

October, 1968

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE GLOUCESTER COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

This is to inform you that this paper "CROSSTALK" is in the process of being revamped and modernized. First of all, we are going to have the members who have volunteered to serve on the paper's staff fulfill their commitment, and become fully aware that this is a bona-fide project and must be operated on a definite schedule if it is to succeed. Failure to do so will result in the discontinuance of the paper. It is your paper, whose purpose is to keep you informed as to what is going on within the club. During the past two months the paper was not published for the reasons named above. In the past we have encountered many problems in putting out this paper some of which are mailing problems, printing problems, getting the members to hand in their material on time, lack of interest, getting the stencils prepared and various smaller ones. The report handed me from the staff members is to the fact that they want the paper to continue and will make every effort to overcome the conditions that have been plaguing it. The first and biggest step has already been taken by the purchase of an off-set type printing press, which will not only print our paper but also will find many uses for notices etc. This is a valuable asset to our club and should put new life into our staff. We now feel that we are past the crawling stage and starting to walk, and remember how fast we progress is up to YOU!

DETOURS

Travelers are sometimes forced to leave the main road and follow a detour. Occasionally these detours bring into view an unexpectedly beautiful scene, or bring about a richly rewarding experience. Paul was repeatedly detoured from his planned itinerary, but each time he found that he was following God's guidance. We are often turned aside by illness, by financial losses or other situations. Perhaps these "detours" may be God's way of enriching our souls. How many times have you started on a project only to find yourself stopped? Then you attempt another way and succeed. WHY??? Let us see if we can't profit by this example and continue to try various things in order that we make our club good and strong.

PROGRAMS

I have been informed by our program director, that Wednesday, October 2, 1968 has been set aside as Ladies Night and will be held in conjunction with our regular meeting in our meeting room atop borough hall. There will be a twenty-five minute film on radiation fallout, followed by a short discussion on "State Police Communication" to be presented by a member of the N. J. State Police. These are timely subjects and we should have a good representation. Wellows, you had better come out and get the club room cleaned up and put into order

prior to this meeting. We can use all the help that we are able to get, so please come forward, contact Jack Bowen and he will set up the detail and time when this should be done. Many hands make light work, but most of all we want to make a good impression upon the women folks.

For our November meeting a WHITE ELEPHANT SALE will be held, at which you may be able to pick up some great buys. Anything that you no further use for bring it along. Please try to bring something that is in usable condition as the monies derived from this sale will go into our club's treasury. These sales are not only fun, but profitable, so the bigger the sale the more money the club makes. Let's see if we can't really get a lot of things to sell.

For our December meeting our guest will be the well-known person of Ed Raser W2ZI whose interesting subject will be "NETS AND TRAFFIC CONTROLS." Each year Ed pays us a visit and his talks are most enjoyable and enlightening. Let's see if we can have a large turnout to welcome Ed.

WHAT DO YOU THINK

I would like to see a project underwritten by the club whereby each member who does not already have one, would be able to have a mobile rig in his car. This would open many new avenues for our members in the form of hidden transmitter hunts, safari's, runs, etc. I know that about three years ago a number of six meter hams who we were familiar with over the aid met at my house one Sunday and from there we made a run down to the deer woods at Batso and the surrounding points of interest including a picnic at Oswego Lake where bathing was enjoyed also. The high light of the affair was that almost everyone had a rig in his car and a rapid QSO was in process all of the time. Nameless to say that we had nineteen cars in the run, while a couple from Pennsylvania found where we were by the mobile rigs and met us at the lake in time for lunch. This was fun and everyone who took part in the safari wanted another one held in the near future to another point of interest. There are so many places for an outing in New Jersey that it wouldn't be too hard to set up a project as this. Think it over fellows, something like this could go a long way in establishing interest for the members.

WANTED

I am interested in a five (5) inch scope in good working order. If you have one for sale, call W2DBO, -- or W2AFZ.

OFFICIAL BULLETIN #182 FROM ARRL

The Federal Communication Commission has denied a petition of K6EDX and K6RNQ to rescind restrictions on 50.0 to 50.25 Mhz scheduled for November 22, 1968 and 1969 respectively. FCC thereby restates its intention that these segments will be reserved to holders of Extra and Advanced Class licenses as of the dates above. (Incidentally the ARRL Board has twice opposed restrictions on these segments of the 50 Mhz band.) FCC has also denied three requests for additional grandfathering of higher class privileges in special cases. Details of this matter will appear in October issue of QST.

SCUTTLEBUTT

Your faithful servant whose rhetoric graces this column must confess to not much news this month. A good excuse is rendered in that having returned from 2 weeks in Maine (last July) I was greeted with a horrible malady which was diagnosed as Viral Pneumonia (walking variety) and, 6 weeks later (now) I'm still hacking away on a 15 lb. lighter frame. I hope I'll live regardless of what the rest of you think! That wasn't too nice, for the club (and my gal W2APZ) sent me a very nice get well card for which I am grateful. My only advice is for you all to get the bacterial type pneumonia (if you have to get it at all) for they do have a rapid cure for this type. (or so it sez here). Needless to say, I haven't made too many rounds lately.

