

Dec., 1973, Issue

GCARC-VIP Page.

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John Kull, WB2GKH
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*****UR X-TALK STAFF*****

Editor: Doug Gehging, WA2NPD
YL Page (Les Belles): Rose Ellen Bells, WA2FGS
Contest Corner: Ken Newman, W2FBF
Ham Interview: Harry McCormick, WA2SEA
Net News: Jack White, WA2MEM
ARRL Bulletins, etc: Della Parker, W2AFZ
Roving Reporter: John Stull, WB2JZX
Ghost Writer: (Call lost in QRN)
Typesetter: Jim Mauro, WA2DNL
Printer: Rick Carter, WA2OLS
Circulation: Bill Shaw, WB2PVI

*****CLUB NETS*****

6M AREC-----50.9----Sundays-8 P.M. Local Time
10M Rag Chew-----28.8----Fridays-9:30 P.M. Local Time
Novice AREC-----21.115--Mondays-8:30 P.M. Local Time
Friendship-----7.265---3rd Sunday-1:00 P.M. Local

*****CLUBMEETING, DEC. 5th AT CLUBRCOM*****

*****QRZ de W2SUA*****

One of the many advantages of being President of GCARC is that you always have a captive audience available via "Crosstalk". The only "gimmic" to this doubtful "goodie" is the fact the Editor is always looking for another offering. Just maybe the readers are tired of hearing from me. However, everything runs its course in due time or maybe it proves everything comes to those who wait long enough.

Well, my time has come, the December meeting marks the last for me as President. I want to tell you this has been a fun year for me. Sure there have been problems, but they were all mostly worked out.

My effort was made easier by having a great bunch of officers as well as a fine group of committee chairmen to handle the special projects. I sincerely doubt you could find better in any other club.

I take great pride in GCARC as I am sure you do. As I look back I can say I have enjoyed the honor of being President and I value the experience very much.

"Shorty"

*****DECEMBER PROGRAM*****

Dec. 5, 1973

The December meeting will introduce you to George Weilenmann, W2REB/EP2GW of Blackwood, N.J. He recently spent a lot of time in Iran as Director of Operations for Page Communications Engineering Co. and, while there, operated the ham bands as EP2GW.

George will tell us what it is like to operate out of the country, what the DX bands sound like from "out there" and give us some background on his communications work. George is a past President of SJRA having served in 1950 and again in 1960.

Also, we will hold our annual election of officers-those nominated via the nominating committee (see elsewhere) all having agreed to serve if elected. Additional nominations will be solicited from the floor. Let's not plan on missing this meeting-especially you DXer's. John's, WB2GKH, usual repast should round-out another FB club meeting. See you ALL there.

*****OFFICER SLATE FOR 1974*****

The nominating committee has proposed the following candidates for 1974:

President-Jack White, WA2MEM
 V. Pres. -Doug Gehring, WA2NPD
 Rec. Secty. Harry McCormick, WA2SEA
 Corres. Secty.-Della Parker, W2AFZ
 Treas.-Jim Klupar, WB2CER
 3 Yr. Director-Wayne Wood, W2SUA
 " " -Ken Newman, W2FBF
 " " -Steve Blasko, W2TDS
 4 Yr. Trustee-Milt Goldman, K3WIL

Further nominations will be accepted from the floor at the Dec 5th meeting at which time the election will follow.

*****CLUB CCDE CLASS*****

We have about 11 eager students all of whom are doing well. The Middle School was closed down for 2 consecutive Thursdays and classes resumed on Nov. 29th. Instructors WB2FJE, WA2AXJ, and W2FBF have been carrying the ball recently.

*****CONTEST CORNER*****

By now the 1973 Sweepstakes has been swept under the rug for another year. The supersaturation on 80 M and 20 M (daytime only) was particularly heavy whereas 10, 15, and 40 were relatively full of holes. Please bring your logs to the Dec. 5th clubmeeting or, otherwise, get them to W2FBF. We want your log no matter how small to help with our overall club score. Winners will be announced next month.

