

# HOLMESBURG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

(a non-profit corporation)

P.O. BOX 6253 ~ PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19136



## NEWSLETTER

JUN  
1983

### THE PREZ SEZ

Hi gang! sorry I missed last month's column, but I was on the road trying to give you the most for your tax dollars.

First off, I want to touch briefly on repeater protocol. Paul (K3RBO) is preparing some material on this, and I just want to add a few reminders. When someone inserts their callsign, find out what they want. If you recognize the breaker but keep on talking (and maybe resetting the timer as well), the mobile station who needed some help could be miles out of his or her way by the time you turn it over to them. Don't use the word "break" unless it IS important. A double break is an emergency and a triple break signifies life or death. Just use your callsign, followed by an appropriate clarifier such as "to join", "for a call", "for directions", etc.

We may have a bootlegger on the frequency. The station gave his name as John and his call as WALVKB (which he said was just issued to him last fall). As this sounded strange, considering current callsign allocations and FCC policy on reissuing calls, a check of the Callbook and a call to Gettysburg confirmed that this is not a legitimate station. He may pop up on other machines or with other calls, so listen close. There is a WALVKB, but it's not "John".

We are exploring possibilities in regards to where we can hold a novice class and we are also looking for a permanent home for the club. If you've got some ideas, let's hear them.

Regarding the autopatch, if you are on the /2 side of the river and calling a number on the /3 side, the telephone company gets upset about it. Be careful how you id. (they don't like losing the toll charges.)

Field Day is the weekend of June 25 and 26. Al Pancari KA3FWW is chairman, and anyone wishing to participate should contact him.

June meeting dates: Board of Directors - June 2  
General Meeting - June 16  
These are both Thursday evenings at 7:30pm.

June program: Paul, K3RBO will have a presentation on rust in the Shetland Islands.

73 de WB1AOF

146.685 MHz

H.A.R.C. News Briefs

by K3RBO

I had my article all written and ready to go, with the usual little nonsense and news items about upgrades, trips, etc., when a matter of much greater importance was brought to my attention. It seems that there is a problem developing relative to the operation of the technical committee. First, some background. About five years ago, Richie, WA3AOP had the idea to start a repeater. He did not possess the technical or financial ability to do it by himself, so he set out to find some people who had both the technical knowledge to put a machine together, and to bear the financial burden. One of the people Richie contacted was Bob, then WB3ADN, now known to us as KB3SM. Bob had the background, and knew people who could assemble the needed resources. So he had an instrumental part on getting the repeater on the air then, and he continues to keep it on the air, and to add the technical features to it that keeps our machine heads above most others. He does this on a strictly voluntary basis, on his own time, with his own equipment, own gas, etc. Why, then, should there be so much ado over a test or an experimental move carried out by the technical committee, which is overworked? Do the members of the club forget the By-laws of the club? They state, "The Technical Committee shall provide technical guidance to the club and its members, and maintain the operation of the repeater(s) regarding technical changes and alterations when necessary." It doesn't say anything about coming to the membership with permission for every change or test or adjustment.

It is extremely important that the technical committee be able to work as they see fit to maintain the repeater. Why is there such an uproar over the temporary move of the Northeast Input to Richboro? This is a step to determine what results would be obtained with the receiver at that location. It is the opinion (expert, I might add), that the voting system was not functioning properly because of the excessive overlap between the two sites. The obvious answer, move the satellite input site further outside the primary coverage area of the main site.

The problem developed because certain key members of the club felt that they should have been notified, polled, and their permission given before the test was carried out. They feel that the dues they pay and the money that was solicited toward the voting system, entitles them to the control over the technical committee's actions. I don't see it this way. This has to be viewed in the proper perspective:

1. The technical committee has the right to institute any tests, adjustments, or other change to the repeater that they deem necessary.
2. There should be proper channels to address comments relative to problems that various individuals have with the actions of the club or the technical committee. I don't feel that it was very tasteful to call Bob on the carpet at the recent meeting, with several guests, wives, and children present—you gave the visitors a very poor view of the club. This should have been addressed to the Board of Directors.

