

Amateur Radio Club WB6WPO

cross talk

A MONTHLY NEWS BULLETIN OF TRW AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Sponsored by Systems Employee Association

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TRW/ARC Net Saturdays

7.280 MHz, 1000 PDT



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SEPTEMBER MEETING

"220 MHz and REPEATERS"

Don Schricker, W6FMT

26 September R2-1055
1200 - 1300

DOOR PRIZES DOOR PRIZES

THE PREZ SEZ

By PAUL WEISZ, K6YQ

Our recent experiment with an evening meeting appears to have been a great success. There was an excellent turnout (some 25 people), the food was good and the program interesting. We had the opportunity to chat with some of the associate members who don't usually make our noon meetings, and it was great not to have to cram all the proceedings into lunch hour. (The Irish coffee wasn't bad either!). We'll probably do it again soon. There is already a crew working on plans for our third

annual November Dinner Party, to celebrate our winning first, second, third or nth place in our Field Day class details to be announced.

A word about the club station, WB6WPO. Our space in Building 65 is fairly well equipped with rigs and antennas, but we have a severe lack of operators. The station does not get the use that it should. Go on up and operate; if you don't know where it is, or what there is, just call one of the club staff.

73 Paul

MORE APPRECIATION

Our amateur radio activities depend to a significant extent on the availability of sources for parts, equipment and expert advice. Henry Radio has been providing these important commodities in the Los Angeles area since prehistoric times, and has acquired a truly world-wide reputation. A good many foreign hams will speak of their visits to Henry's as a high point of a trip to or through Los Angeles. In addition to their own line of equipment (Tempo, 2K/3K Linears, etc), Henry carries most other types of ham gear (Swan, Collins, Kenwood, etc.) and has recently entered into association with Yaesu. Even if you have no specific purpose in mind, a trip to Henry's is usually worthwhile, if only to ragchew with the crew up there in West Los Angeles. There are stores at 11240 W. Olympic and at 931 N. Euclid in Anaheim.

AUGUST MEETING DOOR PRIZE REPORT

Thanks to the Goddess of Chance (and a very large assist from Bill Dews), our Erstwhile Frank Halligan is now a member of the American Radio Relay League! Bill was a lucky winner in the door prize drawing at the August Dinner Meeting, coming up with a one-year membership in ARRL. Bill very graciously turned this valuable prize over to Frank, figuring that this is what it will take Frank to become a life member of the League!

The other ARRL membership prize was won by Doug Freeman. A set of 100 QSL cards was won by Al Lee, and another by Halligan. Bill Dews hit it again with an ARRL Handbook. Neal Hudson picked up a Callbook and with Lady Luck striking thrice, Halligan won an SCR Handbook! Pretty nice bunch of prizes, and a "prize" bunch that won them!

READER INPUTS

Your editor is pleased to present in this issue two articles submitted by two of our thoughtful members, Doug Freeman and Fred Reed. We are always delighted to include these kinds of articles, not only for the general interest they may arouse in our membership, but also because our Cross-Talk receives a very wide distribution across the United States and helps to make our club better known. Thanks to both Doug and Fred and fond hopes they will encourage others to take pen in hand and share a thought or two with our readers.

A PROPOSAL - INTERNATIONAL EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

By Doug Freeman, W6NHX

I. Definitions:

A Major Disaster is designated one where the death count is greater than 100 persons, and the injury count is greater than 500 persons.

Primary Emergency Net is a net whose purpose is to pass essential medical requests and official government communications. It may also be a source of information concerning "Secondary Emergency Nets".

Secondary Emergency Net is a net whose main purpose is the passing of personal, health and welfare type traffic.

Designated Net Control (DNC) Operators are those operators who, through proven performance are extremely well qualified to control a net of the type described above.

II. Discussion:

In the wake of the Managua Earthquake of December 1972, and the Mexican Earthquake of August 1973, it has become apparent to this writer that Amateur Radio emergency service in these disasters has been something less than 100 % of the capability of the service. The Managua quake operation showed that a few dedicated Amateurs could handle a large amount of traffic, on a more or less catch-as-catch-can basis. The recent quake in Mexico, however, has produced very little Amateur Radio participation, for what reasons I am not sure. It is my feeling that a more structured, though completely volunteer, emergency communications plan plan be adapted by ARRL and IARU before the FCC does it for us.

III. Specific Recommendations:

1. That an international emergency frequency plan be implemented, designating primary, and secondary, as required, net frequencies to be used for emergency communications. The frequencies recommended are as follows:

PRIMARY: The exact US phone/CW sub-band dividing lines on each band as 3.775, 7.150, 14.200, 21.250 and 28.500. It is noted that FCC would have to be approached to permit operation by US licensees on these frequencies as net frequencies only.

SECONDARY: Secondary nets to be established as required, and as available operators permit, at each 25 KHz point up the band. It would require FCC permission for operation on net frequencies only, by all licensees, conditional class and higher, even if the operation frequency is in the advanced/extra class sub-bands.

2. That Designated Net Control (DNC) operators act as net control of the Primary net, at all times, and of secondary nets to the maximum extent possible. These operators should be drawn from the major traffic nets, such as Intercon SSB, Confusion Net, WCARS, MWARS, ECARS, etc.

