APRIL MEETING IS ON SAFETY

At our regular meeting on April 11, Ron Rieff, KF3DJ, will present a program on what you need to know about the new RF Safety regulations. His presentation will follow the regular business meeting. The Radio Amateurs of Corry meet at the Red Cross Building, 134 East Main Street in Corry. The doors open at 1900 hours on the second Tuesday each month. The meeting begins promptly at 1930 hours and is usually over by 2100 hours. C U There!

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RADIO AMATEURS OF CORRY

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26	KE3PD	CUTSHAW	FRANKLIN	1108 SPENCER ROAD	CORRY	PA 16407		814) 663-0754	<u>A</u> R	P 96,S 97	>	•
27	KE3SM	HALFAST	CLIFFORD	R. D. 3, BOX 92	TITUSVILLE	PA 16354					A	o chalfast@csonline.net
	KE5KO	WILLIAMS	guy R.	6565 HOLLISTER RD, NO.223	HUSTON	TX 77040	_					o gwilliams@tanglewoodinv.com
	KF3DJ	REIFF	RON	BOX 213	COLUMBUS	PA 16405		814) 664-7247			G	0
	KK3E	SMITH	RICHARD L.	34152 TRYONVILLE ROAD	TOWNVILLE	PA 16360					-	0
31		THOMAS	BILL	RR1, BOX 24A	SPRING CREEK	PA 16436-9710	-	(814) 665-7837			>	o bjthomas@tbscc.com
2 2 2	NJCCM	WALCH	THOMAS G.	455 E SOUTH STREET	CORRY		8	814) 664-2391	i		!	
		DZIUBKUWSKI	MICHAEL		CURRY	PA 16407-0053	SCOP	814) 664-/189	ARL	00-761	1 -	
л и л #		FULLER	ROBERT	2505 SALTSMAN RD		PA 16510		(814) 898-1115				
א ני ע ני	Name	MILLER	RALPH	R.U.1, BUX 69		PA 16402	2020	(814) 489-0242	2		1-	
	N3MIX			121 NURTH FRUNT ST		DA 10020-	1017-	14) 437-2030				o namiv@velocity net
	N3NKV	LIS	JOHN	2713 HILLBORN ROAD		PA 16509		(814) 825-5565	F			o liohnilis@visto.com
39	N3NLO	LIS	KEVIN	2713 HILLBORN ROAD	ERIE	PA 16509		(814) 825-5565			-	
	N3OZH	WELLMAN	JUDY	85 W HIGH STREET	UNION CITY	PA 16438		(814) 438-3127				0 (ucdavid@aol.com)
41	N3QCR	HOUSHOLDER	MARY A	121 NORTH FRONT ST	FRANKLIN	PA 16323-2707	2707	(814) 437-2036	₽		+	
42	N3UBZ	SMRCKA	ARNOLD	16657 TARBELL ROAD	UNION CITY			(814) 438-3102	ARL			
	N3VHV	DZIUBKOWSKI	ANNE	25 PELLICAN LAND	EDGEWATER	FL 32141-4219	4219	(814) 899-2107			9	o k3sbu-1@juno.com
	N3XBA	KULESA	EDWARD M	9400 ROUTE 6	UNION CITY			(814) 438-3262	ARL			
45	N3XFW	KALISZEWSKI	MATTHEW J	3207 PERRY ST	ERIE	PA 16504		(814) 454-6843			Ŧ	
46	N3XSF	MIGLIACCIO	CORY	263 WORTH STREET	CORRY	PA 16407		(814) 663-4661			-	0
47	N3XSR	MIGLIACCIO	LEONARD	263 WORTH STREET	CORRY	PA 16407		(814) 663-4661	ARL		-	
	N3YPI	WOTUS	RICHARD J	512 W SMITH ST	CORRY	PA 16407		(814) 664-2599			-	0 N3YP I @ene.net
	NJALIN	SMITH	BRIAN	34152 TRYONVILLE ROAD	TOWNVILLE						+	
22	NAMOR	FRONTERA	RICHARD	8088 GEORIA HIWAY 135	NAYLOR		10	°p1631x1910Y31641-2512			+	
	WIGHO	OWENS	JERRY	20045 SPARTANSBURG R	CORRY	PA 16407-9604	1	(814) 664-7502	ARLL	-8, S 00	m	o gowens@ene.net
	WA3HDK	BAIR	ROBERT E	10600 FENNO ROAD	UNION CITY	PA 16438-8102		(814) 739-2206	ARLL	VP 96, P 99		
	WA3PGL	BARTON	LARRY	POB 423471	KISSIMMEE	FL 34742-3471	3471	407) 847-7824			Ŧ	
	WB3AYW	SHICK	LEONARD	13550 ESTES ROAD	UNION CITY			814) 438-7199	ARL	P 92, 97-8, 00 VP99		
	WB3BLN	BAIR	MARLENE R	10600 FENNO ROAD	UNION CITY			(814) 739-2206			1	o rbair@juno.com
56	WD400X	COLE	HAROLD	336 ESSEX ST	CORRY	PA 16407	(8	814) 664-4233			G	0
	WL7BXG	THOMAS	JUDY	RR1, BOX 24A	SPRING CREEK	PA 16436-9710	-9710	(814) 665-7837				
	WI30	ADAMS	JAMES	13695 W SMITH STREET	CORRY	PA 16407		814) 664-8140	ARL	P 93-5, 96-8, S 99 VP 00	m	
ŭ			DAVE	85 W HIGH STREET	UNION CITY	PA 16438		(814) 438-3127				0 lucdavid@aol.com

