



The HARC Spark

April, 1998



The Official Newsletter of the
Holmesburg Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 6253
Philadelphia, Penna. 19136
Web Site <http://www.harcnet.org>
Packet BBS WA3RCA 145.030 MHz

PREZ SEZ

April is the month of public service events. We have the March of Dimes Walk-America at Lincoln High School and the East Coast Collegiate Cycling Championships. The Lincoln High School event will take HARC members into the park and the ECCC will take place on April 26 in the Memorial Hall area.

Last year's ECCC event was covered in CQ VHF's April Issue. The Cycling coach is from the University of Pennsylvania and had some really nice things to say about amateur radio. Let's not disappoint him.

Both of our license classes are going well. In the evening class our students found a mistake on the code tape. The instructor says dah-di-dah and sends dah-di-di-dah. I think all are looking forward to getting their license.

Our club meeting speakers are top notch. We're always on a look out for others. If you have any ideas, contact WA3PZO.

That's it for this month. Catch you on the air.

73s Bob

APRIL MEETING PRESENTATION

A special event is scheduled for the Thursday, April 30th meeting of the Holmesburg Amateur Radio Club. In announcing the group's monthly meeting, President Bob Josuweit, WA3PZO stressed, "We have the Doctor making a 'house call' at the 8 p.m. meeting.

The doctor reference was pointed at Newtown Square resident, Dr. Dennis Silage. As an Assistant Director for the American Radio Relay League's Atlantic Division, Dr. Silage is contacted almost daily for information about preventative and corrective technical aspects of Amateur Radio. Through this unique turn of events, the source of this information is coming to the users.

The Temple University professor of Electrical Engineering's presentation will focus upon new Federal Communication Commission's requirements for Amateur Radio operators in every class of FCC licensing.

One of the newer, required technical areas deals with understanding the effects of improper radiation from all forms of radio equipment." Dr. Silage, himself a long-time Ham operator, shares why this message is important. "Unless good engineering standards are understood and maintained, the new environmental limits could possibly be exceeded"

Amateur Radio operators have a responsibility to be able to certify at any time their equipment is in compliance. Josuweit added, "Attending this meeting will permit Amateur Radio operators to honor this federal requirement "

STRAIGHT KEY NIGHT

Results of the 1998 Straight Key Night are in April QST. Several Atlantic Division hams took honors in the annual CW event. Wayne Clifford N2FX, from Monroeville, NJ, reported the most contacts of all participants. Michael Benjamin W2GR, from Niagara Falls, NY, finished a close second. On SKN, quality also counts, because participants vote for the best fist. Robert Gleason W3KW, of Annapolis, MD, was in a 3-way tie for best fist. Congratulations to these ops and all the brass-pounders who took part in Straight Key Night.

ARRL 160 METER CONTEST

Also in April QST are the results of the 1997 160 Meter Contest. Atlantic Division clubs won two of the three categories in the club competition.

Frankford Radio Club won the Unlimited category with about 2.5 million points. Potomac Valley Radio Club won the Medium category with about 2.6 million points. If PVRC can get a few more entries in 1998, and move into the Unlimited category, FRC will find themselves in a horse race! Other Atlantic Division clubs in the Medium category of the contest were North Coast Contesters, Rochester DX Association, and Salt City DX Association.

"WEB SITE TO CHECK OUT!"

MORSE CODE BOOK NOW ON THE INTERNET

The second edition of the extensive book "The Art and Skill of Radio-Telegraphy" is now available on the Internet at the Morse Code Enthusiasts of Scotland web site. The address is: <http://www.joates.demon.co.uk/megs/>

I took the time and look at the book, and I find it to be very well written and quite informative. It covers lots of CW history, tips on learning the code and lots of help in improving your CW skills. It is well worth seeing! Reprint from World Radio- Rick McCusker, K06DJ, from editor Larry Pollack N3VLC

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME

How does taking your family out for the night (the week after Field Day) and having the opportunity to mingle with other hams sound? Tickets have been ordered for the Friday, July 3rd Philadelphia Phillies game. The big attraction will be the fireworks. Following the game Mellon Bank will present it's annual fireworks show that will be set to music. These are some of the best fireworks in the city.

