



MARCH 1983

cross talk

NEWS BULLETIN OF TRW AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



Sponsored by Systems Employee Association



FD '71
WAS FD '73
WAC FD '75
FD '76

Garrett/W6TRW 2-Meter Repeater: 145.32 Receive -- 144.72 Transmit (2A-PL)

TRW UHF Repeater: 447.000 Receive -- 442.000 Transmit

CALENDAR FOR MARCH AND APRIL

March 26, 8-11 am TRW/ARC Swapmeet.
March 29, Noon Club Meeting, R4-1041. Please note that this is the last Tuesday.
April 12, after work Executive Board Meeting.
April 26, Noon Club Meeting.
April 30, 8-11 am Swapmeet.

IMPORTANT: Please note that club meeting schedules have been changed.

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

WELCOME TO THE CLUB! -- Philip Freeman, Lorne Sherley (K6OMD), Chris Wachs (WA2KDL), Mike McGuire (KA5OKR), Paul Lukas (N6DMV), Esther Dickson (KA6WYZ), Bill Dickson, Ken Edwards (KE6NA), Margaret Ward (KA6TNO), and Greg Martens.

CLUB BADGES--You get a free door prize ticket if you wear your TRW/ARC badge to club meetings. If you don't have one with your current call on it, drop Bill Dews a check for \$2.00, along with your name and call. Wear them at Swapmeets and picnics too.

MEETING MINUTES -- Walt Pearson, N6DZM

General Meeting, 25 February 1983

President Bill Rodner called the meeting to order and asked for introductions around the room. Thirty-four people attended. The club is in good financial condition, per Treasurer Connie Gilmore. Location of the Executive Board Meeting to be announced.

Activities Chairman Gary Komatsu stated that a 15-meter CW captain is needed for Field Day. We have a 15 M antenna, but need a tower and rotor. Consideration will be given to purchasing a light-weight tower with club funds. Jim Richardson offered to loan an interlocking mast with rotor. A kitchen crew is also needed.

LAACARC Rep Bill Daley has asked for a list of amateur radio classes which will be available soon. Radio King has a code class operating now.

Membership Chairman Bill Dews announced that there are 117 members, of which 57% are also ARRL members.

Bill Rodner proposed a scheme using the membership list for Swapmeet crew assignments. A "gate operator" is needed for 26 February at 6am.

New business was a discussion of intermittent noise at the club station. It may be due to closeness to power lines. Electrical maintenance should be consulted.

Jim Richardson passed around the simple tester he described last month.

Bill Schrecengost distributed data and talked about the Mini Products HQ-1 Mini-Quad antenna.

Bill Rodner showed his home-brewed "J-Pole" 2-meter antenna with 5/8 wave whip.

Door prizes were a spotlight, two electrical testers, and a digital alarm clock.

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Executive Board Meeting, 8 March 1983

Attending were Bill Daley, Bill Dews, Fred Garrett, Connie and Dave Gilmore, Jim Hill, Bob Hume, Gary Komatsu, Walt Pearson, and Bill Rodner.

Vice President Fred Garrett has invited Paul Herbert (N6HXY) to talk about distress traffic in the Falkland Islands at the March general meeting.

Activities Chairman Gary Komatsu advised that Pat Dobbins is working on the deviation meter assembly. We still need a 15-meter CW captain and another light-weight tower for Field Day. Gary's motion to appropriate \$350 for a light-weight tower passed. Gary also reminded us about the St. Patrick's Day bash at Shakey's.

Bob Hume and Fred Garrett are rescheduling time to survey antenna requirements prior to announcing the date of an antenna party.

LAACARC Delegate Bill Daley reported that RACES was activated during the rain storms. An infrared satellite was launched on 25 January to make a geological survey from the sky. The ARRL Southwest Division Convention will be September 2-4 at the Marriott in Anaheim, with astronaut Tony England (W0ORE) as the banquet speaker. There has been a shift in organizational thinking on amateur radio support to the Olympics, toward fixed stations at USC, UCLA, and Santa Barbara and supporting portable communications at the various activities, all reporting to central headquarters. The City of Cerritos has again changed their antenna ordinance, which will give hams more problems. Bill has a form letter for response to the FCC on the no-code license proposal. (Crosstalk ed. also has a copy.) Deadline for filing is 29 April.

Emergency Coordinator Dave Gilmore told about the emergency alarm sounding in R6 on March 2, during lunch. This was not a drill, and the building was evacuated with three TRW/ARC Emergency Team members participating (Bill Dews, John Koenig, and Jim Richardson). We received another "well done" from the TRW Emergency Assistance Team.