W3GHO, WA3HDK ATTEND SCOUT DINNER

On February 24, Troop 79 Boy Scouts of America held their Annual Awards Dinner in the all-purpose room at Conway Elementary School. Scout Leader Terry McCray invited Bob, WA3HDK and Jerry, W3GHO to represent the Radio Amateurs of Corry at this event.

After a tasty dinner there was plenty of desert which was baked by Father and Son teams was offered to top off the meal. The Judges had a tough job awarding the first prize, which went to a fudge brownie dish for top honors.

Awards were given to several Organizations and including The Radio Amateurs of Corry for assisting the Boy Scouts at Elgin Town Park with the Annual Jamboree on the Air, which was held in October 1999. A handcrafted Plaque of Appreciation was given to both Bob and Jerry and also a Plaque was presented to the Radio Club to hang in the meeting room.

Scout Master McCray also said that plans are being made to participate in the 2000 Jamboree on the Air and that the Radio Club will be notified and asked to help again. He also said that this year's JOTA will be much bigger with a large campout planned.

While the JOTA is not a contest, we had the opportunity to watch the boys talk to other scouts in the USA and worldwide. Ham radio operators are needed to control the emissions. If you would like to participate in the 2000 JOTA, please let us know of your interest. The best place to indicate that would be at a regular club meeting. If you can't be present at the meetings, you can always contact one of the club officers or WA3HDK or myself.

--Jerry W3GHO

Compliments of

BOB BAIR, WA3HDK NEWSLETTER EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

WA3HDK@arrl.net

CHARGING WET CELL STORAGE BATTERIES

When you are on "battery" power, you don't have the luxury of ignoring power usage. Keeping batteries in good condition involves constant checking on charging rates and times. Here is a little chart I use to keep track of battery voltage in my camper and in the shack. A digital voltmeter is necessary for quick, easy checking of battery condition.

NO CHARGING CURR	ENT TO BATTERY
Voltage	Battery Condition
10.5 - 11.0	Battery Exhausted
11.0 - 11.5	Under 10% of charge left
11.5 - 12.0	Under 40% of charge left
12.0 - 12.5	50% - 90% of charge left
12.5 - 13.0	Fully charged
CHARGING CURRENT	APPLIED TO BATTERY
Voltage	Battery Condition
12.5 - 13.5	Charging; may be low
13.5 - 14.5	Charging ok
14.5 - 15.0	Charging on the high side
15.0 +	Abnormal charging voltage

Lead-acid batteries should be charged as soon as possible after being used. Your best bet for a battery in the shack is the deep cycle type. These batteries are built with heavier plates and better spacers and hold up much better than an automotive type battery. That is not to say that you cannot use automotive batteries, but you should always recharge them immediately after use and you should only draw current from them until they reach a 10-volt-under load condition. A good choice for emergency use batteries is two golf cart (6-volt) batteries in series. They are likely to give radically better results than two automotive-type batteries of equal capacity installed in parallel.

I am presently using an automotive-type battery in the shack. It has been in use for a couple of years now and still seems to be holding up well. But I never store it in a discharged condition.

--Bob, WA3HDK

BUMPER SNICKERS

The Face Is Familiar But I Can't Quite Remember My Name

You're Just Jealous Because The Voices Are Talking To Me

Dyslexics Of The World - Untie!

Where Are We Going And Why Am I In This Handbasket?

INTERESTING QSO'S --A LOOK AT HAMMING IT UP

I get a charge out of CW. In fact, if you like collecting QSL cards, you have probably already discovered the fastest way to get a bundle is to have plenty of CW contacts, and send out a few cards of your own just to get things going.

I've always wanted to get a QSL card with more than one mode, and recently it happened. I was on 40 SSB with KB2YIP from Panama (NY) and AK3R from Sugar Grove, when suddenly a station with a huge signal asked for a break. It was Ken, KB4BIG. 'Big' was a perfect call for this guy. His hamfest purchase of a used TenTec rig was a great buy! It blew into my station with incredible audio. Mike and Scott both gave Ken the same report. He told me he was more of a CW operator but had just bought the rig and wanted to know how it worked. Two days later, on CW, sure enough, there was Ken! He was calling CQ and sounding every bit as big as his SSB signal. We talked again, this time in his 'familiar' mode. I have talked to him several times since. It was the first time I knew what a guy's voice, that I talked to on HF CW sounded like. Needless to say, after we had a CW QSO, I got his card!

