

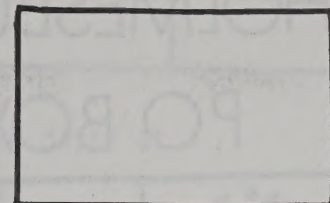
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(Affiliated with the West Link Radio Network, Inc.)



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Personal For:

**MEETING  
NOTICE**



# NEWSLETTER

**SEPT  
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

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

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### 1985 CLUB OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES

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## NEWSLETTER

2

### THE PREZ SEZ

DEAR MEMBERS:

TOGETHER LETS WELCOME JOE PEARLSTEIN YOUR VICE PRES. FROM A RECENT STAY AT HAHNEMAN HOSPITAL WHERE HE WAS A PATIENT FOR A DOUBLE BY PASS SURGERY. WE HOPE YOU WILL MAKE UP FOR THOSE LOST MOMENTS ON 20 METERS . "WELCOME HOME JOE"

AS WE MOVE INTO SEPTEMBER I CAN REPORT THAT WERE NOT FAR AWAY FROM THE NEW REPETER GOING ON LINE.

AFTER IT'S PICKED UP FROM SPECTRUM IT WILL BE BURNED IN AT THE HOME OF RON WB3BDC FOR A PERIOD OF THIRTY DAYS OR SO.

ALSO SOME DECESIONS HAVE BEEN CONSIDERED FOR 1986 RELATING TO DUES AND MEETINGS. NEW DUES STRUCTURE WILL BE:

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS WILL BE \$12.00 PER YEAR.

NWE MEMBERSHIP RATE \$12.00 DUES \$8.00 INITATION.

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS WILL BE QUARTERLY, FIRST SUNDAY OF THE FOLLOWING MONTHS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTIFIED:

1986 FEB, MAY, AUGUST, NOVEMBER.

PLACE : 8TH POLICE DIST., RED LION & ACADEMY RDS. 10:00 AM.

HOPE THAT YOU WILL BE PRESENT FOR OUR UPCOMING SEPT. 8TH MEETING.

73 FOR NOW  
TONY MUSERO  
PRES.

\*\*\*\*\*

## NEWSLETTER

New members that did not make the directory, cut their name out and paste at end of the membership directory.

N3AMF Jim Mc Sherry 238 Catherine St Phila. PA. 19147 215 255 9215

N2FOB Paul Kaplan 202 Charlann Circ. Cherry Hill, N.J. 08003 609 424 3017

KA3NQF Harry Baron 223 Springhouse Ln. Merion, PA. 19066 215 839 7733

N3EIK Stuart Boreen 950 Walnut St Apt 516 Phila. PA. 19107 215 925 1186

KA3NYP Joan Boreen 950 Walnut St Apt 516 Phila. PA. 19107 215 925 1186

KA3NUO Thomas Stepien 2516 Lefevre St Phila. PA. 19137 215 535 3902

#### Business Communications;

What are legal business communications that could be handled on amateur radio?

Answer: There are no easy answers.

Let's start with what the law says. Part 97 defines business communications as any transmission or communication, the purpose of which is to facilitate regular business or commercial affairs of any party. Any party doesn't mean just two people communicating: it could mean a third party whose commercial affairs are being furthered. It doesn't matter who that other party is.

It can be an individual, a corporation, a charitable organization it doesn't really matter.

How do you draw the line? A little over a year ago, the Commission staff issued a statement to clarify the situation. The order basically says that amateurs can continue to provide communications or participate in the routine events of traditional public service activities. We do it all the time.

We provide communications for marathons, walkathons, parades, etc.

The import of the clarification was that amateurs can continue to do these traditional public service items. There are tougher problems—things heard daily on 2 meters. These are non public service communications. It's quite clear that you would not call your broker and ask him to buy some stock for you. One situation that attracts a lot of attention is "using the auto patch to order pizza". Whose business affairs are being furthered by such a call? Perhaps the FCC doesn't do anything about such calls, but it's probably because of how low on the totem pole we are when it comes to enforcement of FCC rules.

de WA3IFY

At its May 18 meeting, the ARRL Executive Committee took a big step toward ensuring the future vitality of the Amateur Radio Service. The EC approved a plan developed by Hq. staff to enhance on the air privileges of Novice class licensees. An essential part of the plan is to attract large numbers of newcomers without destroying incentives to upgrade and without disrupting present activities of higher class licensees. The ARRL Board has endorsed the plan by mail vote, authorizing the filing of a petition for rule making with the FCC. The plan includes limited Novice use of RTTY, packet radio and SSB, in addition to Morse code, and limited UHF operation.  
from QST. de WA3IFY

