

The *Seasons Greetings* Pioneer Radiator

VOLUME 17, ISSUE 11

Newsletter of the Pioneer Amateur Radio Fellowship, Inc.

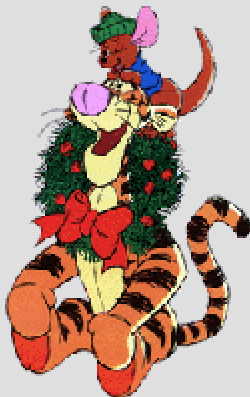
DECEMBER, 2002

Dates to Remember

December 2
Club Christmas Party at the Hartville Kitchen

Remember!
No Business or Fellowship meetings this month!

See you next year!



Club Gains Exposure at Massillon Hamfest

by Robin, KC8TYR, and Huey Maughn, KA8YKT

At the October meeting, it was discussed that the club should setup at a Hamfest like other clubs do, for exposure. The project was overwhelming approved by the membership, so we decided to setup at the Massillon Hamfest, on Sunday, October 27th.

We had a good turn out of club members for the Massillon Hamfest. The early birds that helped setup were Curt, KA8QKY and Joe, KC8SQQ. We had several people stop by and show interest in joining the club. We also had a couple people interested in becoming a ham.

The hamfest was fairly small inside at the Stark Co. Fairgrounds, but overall a very nice crowd and lots of great equipment. Special thanks to Curt and Joe, and also to Barb, KC8SXM and Roger, WD8ITD for making it a success. And a big thanks again to everyone who stopped and helped sit in at the booth



TINY, KC8DEU AND TONY, KB8VJC MAN THE BOOTH AT THE MASSILLON HAMFEST. -(PHOTO COURTESY OF EDWIN CLINGER)

while we shopped!!!!

We sure hope to do this again next year and maybe sooner at the Fall's Hamfest. This was a great way to provide exposure for our club.

Christmas—Cycle 22

By Bruce Vaughn, NR5Q

Glancing at his stainless steel wristwatch, the Old Timer noted the time was nearing midnight, and that 20 meters was still open. Solar Cycle 22 was sure getting off to a great start. Here it was Christmas week 1988, only two years since we were near the bottom of Cycle 21.

“Guess I was lucky retiring last year, just at the beginning of this new Cycle.” He thought. “Now I should have six or seven good years of good DX ahead of me.”

Turning off the rig, he quietly made his way to the kitchen, careful not to disturb his XYL, Alice, who was sound asleep in the front bedroom.

Putting the coffee pot on to heat, he remembered how he had always enjoyed a late night cup. Now it was decaf instead of the real thing; still, the custom remained. He had always been a night person, probably starting with the 2:00-AM till sunrise sessions, chasing DX during those early days of his ham career. What a thrill it was to finally work a VK or ZL...Not an easy task using push-pull 45s and a three-tube TRF receiver. With 25 watts and a 40 meter Zepp 20 feet in the air, you weren't going to work DX without losing a lot of sleep!

As he poured his coffee, he again glanced at the wristwatch. The boys at the plant had chipped in and gave it to him when he retired. “I'll bet this stainless-
(Continued on page 3)

President's Shack

Welcome to another edition of the Pioneer Radiator. Well winter has finally arrived in Akron, Ohio. Snow has fallen and fall what little fall season that we had this year. As winter season continues with the great travel headaches that we encounter everyday. What a better time to turn on your rig and do some rag chew while you are out and about. PARF still has one more activity left for this year and that is our annual banquet which will be held at the Hartville Kitchen on December 2nd.

By now the turkey is probably nothing but a left over. We hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving. Now that the month of December has come with all of the hustle and bustle with the Christmas Holidays. Let us not forget the real reason for this season and that is the Lord Jesus Christ. Whose birthday is what Christmas is all about just a little over 2000 years ago on that stary night in the little town of Bethlehem.

A little babe was born in a stable to come to this world to give us chance of being accepted by our Lord and Savior. Take a moment during this holiday season and get with your family and share what the real reason

for this season is all about. It is not just purchasing a gift and exchanging with one another. It is not the parties that we might attend to celebrate this festive season. It is just one simple babe's birthday that we should never forget.

Now get your calendars out mark the following meeting cancellations down. PARF does not meet during the month of December except for our banquet & breakfasts. The following meeting dates we will not be meeting December 10th & 24th please take this time to be with your families and friends during the holiday season. Please don't forget the local club nets that are held every week were you will be kept informed as to what everyone is doing during this holiday season.

May each and everyone of you have a Merry Christmas and a safe Happy New Year!

See you at our next meeting on January 14, 2003 @ 7:00 PM.

73's de KB8THW
Jim Turner Jr., President

Tony's Corner

It was stated at the meeting that the breakfast would be at IHOP on the corner of Coliseum and Coldwater at 8:30 am. The only hitch was, it is located in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Even though it is some distance to go to, we had a good turnout with 8 very enjoyable attendees who brought laughs to many at the restaurant.

As we entered a crowded IHOP, Roger elected to tell them (the greeter) that we needed a table for 8. After waiting 15 minutes we said we are hungry and would sit any way we could. Robin and Barb were cutting up and wanted fed NOW but Roger, Doug, Tony, and Carl told them to hold on and food will come.

Poor Joe had to go outside to light up and with the long wait had several smoke breaks till we got seated. Once we got our food, conversation quickly turned to eating. A good time was had and since we all came for a common reason (Hamfest), this camaraderie continued throughout the day.

If you haven't signed up for the Christmas dinner, you will miss some good times like we just had. Joy might be able to help you correct your oversight.

