

-ARC-OVER

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE XEROX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

AUGUST '81--The Big 'Make Up For Last Month's Issueless-Issue' Issue

I am about to announce an amazing occurrence: SOMETHING HAS GONE RIGHT!

Not one something, but two Somethings with a capital S:

OUR REPEATER IS ATOP THE SQUARE, INSTALLED, AND GOING LIKE HELL!

WE HAVE DONE BOUGHT US A LOWBAND RIG!

I don't know about you, but so much good luck at once hits me like cheap wine on a hot summer's night. The details, the details...

After plenty of connivance, noodging, and nagging, we got the repeater up on the roof of the Square in July, running with a small Ringo antenna ty-wrapped to an iron safety railing. Feed was through a hundred feet of old coax the guys borrowed somewhere leakier than my basement walls. Thirty five watts in, seven watts out, with the other watts detouring and getting lost along the way. Not ideal... But that's behind us now. The Station Master antenna is up where it belongs, and the old coax has been replaced by low loss miniature RG something hardline. The finals are being fiddled with, but even running a little than a watt out, Dan Thomas triggered and heard the machine sitting at a picnic table down in the Lethworth Gorge, playing with his HT. Not bad, not bad... Other reports give our range as anywhere between Syracuse and Buffalo, south past Lethworth and North--would you believe Toronto?

All we need now is bodies to use it. Apparently a deal with Clegg for a group purchase of crystal 220 rigs fell along the wayside. Hamtronics offers a 220 rig kit including everything but the cabinet and mike for around \$150, and used crystal rigs can be had for as little as \$130 if you snoop a lot and drive a hard bargain. Anyway, guys, we got the geni! to give us our wish--now for heaven's sake let's not abandon it to the roaches atop the Square--get thee--all rigs, and let there be racket on 220!

Now, for those of us who prefer fighting the Russian Woodpecker, Radio Free New South Blaupunkt, and Lem E. Wurkumfurst's (KL80) liquid-helium-cooled 13 kilowatt Gutbuster Band-Blaster 13, well, have we got news for you-- There is big bucks to be made in hot dogs as well as computer maintenance, and those of us who didn't care if we got our fingernails dirty while working with our hands pulled in a grand total of \$967.28 at the Umpire's Request baseball tournament held out behind 337 in July. How much of that we get to keep depends on how good

a deal Pete Secrist can swing selling those calcified leftover hotdog buns back to XRA--but if Pete drives a hard enough bargain, we will probably come home with a little more than \$600. That combined with our previous \$300 treasury gives us more than enough for a brand-new HW101 rig with all the trimmings--and the purchase is underway. Dan Thomas will be putting the rig together, doing all the years' accumulated mods as he goes. The Heath was selected by acclamation at the July meeting as being about as indestructable as a '59 Chevy (though not as ugly) and easily serviceable by clumsy (excuse the expression) amateurs. Service is an important point when there is no single guardian watching the machine like a hawk--we'd have to have to load an ailing Yaesu into Honorable Ailplane and return it to its ancestors, with the Air Traffic Controllers adding the element of chance that it might never find its way back. We think we made the best choice. The machine should be on the air and giving old Lem whatfor about the middle of September.

Needles to say, we are looking for other fund raising opportunities within the company. Keep your noses open, folks--we'll get that twelve foot EME parabolic dish and microwave ATV installation yet...

Other news: Frank Erhart scored the Advanced ticket, and is now KC2EX. Good show, Frank. Norm Peer got bored with his old call and is now N2CHF, but no, he does NOT play kick-ass rock. That's another CHF entirely.

There is an excellent hamfest near Buffalo Sept. 18-19. I went last year and found it as good as or better than the Rochester Hamfest, but given this year's RH showing that's not too tough.

August 29th, XARC will be providing emergency communications at the XRA Health Happening at the Dome Arena. We need bodies for that operation. Should be nothing strenuous, and the PR will do us good.

Now that we have us a Heath, we might ask you all to look around your labs and other areas for an old Teletype or terminal of some kind which could be pressed into service for RTTY. I've seen such things gathering dust here and there; surely there might be one which could be diverted to 337 with minimal hassle. Not only is it fun, it would add to our case that we need larger and better station accommodations from XRA.

Least but not last: The words "Coca-Cola" pronounced in Chinese mean, "Bite the wax tadpole."

Last but not least: The next XRAC meeting kicks off Thursday night, August 27, at 7:30 in 337. Be there, now that we've hit the Big Time. Who knows--some of our good luck may rub off on you!

73--



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