3. You should have faith that the technical committee has your interests at heart, and that they will make the needed changes if the experimental setup doesn't work.
4. Snide remarks and childish comments over the repeater are counterproductive, and only give a poor impression of our group. It also creates ill will. How would these people like to take over as the technical committee. I venture to say that there would be none.

*Paul K3RBO*

### Repeater Operating Practices

Sometimes it is worthwhile to remind those who use the .685 machine, that there are certain operating rules that MUST be observed, if the repeater is to remain effective in handling emergency situations, in addition to the normal routine "chit-chat" which goes on.

This involves a certain amount of common sense. We must know the difference between routine and priority traffic. And we must allow priority traffic to have just that-PRIORITY.

There are a few cardinal rules which we must observe:

1. Always listen on the frequency for a reasonable length of time before making a transmission. If you happen to turn your radio on during a break in an emergency exchange, you will disrupt this by transmitting without knowing the situation.
2. Always leave a pause between transmissions to allow a station to break in with emergency traffic.
3. DO NOT use "BREAK" for any kind of routine situation. Trying to contact a friend on the machine IS NOT a priority situation. The following guidelines are given by the ARRL for the use of "BREAK":
  - "BREAK"- Not used
  - "BREAK-BREAK"- used for priority traffic (vehicle trouble, important information, etc.)
  - "BREAK-BREAK-BREAK"- used ONLY for EMERGENCY traffic where there is a clear life and death situation
4. DO announce your call to enter a conversation, or to call another station.
5. DO recognize a breaking station immediately to determine if the station requires immediate access. DO NOT continue your transmission for three minutes, and then recognize the station. He may have been requesting road directions and passed his exit five miles back while you were discussing the merits of boats.

6. The use of the Autopatch is a privilege we DON'T wish to lose. Don't spoil it for anyone by making the mistake of making a call which even faintly resembles business. DON'T try to camouflage it by telling the person on the other end "to call your cousin Charlie", or one of your other customer's names. Those who have been guilty of this know who they are, and should stop, to avoid further complication.
7. Try to keep transmissions short and to the point. Remember to identify every ten minutes. Some of us overdo this a bit. It takes up a lot of time, that could normally be used for information.
8. DON'T horn in on a QSO, when others are on frequency. If you want to talk to someone who is in the QSO, take him(her) off frequency so that you don't tie up the repeater. This is not illegal, it's just RUDE.
9. Finally, be thoughtful, kind, considerate, helpful, and think of others, Think of how you would feel if you tried to break into a QSO for an emergency, and stations on frequency wouldn't let you in.....

de K3RBO

#### Technical Committee Report

On April 7, 1983 we went to the main site to make a few adjustments to the repeater. On the agenda was to (1) adjust deviation of the machine, (2) check power output and (3) try to isolate the annoying "hum". The first two problems were done with little effort; but the third one was quite difficult, especially when "Murphy" started to help. After three fruitless hours, it was decided to make another trip down with a scope (the fact that it was 11:50 p.m. had nothing to do with it).

After procuring what Tom (K3AIJ) called an oscilloscope (it was somewhat better than a Radio Shack 10.00 VOM) we went down again to the site after the meeting. This trip Murphy was left at home. We managed to suppress the hum a bit, and make adjustments to balance audio levels to the link receiver and main site receiver. The problem with the hum seems to be in the main site receiver. Things will have to stay the same for now. When the backup machine returns, we will do a little swapping to try to pinpoint the problem. Stay tuned for further attractions, another change coming???

Just a few more points to add to this month's newsletter. First, the northeast link has been moved from Welsh Road and Roosevelt Blvd. to Trevoise, PA. We have ordered a new station master antenna from Phelps Dodge to replace the old one which we will use on the northeast link. The receiver and transmitter boards for the next link have been ordered but won't be in for about a month. The new amplifier for the main site has been ordered. So you can see we are making progress.

