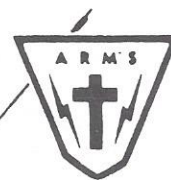


THE BEAM



AMATEUR RADIO MISSIONARY SERVICE

6725 Colby Street, Lincoln, NE, U.S.A. 68505

Summer, 1988

LANGUAGE LEARNING & MISSION

In the Spring/Summer, 1987, issue of the BEAM we reported on the plans of Julian and Lola Pike to spend their retirement in Kenya, East Africa, serving at Tenwek Hospital under the World Gospel Mission. The material in this article consists of excerpts from a letter received from them after their arrival in 5Z4 land. Mac is now 5Z4JP and Lola is 5Z4LP.

We have been showered with letters. Each one has been a blessing. There have been letters from some of you that we have not met, and they have touched our hearts. You all, in so many ways, have expressed your concerns for us and your assurance that you are praying for us. We are still hardly sure of what our needs really are. Suddenly trying to manage our affairs from the other side of the world has become somewhat exasperating. Things I used to do in five minutes now take a month or two by letter.

It seems like forever since we left the States. We are busy, busy, busy, and weeks seem to zip past. Things we wish would happen seem to take an eternity. We feel as if we are new and green and have much yet to learn; and yet, we realize that we have learned a lot and have made significant adjustments.

There are many feelings generated by living in a black population. I'm sure that I make the local people very curious as they watch everything I do. But there is a warmth and response that makes it very painful to have been unable to get language learning going regularly as soon as we'd hoped. That is a must as we get really settled and have routines established.

At times, it still seems strange that our Kenyan friends could look so different. At other times, they seem so much like me that I forget they are black. I feel very uncomfortable being a foreigner driving a vehicle when the road is lined with local people on foot. It feels good to walk to church with the Nursing School students or to have them along with us in the vehicle.

I am not sure just how I feel about high tech in the African bush. If that's all I'm here for, I'm ready to go home. If we are on track enough with it so that it makes a critical contribution to the ministry of Tenwek Hospital and the African Gospel Church, then I'm ready to give it all I've got—hard or impossible as it is to make it run out here. If it becomes a reality, then there is training of staff to use it,

which will take lots of time because their education system isn't high-tech oriented. And after that? Keep it running!

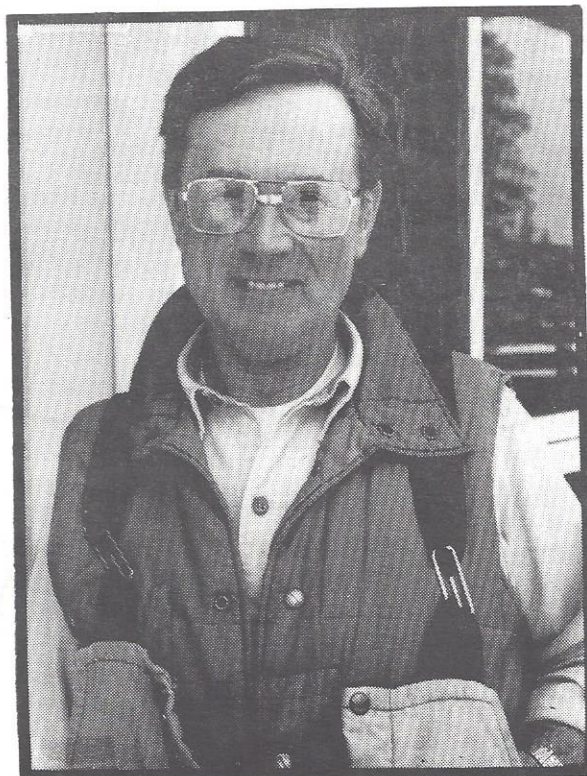
So, are we useful? Is it worth it? Are we contributing directly or even indirectly to people's lives? These questions are in constant review. We are helping, we are busy, we are appreciated, and we are lifting burdens that others lifted at too great a cost.

We are here to serve, to be fully open to every opportunity God gives us, and to seek opportunities from Him.

Julian M. Pike, 5Z4JP/W7SDS

ON THE IDITAROD TRAIL

You can find an ARMS member almost anywhere, but Merritt Tegeler, KL7AVS, added a new twist to volunteering last winter when he spent a solid week in a 7-by-10-foot



Merritt has supplied his equipment and helped the Iditarod twice.

THE BEAM

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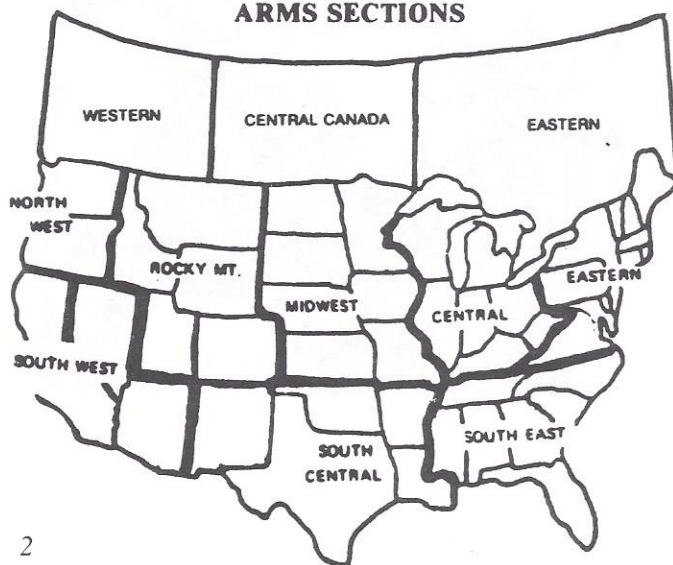
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ARMS Fellowship Nets

