



CROSSTALK

News Bulletin of the TRW Amateur Radio Club

Member, American Radio Relay League

APRIL 1987

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

Garrett/W6TRW Repeater: 145.32/-600(2A-PL) -- UHF: 442.0001n/447.000out

CALENDAR FOR APRIL AND MAY

Wednesday	Each Wednesday, noon	Emergency Communications Team Check-in. 145.32 via repeater and simplex.
Friday	Each Friday, 7-8am	Club Breakfast, S Cafeteria, VERY informal, good breakfast for less than \$2.00!!
Saturday	Apr 25, 8-11am	Swap Meet. Corner of Compton/Marine and Aviation, in Manhattan Beach. Seller's lot is directly behind the Standard Station. Remember! No one on TRW property until 0600.
Tuesday	Apr 28, Noon	Club Meeting. MEETINGS GO BACK TO R2/1055. Speaker will be Sgt. Rudy Lovio of the L.A. County Sheriff's office. Sgt. Lovio is responsible for coordinating RACES activity in Los Angeles County. If you want to know about Disaster Communications this is the meeting to show up at. Club Badge will get you a free door prize ticket!
Tuesday	May 5, noon	First Club Picnic of 1987!! All members are welcome!! El Nido Park on 182nd Street between Inglewood Avenue and Hawthorne Blvd. Directions inside Crosstalk.
Thursday	May 7, after work	Executive Board Meeting. All members are welcome! At Pizza Hut, Manhattan Beach, 926 N. Sepulveda Blvd., on the southeast corner of Sepulveda and 10th Street.
Saturday	May 16, 9:00 am	Amateur Radio Examinations, Fred Hesse Park, Palos Verdes. Directions inside Crosstalk.
Monday	May 25, all day	Memorial Day, Company Holiday. Enjoy the 3 day weekend safely!!
Tuesday	May 26, noon	Club Meeting, R4/1041.
Saturday	May 30, 8-11am	Swap Meet

Amateur Radio Examinations

Paul Wisiolek, K1TKL

The next exam session to be held at Rancho Palos Verdes will be the 16th of May at 9:00 AM. The session will be held at Fred Hesse Park in the Activities Room. The park is located on the right side of Hawthorne Blvd. about two miles after you pass the top of Palos Verdes. Walk-ins are accepted, but a reservation list is taken by phone to myself at (213) 644-2271. Examinees who have reservations will be taken first. All exam levels from Novice to Extra are administered.

Please bring a photo copy of your license to the exam session. At the time of this writing it has been heard that the new 610 forms have been released, but this examiner has not received any to date. It is suggested that if you obtain a new 610 form, use it, otherwise 610 forms will be provided at the exam session.

As everyone is aware, the old element Three (General) written exam is now divided into two sections. These are the 3A (Technician) and 3B (General), consisting of 25 questions in each element. Also, with the Novice enhancement, the Novice written exam has expanded to 30 questions to cover the new Novice privileges. If you have any questions feel free to call the phone number listed above. (ed. Or on the back page of every Crosstalk under the title "Training Chairman")

First Club Picnic of 1987

The first day of spring has passed and the TRW/ARC is not far behind in taking advantage of the situation. So far the days are already pleasant and prime for a picnic. The TRW/ARC will have their first picnic on Tuesday, May 5th at noon in El Nido Park. The food and refreshments are free to Club members, so here is an easy way to get your dues back. Jim and Luella Wike will be putting on another feast to delight the palate and fill your innards. El Nido Park is located on 182nd Street between Inglewood Avenue and Hawthorne Blvd. The parking lot is just off of 182nd Street on Kingsdale Avenue. If you are coming east on 182nd from Inglewood Avenue proceed over the railroad tracks and turn right at the first street, Mansel Avenue. Continue your right turn on to Kingsdale and the parking lot is about one block from the corner on the right hand side. If you are proceeding west on 182nd from Hawthorne Blvd. Mansel is the third street on the left. You will turn left on to Mansel and then make an immediate right on to Kingsdale. We usually try to get the tables just south of the parking lot so look there first. If you have a face we won't recognize please bring your Club Badge or your membership card. Put Tuesday May 5th on your calendar right now and hope to see you there!