Joining HARC will be members of the Mid-Atlantic ARC. MARC members went to the game last year and had a great time. The Phillies will be playing Milwaukee, a new entry into the National

League. Game time will be 7:05pm. Seats will be in Section 354, Rows 1-5. You will be able to go onto the field to see the fireworks. Cost is \$14.00 per ticket. For further information contact Bob, WA3PZO. Tickets will be sold on a first come/first serve basis. Friends and family are invited.

"CQ VHF" PROMOTES "NATIONAL FOXHUNTING WEEKEND"

A ham radio magazine is urging amateur radio clubs and operators across America to go "foxhunting." "CQ VHF" magazine has designated the last weekend in April as the "'CQ VHF' National Foxhunting Weekend," and is encouraging ham operators and radio clubs to conduct a hidden transmitter hunt at that time. Unlike traditional ham radio contests, there are no standardized rules, log sheets or reporting forms. "It's not a national contest, and there are no set rules," writes radio foxhunting veteran Joe Moell, K0OV, in an article announcing the event in the upcoming April issue of "CQ VHF". "It's just a time for clubs, schools and Scout groups to try this on-air competition is a ham radio tradition dating back nearly to the birth of the hobby, and foxhunting has been part of that tradition for at least 60 years.

Foxhunting may be done by car or on foot, and the magazine is encouraging ham groups to use either one or both during the National Foxhunting Weekend. And there's more than a fun day of friendly competition involved. "Foxhunting is certainly fun and a competitive challenge," says "CQ VHF" Editor Rich Moseson, W2VU, "but it also teaches important direction-finding skills that may be called upon in searching for a downed airplane or lost hiker using an Emergency Locator Transmitter, or for tracking down sources of interference."

"Transmitter hunting belongs in the main-stream of amateur radio," adds Moell. "Ham RDF can be used for public service and to save lives."

The "CQ VHF" National Foxhunting Weekend coincides with efforts by other ham radio groups to promote the sport. The Portland, Oregon based Friendship Amateur Radio Society has been working to bring international-style, on-foot, foxhunting -- already popular in Europe and Asia -- to North America. And in

January, the American Radio Relay League (the largest US ham radio organization) endorsed those efforts and approved the appointment of a national ARRL ARDF Coordinator to encourage activity.

Groups participating in the "CQ VHF" National Foxhunting Weekend are encouraged to send reports of their activity directly to Joe Moell, K0OV, at PO Box 2508, Fullerton, CA 92837, or via e-mail to <homingin@aol.com>. E-mail reports may also be sent to the magazine at <cqvhf@aol.com>.

"CQ VHF" is a monthly magazine dedicated to "Ham Radio Above 50 MHz." It is published by CQ Communications, Inc., which also publishes "CQ Amateur Radio," "Popular Communications," "Communications Quarterly," "CQ Contest," "Electronic Servicing and Technology," CQ Books and the CQ Video Library. CQ Communications is based in Hicksville, New York.

"CQ VHF" Press Release

E-MAIL ADDRESSES

We are still trying to compile a list of all of the e-mail addresses for club members. We are going to try to set up a listserv for the newsletter so that we can e-mail the newsletter to everyone. Send your e-mail address to Dave (kb3akk@aol.com), Bob (bjosuweit@aol.com), or Larry (hunter2@bellatlantic.net). If you do not have an e-mail address but you do have a computer & modem, contact Larry N3VLC. He will set you up with a copy of Juno. Juno is only e-mail.

FOR SALE

Hustler G6 270R dual band vertical antenna.
6dB gain on VHF & UHF. Weight--5.3 lbs.
Height--7'6" Brand new in box. Asking \$125.00

Contact Greg N3FSC at 215-742-7240 or N3FSC@aol.com

Conner Tape-Stor (New) 4GB IDE Minicartridge Tape Backup System/For IBM and
Compatible PC's, Workstations and Servers.