Eastern	M, W, F	7:00 a.m.	3.9070
Eastern	Sat.	9:00 a.m.	3.9070
Central	Sat.	8:00 a.m.	3.9220
Midwest	Sat.	8:30 a.m.	3.9070
Northwest	Thu.	7:00 a.m.	3.9840
Rocky Mountain	Sat.	7:15 a.m.	3.9150
South Central	W, F	7:00 a.m.	3.9050
Southeast	Sat.	9:00 a.m.	3.9000
Southwest	—	—	—
Central Canada	—	—	—
Transcontinental	Mon.-Sat.	1545Z ST	14.3075
		1445Z DT	14.3075
Halo	Daily	1800Z	21.3900

ARMS SECTIONS



THE ARMS MOTTO

"... let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."

Galatians 6:10

"sauna" while hunched over his ham rig and peering out of three little windows. As he watched the snow sift through the cracks in the floor, Merritt was doing what comes naturally—volunteering as a staff member of the Iditarod Sled Dog Race.

The Iditarod is an annual event in Alaska, commemorating the occasion during which medical supplies were transported from Anchorage to Nome by dogsled to defeat a diphtheria epidemic.

During the grueling race, volunteer hams station themselves at each checkpoint along the course. They provide their own radio equipment, but the Iditarod Trail Committee flies them in and furnishes them with the basics, including groceries and candy bars. Merritt's checkpoint was at Ophir, which is near the DEW Line and is roughly halfway along the course of the race. Ophir isn't even a town; it consists of a tiny cabin owned by a retired FAA employee, who lives in it part of the time. A few miners operate nearby, between Takotna and Cripple Creek.

Volunteer checkers are waiting when the dog teams arrive at the checkpoints; they clock in the musher's number, the time in, the time out, and the number of dogs. The ham operators then relay the information to race headquarters in Anchorage.

This is the second year Merritt has helped with the communications for the Iditarod Race. He says, "It's not always comfortable, but it's satisfying. I enjoy it. It gives me a lot of contact with people." Merritt resides in Glennallen, AK, and serves the Lord at a hospital there.

Courtesy: Northcountry Communications, Inc.

MISSIONARY SCHEDULES & CONTACTS

Information for this feature of the BEAM has been gathered and reported by Gordon Pearce, VE5HP, for a number of issues. We are certainly grateful to Gordon for his help.

During a contact with Gordon on one of the Transcontinental nets, he reported that he has not received any changes in the schedules and that no new contacts were reported to him. In view of the lack of information, it was agreed that the schedules will be dropped for the time being, with the thought that they can be picked up again if the need arises. Your comments regarding the use of the schedules will be appreciated by your editor.

FOR SHORTWAVE LISTENING

The May, 1988, issue of *Worldradio* indicates that the Voice of the Andes, Radio Station HCJB, Quito, Ecuador, is airing a program entitled "Ham Radio Today." The program

is of, by and for ham radio operators and is produced by John Beck, HC1QH/WB0RXL. He covers a wide range of topics, including news items from all areas of the world, construction hints, propagation news, equipment reviews (both old and new) and more. "Ham Radio Today" is on the air each Wednesday evening and is beamed to various parts of the world, with the beam to North America coming on at 0230Z Thursdays. Happy listening.

BROCKMEYERS RETURN TO COLORADO

It's great to be back on the ARMS Net from Littleton, CO. As many of you know, Timmie and I left Littleton in 1980 and moved to Ogden, UT, where I was employed by a company called TRW. They contracted to provide engineering services to the US Air Force on the ICBM fleet. My effort was primarily in propagation studies, antenna design and field engineering. The last three years were spent in design and prototype testing of radar security systems. I didn't spend all of my waking hours working for the Air Force; Timmie and I had opportunity to conduct Bible studies in our home and to start an evangelical church in Ogden.

I didn't get my tower up and equipment on the air here in Littleton until September 20. I spent some time rebuilding the old Hy-Gain TH-3 beam and reengineering the system ground, and I don't think it was time wasted. Moving out from behind the 10,000-foot Wasatch Mountains just a couple of miles from the Utah QTH was a big factor in the noticeable improvement of signals here at this Colorado location.

I am impressed and encouraged with the things that are going on with Transcontinental ARMS—the multiple net control stations, the increased participation of the VEs and the faithfulness of the many stations that check in each day. The memories of past ARMS activities are some of the most precious memories I have. I like to think that men and women will be experiencing the fellowship and blessings of ARMS activities after I am no longer here.

In Clinton B. DeSoto's story of Amateur Radio, *200 Meters and Down*, which was published in 1936, he wrote: "The typical radio amateur is a young man 25 years of age." Fifty years later, in 1986, the typical radio amateur was in his mid-50s. I suspect that the average age of the typical ARMS member is somewhat older than that. I can't help but wonder if we shouldn't actively recruit young, eager Christian hams if ARMS is to survive.