REMEMBER: MEETINGS RETURN TO R2/1055!!

TRW SEA • One Space Park • Redondo Beach, CA 90278 • Attn: Amateur Radio Club

John Thernes, WM4T, and the City of Lakeside Park, Kentucky, have entered into a Consent Decree that will finally enable WM4T to erect a reasonable antenna system. John had originally asked for a seventy foot tower and an eight foot mast to support a triband beam antenna at seventy feet and a two element forty meter beam at seventy eight feet. The city's position for five years was that no antenna should be permitted whatsoever. In settling the dispute, John got most of what he asked for. Based upon the discussions held during a settlement conference on February 12, 1987, in front of a Federal District Judge for the Eastern District of Kentucky, the City agreed to the following terms:

1. A tower of sixty five feet in height will be allowed.
2. The eight foot mast to support the forty meter beam will be allowed. Total antenna height to be 73 feet.
3. All necessary building permits will be issued and will remain free from any present or future ordinances which the city may enact.
4. A cash payment of \$13,800 will be made to WM4T. This is a major victory for John and all of Amateur Radio. It is interesting to note that the cash payment represented virtually all legal fees from the effective date of PRB-1 to date. PRB-1 became effective in September of 1985. The legal fees prior to the effective date of PRB-1 were not recoverable since the judge felt there was no clear law on the books prior to the PRB-1 declaration.

The Consent Decree was agreed to based upon discussions in the Judge's chambers on Thursday, February 12, 1987, and just one day prior to the Oral Argument Hearing set by the Judge for February 13th. "We had been trying to settle with the City several times before," John said, "yet they waited until the absolute last possible moment to settle."

Once the terms of the settlement were worked out, the Judge asked that the decree be submitted to him for approval within ten days. Consequently, the Consent Decree was delivered to his Court on February 23, 1987. The Judge reviewed the document and gave it his signed approval the next day. The W4MT antenna battle officially ended on February 24, 1987.

The \$13,800 award, when added to the donations received via the Northern Kentucky Tower Fund still fall short of the total cost by some \$7,000. John hopes that the Amateur Radio Community will see this victory as having enormous national benefit to all of Amateur Radio now that the community zoning boards will be forced to think twice before denying an amateur a permit for an effective antenna system which will provide for national and international communication.

John/W4MT will again have a booth at the Dayton HamVention and he encourages everyone to drop by for additional details. He also "wishes to thank all of those amateurs who have given him their encouragement and support; without it, the fight would have been much more difficult," he said.

The importance of this legal battle is significant. The case has major national implications in that a case is now on record at the Federal court level which establishes an antenna installation in the seventy foot range as a reasonable request to provide reliable national and international communications.

Also, just as important, any future City or Municipality that tries to zone against amateur antennas will know that a City in Kentucky got burned for every penny of legal costs from the effective date of PRB-1. (Refer to: Federal District Court, Eastern District of Kentucky, Case No. 83-218.) The Consent Decree is a matter of public record and can be quoted in future cases. For a copy of the Consent Decree, please include a business size self-addressed stamped envelope and mail it to Northern Kentucky Tower Fund, P.O. Box #17721, Lakeside Park, Kentucky, 41017. (You might also include a small donation to defray John's costs.)

Planning for Field Day 1987 is progressing slowly but steadily with several more operators/loggers committed and a few definite maybes. One such operator is our old buddy Nelson Hayes, W6VBB, who, up until 1983, was a regular Field Day participant. He is now retired and was pleased to be invited to work with us. Nelson is a good Field Day operator and will be a big plus to our Field Day team. Starting this year the Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation Department is charging camping fees for overnight use of the parks. We also must show liability insurance coverage for Field Day participants and park facilities. No more Freebies!! We still need lots of operators, both CW and SSB, loggers, and people to help set up tent and antennas and later to tear down and return same to Bldg 65. All of these jobs can be fun if there are a lot of people to do them and everything doesn't fall on one person's shoulders. So please call and join the fun and frolic at this year's Field Day. You can reach me at (213) 536-3316 from outside TRW and X63316 inside TRW.

REMEMBER: MEETINGS RETURN TO R2/1055!!

