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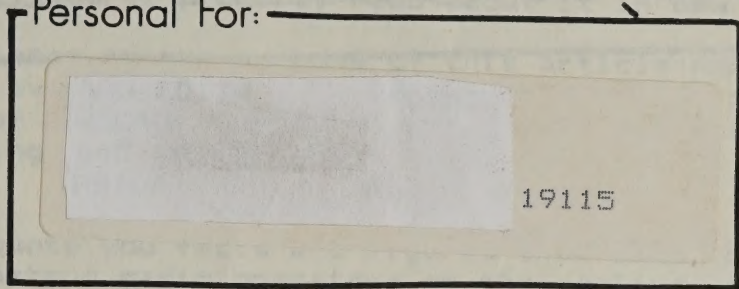


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NEWSLETTER

APR
1986

The Newsletter is a publication of the Holmesburg Amatur 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 addressed by the 15th of each month. You may send directly to the Editor to 11219 Halstead St., Phila., PA 19116.

Editor reserves the right to edit, reject, reduce, etc. all items to be published. we welcome your input!!

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NEWSLETTER

2

PREZ SEZ

THE PREZ SEZ

Greetings! I just came down off of 20 meter CW when I remembered I promised our illustrious editor, K3HIN, this Prez Sez article. Oh well, conditions were pretty poor anyway. I didn't hear a single European moving the S-meter on the '830-s more than S1 anyway!

Thanks for your support in electing me President of H.A.R.C. for 1986. It looks like we've got a good year in store!

We will have a guest speaker at our next meeting from RCA. To be honest with you, I forget exactly what the topic will be, but I believe it has something to do with radar, or tracking, and the gentleman is a ham as well.

Our August meeting (I believe it's on the 3rd) will be a breakfast meeting, similar to the extremely successful one we had last year. We are currently looking into various facilities including the one we used last year. We are trying to keep it at 100% H.A.R.C. sponsored event so you as the membership do not have to spend any money—just come! We'll keep you posted!

73,
DE WA3IJZ

Westlink report needs your support!!! They are behind in paying the telephone bill. They need \$500.00 in a few weeks or they will have to close down. Send your contribution to: Norm Chalfin K6PGX Westlink, support fund, Box 463 Pasadena, CA 91102

—146.685 MHz—

Amateur radio has sure come a long way since I first became interested in pumping some RF into the atmosphere. From simple one tube transmitters, \$69.96 (list price) receivers, and scrap wire for antennas to instantaneous 100% error-free digital communications without even a ham in the shack-whew! It makes your head spin when you think about it. Now there's television, computer communications, remote control of your low band station with midget H.T.'s, satellite mounted repeaters, moon bounce, you name it- if it hasn't been developed for application to amateur radio yet, you'll probably read about it in new month's QST.

This brings me closer to the purpose of this article (AHA! you were wondering if I'd ever get there.) This article really deals with the dwindling ranks of the amateur radio fraternity, and what we, as amateurs, are doing to insure those ranks keep right on dwindling down to oblivion.

I don't have to quote you facts and figures that show that not only are the numbers of amateur radio operators on the decline, the average age of the hams is going up, and that the number of new licensees is going way down. These are all facts that we've read in the various amateur radio publications complete with all the numbers substantiating these claims.

You've heard all kinds of reasons, I'm sure explaining possible reasons for this phenomenon. I'm sure many of these reasons are correct. But we have lost sight of something which I believe is the most important reason of all.

Let's take a step back and analyze what differences there are between now and then in attracting the budding newcomer to the hobby (and we all agree that's what the hobby is missing- fresh young blood supercharged with a passion for the hobby that got most of us motivated as teenagers.)

Take a look through a current QST, CQ, or 73 magazine and you'll see that the average ham station today is a high-tech atmosphere of digital this and memory that and beautiful little megabuck boxes that can do everything from remembering what frequency you used for that qso you had 3 years ago to sending a television picture to a buddy of yours in California by bouncing the signal off of some star in a far away galaxy that the U.S.S. Enterprise needed warp speed to get to.