Many mornings when the band is changeable and signals are light to nonexistent, and I finally get someone to check me in and give me a number, that is the last time I hear a number until someone tells me it's my turn—and then my antenna's pointed in the wrong direction. I realize that's no problem for many of those who check in, but for those living in the middle of the primary ARMS coverage area, and with 20-meter skip being what it is, I sometimes find it a problem. Two questions that are frequently on my mind are "How long before my turn?" and "What should my antenna bearing be?" If the

NCS and the stations who has just been called would include the number assigned by the NCS for that day, it sure would be a help. Presently, the Net Control Stations from Monday through Saturday are respectively at bearings of 150, 77, 56, 220, 225 and 103 degrees. With the Net Manager at 287 degrees, my antenna rotator gets a pretty good workout!

—73 es 99, Chuck Brockmeyer, W0ETA

FELLOWSHIP NET

Chuck Brockmeyer, W0ETA, reports that a group of ARMS members is meeting on the air daily at 1330Z for fellowship and whatever. The frequency is 3.983 MHz. Many of the participating stations are in Colorado, but others check in from Kansas, Utah, and New Mexico. If your QTH is within 75-meter range of this area, you are certainly welcome to give it a try. They usually finish by 1400Z.

HAM RADIO SPOKEN HERE

Most of the readers of the BEAM are ham operators or know ham operators. We who are members of the "ham fraternity" get a great deal of pleasure and enjoyment from being able to literally communicate around the world.

One of the skills of which we as hams are rightly proud is our ability to communicate by using Morse Code. To those who don't know the code, a CW message is a jumble of meaningless sounds. But for those who have an "ear for the code," the sounds become words, phrases and sentences.

A shipping company once advertised for a Morse code operator. A number of applicants were waiting to be interviewed when suddenly one of their number stood up, walked to the door marked "Manager of Operations," and walked right in! A moment later, the door reopened and the manager told those still waiting that they could go home because he had hired an operator. There was a speaker in that waiting room carrying messages in Morse Code, and the manager had inserted this brief message: "I will hire the first person who understands this message and comes through the manager's door."

There is another message that we as God's children can understand. In I Corinthians 2:12-14, Paul made this statement: "Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."

Praise the Lord that we as believers can hear with understanding as God speaks to us through His Holy Word.

—Pastor Chuck Winter, N7AAG

30 YEARS AGO

Here's a letter sent May 12, 1958, from Leonard Van Saun, W2RJQ, then Secretary of ARMS, to all members. The original is on stationery that reads: "Amateur Radio Missionary Service, 1800 Arch Street, Philadelphia 3, Penna., U.S.A. / Headquarters at Philadelphia Bible Institute." We thought you might be interested in seeing what was on the mind of club officials back in those early days of ARMS:

"Dear O.M.,

"The Executive Committee of ARMS met at Allentown, Pa., on April 26th, and a number of suggestions were made. These items will be decided upon at our annual meeting, 10 A.M., May 24th, at Philadelphia Bible Institute.

"1. It seems to us that Missionary traffic is not as heavy as we originally expected. Just about all Missionary traffic is phone patch, and most Missionary stations have schedules in operation. Then, too, we are limited by third party restrictions. We will explore the possibility of Christian fellowship among Hams worldwide, in addition to our Missionary contacts.

"2. Please advise us just what you would like to have in the way of a Christian Amateur Radio organization. Tell us of schedules you would like to keep. We also hope to be able to exchange information on Missionary contacts which we are now maintaining.

"3. Fees to be \$1.00 per year both for new and renewal memberships.

"4. We will plan no new projects such as schedules, etc., until we hear from the membership.

"5. A Bylaws Committee was appointed to consider new amendments.

"6. We are endeavoring to reactivate the ARMS BEAM, our intended monthly bulletin. In order to publish it on a regular basis, it is necessary that we have material submitted, such as news items, station activities, etc. This will be discussed at length.

"7. We hope to be able to plan a dinner meeting with the XYLs in attendance. We'll have an outstanding lady HAM as guest speaker.

"8. We are planning a picnic at the Living Waters Bible Conference, near Moscow, Pa., in the Pocono Mts. (home of W3CGH). The date is Saturday, August 16th.

"Plan to attend the annual meeting at PBI on May 24th. If you cannot come, please let us hear from you as to your desires for a Christian Ham organization as we have outlined above. A full report of the annual meeting will be mailed to all members.

"Sincerely in Christ,

(signed)

"Leonard Van Saun, W2RJQ

"Secretary"

DAVID HALL, W9AOK, VISITS MOSCOW

David Hall, W9AOK, a member of ARMS who is active in the Central Section, visited the Soviet Union last September. Dave shared his experiences at the annual Section get-together the following month.

Dave, who is president of Scripture Press Publications, represented the Evangelical Christian Publishers Association (ECPA) at the semiannual Moscow Book Fair. He went with two other Christian publishers to staff the ECPA exhibit during the second week of September. They took along two copies of each of the 140 Christian titles that had been approved by the Soviet government. Dave said, "We were just there to show the Soviet Christians our materials and to be there as a source of encouragement to them."

"Many Soviet Christians came to the fair to see our books," Dave reported. "For many it was the first time they had ever seen a Christian book or a Bible. We had about 20 Bibles there, and they were all stolen by the end of the fair!"

Two peasant ladies from a village 100 km (63 mi) away came just to see a picture of Christ on the cross. They had one church in five villages and had no Bibles or books. The men had no pictures of Christ on the cross, but they had a children's book that included pictures of the Last Supper, the empty cross and the open tomb. They asked for a book, pointing out that the booksellers had two of every book and they had nothing. Though it was against the fair rules, they were given a book. Their reaction was as if they had been given a million dollars! They wept while saying thank you over and over again.

