

XARC

Monthly Newsletter

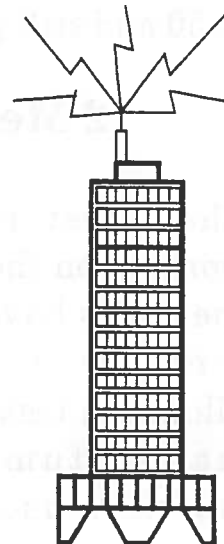
The Voice of the Xerox Amateur Radio Club

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

June 8, 1989

Xerox
Amateur
Radio Club

WB2SUN/R
224.26/444.8255



Next Club Meeting June 15th 1700hrs

Field Day!

Mark Your Calendars

Remember field day is coming **June 24-25** let's make it bigger and better than last year. If you want to help, contact any of the club officers. If you don't know what Field Day is then by all means come to the Xerox Recreation building anytime from Saturday noon to Sunday at 2pm and find out. If you have never witnessed organized chaos then this may be the event for you. In addition to demonstrating that Hams can establish communications from scratch in the event of a disaster, Field Day is a great contest to make the setup worth while. So if you have a day, an hour or just a few minutes, stop by, see

what's going on and even participate. We'll enjoy the company.

Correction

Last month I incorrectly listed John Wright as KE2MA, It should be KE2MK. Sorry John.

Upgrades

Congratulations go out to club members who upgraded at the Rochester hamfest. Rick LaDonna and Gene Faucz upgraded to General. Clive Bubb, new member Jim Buch, and Shannon Wixsom upgraded to Technician.

New Members

We would like to welcome Jim Buch and Dave Alexander as the newest members

of the club. This brings the membership to 50 and still growing.

2 Meter Repeater

The latest report from the people working on the 2 Meter repeater is that the radios have checked out ok and that they are verifying the frequency allocation before ordering crystals. The major stumbling block will be duplexors, due to the high cost.

News From Leesburg

After many months we have finally received word from Leesburg. The inactive club is about to reactivate. They have found a room and expect to install their equipment soon. I know our members will look forward to meeting their club members on the air and making use of the station on their training trips to Leesburg.

Tower is Up*

*almost

As many of you have read in Barry's "reflections", the tower by good fortune and hard work is on the roof of the Recreation building. Thanks to the people who came out to help and a special thanks to the grounds maintenance crew who gave us a lift(so to speak). The next order of business is to get the base plate installed, tower up and something on it, but then in comparison those are the easy parts.

For those of you not on the Electronic Mail Distribution list here are Barry Rickett's comments.

The First Day

Yesterday afternoon, Tuesday the 23rd, Fred Miller, John Wright, Jim Lannom, Rick LaDonna, Gene Parker, Mike Ishler, and myself showed up at building 337 to place the freshly painted tower up on the roof. Now, it has been stated that a couple of guys with some rope and about 15 minutes spare time could put this thing on the roof. Well, we sure proved him wrong.

With seven guys in attendance, and a light rain to keep our heads clear, we slowly convinced ourselves that we were indeed pursuing an impossible (maybe only difficult) dream. Then suddenly, and without any warning, they appeared, and we all realized that there really is a God. Some men from maintenance who just happened to have with them a BIG yellow tractor, with a BIG hydraulic front bucket, and it sure looked to us like the bucket would reach the lower level of the roof.

Knowing how the union rules can sometimes interfere with getting the job done, we timidly approached them with the idea that their tractor with its bucket could make a few hams exceedingly happy and eternally grateful. The next thing we knew, we were setting the tower down on the roof

at the base of the ladder leading to the second story.

Now, the way I see it, there are four morals to this story:

- 1) Don't EVER trust anyone who says the job is going to be a easy.
- 2) Rain or snow is a very important part of this kind of job.
- 3) God really does like hams.
- 4) I'd really like one of those tractors.

Barry N2EZS

P.S. OK, I will concede the tower weighs more than 100#, but I'm not ready to accept 400. (Maybe 250). Maybe we should weigh it and have a contest to see who can come closest to guessing its weight.

The #e*&c&c#& tower

As I sit here trying to blow dry my shirt, I still can't help thinking a few guys and 15 or 20 minutes, --- no I'm not going to say it.

About 8 or 10 of us arrived at bldg. 337 somewhere in the vicinity of noon. Jim Lannom brought his come-along along, and I brought some rope along. After considerable discussion, and at least 13 different approaches suggested, we decided to do what we thought we would do two weeks ago. If this sounds complicated, that's because it was. We stood the tower upright next to the permanently installed ladder, extended

the top two sections together, then extended the next section and tied the whole thing off like that. We then used the come-along along to lift the entire assembly about 5.23704 feet to get the center of gravity above the top rung of the permanent ladder and Fred Miller, who was in the Coast Guard, tied the tower to the top rung with my ropes. At this point, the tower very graciously laid over onto the roof. Good, the tower is on the roof!!!

Next, Fred asked if anyone had a pocket knife. I was on the lower roof level and by the time I could get to the upper level we were carrying the tower of the ladder onto the roof! We then collapsed the tower and set it near the support. We then left, Jim taking his come-along along, and me taking my pieces of rope along with me. Job DONE.