Come on people! Showing young teenagers this kind of stuff is certainly going to be interesting, but it is certainly not going to increase the ranks of the fraternity to any great extent. It costs too damn much! The only teenagers, I know that can afford this kind of equipment (i.e. packet radio controllers, computes, VHF UHF transceivers, Yagi antennas, rotors, etc., etc., etc.) are those with fairly well-to-do parents who in my opinion, are too generous to their children! Come on now! It doesn't take a genius to see why the hobby attracted so many "fired-up" teenagers in the 50's and 60's! Take a look through the QST'S, CQ and 73 from those years and you will see just what I'm talking about! Sure! They still had stations that cost many thousands of dollars! These stations were fuel for fantasy for just about all of us back then. But, and this is a big but, what attracted us all to the hobby during these years of amateur and growth was the fact we could

communicate with other hams in other countries and other states for very little money. You didn't have to be born into an upper middle class family to get on the air at 15 years of age. During the 50's, there was expensive radio equipment available commercially,, but nearly everyone modified WWII surplus equipment to get on the air. And more importantly it was OK to do this! Amateur radio magazines were filled with "conversion" articles. Putting together an amateur radio station might have still been more expensive a hobby than collecting bottle caps, but the amount of money required was still a realistic amount that a kid earned during a summer job! During the 60's there were still commercially available transmitters selling new for between \$50 (Ameco) and \$80 (Heathkits).

Looking through an amateur radio magazine today will quickly inform a would be ham that he is going to have to spend a minimum of \$500 to buy a normal no frill rig(new), and if he doesn't already have a computer, he's informed by many hams that it may cost him over \$1000.00 to "work the world" and \$200 to \$400 just to communicate locally (for a 2 meter FM transceiver).

This is what's scaring off potential new hams! We have to stop showing them all this high-budget-high-tech electronic equipment that they can't afford and go back to showing them the reason we all got involved in the first place--so we could communicate with another ham far, far away without having to finance your radio shack!

True, military surplus is not as available as it was in the 50's, and true, low-priced kits are not as available as in the 60's, but jeez, just look at the bargains in the back of the magazines on SSB/CW transceivers (that in the 60's and 70's we used to fantasize about!!!). They're at every hamfest, too! What's the matter with you people anyway for no code licensing so more people will become hams? This won't bring more people into the hobby! Showing them the high-tech glory that can be theirs for just \$1000 so they can communicate with someone as "far" away as Massachusetts digitally won't bring more people into the hobby! Showing them what can be done--with-- a used 200 transceiver and a hunk of wire.....showing them how much fun it is exchanging information about cultures in various parts of the world with this \$200 station.....exposing them to the international fraternity of amateur radio which supercedes race, nationalities, vastly differing political ideologies...discussing various aspects of daily living with some laid back Caribbean Islander, sheep farming with a New Zealander! This is the amateur radio that used to attract all the hams during the high growth years of our wonderful hobby. This is the amateur radio that is still going on every single day! Why don't we show this amateur radio to the teenagers of today instead of all the expensive high-tech stuff which is promulgated in the magazines today that they cannot afford anyway?

TELECOMMUNICATIONS
LOVE IT OR LOSE IT

THE FOLLOWING IS A SPECIAL TO ENA'S NETWEAVER PUBLICATION.
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THERE WAS A TIME, NOT SO LONG AGO, WHEN MICRO-BASED
TELECOMMUNICATIONS WAS A SUBSET OF THE ENTIRE COMPUTING
COMMUNITY. TELECOMMUNICATIONS WAS RESERVED FOR A GROUP OF
PEOPLE FOND OF LATE-NIGHT KEYBOARD SESSIONS, BUT NOTHING
"SERIOUS" WAS DEVELOPING IN THE WORLD OF ONLINE
TELECOMMUNICATIONS. OH, HOW TIME FLIES.

IN CALIFORNIA, A LOS ANGELES SYSOP BECAME AN INFORMATION AGE
CELEBRITY BECAUSE HE WAS ARRESTED FOR ACTIVITIES TAKING PLACE ON
HIS BULLETIN BOARD. TOM TCIMPIDIS' MOG-UR BBS WAS CONFISCATED
(UP TO AND INCLUDING BACKUP DISKS) BY SECURITY OFFICERS OF
PACIFIC BELL BECAUSE SOMEONE OPENLY POSTED STOLEN AT&T AND
SPRINT TELEPHONE ACCOUNT NUMBERS.

AFTER A LONG AND HEATED DEBATE BETWEEN PACIFIC BELL AND
TCIMPIDIS' LAWYER (NOT TO MENTION HUNDREDS OF ONLINE
PARTICIPANTS DISCUSSING THE CASE'S ETHICAL AND LEGAL
IMPLICATIONS) THE PHONE COMPANY RELENDED AND DECIDED NOT TO
CARRY ITS CASE TO THE COURTS.