One lady came into the booth wanting to see a Bible. She had to be told that none were available because they had all been stolen. She spotted an empty Bible box lying on a cabinet. She asked if she could have it, and of course the answer was yes. She said she was going to take it home and display it because it had held the sacred Word of God.

The Christian booksellers observed that the Soviet Union is a backward nation economically. Long lines form at stores everywhere for produce, meat and bakery goods.



Dave Hall, W9AOK, and Scripture Press staff members.



Many Soviet Christians were greatly interested in the book display.

Bureaucracy exists for everything, and thus it is difficult to get anything or to visit just anyplace. Dave wanted to visit the Moscow Radio Club, but all he knew for an address was a post office box number. "I finally did find someone who could help me, but I would have had to go through several days of inquiry and arrangements before I could meet the hams at the club. I did not have the time in my schedule, nor could I get an extension on my visa to stay longer to make the visit."

God is at work in the Soviet Union, and the Church there is growing. Dave attended the Moscow Baptist Church, which was an experience he says he will never forget. Pray for the Christians in Russia. They deeply need our prayers that they won't get discouraged existing under the domination of a godless government.

—David Hall, W9AOK

SILENT KEY

On Tuesday, March 8, Pastor D. Vernon Harrah, W7EFO, Cottonwood, CA, stepped from this life into the presence of his Saviour, whom he had loved and served for 53 years. His prayer with his wife, Gladys, just the day before had been, "Take me home, Lord, before I become bedridden and thus become a burden to my loved ones." God answered his prayers as he sat in his shack at his radio. He seemed to revive from an initial heart attack following the administration of oxygen by Gladys. But then, as she was preparing a place for him in the house, he quietly died as the paramedics worked to bring him into the house. Forty-five minutes of lifesaving effort by an ambulance crew were fruitless.

Vernon had become an ARMS member in recent years and was heard on the Transcontinental nets from time to time. Those who knew Vernon well know that they have lost a faithful prayer warrior who daily upheld many, many people in prayer. Our sympathy goes out to Gladys and the other loved ones. They know that Vernon is at home with his Saviour, yet there is a vacancy in the home.

Courtesy: Warren Davis, K0YAR

KTWR, GUAM, 10th ANNIVERSARY

Trans World Radio (TWR) started broadcasting from the western Pacific island of Guam September 4, 1977, with two 100 kw HF transmitters and antennas. The primary target area for KTWR was Asia. Then in 1981 the Lord provided two additional 100 kw transmitters and antennas in order that KTWR could expand the Asian ministry. In June, 1985, KTWR again expanded to include an antenna that would direct broadcasts toward Australia and New Zealand.

KTWR started broadcasting 130 hours a week in 1977, with 42 hours in Mandarin and Cantonese. Presently KTWR broadcasts 220 hours per week into the target areas of China, Indonesia, India, Russia, Japan and Australia/New Zealand. About 130 of those broadcast hours are in Mandarin, Cantonese and Swatow. Each week the staff of KTWR meets to review letter excerpts from listeners and to pray for their needs. More than 350,000 letters have been received in response to the broadcasts from KTWR during the past ten years. God uses the combined efforts of people around the world to prepare programs that are designed to honor and glorify Him! The ministry is truly a miracle of God's provision and faithfulness.

KTWR uses Harris SW100A HF transmitters that operate on the international broadcast bands of 16, 19, 25 and 31 meters. The station has four TCI Model 611 4x4 curtain antennas and one 2x2 curtain antenna. The 4x4 antennas have 16 radiating folded dipoles with a reflecting screen behind; thus, radiation is in only one direction. An interesting feature of the 4x4 antenna is its capability of being adjusted so the azimuth of RF radiation can be plus or minus 15 degrees and the bore sight plus or minus 30 degrees, controlled simply by sending control signals from the transmitter building. This azimuth adjustment enables KTWR to achieve the strongest possible signals for given target areas.

Nineteen TWR missionary families dedicated to proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ by shortwave radio serve the Lord on Guam. Three of the KTWR transmitter staff are hams: George, W3SNV/KH2; Bob, AH2X; and Roger, AH2AV. Some of the TWR missionaries are involved with broadcast production, some produce programs, and some maintain and operate the equipment. Administrative personnel, office workers and maintenance workers support the broadcast ministry.

As the staff of KTWR looks back over the past 10 years and sees how God has blessed in so many ways, the response is clear: "To God be the glory, great things He hath done!"

George Zensen,
W3SNV/KH2
KTWR Technical Director
Trans World Radio,
Agana, Guam

ECUADOR

We came back to Ecuador from Sweden in August, 1986, after one year in the old country. Our work is now with the Covenant Church here in Ecuador, and the main work is in radio. The church has a small radio station in the jungle province of Napo, three hours drive by car from Quito. I am working as manager for the station, and my wife is helping with programs for children.

March 5, 1987, was a black day. An earthquake struck this area and destroyed the station buildings here in Santa Rosa. Many buildings in the area were hit, and about 1,000 people were killed. I had my ham station on the air about 15 minutes after the quake, and for about 48 hours I was on the air transmitting news and personal messages for thousands of people. I was the only station that could inform the outside world about what happened down here, and that gave me a very special situation. The Covenant Church helped thousands of people with food and clothing for many weeks, and up to when this report was written (early December), we were working with about 80 families to help them with new homes and land.