Asking \$139.00Ph:(609)390-0552 (Jim)

E-mail: jkb2tlb@aol.com

From: "William Curtis"

Subject: Wanna be a Lid?

Date: Sat, 7 Mar 1998 21:09:06 -0500

SO YOU WANT TO BE A LID!

Lid...a term used in amateur radio to denote a poor operator; one who is inept at the practice of the art. A monumental problem facing amateur radio today is the alarming amount of poor operators filling the airwaves. It is the opinion of many that one of the reasons for this is the fact that many of the new operators really have not been advised about proper operating procedures. Too many of the "amateur radio classes" produced today spend very little, if any, time correcting operating procedures. Their major thrust is to teach the code, cram the theory, and fill out a 610 form!

It is easy to be a lid, it must be, there are so many of them. If you are already a lid, read on, you may find some new "lid-isms." If you are not yet a full-fledged lid, you may learn some new material for your next transmissions. Probably the most popular is "QRZ the frequency." Nobody can be quite sure what the exact meaning of this is. The ARRL Handbook lists QRZ as a CW "shorthand" signal meaning "Who is calling me?" On phone it may mean something else, although I can't imagine a frequency calling someone! I even heard a W5 utter "QRZ the channel!" Now this guy is a chief lid. The frequency was silent for a while (Probably as most good operators were in a state of shock) and then a signal from afar responded, "This is the channel and I wasn't calling you!" I think "QRZ the channel" and "QRZ the frequency" are real winners. Use them a lot. You'll chase the good, experienced hams out of their gourds.

Actually, the use of "Q" signals on phone is in itself a true "lid-ism." The "Q" signals were devised by high-speed CW operators as a form of "shorthand" in order to speed up their transmissions. What use they have on phone is questionable, as in many cases you can say the actual meaning just as fast. In many cases they cause more confusion than if you would have said the actual meaning. Then you get the real lid who comes off with "QRM-Mary or QRN-Nancy?" Good heavens, why didn't he just say he had interference?

Now, you must be ready with this one at a moment's notice: "HI." Never, ever, laugh if you find something funny. Say "HI" or even better "HI-HI." It doesn't really take the place of laughter, but it tells the other operators that you know how to laugh on CW.

Another one. Always give your callsign phonetically when operating on phone, especially when conditions are good and signals are clear. It's another small way to take up valuable air time without really adding any intelligence to a conversation. To cut a fine line, it is not legal to identify your station by saying "Whiskey Five Victor Sierra Romeo." If your call is issued W5VSR, the identification is "This is W5VSR." If copy is difficult and for clarification, then, "This is W5VSR. Whiskey Five Victor Sierra Romeo." So continue your lid-ism and show how clever you can be with ridiculous phonetics. A good friend of mine is W5BS; he has a lot of self-restraint!!

SO YOU WANT TO BE A LID!

Are you interested in DX? Put these on your DX lid list, "CQ Dog X-Ray." jazz it up a little by saying, impressively "CQ Dog X-Ray, beaming Asia." Not only does that improve your antenna's directionality, but it lets everyone hearing you think you have a beam, whether you do or not. The number one, all time lid award of the century goes to those great DX operators who listen down on one frequency in the foreign part of the band and transmit up in the American phone band without ever listening on the transmitting frequency to see if it was clear. Of course, you must use two processors, in tandem, mike gain wide open, and drive your three 8877 final tubes with an SB-220 while bellowing forth, "CQ Dog X-Ray" for five continuous minutes, before listening. This is the way to attract lots of attention. Lots of it!

Next on the list is the subject of "Break." I do believe that we inherited that one from the CBers. Just find a comfortable roundtable in progress, and say "Break" or better "Break-Break" or best "Breaker-Breaker." Don't give any calls; neither the station you hear nor your own. Don't listen for a few minutes first to find out if you can hear all of the stations in the roundtable. Just break in and disrupt everything. If that doesn't work, start tuning up your rig on that frequency. After all, aren't the frequencies there for all to enjoy?

