

September, 1971

GCARC

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SEPT. CLUB MEETING--SEPT. 1st - AT THE CLUBROOM

8:00 P.M.

CLUB MEETING - SEPT. 1st

"Hark Ye Gang"!! The meeting comes early this month--in fact it couldn't come any sooner than the 1st. Program Chairman, WB2JZX, has planned a gala show featuring pictures and slides of our Field Day activities courtesy of our club's super candid John, WA2PVH. So c'mon out and relive all the glories, tragedies, and comics associated with that infamous weekend of last June. Another bonus is that House Chairman, WB2GKH, has promised the meeting room temperature will be cooler than last month.

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NEW CLUB MEMBERS

Voted in unanimously at last month's club meeting were Dave Strout, WA2VAT, and Earl Carter, HC2EP. Dave, in his spare time, is a "budding" young lawyer who hails from Woodbury--his ham shack taking first precedence. Dave was the 35<sup>+</sup> wpm cw op who bolstered-up 40 M on Field Day. Earl is our first club member ever with a DX call, and we are glad to see him back in W/K land. We heartily welcome these two FB hams into our club fraternity.

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EDITOR IN MAINE

Your Editor is writing these lines somewhat at a disadvantage this month (thank goodness Rose Ellen, Ghost Writer, Jack, etc. come through with their articles) for, at this very minute, WA2NPD is sacked-out in a camp chair with only a coleman lantern separating the milky-way and myself. We are located about 50 feet from the western shore of Lake Sebago and leave tomorrow for Bar Harbor. Fortunately, the ink from my pen dries before the various moths, winged creatures, etc., who like to frequent the light of lanterns, can stick their little grubby feet and wings in the wet ink and smear-up the writing. I'm sure our singularly capable typist Sue has enough troubles deciphering my writing without Maine bugs QRN'ing the letters. Nevertheless, this must be a new first in (1) the nature of composing X-TALK, and (2) the distance away from Pitman from whence it was composed. Oh well, on with the show!!

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SCUTTLEBUTT (Back after brief rest)

1. How's this for perserverance!! WA2FGS takes extra long lunch hour from work (and cuts down on the chow) in order to study-up for her Extra ticket! Well, keep it up Rose and, who knows, someday you'll make it! Can't be very many YL's around with Extra tickets (certainly gives us OM's something to think about, huh?).

2. W2CDZ sporting new youthful figure. Not sure we would want to acquire a slim-trim appearance the way Bill had to, but, nevertheless, he sure looks great!
3. W2LVW really back in the swing of things. All except his 6 M beam which, at last look, resembled the beginnings of a new picket fence. Good thing WB2FJE grabbed a recent look up the tower, or maybe a few other chunks of hardware would have soon followed the beam down, down, down---. Goes to prove what the WX elements can do in time to even the best towers and beams.
4. Hope by now we have a few N.J. QSO party logs filled out ready to turn in to W2FBF. Remember the good looking club certificates to those participants who log more than 40 (is that number right?) QSO's.
5. Good News Dept.: Hear that WN2OEQ and WN2OER have once again fired-up their rigs after shaking-off the effects of being fired upon themselves. We hope Jim and Karl never have to go through that experience again--ever.
6. Check the last issue or two of QST. GCARC and various illustrious members thereof (including "Shorty" somebody from Sewell) were prominently featured in several different sections of the ARRL "Bible".
7. WB2WAK, deciding that ham radio and golf are not enough, has decided to pursue the dainty sport of tennis! For a few laughs, drive by the Wenonah Lake court some evening and see Paul in action hitting the returns of old pro WA2NPD, et. al. (watch for balls sailing on the lake, too).
8. Being up in the wilds of the north woods (without my rig, too), it is tough to get the latest dope. However, I can almost hear the clickety-clack of the WA2SEA/WA2WOD/WB2FJE typewrites once more lining up the AREC skeds for this fall. Be sure to watch for their announcements.
9. Anybody hear anything yet about RACES skeds for this fall? (Things seem awful quiet since W2KE pulled up stakes). Guess what!!! my lantern is running out of gas!!

All for now, see you on the 1st.

de WA2NPD

MEMO TO ALL NEW (AND SOME OLD) CLUB MEMBERS

Just a brief reminder to our newer members regarding a few items.