See you soon:

Doug and Tony

P.S. We missed Jesse and family, along with Bill, Apple Juice and Rum. But we met up with them at the hamfest.

Club Officers

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Christmas—Cycle 22

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the next issue of the Radiator is December 14th. Please email articles to ka8yyz@neo.rr.com, or to:

Jesse Wall
1264 Brown St.
Akron, OH 44301

Net Control for December

2nd WA8KR, Dick
9th WD8KND, Bob
16th KC8OFF,
 Jeannie
23rd KA8NPR, Bob
30th KC8SXM,
 Barb

Members with Birthdays in December

9th Huey Maughan
 KA8YKT
12th Terry Morris
 KB8AMZ
13th Steve Dando
 K8QXB
 Bruce Ferry
 AK8B
20th Nick Locicero
 KC8VCO
24th Forrest Mobley
 KC8DEU



(Continued from page 1)

steel watch cost them more than the gold pocket watch my Dad received when *he* retired.” he thought.

These days dollars were more plentiful, but money could be a problem now, as then. With everything paid for, the \$20,000-per-year retirement income had seemed sufficient, even though he and Alice had realized that it would be necessary to follow a rigid budget.

Last week, when they went shopping in the Mall, he had noticed how long she gazed at the cultured pearl necklace in the jewelry store window. It’s \$900 price tag put it in the “wouldn’t it be wonderful, but let’s practical” category. The look on her face took him back to the depression years of the 30’s.

Filling his favorite pipe with tobacco, and with coffee cup in hand, he eased himself into the old rocking chair in the den. Yes, there had been a lot of changes since you could buy a gold pocket watch for \$100.

The OT watched as the miniature lights blinked on and off on the tree in the corner of the room. The scent of Christmas filled the air – fresh baked cookies and pies in the kitchen, and, of course, the evergreen scent of the tree.

Memories of the past holiday seasons filled his mind. He remembered the rich kid on the next block who had received his license the same year as the OT, and he also remembered the kid getting a Hallicrafters SX-17 receiver for Christmas. The OT had dreamed of getting a Sky Buddy...the SX-17 was more than he could imagine. Instead of the Sky Buddy, he received a white shirt and tie, along with the advice, “save it for your graduation next spring.” That was when he made himself a promise, a promise to have a good ham station in the future. He would economize on many things – but come what may, he would always own good radio gear.

Now, 50 years later, he realized that this could very well be his last solar cycle. He was hoping for Cycle 23, but at his age that was about the most you could ask. One thing was sure: A lot of fine equipment had passed through his shack in the past 50 years. Fondly, he remembered each piece of gear. His first good receiver was a Hammarland Super Pro, purchased in 1945 for \$100. The receiver was brand new and packed in a heavy wooden shipping crate. It came by railway express and the express charges were almost \$10 for the 200-pound boxes. “Let’s see...what did the Army call the Super Pro...was it the BC-779?” Well, anyway, someday he would go out to the store-room behind the garage and have a look at it again. Somehow, after using a piece of gear for years, he could never seem to part with it. Too much like saying goodbye to an old friend.

After the Super Pro, there was the beautiful RME-45 with the VHF-152 converter ahead of it. What a handsome pair they made – the gray crackle finish of the well designed cabinets, the lighted dials and the black knobs were a sight to thrill any ham.

Then, in the late 40’s the OT had purchased his

first piece of commercial transmitting equipment, a Meissner Signal-Shifter. The transmitter was still homebrew...a 700-watt job in a homebuilt, 6-foot high rack, using a pair of 813s in the final.

In the early 50’s, TVI reared its ugly head, prompting the purchase of a Johnson Viking kit. He had it on the air in two weeks, and sure enough, it was TVI free. Now he could operate while learning to slay the TVI Dragon.

The OT had always been a pushover for anything built by Bill Halligan, usually having two or more Hallicrafters products in his lineup. There was the SX-28, SX-101, and SX-115 series receivers and the HT-37 transmitter. One of his favorites was the “Loudenboomer” linear, or HT-45, as Hallicrafters named it.

Now, each was carefully wrapped, boxed and stored. He was careful to see the storeroom was well ventilated and dry. It was on fitting that old friends be properly cared for in their old age.

“I must be getting senile,” he thought, “sitting up here at 1 AM reliving those early days of hamming, when I could be in a good, warm bed, sleeping.” Arising, he slipped into the bedroom and into bed. Within minutes, he was asleep.

He woke at 8 the next morning. The smell of hot coffee and frying bacon made it easy for him to get out of bed and get dressed. During the night, a light snow had begun to fall and the ground was now covered. “Well, at least our grandson Mike will have the white Christmas he’s been wishing for,” said Alice, setting the plate of pancakes and bacon in front of the OT.

“Yeah,” he answered, “I only wish he could get that keyboard and monitor he’s been talking about. I’m sure he understands that with an older brother and sister in college, his parents can’t afford large gifts.”

“He sure enjoys that radio you gave him when he passed his Novice exam last summer,” said Alice. “That’s right,” mused the OT, “he’s worked 34 states and five countries with that Kenwood 520, and he’s almost ready for his General exam.”

“Yes,” he answered, “at 14, he’s starting a couple of years earlier than I did. I suppose he can wait a couple of years for that computer setup, the same way I waited for that receiver.”

After breakfast, the OT filled his cup with hot coffee and went into the shack. Turning on the “big switch,” he lowered himself into the comfortable office chair. Leaning back, he admired the impressive array of equipment. Fifty years of hamming was represented by the items here and in storage. Certificates and awards, and QSLs from rare countries, covered the walls. Here he was home and felt good about the world.

