

AAC-OVER

OCTOBER 1981 -----THE FROST IS ON THE 6146B'S!

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE XEROX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

HEY--guess what I heard on 40 meters the other night? Nothing! That's right, for the first time in months I was not forced to hear every thunderstorm in the western hemisphere clamoring for my attention. One of life's little-appreciated justices is the fact that as the weather gets lousier, the hamming gets better--can't wait for January, huh? Well...

I got sent to Japan for a week last month, and it was an education, believe you me. They're slobbering us in the marketplace because the country's most popular indoor sport is working, working like hell in fact--I don't think those people ever slow down.

I did get a chance, however brief, to wander Akibara, Japan's famous Radio Row--Radio Acres is a much better term, for it is BIG. Contrary to popular wisdom, their radios are not cheaper here than there--I saw a local model Yoesu mini-HT, fully synthesized with LCD display, for \$187 flat. The export model was \$230 because the US band is 2 megs wider than the Japanese 2M band. But still--you can't buy no such creature for \$230 new here, nohow. If they had had 220 HT's for sale I would have bought one--but they don't, because the band does not exist for Japan. 220 rigs are for export only--sigh. The lowband rigs were about \$100 cheaper there than here. And there are junkshops--it pains me to remember them, rather like a whole street of Glenwood Sales laid end-to-end--with everything the homebrewer could ask for.

But it's a loooooooooooooong trip home, and I ended up feeling pretty glad the repair station for our own XARC lowband rig was in Henrietta and not Kyoto. Let me announce it one more time--we have a lowband rig, it's all ours, and works like a dream! Come see it this coming Thursday night, October 24, at (or before; that's when the doors get locked) 7:30 PM. With any luck, we'll do as well as we did the first time we turned it on--caught Haitá SX9!

Take note of the XARC repeater data sheet--it's a mighty good machine and deserves more use than it's getting. This is to be the major topic of discussion at the October meeting--how we handle the financial obligations the repeater imposes on us. The autopatch issue is a particularly sticky one--there are important decisions that have to be made, and soon. If Thursday happens to be your weekly Backgammon, Horticulture, and Berserk Savoyards meeting, hang it up for one month out of twelve and come down. We need your inputs and your vote.

Not only that, we need your money. Dues time again, guys--bring the checkbooks down with you. \$5 cheap--as Alfred E. Neumann says. This year we are being presented with laminated plastic membership cards by XRA--can't miss out on that, can you? Make it payable to Xerox Amateur Radio Club.

It promises to be the best year yet for us, with two good machines on line. Be a part of it. Come to the October XARC meeting and kick it off right!

73, JH KB2JN