*****FD-1973*****

As noted on p. 70 of Nov. QST, we placed #21 out of 54 entries in our 5A class. This represents a slight decline in relative position from last year, hence we will have to try harder in "74". Nevertheless, not a bad score.

*****GCARC WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS*****

At the Nov. club meeting, the following new members were voted into the fold: Frank Sommer (OM of Mike, WA2LDT), Dr. Charles Green, W2CPI, and Ed Champion, WN2NIA.

Frank, who hails from Bellmawr, is not one to let his harmonic get too far ahead as he is one of our most avid code class students. We thoroughly expect Frank will have his ticket within a couple of months.

Doc, W2CPI, no stranger to many at GCARC, recently moved his QTH over to Wash. Twnshp. but still has his office in Clayton. We know Doc's practice will make it tough to attend most club meetings, but nevertheless we are glad to have one of South Jersey's most avid DX'ers aboard.

Ed. WN2NIA, is really giving us some member saturation from down-the-county, as he also hails from Clayton. Together with Doc and Bruce, WN2AXH, the QRM may be fierce in Clayton. GCARC welcomes all of you guys and hopes your stay will be very, very long.

*****W2SUA IN ELITE GROUP*****

If you look near the top of p. 116 in the Nov. QST, you will see our own W2SUA listed as a new DXCC member-at the 275 mark!! Words can hardly be found to express the congratulations in attaining this outstanding DX scorecard. Shorty is certainly the GCARC leader in DX confirmations and is still going strong. Nice going, Shorty.

*****BUDGET COMMITTEE*****

Chairman Ken, W2FEF, submitted the following report which was adopted at the Nov. meeting:

| <u>EXPENSES</u> | <u>ASSETS</u> |
|------------------|----------------------|
| X-TALK-275.00 | Dues- 350.00 |
| FD - 50.00 | White Elephant-25.00 |
| Prizes - 25.00 | Misc. -50.00 |
| Programs - 50.00 | |
| Misc. 25.00 | 425.00 |
| 425.00 | |

*****AWARD ENDORSEMENTS INCREASED*****

We have some very ambitious members in our club. They have suggested additional color seals to place on their Certificate of Achievement to show they have contacted more than the 50 members that we had originally based the color code on.

Up until now, the blue seal indicated 30 members worked, and the gold seal 50 members. Gold was supposed to be the "ultimate". Finally, I thought that we could use the color Platinum (fancy for Silver) for the highest score of 100. Bronze would be 90, blue 80, hot pink 70, and green 60. I hope I can find ribbons to match the seals.

Submit your list of contacts over 50, including call letter, date, time worked and frequency. It will sure bring more color into the shack.

Don't forget that-to originally obtain the certificate, you have to make 15 contacts with other members. After that, you can start decorating it.

We also issue this certificate to non-members who show they have contacted 10 of our members. After making 10 more, or a total of 20. they receive a red seal. Then blue for 30, Gold for 50, etc.

Lotza luck, W2AFZ, Awards Chairman.

*****ARRL BULLETINS*****

NR 444--ARRL is pleased to announce a new ten meter contest to take place 1200 GMT December 15 to 2359 GMT December 16, 1973. Recommended by the ARRL contest advisory committee, the activity is open to, and contacts are permitted with, all amateurs worldwide. DX may work DX. No time limit. Double points for QSOs with novices. A station may be worked once on cw and once on phone. Two points for each complete contact and the multiplier is the sum of states, Canadian call areas, countries and ITU regions in the case of non-land based stations. Full rules will appear in the November issue of QST. Please help disseminate this information in an effort to improve occupancy of ten meters. AR

NR 444--FCC has extended the time for filing comments and replies in Docket 19759, Class E Citizens Band, for 30 days. AR

NR 445--Announcement is made of one deletion and two additions to the ARRL countries list. The deletion is the present listing of Germany, the additions, the Federal Republic of Germany and the German Democratic Republic, effective September 18, 1973. Contacts before that date will be credited to Germany. West Berlin will be credited toward the Federal Republic of Germany listing and East Berlin toward the German Democratic Republic. DXCC credit submissions for the two new listings may be made starting December 1, 1973. Submissions received for these two new listings prior to that date will be returned without credit. AR.