There was a transceiver with dual VFOs, 16 memories and a few buttons he neither understood or needed. He had become very fond of this radio after using it for three years. Going back to the old days might be great, but he sure would hate to give up that transceiver.

(Continued on page 7)

DX Happenings



Welcome to this month's DX Happenings. With the winter months upon us, noise should begin to reduce on the low bands allowing excellent conditions there. This is also the time of year that 10 meters has great openings, despite the continued decline of the solar cycle. We have numerous entries pertaining to the CQ World Wide CW Contest, as this should reach everyone before the contest. For the phone DXer's, many of these stations will also be operating phone and other modes before and after the contest, so give them a look.

9M2, WEST MALAYSIA Ian, G3TMA, will be active as 9M2/G3TMA in the CQ World Wide DX CW Contest (November 23-24th) as a Single-Op 100w entry. QSL via 9M2/G3TMA: Ian Buffham, Bekay Court, 7 Lorong Enau (off Jalan Ampang), 55000 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

9V, SINGAPORE Sasi, 9V1SM, informs OPDX he wants OPDX subscribers know that he is now active on PSK31 from Singapore. He states, "With the awful band conditions we are experiencing now, I plan to use this as my primary mode besides SSB when conditions permit." Also, Sasi will be active very soon on the other digital modes including RTTY and SSTV. Look for him on PSK31 around 14070 kHz at 1500z. All PSK QSOs after the 6th of November 2002 with his station would be considered valid. QSL via Joe, W3HNK.

C5, THE GAMBIA A total of eleven operators (namely DL9GFB, LA6FJA, N0DY, OH3BHL, OH9MDV, OH9MM, YL1ZF, YL2GM, YL2KL, YL2LY and YL3CW) will participate in the C53M/C56R operation from The Gambia [425DXN 595]. They will be active as C56R on 160-6 meters CW, SSB, RTTY, PSK31 and SSTV from 20 November until 2 December, including an entry in the CQ WW DX CW Contest as C53M. QSL via OH3RM. The web page for this operation is at <http://www.qsl.net/kudxc/c53m>

S9, SAO TOME Paul, K1XM (S9MX) and Charlotte, KQ1F (S9CR) expect to be active from Principe Island (AF-044) [425DXN 601] from 19 until 28 November. Paul will participate in the CQ WW DX CW Contest (SOAB), before and after the contest look for activity mostly on 12, 17 and 30 meters. They will then move to Sao Tome (AF-023) and be active on 10-20 meters until 2 December. QSL via KQ1F.

XU & XY, CAMBODIA AND MYANMAR Hiroo, XW2A, who was recently active as XY1M in Yangon, Myanmar, reports he made around 3,500 QSOs with 13 countries (EUs, A4, VR2, KH6, 8R1 and 600 JAs on 6m) and used only A4S antenna to do it. He plans to have high power when he returns to Yangon in January. He plans to be active on the lower bands and the WARC bands this trip. By the time your read this Hiroo should be active from Cambodia with his new callsign XU7ADX. He was there with his friend Mr.Daisuke/XU7ACG to repair antennas at the "DXshack XU" before Jaak/ES1FB and Dick/N6FF arrive to operate (first week in December). QSL XU7ACG via 7N4QHA: Daisuke Ito, 2-23-202, Toyama Shinjuku, Tokyo 162-0052 Japan, QSL XU7ADX via XW2A: Hiroo Yonezuka, P.O.Box 2659, Vientiane, Laos. IMPORTANT QSL NOTE FROM HIROO, XW2A (Not edited): "Basically, I am not member of DXCC, so that I don't need any QSL cards for DXCC and I am not QSL card collector I am only one residence station in Laos (2001) so that, There are no QSL buro in Laos. I have no service for check log/ also your QSL card was coming already or not. because I am not QSL colector. I don't need any QSL cards, so I have no interesting that your card coming or not, But If your need my QSL card and your QSL coming to me, I will return for you. In case of QSL cards with 2 IRCs, it will return next day, QSL card with one IRC, it will coming back to you after few months latter. No-IRC is no return.!! Any years (Old ,New) IRC OK. P.O.Box 2659 Vientiane Laos"

YA, AFGHANISTAN "The Daily DX" reports that Hiro Nakanishi, JA1CQT, has received written permission to operate as YA1CQ on November 12th. He is expected to be there until November 23rd, but has plans to return to Kabul in mid-December. QSL via home callsign.

YI0, IRAQ Operators Mike/OM2DX, Jaro/OM3TZZ (ex SU9ZZ), Robo/OM1KW and Peter/YI9OM (OM6TX) will be active in the upcoming CQWWDX CW Contest as YI0M. Peter, YI9OM, will be finished with his stay in the Slovak Embassy in Baghdad a few days after Contest. A new worker will replace him at the Embassy; Mike, OM2DX (the son of OM3JW). He will get his callsign few days after his arrival. QSL will go via OM3JW. QSLs for YI9OM go via OM6TX.

ZA, ALBANIA (The Most Sought After Country Of The World) A press release by Martti, OH2BH: "That was the case in 1991 when an International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) project group entered Albania for training more than twenty locals, establishing the Albanian Amateur Radio Association (AARA) and finally activating ZA1A to remove ZA from all wanted lists. For once and all.

So this November, eleven years have passed, and it is time for a belated celebration of the 10th anniversary of AARA and see a gathering of the original instructors and their students. The then Albanian telecom/security authority, Mr. Dajlan Omeri, ZA1Z, one of the students, has earned the DXCC certificate - hence he is one of the Deserving.