WB2FJE is sporting a big new beam atop a telephone pole. The beam raising was held last month. Having attended several such affairs in the past, I can report with certainty that WB2FJE established a new record for dropping nuts, bolts, directors, etc., on the heads of the poor clods manning the ropes below. It may have all been a fiendish plot, for the engineer behind the job, WB2NNB, who was also topside, was known to have been upset because Gene McCarthy lost out on the Democratic nomination? The beam sure looks good Bill, a real first rate job.

Nice to hear WA2VEE back on the air again after a 2 year lay-off (or was it three years Bill?). He has a spanking new SB-101 and has a long wire ant. and Johnson matchbox. A tribander is lying in the yard and we expect it to be in the air before too much longer. I'm willing to bet that Bill's beam will be up before Shorty's tower is finished. (Somehow that last sentence doesn't sound too good).

WB2FJE informs me that a 10 meter AREC net will commence on Friday nights, 9 PM, on 28.600 Mhz. Bill, as Assistant EC, invites all club members who are able, and who have anything on 10 at all, to check in. AM or SSB is welcome (CW is not welcome, but will be acceptable if that's all you have). Let's support this new net as well as continuing to support the regular net on 6 meters. K2SOL is in charge of the 6 meter net and is our County EC.

This item may appear elsewhere, but it's good to hear that the club has purchased a new offset type printing press. I suspect this paper is the first to be published on our new press. (Can you read this crap?). Many thanks to Doug Frohock, WB2UVO, for it was through his efforts that the club has obtained a second-hand (but in excellent shape) \$1300.00 machine for only \$250.00. Hence, the quality of our paper should continue to be as good as that provided by Doug during the past several months. We are fortunate to have WB2FJE, a professional printer by trade, to print our "Crosstalk". So, it looks like you can rest easy Wally, the paper appears to be on the go. Let's all get behind our club paper now fellas, Wally needs news and it's up to us to provide him with the latest dope (it's, what's the latest dope, not; what's the latest, dope?). (HORRIBLE).

About all for now, see you at this month's meeting, October 2, and don't forget to bring along your YL or XYL; can't very well have Ladies Night if you don't bring along the ladies.

73

de WA2NPD

FIELD DAY - 1968

We finally brushed off the cobwebs on the FD-1968 report and, believe it or not, here it is (or at least a resume of a sort). Because of inherent problems in getting "Crosstalk" out the past 2 months, your scribe attributes that as the reason for the delay (HI). FD Chairman Bill Frambes, WB2FJE, happily informs that this year's outing was a great success in many respects. We scored a grand total of over 5,600 pts. about 2-300 above last year, last year's score having been better than the year before. Hence, we are on an upward trend which is very good (Mt. Airy here we come!). From all reports everyone had a great time; the food was digestable (for some); no one got plastered, the site was very good (if one could ignore broken glass and field mice) and excellent cooperation was provided by a great number of club members. The rigs all worked well except for the DX100 on 40 meters which shot-its-wad in the wee hours on Sunday AM. Nevertheless, the lads on 40 had generated such a head of steam that, even though several hours of prime operating time were missed, the 40 meter score was almost as good as the scores on 20 & 80. It certainly appears that next year's FD will have to be exceptionally outstanding if it is to surpass our score this year. Congratulations to chairman WB2FJE for another great job. Band chairmen were: Bob Baker, WB2SCK, on 20; Doug Gehring, WA2NPD, on 40; and WB2FJE on 80. Oh yes, there was Bob Spain, WB2RVF, on 6 meters. Sri Bob, it took us a while to figure out what freq. that Rube Goldberg (Sri Milt) was resonating on. The outstanding CW man had to be Ken Newman, WB2EUU, who kept up a steady staccato to really inflate 40 meter's score. Other outstanding operators were: WBEWAK, WB2UVO, WB2BVV, WA2DNL, and WA2VFE.

(if I missed anyone it was unintentional). Other club members offering moral and physical assistance were: WA2NXV, W2AFZ, W2AQL, WB2PVI, WB2NNB, WB2GKH, WB2WKV, W2LVW, and W2PLD. A special thanks to W2KE who, by pulling on several strings at his finger-tips, was able to provide much of the gear. Also, to W2CKX for his life-saving generator.