Emergency Communications Notes

Rich Sauer, N6CIZ

Is it possible to stay warm and cozy in your bed on the last Saturday of the month and still help out with the Swap Meet? You bet it is! Just volunteer as an Emergency Communications Team Net Station. That's just what I did during the last Swap Meet and it made me feel pretty good.

As I have been reporting, Frank Cartier, WA6RAY our Swap Meet Manager, wanted to have somebody standing by the radio in case he needed to pass emergency traffic. About 3,000 folks attend our monthly Swap Meet and Frank wanted to know that there would be someone standing by "just in case." A quick phone search for some volunteers turned up only one - me!

Keeping your ear tuned to the repeater really isn't all that hard. I spent the morning working on chores around the house and listening for Frank or one of his workers to put out the call. Happily, no emergencies occurred and it was a fairly quiet morning. I did help a few lost souls find their way to the Swap Meet and, while listening on my base station, I heard some folks calling on the output of the repeater looking for directions. I was able to command the PL decoder off for a few minutes so I could work these stations through the repeater and get them turned around in the right direction.

So if you are a member of the Emergency Communication Team and have a few hours to spare on a Swap Meet Saturday, volunteer for Net Control duty. I'd like to see three people operating in three 2-hour shifts. That way we'd have the Swap Meet covered from 6 to 12 noon. Like I said above, no one was willing to volunteer last month so don't think that someone else will do it. Give me a call and help out!

Our Wednesday noontime check-ins are continuing and I want everyone to get out to their radios at lunchtime and check into the net. Thanks to all of you who "keep the faith."

The check-ins for March 11th were: N6CIZ (Net Control), W6IPM, W6ZWS, WB2KIT, N6JLS, W6IOW, N6AZY, WD2AIG, WA2KDL, N6CRR, and W6EKK. On March 18th: N6CIZ (Net Control), N6MZV, W6IPM, W6ZWS, W6EKK, N6AZY, K7JAJ, and N6MEL. On March 25th: W6ZWS, Randy (Net Control), W6IRG, N6JI, W6IPN, WQ6X, N6IRZ, and N6MZV. On April Fool's Day: Randy W6ZWS (Net Control), W6IRG, K6MAU, W6IPM, N6DMV, N6JLS, W6GPE, W6IOW, and N6MEL. The check-ins on April 8th were: NU6U, Max (Net Control from W6TRW), W6IPM, N6PAN, W6ZWS, and KE6LB. And on April 15: NU6U, Max at W6TRW (Net Control), W6ZWS, W6IPM, KB6CUT, WB2KIT, N6PAU, and N6JLS.

Nobody told me it was going to be like this when I was shoved, kicking and screaming, into the position vacated by the capable Jim Cox when he left the company last month. Well, OK. Actually it didn't take too much prodding by K7JAJ and the Executive Board to get me to volunteer to be the Technical Chairman. But then again, little did I know just how big Jim's shoes were! Actually, it's been quite a learning experience and I've had a lot of fun. Let me fill you in on some of the details.

First, the 2 meter repeaters. After the W6NWP machine was installed in its new home on top of 134, we discovered a little problem. Seems the command decoder liked to turn the box off, but wouldn't turn it back on. Oh well. No big deal. Since the TRW repeater was having noise-in-the-receiver problems we turned it off and decided to keep the NWP machine on full time. At least until the noise problem could be fixed. Ah, but what a little procrastinator I am! Here it was a few days before the Swap Meet and HT coverage at Space Park was, shall we say, El Stinko with the repeater operating in Del Amo. So it was time for action.

JAJ was convinced that the noise problem was being generated in the W6TRW/R's antenna system. The AEA Isopole had been up for about a year and corrosion was the suspected culprit. (See Jim's article on antenna maintenance in last month's Crosstalk). The cry of "Take the thing down and clean it!" could be heard on VHF and UHF frequencies used by Club members. Did we listen? Of course not! The problem couldn't be as simple as DIRT. It had to be intermod - somebody's frequency mixing with somebody else's frequency and landing right next to the input of our repeater. We're Ham Radio Operators, by golly, and we never do things in an easy and logical manner. Wouldn't be right.

