



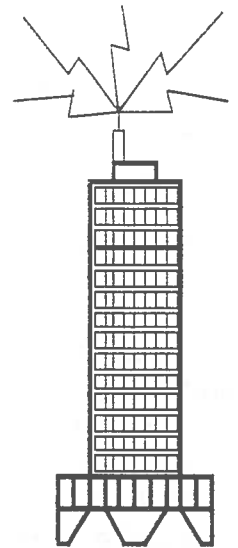
XARC

Monthly Newsletter

The Voice of the Xerox Amateur Radio Club

Xerox
Amateur
Radio Club

KE2MK/R
224.26/444.825
145.29



Dave Sweet
Harry Williams
Pete Fournia
Rick LaDonna
John Wright

KF2QJ
N2VML
WA2BPQ
N2IJI
KE2MK

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Trustee

**1993 National VHF
Contest
First Place**
Mid Size Clubs

March 12,

Next Club Meeting

March 17, 1730 hrs

A World Class VHF Contesting Station

At the March meeting, Barry Rickett, N2EZX, will be talking to us about the January VHF Contest results and about the superb station Barry and his crew ran during the event.

Join us for what's sure to be a great program.

XARC WINS the ROCHESTER CUP!

Hi all,

I just got off the phone with Tim Stoffel, NS9E, contest chairman for the RVHFG, and have the following contest results to report.

XARC won the Rochester Cup. Congratulations to all who participated. A close second was the Brockport Amateur Radio Club (BARC). It looks as if there will be some stiff competition in the coming years.

I hope you all enjoyed the competition as much as I did.

73

Barry, N2EZX
VHF Contest Chairman

VHF Contest Results

Sweepstakes 1994 is now in the history books. As a club we had 28 logs submitted by our members totaling 69,464 points and 770 RVHFG members worked. Our percentage of participation this year was 50.8%. The most significant change from last year is that there were no Rover logs turned in this year.

Honors go to Judy, N2KXS for high score with 12555 from her 5 band station in Mendon. N2WXX secured a second place finish in the under 18 class at 426 points, and the N2EZX limited multi-op team place 2nd in that field with a score of 30,668 (with KB2UW & WR2T) from atop of Xerox Square. Most RVHFG members worked is earned by Peter, WA2BPQ with a score of 66 and the most improved class is cornered by

Warren, AA2LQ with an incremental 176 points over his last year's score.

Other notable scores were 6925 from KE2T and his 4 band home station, WA2BPQ at 4849, KB2HVL at 2565, N2IJL at 2387, and WM3D at 2120 were also noteworthy as they were all FM only scores.

Of course, everyone who got on the air and turned in a log is to be congratulated. With very little prodding this year we still had more than half of our members active in this annual event. You can be certain that if and when I hear anything relative to the Rochester Cup, I will pass the information on.

Thanx es 73,
Barry N2EZZ

License Upgrades

Congratulations to Steve Corona, N2TLW, for passing the 13 WPM CW test and upgrading to General!

Please let me know about any new licenses or upgrades so they can be recognized in the newsletter.

Bob, K2OID

VE Testing News

A VE testing session was held on Wednesday, March 2, 1994 in Bldg 337 at 7 PM.

The following are the results of that session.

There was one upgrade.

Steve Corona, N2TLW, successfully passed Element 1B thereby qualifying for a general class license.

Thanks to VEs John Facci, WK2N and Stan Avery, WM3D, without whose giving of their time this would not have been possible.

Congratulations Steve!

The schedule for VE exams for the remainder of 1994 is:

June 8, September 14, and December 7

All exam sessions begin promptly at 7:00 PM and are held in Bldg. 337. If you wish to take an exam please bring the following with you:

Exam fee, \$5.75, either cash or a check made out to W5YI-VEC

Two forms of identification, preferably one with a picture

The original plus a copy of any current license held and/or the original and a copy of any valid, current certificate for element credit issued by any VE team

Pen(s), pencil(s), and non-programmable calculator (if desired)

73,
Lou K2ANC
422-3899
K2ANC:Wbst128:Xerox

Articles Welcome

If you have an article, letters, or news you think may be of interest to club members please submit it to me for publication (electronically if possible). Your input can help us make our newsletter better.