# NEWSLETTER

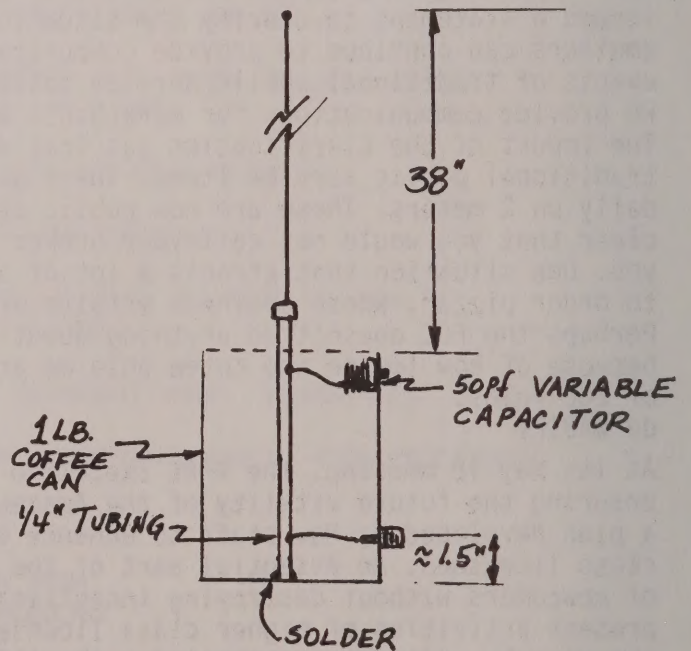
## DUCKLESS

Have you had a rough time getting in to the repeater with your 1.5 watts and rubber duck antenna? It is not an uncommon problem, and should not be a mystery. I am more surprised that the fool rubberized contraption works at all. It is the saddest imitation of an effective radiator of radio waves ever conceived by modern man. It has very limited application, much as two tin cans tied together with string. And it makes for good conversation—"I'm only using an HT with a rubber duck, am I making the repeater?" Chances are that you are not! Notice how you say "only a rubber duck"?

But there is an answer, and many of you have seen and heard my solution. A coffee can... Yes, you heard me, a COFFEE CAN. I am not claiming to have discovered this very effective antenna. Credit goes to a ham who published his invention in '73 magazine in May 1983. But I have built the half wave coffee can antenna, and I can happily report that it is one of the few articles in the mags that lives up to its expectations. This antenna has the following advantages over a rubber duck:

- It has gain.
- It can be positioned in the best location for good radiation.
- It does not require a ground reference, like most ground planes, 5/8 wave antennas, etc.
- It is cheap to build
- It is portable (I have taken it on camping trips and worked repeaters 30 miles away with 1.5 watts).

So, here is the coffee can special. It requires a one-pound coffee can (any brand will do), a miniature air variable capacitor (50pf), a length of 1/4" copper tubing, a coax connector, and a 36" whip, such as used for a CB antenna (excuse the expression). As the figure below shows, the tubing is soldered into the bottom of the can (drill a 1/4" hole first). The coax connector is next mounted through a hole about an inch from the bottom of the side of the can. Don't connect the wire to the center conductor yet, as some adjustment of the position of this "tap" is required for lowest SWR. The variable capacitor is mounted as close to the top of the can as possible, and a wire is attached to the center conductor at the top of the can. About two inches of the tubing should extend outside the can, as the radiator has to be 38" long.



"COFFEE CAN SPECIAL"

# NEWSLETTER

## AMATEUR RADIO CLASSES

The Jewish Community Center of Southern New Jersey, in collaboration with the Chaverim of Delaware Valley, the amateur group sponsoring the amateur radio station at the Center, will once again offer its popular classes at the Center leading to amateur radio licensure.

The class, leading to the Novice License, will include electronic theory and Morse Code instructions and culminate in the taking of the examination at the end of sessions. The instructors, Steve Sosson KR1M, Harry Wolf ND2P, Edward Ludin K2UK, are certified by the American Radio Relay League.

The classes start Thursday, September 19, 1985, and extend for ten weeks 7:30 to 9:00 P.M. The fee is \$10.00 for members and \$18.00 for non-members and includes study materials.

To register go to the Jewish Community Center, 2395 West Marlton Pike, (Route 70) Cherry Hill or call 609-662-8800.

Following the completion of the novice course, the same instructors will be offering continued upgrading to the general and advanced class licenses during the winter and spring sessions.

### COMPUTER USER FINED FOR TELEVISION INTERFERENCE

On May 9, 1985, the U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania announced that a total of \$3000 in fines was sought in a suit was filed against Comp-Art, Inc., for unlawfully interfering with television reception in a South Philadelphia neighborhood over a period of 18 months.

An FCC engineer determined that a computer used by Comp-Art was causing the interference. Under FCC regulations the computer used by Comp-Art may not be used if it causes interference with television reception. Fines were levied on Comp-Art for failing to correct the problem and shield the computer to eliminate the interference.