Here are some quickies: Say "Go" or "Come back" or "C'mon, Good Buddy," instead of "Over" if you think you must say anything at all to let the other operator know you are ready to listen to him. Don't forget the all time Broderick Crawford "10-4" or better "That's a big 10-4."

It is a shame the F.C.C. no longer requires us to indicate portable operation. They have taken away another opportunity for the lid-ism---"This is Whiskey Five Very Strong Radio, Port Five." I just typed this on my port typewriter!

RESULTS GUARANTEED

Did you ever hear a phone operator who sounds like he's operating from a dungeon? Maybe he is, but even without a dungeon you can get the same effect by turning up your mike gain and holding your Golden Eagle D-104 at least one foot, better at two, from your face. Never close talk a mike. Disc Jockeys never do and they are "cool." When you are on the air, you are "cool" too, so you do the same. Communications microphones are designed to be close talked. Keep that mike gain at a minimum level. That way you won't be transmitting the voices of your wife and kids screaming five rooms away. Of course, to be a super lid in the audio department, do use a "power mike" driving a processor. Everybody knows that the engineers who designed your transmitter purposely made it short on mike gain.

Lastly, when giving your name, refer to it as your "Handle." It's folksy. And be sure to say, "The handle here is Beaver." That's liddier than just plain, "My name is Beaver." It also helps to punctuate your remarks with "By golly" whenever possible and remember whenever in a large roundtable, especially on a VHF repeater, give each and every call sign in the group complete with phonetics when IDing. Also don't forget to add "For ID" after your callsign.

SO YOU WANT TO BE A LID!

There are many other ways to be a lid, but I feel confident that if more operators were to take a look at this disaster from the lighter side, perhaps we'll all see just how ridiculous most of the phone operation on the ham bands is today. Phone conversation should really not take on a much different atmosphere from talking to your friends on the telephone. Do you say "Over" or "Break" or the worst "Come back" when you are on the telephone? Well then, why do so many do it on the amateur bands? All of that is ever so redundant on a repeater system where most have "End-of-transmission" beep tones; and of course, there is usually a squelch burst ahead of that, so you actually ended up with a fellow ending his sentence with "Come back" followed by a squelch

burst followed by the repeater's beep and in many cases the repeater carrier dropping. You have just four indications that it's your turn! QSL?

Let's all pay more attention to this problem and see if we can help "Clean up" our operations and put amateur radio operations back up to the more professional nature that it enjoyed before many poor habits of the CB band crept up on us.

" by A.J. "Buddy" Massa, W5VSR.

By Golly, hope ya'll enjoyed this as I have.

73, Dan

from KM6CQ @ KM6PX.#NCA.CA.USA.NA

KENNAMER TAPPED AS MEMBERSHIP SERVICES MANAGER

Current ARRL DXCC Manager Bill Kennamer, K5FUV, will replace Chuck Hutchinson, K8CH, as Membership Services Manager at ARRL Headquarters, effective April 20. Hutchinson is stepping down and into a part-time role for medical reasons.

Hutchinson took over the Membership Services Department in January 1991 after more than nine years in the Technical Department--six of them as department manager. As Membership Services Manager, he completed the computerization of the DXCC records--with more than six million contacts now in the database--and improved DXCC service. Among his other accomplishments, he increased the use of computers to improve service and boost productivity, expanded W1AW's mission to improve bulletin dissemination, rejuvenated the A-1 Operator's Club, and made it easier for overseas amateurs to receive IARU Worked All Continents and DXCC certificates.

Fluent in Spanish, Hutchinson was credited by ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, with having contributed to a "greatly strengthened relationship" between the ARRL and the URE, the League's sister society in Spain. Sumner also said Hutchinson's efforts at personnel development resulted in "a strengthened staff."

Kennamer is a 1968 graduate of the University of Arkansas. He joined the HQ staff in June 1992 after a career in the insurance and securities industries and as manager of AGL Electronics in Dallas. He has extensive contesting and QSL Bureau experience in addition to DX.

