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COMING EVENTS IN 1984

GENERAL MEETINGS (CLUBS)	July 5th Youth center
BOARD MEETINGS	July 24 th. ??????????????
BTARS Net (75 Meters)	Each Saturday at 10:00 AM 3925 KHZ
Club Gen Info. Net (2 Mtrs)	Every Wed. at 7:00 PM.
Ham O Rans	Sept. 7th. & 8th.

ADVERTISEMENT

Amateur Radio Sales and Service by W2YJ. All type Amateur rigs repaired expert 1st. Class commercial licenses. 684-3562.

GOSSIP COLUMN

Due to a typographical error all the information on the F.C.C. amateur radio license exam was not put in my column last month, here it is briefly. Appointment cut off date is July 15, 1984 and exams will be administered on Aug 6 to Aug 10th 1984. Remember this is by appointment only. So you have till July 15th to submit a form to the FCC office.

The nite base club station will be open every Monday evening during July and August for the convenience of the members, so try to take advantage of this offer. Will open at 7:30 PM and stay until 8:00 PM if no action will close up and go home.

It sure was nice to listen to the speaker that Craig WA2PCH had for the June meeting. The subject was antennas, a part of amateur radio that has never tire of talking about or listening to. You know Craig you should not keep such good speakers a secret. I am sure if there was mention of him in the telstar we could generate a larger crowd and more members would enjoy the nice talks also.

Well it looks like the 2 meter antenna raising party was a huge success and results seem to be way better than expected. So STARS is on a winning streak now. Not only that, Randy KA2RFW took some very professional photos of the whole thing, if you missed the June meeting I hope the photos will be at the July meeting for all members to enjoy again.

You know Tony our El Presidente is keeping it a secret where we will hold our summer meetings, so make sure you read the fine print in this issue of the club paper so you do not miss out on the fun on July 5th at a new meeting place. Hi Hi.

The Amateur bands have been very spotty this last month so don't blame your set if you do not have good reception like it was during March and April. The sun spots say that it will be bad until the fall.

See you all July 5th at the meeting.

73° Guz

CRUMBS FROM THE COOKIE COMPANY

To start with, I should like to present to you our procedures in the office as the testing period approaches. The application (form 610) arrive by several methods. Some are mailed to the office, others are delivered in person. The forms are checked for completeness, signature, date and all required copies of other documents.

In the case of the examinations held during the week of May 7th, this means we handle 375 applications. Please take note: If you have a code credit certificate please attach it or a photocopy thereof. It will save both of us a lot of trouble later.

The applications are then sorted into various categories. Code only, code with one written exam, code with more than one written exam and those requiring a written exam only. Some applications requiring a written exam only. Some applications require returning to the applicant for completion or some other reason, which means we handle some applications more than one time. At this point you should also remember that the office is dealing with both the commercial applicants and amateurs, and that this is a ONE-PERSON JOB. Mrs. Battaglia handles all this paper work and does a mighty, good job at sorting everything into its proper category. From now on, I will deal only with the Amateur category but the same process applies to the commercial exams although they are not as cumbersome to deal with since the elimination of several class of commercial licenses.

How can we provide the scheduling time/date requests that accompany the 610's? How can we satisfy everyone? How can we explain to those who call asking why can't they have the date/time they requested?

Well, the truth of the matter referring to item 2 above is We just can't do it!!! Consider for example the code test. In the case of our last session this amounted to 32 for 20 WPM, 121 for 13 WPM and 8 for 5 WPM. Try fitting these numbers into a room that seats 40. We cannot have people taking 13 WPM and 20 WPM in the room at the same time naturally. Also, we just could not put half the room taking a written test, while we are talking (giving instructions), and running a code test at the same time. It isn't quite fair for those trying to figure (guess) the correct

answer to a problem they never heard of before and having code pounded into their ears at the same time. Therefore during the scheduling process and placing all the applications into the proper category, Mrs. Battaglia follows the format outlined below.

1. Those requiring written tests only are broken down into two simple areas: Those for one test only and those with more than one test. Naturally those with more than one written exam are given the earliest starting times and depending on the space then available in the room, those for one test only are added. In some cases, both the amateur and commercial applicants can be combined for this testing session.

2. After the no-code tests comes the code exams. Those requiring code only are considered first. The idea being that if they pass, they get their interim permit and dance out the building. Those who fail, stamp out mumbling things which cannot be printed in this item. In any event, once we have completed this session, we are through with these applicants and will not have them standing around in the hallway waiting several hours to take the written test. I am sure you will all agree that this is a logical approach.

