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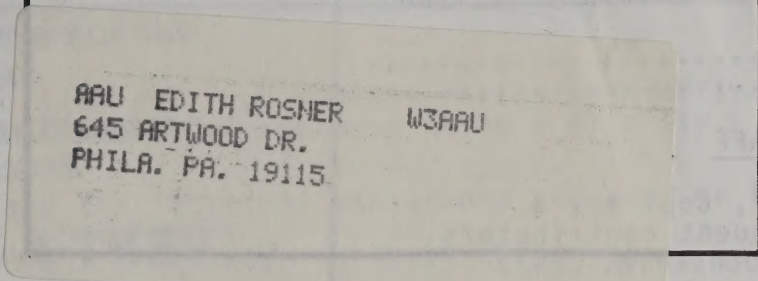
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(Affiliated with the West Link Radio Network, Inc.)



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NEWSLETTER

FEB

1985

The Newsletter is a publication of the Holmesburg Amateur Radio Club, Inc. Anything that is printed in this paper may be reprinted providing the proper credit is given.

Deadline for Articles: Delivered to the P.O.Box 6253 address by the 15th of each month. You may send directly to the Editor at 585 Kismet Road, Phila. PA 19115.

Editor reserves the right to edit, reject, reduce, etc. all items to be published. WE WELCOME YOUR INPUT!!

SUBSCRIPTION RATE: \$3.00 per year "BUY/SELL/TRADE/ETC.": FREE

1985 CLUB OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES

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SECRETARY:	K3HIN Richie Albert	Club Historian:	W3AAU Edith Rosner 645 Artwood Drive Philadelphia PA 19115

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HARC BUSINESS & GENERAL MEETINGS

February 3	August - none
March 3	September 8
April 14	October 6
May 5	November 3
June 2	December 1
July - none	January 5, 1986

H.A.R.C. STAFF

Editor in Chief, Copy Boy & Nag to delinquent contributors
..... Mark Rothstein, KC3JV

Circulation & Typing.... Claire Kuperman, KA3DNJ

Advertising Mavin.. Jay Kuperman,
WA3IFY

THIS MONTH IN THE HARC NEWSLETTER

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NEWSLETTER

2

THE PREZ SEZ

On January 6, 1985 your new administration took office and immediately addressed several issues that appeared to be a priority. The categories are as follows:

- 1) The Repeater and the technical assistance required to keep it on the air. (Mainsite and inputs)
- 2) The lack of adequate manpower to service the system as it presently functions.
- 3) Review of financial resources and outlay to purchase new repeater from an adequate manufacturer that will meet our needs.. both present and future.

Between the last Board of Directors meeting and a Technical meeting that was held, we have decided that there will be a period of time to develop ideas and alternatives to reduce the necessary man hours required to keep our system up and running. Details will follow as they develop.

Please remember that this is a hobby and we are in need of additional volunteers who can be committed to handle a small portion of the overall responsibility from a technical aspect to keep the repeater on the air. Are you willing to help? Please contact me so that our decisions will be based on committment rather than a simple maybe.

Let me remind you that our Director meetings are open and anyone who would like to attend may do so. These meetings are usually held on Thursday evening, just prior to the first Sunday business meeting, commencing at 8 p.m. to about 10 p.m. Our General Membership meetings will be oriented to you the membership in terms of a program that will be educational, social or fraternal in nature. We hope that you will view this as a reason to participate.

In conclusion, the Holmesburg Amateur Radio Club is YOUR organization and I personally wish that each of you will take an active part in the activity offered. If you feel you want something on a program or have some input, let's hear what it is. Regardless of how you let us know, contact us by mail, telephone, over the net or daily, on the repeater.

Thank you,

Tony , K3UKW

P.S. WE NEED HELP WITH THE NEWSLETTER.
WE NEED HELP WITH THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE.
WE NEED HELP WITH THE PROGRAMS FOR CLUB MEETINGS.