So the Great Procrastinator/Tech Chairman solved the problem by turning the NWP box off and the TRW box on without fixing anything. Well, at least the guys at the Swap Meet had HT coverage through the repeater. But doggone it - something had to be done. There was just too much grunge when folks would unkey.

First, the easy part. After procuring the proper paperwork, I drove down to building 134 and hefted W6NWP/R down the stairs and into the back of my car. (Well OK, only ONE flight of stairs and the elevator the rest of the way). Later, in my garage, it only took me 45 minutes of schematic staring, repeater poking and head scratching to determine that an itty bitsy wire had unsoldered itself from the decoder board. A hot iron and a touch of solder fixed the problem. The command decoder decoded commands like a command decoder should. I checked it out the next day. Still worked. I put the repeater on a dummy load and left it on for days. Every so often I'd pick up my trusty HT and send DTMF tones and the little feller did it's job like gangbusters. Eureka! I had fixed it.

The NWP repeater was returned to its home on top of 134 to await my commands to bring it up while we fixed the "intermod" problem on the TRW repeater. See the Antenna Party article for details of what we found. (Hint: I have a new respect for K7JAJ's diagnostic abilities!). Anyway, when we went to work on the TRW machine, I turned it off and commanded the NWP box on. It worked fine. After we got the bugs out of the TRW machine, it was time to turn it on and the NWP machine off. Unfortunately when I tried to command it off it couldn't hear DTMF tones again. I hate command decoders. I had to drive down to Del Amo and manually push a button to turn NWP off before commanding TRW on. Life should be easier.

Other technical happenings this month include the purchase of a Tennatest noise bridge for you antenna experimenters. This guy works on any antenna and has a frequency range from 1 to 150 MHz. If you're homebrewing an antenna this bridge will tell you its resonant frequency, radiation resistance, VSWR at resonance and

measures its inductive or capacitive reactance. Looks like quite a gadget. I'll be using it to tune up a 40 meter dipole at my QTH and the Field Day gang has plans to use it to fix some antennas that haven't quite made the grade in past years. It's available for Club members to borrow along with the other club-owned test equipment. Finally, I'll just whet your appetite by mentioning the new controller we're planning to buy for W6TRW/R on 2 meters. The ACC controller has every bell and whistle in the book. I'll leave the details for next month but if you're considering buying a new 2 meter rig, make sure it has touch-tone pad on it. I think that we're going to have lots of fun with this new toy. If you've ever heard a repeater talking in synthesized speech, you've probably heard an ACC controller. More next month.

Torrance Antenna Ordinance

Laura Haggerty

(ed. This article appeared in the March 19, 1987 issue of the Easy Reader.)

Hundreds of local ham radio operators received an "all-clear" signal Tuesday night as the Torrance City Council dropped an ordinance that operators feared would shut down antennae installations throughout the community.

About 300 amateur radio operators flooded the council chambers after a broadcast appeal to oppose the proposed regulations.

The ordinance proposed by City Attorney Stanley Remelmeyer would have brought regulation of all types of radio and television antennae in line with current restrictions on satellite dishes.

Remelmeyer proposed the ordinance in answer to a Federal Communications Commission ruling that local governments could not single out satellite dishes for regulation.

A month ago, an applicant for a satellite dish permit, Joseph Kadesh of 609 Camino de Encanto, pointed out that the city's ordinance was discriminatory under the year old FCC ruling.

At that time, Remelmeyer asked the council to enact an emergency ordinance that would apply the same standards to all antennae. The council turned him down, expressing concern that ham operators in the community had not been informed.

Current regulation of satellite dishes requires screening of the dishes and unanimous consent of all neighbors within a 500 foot radius of the site, or a conditional use permit.

The amateur radio operators started a massive telephone and letter campaign last month after the council first considered instituting the emergency ordinance.

Remelmeyer said the new ordinance exempted "ordinary common aerials." But amateur radio operator Richard Polivka said operators feared the ordinance would shut down "everyone who has radio antennae, even people who have tall television towers."

"It's obvious that they're going to make it very hard for the average person to install antenna. All you need is one neighbor to say no - one neighbor mad at you or who hates antennae," said ham operator William Champin.

