



# cross talk

NEWS BULLETIN OF TRW AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

AUGUST 1976



Sponsored by Systems Employee Association



WAC  
WAS  
DXCC  
FD'71  
FD'73  
FD'75

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TRW/ARC Saturday Morning Nets 10AM LT

Primary	7.280 MHz
Secondary	3.980 MHz
Novice	7.140 MHz
Simplex	147.510 MHz

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## THE SILLY SEASON

Traditionally, the midsummer period is so lacking in events of real significance that journalists (those not on vacation) must fall back on the reporting of relative trivia. The CROSSTALK is not really in that position this month, though we don't have quite as much material as we would like. But we do have a splendid Silly Season item for you, contributed from ELECTRONIC DESIGN by Jack Clarke, WB6TCR:

### **New squelch circuit has multiple functions**

It's a new squelch circuit that disables the transmitter whenever an audio signal occurs, and permits only the broadcasting of silence. It can also be used to implement the old dictum, "No news is good news," when applied to communications circuits. Best yet, this IC can be used in receivers as well as in transmitters, so as to excise any sounds that unenlightened souls may foolishly broadcast. Bob Dobkin says this is the best invention since the Darkness-Emitting (Arsenide) Diode. Oughta sell millions.

## DOOR PRIZES

We have a real electronics mart of door prizes this month. Since we were unable to get last month's prizes to that meeting, we will double up this time. The list of goodies includes: a pair of telex headphones, a new U.S. Callbook, a new foreign Callbook, two 17 function Lloyds calculators, an ARRL membership, and the ARRL "Specialized Communications Techniques" and "FM and Repeaters" books. Most of our door prizes come to us with the help of Henry Radio. That help is in the form of a discount price on Club purchases. Tickets for the raffle are 25¢ apiece or, if you say the correct passwords ("I'll take ( a, two, three, four, etc. ) dollars' worth.") we will give them to you five for a dollar. Such a deal! WEDNESDAY, 25 AUGUST, R2/1055

## NOTES AND NOTICES

HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS to Carl Kennedy, WB6TDE. Sgt. Kennedy of the Sheriff's Disaster Communications Service, passed the General class code test at the FCC on 18 August. We understand that Sue, the YF, owes him a first class HF-SSB rig! Look forward to hearing you on the low bands, Carl.

THE OLD HF-SSB TRW NET that used to find many of us on 7280 KHz on Saturday mornings had a semi-revival of sorts last month. Al Lee, W6KQI, operates VK5WC from Woomera some Sunday evenings. On 1 August there was a flock of old timers on 14245 at 9 PM to greet Al and Jan, and it really was like old times. On hand besides VK5WC were: Steve (WA6NRQ), Mas (W6CZL), Frank (W6RLN), Neal (WA6VCZ), and ye editor. Al's operating schedule is uncertain, but it pays to listen around on Sunday evenings.

AS OF 30 APRIL 1976, there were 268,192 amateur radio operator licenses in existence; an increase of 11,210 (4.2 per cent) over last year. (LERC ARC Bulletin)

JACK KOHO HAS LOST PATIENCE with the dastardly evildoers who have been making off with the club's magazines. As of now, anybody wanting a copy must have a face-to-face with Jack in S-1849. All mags are being kept locked up.

THE ARRL BOARD OF DIRECTORS, at their July meeting, approved a motion that will exempt league members from all fees currently being charged in the awards program. Hence free DXCC etc. for league members.

NOW FOR THE BAD NEWS: predicted sunspot numbers for the rest of the year: August, 8.4; September, 8.2; October, 8.0; November, 7.9; December, 7.7... looks like we'll be getting into negative numbers by about next summer.