THE CASE BECAME A RALLYING POINT FOR THOSE CONCERNED WITH ONLINE
"ELECTRONIC FREEDOM OF SPEECH." WHEN THE PHOSPHOR SETTLED,
CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLYWOMAN GWEN MOORE INTRODUCED AN ASSEMBLY
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT (ACA-9) THAT, IF PASSED, WILL
GUARANTEE ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS THE SAME PROTECTIONS
PROVIDED TO MAIL AND TELEPHONE CONVERSATION. FEDERAL AND
STATE LEGISLATION AFFECTING TELECOMMUNICATIONS IS BEING
WRITTEN, INTRODUCED AND PASSED--RIGHT UNDER THE CURSOR OF
THE ONLINE COMMUNITY. SOME OF THIS LEGISLATION WILL
CHANGE THE NATURE OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS IMMEDIATELY; ALL
OF IT WILL, IN SOME WAY, SHAPE THE EVOLUTION OF
TELECOMMUNICATIONS.

AS ONE ONLINE WAG STATED: "THIS IS NO TIME TO LET SLEEPING
DOGMA'S LIE."

THE STATEMENT "INFORMATION IS POWER" WOULD DRAW LITTLE DEBATE.
COMBINE THAT POWER OF INFORMATION WITH TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND
YOU BEGIN TO SEE WHY THE AREA OF "TELELAW" IS ONE OF THE HOTTEST
ISSUES AROUND.

OF THE MANY AREAS IN THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY BEING
CHALLENGED BY LEGAL ACTIONS AND CHAMPIONED BY LOBBYIST GROUPS,
THREE KEY ISSUES ARE RECOGNIZED: THE PRIVACY RIGHTS OF
ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS, ILLEGAL COMPUTER ACCESS, AND THE
FEDERAL REGULATION OF DATA COMMUNICATIONS.

THE FOLLOWING IS A LISTING OF THE PENDING LEGISLATION ON THE
FEDERAL LEVEL. NOT INCLUDED IS A BILL ABOUT TO BE INTRODUCED BY
SENATOR PATRICK LEAHY (D-VA) THAT WILL, IF PASSED, AMEND THE
WIRE TAP ACT. SEN. LEAHY'S BILL IS KNOWN AS THE ELECTRONIC
COMMUNICATION PRIVACY ACT OF 1985. LEAHY CONTENTS THAT THERE
MUST BE A FEDERAL POLICY THAT PROTECTS WHAT IS BEING
TRANSMITTED, NOT THE WAY IT IS TRANSMITTED.

SO RISE UP, YE MODEM MINUTEMEN, AN ACTIVE PART ON THE BEHALF OF
TELECOMMUNICATIONS IS NEEDED--NOW.

THERE ARE SEVERAL BILLS ON CAPITOL HILL THAT DEAL WITH
TELECOMMUNICATIONS. LISTED BELOW ARE THE BILLS THAT HAVE BEEN
INTRODUCED TO CONGRESS AT PRESS TIME.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

- H.R. 293: IMPACT ON PRIVACY
- H.R. 296: PRIVACY PROTECTION
- H.R. 642: TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY COORDINATION ACT
- H.R. 744: NATIONAL INFORMATION POLICY
- H.R. 745: NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY FOUNDATION
- H.R. 930: SYSTEMS PROTECTION
- H.R. 995: MEDICAL RECORDS PROTECTION
- H.R. 1001: COMPUTER FRAUD
- H.R. 1175: INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPETITION
- H.R. 2889: COMPUTER SECURITY TRAINING

THE SENATE

- S. 440: COMPUTER SYSTEMS PROTECTION
- S. 610: ACCESS OF GOVERNMENT COMPUTERS
- S. 728: JAPANESE TELECOMMUNICATIONS PRODUCTS PROHIBITED
- S. 786: INFORMATION AGE COMMISSION
- S. 1305: BAR COMPUTER PORN

WHERE TO ASK:

THE BEST WAY TO DETERMINE THE STATUS OF PENDING LEGISLATION IS
TO CONTACT THE BILLS STATUS OFFICE, CAPITOL, WASHINGTON, DC
20515, (202) 225-1772.

BY SEARCHING A COMPUTERIZED DATABASE (YOU MUST SUPPLY A SUBJECT
KEYWORD TO SEARCH ON) THIS OFFICE CAN ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS YOU
HAVE REGARDING A PIECE OF LEGISLATION.

