

XEROX**Amateur Radio NewsLetter****TO**

Distribution

FROM

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SUBJECT

General Newsletter

DATE

May 17,1988

The next meeting of the Xerox Amateur radio club will be May 19,1988 at 1700 hours in building 337 conference room B. The business meeting will start promptly at 1700. The seminar will start right after the meeting.

Minutes of last Meeting: (April)

Meeting called to order at 1700.

Treasurers Report:

Balance \$203.19 Savings: \$58.57 Total: \$261.76

Minutes of previous (Mar) meeting: voted not to be read as they are included in every newsletter.

Emerson Ironside provided coffee and cookies for tonights meet...thanks Emerson.

Repeater Committee report:

The repeater controller has been fixed. The problem was in the 12 volt regulator which caused the EEPROM to modify itself. This resulted in strange code groups. The regulator was replaced and a new EEPROM was ordered and replaced. (\$25.00). Since this non-vol memory is the place where the auto-dial numbers are programmed, please check to see if your number(s) are correct. If not, call Pete at 25998. He had to re-program this chip and there are a lot of numbers.

Before we installed the new chip, we dumped both system prompts to a file, so in the future, if we lose either chip, it will be simple to replace.

The answering machine solenoids are still glitching the logic and steps are being taken to fix this problem (diodes across the coils and opto-isolators)

Long range planning committee report:

Ed McKenna -- Ed is still checking into the interplex system. He will report next month. He thinks the sponsor has some equipment. At this point, it is not clear what it is or the cost, if any. If this system is implemented in our station, hand held handi-talki contact is possible from New York City, Boston to Buffalo is possible.

Packet Report: -- no report

Special Events report:

Bob Karz-- Field day....see special events

Bob wants us to operate the stations round the clock. Please help if you can.

Membership & Training:

Dick Germain, Lou Kohnen and Bob Freiburger-- novice code and theory course went well. Four of the students took the test early and have already received their licenses. 11 students have passed the novice test and 3 are ready to ready to take the technicians class test to be given at the Ham fest.

This class has been extremely successful and the students have asked me to publicly thank the instructors for their time and for an excellent job. The last official novice class was held April 27 in the station in build 337. The students who received their licenses used the station for their first CW QSO.

Ray, KB2FNM contacted the town of Breda in the Netherlands, on 15 meters. It is my understanding that it almost put Ray into hypovolemic shock when he realized someone from the Netherlands was trying to call him. Gene, KB2FNN *with sweaty hands*, but with great determination, contacted a ham in Townsend, Mass. on 40 meters. Not bad for your first contact fellas. I know you each member of the class eagerly awaits your license so you too may get your first *required* CW contact in front of an instructor and your classmates.

I am told that the *entire* class will be present to watch John Wright expertly, efficiently and with a skill heretofor unheard of for a mere novice obtain his first CW contact.

Old Business:

As far as the Hamfest goes, apparently no one wanted a table-- too late now.

Inventory: Some of our equipment serial numbers and documentation have been turned in. Please get your numbers/docs etc turned in soon so
Reminder, if you use the club station in Build 337, please be sure and fill out the logbook. Lou will buy a logbook next time he gets down to Heathkit.

New Business:

Should we consider a 5 band dipole for novice use here at the 337 station? This issue was overlooked on this month's agenda.

Remember, If you use the repeater for an emergency, please contact Jim Lannom at 422-2603 and leave the details.

The prospect of starting a separate fund for maintenance or replacement of existing equipment brought some discussion.

- Some members questioned the need of such a fund because up to now, we have never had a fund and have had no problems.
- How do we raise money?
- If we put this money in an interest bearing account, how do we keep it from getting too large as the owner of the account must pay taxes on the interest.

These are good questions and will be discussed further at the May meeting.

The repeater committee will put together a *How to use* manual for new and old members regarding the use and operation of the 220/440-repeater.

We should probably have a manual for the HF gear in 337 also.

Meeting adjourned at 1745.

Seminar:

Gene Parker was unable to give his talk on VHF/UHF propagation as he was in Florida.

NEWS

We had 13 members attending this months meeting.

Four new members have just received their licenses this week. Congrats to Rick LaDonna KB2FSW, John Wright KB2FSC, Mike Ishler KB2FSA and Fred Miller KB2FSZ.

Our scheduled speaker for the May meeting will be Nolan Stephany N2EAW. He will speak on **Amateur Radio in Europe**.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Bob Karz

FIELD DAY JUNE 25 Saturday-Sunday

Bob would like to know if you are interested in participating in field day.

Just what is field day?...HISTORY.. Field day was organized many years ago to determine the extent to which amateur radio operators could quickly set up and operate a radio station without commercial power should the need arise; as in a time of war if the US was attacked or if a disaster should occur.

It has evolved into a contest to determine who can contact the most stations over a 24 hour period. Other rules are involved, but basically, you set up a station, string temporary antennas and operate without commercial power. Batteries, gas generators, human powered generators, solar power, automobile power can be used to power your rig... anything except commercial power. We would like to operate 3 or 4 stations simultaneously over this period. We are checking into the possibility of getting a *Macho* generator from the Army Depot here in Webster or if that fails, maybe we will get one from Xerox maintenance. We plan to operate from the fields around the rec build 337. The stations will be on the air all day and all night so if you can join us, please do. Note, you do not have to be a licensed operator or even a member of our club to participate as we need loggers as well as operators. If you are a member of the XARC dl come on down.....anytime... We think we will be able to get a 30 foot camper trailer with a big awning from one of our members. We intend to operate these stations over the entire 24 hour period. It gets real interesting into the wee hours of the morning. We ask that each person bring something to eat and enough to pass. Even so, don't forget that there is a 24 hour mini-mart within a half mile of our activities. Alcohol is not allowed since we will be operation on Xerox property so act accordingly. Bob is the coordinator for this activity so I expect that he will be posting a sign up sheet shortly or give him a call at 26128. Even if you fail to sign up or didn't originally intend to participate, if you should change your mind or want to come and just watch, you are more than welcome.

WANT ADS

None this Month

DISCLAIMER;

If you have something to add to this newsletter, something to sell, complaints or flames, call me at 22603, or send me a note to 114-20D, or send me an electronic note to Jim Lannom:Wbst128:Xerox on the NS or to Lannom.Wbst on the grapevine.