An international delegation of OH2BH, OH2PM, OH5BM and OH8SR will arrive in Tirana on Sunday, November 17, 2002 and set up two stations for a one week activation of ZA1B together with Geni Mema, ZA1B. This includes the CQWW CW Contest, with the team's entry planned in the multi-two category. QSL via OH2BH."

ZD8, ASCENSION ISLAND Look for Glenn, K6NA, to be active as ZD8A in the CQ World Wide DX CW Contest (November 23-24th) as a Single-Op/All Band/High Power entry. QSL via N6CW.

Thanks this month to the OPDX Bulletin, and the 425 DXNews for this month's info. Best DX!



The Editor's Key

Jesse Wall, KA8YYZ

Welcome to this month's Editor's Key. It has been a busy month. October brought the CQWDX contest. We did not do as well as expected. Somehow, the last minute rush to get everything together took the wind out of our sails. Normally we have a planning meeting month's in advance and get prepped for this one. As a matter of fact, we have already begun planning for next year's contest and are planning on some up and coming contests.

Also, the big event for November was the Fort Wayne Hamfest, where Bill, WB8AJR and I got together with some of our friends from the 160 Meter Group. We again got together at the Fort Wayne Chili's and had a great time with the fellowship. I am already looking forward to next year's get together. Didn't spend a lot at Fort Wayne, but picked up a few goodies including a circuit board for a fox hunting antenna. So I piled that on the bench with my other projects.



A FEW OF THE 160 GROUP AT FT. WAYNE. (STANDING) DICK, WB9AIS, MILAN, K9HDX, JESSE, KA8YYZ, HAROLD, W8NEE, (SITTING) BILL, WB8AJR, SHERLEY, W8SLC, AND RICK, AB8NV. (PHOTO COURTESY K9HDX)

We had plenty of club representation at Fort Wayne, as you can tell from other pages of this newsletter. This year we decided to take

the Ohio Turnpike. Boy am I glad we did! I heard horror stories from people that came across U.S. 30. Fortunately, no one from our club failed to get home safely.

I am planning a few "tweaks" to the newsletter format, beginning with next month's issue. I hope to improve the looks a little, provide more space for articles and overall quality improvement. As always, your suggestions are encouraged, so give me a call, or drop me an email. I would also like to take an opportunity to thank everyone who has supported me with the newsletter this year, by submitting articles and pictures, publishing work, and words of encouragement.

Well, another year has come and gone. It is time to be thinking of the holiday season. On behalf of my family and myself, may you have a very safe and enjoyable holiday season. And if I can get my own religious plug in - Remember to keep the Christ in Christmas.

73,

Jesse, KA8YYZ

Club Corner

by Joy Spencer, KA8TDF

OOPS!!!!

My apologies to those members who had birthdays in November but were left off the birthday list in the November newsletter. I got sidetracked due to a death in the family and didn't get the birthday list in to Jesse last month. He tried to "save face" for me by using November 2001's list....which brings to light an interesting point. Of the 9 members shown in 2001, only one is no longer a member. I think that reflects favorably on the club!

The following members weren't listed, but I hope you had a very Happy Birthday anyway!

- 11/19 Rick Smith KC8SUI
- 11/24 Georgiana Jones XYL
- 11/30 Jim Stuchul STUDENT

MEMBER WELFARE

Welcome to Nick Locicero KC8VCO and John Staton NI8P, our two newest members who joined just after our November business meeting.

Also, a belated welcome to the 3 students we've had in our Fall class. (We hope that by the time this newsletter is published, they will have all passed their exam and be official hams!) They are: **Jim Stuchul, Charles Leshner, and Tony Dannemiller.**

Congratulations to **Mary Watson, KC8TAA**, who recently upgraded to General!

Remember to keep me posted if you know of anyone sick at home or in the hospital or has had some newsworthy event take place.

That's it for this month!

Upcoming VE Test Sessions

30-Nov-2002

Sponsor: CANTON ARC/MASSILLON ARC
Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: GARY L KLINE (330)837-2927 **Email:** WC8W@RAEX.COM

Location: CANTON, OH

04-Dec-2002

Sponsor: CUYAHOGA FALLS ARC
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: STEVEN C GREATHOUSE (330)724-2247

Location: CUYAHOGA FALLS, OH

07-Dec-2002

Sponsor: SILVERCREEK ARA
Time: 9:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: BARRY J YOUMANS (330)925-1706
Email: KI8B@ARRL.NET

Location: RITTMAN, OH

07-Dec-2002

Sponsor: LAKE COUNTY ARA
Time: 12NOON (Walk-ins allowed) (440)256-0320

Location: WICKLIFFE, OH

15-Dec-2002

Sponsor: LORAIN COUNTY ARA RED CROSS
Time: 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: CHARLES S HALL (216)433-3036
Email: VE@W8HF.COM

Location: ELYRIA, OH 44035-1343 2929 W RIVER RD N WWW.W8HF.COM (HOME PAGE) ELYRIA, OH 44035

THIS OLD MAN

by Barbara Buffington, KC8SXM

This month we'll learn a bit about one of the Monday night Net Directors for the Pioneer Amateur Radio Fellowship and its ARRL Liaison, Dick Kovach, WA8KR, a transplanted Hoosier.

Dick was born and raised in the Hammond, IN area with good access to the activities of Chicago. He got interested in radio while in high school, but priorities changed after graduation. He got "the bug" again while in college when one of his professors built his station out of surplus military gear.

Military service interrupted his pursuit of a license, though, and that was that for 40 years. While in the Navy, Dick was a radioman on the USS Cony DDE508, which is now beneath the waters off of the coast of Puerto Rico. Luckily, he did get to learn Morse code as part of his Navy service.