- (1) Club Jackets: Perhaps there are enough of you now to put together a new order for your good-looking club jacket. Check with John, WB2JZX, to obtain more particulars.
- (2) Additional Club Emblems (patches) are still available at nominal (?) cost. See WB2WAK or WB2JZX.
- (3) W2AFZ says that K3WIL will (or is supposed to) have the club emblem car window stickers ready for the Sept. 1st meeting. All new members get one FREE, the rest--see WB2WAK. Of course, if you joined GCARC sometime ago and never got your sticker, then we owe you a free one (of course).
- (4) Don't forget, a handsome GCARC certificate is given to all members who work 15 club members. Endorsements given for 30 and 50. See Della, W2AFZ, for more details.
- (5) We have a Club Technical Advisory TV I Committee, WB2WAK, Chairman, to help each and every member with any and all problems relating to rigs, receivers, antennas, etc. Don't continue to suffer long hours trying to solve your problem (of course, give it your best effort first). See Paul, WB2WAK, tell him your problem, and he will steer you to the proper solution.
- (6) Finally, don't forget to wear your name tag button to the club meetings--leave it on the tag board before you leave. Otherwise, pay the penalty!

"LES BELLES" By WA2FGS

The INTERNATIONAL YL CHC CHAPTER #4 offers a wide world of fun. Not only do they publish a newsletter four times a year but have many awards, some of which are:

HUNT THE YL HUNTERS	FAMILY TEAMS	YL FAMILY TREE
WORK ALL YL CHC STATES	DX YLCC AWARD	YL US COUNTY AWARD
YL US 50/5 AWARD	OM BETTER HALF	YL ONLY HALF AWARD
DX CHC YL AWARD		YLCC PREFIX AWARD

Dues are \$1.00 per year - YL or OM - Life Membership \$10.00 - Free to B/P - DX is \$.50¢ - you may adopt a DXer at \$.50¢ a year - IRCs accepted at the rate of 10¢ per coupon. Please mail dues to secretary/treasurer. All are welcome to join. For detailed list of awards by CH #4, send SASE to YL CHC CH#4 Sec/Treas. BEA DIETZ-WA2GPT,

Bea was good enough to forward this information to us inbetween her busy schedule of officer in this group as well as handling all her OM's office work and mail. Her shack is not only a radio room but also a studio (double office). Bea said "goodbye" to a normal upstairs of her house long ago.

Bea and OM are very dedicated grandparents (she emphasizes the dedicated rather than devoted) because they must see the children and three grandchildren at least once a week. They live about 25 miles away.

Most of you who are busy passing traffic have had the opportunity to meet Bea as she is net control of the CLEARING HOUSE NET which operates daily on 75 each morning. She is also a member of the New York City YLRL club but not able to attend regularly all their meetings because of time and distance, but she does try to get to their yearly spring Luncheon. A second hobby is collecting (cow) cream pitchers.

Bea was very good to pass along this information for us and she says CHC has over 5300 members which represent more than 240 (DXCC) countries and 600 I.T.U. Call Prefixes. CHC operates an international CHC FHC Service Net System with over 20 controlled nets manned by more than 600 headquarters appointed NC's. CHC has over 100 Ambassadors as representatives all over the world.

The CHE, FHC and SWL-CHC are not public clubs in that anyone can pay dues and join; on the contrary one must achieve membership. For brevity the combination of organizations is referred to simply as "CHC" or "THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF CHC".

The CHC, FHC, SWL-CHC Headquarters: K6BX, Cliff Evans,  
3212 Mesa Verde Road, Bonita, California 92002.

DX DIARY

Propagation

The solar cycle is now declining at a relatively rapid rate. The Swiss Federal Solar Observatory at Zurich reports mean sunspot numbers of 71 for April and 54 for May, 1971. This results in 12-month smoothed numbers of 92 centered on October and 88 centered on November, 1970.

At the present rate of decline, a smoothed sunspot number of approximately 62 is forecast for September, 1971. As can be seen from the following table, this is about the same level that was observed during September, 1966, and considerably lower than the levels observed during September of the past four years.

<u>Year</u>	<u>* Smoothed Sunspot Number</u>
1964	10
1965	17
1966	63
1967	95
1968	107
1969	105
1970	96

Seasonal propagation changes usually take place on the high frequency amateur bands from about mid-September through mid-October. During this period, despite lower solar activity, an increasing number of DX openings can be expected during the daylight hours on 10, 15 and 20 meters, although these bands will close somewhat earlier than during the mid-summer months. Improved nighttime DX propagation conditions are also forecast for 40, 80, and 160 meters, with considerably lower static levels and with these bands remaining open somewhat longer than during the past few months.

A seasonal improvement on long DX openings between the temperate regions of the northern and southern hemispheres is also expected during this period. From mid-September through at least mid-October this should result in more frequent openings between the USA and such areas as South Africa, Australasia, South Asia and South America, on all bands between 10 and 40 meters, with some long DX openings also possible on 80 and perhaps 160 meters as well.