Until later 73's

Ronald J. Cardullo, WB3BDC

**BUY/SELL/TRADE/WANTED/JOBS**

This service is provided FREE to members. The club assumes no responsibility for the condition of equipment offered. Space is provided on a first come basis. All insertions must be received by the editor of this column not later than the 5th of the month the newsletter is scheduled for publication. The editor reserves the right to reject or revise any ad which in his opinion may be commercial in nature or bring discredit to the publication and/or the club. Submit items to Bill Soble, W3QXT, preferably by mail, to 9357 Hoff Street, Phila., Pa. 19115. Requests for insertions by telephone will also be honored, by calling AC 215-676-6769. PLEASE ADVISE IF YOUR INSERTION PRODUCED SUCCESSFUL RESULTS. It will be very helpful. (sk).

SELL: Transceiver, ICOM 245, 2 meter, synth. FM and SSB, TT mike, with manual. Like new. Asking \$325.00.

LEN - N3CTF - 215-646-8053

SELL: Transceiver, Kerwood, TS 120S, 10 - 80, SSB/CW, 12VDC. Xlnt for mobile or portable. w/manual. Mint cond.

Asking \$395.00

JOHN - AG30 - 215-677-8771

SELL: Reflected power meter and swr bridge. Heath HM 15. 160 thru 6 meters. w/manual. \$5.00

SWR meter, Knight, Model P-2. 1.8 to 432 Mhz. \$5.00

Panoramic adapter, HAM-SCAN. Heath, Model HO-13. Has 3" CRT. w/manual. Tube type. \$20.00

Signal generator, Heath Model SG-8. Freq. range, 160 khz to 110 mhz. Calibrated harmonics to 220 mhz. Tube type. w/manual \$10.00

Bill - W3DZS - 215-743-1537

SELL: UHF DECODER FOR TV. Brand new. \$250.00 firm.

RICHIE - K3HIN - 215-698-8036

SELL: Transceiver, Kerwood, TS 520 S w/out-board VFO, CW filter, and new RCA tubes. Manual incl. Excellent cond. Top DX record. Orig. boxes available. \$575.00 firm.

Tape Deck, BSR, 8 track. w/10 asst. tapes. \$25.00 firm.

LARRY - K3BFQ - 215-364-1336 (call before 2 p.m.)

WANTED: Coils, complete set, for Heath GRID DIP METER, Model GD-1B. Good cond.

Tony - KA3AXX - 215-324-5394

SELL: AUTEX RESEARCH QF1 AUDIO FILTER, like new condition. \$40.00

Receiver, General coverage, Heath, 3.5 to 26.9 mcs. SSB/AM, CW filters. self contained power supply. Very good condition., w/external speaker, and manual. \$75.00

JOHN - AG30 - 215-677-8771

SELL: Transceiver, Kerwood, TR-7625 with RM-76 microprocessor, 2 meters, 1 watt low/25 watts high, with mike. 12 VDC. Good cond. Asking \$250.00

Amplifier, 2 meter, DYCOM, 10 watts in 50 watts out. 12 VDC. GC. \$25.00.

Transceiver, GONSET, 6 meter communicator. Good cond. Make offer.

Mike, crystal, D-104, Astatic. \$10.00

RICHIE - K3HIN - 215-698-8036

SELL: STEREO RECEIVER, FM/AM, with 2 spkrs., 25 watts ea channel, w/phono.

JAY - WA3IFY - 215-289-4531

SELL: WATER PUMPS, 200 GPH. Submersible type. 110 VAC. Good for displays, water falls, or removing water that collects in the basement. Three new and one used. (Little giant). \$40.00 for all.

WANTED: Multiple 110V socket outlet strip, with or without switch.