ANOTHER HELPFUL OFFICE IS THE CONGRESSIONAL INFORMATION SERVICE,
1701 WISCONSIN AVE., WASHINGTON, DC 20014, (301) 654-1550. A
USEFUL PUBLICATION OF THIS OFFICE, THE CONGRESSIONAL INFORMATION
SERVICE INDEX, CAN SUPPLY YOU WITH INFORMATION REGARDING
CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE RESEARCH ON THE TOPIC OF YOUR CHOICE, OR
IDENTIFY THE AVAILABILITY OF RELEVANT CONGRESSIONAL HEARING
TRANSCRIPTS.

BUY-SELL-TRADE

Wanted: Drake RV-75 VFO.

For Sale: Drake (New) MN-75 Ant tuner 1.8 to 30 mhz wax or random wire....\$195

Drake (New) AK-75 wire antennas 1.8 to 30 mhz Excellent value at \$350

Drake TR-5 xcvr with NB & CW fil includes 20 amp Heath HD1144 Power Supply \$525

ICOM R-70 Gen cov receiver (mint)...\$474

Hammerlund HQ-180 receiver with built in clock. General coverage...excellent condition.. \$220

Kenwood TS-120..XCVR 10-80 meters...375

Tony Musero- K3UKW- 215-271-8898

Well, Feb 23 opened the Hamfest season in our area and you might want to prepare yourself by making a note of the Hamfests that are scheduled within 90 miles of our home through 1986.

April 6- Timonium MD- Greater Baltimore Hamboree and Computerfest.

April 12-Sat.-Flemington NJ

April 25,26,27- Dayton Hamvention.

May 25- Ephrata, PA (First year for this one)

June 1- Manassas, VA (South of DC)

June 8- Warminster Amateur Radio Club
Middletwon Orange Fairgrounds

June 8- also (same day) Ridley Park Delaware County

June 21, 22- Field Day

July 6- Wilkes Barre

July 27-"BRATS" near Frederick MD at Fairgrounds

August 3- Midatlantic Amateur Radio Club.(RT 611 Drive In)

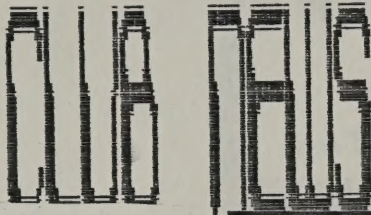
Sept.- usually SVRA first Sunday in Sept.

Oct.- First weekend in October- Pack Rats

Oct 26- Red Rose Computerfest- Lancaster, PA

73,
Tony-K3UKW

NEWSLETTER



Minutes of February 2, 1986 General Meeting.....

Meeting called to order by our Pres. Tony Musero, K3UKW. Introductions were made, minutes were read and approved.