Membership Chairman Bill Dews reported 126 total members: 11 family, 11 retired, 12 associates, and 92 employees. He displayed the framed 10-10 Net certificate awarded to the club. Bill has a list of Los Angeles area amateur radio clubs and license classes.

The required data package is ready to submit to TRW SEA. On half of the SEA support is expected this month.

Paul Weisz will be working on new QSL card design arrangements.

The new Swapmeet Chairman is Jim Hill, who reported that the arrangement with the associate group to handle the refreshment stand is working excellently. It rained on February 26th, but the sellers' lot was still one-third full. The time limit of 11 am for closing will be impartially enforced. A bull-horn authorized last year will be purchased to aid in getting compliance. Bill Rodner announced the Swapmeet team assignments as follows: Bob Hume and Mike Aust for 26 March; Vic Musil and Roy Adams for 30 April; and Dave Mooney and Bob Bains for 28 May. Team members are responsible for assuring that the positions are filled for that day.

ELECTRONIC LOVE -- TNX Paul KO6D, as sent to W6VIO Calling

If she wants a date	Meter
If she comes to call	Receiver
If she needs an escort	Conductor
If she's been cheating	Detector
If she's too fat	Condensor
If she's too thin	Feeder
If she's extravagant	Limiter
If she's in error	Rectifier
If her hands are cold	Heater
If she fumes and fusses	Insulator
If she's ugly	Transformer
If she's bossy	Resistor
If she refuses	Rejector

FOR SALE

Two Shugart 400 floppy disc drives; any reasonable offer.

One ASR-33 TTY, rebuilt, \$150. Roger Schmitt--home (714) 893-8954, work x52846.

HOW TO BUILD A HOME COMPUTER

Despite what you've heard from computer salesmen, home computers are actually straightforward devices that can be built in an afternoon by anyone who has a few simple hand tools and the brains of a spittoon.

Perhaps you don't think you need a home computer, but believe me, you'll find lots of uses for it. For example, we use ours to handle our financial affairs.

In our precomputer days, angry bill collectors were always calling us up and demanding money. But now, thanks to our computer, when they call we simply tell them: "I'm sorry, but we are experiencing technical difficulties with our personal home computer and we cannot give you any information with reference to this bill at this time." Bill collectors are impressed by this professional technical explanation, and as a result they hardly ever call us anymore, although they tend to send large, armed persons to visit us personally.

Once you have gained some experience with your computer, you can program it to do all kinds of things that computers owned by major corporations do, such as destroy the credit ratings of people you don't even know, or answer your telephone automatically and tell your callers that everybody in your house is too busy to talk to them. And besides all these advantages, my easy-to-make personal home computer, which is the result of months of research, experimentation and heavy drinking, can actually heat your home. Impossible, you say? Why not build it and find out?

First, head down to your home workshop and gather together the tools and materials you need.

TOOLS: A screwdriver, an ice pick, a drill, a Bowie knife, a hacksaw (optional), and something to melt solder with, such as a soldering gun.

MATERIALS: Solder, a television set, and 8 to 10 pounds of assorted electronic parts, which you can buy wherever they are sold. I find that transistors work best, although you can use diodes, provided they are fresh.

Now you are all set. Remove the back from the television cabinet, and, using your ice pick, chip out the insides and throw them away. Next, using your Bowie knife, stab the top of the cabinet to create an 8-inch gash (see Drawing 1).

Now arrange your electronic parts on your workbench in an attractive display and melt solder on them until they are all stuck together, taking care not to drop too much molten solder on your dog (see Drawing 2). Next, you can either wait for the parts to cool off, or, if you are in a hurry, simply dump them into a bucket of water. (CAUTION: Never touch the hot parts with your bare hands. Ask a neighbor to do this.)

Once the soldered-together parts are cool, drill a few holes in them and screw them to the inside of your television set. (see Drawing 3), using your optional hacksaw on either the television set or parts to insure a good fit. Now all you need to do is re-attach the cabinet back and check to make sure your fire insurance is paid up. You're ready to enter the World of Home Computing.

First you'll need some data to put in, or "input." Have your children to go around the house, inside and out, and gather up, or "upgather" all of your bills, check stubs, candy wrappers, receipts, lawn clippings, tax records and lint balls. The more data you give your computer, the better it will work. To input your data, simply stuff it into the Bowie knife slash.

Next send your children to another room, or, if possible, another state; then plug your computer in. For a few seconds, nothing will happen, but then you'll hear the computer start to process, or "process" the data. Before long, you'll actually be able to see it working, even smell it; after 20 minutes or so, your computer will be processing data at such a rate that your entire house will be warm as toast. In fact, this easy-to-make personal home computer produces heat so effectively that since I built mine, we haven't spent a nickle on home heating, primarily because of the medical bills. + + +

Courtesy Collector & Emitter