Bill - W3QXT - 215-676-6769

SELL: Typewriter, Manual, Remington, Std. \$35.00 firm.

BILL - W3QXT - 215-676-6769

Use your club newsletter for free ads, to buy, sell, swap, etc. Good results can be obtained if you price your "sell" items right.

Volume 2 Number 11

May 26, 1983

**BURBANK CASE MOVES AHEAD**

The lawsuit being brought by radio amateurs against the City of Burbank, Illinois (a suburb of Chicago), passed an important procedural hurdle on May 20. Federal Magistrate Carl B. Sussman recommended to the U.S. District Court Judge in charge of the case that the case go forward. The City of Burbank earlier had filed a motion to dismiss the case for lack of jurisdiction, but Magistrate Sussman disagreed. According to Sussman, the radio amateurs and CBers who are plaintiffs in the case "allege that the ordinance and its enforcement violate their rights under the First Amendment, the Equal Protection Clause, and the Due Process Clause. These allegations present a direct and essential element of their federal claim. Thus, the Plaintiffs state a claim 'arising under' the Constitution of the United States."

Attorney Jim O'Connell, W9WU, who is representing several named radio amateurs and CBers in a class action suit against the City, is very encouraged. The Magistrate's recommendation means that the City is not going to get off the hook simply by

saying that there is no federal jurisdiction of the radio operator's claims.

The case stems from a restrictive ordinance adopted by the City in March of 1982. The ordinance specifically targeted amateur and CB antennas, requiring approval by local building officials of all antenna structures of more than 20 feet in height. It exempted private radio or television reception antennas, however. The ordinance also requires an owner of a CB or amateur antenna to register with the City and provide it with his "FCC number," proof of bond and insurance coverage, and proof that the antenna complies with existing codes. There is also a prohibition against "causing or creating" any interference which "annoys" or "disturbs" anyone within the city limits. A person found to be in violation of the ordinance could be fined up to \$1000 per day for each separate offense.

Persons wishing to help with financial support are invited to send their contributions to "The Burbank Tower Fund," c/o Roger Borowski, WA9EKA, Chairman, 6107 West 80th Place, Burbank, IL 60459.

✓ We wish to correct several inaccuracies appearing in other publications concerning the April 21 and 22 Board of Directors Meeting.

It is not true that the Directors have decided to prevent amateurs from becoming Full members (with voting privileges) if their amateur exam did not require code. The motion was referred to the Membership Affairs Committee. (Minute 46).

The decision regarding the availability of endorsements for RTTY DXCC is not

final. The motion was referred to the DXCC Advisory Committee. It must be emphasized, however, that RTTY DXCC has been (and still is) available without endorsements for levels above the basic 100 countries. (Minute 65).

The feasibility of offering payment to authors of articles published in QST was defeated. It "was laid on the table." (Minute 78).

Please read the Minutes carefully in QST for June, on p. 55.

✓ The ARRL submitted reply comments May 19 on the volunteer examining proposal, P.R. Docket No. 83-27 (Vol. 2, No. 9). The reply comments answered questions that were raised during the comment period.

The ARRL would be eligible to serve as a Volunteer Exam Coordinator (VEC), and is not affected by the conflict of interest provision of P.L. 97-259. P.L. 97-259 applies to Volunteer Examiners (VEs), not VECs. VEs are the ones that actually administer the exams. The VECs make and prepare exam questions, and coordinate the VEs -- they do not administer exams.

There should be plenty of volunteers to ensure the continued existence of a volunteer examining program. FCC exams held at conventions and hamfests, as well as the present Novice examining procedure, are evidence of this.

The cost of administering a volunteer examining program was discussed. P.L. 97-259 did not contain a provision for the payment of fees for amateur exams. A bill to amend the Communications Act to allow the collection of fees is being prepared. This fee will be reimbursement of examining expenses incurred by the VE, through a fee charged by the VEC.