As a ham operator, this was a new experience for me, and I thank the Lord for His help during a very hard time. *QST* had an article about the situation, written by HC3NCH, in the October, 1987, issue, page 69.

I am now back on the air with my TH7DXX and IC-751A from Santa Rosa, and it would be nice to have some contacts with ARMS people in the future. We are also planning to be in the States in 1990 on our way back to Sweden; I hope to be able to write more about that later and to get in contact with some of our friends among ARMS.

—Mats Gunnarsson, HC7SK/SM7BUA

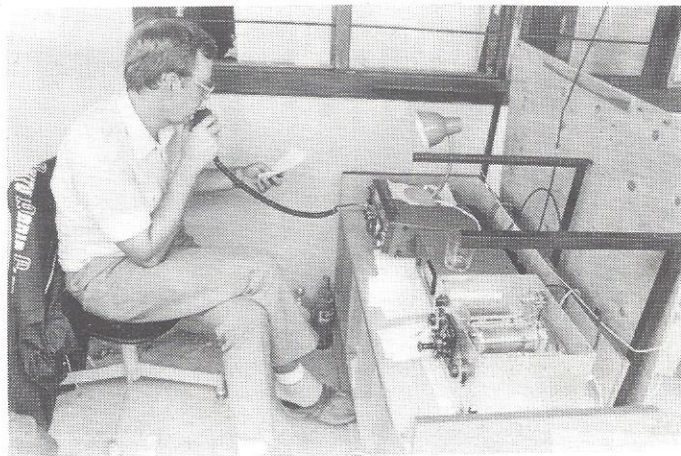
DAHS AND DITS

On the Transcontinental Net on December 12, 1987, Glen Peterson, W0EYL, shared with us that this was the 60th anniversary date of his becoming a ham. Glen received numerous congratulatory comments that morning, and we rejoice with him in his accomplishment.

Parkes Squyres, WA7TZW/OA8P, writes from La Mesa, CA, that he has found a good church and is enjoying the fellowship there since his return from the assignment with Wycliffe Bible Translators in Waxhaw, NC. There is another Wycliffe missionary that he worked with in Peru, and they work together in the church's missionary program in running phone patches overseas. Parkes desires to return to Peru, but he feels the Lord wants him to remain in La Mesa for the present.

Have you checked your calculator lately? It's funny, but this actually works! Take your house number and double it. Add five. Multiply by half a hundred. Then add your age and the number of days in a year, then subtract 615. The last two figures of the result will be your age. The others will be your house number. Try it!

—Glen Peterson, W0EYL



Mats Gunnarsson, HC7SK was on the air handling emergency traffic 15 minutes after the quake occurred.

PATCH

Ralph Ohling, WB7OOL, reports a rather interesting phone patch on 15 meters one day. He was able to contact Glen Peterson, W0EYL, on 21.312 MHz, and Glen ran a patch to St. Paul, MN, to put Ralph in contact with Dr. H. Myron Bromley, a missionary who, with his wife, Marjorie, has ministered to the Dani people in the Baliem Valley for many years.

Ralph and Myron were schoolmates at Asbury Seminary. Through the courtesy of Glen's phone patch, they had their first real conversation in more than 36 years! It was a great event for both of them.

Ralph mentioned receiving a letter from Dr. Harold Greenlee, WB5ERS, who was his professor of Greek back in seminary days. Dr. Greenlee had read the item about Ralph's ARMS activities in the Spring/Summer, 1987, issue of the BEAM and remembered their early association.

Dr. Greenlee, who now lives in Duncanville, TX, is also an ARMS member, working with OMS and Wycliffe in their translations effort. He has also served as a missionary in South America.

NORTHWEST

Sometime last summer, Charlie Cox, K7AQ, asked me to become Director of the Northwest Section, and I accepted with mild protest. It seemed that retiring was getting me into more chores than I had while I was pastoring two churches! It wasn't that I minded doing something for ARMS, for I have enjoyed the fellowship greatly for almost ten years.

Our net meets on Thursdays at 0700, local time. The frequency is 3.984 MHz, and we usually have check-ins from as far north as Ernie Byggdin, VE7BYB, Abbotsford, BC, and as far south as Ren Ells, N7FMD, Jacksonville, OR. We get east as far as Grandview, in Central Washington, when Ora Gifford, KE7BF, is with us; and to the west, we have Bill Whitaker, W7QOF, in Coos Bay, OR. Generally, we have 12 or 13 checking on a good day.

Ralph D. Ohling, WB7OOL

CENTRAL

The Central Division Net meeting on 3.922 MHz on Saturday mornings has grown dramatically in the past five years. We usually have a dozen or more check-ins. Net controls are WB8UNB, K0DSF, W9AOK and KN8JDN, with W9OVY filling in. We have had the privilege of supporting each other through periods of illness, bereavement and unemployment and in other times of stress.

For the past two years, Bruce Dillingham, K0DSF, has set up a station at the Wycliffe Bible Translators' gathering at the Gull Lake Bible Conference grounds at Hickory Corners, MI. He has been successful in contacting a number of missionaries on the field and plans to set up a station there again this July.

David Hall, W9AOK, representing Scripture Press, had a display at a booksellers convention last fall in Moscow, USSR. He gave a very interesting talk and slide presentation at the Wheaton, IL, get-together.

