



CROSSTALK

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Editor
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W2LVW James Peck .
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CONTENTS

Official AFRL Buletins .
 No Ham Profiles .
 Another article on SWR. Helpful Hints On Transmission Lines K2JKA Jack Layton .
 S.C.A.R.A. Field Day Report.
 Where Are We Going ? K2JKA Jack Layton .
 Want Ads. Notices and other sundry items
 Meeting Notice.

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| | | |
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| Max Richmond W42SFY | Mal Mason W2MMD | Van Turner W2KE |

Meeting Notice... The regular meeting for the month of August will be held on Wed. August 7th, 1963 at the Owens Illinois Clubhouse. The program will be a panel type of discussion. See comments inside.

DONT FORGET THE HAMFEST ~~650NDX~~ AUGUST THE FOURTH..... SUNDAY

OFFICIAL ARRL BULLETIN NR 904

A new temporary third party traffic agreement has been announced whereby amateurs in the U.S. may handle ~~unimportant~~ personal messages on behalf of third parties with amateur station 4U1TU in Geneva, Switzerland, during the period July 1 through December 31, 1963.

I got a postal card from Dave Roberts WA2TOW, who went to VE land to go fishing and forget a little about ham radio. So who does he run into up there? K8CZU. I bet that they talked about the DX that got away. HiHi.

I also got a postal card from Harry McCormick WA2SEA, who wants to express his thanks to all who sent him cards while he was in the hospital.

Gil Hilman called me the other nite and asked that I remind you all that the tickets for the Hamfest or the money for tickets sold, should be returned to him either at the hamfest or at the August meeting at the tavern. So a little bit of cooperation on this will help Gil make the proper accounting of the affair.

Part of the work involved here in the distribution of Crosstalk is the sorting of the completed Crosstalks by the towns in the county. I felt that it was of interest (maybe) to some of the rest of the club members. So here is the breakdown for last month. Woodbury 11, Williamstown 3, Paulsboro 2, Mooreville 3, Clayton 2, Mantua 3, Gibbstown 5, Philadelphia 1, Belimawr 1, Almonesson 2, Torofare 1, Camden 1, Malaga 1, Blenheim 1, Blackwood 3, Pitman 7, Sewell 5, Wenonah 7, Swedesboro 2, Glassboro 6, Westville 3, Sicklerville 1. So there it is for whatever it is worth.

Swiped from SCARA News.... The unofficial count for field day was 846 contacts. So it looks like they also has a good time and did real fb on their field day.

* * * * *

For Sale//// SX-28 DX-20 Gotham V-80 Antenna , Six Meter Home Brew rig
12 Watts with power supply. Six Meter converter. Six Meter
5 element Hy Gain antenna... Contact Gil Hilman

At the Directors meeting Van Turner, who is the program chairman announced that the program for August would be a panel type of discussion. The panel moderator will be Jim Peck. The panelists will be Woody Franz K24QI and Bill Gilkey W2RND. So here will be another chance for you to try to get an answer to that problem that has had you stopped for awhile.

The subject for the September meeting will be Solid State Circuitry by Bill Alexander W3GHZ. Bill is an engineer with Barker & Williamson. More next month.

Don't forget to come out to the hamfest this ~~orn~~ The 4th of August.. Not only come out but bring someone else with you if this is possible. This is a club activity and should be supported by all of the club members. How could we ask someone else to come to the hamfest if we didnt get there ourselves.

A reminder to the mothers(XYL's), if you want to get away from the hot kitchen stove , you can do so as I understand that not only will there be the usual hot dogs and soda pop for the kids, but hogies also . So you can even keep the OM going all day with one or two of these. Saves the time and trouble of packing a picnic basket too. So just bring the bathing suit and have a real ball Sat. the 4th of August...

Some of the reports that I have heard at the directors meeting and also on the air seem to indicate that there will be so many prizes, that there may be more prizes than Bernie can give away. And boy Bernie will really feel badly about giving some of them away, HiHi. Come to think of it , there are a couple of prizes there that I wouldnt mind winning myself. Now how can I get that ticket back in the box?????

Most of the present day transmission line systems use one of two main methods of transferring the RF generated in the transmitter up to the antenna. Probably the most popular one is the coaxial line or unbalanced line. The other one is the open wire or balanced line.