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE OPENINGS:

Positions that must be filled for Club Newsletter, in order to continue publishing it:

Business/Advertising Manager:

Prepares publication budget. Sees that printing and mailing expenses are paid. Contacts regular and potential advertisers to buy paid ad space and other publication. Arranges for payment of advertising.

News Editor:

Mark/KC3JV

Area Reporters:

Gathers and writes local type news of general interest to club members in specific areas of the locality.

Technical Reporter:

Gathers and writes news about technical operations such as repeater operations, new items/product reviews, new radios, advancements in electronic procedures.

Production Manager:

Arranges for preparing copy, paste up of information and advertising ready to be photographed for printing.

Distribution Manager:

Obtains copies from the printer, collates, stitches, folds, addresses, sorts by ZIP code, stamps and air-mails.

Roster Manager:

Maintains a roster of club members, so that periodic rosters and mailing labels can be easily produced and kept up to date.

Please contact MARK, KC3JV or TONY, K3UKW.

Following the tragic death of his mother Indira Gandhi by assassination, Rajiv Gandhi, VU2RG has been named Prime Minister of India. Gandhi's wife is VU2SON.

(ARRL REPORT)

FROM: FCC HIGHLIGHTS (Bill Grenfell, W4GF)

FCC's requirements for protection of aeronautical and marine radio services from harmful interference from signal leakage from cable television systems should provide considerable protection to the Amateur and other radio services using the VHF and UHF spectrum. Aeronautical navigation and communications are in the 108-136 and 225-400 MHz bands with specific emergency frequencies at 121.5 and 243 MHz. Within the Maritime Mobile 256.25-157.45 MHz band, 156.8 MHz is the distress frequency. Beside providing cable leakage field strength limits, FCC is requiring that "All cable television operators shall provide for regular signal leakage monitoring of their cable television systems for signal leakage, covering all portions of the systems at least once every three months. "...During regular monitoring, any leakage source which produces a field strength of 20 uV/m or greater at a distance of 3 meters in the aeronautical radio frequency bands shall be noted and such leakage shall be eliminated within a reasonable period of time." (Section 76.614). A ver detailed check of the entire system is required once a year.

FROM: ARRL REPORT (Ethel Smith, K4LMB)
SPACE LAB -2MISSION

Plans are progressing for Tony England, WØORE, to operate Amateur Radio on the 51F Space lab-2 mission and a letter from the NASA Public Affairs Director has emphasized the importance of arranging for the participation of schools and clubs as outlined in the ARRL/AMSAT proposal. Although originally scheduled for operation in April, a problem with the protective tiles on the Challenger has thrown a monkey wrench into the entire shuttle schedule. 51-F could be delayed until July 1985 or later.

The ARRL has petitioned FCC to amend its rules to provide for automatic control of digital communications above 30 Mhz.

THE ORIGIN OF "73"

The traditional expression "73" goes right back to the beginning of the landline telegraph days. It is found in some of the earliest editions of the numerical codes, each with a different definition, but each with the same idea in mind - it indicated that the end, or signature, was coming up. But there are no data to prove that any of these were used.

The first authentic use of 73 is in the publication The National Telegraphic Review and Operators' Guide, first published in April 1857. At that time, 73 meant "My love to you!" Succeeding issues of this publication continued to use this definition of the term.

Curiously enough, some of the other numerals used then had the same definition as they have now, but within a short time, the use of 73 began to change.

In the National Telegraph Convention the numeral was changed from the Valentine-type sentiment to a vague sign of fraternalism. Here, 73 was a greeting, a friendly "word" between operators and it was so used on all wires.

In 1859, the Western Union Company set up the standard "92 Code." A list of numerals from one to 92 was compiled to indicate a series of prepared phrases for use by the operators on the wires. Here, in the 92 Code, 73 changes from a fraternal sign to a very flowery "accept my compliments," which was in keeping with the florid language of that era.