THE TRW/ARC DOES NOT HAVE A GREAT MANY DXERS, but the following story, from the West Coast DX Bulletin via the SCDXC Bull, seems to have universal application:

One of the local QRPers came up the hill last week and he was not happy. "Put me down as another who missed D6A", he said. "Those high-powered, non-stop-calling Eastern types pushed the QRM needle off the peg at my place". We were properly sympathetic for a broken heart is a nagging burden. "Too bad", we said, hoping to ease the grief with some small talk, "We heard you in there calling and figured you'd work San. We could not hear him here". The QRPer shrugged. "Oh, I wasn't hearing him, I was in there calling blind. Called for three days and got nothing. Nothing at all with all that eastern QRM". We had to think this over a bit for it appeared something was not meshing. "If you could not hear him", we asked. "How would you ever know if he came back to your call? Wasn't that a bit of a futile effort to call blind?" The QRPer bristled. "Look", he said. "If I didn't call, how would he have heard my call and come back to me. Heck! That's basic DXing". We were still not getting the story. "But if you call blind and you are not hearing the DX station, how will you know when he comes back to you... if he does?" The QRPer started to bristle again... and it was apparent that we had run our string. "I can see that you will really never be a Big DXer", he said devastatingly, "You just cannot understand that they won't hear you if you don't call. You just don't understand!" Son of a Gun! Let's face it. There are some of the Eternal Mysteries that only a few will ever understand. (From the WCDXB)

### ATTENTION EXTRA CLASS LICENSEES

As you no doubt know, the FCC is making provisions for the issuance of "preferred" 1x2 and 1x3 call signs to Extra class licensees regardless of their tenure. The data below on calls available in California is from ARRL via the SCDXC Bull, and is current as of June. Accuracy is not guaranteed.

K6: AC\*, BY, CE, DX, EW, FG, FM, FU, GC, GG, GX, HL, HS, HU, HZ, IL, IP, IT, JE, JG, JV, KH, LG, LN, MS, NJ, NP, PL, PU, QD, QE, QS, QU, RV, TQ, VD, WI, YK, YL, YZ, WY, ZH and ZR.

W6: AH, AO, AZ, BB\*\*, BC BE BK, BN, BQ, BR, BU, CF, CN, DB, DQ, DV, DZ, EB, EE\*, EF, EQ, ET, FA, FB, FP, FT, FV, FZ, GE, GO, GQ, GG, GT, GW, GZ, HD, HK, HO, HT, HZ, IA, IO, IR, IT, JB, JD, JI, JJ, JM, JR, KH, KP, LK, LO, LT, LW, LZ, MK, NM, NV, OA, OC, OG, OI, OQ, OU, PP, QB, QC, QE, QI, QL, QX, QY, RE, RJ, RP, RU, SB, SP, ST, TD, TH, TI, TO, TQ, TU, UB, IL, UN, UR, US, UY, VE, VJ, VK, VL, VY, WG, WK, WL, WP, WQ, YC, YE, YI, YP, YR, YT, ZH, ZP, and ZX.

\* W6EE has been issued to K6WA and K6AC has been issued to K6MJ.

\*\*A probable error in the ARRL research since W6BB is issued to the Univ. of Calif.

#### Qualifications to apply:

#### First Date to Apply:

Amateur Extra Class now and licensed 25 years or more.....	July 1, 1976
Licensed as an Amateur Extra Class before November 22, 1967.....	October 1, 1976
Licensed as an Amateur Extra Class before July 1, 1974.....	January 1, 1977
Licensed as an Amateur Extra Class before July 1, 1976.....	April 1, 1977
Licensed as an Amateur Extra Class after July 1, 1976.....	July 1, 1977

#### Application fees:

There are two options. Call sign application (\$25) with modification (\$3) for a total of \$28.00, or call sign application (\$25) with renewal (\$4) for a total of \$29.00.

#### Application procedure:

Use FCC form 610 accompanied with a copy of your present license and proof of your first license or Extra Class license as necessary. A photocopy of your first license or of the Callbook listing and title page will constitute adequate proof. Mail your application to FCC, Box 1020, Gettysburg, Penn. 17325.

The Commission suggests that you provide a list of desired calls in order of preference attached to your application and/or give instructions as to whether a call of their choice will be accepted. You may also apply for the call of a silent key if the applicant provides proof such as a silent key listing from QST.

#### Services available:

The following services are available from the Callbook by writing Virginia Tworek, Radio Amateur Callbook, Inc., 925 Sherwood Drive, Lake Bluff, Illinois 60044:

1. Certified copy of a page to prove 25 years as an amateur. Cost is \$6.00.
2. Certified copy of a page to prove Extra Class prior to November 22, 1967. Cost is \$6.00.
3. A listing of all the 1 by 2 calls already issued. Cost is \$6.00 per district.