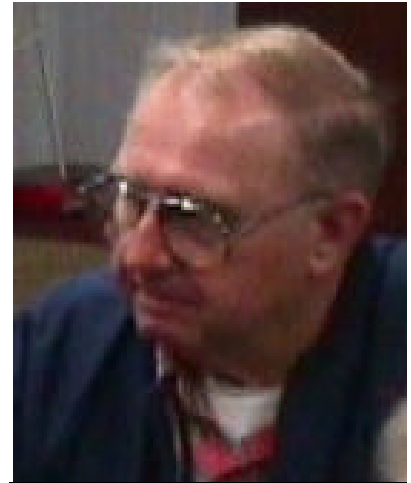
In 1956 Dick moved to Cuyahoga Falls and married his college flame. They have

a daughter, son-in-law and two grandchildren. His son-in-law was transferred to Charlotte, NC two years ago, so he and his wife have a bit further to go to visit them now.

Dick worked for Ohio Bell, AT&T Long Lines (both under Ma Bell) for 34 years, retiring from Ohio Bell in October of 1990. During his tenure there he worked in several areas of telephone work: installation, toll testboard, toll repair, engineering and special services.

In 1994, Dick finally got his amateur radio license when Dave, KE8HA, gave him "a boot in the backside." His station consists of a Yeasu FT-900 for HF and various 2 meter and 440 gear. The antenna system is a GR 5 RV, 50-foot tower with a tribander and several 2 meter Ringos.

Dick and his wife have a cabin in northern Michigan where the clear atmo-



DICK KOVACH, WA8KR, WHO SERVES AS OUR NET DIRECTOR, ARRL LIAISON, AND ARES LIAISON

sphere is quite conducive to working radio. He belongs to Crawford Roscommon Amateur Radio Club there and enjoys their fellowship while at the cabin.

Slip Sliding Away We Go!

by Doug Gardner, KB8PHJ and Tony Cortel, KB8VJC

4 am is not a reasonable time to be awake but to get to Fort Wayne by opening, we needed to leave early. Before I left the house, I heard Joe, SQQ arriving at the church lot.

Once we had all together, it was off to OZ. Since it is 210 miles, we settled in for the long ride. Little did we know the bridges would be icy.

IHOP was on the minds of most and was the subject for some miles. When we got there, the line was to the door.

Now fed and antsy about what we will find, it was off to OZ-land and piles of treasures. For the first timers (Robin, Huey, Barb, Roger, and Joe), it surprised them with the size of the fest and stuff to buy. We met Jesse, Bill and Chris making

for a very good turnout for PARF.

After 5 hours of searching and shopping, we tried to get everyone back together but the shopping adrenaline was flowing. It proved to be a challenge, but we finally got all together.

Next it was to Pemberton - another surprise.

Dinner was at Old Country Buffet where Robin compared this to her daughter's store. As we were leaving for home, Robin buttered Tony with ice cream and cookies.

With all our treasures carefully stored, we returned tired, sore, and happy.

Is a bus in our future?? 1 year and counting!



THE INTREPID PIONEERS OF PARF AT FT. WAYNE. (PHOTOS COURTESY KB8PHJ)



THE MAIN ARENA—LOTS TO SEE, BUT ONLY HALF!

Christmas—Cycle 22

(Continued from page 3)

One the end of the operations desk sat the solid state linear purchased last year at the hamfest. He had just beaten his friend Bob to it by seconds. Buying a year old amp for half it's original selling price was a great deal. Bob still hit the OT up to buy the amplifier at every club meeting.

In the center of the desk sat the Commodore 64, and directly above it was the monitor he had purchased just last September. He still marveled at it. Just type on the keyboard, like a typewriter, and the darn thing sent perfect CW – no mistakes, no variations in the dot-to-dash ratio, just perfect code.

And the computer – if the signal was good, and the fellow on the other end had a good fist or was using a keyboard, it printed the code out on the screen. “It was truly amazing,” thought the OT. Only one problem... he had trouble remembering to look at the screen, and besides, he was usually busy doing something else while copying a QSO, like filling out QSL cards or making entries in the log.

Turning on the transceiver, he first checked 40 meters to see if he could hear any of his old friends. Hearing none, he switched to 20 to see if there was any interesting DX. There seemed to be a good opening to Europe, but little else. Turning off the radio, the OT wondered why he was less interested in making contacts and rag chewing than he used to be. “Wish this radio had a broadcast band on it. I'd like to hear some Christmas music,” he mused. His mind drifted back to how he used to go into the shack when he really wanted to hear something on the radio. Boy, did Benny Goodman and Tommy Dorsey sound great on the old SX-28. Its pair of 6V6s could really pump out the audio.. Even if his new transceiver did have a broadcast band, it's 1-watt audio and small speaker would do very little for music.

Going into the den, he turned on the old Magnavox and stood at the window looking at the winter scene outside.

Maybe it was the falling snow, or the Christmas music, or maybe the idea had been there for some time, just waiting to surface. He

went to the phone and dialed Bob. “Say Bob, if you still want the linear, it's yours for a hundred bucks less than I paid for it, plus about 30 minutes of your time helping me carry a couple of boxes...Sure you can pick it up this morning.”

After Bob had picked up the amplifier and left, the OT went straight to work. He carefully packed the Commodore and monitor into their original boxes along with the instruction booklets. Then, the other boxes were opened, cables connected, equipment dusted and polished. He became so involved in his work that he skipped lunch, not completing the many changes until mid-afternoon. Now, he had to make a trip downtown before dinner.

“Alice,” he hollered, “I'll be back soon. I have some last minute shopping to do. Alice was so busy in the kitchen she hardly heard him/ He was counting on that.