CLUB PICNIC - 1968

The annual club picnic, held on July 13, had to be adjudged a success, even after a somewhat shaky start. You see, our congenial host for the day at Lake Garrison was our own Bill Shaw, WB2PVI, who just happened to be off on a fishing trip that very day. His XYL didn't know anything about our picnic either. The red-faced flimsy excuse rendered was something about getting his Saturday's mixed-up. Considering his other attributes and his sparkling personality, we can easily forgive him for this one slip-up. (Certainly hope Bill will forgive the club for sinking his boat in Brigantine Inlet). Irregardless, experienced and competent Chairman John Kull, WB2GKH, the club's newest General, was able to overcome this early set-back and make the picnic turn-out very well. We had about 30 Club members, guests, and friends altogether, which is about average attendance for this affair. As usual, our only regret is that many many club members missed out on a real nice affair. Their loss is our gain, for just about everyone there won some sort of prize--and some were very, very nice indeed. The WX was wonderful, water was wet, and all had a good time. Chairman John and his committee are again to be congratulated!

July issue 1968 of Radio Electronics, page 32, contains a very easy to construct and cheap automatic windshield wiper-pause controller that you may construct for your car. Members who do not like to get involved into big projects and yet want to try their hands at something simple and useful will find this to be just the thing they have been looking for.

Read the Hall-effect story started by Mr. Edward H. Hall in 1878, on page 42 of the same issue. This is another interesting article for the hams that is finding it's way into every day use.

SUNSPOT MAXIMUM DUE

Summit of the present 11 year sunspot cycle is expected sometime in 1968. Although the National Bureau of Standards believes that the peak was reached last fall, most observers think that the peak will not be reached until the mid 1968's or later. The present cycle began with a minimum in October, 1964. In May the smoothed sunspot number is expected to reach 117 to 120. This compares with a number of 201 at the last peak in March, 1958, and with 152 at the previous peak in May 1947. These two cycles, however, had the highest previous peaks since accurate sunspot records began to be kept in the late 18th century.

Increased solar activity of the past year has caused a great improvement in short-wave reception, particularly on the higher frequencies. The 21 and 28 Mhz amateur bands, the 21 and 28 Mhz international broadcast bands and the CB bands have been producing very strong long distance signals. These conditions will probably continue for the next year or so as solar activity begins its slow decline towards the next minimum, which is expected in 1974 or 1975.

LOOK IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF "CROSSTALK" FOR SOMETHING REALLY NEW. THE ARTICLE WILL BE TESTING WITH BLACK NOISE. HOW MANY OF YOU KNOW WHAT BLACK NOISE IS AS PERTAINING TO ELECTRONICS???????

CONDUCTIVE PAINT HAS MANY USES

Besides repairing breaks in printed circuit boards, conductive paint has many uses. The paint is a solution of fine particles of silver or copper in a liquid base. In the liquid form the paint is non-conductive, but when the solvents evaporate it hardens and forms an amazingly good and flexible conductor. Remember the chemicals in the fluid can dissolve many plastics. The paint can be removed by acetone (common fingernail polish remover).

E. N. PICKERILL DEAD AT 82

The man who held wireless license No. 1 issued by the U.S. Government, died of a heart attack in January at his home in Mineola, New York. Elmo Pickerill learned radio from Marconi and DeForest and flying from the Wright Brothers. He met Dr. DeForest in 1904 and became interested in the then new art of wireless telegraphy. Later he built the first wireless station atop the New York's Waldorf-Astoria hotel and operated it. He was a ship's radio operator for many years and served in the signal corps during World War I. Wanting to prove that radio could link aircraft with ground, he persuaded Orville and Wilbur Wright to teach him to fly one of their planes, flying solo on August 4, 1910, he transmitted the first wireless message from an airplane. He became chief pilot for BOA where he worked from 1920 to 1950. Pickerill was the recipient of many awards in both radio and aviation. At his death, he was present director of the Veterans Wireless Operators Association.

ATTENTION RADIO AMATEURS!

It is now possible for all New Jersey Amateurs to get Amateur license plates for their cars. To do so write to the:

MOTOR VEHICLE DEPARTMENT
427 North Montgomery Street
Trenton, New Jersey

Ask for the application form to get the Amateur Radio License tags for automobiles.

Also, while you are waiting for the application to come get a photocopy of your Registration; Driver License and Amateur Radio License which will be needed when you get the application form. The fee will be \$10.00 for one set of tags and you can only get one (1) set of tags in your name. But do not send any money at the time you apply for the application form; they will tell you when.

SK--WB2FJE

A BRIEF MESSAGE FROM YOUR PREZ

I have just looked through the "Proofs" of this issue of "Crosstalk" and find that most of the things I wanted to mention have already been covered--so, there's no need to repeat them. However, as you can see now that summer vacations are over and the kids are back in school GCARC is starting to hum again. Just another word about the offset printer that we bought--we were assured that if the situation should change in the next year or so, we can sell the machine for just about what we paid for it.

We have a work party scheduled for 10:00 A.M. Saturday morning, September 28, to clean and polish our Club Room for our Ladies Night program--come out and give us a hand!

One other bit of information--if we can stir up enough interest, WB2NNB, K2SOL and WA2NPD will present a course in Radio Theory starting sometime in October. Here's your chance--if you want it--let's let these fellows know. See you at the October meeting.