Over the years from 1859 to 1900, the many manuals of telegraphy show variations of this meaning. Dodge's The Telegraph Instructor shows it merely as "compliments." The Twentieth Century Manual of Railway and Commercial Telegraphy defines it two ways, one listing as "my compliments to you;" but in the glossary of abbreviations it is merely "compliments." Theodore A. Edison's Telegraphy Self-Taught shows a return to "accept my compliments." By 1908, however, a later

edition of the Dodge Manual gives us today's definition of "best regards" with a backward look at the colder meaning in another part of the work where it also lists it as "compliments."

"Best regards" has remained ever since as the "put-it-down-in-black-and-white" meaning of 73 but it has acquired overtones of much warmer meaning. Today, amateurs use it more in the manner that James Reid had intended that it be used - a "freindly word between operators."

Louise Ramsey Moreau, W3WRE
(From The SPARC- Gap)

NEW MEMBERS

The following list of new members have H.A.R.C. name badges waiting for them. Please send a SASE with .22¢ postage to cover costs to the clubs P.O.Box 6253, Philadelphia, PA 19136, or come to the next club meeting on March 3, 1985.

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| JOHN, KA3AMN | FRANK, N3AIW |
| AVRAM, N3BBF | ED, W3BZK |
| HARRY, KC2FA | LEN, KD2CR |
| BOB, N2CTU | LUIS, KA3DNI |
| ROBERT, N3DXU | GENE, N3EEA |
| JOE, N2FDV | MOLLIE, K3FYS |
| ARTHUR, W3FWI | HAROLD, K3GFG |
| SID, K3HFH | HOWARD, KA3IJP |
| ED, KA2INK | JOHN, KA3MNT |
| HERSHEL, WA3MXV | CHUCK, K3QLY |
| JEFF, K3WJO | MERRILL, KT3Z |

WANTED.....

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PLEASE CONTACT KC3JV or K3UKW.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

A membership list is being prepared for publication. Any change in your pertinent data should be sent to H.A.R.C. P.O.Box 6253, Phila. PA 19136 by March 15th, 1985 to insure proper listing of your name, address, phone number, etc.

HARCLINE.....

HARCLINE is broadcast on the 146.685 repeater daily at 5:30 p.m. I would appreciate it if listeners would let me know if they hear the broadcasts. Call me after the HARCLINE broadcast or at 464-2665 or, through the Arts and Letters Bulletin Board.

I'm looking for comments, criticism and suggestions for improving this service.

HARCLINE is not limited to the membership of the Holmesburg Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and bulletins of interest from other clubs are welcome.

Edith, W3AAU

"SPRINGFEST '85"

The Shore Points Amateur Radio Club, Inc. is pleased to announce that "Springfest '85" will be held Saturday March 30, 1985 at the Atlantic County 4-H Fairgrounds near Egg Harbor, NJ.

This is an indoor hamfest and the only hamfest we know of planned for the southern Jersey Shore area. We are near Atlantic City, so that you can bring the family along.

Advance tickets for both sellers at \$5.00 per space and buyers at \$2.50 are available. Please forward all requests for tickets and additional information to SPARC, P.O. BOX 142, Absecon, NJ 08201.

Talk in 146.385/.985 & .52

RF FILTERING AND SHIELDING

The League is asking the FCC to issue a Public Notice advising manufacturers of video cassette recorders and other home entertainment equipment of their obligation to incorporate satisfactory RF filtering and shielding features.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE SUPPORTS PRB-1.

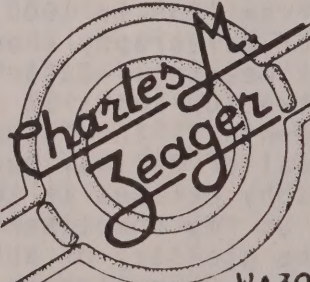
"The Department of Defense shares ARRL's concern over the proliferation of 'anti-ham' zoning ordinances which prohibit effective operation of amateur radio stations by limiting antenna heights or restricting accessory uses of residential real property. Continued success of the existing NSEP [national security, emergency preparedness] telecommunications plans involving amateur stations would be severely diminished if state and local ordinances are allowed to prohibit the construction of and usage of effective amateur transmission facilities." This paragraph opens the Department of Defense (DoD) reply comments in support of PRB-1, the ARRL request for preemptive relief from restrictive antenna ordinances.