Any delay in the processing of amateur licenses under a volunteer examining procedure will be offset by the added convenience of local test sites. It should also be noted that there is no reason that an interim operating permit could not be issued.

✓ The U.S. Air Force released a draft environmental impact statement on the proposed West Coast Over-the-Horizon Backscatter (OTH-B) Radar System. A 1980 QST article on the East Coast OTH-B installation is cited in the report. In that article, instructions were given for amateurs wishing to file interference complaints. The Air Force report says that no complaints have been received by the OTH Radar Office. Our experience confirms that the U.S. OTH has peacefully coexisted with amateur operations. Unlike the Russian "Woodpecker," it skips the ham bands.

For information, contact Mr. Ro Raffa at The Department of the Air Force, Air Force Systems Command, Electronic Systems Division, (ESD/SCU/4), Hanscom AFB, MA 01731. Telephone is 617-271-7976. Comments on the U.S. Air Force OTH-B must be received by June 10.

✓ FCC will back repeater coordinators in disputes with renegade repeaters -- that is the message contained in a letter from FCC Chief, Private Radio Bureau James C. McKinney to Steve Mendelsohn, WA2DHF, President of the Tri-State Amateur Repeater Council (NYC). The Council has had a long running dispute with one club that has attempted to put an uncoordinated repeater on frequencies occupied by two nearby coordinated repeaters.

It appears the operators of the renegade repeater may be cited for not observing good amateur practices. If they persist, they will be cited for deliberate and malicious interference. In these disputes, FCC will rely on nationally promulgated bandplans, coordination records and correspondence and, absent any other official documentation, The ARRL Repeater Directory.

In an interview yesterday, Mendelsohn said the council is still negotiating with the renegade group. Apparently, they've attempted to get around the rules by moving their operation half-way between two standard channels! Now, according to Mendelsohn, they are interfering with four repeaters instead of two!

✓ This list (released April 15) shows the last call sign in each group to be assigned for each district, as of the first of April.

Dist.	A	B	C	D
0	KW0Z	KD0FJ	N0EQM	KA0QHJ
1	KR1J*	KB1HQ	N1CQX	KA1KIK
2	NA2I	KC2ZA	N2EHI	KA2SFF
3	KN3Y	KC3HL	N3DKJ	KA3KZV
4	WO4Y	KF4XV	N4IRK	KB4FEG
5	NG5K	KD5ZM	N5FXF	KA5QXY
6	KW6Z	KF6TS	N6IPC	KB6AFU
7	NC7K	KD7JP	N7FEQ	KA7QCI
8	ND8G*	KD8GR	N8EXF	KA8SIM
9	KT9A	KD9AJ	N9DXO	KA9POU
HI	WH6H	AH6EU	KH6XH*	WH6AWJ
AK	WL7T	AL7EY	NL7AU	WL7AZN

\*The computer missed the following call signs and they are loaded in the following sequence:

After KR1Z is issued KQ1A-KQ1Z will be issued.

After ND8Z is issued NB8A-NB8Z will be issued.

After KH6XZ is issued KH6VA-KH6VZ will be issued.

✓ The FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Monday (May 23) regarding the expansion of the 10-meter repeater subband. (P.R. Docket No. 83-485).

Beryl Gosney, KE7C, requested that the existing 10-meter repeater subband (29.5 - 29.7 MHz) be expanded to include 29.0 - 29.5 MHz to make it consistent with the existing subband where fm is permitted.

The Commission is interested in comments on the necessity for expansion, the impact on future and existing repeater and non-repeater operation and whether or not the impact is acceptable to the amateur community.

Satellite users listening to 10-meter down links (29.3 - 29.5 MHz) complain of interference from fm simplex activity on downlink frequencies. The band segment of 29.0 to 29.3 MHz (fm simplex activity is permitted) appears to have little consistent use by any group. On the other hand, 10-meter fm activity tends to focus on the repeaters, and most equipment is optimized for the repeater subband. The only simplex frequency listed in the ARRL Bandplan is 29.6 MHz. With equipment optimized for the upper edge of the band, the easiest way to "go simplex" when 29.6 MHz is busy is to drop 100 kHz -- into the midst of the satellite subband!