In a 7-0 vote, the council agreed to set aside the proposed ordinance and asked Remelmeyer to negotiate a new ordinance with a group of five representatives of the amateur radio operators.

"We would have asked for the ordinance to be dropped and it has been and we're very grateful" said Chuck Lobb, spokesman for the ham operators in Torrance.

Because of the complexity of the FCC rulings on satellite and ham radio operations, Remelmeyer said he anticipates it will take several months for the committee to rewrite the city's ordinance. With the approval of Kadesh's satellite placement Tuesday, and no further satellite petitions pending, Remelmeyer said, "There's no hurry on it now that I can see."

I was "requested" to write the Club minutes as Jim Cox has left for greener pastures and he was unable to find a Secretary to fill his shoes. Jim did very well in obtaining Rich, N6CIZ, for the position of Technical Chairman. A few of us are doing double duty for the Club and I hope one of you would come forward and pick up the Secretary position for the rest of this year. Call me on X61656 or any Club officer.

Before the meeting got under way there was some small talk about Club activities, i.e., Swap Meet, noise bridges, LAACARC, and before I left after the meeting I heard Steve O'Neal will be representing the Club at the LAACARC where we will be able to pass out ideas along to 25 or so other clubs in L.A. One big one will be our Swap Meet hours and not arriving early on TRW property.

The meeting started at approximately 1745 hours with Chris Wachs asking me to take one liners (which the newsletter Editor refused to accept, H1).

Vice President Steve O'Neal reported that the speaker for the month will be Sgt. Rudy Lovio from the L.A. County Sheriff's office on RACES. You will find his presentation will cover emergency amateur radio and if you would like to get involved, plan to attend.

Treasurer Dave Stockwell reported our actual cash balance and he made a motion to put any funds left over from an account, after that activity has been closed, be returned to the equipment fund. The motion was seconded and passed by the board.

Activities Manager Jim Wike was not present to give a report and did not send one with another member. The first Club Picnic will be on Tuesday May 5th in El Nido Park.

Trustee Phil Bergeron was not present and no report was sent in.

LAACARC Delegate position is open.

Membership Chairman Bill Dews reported 156 members at this time.

SEA Council Representative Paul Herbert was not present and no report was sent.

Swap Meet Manager Frank Cartier made a good report on the last Swap Meet and requested \$125 for five coat/jackets for use at the Swap Meet. A motion was formed, seconded and passed by the board.

Technical Chairman Rich Sauer reported ordering a noise bridge for approximately \$70. The W6NWP repeater was discussed and Chris and Steve will look into the cost of a pre-amp and report at the next EBM. A motion was made to purchase an ACC 85 repeater controller, or if need be an ACC 850, with the Technical Chairman to decide. The motion was seconded and passed by the board.

Field Day Chairman Bill Schreengost made a motion to purchase a low band vertical antenna. The motion was seconded and passed by the board. Bill requested that all those interested in helping out at this year's Field Day call him at X63316.

Crosstalk Editor John Keller stated that the deadline for articles for the April newsletter was Friday, April 17th. John also reported that he has talked to SEA about forms required for the Swap Meet and a possible exception that the Club may be able to use.

The President asked if we all liked the new meeting spot for the Executive Board meetings and all present agreed that the Pizza Hut will do just fine. Plan to attend at least one meeting with us and really see how your Club is run. The address is on the front of this Crosstalk.

John Keller showed up late with YF, Karen, and 1st harmonic, Madeline, who, by the way, was 1 year old on the day of the meeting. Madeline showed off by eating small bites of pizza and showing her newly acquired talent at walking. She did QRM the meeting at times as all young ladies will do!

Hope we have a Club Secretary at the next meeting.

REMEMBER: MEETINGS RETURN TO R2/1055!!

Tidbits from the Jolly Little S...!