COAXIAL FEED SYSTEMS: The main advantage of this type of transmission line is the fact that it is very easy to handle. There are usually no major problems encountered with this type of line when entering a building with it. It can be installed in close proximity to other lines of the same type or metallic objects with no adverse effects, due to the fact that the outer conductor of these lines should be, and usually is, at ground potential. If RF is present on the shield of a coaxial cable you have problems. A basic precaution in the use of coaxial lines is to ground them at regular intervals. In some installations this may be impractical. If your transmission line is buried from the ham shack to the tower, a good ground at the transmitter end of the line, as well as at a point where the line leaves the ground to go up the tower, will usually assure the proper operation of this type of line. A surface voltage present on the coaxial cable is an indication that somewhere another line or the ground is forming a return path for the current and you may expect unusually high losses in the transmission line system.

Coaxial lines are unbalanced line systems but are not unmatched, or at least they shouldn't be. One of the most important pieces of equipment in the ham shack should be an SWR bridge and the knowledge of how to use it. We can't see the electrons flowing through the cables so we must have another means to measure it to assure proper operation. A SWR bridge is basically a fixed impedance bridge. Impedance is defined as a voltage to current ratio on a particular circuit or a particular line. For example on a piece of RG-11/U coaxial cable, which has a characteristic impedance of close to 70 ohms, the voltage to current ratio should be 70 to 1 when the line is operating properly, that is for every ampere of RF current there should be 70 volts present between the center conductor and the shield. On a 50 ohm cable the ratio would be 50 to 1. One other thing comes into play when we are using a SWR bridge, this is reactance. It can take one of two forms, capacitive reactance, expressed as X_C or inductive reactance expressed as X_L .

The presence of either one of these demons will prevent you from obtaining a 1:1 SWR ratio. The only way to properly tune an antenna so that maximum transfer of energy takes place from the transmitter to the antenna is to adjust the length of the antenna to resonance and then adjust the matching device, usually a gamma or T match on a beam, so that the impedance at the feed point of the antenna is the same as the characteristic impedance of the line in use. This is best facilitated with the SWR bridge connected directly at the feed point of the antenna. Contrary to what many people think, you only fool yourself by pruning the feedline in order to obtain a low SWR. On a properly matched line the SWR will be very close to being the same at any point in the line. On a line with a bad mismatch the impedance will vary greatly over the line. Thus if we move the position of the bridge in the line by cutting we will find that at every half wave from the antenna we get a true reading and at any other point we get foxed.

One last hint on coaxial lines. If you should have a shorted piece of coaxial cable a quick method of finding the point of the short is to use a grid dip meter. If the dipper is loosely coupled to the line and the frequency swept, it will be found that a series of frequencies at which the meter dips will be noticed. If you find a dip every seven Mcs (ie. 7, 14, 21, Mcs. etc.) we would know that the short is one half wavelength of 7 Mcs. from the grid dipper. Taking into account the velocity factor (found in the handbook for most cables) as being 66% the distance would be on the order of 43 1/2 feet from the end. This can then be verified by taking the same reading from the other end of the coaxial line.

Remember that the communications system is only as good as its

weakest link. You can have all of the power in the world confined at the transmitter if you cant radiate it you will get no where.

Jack Layton K2JKL.....

ED's Comments.... Well thanks to Jack for a real fb article and I agree and concur with his comments. These are the reasons why one fellow works out real well with a rig having nominal power and another fellow having the maximum power is wondering why he cant get out. Next months article will cover Open Wire lines. I welcome more of this type of thing. So if anyone else wants to get an article in print just get it over here. We will edit it and put it in Crosstalk. The GCARC paper.

DONT FORGET THE MEETING WED, AUGUST THE SEVENTH.....

DONT FORGET THE HAMFEST AUGUST THE FIFTH.....

WHERE ARE WE GOING?

Thats a good question. Think about it in terms of the club for just a moment. We have been in existence now for several years and over these years we have accomplished quite a bit. We have a club newspaper that we all can be proud of, (I didnt tell Jack to say this either) a code class program that has indoctrinated many newcomers into the ranks of ham radio, as well as many other noteworthy accomplishments. This in my estimation is very fine but.....where are we going? What are our plans for the future? What does the GCARC plan to do for its members next month, or next year? What are we going to do for ham radio in general?