Bob, K2OID

KARZ's Corner Reprieved!

The expression conjures up scenes of a prison guard running down a echoing jail hallway to tell the warden to call off the execution or maybe of Tanya Harding tearfully pleading with the judges for one more chance because her skates weren't properly laced. For the XARC, it brings to mind the "fiasco" (for want of a better word) during the January San Fernando Valley earthquake when we attempted to implement our plan to provide emergency communications to El Segundo.

Its not that we've been totally remiss. We've been practicing for the "big one" ever since El Segundo Security provided us the TS140 tranceiver and the Ameritron linear. We've probably made 10 or so contacts to check out the system, and we've even prepared a reasonably detailed band plan. Heck, we've even left a copy of the plan at the station. Sure, we haven't practiced every single month, but I for one thought we'd be in reasonable shape if we were called upon.

Then came the January 17 wake up call (both literally and figuratively!), and immediately a number of shortcomings became evident. First, no one had thought about how the plan would be activated, who would be responsible for implementing the plan, and under what conditions. Security was anxious to know the status at the El Segundo site but didn't really know who to contact to get things going. Eventually (after 10:00 AM here in Webster) Gene Parker, KE2T, was contacted and we finally got the club station on the air. Second, we didn't know what calls to look for from 6 land. Third, we hadn't given any thought to what happens when a quake hits in the early morning hours. Did we expect the El Segundo people to operate from their home rigs? Was this

a reasonable assumption given that they would likely have more immediate problems than putting a HF station back on the air?

From an equipment standpoint, we had several problems including a tribander frozen in the wrong direction, a vertical flat on the roof, and problems with the dummy load. We did, however, have out Field Day antennas and experience, and we were able to connect the Field day TA33 to the feed line for the vertical and point it more or less in the correct direction.

From an operational standpoint, we had no formal emergency team, nor did we have any systematic way to reach everyone, nor did we have any kind of operating schedule (even a strawman).

I'm sure I'm just scratching the surface with regard to things that could and should be improved. The fact is that we were lucky. Darn Lucky! The brunt of the damage hit to the north, and El Segundo was relatively unscathed (this time). Just like Tanya, we'll have another chance to get it right. We have, in effect, been reprieved.

We're having a meeting Monday, March 28 in the 335 Cafeteria (tentatively Conference Room A - I'll send out a confirming mail note) from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM to form an emergency team for the XARC, to determine lessons learned from the January 17 quake, and to develop a more coherent plan for for the next "Big one". You can bring your lunch or buy it in the cafeteria. I'd like the team to have at least 10 members. All classes of licenses are welcome. Please attend if you can or contact me if you'd like to participate but can't make it to this meeting.

For all ham radio has done for us, this is one way to "give something back". I hope to see you there.

73 and good hamming

Bob, K2OID

Bob, K2OID

Finding Information About the Club

Xerox Amateur Radio Club documents are available in a public file drawer administered by XHFES. Our radio club folder contains the membership list; our Bylaws; a sample newsletter including a list of officer, membership application, and repeater frequencies; and a general description of the club. You may access this information by selecting the HENR801A:XEROX domain / PASFS-THREE drawer / XHFES drawer / Club Folders / Radio Club. This is the same drawer referenced on the last page of the Chatterbox.

Peter Fournia, WA2BPQ

Equipment loans

As many of you know the XARC has recently increased its equipment inventory by leaps and bounds over what we had just a short time ago. I have been asked, as the chairman of the station committee, to publish a list of equipment which is available for short term loan to members of the club. When borrowing a piece of equipment, a note should be left in the club station with the item borrowed, the date borrowed, the anticipated return date, and the borrowers name and call.