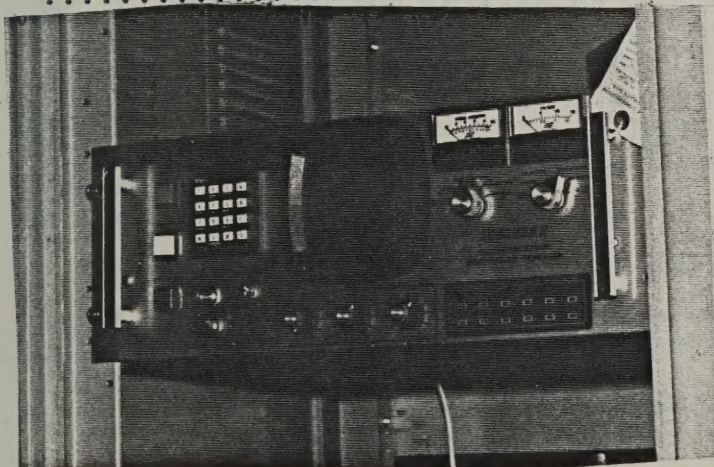
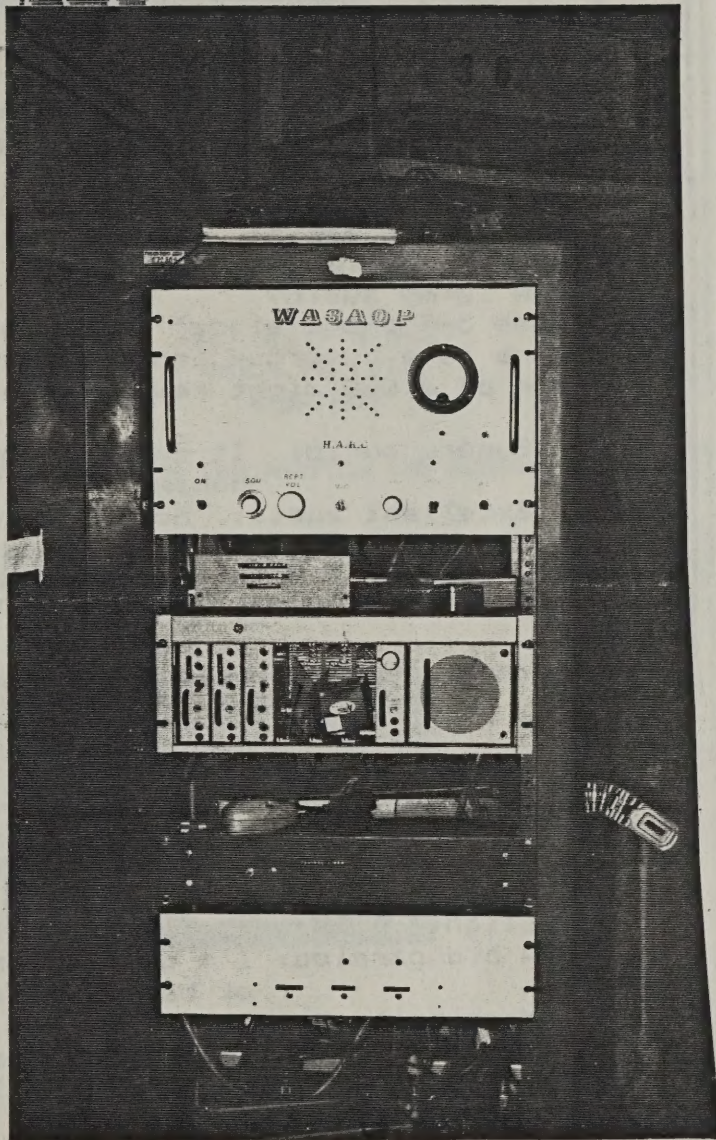
Technical Committee Report: Bob, KB3SM gave a short report on the function of the new repeater. Our amplifier is now being repaired. Joe, WA3IJZ gave a report on the Technical Committee that was recently set up.

Dick, WA3EVY spoke on the City of Philadelphia "WE THE PEOPLE 200" program and how HARC can become involved. It was also noted that Dick has retired from City service after 33 years
Election Results:

- Joe Pearlstein, WA3IJZ - Prez.
- Paul Kaplan, N2FOB - Vice- Prez
- Jay Kuperman, WA3IFY - Treasurer
- Claire Kuperman, KA3DNJ - Secy.
- Charlie Zeager, WA3OQR - 3 yr Trust.

Program: John Thomas, W3FAF gave a very informative talk on PROPAGATION and all its ramifications. The new Officers took over their duties at the close of this meeting. 25 people attended. We adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Claire Kuperman, Secy.



OUR REPEATERS

'BLD RELIABLE

OUR NEW SPECTRUM L SIDE

New members,

N3EEC	Ed
W2HGC	Maurice
KC3PA	Gary
N3EMA	Joe

It should be apparent that the Editor's job is a thankless one, it requires time and patience, we should appreciate that we have Richie K3HIN who is willing to do it, he does a great job with the material he has. He also just finished serving as the secretary for the club, as one can see he is a dedicated member, THANK YOU RICHIE!

How is my audio?

Does 5-9 phone signal report always mean "perfectly readable". Here is a humorous look by Pete KD7WZ at what the ham on the other end of a QSO might really mean.

Superb audio: It dosen't sound like you, but at least it sounds human.

Excellent audio: Sounds like your head is down in a barrel and you are talking into the wrong side of the microphone.

Good audio: You do a great imitation of Donald Duck with the hiccups.

Very punchy: Are you using a speech processor or a garbage compactor?

A little hum on your signal: Is that a Boeing 747 warming up in the background?

You may be overdriving it just a tad: I Can hear your teeth hitting the microphone.

Your modulation level is a little low: You might ckeck your transmission fluid, too.

Slightly tinney: I can't tell which sideband you are on.

A bid garbled: I'm getting only about every third word, but that's ok because I an not listening.

Marginally scratchy: Sounds like your mike cord is shorted out to the ignition system of a 52 Plymouth.

You audio is not the best: I'd rather listen to the woodpecker.

Terrible audio: Maybe I can unload that old surplus Ferblugen microphone on this guy.

QST de WA3IFY

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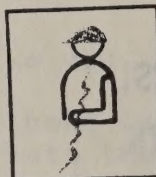
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