*****LES BELLES*****

The International Mission Radio Association is a group of Amateur Radio Operators and associated dedicated to providing communication facilities and to help in providing equipment, to those engaged in Missionary or volunteer services. It is a non-denominational non-profit organization with a rapidly expanding membership of men and women from all walks of life throughout the world. It is PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE. Every Saturday the melodious voice of IRMA Net Control is that of Shirley Bouquin (pronounced bo-qwin) WA3RXQ. Shirley is not a woman who fears a tough assignment and the excitement and challenges she receives every Saturday has certainly made an A-1 operator out of her even though she has only been licensed since December 1971.

Shirley was born in Oil City, Pennsylvania on July 24, 1930. She has lived in Western Pennsylvania all her life, attending high school in Franklin, Pa. and returned to Oil City after graduation from high school to attend beauty school. Shirley is a licensed beautician and has also worked as a ward secretary at the hospital. She gives as her present occupation: housewife. Robert and Shirley Bouquin were married in 1953 and they have one son, Robert Jr. who is 17 years old. Robert, Sr. is foreman of the Bouquin Construction Company and neither he nor Robert Jr. have been bitten by the ham bug. Shirley is 5 feet tall, has blue eyes and light brown hair. She comes from a German and Pennsylvania Dutch heritage.

Mrs. Boquin first became interested in Amateur Radio through her CB operation. She had a CB license, but quickly became disenchanted with that type of communication. Shirley was one of several CBers who got together to study for their Amateur licenses. She went straight for the General ticket (skipping the Novice) and passed the examination. Six months later she passed the Advanced exam.

The station at WA3RXQ features the Heathline: SB-102 exciter with external VFO, SB-640, and the SB-220 amplifier. Shirley covers 80-40 meters with an inverted vee trap doublet and 20-15-10 meters with Moseley's Classic TA-33.

In 1972 Shirley took part in the Western Pennsylvania Area Civil Defense Net (RACES) helping out the flood victims after hurricane Agnes went through the East. The Coast Guard awarded her a special service plaque for providing communications for an isolated LORAN station. The servicemen on Baffin Island sent her a polar bear (not alive) as a memento for her help there.

Shirley Bouquin has many interests. She plays the organ, works with the handicapped, and is a crossword puzzle nut. She crochets, does textile painting, and makes wax candles. She found out about the IRMA when she was trying to help a missionary get in touch with a family in Cil City, Pa. She soon became a regular check-in, learned the art of net controlling and now can be found every Saturday afternoon lending her tact and charm to a very hard job. One that is much appreciated by all those in the missionary field.

Anyone planning to attend SCROC-the Fun Convention hosted by Southern Nevada Amateur Radio Club, Inc. in Las Vegas-January 3-6, 1974? For all ladies who register you will receive an admission ticket for their program on Saturday. Also there is always a fashion show for the ladies held at this event while the CM is off winning on the machines.

A father of four sets of twins sued his wife for divorce on the grounds that she was overbearing! (ed note: I don't get it!!)

73's Rose Ellen, WA2FGS

*****4-SALE*****

Heath Apache xmtr and SB-10 sideband generator. \$75.00 takes both: will negotiate separately. Call for live demonstration. WA2NPD,

*****EDITOR TO RESIGN*****

It is with mixed feelings that I address the gentle X-TALK reader with the title subject, for there is no question but that I have thoroughly enjoyed preparing your monthly blurb for lo these many moons. In fact, I have been your editor officially since June, 1970, and unofficially for several months prior to that time. Hence, I have been involved in this job for nearly 4 years-longer than any previous editor, I believe.