The incident in Grenada, the 1983 New Orleans flood, the 1982 hurricane in Hawaii and the Coalinga earthquake are cited as examples of the responsiveness of amateurs in emergency situations. "The Department of Defense respectfully supports the request of ARRL that the Commission issue a declaratory ruling delineating the limitations of local zoning and other local and state regulatory authority over federally-licensed amateur radio facilities."

MARCH 17, 1985: DVRA, TRENTON, NJ

National Guard Armory, Eggerts Crossing Road, Lawrence Township, Trenton, NJ- The Armory is just off I 295, Exit 69 Route 206, south.

For details contact Walt Sharpe, KB2ZY after 5:00 p.m. at 609-397-4432.



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IS 20 METERS DEAD?

Have you been disappointed at the very low level of DX activity on your favorite DX band, 20 meters?

Have you gotten so frustrated at going on the air and not hearing any DX at all?

Seriously, I know many hams that have not gone on the air in months because they can't talk to hams in other countries (a major reason many of us got into this hobby in the first place).

Needless to say, 15 meters is virtually useless, and if you try to listen to 10 meters, you will swear that something is wrong with your receiver. The only bands where you can work DX fairly consistently (at least a couple of hours worth during a 24 hour cycle) are 160, 80, 40 and 20 meters.

Didn't I just say it's almost impossible to work DX on 20 meters these days? No, I didn't, but most Hams I know say that.

I work DX on 20 meters! As a matter of fact, I work DX almost everytime I go on 20 meters! Do I run 15 KW? Do I have stacked 205BA's at 70 and 140 feet (5 element mono banders)? No! All I have is a simple tribander at 50 feet and a medium powered linear amplifier.

There are really only two things you have to know to work DX consistently on 20 meters during these low sunspot activity days.

The first thing you have to know is when not to waste your time. I have found the best times as far as consistently working DX goes are the hours immediately following dawn and the hour before and after dusk.

The second thing you must realize is that when the sunspot cycle is where it is, signals are much weaker than "the good ol' days". You can't have reliable SSB QSO's when the strongest European signals are between an S-1 and S-2 most mornings! You have to use CW!

Every morning that I go on the air I work 10-25 DX CW stations on the other side of the "pond". Typical sig-

nal reports are 529, 339, 439, 429, 449, etc. Believe me, you can't work very many SSB signals when they roll in this weak. But, my point is, they do roll in! And, they are very workable on CW!

For those of you interested in working the really long haul stuff consistently on 20 meters such as the South Pacific, forget it for a little while. However, if you want to try some real long haul QSO's on 20 meters and you have a little time, try going on the air at dusk. Point your antenna at Japan. Call "CQ JA" between 14.035-14.040. At least once a week I have a number of JA's pile up on me answering my CQ. Propagation isn't always there, but once a week or so I manage to catch an opening to Japan that lasts about 15 or 20 minutes.

The DX contacts are out there, people! You just have to know when and how to work them!

Joe Pearlstein, WA3IJZ
Vice-President, HARC

BUY-SELL-TRADE: THIS SERVICE IS PROVIDED FREE TO OUR MEMBERS. THE HOLMESBURG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. ASSUMES NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CONDITION OF EQUIPMENT OFFERED.

SALE: Have new HP41C for sale. Calculator is listed at \$150.00. Will sell or trade at \$75.00. Includes carrying case, booklet and battery. Call 472-0132.
George Rocker, K3IKM

.....

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.....

THE ENGLISH CORNER

Just a few notes from the English corner of the world.

Firstly, as we all know- or don't know, CB is illegal in England- that is a.m. CB F.M. CB, on the other hand, is doing OK. They take the A.M. rigs that are illegal and convert them to 10 metres, which are becoming very popular.

Also, just for interest, there are twice the number of 440 repeaters in England than 2 metres repeaters. The complete reverse of here.