He was relieved to find that the necklace was still in the jewelry store window. Most of the money from the linear was left with the jeweler. Putting the gaily wrapped box in his pocket, the OT headed for the computer store down the mall.

Driving as fast as he dared on the snow-covered streets, he arrived home just in time for a delicious meal. After dinner, he retired to the shack. The new purchased disk drive had been gift wrapped by the computer store. He had to wrap the computer and monitor, which he managed to do rather well, considering he was using the floor for a worktable.

“Alice, would you please come in here...I have something to show you,” he yelled. “Look at what we are giving our grandson for Christmas.”

“One other thing...this is for you,” handing her the small gift. Then with a big hug: “Merry Christmas, Alice.”

There were tears in her eyes when she unwrapped the pearl necklace. Knowing that he did not have that kind of pocket money, she insisted that he tell her how he was able to afford the necklace and the disk drive.

“I'm so happy,” she whispered, after he had told her, “but I feel sad at the same time. I'm

happy you think enough of me to sell your amplifier to buy me a present... but, I'm sad that I can't do as much for you.”

“Alice, you can. Come into the shack and spend the next hour with me.”

The old homebrew linear now occupied the space vacated by the sale of the fancy, solid-state amp. The National type “O” dials gleamed like solid silver in the soft room light. The Weston meters in the plate and grid circuits brought back memories of past years of hamming. The 813s gave off yellow-white warm red glow that filtered through the ventilating holes in the black crackle cabinet.

The space left by the monitor was now filled with the SX-28 with the large Hallicrafters speaker on top. The Commodore keyboard had been replaced with a gleaming Vibroplex.

Turning on the rig, the OT reached for the bug and rattled out a snappy CQ. He could hear a slight transformer hum as he keyed the rig. The output meter read 550 watts.

After a short QSO and an exchange of MERRY CHRISTMAS, 73 AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR, he turned off the rig. Switching on the SX-28, the sound of “White Christmas” came from the large matching speaker. Ol' Bing never sounded better.

“Alice, my radios are like old friends to me. I've acquired new friends along the way...but old friends can never be replaced...”

“Here in this room is my Christmas present. We've been married 42 years, and you have never complained or objected when I purchased a new piece of ham gear. Alice, your present to me is just being you.”

This article originally appeared in the December 1988 issue of QST. It is copyright ARRL. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved.

Swap and Shop

WANTED—10 meter mobile antenna with fold over mast. Contact, Al, WD8ISR, at (330) 896-8794.

FOR SALE—Uniden HR-2600 10 meter mobile transceiver. Unit is unmodified, and in perfect working order. Includes replacement copy of manual obtained from Uniden. Does have one screw missing from the mobile mounting bracket. Includes mobile mounting bracket and microphone. Asking \$100. Contact Jesse, KA8YYZ, at (330) 724-7411 or e mail: ka8yyz@neo.rr.com

Swap and Shop is provided as a service to our membership. Please send your items to Jesse Wall, KA8YYZ. The statement of condition of items listed is the sellers responsibility, and not that of PARF.



ARRL Ohio Section News

by Joe Phillips, K8QOE
Ohio Section Manager



This will be the last installment that will appear in QST. From now on, Section News will be sent to Ohio Ham Radio newsletters and is currently posted on the Internet at two locations - The Ohio Section site at www.maser.org and the ARRL Web Page address at www.arrl.org/sections/OH.html.

Bill Carpenter, AA8EY, of Westerville, is the new ASM of Central Ohio. His wife Mary Carpenter, N8OAM, held the post since October 1998 and took the opportunity to retire after four years of truly outstanding service. Bill had just retired from EC of Franklin County and asked where he could serve the Ohio Section in the future. I had the perfect spot.

Scott Yonally, N8SY, Ohio PIC, announced the winners of the 11th Annual Ohio Ham Radio Newsletter Contest. First Place - "The Wobbly Oscillator" - Cuyahoga ARS (Tom Wayne, WB8N editor); Second Place - "The Spirit of '76 and '88" - Lake Erie ARA (Bryan Torok, N8OOF editor) and Third Place - "The Reflector" - Huber Heights ARC (Joe Brassard, KA8C editor). "Honorable

Mention" awards to "The Feedpoint" - Carroll ARS (Dan Mutigli, N8LVO editor); "The Pioneer Radiator" - Pioneer ARF (Jesse Wall, KA8YYZ editor) and "The ZARC Carrier" - Zanesville (Danny Grandstaff, KB8RIM editor).

Joanne Solak, KJ3O, Mantua, who had served at the Ohio Section Affiliated Clubs Coordinator was announced at the ninth recipient of the Allan Severson, AB8P, Memorial Award winner. Joanne was simply the gold standard for ACC - recognized nationally by the League and fellow ACC's for her work

MARK YOUR 2003 CALENDARS: - Steve Mendelsohn, W2ML, Vice Director of the ARRL Hudson Division, who has mountains of stories about "ABC Monday Night Football" will be the featured speaker at the 3rd Annual Mansfield (Ohio) Hamfest Banquet, Saturday night, February 8th. And Saturday, September 6th is the date of the Great Lakes Division Convention at Findlay. Both dates are days preceding major Ohio Hamfests.

Ohio Section Congrats: To ASM John Haungs, W8STX, who for more than 12

years and counting, has prepared the station traffic counts and net information always shown at the end of this column. He has served three SM's including his own two year term 1990-92

OHIO SECTION DECEMBER HAMFESTS: None listed, but if you have a 2003 hamfest, make sure that the ARRL paperwork is complete.