I feel it is time to pass along the editorship reins to another eager beaver, for, afterall, one cannot go on forever. I believe it is time for perhaps a fresh approach to our paper, and certainly it is time to give someone else a shot at our prexy's aforementioned captive audience. Additionally, I have recently taken on the Scoutmasters cloak (Troop 31, Wenonah) and, with Borough Council responsibilities, it leaves scant time for the rest of the family. (I do get to see the XYL between the sweepstakes and DX contests).

Hence, I plan to make the Jan. 1974 (next month's) issue my swan song. However, we will continue to write an article from time to time (the new editor willing) just to keep from getting rusty.

The paper was never stronger than today; our typist Jim, WA2DNL, is doing a FB job; our printer Rick, WA2CLS, going along smoothly, and with Bill, WB2PVI, assisted by W2SUA and W2FBF, our circulation department is in excellent hands. Also, our regular contributors are both regular, reliable, and their "stuff" is real good!! Thus, the new editor (whoever the lucky fella-or gal, will be) will simply be stepping onto a fast-moving and very shiny freight train as it were.

If you are desireous of latching-on to this exciting post, please indicate the same to either myself (WA2NPD) or the President, Wayne Wood, W2SUA.

*****RAMBLINGS OF A GHCSST WRITER*****

A little old man played a piccolo in a famous orchestra. He loved the swelling music and, one day during a rehearsal, stopped playing to listen. Immediately the conductor rapped his baton and said: "Something is lacking. The harmony is not complete without the piccolo". Humbled, yet thrilled that his part was necessary for the perfect whole, the little old man poured out his very soul as he played again.

In the symphony of life, everyone has a part to play, and if he fails, the symphony is incomplete. This same idea we can apply to our club. Think of it and say "Am I doing my part?"

Upon reading the mail on the DX bands, I find that diction and the ability to understand the fellows across the pond is becoming harder and harder. I find the Italians and South Americans are the hardest. It seems as if their idea is to see how loud and fast they can talk. Most of these stations seem to be using an excessive amount of audio-causing their signals to occupy several more frequencies and there by creating distortion making it difficult to understand. If only someone would tell them that if they talked slower and tried to pronounce the words better and to stop the shouting, their QSO's would be more successful. I appreciate that they are speaking a language different than their native tongue, but so are the others. I have also found that many of the Germans talk a set pattern such as ur report and their QTH perfectly; and when you try to carry on a conversation, they say they speak poor English, and do not understand what you are saying.

I may be wrong about this, but I understand that they must know English before they are able to obtain their license, as English is the International language. The French also have a very pronounced accent making it difficult to understand, but they at least don't see how loud and fast they can shout. In my own case, I have found out that if I speak very clearly and slowly, my contacts are more 100% than by seeing how fast I can rattle off.

Another interesting note is the large number of Americans in these foreign countries contributing their know-how and educating the under priveleged. A few years ago, these countries were so far back in their ways that without the advent of ham radio and TV, their advancement would have been much slower.

How does one create interest today, especially when there is so much diversion? A young person has so many avenues to turn into, it's no wonder they can't hold their attention to any one thing. So what do we do? We try to make one of these avenues more inviting, more alluring than the rest. Presentation of new things in the field is a big help, another way is to present the subject in a clear, concise way. The clearer the subject the more interest will be shown. One of the things to be avoided is routine. Nothing produces boredom more than the same cut and dried subjects hashed over and over.

So I say, give us variety! Give us something by which we may increase our knowledge of the given subject! We can't expect to make hams out of everyone who comes down the street. There must be a certain amount of flair for Electronics. Even so we must come up with new ideas and projects within this field if we are going to continue to advance. Many hams have become bored and let their licenses lapse, because someone presented a better avenue of interest. I am a firm believer in projects, the more the better and, in the course of events, everyone will find one that will do the trick. Now by this I don't mean entertainment. Entertainment doesn't create interest-only amusement. Anything that is amusing is soon forgotten and you have lost the point.