THOSE NEW REGS

\* Technician Class Licensees receive the most significant benefits in the form of full Novice privileges -- CW on 80, 40, 15 and 10 meters. No other Technician privileges were changed at this time, so it's still possible that 10 meter phone and/or expansion of Technician frequencies on the bottom of two or six meters may be part of expected later actions on 20282. Technician exams will no longer be "mail order" either -- the Report and Order makes administration of Tech exams an FCC Field office Job.

\* Novices receive two benefits under the just announced Rules changes. Power limits for Novices have been raised to 250 watts, and a Novice who has failed to upgrade during his two-year license term will be permitted to continue as a Novice by taking another Novice exam -- the requirement for a one-year delay before going for another Novice license has been dropped. The new 250 watt Novice power limit actually applies to Novice frequencies, by the way -- any station operating in the Novice sub bands will be limited to 250 watts regardless of what class license he holds.

\* All "Mail Order" Amateur exams except Novice are effectively being eliminated. The one exception that will remain is for an applicant who cannot travel because of medical reasons and who can back it up with a physician's statement. All others (except Novices) will be required to take their exams at an FCC Field Office, regardless of the distance which they may have to travel to get there. All applicants who do not already hold a Novice or higher class Amateur license will also be required to take and pass Element 2 (the Novice written exam) along with the higher class test. Element 2 will only be given after the higher class test has been taken and passed, however, to avoid burdening the Field Offices with giving Novice exams to applicants who really didn't expect to get a higher class license but wanted to avoid the added delays in getting a mail order Novice license.

\* All present Conditional and Technician (C) license holders will be "grand-fathered" into straight Technician and General Class licenses as their present licenses come up for renewal. No reexaminations will be required, which should make at least a few present license holders breathe easier!

\* The Effective Date for the new Rules changes is July 23 -- a nice "Christmas in July" present from the FCC!

Treasurer's Report for July 1976

Balance on hand July 1, 1976:	\$470.37		
<u>Receipts</u>		<u>Expenses</u>	
New Member Dues	\$ 3.75	Door Prizes	\$ 42.32
QSL Sales	5.75	Crosstalk Printing	43.33
2nd Quarter 1976		Bank Error on Deposit	1.00
CU Dividend	5.48	QSL Orders	4.25
	<u>\$14.98</u>	ARRL Membership (Club)	9.00
		IC-230 Crystals	26.50
		Field Day, Prints	<u>5.51</u>
			\$131.91
Balance on hand July 31, 1976:	\$353.44		

### NEW CALLS IN THE CLUB

Bill Helin, an associate member from Gardena and recent graduate of the TRW novice license course, is to be congratulated on receiving his call, WN6OHC. Bill was all prepared for the event, having purchased a new TS-520 and Hustler vertical antenna. However, at last report, he was at home with a broken foot and as yet uncompleted antenna installation. Perhaps a few club members can get together to get him on the air before he tries loading up his crutches out of frustration!

### DE WB6BGO

Those of you with an interest in accounting, or who just plain read ALL of the Crosstalk, may have noticed that since April we have been slipped discretely into a deficit spending mode. A nudge in that direction came when SEA stopped picking up the tab for our Crosstalk printing. We are now paying what appears to be the lowest going rate, about \$42.00 per issue, which will still allow us a high quality publication. If our club is to remain solvent, that means we must do one of three things:

- 1) Raise our income, or
- 2) Provide fewer services, or
- 3) Some combination of 1 and 2.

We may raise our income by charging more for some or all club functions (November dinner, raffles, Field Day, training classes, etc.), by holding more fund raising events (such as the spring swapmeet), or by raising dues. Our costs may be cut by providing fewer services such as the Crosstalk, Field Day, raffle prizes, station maintenance, magazine subscriptions, or dinner meetings. Obviously some of these options are complete unacceptable, others would be merely undesirable, and some concert of actions may be the most productive. The executive committee would like to hear suggestions on this matter from club members. This should take the form of positive suggestions and not "I'm gonna quit the club if it stops subscribing to the 'Okefenokie ARC 160 Meter Spark Gap DX Bulletin" and "Plate Modulator's Technical Review." So wat sa?