Now for the traffic reports:
N8IO 269, N8BV 234, WA8EYQ 201, WD8KFN 150, KX8B 126, W8STX 126, N8IXF 119, KD8HB 114, N8RRB 114, N8TNV 105, N8DD 90, WB8HHZ 82, N8OD 81, KA8FCC 79, W8QIW 75, KC8KYP 74, WB8SIQ 73, N8OD 73, WA8SSI 69, K8CAV 68, N8IBR 66, W8RG 64, N8CW 59, KB8SIA 59, KA8CXG 53, KC8RXL 49, W8BZY 45, KB8SBK 45, KI8IM 44, KC4IYD 43, K8QX 43, KA8VWE 38, N8WLE 36, NS8C 33, K8PJ 23, W8BO 22, KV8HTP 20, W8RPS 19, NY8V 18, K8AJS 13, W8PBX 12, N8GOB 5, WB8PMG 5, N8RAK 5, K8JE 4, K8QIP 1,

de Joe, K8QOE

ARRL VEC Examination Fee to Rise For 2003

(Nov 14, 2002) -- Starting January 1, the fee charged all applicants at ARRL VEC-coordinated Amateur Radio test sessions will increase from \$10 to \$12 for the year 2003. This fee is charged to anyone applying for a new amateur license or upgrading their operating privileges.

Applicants failing an exam element at ARRL sessions where examiners permit retesting on the same exam element also must submit a retest fee of \$12. Additionally, the maximum reimbursement ARRL VEC allows ARRL volunteer examiner

(VE) teams to retain to directly offset their prudently incurred out-of-pocket expenses will increase from \$4 to \$6 in 2003 (this fee has remained at \$4 per person served since 1991).

"While the number of examinees has remained relatively unchanged in the past 24 months, our cost of doing business--and the expenses incurred by ARRL VEs--continues to rise," said ARRL VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ. "An adjustment was needed in the 2003 test fee if we intended to maintain the same level of

service that our VEs and VE teams have come to expect." Jahnke said that adjusting the reimbursement level for ARRL VEs who retain a portion of the fees to offset their out-of-pocket, exam-related expenses was also past due. For more information, contact ARRL

Reprinted from ARRL webpage.

Pioneer Amateur Radio Fellowship Business Meeting Minutes for November 12, 2002

by Dale Malone, KC8DEN

MEETING MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of October 8, 2002 were read by Dale Malone - KC8DEN. The minutes were accepted as amended.

LICENSE UPGRADES

Mary Watson – KC8TAA upgraded to General Class License.

TREASURER REPORT

Joy Spencer - KA8TDF submitted the Treasurer's Report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBER WELFARE - Steve Hnatiak – KC8IVD talked with Bill Phillips – KB8SWX. He said Bill was having problems adjusting dosage of a new medicine. He is still using oxygen. Dick Reese – WA8DBW said his recovery from surgery is going well. He thanked PARF members for their prayers, cards and encouragement.

WEB PAGE - Bob Scaffidi – WD8KND said he updated the member information on the web. He urged members to access the page and check their information.

2-METER REPEATERS - Bob Scaffidi – WD8KND said he, Doug Gardner – KB8PHJ, Jim Walker – KZ5AW and Tony Cortel – KB8VJC met at the church and installed a relay and inverter to operate the repeater voter circuits in the event of a commercial power failure.

2 METER NET- Dick Kovach – WA8KR said he lost 2 net controllers. He asked anyone interested in being a net controller to see him.

EDUCATION- Joy Spencer – KA8TDF said November 12th was the last night of the class. Students will be tested at the VE/CE Testing Session on November 19th.

VE TESTING SESSIONS - Ron Lieving – AA8QX said 12 elements were administered at the last VE/CE Testing Session. 5 candidates earned new licenses. The next VE/CE Testing Session will be November 19th. **GREAT LAKES SEARCH AND RESCUE (GLSAR)** - Steve Hnatiak – KC8IVD reported GLSAR will conduct a training drill on Saturday, November 16th in Uniontown. He invited PARF members to stop by and observe the practice. He said members from ARES and the Alliance Amateur Radio Club will be participating.

SATURDAY BREAKFAST (AFTER PARF BUSINESS MEETING) - None scheduled.

OLD BUSINESS

PARF CHRISTMAS DINNER - Joy Spencer – KA8TDF said 39 PARF members have registered to attend. The dinner will be December 2nd at the Hartville Kitchen. A \$5.00 deposit is due with each reservation. The \$5.00 will be refunded at the dinner.

NEWSLETTER - Jesse Wall – KA8YYZ asked members to forward articles for the newsletter to him. Closing date for the November Newsletter is November 16th. He will include pictures of the PARF information table at the Massillon Hamfest.

TOWER PROJECT - Ken Melton – WD8MQB has contacted Paul Davis about the project. He will set a date to complete the project.

SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS FOR OHIO BICENTENIAL - Dick Kovach – WA8KR said the City of Akron is convening a commission for the event. He will make contact when the commission is established.

AKRON/ROAD RUNNER 26.2 MILE MARATHON - No report.

ACME REVENUE SOURCE - Curt Witte – KA8QKY said he has received several Acme receipts.

PARF DISPLAY AT MASSILLON HAMFEST - Robin Maughan – KC8TYR said the PARF display at the Massillon Hamfest went well. Attendees of the hamfest ask many questions and read the PARF literature.