The following is a list of equipment located at the station in building 337 which is available for lending per the above guidelines. All other items are not to be removed from the station for personal use.

Heathkit HW101 transceiver with speaker and power supply

The XARC-corder Circuit Notes

I've made a few improvements to the recorder circuit in the Febraury XARC Newsletter. The recorder is now a permanent part of my home station. I plan to bring it to the March meeting to demonstrate how well it works. The improvements are:

1. A 100 micro Henry RF choke has been put in series with the DC input to the 7805 and .01 MF disc capacitors have been placed across the DC input, Audio in, and Audio Out. These components, together with the foil lining to the case, completely eliminate the RF interference from the recorder chip in my receiver.
2. The resistor and capacitor at the AGC (pin 19 of the recorder chip) have been eliminated. It turns out that the AGC only functions with the preamplifier on the recorder chip. Since the circuit does not use the preamp, the resistor and capacitor are unnecessary.
3. A 39K resistor has been put in series with the capacitor an ANNA IN (pin 20 of the recorder chip. It turns out that the amplifier requires a higher input impedance that the 1K level pot provides to prevent distortion.

An updated schematic with these changes is elsewhere in this newsletter.

We are looking into the possibility of making a recorder kit available to club members if enough people are interested and if we can locate an inexpensive source of circuit boards.

KDK 2 Meter FM transceiver
12 volt power supply (blue box type)
Bird wattmeter, 3 - 30 Mhz, up to 100W
Kenwood VHF/UHF watt/SWR meter,
140 - 500 Mhz
Headphones
ARRL Handbook
ARRL Antenna book
US and Foreign area call books (1988
issue)
Software library disks, Amateur related,
(5 1/4 and 3 1/2 DSDD disks)

All of the equipment located at the station is, of course, there for the use of all our members at any time. I would strongly encourage you to use the station. The performance of the station is better than most would imagine.

Thanx Barry, N2EVS

Do you have QSL cards to send?

As a club we are entitled to combine ARRL members cards in one mailing. Just order your outgoing cards as always, include a current mailing label from QST and give them to Peter Fournia in bldg 129-075B.

Is your ARRL membership up for renewal?

If so remember to renew through the club. See Rick LaDonna for details.

Want Ads

Looking for a small, cheap tribander in good condition (eg. Cushcraft A4 or a Mosely TA33 Jr). Contact DAVE Sweet, KF2QJ at extension 57669.

Submit want ads to Bob Karz, K2OID

February '94 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order on February 17 at 5:30PM in building 337 by president Dave Sweet KF2QJ. Attendance was 12. Harry Williams N2VML reported on results of a separate board meeting held on Feb. 11. Results of that meeting were reported in his minutes to the XARC DL. Discussion included meeting programs, maintenance of equipment, insurance and officer duties. Bob Karz K2OID, discussed his digital audio recorder design that appeared in the February newsletter. He compared it to another featured in February QST. Bob also mentioned he had many comments regarding our last attempt to communicate with El Segundo during the last earthquake. He plans to have a meeting to discuss these lessons learned. The meeting presentation featured information on making your own QSL cards. Harry Williams, John Wright, Bob Karz and Peter Fournia shared their approaches and results. Harry used a PC with projection screen to demonstrate a QSL design using MS PowerPoint, Excel and Paintbrush programs.

Action Items:

- Bob Karz will send a mail note probing interest in building his digital audio recorder
- Bob Karz will setup a meeting of an emergency subcommittee to discuss the "lessons learned" from our attempt to contact the El Segundo station during the last California earthquake.

Pete Fournia, WA2BPQ

Circuit draws 50 - 60 ma max. Any input voltage from 8V to 30V is OK. Select external dropping resistor for at least 8 volts at the input to the /805 regulator.