I would like to thank Serge Miller for his offer of support on the Crosstalk. Unfortunately, editing alone is not what is needed to take over as Editor. The threat still remains that I will be quitting as Editor by the end of the year. I am beginning to believe that the TRW attitude of not replacing someone right away when they have quit with lots of advance notice seems to be pervading the Club as well. Quite frankly, if I may get on my soapbox for a moment, there seems to be a lot of "letting the other guy do the work" type attitude going around lately. I mean it has always been tough to come up with four Club officers each year, but this year it seems that everyone is really letting go. Our Secretary has left the company, our LAACARC Delegate has left after many good years of service and we have some Executive Board members pulling double duty. All the activities seem to be attended by the same dozen or so people. So what are the rest of you doing out there?? What does it take to get you involved?? I will quit this by the end of the year and I want someone with the interest in putting out a good newsletter to take over. I would rather put out no newsletter than one put out by someone who is forced into it and doesn't really want to do it. This message will be here until I get someone to replace me or December arrives, whichever comes first.

No, it is not the wild unravelings of a secretary or the return of another club to take over our meeting room, but the GAO (that is, the General Accounting Office!) has taken over R4/1041 as an office space. As the plan is now, we will be having our meetings in R2/1055 for the next two months. We then may have to move to a meeting room on the second floor of R2 for the next two months due to R2/1055 getting scheduled for something else when we went back to R4. (Are you getting confused - GOOD! because I sure am.) In any case just keep watching the newsletter for updates on the meeting room situation so you will know where to go without having to be told.

REMEMBER: MEETINGS RETURN TO R2/1055!!

From the Library

George Lee, W610W

What's new in the April issues of:

QST: Hardline Coaxial Connector You can make (save cost on these expensive connectors).

The Digi-Cat (Direct frequency entry for 757GX)

A CW Keying Interface (Eliminate start-up distortion in semi-QSK)

Product Review of TONO Q-777 Communication Terminal (RTTY, CW, AMTOR)

Product Review of SSB Electronics T33S 902 MHz to 2 Meter Transverter

73: Review of DJ2UT XP706 Multiband Beam (for DX'ers)

Review of Kenwood TS-711A 2 Meter all-mode Transceiver

Review of Tokyo Hy Power Labs HL-22V & HL-102V 220 MHz Amplifiers

Review of OPTO Electronics 1300H Frequency Counter, Wenzel Associates Counter-Mate Frequency Standard

Review of Heath HW-99 Xcvr (Novice Xcvr 50 Wats on 10, 15, 40 and 80 Meters)

HR: Real Coax - Z and θ relationships

Simple modification and adjustment for TS-930S

The TEXNET Packet Switching Network - Part 2

Grounding, Shielding and Isolating - Part 1

A 3 tube 4CX750B Linear (650 Watts Output)

Understanding Noise Figure (doesn't imply best S/N)

Review of DEO QSK-1500 (for high power DX'ers)

CQ: Not in yet.

Antenna Antics on E2

Rich Sauer, N6CIZ

It was a beautiful Saturday morning a couple of weekends ago as Intrepid Tech Chairman N6CIZ, Fearless CW Operator Max Maxwell NU6U and illustrious President Chris Wachs WA2KDL made their way to the top of E2. The W6TRW 2 meter repeater was having noise problems and we were going to fix them.

It was understood up front that the antenna needed to be taken down, cleaned up and reinstalled. K7JAJ had diagnosed the noise problem by listening to it. He was convinced that corrosion was causing a diode action between metal parts of the antenna and the rectification was causing noise to be heard in the receiver when the repeater users would unkey their mic's.

Chris thought an intermod problem had developed and fixing it would be a real challenge. It was interesting to watch the repeater's S-meter bounce all over the scale. The fact that the repeater requires a 2A PL before it unquelsches kept the noise from being heard except for a brief burst when a user would unkey his mic at the end of a transmission.

We wiggled coax connectors while watching the S-meter looking for loose connections on the duplexer or cavity filters or wherever. Nothing. Max climbed the ladders to the roof and began to physically shake the antenna. The S-meter went crazy. Chris and I looked at each other. When Max would shake the antenna the receiver noise increased dramatically. When he stopped, it would diminish. Hum, that K7JAJ sure is smart!

After turning the repeater off, Chris and I climbed up to the roof to start the antenna party. I always thought that people who love CW are crazy and NU6U proved my theory by dangling over the side of the building to loosen the antenna mounting brackets. After Max lowered the mast and removed the antenna, we inspected it and found corrosion and rust where metal met metal. We took everything apart and, using emery cloth and a steel brush, cleaned everything up bright and shiny. When the antenna was reassembled, we used conductive grease on all metal-to-metal contact points. This stuff isn't cheap but I think that it's well worth it. After adjusting everything for the best SWR, we taped all the joints and sprayed a heavy coating of clear Krylon over the tape.