3. We have now evolved down to those who require both code and written tests. Here again we must categorize them into several groups. We are required to start with the 20 WPM first then the 13 WPM and then the 5 WPM. We have applicants who hold Technician Class licenses applying for Extra Class (I will use these as an example). If they fail the 20, they can still try the 13 in order to upgrade to General Class, so the possibility now exists that this one applicant will require two separate code sessions. We also get those who have no license and apply for General. He takes the 13 but depending on the outcome he may have to take the 5 also, so here again we have one applicant that may require two testing sessions. These facts must be taken into consideration when the time comes to actually assign each person the date/time for their exams. Based on the foregoing example, it is apparent that if the room seats 40, we can schedule 40 for the 20 WPM, but Mrs. Battaglia must now allow space for those who fail 20 but will attempt the 13 WPM test. Now the assignments for the first 13 WPM session will force her to schedule something less than the maximum seating capacity to accommodate the 20 WPM carry-overs.

VY Best 73's Jim KC2U

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRPERSON

There will be an up to date list in the paper next month. Every three months there will be a up to date list of membership.

There are also club patches for sale. They are \$3.50 per patch and the club does make a little on each patch.

73' Betty KAZMJX

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

We could use article for the TELSTAR. If you have anything for sale, please send it to me or give it to at the meeting.

We would like to have a good paper and with your support we can.

Thank You Betty KAZMJX

HAM-O-RAMA

With Rochester history, we now look toward our own fest in September. I spent the day in Rochester spying on the hamfest and have brought back a lot of good information and ideas for Ham O Rama.

My main reason for going to Rochester was the Amateur Exams by Metroplex from New Jersey. At present we are able to give Novice Exams but I would like to see us get the General and Technician tests also. It would be a lot easier if the Volunteer Examiner Program was in operation but until then our only hope is Metroplex.

Another activity that is planned for HDR '84 is a Code Proficiency Test sponsored by RAMNY. The test is a memorial to the late Clara Reger W2RUF, who for so many years ran the tests. All those who take the test will receive a certificate and endorsements for the highest speed copied.

Peggy Oswald KA2JJI will head up a new committee to aid the other committee chairmen in recruiting workers for their committees. If you would like to work this year give Peggy a call at 741-3662. Peggy is in touch with all chairmen and can find a spot for you to work as well as enjoy the fest at the same time. She did such a fine job last year recruiting workers that we know she will do even better this year.

See you next month,
Kevin

FIELD DAYS

STARS participated in Field Days again this year. Actually, some STARS participated! In this event, space DOES permit me to list those members who took part in the good times. My thanks to Tony WA2ZFU, Dick KC2EL, Nick KA2SEZ, John KA2RFT, John KA2GKS, Brian KA2KYG, Paul WA2RVY, Mark, and Sam.

A special thanks to Harold Reiner PY6ZAH who donated the use of his property on top of the hill, next to the town of Boston. Harold's pond was especially appreciated when we took a dip after setting up during the hot afternoon. The grass was cut and it turned out to be a perfect spot for a field day site. There was a storm set night but it didn't dampen the activity earlier in the evening, especially Tony's spaghetti dinner. This is always a high point of field days, and the food gets better every year. Another unsung hero is Paul (WA2RVY) who always comes thru with a generator without which, we couldn't operate. This is the good news---. Now-----.

I thought we had more members in the club. I see people at meetings but few at the club function's like field days and the fair station. Looking back over the 6 years that I have been a ham and a stars member, I see a decrease in participation. We need more new novices. Obviously the old members are ready for the rocking chair and younger people are the ones that will keep the club alive. I remember one new member that tried to start a road rally event for the club, but that project died for lack of interest also. Obviously, the fair station and field days are "Biting the Dust" too.

Of course, inactive members do serve a purpose. They pay their dues so attendees like my son and myself can spend their money. This year, we invested in the repeater and Brian (KA2KYG) was able to buy the Butternut verticle that worked so well this field days and allowed us to make about 200 contacts (down from about 600 last year).

If the thrust of this message seems negative, it is certainly in intent. We, Brian & I, want to see a progressive club and are willing to work for it. Brian didn't ask for any help except to appoint me as his assistant and Tony as the cook. He worked hard to set up the Field Day event which was enjoyed by 6 other members out of - 80 + current membership.

Perhaps we will see you at the next meeting - if nothing better comes along.

Brian KA2KYG
Bill N2BXH

WB2ELW REPEATS

Greetings to all. Well it seems that the repeater is working very well, thanks to all the members that participated in the repeater project. Special thanks goes to our repeater committee.

