

XARC

Monthly Newsletter

The Voice of the Xerox Amateur Radio Club

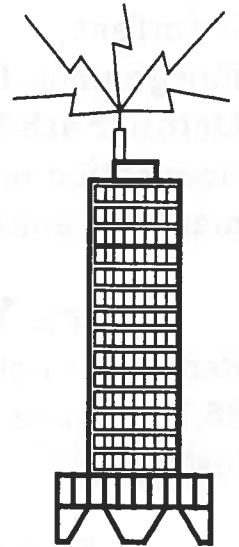
Gene Parker	KE2T	President
Mike Ishler	KE2LU	Secretary
Rick LaDonna	N2IJI	Treasurer
Pete Secrist	WB2SUN	Repeater Trustee

April 13, 1989

Next Club Meeting April 20th 1900hrs

Xerox
Amateur
Radio Club

WB2SUN/R
224.26/444.8255



New Hams!

Congratulations to the newest members of the Amateur Radio community. The following members of the Novice class passed their test and are anxiously awaiting their licenses. Dennis Diehl, Sam Kaplan, Shannon Wixsom and Clive Bubb.

Upgrades

Ray Crandall recently upgraded to Extra class. There are also some new Call Signs in the club. Dick Germain is now KE2LY and Mike Ishler is now KE2LU. Congratulations guys!

New Antennas?

Bob Karz was recently spotted sporting a unique set of Dipoles, causing much speculation on the loading and matching effects. The word is that Bob managed

to break his leg in a skating accident. Some people will go to great lengths to avoid field day responsibilities.

Remember!

The next testing by XARC will be May 6th.

Hamfests/Auctions

April 22nd, AARA Hamfest Aurelius fire house Webster rd. 1 mile west of Finger Lakes Mall just off rt. 5 Auburn NY.

April 28th-30th, the Dayton Hamvention, Dayton Ohio.

April 29th, the Antique Wireless Association auction and meet, will be held in Holcomb, NY.

May 19th-21st, the Rochester Hamfest, Rochester NY.

September 30th, Elmira International Hamfest, Chemung County Fairgrounds, Horseheads, NY.

October 4th-8th, the Antique Wireless Association annual conference and flea market, Canandaigua, NY.

Mark Your Calendars

Remember field day is coming **June 24-25** let's make it bigger and better than last year.

For Sale/Wanted

Nothing this month.

Hamfest Confessions

Last month my good friend Fred N2IJJ/AE and I made the trek to the Drumlins Hamfest. This was my first Hamfest where I could really enjoy the event. You see last year I was a new Novice at the time of the Rochester Hamfest and had been studying long and hard to pass the Technician and General theory tests to be given at the hamfest. Between pre test jitters and the post test euphoria, it didn't leave me in the frame of mind to really enjoy the hamfest (a late afternoon thunderstorm and downpour didn't help either). The only other hamfest I got to attend was at Syracuse in the fall. There I had to assure that my XYL and son didn't get bored, so I didn't spend a lot of time browsing. But this was different. Fred is the ideal person with whom to attend these functions.

We arrived (with the aid of directions secured over the handi-talkie) shortly after the event began. After paying the entrance fee to the boy in the parking lot (who could subtract the \$4 fee from \$5 but was baffled when we each handed him a five dollar bill at the same time, but with a little help we talked him through it). Inside about half of the exhibitors were set up in the two rooms so we proceeded to brows around. We stopped at the first table, and Fred proceeded to purchase three hundred feet of coax for his new tower and beam. Imagine my relief when the seller agreed to hold on to the cable until we were ready to leave. I'd picked up two 100 ft. coils and IT WAS HEAVY! What did I buy? A new key for Ray Crandall (much easier to carry). So with the initial purchase jitters out of the way we proceeded to visit the other tables. Fred and I both had lists of items we were looking for which is probably a good way to approach these things. Fred was looking for spare tubes for his rig, so we stopped at the tables offering tubes. Most were priced reasonably at \$1-\$3 for receiving tubes except for one table where the tubes used in the Collins and Heathkit HF radios were in a sperate box marked \$10 each. It pays to look around. After completing the circuit of tables I was distressed to realize that we had only been there an about hour. So I asked Fred if he wanted to look around again, and seeing as how we had nothing better to do, we did. This is

where the fun started. It's amazing what you can miss even when you are looking right at it, or the things you remember you need that you didn't write down, or things you don't need but buy anyway. Remember the table where we bought the coax? Well on every trip passed that table we bought something else, or at least considered buying. In addition there were people setting up new tables all the time and people setting out additional items constantly. If we made many more circuits around those tables I would have been dizzy(I know, you think I am already) We finally decided to take our loot out to Freds van and let our wallets cool off a little. It was amazing how much stuff we had accumulated. While outside we noticed a few people set up in the back of the parking lot so we checked it out. There was a van full of PDP 11 computers and parts, and a lady selling an ICOM handi-talkie out of the trunk of her car. Properly cooled off we decided to go back inside for one last look. This was the time to make that low offer on those items we had been looking at all day, and the best time to make a deal. Guess where we ended up? Remember that table I told you about? Just a few more treasures and we called it quits. So what did we buy? Three hundred feet of RG-8, a scanner, some PL259's, a variac, misc. tubes, I.D. badges, a 2m/70cm mobile antenna, a key, some ferrites and an automatic

setback thermostat. What did we almost buy? Well that's another story. In retrospect I have decided that to really enjoy a hamfest you can't be in a hurry and you must constantly revisit the various vendors. Why? Well you always miss things the first time around.(even the second and third) The people are always setting out new stuff and new people are setting up. And best of all the prices get lower as the event goes on. Another helpful thing is to know the going price for the items you're seeking. And one final thing, **don't be afraid to haggle**, it's all part of the fun. So now that I know what I'm doing I'm really ready for the Rochester Hamfest, I only hope my wallet is. Thanks again to my good friend Fred.

Remember!

Transistors may be "discrete", but tubes are just plain fun.

Minutes of the March Meeting of XARC

The meeting was brought to order by President Gene Parker at 1710 hrs. on Thursday the 16th of March 1989. There were 13 members and 2 visitors present.

The business meeting was adjourned to allow the featured speaker, Frank Pollino to begin.

Frank gave a very informative talk on VHF/UHF propagation. The audio tapes of the characteristic sounds of the various propagation modes were very interesting as they provided examples of the phenomenon hams may encounter on the bands.

One item of business was acted upon. The club approved a motion to affiliate with the ARRL. The required paper work has been submitted.

TREASURERS REPORT 3-16-89

CHECKING ACCOUNT

Balance 2-16-89*	\$290.72
Income: (Dues)**	\$ 20.00
(Speaker Amplifier)	<u>\$229.20</u>
Total Income:	\$249.20
 Expenses:	
Atlas Circuits	\$ 47.80
Digi-Key	<u>\$110.68</u>
Total Expenses:	\$158.48
Total Checking Account:	\$381.44

SAVINGS ACCOUNT

Balance 2-16-89:	\$152.08
Total Savings:	\$152.08

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Total Checking Account:	\$381.44
Total Savings:	<u>\$152.08</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	\$533.52

* Includes Carry Over (Coffee Fund) 5.00
** Includes \$10.00 Roger Bullock(No Application)

Agenda for April

- Current status of the tower.
- Assignments for Field Day.
- Featured Speaker

433.14
44.75
477.89

Total
TOTAL

2.0

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