I love this hobby!

--Ron Rieff, KF3DJ

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

It seems hard to believe that we are starting our sixth year of the Newsletter. But here we are. There are a lot of people who deserve thanks for the way they helped to make the publication a success. Contributions are always a welcome assist and there has been quite a few contributors.

The big news in that first issue was the placement of the 'new' repeater into service. It included the firstever published club roster. WT3O started the first 'President's Corner.' The dues went from \$3 to \$5 per year. Bruce, KA3JVO wrote a nice article on changing technology and electronics. JOTA 1994 was the subject of an article by Jim, WT3O.

Our second issue had a nice article on entry level licensing by Bob, N3UDR (now K3CKO). Leonard, WB3AYW, wrote about his extended collinear antenna. Mac, W3BZJ, told us about the County Hunters. The first Breakfast Buffet was announced in that second issue. KA3JVO had an article on NEXRAD radar and we saluted Jim Adams, WT3O.

There have been many other contributors throughout the years--Gary, N3WNP and Patty, N3FXS; Dick, K3AQR; Frank, KE3PD; Craig, K3PLV; Bill W7RVY; Lee, WA3HJC; Rob, N3OCL; Norma, W3CG; Bob, N3LBI; Mike, N3GCY; Cecil, W3AGF; Jerry, W3GHO; John, N3NKV; and Ron, KF3DJ have all contributed articles. You all have my vote of thanks for the help in getting the news out.

We went from black and white photographs to color-nearly tripling the cost of publication. It now costs more than a dollar to publish the newsletter.

That is why we now have to think of cost-cutting techniques and/or the possibility of raising the dues. I just purchased a program (not the club's funds) which will allow me to sent the newsletter easily via e-mail. I am proposing that all of you, who have e-mail that will receive attachments, volunteer to have your issue delivered electronically. All you need is e-mail service and the freeware program, *Adobe Acrobat Reader*. As a trial run, I am e-mailing this issue to all of you who have provided me with your e-mail address. Even if you are not a member, you will receive this issue only for free.

Please let me know if you would like to participate in the electronic delivery by sending me a reply via email. If you choose to participate, you will be the first to get your copy--usually a week before the printed copy is delivered. And, you will be helping to keep the dues low.

(continued on page 10)

Compliments of QUENTIN McCRAY W3AHH qmmcray@tbscc.com I am always looking for players for the newsletter game. I have never been able to get interested parties to show up for a pre-publication-planning meeting. Here we would plan what would be included in each issue.

We need someone who would write bibliographical sketches for the 'RAC Salutes' column. This would involve interviewing a local ham and preparing an article about him/her by deadline date. (usually the 15th to the 20th of February, May, August and November. There must be someone of you who would like to do this.

On the down side, I have had another computer crash that wiped out most of my photographs. The CD ROM disk full of RAC documents and pictures will be somewhat delayed. It all came about when I installed a new 20-gig hard drive. I got in a hurry, hit a wrong key and the Windows installation program tried to format the old drive. They say that data retrieval is-*maybe*-possible, but they want a wheelbarrow full of loot to try it. I have gotta' think about that for a long time! --(Continued in next column)

The RADIO AMATEURS OF CORRY P. O. Box 362 Corry, PA 16407

This newsletter is published quarterly

Editor, Robert E. Bair, W3HDK (739-2206) Staff: John Lis, N3NKV Jerry Owens, W3GHO Ron Rieff, KF3DJ

Submit material for the next issue on/or before MAY 20. Next issue is June 13.

Your articles and announcements are requested--<<<<E-mail articles to wa3hdk@arrl.net>>>>

Club meetings are on the second Tuesday of each month

Club Officers--President, Leonard Shick, WB3AYW (438-7199) Vice President, Jim Adams, WT30 (664-8140) Secretary, Jerry Owens, W3GHO (664-7502) Treasurer, Mike Dziubkowski N3GCY (664-7189) I want to thank John Lis, N3NKV, for volunteering to help edit the newsletter. We still need to work out the details of how we are going to get together. But that will come.

I do want to get *some* dates for future events in this issue, so, 'til the next issue $\dots 73$'s

--Bob, WA3HDK

FREE: AEA CP1 Computer patch. RTTY and CW. Arnold Smrcka, N3UBZ. (814) 438-3102 <u>a.smrcka@juno.com</u>

COMING ATTRACTIONS

March 26	Madison, Ohio Hamfest
April 9	Ripley, NY Swapfest
April 11	RAC Club Meeting
April 16	VFW/RAC Breakfast Buffet
May 16	RAC Club Meeting
May 22	Newsletter Deadline for Articles
June 2-4	Youngstown Hamfest
June 4	Breeze-Shooters Hamfest at Butler
June 13	RAC Club Meeting
	Newsletter distributed
June 24-25	Field Day