The club, as set up by its bylaws and constitution is headed by its officers and board of directors. There is no question in my mind that these individuals have the good of all at heart. However in my humble opinion I think that we should adopt some concrete proposals on exactly what we are going to strive for in the future. What advantages will you and I reap from our membership in the club next month or next year? What I am advocating is a chart for the future development of the club.

There seems to be a general trend in club thinking that we need more members. What will we have to offer these new members? What can they expect to gain from membership in our club? What can we as a club do to increase their enjoyment of their hobby?

Looking at a cross section of the club I think that you will find as many different interests as there are members of the club. The question now comes up, what can we do to pull the club closer together? I am interested in working DX on 80 meters! Maybe you could care less about 80 meters than flying to the moon, as long as your mobile rig on six meters is operating properly. Fortunately there is one thing that we all have in common, and of course that is amateur radio.

What we must find is a common meeting ground, something that all of us will be interested in, something that all of us can be a part of. One or several of these projects could be initiated and as a result of some project we could make some of the inactive members real live active ones. What good will 50 new members be to the general membership if they dont participate in the club activities? Especially if we dont have any!

I strongly urge the board of directors as well as the general membership of the club to consider this and come up with some definite plans and proposals for the future course that we will follow.

Gentlemen, this time next year lets be able to say that our club did something for amateur radio in general and quite a lot for its own members. Then when the non-member down the street, who may be considering a membership in our club asks the question "What can GCARC do for me?" and "Where will I fit into the club?" we can all have an answer for him! Let us be in a position where we can all tell him where we are going.

ED's Comments... Boy this is my type of article ... Again I thank Jack for a very FB thought provoking article.. and very timely too. It is my firm beleif that all officers and all directors, should at all times think only with one thought in mind and that is! 'What good will this do for the club members?'. Their every thought should be for the benefit of the most members most of the time.

As a follow up, and as soon as I saw this article I said to Jack, why dont you come up with some of your own ideas and write another article for next month. This way noone can say that you are just griping and have nothing constructive to offer. Jack agreed and next month we will see what he has in the way of suggestions. But again (and it seems that I do this every month) dont leave it to someone else. Send in some of your own ideas! The least that you can do is to contact one of your elected officers and/or directors and give them your views. If they are worth electing, they will listen to your opinion. After all if they dont represent you, then who do they represent? Well I can really get steamed up about this as I have at some of the last few board of directors meetings, but it is too close to the hamfest for me to get tee'ed off. So will just ask that you really give this some thought now and also at election time and if you have any ideas at all get them to your editor and I will print them. You know the directors and officers also read Crosstalk. At least I hope that they do.

You also may have noticed that there are no ham profiles this month. Well dont blame me. I have just about run out of them and it took me seven months to do so. Again I will plead for more of them if you liked them at all Sent in a small resume on either yourself or a friend and fellow club member. He (and you too) will enjoy seeing your name in print.

This month I printed each and everything that was sent in to me. This is your paper not mine. Get those articles in. As long as it is a club activity or related to a club activity it will get printed. So far since I have become the editor there has not been one article rejected for any reason at all, whether I agree with it or not has no bearing on whether it gets printed or not. We print all the club news thats fit to print. Hi.

Some operating pointers....

Switch to the band that covers the DISTANCE you want to cover.. Use ur bandswitch, LISTEN... before you make a transmission.

BE BRIEF... this will make contacts with you a pleasure. Whether CW or AM is used be concise, avoid monologuing or speech making.

DUMMY ANTENNA... a dummy antenna should be switchable for testing and tune-ups. Keep unnecessary loading and transmitter tune-ups for resonance, or output off of the air... use a dummy antenna...

MONITOR... preferably with gear that directly samples your on-the-air signal. This can aid CW keying and detection of any possible defect.

FOR LOCAL CONTACTS USE LOCAL FREQUENCIES: BANDSWITCH; MAKE OPERATIONS CLEAN - COURTEOUS--CONCISE PASS ON ACCURATE HONEST SIGNAL REPORTS. INCLUDE TACTFUL MENTION OF ANY SIGNAL DEFECTS.

All of the above hints swiped from ARRL operating aid number II.

SEE YOU AT THE HAMFEST.. SUNDAY THE FOURTH OF AUGUST....-