3. That specific coordination meetings be held by DNC's on a regular basis, to discuss and evaluate current availability of operators, equipment and any other pertinent information. These meetings could be held on the air.

4. To improve communications out of a disaster area, where few radio amateurs may be available, it is recommended that teams of amateurs be established and equipped to be available to be transported into a disaster area to assist in the total communications effort. These teams could be established in several large cities across the country, and the group closest to area being the one dispatched.

I would be very happy to get our readers comments on this proposal. Please let me hear from you.

Doug Freeman, W6NHX

TREASURER'S REPORT

By Jerry Dean, WA6GVO

Balance on hand July 31, 1973..... \$ 539.10

Receipts

Dues (new)	\$ 6.00
Dues (renewals)	4.00
Raffle tickets	16.00
QSL Card orders	8.25
SEA 2 nd quarter allotment	95.00
Credit Union Dividend	3.45
	<hr/>
	\$ 132.70

Expenses

Door prizes	37.26
Postage & stationery	15.92
QSL Card printing	5.25
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	\$ 58.43

Balance on hand September 11, 1973..... \$ 613.37

WANT AD DEPARTMENT

Wanted: Drake T4X-B Transmitter and Power Supply

For Sale: Heathkit HW-16 Novice Transceiver

For both, call: Leo Wilson
Ext: 61571
E2-2014

MOVE LATELY???

We notice that many of our members do not advise the club of changes in mail stations, phone numbers, etc. In order to assure prompt delivery of your Cross-Talk, please notify Jerry Dean, R3-1072, Ext. 61612 of changes.

QSL'S - WHAT ARE THEY ALL ABOUT

by Fred Reed W6UMC

QSL means "acknowledgement of receipt of transmission." In other words, proof that you established two-way communication between two different points. I stated "two different points" because that is exactly what happens. With the advent of satellites, such as Oscar, communication has been extended beyond our wildest dreams. Some of these Satellites not only relay your signal back to earth, but talk back to you also. Now that we have established what a QSL is, let's look at who does what to whom, or who sends and receives QSL's. It is a known fact that for the average amateur the return, from QSL cards sent, is about one-third. In other words, you send 3 and get one back. This is indeed very discouraging. However, if you realize that this is a fact of life and decide that you do indeed want a QSL from a particular station, then by all means send a QSL card.

What is QSL'ing all about? There are many awards and certificates that can be obtained by making contacts and sending QSL's. Just look in QST, Ham Radio, CQ, 73 or any of the other amateur radio publications, and you will find that if you contact X number of station, you can get a certificate, special type QSL card, worn out rug, etc. Many clubs today obtain special calls for special events, thanks to the FCC and these are, one of a kind, type cards. They are something like collecting old coins, only so many were produced. One good example of this was the launch of Apollo 17. Goddard Space Flight Center obtained a special call WG3FSC and issued a special card for having worked the station during a specific time. This type of card is not common and should be considered as a treasured item, if for no other reason that you had to exert special effort to make contact with the particular station. Example, one of the Apollo launches was 0900 EST and WB4ICJ came up on frequency at that time. I had to leave on a trip back east that morning and had 1/2 hour before I had to leave. I got up extra early to prepare for the trip and then turned on the rig. The band was like a bee hive with activity and I didn't feel that I had a chance. At 0629 WB4IJC answered my call, after half an hour, and we established two-way communication. After the contact, I closed down the station, my wife drove to the airport and I was gone for a week.

This is indeed not uncommon when you want a special card or certificate.

Now lets consider the various awards that can be achieved by receiving QSL's. They are indeed too numerous to list; however, the following are foremost in the world. Worked All States (WAS) single band, or 5 band, Worked All Continents (6total), Worked 100 Countries (DXCC), either one band or 5 band. These are less than 1% of all the certificates and awards that are offered between amateurs throughout the world today.

One of the things that give us all drive and desire to accomplish something is to obtain QSL's and certificates from all over the world. This particular desire is indeed used to inspire the novice and young amateur to pursue the hobby that they have chosen as extra curricular activity. They could not have chosen a better one.

In order for a QSL to be of any real value to the receiver, it must contain the following information: The call letters of the station contacted, the date of the contact, the time of the contact, preferably in GMT, the frequency in MHz, or by band, the signal report and the mode of transmission. If you fail to give all the above data, the card cannot be used for awards, etc.

Now let's consider times and methods of QSL'ing. If it is a stateside contact and you are working on your WAS, by all means, QSL direct, send only the QSL card. If you are working toward your DXCC, you can QSL direct to the station, or to his QSL manager or the bureau. Most out of U.S. contacts prefer that you send with your QSL a S.A.S.E., self-addressed envelope with the proper number of International Reply Coupons (IRC's) at 22 cents each from the post office. Some special events like DX-expiditions, Apollo Launches and special club activities request money to cover expenses. Make sure you enclose it and hope that you get the card or certificate. Many amateurs wait for months before sending out their cards. This is a sad mistake. The best way to handle the QSL'ing is to make the cards out during the QSO and mail immediately. In this way, it is done and out of the way. During a contest that lasts two days this is virtually impossible so you should spend the week after the contest filling out the cards. Remember, the longer you wait to send a card, the less chance you have of ever getting a reply.