An eyeball gathering is held each year alternately at Wheaton, IL, or in the Grand Rapid, MI, area. The next one is tentatively set for October, 1988, in Michigan.

It is our prayer that our Saturday morning nets will be not only a time of Christian fellowship but also will bring honor to Christ with a positive testimony, meaningful conversation and good operating practices.

—Eric Frank, W9OVY

EASTERN

If the Eastern Section ever had a banner year, 1987 was it. The highlight, of course, was the get-together in September at Binghampton, NY. Our thanks to Larry Hodge, W2PT, and his wife, Pat, who really made the occasion special right from the planning stages through to the wonderful meal and visit to Christian radio station WPGL, Montrose, PA.

As usual, we have had an excellent spirit of concern and faithfulness in handling traffic, prayer requests, technical assistance and just plain old fellowship. Jesus said, "Where two or three of you are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst." This has certainly been true of our nets. They are handled well, there is concern, and a Christlike attitude is evident.

What a great time we had in Binghampton! Our first contact was about 70 miles away via the local 146.22/.82 repeater. A number of us talked long before we met. What a pleasant surprise to pull up to Larry's QTH and be able to meet friends whom we had talked to for years! It was a special treat to meet for the first time Wendell, K1RPE, and Marj; Gene, W3EAN, and Catherine; Van, W2RJQ, and Betty; and Brad, K2KXY, and Edna. How many years have we been having QSOs? Twenty-plus? Then there were several new people along with many whom we have met quite regularly. Others present included Will, WA2OJN, and Sandy; Bob, W2YIK, and Helen; Paul, NJ3S, and Mitzie and family; Bill, WB1DQT, and Ruth and family, including

daughter Sarah, KA1MWS; Don, K3RYV, and Adele, WA3ASE; Al, K2CAC, and Esther; Tom, N7GBH, and Julia and family; Norm, W2NNJ; Larry, W2PT and Pat and family; and Bob, WA2CYO, and Joan, KA2KJO.

Thank you for a wonderful year and a wonderful get-together. And a special thanks to my XYL, Joan, KA2KJO, who helps me, encourages me and tolerates my hours on the air.

Bob Kurtz, WA2CYO

CANADA

Greetings from Canada! Conditions for some time have been bad, and therefore our checking into the nets has been sporadic and usually requiring short time and a relay. But it is so good to hear the members on and to notice the new members that are being added regularly. Our Canadian net has been difficult to maintain. Unless we get better conditions, we are going to have to let things hang for a while.

Last summer we had a mini hamfest at the home of Peter, VE4AGM, at Roseau River, MB. Peter and Adeline made us really feel at home. And the food was good too! We should really have more of these kinds of get-togethers. Ham members from Saskatchewan and Manitoba were present, and the weather was made to order.

On September 3, Dorothy and I took WardAir to Manchester, England. We picked up our car at the airport, and during the following five weeks we drove 3000 miles through England, Wales and Scotland. We had our 2-meter hand-held with us and made some very interesting contacts. Ham radio in England is very much different from what we are used to in Canada and the United States. The rules are much more strict, and the hams seem to be very much more cautious at keeping strictly to rules. It is very noticeable and tends to make visitors, such as myself, a little uncomfortable.

Scotland is a beautiful country. We spent a week in and around Inverness and tried hard to get a picture of the "monster." But it was not being photographed that day. I understand that since we returned to Canada, a host of boats with sophisticated gear have found some action in Loch Ness.

We spent a good deal of time between side trips with Dorothy's cousin, Reg, G3XXJ. The whole trip was very enjoyable, and on our return to Regina October 10 we were exhausted and dizzy with jet lag.

Regarding our overseas skeds, since the bands have been in such poor shape (hope you're doing better now—ed.), we have not been able to listen or to plan. But if the members in the U.S. or our missionary members know of contacts we should know about, please send them to either myself or Charlie, K7AQ.

(Here is another report, received several months later.) We have been in touch with several of our Canadian members: Jim McAuley, VE4ID; Don Bettorf, VE4ACA; Peter Thiessen, VE4PP; Ernest Unrau, VE5CJ; and others. We are disappointed that we have been unable to maintain a Canadian net on the air; no band or time seems to work. Of

course, not too many of our Canadian members have packet or other modes; perhaps they would work better.

—Gordon Pearce, VE5HP

TIME FOR A CHANGE

Your next issue of the BEAM will come to you from Littleton, CO. Elsewhere in this issue you will read that the Brockmeyers—Chuck, W0ETA, and Timmie—have returned to their home in Colorado after a sojourn of several years in the State of Utah, where Chuck was employed.

Those of you who have been ARMS members for a few years will remember that Chuck was the editor of the BEAM for a number of years before moving to Utah.

Now that Chuck and Timmie are retired and back home, Chuck has agreed to again serve as our editor; it is certain that his many friends in ARMS will be looking forward to receiving future issues of the BEAM from him.

I have definitely enjoyed the opportunity of serving as editor of the BEAM during part of the time Chuck was away. I am also grateful for the kind assistance of our associate editor, Bob Mitchell, WB0RJJ, for helping with proof-reading, layouts and, more recently, with keyboarding the BEAM on an IBM-XT clone computer for typesetting.

John Treanor, N0DRE

NOTICE: Effective immediately, please forward all material for publication in the BEAM to: Charles H. Brockmeyer, W0ETA, 7135 South Sherman, Littleton, CO 80122.