It looks as though the coverage is as good to the North as it was last summer, and yet we also picked up great coverage South. I know alot of you members had been complaining about Southtown coverage, it should make you guys happy now. We must be penetrating some of those hills. Hi Hi.

We seem to have more activity on the repeater, but I really thought we would see alot more interest. It certainly would be good if I called some of our members and could get a reply. I usually have it on all the time-24 hours a day- In fact Tony WAZZFU wakes us up every morning Monday thru Friday about 6:30 AM, but I can't get him any other time. He must wear out his battery in the morning. By the way don't say anything bad about me during the day cause KAZMJX listens for me. So members, lets get on and use the repeater. We could use lots of checkins on our Wed. net, John(KAZRFT) is doing a fine job, and you will find out what is happening in the club and possibly latest information which may be important to you. So lets hear from guys and gals out there.

I have got our NOAA weather system put together, and I will try to get it installed as soon as possible. My schedule is quite busy, but I will do my best. Listen in on the net for the operation codes when they are available.

73's and see you on WB2ELW
Paul (KA2DDP)

SILENT KEY

It is with deep regret that the Editor of TELSTAR informs the members of STARS of the passing of Ed Wigerski (KC2VN). Ed has been a member of STARS since 1961 and has made many contributions to STARS. In 1983 Ed was Ham-O-Rama Co-rep and also chaired the Friday night party. He will be missed by all.

Betty (KAZMJX)

FOR SALE

SB301, SB401 \$150.00
Radio Shack Pocket Computer PC2 with printer/plotter, and cassette interface \$200.00

MDA
RFP

JULY 1984

THE PREZ SEZ.....

First of all, the July 5th - STARS Club Regular Meeting will be held at the Hamburg Youth Center at 8:00 PM. Depending on the attendance at this meeting, it will determine the site of the August meeting. Attendance at the July & August meetings has been rather low in number and we will probably use the Nike Base for August only.

Speaking of low attendance, 5 people showed up for the Field day Monday meeting and 8 club members showed up to participate in the field day activities this past weekend.. Many thanks to Paul Mezger WA2RVY for use of his generator. Dick KC2EL had a field day all of his own in his snug newly acquired trailer. Everytime he plugged in his electric coffee pot, the whole area dimmed. Bill (Sun-burn-Ouch) and Brian (F-D chairman) Gastle got up in the A.M. all wet (Some think Bill is always wet) cause it seems that their tent leaked a little. Mark & Sam (Brian's pals) took turns sleeping in the car, I think. Won't be long and they will be studying for their novice tickets. The rigs from Gastle's tent were transferred to my trailer before the storm hit so we operated from there comfortably. John Leiten KA2RFT, the voice of the 2-meter information net, showed up just in time to serve the meat-balls, sausage and sauce on the spaghetti plates. John Waterhouse KA2GXS stopped by Kibitz and heckle. Said he wouldn't stay for spaghetti as he gets better food at the Old Orchard in East Aurora, wherever that is. Nick Stanko KA2SEZ says he learned quite a bit from Dick KC2EL as he was operating the same type of rig that Nick has at home. Dick is an excellent teacher, going back to Novice classes you know???? The new Butternut Vertical Antenna works fine and got a good workout. We sure didn't set a record on contacts but we did manage to enjoy ourselves operating the radio, swimming, fishing, eating and etc.. After all, we were just doing exactly what other club members MAY have been doing on such a beautiful Saturday. That is, till the skies opened up.....

A special Thanks goes out to Harold and Joan Reiner, PY6ZAH and PY6ZAI respectfully, for allowing us to use their property for field days. It was well mowed and clean and he spent a lot of time preparing it for us.

The repeater is working just excellent. More and more people are using it now that it performs so well. You can hear many compliments from the repeater users. Dennis KA2KCY is checking in from Forrestville which he couldn't do before. It seems to be working well in the South Towns.

The 2 meter teleconference was on last Thursday on the BARRA 73 machine. We did not have notification in time to process our club procedure on items of this nature. It will be discussed at the next meeting.

Gotta take our hats off to Joe Guz WB2EZX, our antenna specialist. He has worked in the background on our antenna systems. I know he had a hand in the Nike Base Beam and original dipole installations and Tri-bander at the Fairgrounds. Since 1978, I know he has replaced the 80-40 dipole once and is doing it again at the Nike Base. He made up the dipole at the Youth Center, a trapped dipole used at Field days, a copper clad dipole and worked on the original J-Pole Repeater antenna. He assisted on the Butternut Vertical and made up radials for same. There may be some I don't know about.

Well, See you July 5th at the Youth Center for the regular meeting...

THIS IS THE YEAR TO GET INVOLVED.....

Tony P.
WA2ZFU