It never ceases to amaze me how I continue to learn things:

- 1) A group of people (especially engineers) should NEVER discuss anything, they should just DO IT.
- 2) If you are clever enough, you can sometimes trick gravity into helping you rather than fighting you.
- 3) NEVER let anyone who was in the Coast Guard tie any knots.
- 4) Always have a spare set of Allen wrenches on hand.

5) And confiscate all pocket knives as the help arrives.

Thanx to all the guys (you too Shannon) that showed up to help get the tower onto the top level of the roof of 337. It's now resting comfortably right next to the support which will ultimately hold it. The only thing left is for the tower base to be attached to the support on the roof (Norm, are ya listnin'?).

73's Barry N2EVS

Remember! Hamfests/Auctions

If anyone knows the dates of the Syracuse hamfest or any others not listed here please forward the information to Mike Ishler 114/22D

July 9th, 6 am-4 pm, Alexander, NY Fireman's Grounds. Flea market, exams, free camping, YL/OM programs, indoor vendors and boat anchor auction. Talk in 146.52 and simplex 144.71 & 145.31.

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

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

For Sale/Wanted

Nothing this month.

Remember!

"When tubes are outlawed, only outlaws will have tubes".

-Dusty Kramer

Minutes of the May Meeting of XARC

The meeting was brought to order by Secretary Mike Ishler at 1710 hrs. on Thursday the 18th of May 1989, Gene arrived later. There were 10 members and no visitors present.

The reading of the minutes was waived as they are included in the newsletter.

TREASURERS REPORT 5-18-89

CHECKING ACCOUNT

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Balance 4-20-89* | \$334.33 |
| Deposits: | |
| Expenses: | |
| John Wright(Digi-Key & Tower supplies) | \$ 38.21 |
| Total Expenses | \$ 38.21 |
| Total Checking Account | \$296.12 |

SAVINGS ACCOUNT

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Balance 4-20-89 | \$154.19 |
| Total Savings | \$154.19 |

MISCELLANEOUS

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Expenses | |
| Rick LaDonna(Coffee) | \$10.27 |
| Credits | |
| Rick LaDonna(Spkr-amp) | \$13.80 |
| 2 Meter repeater(M. Poleshuk) | \$20.00 |
| Total Miscellaneous | \$23.53 |

ACCOUNT TOTALS

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Cash on Hand | \$23.53 |
| Total Checking Account | \$296.12 |
| Total Savings | <u>\$154.19</u> |
| TOTAL FUNDS 4-20-89 | \$473.84 |

*Includes Carry Over (Coffee Fund) \$ 5.00

Long range planning committee report:

No report...

HF Station report:

No report

Membership and Training:

Introduced Clive Bubb and Shannon Wixsom, graduates of the last class.

Shannon was presented with a "Brass Pounders" certificate in honor of her first CW contact.

Packet Report:

No report

Special Events report:

No report

Program Committee report:

No report

Long Range Planning Committee report:

No report

Old Business:

Tower:

The plan is to erect the tower on Tuesday at 5pm weather permitting. The secretary will send a note to the membership asking for volunteers.

ARRL Affiliation:

The necessary paper work has been submitted and we are waiting final approval.

New Business:

2 Meter Repeater:

John Wright reported that due to a donation from the Egypt Fire Department we now have 2 General Electric Proline transceivers suitable for use as a repeater. At this time one has been tested and found to fully operational. We have manuals for most of the modules in these two radios. Dave Sweet indicated that John Pelton(sp?) has experience with these radios, and may be willing to help. Gil Porter of WRC, who was up to recently a GE employee, will try to gather further information from contacts he still maintains within GE. Ray Crandall has volunteered to investigate methods to tap the company for funds and author the required paperwork. The details of the final configuration are undecided with regards to linking and location and features. Any suggestions and offers of help are appreciated. The first attempt will be at a basic "no frills" repeater.

John requested three things from the club:

- 1- Support, do we want a 2 Meter repeater?
- 2- Seed money, needed for any repairs, new crystals and odds & ends. He requests \$100.00
- 3- Duplexors at a cost of \$500.00

A motion was made and seconded that the club support the idea of a 2 Meter repeater. The motion was approved.

A motion was made and seconded that the club provide up to \$100.00 in seed money to get the project started. The motion was approved.

All agreed that an alternative method of financing duplexors was needed and will be addressed by the people working on the repeater.

Field Day:

Rick has the insulators and Jim Lannom has the line for the installation on the poles at XRA. The sit map must be secured from Scott Baker to determine the best layout.

Operating positions:

Gene Faucz, Ray Crandall and Mike Ishler will bring their trailers like last year.

Rigs:

Bob Karz, Fred Miller, Gene Faucz, Mike Ishler and the club station will provide radios for the event.

Antennas:

John Wright offered his vertical Antenna, Mike Ishler his adjustable dipole and Bob Karz his multi band dipole.

Power:

Lloyd Durfey has secured a 6KW generator and a tank of fuel from Xerox Maintenance, to be delivered Saturday.

Bob Karz will clear the use of the site with XRA.

Bob Karz gave a one legged presentation on Field Day operation for the benefit of the new members and those who would rather forget.

Agenda for June

- Assignments for Field Day.
- Current status of the tower.
- Two Meter Repeater

Meeting Adjourned 18:45