If you hold a General license or higher you may get a reciprocal license A - in England and use the 2 metre band, as follows:

144 Mhz	INPUT	OUTPUT
	145.000	145.600
	145.025	145.625
	145.050	145.650
	145.075	145.675
	145.100	145.700
	145.125	145.725
	145.150	145.750
	145.175	145.775
<u>432 MHz</u>	434.600	433.000
	434.650	433.050
	434.700	433.100
	434.750	433.150
	434.850	433.250
	434.900	433.300
	434.925	433.325
	434.950	433.350
	434.975	433.375

Did you know that there are only 3 stations in the world that use the 4U1 prefix?

4UITU, is Geneva, Switzerland. It counts as a separate DXCC, because it's in the International Telecommunications Union Building and falls under an international jurisdiction rather than Swiss.

4UIUN located in the UN Building in New York and again, falls under international jurisdiction, so again it is a DXCC call.

4UIVIC is at the Vienna International Centre. At present, it is not being treated as a DXCC but some countries count it as a multiplication in 'worked all Europe'.

If you hear someone calling a 4U number and not one of the 3 stations listed, it is likely that the call came from a member of the UN Peace Keeping Force somewhere in the Middle East or a crisis area.

73's

Raymond, N3DQW

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PRODUCT REVIEW: SANYO MBC-555-2 PERSONAL COMPUTER

By: Stuart Kravitz, K3GA

One of Japan's most cost effective entries in the domestic personal computer market is Sanyo's MBC-555-2.

Though casually introduced to it at a local computer store, it didn't take long for me to make a decision to purchase, in lieu of the more popular Apple, Commodore and Radio Shack models being offered at roughly the same price range.

At a Glance:

The 555-2 is an IBM-type 16-bit personal computer, featuring an Intel 8088 (3.6MHz) Central Processing Unit. Its operating system is MS-DOS version 2.11, and the unit comes standard with 128K of RAM, readily and easily expandable to 256K. A pair of 5-1/4 inch, 360K, double-sided, double-density disk drives are also standard, as well as a detached, 61-key, tilt-down keyboard, featuring a numeric pad with cursor controls and 10 special function keys.

It all sounds a lot like the IBM PC, doesn't it? But wait, there's more!

The 555-2 comes out of the box ready to drive either a monochrome or RGB monitor. Sanyo's basic video signals are generated for the RGB display while auxiliary circuits convert the color signals to monochrome. The character display format is a full 25 lines by 80 columns, and for pixels, it's 640 horizontal by 200 vertical.

The rear panel supports interfaces for most any Centronix parallel printer, color or monochrome monitor, RS-232 (serial) board for modem operation, and even joysticks.

More?

You bet. Standard "bundled," professionally documented software is packed with the 555-2 and includes some pretty classy titles, including WordStar, CalcStar, InfoStar, DataStar, ReportStar, SpellStar, Easywriter I and Sanyo Basic. Another bundled software choice is available and includes EasyWriter II, EasyFiler and EasyMailer in addition to CalcStar and WordStar.

Up Side:

Since purchasing the machine back in August, I've been thoroughly impressed with its professional "feel" as well as its human-engineered keyboard and MS-DOS operating system.

The software package has proven superb and its documentation easy to follow and learn. I got hooked on CalcStar and InfoStar in short order, as somehow I "created" immediate applications for both spread sheets and data base managers. Prior to owning a

personal computer, I hadn't a clue what they even were! Now I know enough about them to get myself into serious (albeit accurate) trouble. I'm also quite a fan of EasyWriter II for word processing.

Down-ish Side:

Though I didn't purchase the Sanyo necessarily for its IBM compatibility, it seems that because it shares the same operating system, people are quick to ask if it's indeed "compatable." The answer is emphatically - "sort of."

To be sure, there are fundamental differences between Sanyo and IBM graphics that, until recently, hadn't permitted 100% software compatibility. Specifically, Sanyo's video RAM is located in a different memory address than IBM, and to complicate matters, resolution and color differences aggravate the situation further. IBM, as it turns out, supports only four colors and a 320 x 200 pixel display which mis-matches Sanyo's eight color, 640 x 200 pixel format.