ALL THINGS WORK TOGETHER

"Saying 'Yes' to the Impossible" is the title of the article about me that appeared in the March 8, 1987, issue of the "Power" Sunday School and Youth periodical. Nowhere did this story mention my involvement with Ham Radio or ARMS, a point gently but clearly brought to my attention by some of my ARMS friends. So now, with my apologies, I will try to make amends by giving you "the rest of the story."

My involvement with Ham Radio began in 1933 with the call W9LGQ. This involvement lay dormant for nearly 35 years, but it ultimately played a very important, interesting and vital part in the "Impossible Miracle"—the genesis, development and success of the "New Northwestern College."

Not only is Ham Radio an exciting and rewarding hobby, it contributed many aspects of technical know-how to whatever professional prowess I may have possessed as the "architect, builder and developer" of a new academic enterprise that happened to be deeply involved in Christian radio.

As the product of superb technical training in a "college prep" high school program in Chicago, I wanted to become Chief Engineer of a major broadcast network. To that end, I carried on a home-based neighborhood radio repair busi-

ness, and I became deeply involved in Amateur Radio, achieving both station and operator's licenses in 1933.

Upon graduation from high school and after a three-month stint with Electrical Research Laboratories, I went to work for the then-fledgling Motorola Corporation in 1933 in an attempt to bankroll an engineering degree program for myself at either MIT or Lewis or Armor Institutes of Technology. My Motorola experience as inspector in quality control and in production, together with my high school training, experience in radio repair and an avid interest in Amateur Radio in the years 1929-38 provided a solid foundation for future continuing education and pursuit of my original chosen profession, radio engineering.

But as the result of a compromise with my mother's wishes that I become a preacher, I enrolled in the Moody Bible Institute Evening School in the fall of 1931, rather than in MIT, and I continued my studies in the Pastoral—Sacred Music Course through December, 1937.

I certainly was busy! I was full time with Motorola in its rapidly growing early days, I had my home radio business, I was an avid Ham, I was Youth Music Director in my home church, and I practiced into the "wee hours" on my chosen instruments—piano and organ. I had little, if any, leisure time.

Then came a sudden and unexpected call in December, 1937, to become Associate Pastor in charge of Music, Christian Education and Youth at the Burton Avenue Baptist Church, Waterloo, IA. This call really upset me, especially after my mother got a copy of the letter. "Why, Lord," I asked, "do You have to mess up my life and desires for a technical education and career with unwanted pressures of this kind?"

The call had come through a lifelong friend who had watched my development in the areas of music and Christian ministries and had contacted Moody for information. I fought the call vigorously, but in the end I compromised with Mother and with the Lord by saying, "Well, I'll take a trip to Waterloo to look things over." I did just that and never returned to Chicago, even to dismantle and move my ham gear. It was all subsequently sold for a pittance.

A dramatic turn of events in life and a complete change of professional direction took place. Suddenly the secondary became primary, and the compromise with mother in 1933 to "look over Moody" became so meaningful in the unusual ways the Lord leads and ultimately makes one "willing to go." Surprisingly, all things do work together. But I often thought about how "useless" were all the previous years of technical training and work, as well as the Ham Radio experiences.

How shortsighted that attitude was! As the years went by, the past once thought left behind loomed ever more important. To be conversant in the areas of science, electronics, drafting, radio, business and manufacturing—the "hands-on" professions—really gave me a unique entree into the hearts and lives of my people. The most significant value of my technical background was yet to be realized as the Lord

led me into the areas of education administration and the presidency of a college corporation that controlled a number of AM and FM broadcasting licenses and operated eight stations in four Midwest cities. These stations have grown to ten in six cities, and in addition, the college has added a nationwide satellite ministry.

I thought I was studying at Moody 1931-37 only to please and placate my mother. Somehow, I became excited enough to try, in spite of an impossibly busy young life, to do my very best in my studies. My piano and organ lessons were dismal at times due to a lack of time for practice, but over the years, a growing interest and desire to seriously pursue sacred music captivated my thinking. When I accepted the call to Waterloo, I took a cut in salary, pleased Mother, and embarked on a completely new career of ministering in sacred music, Christian Ed, youth work and preaching the Word when called upon. Ordination to the ministry followed in December, 1938.

My new profession demanded a change in education from technology to the arts, science and education. This was accomplished through succeeding years of study toward a B.A. at the University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls; an M.A. at Northwestern University in Evanston, IL; and a Ph.D. at the University of Minnesota.

But the technical background was eventually to become extremely valuable. In 1965, after many years of work toward the necessary degrees to support my new calling and years of experience in the ministries of the local church and in Christian higher education as church music educator and administrator, another invitation to change was presented. It was a challenge to become the president of a Christian college of liberal arts that was in deep trouble and about to close its academic doors. As told in the "Power" article, I accepted the call on the premise that the existing Board of Directors would close the college's academic program but keep the college's corporation alive in an attempt to complete the restructuring of every aspect of the ministries.

As mentioned, the college owned some radio licenses; they were commercial, but the stations were being operated noncommercially as Christian broadcasting stations. And all of them, and the college itself, were in deep financial trouble.

Years after expressing my wish to be the chief engineer of a major network, here I was, the president of a sick and troubled Christian radio network that demanded considerable attention. What a challenge! Not only did I have to design the "new Northwestern," I had to raise the money to build it. Not only did I have to manage the network, I had to design and conduct its development program.