This NPRM presents amateurs with a unique opportunity for creative and rational thinking. The satellite downlinks deserve effective protection from point-to-point communications. Ten-meter repeater users feel confined with only four channels available for use -- and only one officially recognized simplex channel. How much use does 29.0 to 29.3 MHz see, and for what purposes? Think it through rationally and let the FCC know your opinions.

Interested parties may file comments on or before July 25 and reply comments on or before August 24.

✓ There are two full-time immediate openings in the Technical Department at ARRL Hq. Applicants must have experience as a radio amateur, hold a current Amateur Radio license, possess a solid technical background and have writing and editing skills. Contact Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, Manager, Technical Dept., ARRL Hq., 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111, telephone 203-666-1541.

✓ Our condolences to the family and friends of David A. Faraone, WA6KOS, who died recently. WA6KOS was instrumental in organizing repeater frequency coordination in Southern California.

We also wish to extend our condolences to the family and friends of Arthur B. "Pete" Vela, K5YLU, who was killed while providing public service communications at the Beaumont-Port Arthur Airport.

✓ One of the Amateur Radio clubs that participated in the emergency communications during the Coalinga, CA earthquake (last issue) was mis-identified. Ken Hanson, KV6W, PIA in the San Joaquin Valley Section, pointed out that the "King's County Amateur Radio Club" should have read "King Radio Club, Inc." We are sorry for the error.

✓ At its meeting this morning, FCC adopted a report and order deleting most logging requirements, including those for third-party traffic (such as autopatches). The Commission, however, did give the District Engineer in Charge (EIC) the power to require any station to keep a detailed log. The new rules will become effective 30 days after publication in the Federal Register -- we'll give you that date as soon as possible. Details will appear in August QST.

✓ At the FCC open meeting today, the Commission adopted a Report and Order making minor changes to the hf RACES segments, and adjusting the 2-meter RACES frequencies to conform with normal amateur practice. The changes will become effective 30 days after publication in the Federal Register. We will announce the dates in a forthcoming issue.

✓ Don't forget the June 2 Teleconference Radio Net to be aired on over 75 repeaters nationally featuring Joe Reiser, W1JR, discussing "Antennas and Antenna Systems, Where is the State-of-the-Art Going?" The net begins at 7:30 pm Central Daylight Time. [S.a.s.e. to W1TN for more info.].

✓ In celebration of World Telecommunication Day, May 17, Costa Rica President Luis Alberto Monge spoke to an international group of amateurs via club station T1RRC. Others involved in the QSO were W1AW (IARU Hq.), W1RU (IARU president) and 4U8ITU (ITU Hq.).

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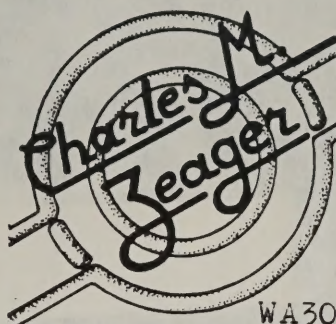
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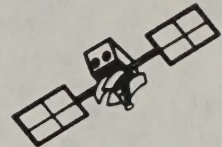
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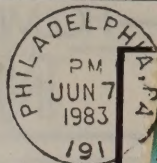
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NEWSLETTER

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EDITOR: Rich Albert K3HIN 11219 Halstead St. Phila., PA 19116

ASST. EDITOR:

PRINTER: Mike Damroth WA3HEE 829 Milmar Road Newtown Square, PA 19073

CLUB HISTORIAN: Edith Rosner W3AAU 645 Artwood Drive Phila., PA 19115

PRODUCTION: Luzi Aceto

TYPIST: Sue Albert

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