Until recently, only about 75% percent of commercially available Machine Language programs written for the IBM PC would run on the Sanyo.

Until recently?

A new, plug-in "Video RAM Board," designed by Sanyo and TW Technologies, is currently being offered, with vendor claims of "virtual" compatibility with the IBM PC, even touting the ability to run the ever popular Lotus 1-2-3 and Flight Simulator. And all for \$189 buckos. Local ham operator Mike Sussman (WA3TWC), a devout Sanyo user and consultant, installed a prototype board on his 555-2 and confirmed all vendor compatibility claims.

The Bottom Line:

If you've had your eye on an IBM or Columbia or Zenith or Compaq or Eagle or any of the more popular IBM "clones," and were scared off by their respective price tags and lack of included software, then you may well want to consider the Sanyo 555-2. Price notwithstanding, Sanyo's hardware, operating system and bundled software certainly make it a logical alternative to others in its class.

The Best Part:

"Some Hole in the Wall's" current (cash) price for the 555-2 is \$1035. I've seen advertised New York prices as low as \$969. Compare that to the above mentioned models and your savings could easily be well over \$2000.

With 50,000 units sold in the first seven months since its introduction and 100,000 sales projected as of this writing, a

major magazine publisher jumped on the bandwagon and now we have "Soft Sector," a comprehensive, machine-specific periodical published monthly for the Sanyo 550/555 Series PC's. In addition, CompuServe's IBM Sig (Special Interest Group) has included Sanyo in its vast database for "Compatibles," with tons of public domain software available for uploading, downloading or just browsing. Merely type GO PCS-131 at the "!" Prompt, and you'll be off and running.

Quite a machine. Quite a value.

Stuart - K3GA

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NUTS, BOLTS AND OTHER LOOSE THINGS

When do YOUR subscriptions run out? I don't know either. Like most of you I subscribe to many publications and sooner or later, lose track of which runs out when.

I notice the publishers like to remind you of your termination date in plenty of time so you won't miss a single exciting issue. Sometimes they over-do it in asking for renewal 6 month in advance. I appreciate the notification but I'd rather hold on to my cash a little longer. Of course when you fail to renew immediatly they send reminders every couple of weeks.

Some of them tend to try intimidation with lines like, "THIS IS THE LAST TIME WE'LL TELL YOU TO SEND MONEY!" or, "THIS IS YOUR VERY LAST ISSUE, YOU DEADBEAT!" How nice. Have you ever noticed another ploy they use to hook new subscribers? Very reduced rates. Not for true-blue-long term-cash paying readers like us. Oh no, it's to lure fresh blood to the mailing list. I resented that so much I allowed my subscription to run out and immediatly signed up again as a new subscriber at an even better price. They didn't notice a thing.

But it still gets confusing trying to figure out when you started and when it's time to renew. For instance: is it when they get your check? Maybe it's the date of the first issue you receive. Sometimes it takes 4 to 6 weeks to process your subscription so there goes a month or more and if it's computed from your payment date you lose out. Should you have 3 or 4 (or more) magazines comming each month and they all figure it out differently you've got problems.

Speaking of your issue's arrival at home, have you any that still come in brown paper sleeves? I liked that because it offered some protection for the magazine that isn't cheap in the first place. At least with the sleeve protection I could read the magazine without having to straighten crumpled pages and the like, or repair torn covers. Then too my mailman didn't waste time on his route reading my magazines. But those days of tender loving care for my mail are fast disappearing. The publishers claim it's too costly to wrap the rag in a sleeve (but next year prices are still going up).

Wouldn't it be great to have all your subscriptions due on January 1st or maybe your birthday? No problem remembering what was running out or how many issues you got. The easy way is to let all of them run out and not renew. Then go borrow a copy of what you want from a friend or neighbor.

Anyone have last months' Playboy?