In the process, it was necessary that I visit all the radio station locations, introduce myself to the staff in each of them, including the engineering staff, and set in motion the plans for the complete restructuring of the programming that was necessary for the recovery and ultimate success of the radio ministries. The musician-administrator, as I had been introduced to the radio staff, was about to tell these

people the hows, whens and wherefores of successful Christian radio, including the technical aspects of those ministries! Some of the most enjoyable times of my life, and there have been many, were to take the engineers of each of the stations to the control and transmitter areas and immediately befuddle them with all the intricacies of AM, FM, SWR, antennas, crystals, losses, gains, frequency drift, buffers, filaments, harmonics, ground wave, sky wave, and on and on. The looks on their faces when I challenged their assumptions and some of their recent decisions were incredible. They seemed to be asking, "What does a musician know about the technological field of radio?" The simple answer is that I was, and still am, a Ham!

Suddenly the technological education and experiences of yesteryear, once thought permanently set aside, became important as I experienced the need to match wits and hold my own in discussing the engineering problems we faced—as well as being fully conversant in the musical, ministerial and educational areas of the college's operations.

But even though the Ham experiences of my early years helped to meet my present needs, I had not thought seriously about renewing my now-lapsed licenses. Then came a delightful surprise! Not long after I became president of Northwestern College, I became acquainted with Jay, K0GAZ, and Dottie Sudenga, of George, IA. Noting Jay's tremendous interest in Christian radio via his support of KNWC, Northwestern's station in Sioux Falls, SD, and his great knowledge of many areas of our college ministries, I soon invited him to trusteeship with the college. He accepted in September, 1975, making me very happy indeed.

Soon I visited the Sudenga home and business, and there, among other things, I found a "super ham station." Of course, I admitted that I was an old-timer gone astray, having become a ham in 1933. When Jay found that out, my life was made happily miserable by his insistence that I get back on the air by quickly preparing for and passing the necessary exams, at least in General class.

I was short on time, for the demands on my position were great, but I managed somehow to rekindle my code proficiency and learn the rules, regulations and latest advances in technology. With fear and trembling, I decided one beautiful Saturday morning to face the challenge at the FCC offices in St. Paul.

What a great relief to learn that I had passed, with good success! So good, in fact, that the exam proctor suggested that I tackle the Advanced exam on the spot! Time did not permit, but within the next year and a half—just because they were there to earn—I did acquire both the Advanced and the Extra Class licenses, changing my General call, N0CYO, to NW0G upon receiving the Extra-Class license and making a change in address.

With Jay's challenge to renew my license also came his generous promise to help me get on the air as well as to provide the college with all the necessary equipment for a club station to assist all interested students, especially future missionaries, to get on the air. That station is doing superbly

well, and the radio classes are conducted by Dr. Mike Eagen, N5GNB.

I am deeply indebted to the Lord for ordering the affairs of my life to lead me to "Hamdom" in 1933 and to Jay for his inspirational and convincing encouragement that led me back into the fold in 1983. I am also thankful for Jay's genuine and very generous spirit in helping both the college and me to realize the fulfillment of dreams and the renewed excitement and the rewarding benefits of Ham Radio. Romans 8:28.

—William B. Berntsen, NW0G

HOW TO PUT UP A TOWER ANTENNA

I am writing to you, my insurance company, in response to your request for additional information on my recent accident. In Block #3 of the accident reporting form I put "poor planning" as the cause of the accident. You said in your letter that I should explain more fully, and I trust that the following details will be sufficient.

I am an amateur radio operator. On the day of the accident, I was working alone on the top section of my new 80-foot antenna tower. When I completed my work, I discovered that I had, over the course of several trips up the tower, brought up about 300 pounds of tools and spare hardware. Rather than carry the now unneeded tools and material down by hand, I decided to lower the items down in a small barrel by using a pulley which fortunately was attached to the Gin pole at the top of the tower.

Securing the rope at ground level, I went up to the top of

the tower and loaded the tools and hardware into the barrel. Then I went back to the ground and untied the rope, holding it tightly to ensure a slow descent of the 300-pound load. You will note in Block #11 of the accident reporting form that I weigh only 155 pounds.

Due to my surprise at being jerked off the ground so suddenly, I lost my presence of mind and forgot to let go of the rope. Needless to say, I proceeded at a rather rapid rate of speed up the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40-foot level, I met the barrel coming down. This explains my fractured skull and broken collarbone. Slowed only slightly, I continued my rapid ascent, not stopping until the fingers of my right hand were two knuckles into the pulley.

Fortunately, by this time, I had regained my presence of mind and was able to hold on to the rope in spite of my pain. At approximately the same time, however, the barrel hit the ground and the bottom fell out of the barrel. Devoid of the weight of the tools and hardware, the barrel now weighed approximately 20 pounds. I refer you again to my weight in Block #11. As you might imagine, I began a rapid descent down the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40-foot level, I met the barrel coming up. This accounts for the two fractured ankles and the lacerations of my legs and lower body.

The encounter with the barrel slowed me enough to lessen my injuries when I fell onto the pile of tools and hardware. Fortunately, only three vertebrae were cracked. I am sorry to report, however, that as I lay there on the tools and hardware, in pain, unable to stand, and watching the empty barrel 80 feet above me, I again lost my presence of mind. I let go of the rope.

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