With Max sitting on the edge of the roof, Chris holding the antenna while leaning over the side and me holding Chris, the Isopole was bolted back on the mast. The mast was raised and the mounting bolts on the side of the building were tightened.

When we were done, the antenna was physically a lot more rigid than before and the noise had disappeared. Some quick tests showed that we had picked up a db or two of gain.

This entire operation took about two hours on the roof and another hour or so before and after, getting ready and cleaning up. My thanks to Chris, WA2KDL and Max, NU6U for their help. Discounting the dirt, climbing up and down vertical ladders on the side of the building, the melting tar on the roof, microwave radiation from a nearby dish we had to walk in front of, and the psychological fear of working 12 stories up, a good time was had by all.

From the President

Chris Wachs, WA2KDL

The Club is looking for a few good hams. We have several openings, one for a Club Officer and three staff positions. If you enjoy keeping up with what is happening in the Club by reading the meeting minutes, think for a minute how that information gets to you. The Secretary is the ONE person with the responsibility to take down what happens at the meeting and present it to the membership. Jim Cox, K7JAJ has left TRW and now works for a company closer to home. Jim was doing double duty as Secretary and Technical Chairman, so two positions were actually vacated. Rich Sauer has stepped

...more From the President

into the Technical Chairman position but he is also doing double duty as he is the Emergency Communication Coordinator.

Every other month, The Los Angeles Area Council of Amateur Radio Clubs (LAACARC) meets. Most, if not all, of the amateur radio clubs in the County of Los Angeles get together to pass information between the clubs and plan for future activities. Much good information came to us through the efforts of Bill Daley, K6BO. Bill helped out for 5 years and did a superb job. Bill is moving on to other interests and we need a delegate to attend these meetings. One very important item, that gets updated regularly, is the Delegate's Handbook. It contains information on Amateur Radio classes, exams, contests, T-hunts, ARRL officers, emergency phone numbers and much more. We need someone to replace Bill very soon!

Due to some legal aspects concerning the Swap Meet, we may need to get into Amateur Radio Classes in a big way. In order to do that we will need an active Training Chairman and an organization to support him. Our present Training Chairman does not work for TRW and does not want to teach as he wants no conflicts with his position as a Volunteer Examiner. This is another position that needs to be filled very soon.

You can volunteer by calling any of the Club officers if you can't get ahold of me. But try calling me first, I'm waiting to hear from you. My phone number as well as the numbers of all of the Club Officers can be found on the back page of the Crosstalk.

General Meeting 31 March 1987

There were no minutes taken as there was no Secretary to take the minutes and no one volunteered or was appointed to take the minutes in the absence of the Secretary.

New Members - - Old Members

Welcome to the Club:

Barry Miles, W6TZF, holding an Advanced ticket and an Amateur operator for 37 years. Barry didn't answer any of the questions on the membership form so we can't tell you anything more about him.

Hope to see you at the next meeting Barry!

ARRL Requests Extension in 220 MHz Docket

On March 4, the ARRL filed a motion with the FCC to extend the comment period an additional 45 days in Docket 87-14, which proposes to take away 220-222 MHz from the Amateur Service. Presently, the comment period of the proposal ends April 6. In support of its motion, the ARRL noted that in most rule making proceedings affecting Amateur Radio, FCC gives a 90-day comment period, to permit technical data to be gathered and submitted, and to allow time for amateur press to publicize the proposals. In this proposal, FCC allowed only a 45-day comment period. The FCC proposal was available only after the April issue deadline of many amateur publications, and thus its details are not known to the total amateur community. Also, in order to prepare a meaningful response, additional time is needed for ARRL to receive and compile data of band occupancy from local volunteer frequency coordinators.

Other interested individual amateurs and groups also have requested an extension of the comment period. If the ARRL request for a 45-day extension is granted, the new date for comments to be received by the FCC would be May 21, 1987.