Sumner expressed his regrets at Hutchinson's departure as MSD manager. "I will miss Chuck's valuable assistance and counsel in that role," he said. "I am pleased that he will be able to continue serving the League in a part-time, technical editorial position."

SB QST @ ARL \$ARLB019

ARLB019 Major changes in Field Day rules

ZCZC AG19

QST de W1AW

ARRL Bulletin 19 ARLB019

From ARRL Headquarters

Newington CT March 20, 1998

To all radio amateurs

SB QST ARL ARLB019

ARLB019 Major changes in Field Day rules

Some new rules go into effect this year for Field Day. The popular summertime operating event takes place each year on the fourth full weekend in June. This year, it will be June 27-28.

A major change this year is the elimination of bonus-point credit for packet and VHF/UHF contacts. Field Day stations no longer will be allowed to count contacts via digipeaters, packet nodes, or similar arrangements. Class 2A and higher Field Day stations still may operate a "free" transmitter exclusively for VHF or UHF operation (ie, above 50 MHz) without changing their basic entry classification, but not for bonus points. "It's better than bonus points, and groups are likely to spend more time on VHF and UHF because of that," predicted ARRL Membership Services Manager Chuck Hutchinson, K8CH. As in the past, crossband and repeater contacts other than via satellite do not count for Field Day credit.

Field Day stations now can earn point credit for digital (ie, non-CW) contacts on each band. The phone, CW, and non-CW digital segments are considered separate "bands" in the Field Day rules. This means, for example, that you now may work the same station for point credit on 40 meters three times: once on SSB, once on CW, and once on RTTY, packet, or one of the 'TOR modes. SSB contacts count one point, and CW and non-CW digital contacts count 2 points apiece,

so adding non-CW digital capability presents a real opportunity to rack up substantial additional points. "We're expecting an interesting year because of the digital modes," Hutchinson said.

The complete, official Field Day rules will appear in the May edition of QST. Basic Field Day rules have remained unchanged for several years now. The new rules undoubtedly will generate a flurry of computerized contest logging program revisions as developers scramble to incorporate the changes into their software.

NNNN

/EX

ATLANTIC DIVISION LICENSE TESTS

April and May

(A) = ARRL/VEC (L) = LAUREL/VEC (M) = MOUNTAIN/VEC (5) = W5YI/VEC

P = Pre-registration requested *N* = No walk-ins

EASTERN PA

APRIL

2 Philadelphia, 6 PM. Phil-Mont MRC.

Dusty Rhoads, 215-482-0386 (A)

3 Nazareth, 7 PM. Delaware-Lehigh ARC.

Mark Petrino, 610-264-8343 (A)

4 Bristol, 9:30 AM. Penn Wireless Assn.

George LeNoir, 215-943-4886 *N* (A)

4 Newtown Square, 9 AM. Marple Newtown ARC. Walter Faust, 610-622-2200 (A)

6 Myerstown, 7 PM. Strangers/Pilgrims ARK.

David Brubacker, 717-933-5301 *N*(A)

8 Dunmore, 7 PM. Scranton-Pocono ARK.

Art Sposto, 717-342-8591 (A)

11 Bensalem, 11 AM.

Lorraine Hoffmaster, 215-638-1655 (A)

11 Shrewsbury, 10 AM. So York Co VE's.

Carol Kirschman, 717-235-0273 (A)

16 East Stroudsburg, 7 PM. Pocono ARK.

Dave Haney, 717-424-0945 *N* (A)

16 Ironville, 6:30 PM. Red Rose Rptr Assn.

Carlos Rivera, 569-2984 (A)

18 Northumberland, 9AM.Susquehanna Valley ARC. David Swaney, 717-966-1782 after 5 PM (A)

20 Telford, 6:30 PM. RF Hill ARC.

Joe Burgess, 215-723-6697 *P* (A)

25 Reading, 8:30 AM. Reading RC.

Harry Hoffman, 610-678-8976 (A)