I was talking to a young fellow the other day who got his Novice ticket when he was 10 years old; his General at 12; his Extra at 15. How was this boy able to do this? Interest. That's what it took. If he found it, others can also. I am telling you about this boy to show you that even age is no barrier.

If, after reading this article, you don't agree with me, let's hear your side of the story. Controversial viewpoints make for good reading.

Till the next issue, the rest of this stuff will be swept under the rug by my trusty reporters who just arrived on the tail of a comet.

73's es CUL....Ghost Writer

(Ed note: It is my understanding that, for a foreigner to obtain a ticket in his own country, he must demonstrate a knowledge of radio English-not be fluent in all other aspects of English as well. Does anyone know for sure?)

*****A THOUGHT FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON*****

By the time you receive this issue of X-TALK, we will be into the holiday months of December and January. Just for the fun of it, I sat down with an old Navy straight-key and tried the following:

"The very best wishes of the season from my home to u es urs". At about 10 WPM it only took about 55 seconds. I don't think that this small expenditure of time is too much to ask and for-the 'fone guys it may be a little easier.-Try it, you'll like it! And note when your finished-Isn't your SWR down-your RF output up? Isn't your receiver a bit sharper and the shack just a little warmer?

-----You've done something for ham radio-----

A very Merry Christmas and the best of the New Year from myself and the family to you and yours. May your DX QSOs be many, your QRM and QRN nil, and your finals last forever.

Jim, WA2DNL

TOYLAND NOW OPEN
AT

THE RADIO SHACK

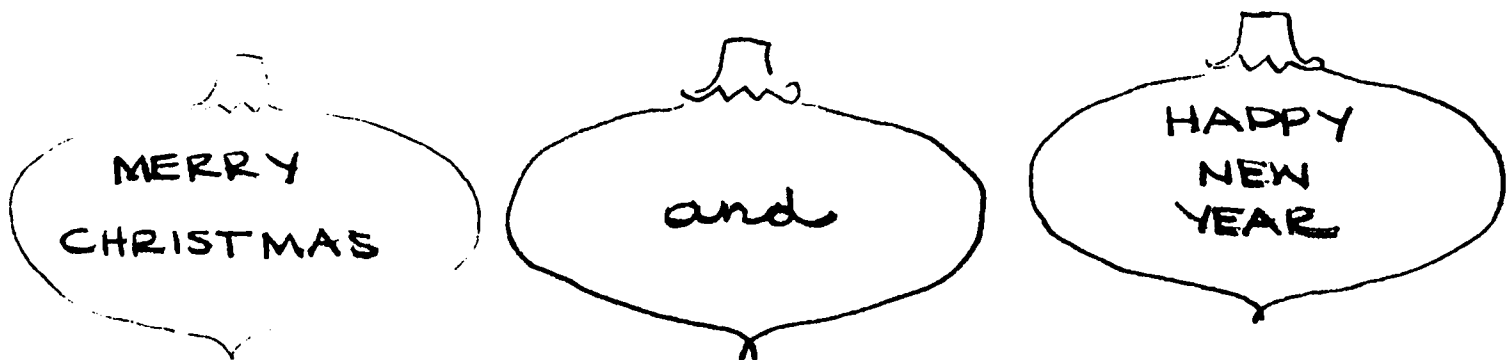
SEE JIM PECK, W2LVW

FOR

GOOD STEREO SYSTEMS, ACCESSORIES
AND COMPONENTS !!

AND AN ELECTRONIC

HOLIDAY TO ALL



STORE LOCATED ON RT. 45 JUST NORTH
OF MANTUA, OPPOSITE J.M. FIELDS STORE