While September usually marks the month when the 10 meter band becomes alive with DX signals, because of declining solar activity the number of openings this year will be somewhat lower than those observed during the past four years of higher solar activity. It will probably be a toss-up between 15 and 20 meters for the best DX honors during the daylight hours, while 40 meters is expected to provide optimum DX propagation conditions during the hours of darkness.

\* Solar Level Observed During September For Each Year  
Of The Present Sunspot Cycle

DX Report

W2SUA "Shorty" - June 16 to August 15 (all on 20 ssb)

3B9DK - Rodringuez Island, 3C1EG - (Fernando Poo) Equatorial Guinea, 3C0AN - Annobon Island, VQ9R - Seychelles Islands, FK8AC - New Caledonia, VK3UV/9 - Solomon Islands, JP1ACH - Ogasawara Island, KB6CT - Canton Island, ZK1CD - Cook Island, C31DY - Andorra, F0US/FC - Corsica, FL8HM - French Somaliland, VQ9R - Seychelles.

WA2NPD "Doug" - Several weeks up to August 12 (all on 20 ssb)

VP7NN, KR6JX, TI2J, K3WEU/6Y5L, YV1TP, UK3AAO, YO9HP, OH4RH, GD3YBH and VP2AAP.

WN2MEM "John" - July 24 to August 21 (all on 15 cw & cw/ssb)

HK1BYM - Columbia, KP4AOD - P.R., SM2CFV - Sweden, LU1SE - Argentina, PJ9VR - Venezuela, G2FMJ - England

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RAMBLINGS OF A GHOST WRITER

"MY country, 'tis of thee." is the first line of our national hymn "America" written one hundred and twenty years ago by Samuel Francis Smith. Smith was inspired to write this great hymn when only twenty-four years old. Oliver Wendell Homes, a Harvard classmate of Smith, attributes the genius in "America" to its very first word "MY", a personal possessive which instantly strikes a silver chord in every patriot's heart. Needing a lead to get into the topic for this month's issue of "CROSSTALK", I thought that the above statement was indeed timely. One Ham refers to My station; My license; My hobby, My parts, etc. Get the idea? This word "MY" has really been instilled into every Ham without his being aware of it.

A young novice breaking into the Ham fraternity soon states, "I got MY ticket, and I am getting ready to put MY station on the air." You notice he doesn't say, "A ticket," or "A station." Now anything that belongs to you is personal; therefore, it should be your pride and job which, in short, means hopefully you should get the best possible satisfaction from your station and from your operating privilliges.

Where does one get the necessary information to guarantee this satisfaction? Well, the best source is from your local Amateur Radio Club--and I don't mean just attending meetings, sitting there, and not making any effort to become an active part of the club. You are paying your dues to help make possible these opportunities, so why not avail yourself of them. I have heard it said, "Our radio club doesn't offer very much in this area because there isn't any one

"RAMBLINGS" (Cont.)

there who is qualified to teach what you want to know." There isn't anything further from the truth! We may not have many engineers in the club, and we may not have the greatest speakers; but, I'll bet that there are some members (old timers) who have been through the mill (as they say) with plenty of experience who will only be too glad to help if you avail yourself of their services.

Whether you were 8 or 80 years old when you decided to get your ticket, something gave you the desire and inspiration to have your own Ham station. Think back, just what did start you in Ham Radio? You know there are a few persons who, after they go to all the trouble of getting their ticket, soon give up Ham Radio. But percentage-wise they are few in number and don't even make a dent into the fraternity. I guess that there are more persons in Amateur Radio today termed "old timers" than any other organization of its kind.

Several days ago I was down at Alcyon Lake when my attention was directed to three radio controlled model boats being put through their paces on the lake. Two were power speed boats, and the other was a sailing sloop with sails 4 foot high. What a wonderful and fascinating sight watching the boats obeying the radio commands of their owners. Here is a good place to get experience with transmitters. Do we have any club members who are interested in building and sailing such models? Maybe we could have the G.C.A.R.C. flotilla????

Those moonshots are certainly playing havoc with the spirits that are trying to tell me more to put in the paper; I just can't ready them, moon QRM.

738s es CUL.....Ghost Writer

Ed. Note: Perhaps someone should remind our Ghost Writer of the Club Technical Advisory Committee, WB2WAK, Chairman. We disagree that only a few hams quit; the FCC stated (awhile back) that nearly 50% of the Novices drop by the wayside. We agree belonging to GCARC cuts down this mortality rate.