29 Matamoras, 7 PM. Tri-State ARC. Cono D'Alto, 717-491-2377 (A)

29 Warminster, 7 PM. Warminster ARC.

Tom Michaud, 215-343-3494 (A)

MAY

2 Bristol, 9:30 AM. Penn Wireless Assn.

George LeNoir, 215-943-4886 *N* (A)

2 Bryn Mawr, 9:15 AM. Mid-Atlantic ARC.

Bob Lees, 610-265-6032 *P* (A)

7 Philadelphia, 6 PM. Phil-Mont MRC.

Dusty Rhoads, 215-482-0386 (A)

8 Nazareth, 7 PM. Delaware-Lehigh ARC.

Mark Petruno, 610-264-8343 (A)

9 Bensalem, 11 AM.

Lorraine Hoffmaster, 215-638-1655 (A)

13 Dunmore, 7 PM. Scranton-Pocono ARK.

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Cono D'Alto, 717-491-2377 (A)

27 Warminster, 7 PM. Warminster ARC.

Tom Michaud, 215-343-3494 (A)

73 and good luck on your upgrade de

Kay Craigie WT3P, Director Atlantic Division (wt3p@arrl.org)

Bernie Fuller N3EFN, Vice Director (n3efn@arrl.org)

ATLANTIC DIVISION HAMFEST CALENDAR

+ indicates ARRL Hamfest

April 25 + Cherryville Repeater Assn., Harmony Twp., NJ Marty Grozinski, W2CG 6 Kirkbride Rd., Flemington, NJ 08822 908-788-2644 or 908-788-4080

April 25 + Columbia-Montour ARC, Bloomsburg, PA Dave Schack, WC3A 6020 Fort Jenkins Ln., Bloomsburg, PA 17815 717-752-6851 <http://www.bafn.org/~cmarc>

April 26 * Delaware State Convention, New Castle, DE Hal Frantz, KA3TWG 950 Ridge Rd., C-27, Claymont, DE 19703 302-793-1080 E-mail: hfrantz@magpage.com <http://www.magpage.com/pennndel>

May 2 + Anne Arundel RC & Kent Island ARC, Grasonville, MD Glenn Durbin, WN3G 111 Indian Plantation Dr., Stevensville, MD 21666 410-643-1125 E-mail: K3ORC@amsat.org E-mail: pvtpilot@friend.ly.net

May 2 + Binghamton ARA, Owego, NY William Coleman, N2BC 513 Ridge Rd., Vestal, NY 13850 607-748-5232 E-mail: n2bc@ibm.net

E-mail: owego98@ibm.net <http://www.wtsn.binghamton.edu/bara>

May 3 + Antietam Radio Assn., Hagerstown, MD Donald Jones, KB8WHW PO Box 529, Harpers Ferry, WV 25425 304-728-7769 Fax: 301-791-3010 (Club Fax Line) E-mail: kb8zqm@intrepid.net

May 3 + Warminster ARC, Wrightstown (Bucks County), PA Tony Simek, N3YNH 340 Centennial Rd., Warminster, PA 18974 215-674-5218

May 15-17 + Dayton HamVention, Dayton, OH Dick Miller, N8CBU PO Box 964, Dayton, OH 45401-0964 937-276-6930 or 937-427-3109 E-mail: chair@erinet.com <http://www.hamvention.org/>

BOB BRUNINGA WINS DAYTON TECHNICAL AWARD

The ARRL LETTER reports that The Dayton Hamvention Technical Excellence Award winner is Bob Bruninga, WB4APR, the "father of APRS." Bruninga, who lives in Glen Burnie, Maryland, is being honored for creating and developing the Automatic Packet Reporting System, which became available in 1993.

Bruninga is a contract engineer at the US Naval Academy in Annapolis where he's engineer in charge of the Satellite Lab, operates the satellite system, and is active in integrating space communication into the curriculum. He's also the ARRL Technical Coordinator for Maryland-DC Section.