# NEWSLETTER

## o Shuttle Ham Operating Schedule Firmed Up!

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At this point, all systems are still "GO!" for a July 12th launch of ham astronauts, Tony England, WOORE and John-David Bartoe, W5NYZ, aboard the STS 51-F (Challenger) space shuttle. Liftoff is scheduled for 4:30 PM EDT (2030 GMT) from Florida's Cape Kennedy.

(Complete Operating Schedule for amateur radio operations published in the newsletter edition of The W5YI Report).

I spoke to Paul Courson, WA3VJB, the ARRL's new PR man, on Friday, to get any last minute news that he might have on this week's WOORE shuttle launch. Paul said the Slow Scan uplink "Auto Mode" frequency is 144.91 MHz for amateurs wanting to try to send images up to Challenger. A later tape playback will reveal who was received.

Special inquiry telephone numbers have been set up for the public to get information about the ham radio portion of the mission. These are (in Houston) 713-280-8341 and 8342 and a "900" (50 cent toll) number, "900-40-SPACE". This last number will have SSTV sound and an explanation... also you will be told the geographical location of Tony's next orbit along with orbital (Keplerian) tracking data. It will be updated hourly and can handle 2000 simultaneous telephone calls! The "900" pre-recorded message lasts one minute.

It appears that much (or all) of Tony's "voice" mode time could be taken up with over 100 groups that have applied to talk to him over special dedicated (secret) uplink frequencies! Tony has said that he wants to talk to the nation's youth. There will be very little opportunity for random ham voice QSO's.

## o Russian Woodpecker Gets Company

---

There seems to be a new version of the Russian woodpecker operating on 20 meters! It is believed to be a new type of Russian over-the-horizon radar and unlike earlier versions, seems to stay pretty much on 14 MHz. The pulse like noise is taking up approximately 30 kHz of spectrum. There are 62 pulses per second and it sounds like a motor boat or a buzz saw. It is a different type of sound entirely from the "woodpecker" which is more like tapping.



## NEWSLETTER

o Marlon Brando is Licensed as FO06J!

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It does appear that actor Marlon Brando is indeed an active amateur radio operator (and operating incognito) on the ham bands after all. He apparently has for some time! French director Roger Vadim said on the TV show "Entertainment Tonight" that Brando is on a remote South Seas island and "all he does now is play with his ham radio."

A source, who asked not to be identified told me by long distance telephone that Marlon Brando's parent's name are Marlon Brando, Sr. and Dorothy Meyers Pennebacker. They had a son in Omaha, Nebraska, on April 3, 1924. The source said that Marlon's actual first name is "Martin."

I was unable to confirm that. All reference's claim that Brando's real name is indeed Marlon Brando, Jr. Marlon was the third of three children. Both parents came from old American prairie stock, originally French on his father's side. "Brandeau" is the original French spelling of the Brando name. This was confirmed by the book, "Who's Who" and the Brando biography, "The Only Contender." According to the source, Brando is licensed as "Martin Brandeaux."

The 1985 Foreign Callbook does indeed show a Martin Brandeaux with a FO06J call sign on the remote island of "Tetiaraoa", French Polynesia. Tetiaraoa is located about 25 miles due north of Papeete, Tahiti, at 17.05 south latitude, 149.32 west longitude. I understand also that he is very active on the ham bands. Has anyone worked FO06J?

Bill Pasternak, WA6TIF, of "Westlink" said that he had met Brando twice and he indeed is a ham. He said Marlon assigned himself the call sign FO0MB for FO0 Marlon Brando since he owned the remote island he was on which he considers a separate country with himself as the licensing authority!

Fred Laun, K3ZD, said that Marlon Brando used to be WA6RBO (Technician Class). That call has been purged from the 1985 Callbook but a 1982 edition does indeed list a Martin J. Brandeau as WA6RBU.

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#### TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Currently, the repeater has been operating without a problem since the arrival of hot weather.

The new Spectrum repeater will be in around the 20th of July.

We are in need of another cabinet for the new unit. We are looking for a cabinet about 5 feet high and if possible with a door.

If anyone knows where a cabinet is or has a cabinet that they are willing to sell please contact WB3BDC RON at 609-866-8671.



# NEWSLETTER

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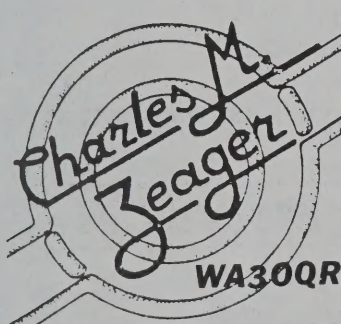
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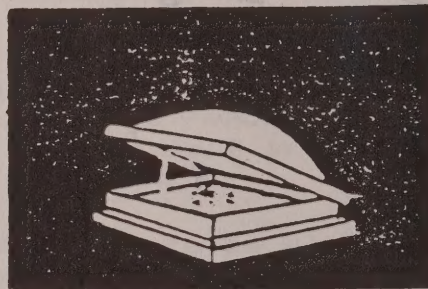
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