In 1996, Bob Bruninga received the Atlantic Division's "Technical Achievement" award, conferred at the Division Convention in Rochester, NY.

Congratulations to this outstanding Atlantic Division ham!

EPA SECTION SHAKE UP

The past few weeks have seen some major changes in the EPA ARRL Section Staff. As of April 6 here's the latest.

Section Government Liaison (SGL) resigned end of last year. Affiliated Club Coordinator - N3IGA - resigned end of February. Technical Coordinator K3DS and Public Information Coordinator WB3DCL were fired the end of March. Assistant Section Manager W3ZXV and ASM/Bulletin Manager WA3PZO resigned April 1.

WA3PZO, who has been on the section staff for 25 years, sited major disagreements with the way Section Manager W3TI was running the section. Because of these disagreements, the EPA Section has lost two ARRL McGann (Public Relations) Award winners, 2 Atlantic Division Ham of the Year, and 2 current and former National Advisory Committee Members. WA3PZO indicated that it will be impossible to replace this type of talent in the section. No one else in the section has these credentials.

NEW YORK-LONG ISLAND SECTION MANAGER RECALLED

Members of the New York City-Long Island Section have recalled Section Manager Leonard Buonaiuto, KE2LE, in a special election. The committee of tellers on April 2 counted 699 yes votes and 347 no votes in answer to the single question on the ballot--should the Section Manager be recalled, yes or no. More than 2900 ballots were sent to ARRL members in the New York-Long Island section. The successful recall marks only the second time in League history that a section manager has been removed from office by a vote of the section members.

George Tranos, N2GA, of Bellport, New York, was immediately appointed to complete the remainder of the section manager's term, which runs until January 1, 1999. "I look at it as an opportunity to rebuild," Tranos said during a brief visit to ARRL Headquarters. Tranos is immediate past president of the Long Island Mobile Amateur Radio Club--LIMARC--an ARRL Life Member, and an Assistant Director. Tranos already has restored to office some of the field appointees dropped by his predecessor, including SEC Mario Maltese, WF2T, Official Observer Coordinator Rob Todaro, N2JIX, Section Government Liaison Mark Nadel, W2UFO, and Nassau County DEC George Gluck, WA2WKV. He said he'd be making additional appointments in the very near future and expressed hopes that ARRL members in the section would work together to build a greater League presence.

The first call for nominations in the regular Section Manager election will appear in the July 1998 issue of QST. From the ARRL Letter Vol.17 No.14

TIP OF THE MONTH

Spring is here and it's the best time to give your mobile installation a quick check before your summer vacation. Use a SWR meter to make sure your antenna has better than a 2.0:1 antenna match. If you're using a dual-band mobile, don't forget to check your match on both bands

From the Yaesu newsletter, April, 1998

HARC CLUB CLASS PROGRESS

The HARC Club Sponsored and run Classes are up and running almost as well as the fabulous new input site in Abington, PA. In all seriousness though, the class started in mid-March and should continue through May. This has become a regular event for HARC for the last 5 years or so. We're meeting at 7PM Wednesdays and the classes start out with CW introduction and practice for the first portion, followed by classes for the written elements. Our teaching crew includes Greg, N3FSC, Sid, W3KZA, Mike, N3LXN, Larry, N3VLC and myself, Joel, N3JUA. Everyone is pitching in and doing a fine job. This year we have both a Novice/Tech class going as well as a General upgrade class. Both are well attended. In fact a certain HARC officer who also happens to be a columnist for a nationally known Ham Radio publication even has his wife attending this class. So far she seems to be the star CW pupil and will have the second ticket in the family. Anyway, if you'd like to lend a hand, just stop by at 7PM Wednesdays. Hope to see you there!

Joel Zeiger, N3JUA.

Technical Committee Report

Just a few words on the status of the repeater system. All sites are up and operating!! I have to get down to the main site to make a few adjustments, prepare for the summer, but everything is working fine. I have planned some input work to increase receiver sensitivity. That will be on-going. Also some Work at Abington needs to be completed.

73, Ron WB3BDC