BACKUP POWER FOR REPEATER VOTER CIRCUITS - Bob Scaffidi – WD8KND said a relay has been installed to continue power to the repeater voter circuits and is working well. However, if commercial power fails and the 147.135 repeater, voter circuit inverter and the 6-meter repeater were operating simultaneously on battery power the 30-amp fuse would fail. Bob made a motion to purchase a 50 amp fuse/fuse holder and a new double relay for less than \$30.00. Ken Melton – WD8MQB seconded the motion. The motion was passed by vote of the membership.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

OHIO REPEATER COUNCIL PRESENTATION (ORC) - Cliff Bade – W8CJB did a presentation about the operation of ORC. He explained ORC involvement on a band by band basis.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT - Tony Cortel – KB8VJC made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jim Watson – KC8SZZ seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned by Joy Spencer – KA8TDF, Treasurer/Trustee at 20:17 EST.

The meeting minutes presented here have not been approved by a vote of the membership. They have been edited to conserve space in the newsletter.—Editor

WRC-03 CONFERENCE PREPARATORY MEETING UNDER WAY

The Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM) for next year's World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-03) opened in Geneva, Switzerland November 18. Some 1000 delegates are attending the worldwide gathering.

"The objective of the CPM is to approve a 500-page CPM Report to WRC-03 that will provide a technical basis for consideration of administrations' proposals for changes in the international Radio Regulations," explained ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ. Sumner is attending in his role as International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) secretary. He says 174 "input documents" to the CPM offer comments on the existing draft CPM Report text and propose additions, deletions, and changes.

Chairing the CPM is Germany's Eberhard George, DL7IH. At the day-long opening plenary, George and the chairpersons of the various working groups provided an overview of the meeting's structure and the major issues facing WRC-03.

"Several of the working group chairs were quite candid in their remarks," Sumner said. "Music to many ears including amateurs' was the assessment by New Zealand's Alan Jamieson regarding so-called little LEOs--mobile satellites operating below 1 GHz." According to Sumner, Jamieson said there was no congestion in their existing bands, and sharing studies had been unfavorable. Sumner predicted that the likely outcome at WRC-03 would be the suppression of an existing Resolution that invites sharing studies on the basis of an "urgent need" that no longer exists.

A thornier issue is 7-MHz "harmonization." The IARU backs a 300-kHz worldwide allocation in the vicinity of 7 MHz. "At this stage, we have six methods to address the agenda item,"

Sumner said--including no change in the status quo. The item is in Working Group 5 (WG5) "We can't say for sure that the six methods will be in the CPM Report until WG5 takes another pass at the revised draft text and it's approved in plenary." That's not supposed to happen until next week.

Substantive work of the CPM will be wrapped up November 28--Thanksgiving in the US, but just another work day in Geneva. In addition to Sumner, those representing the IARU at the CPM include President Larry Price, W4RA, and Region 1 Executive Committee member Wojciech Nietyksza, SP5FM. IARU Vice President David Wardlaw, VK3ADW, is on the Australian delegation and ARRL Technical Relations Manager Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, is on the US delegation. Several other amateurs are on their national delegations, either to represent the amateur services or in professional capacities.



ANNUAL SKYWARN RECOGNITION DAY IS DECEMBER 7

The fourth annual SKYWARN Recognition Day (SRD) <<http://hamradio.noaa.gov/>> is December 7 (UTC). That's when Amateur Radio operators set up stations at National Weather Service (NWS) offices and contact other operators around the world. The event is sponsored by the ARRL and the National Weather Service.

"The purpose of the event is to recognize the vital public service contribution that Amateur Radio operators make during National Weather Service severe weather warning operations," said David Floyd, N5DBZ, warning coordination meteorologist, at the NWS Goodland, Kansas, office. "It also strengthens the

bond between Amateur Radio operators and the local National Weather Service office."

For several decades now, hams have assisted the NWS by providing real-time reports of severe weather and storm evolution. The information radio operators locate near a storm can provide plays a key role in aiding forecasters. SKYWARN operators in several states activated to spot and track an outbreak of severe thunderstorms and tornadoes November 10.

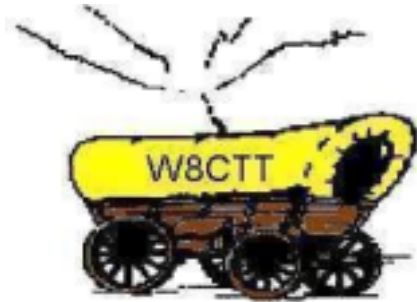
Scott Mentzer, N0QE--the meteorologist-in-charge of the NWS office in Goodland, Kansas, and the creator and annual organizer of SRD--says more than 90 stations are registered to participate, up from 80 last year. Most participating NWS stations will operate on 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, and 2 meters using SSB and FM. Mentzer says a number of NWS offices will be equipped to support Internet Radio Linking Project (IRLP) stations.

All contacts will be made utilizing the General or Novice portion of the bands. Stations will exchange signal report, location and a one-word description of the current weather at their respective locations ("sunny," "partly cloudy," "windy," etc). This is not a contest, so no scoring will be computed.

SKYWARN Recognition Day will take place December 7 from 0000 UTC to 2400 UTC. Since SRD is being held on Pearl Harbor Day, each NWS office will transmit a special message from approximately 1800 to 1900 UTC--approximately the time of the Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, attack on December 7, 1941--to honor the World War II veterans. The deadline to register an NWS site is December 1. Contact Mentzer to register: scott.mentzer@noaa.gov. Complete information is available on the 2002 SKYWARN Recognition Day Web site <<http://hamradio.noaa.gov/>>.

Both articles reprinted from the ARRL Newsletter.

Pioneer Amateur Radio Fellowship Calendar of Events



December 2002

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
1	2 7:00 PM PARF Net PARF Christmas Party	3	4 New Moon	5	6 ARRL 160 Meter Contest	7																																																																																				
8 ARRL 160 Meter Contest	9 7:00 PM PARF Net	10	11 First Quarter	12	13	14 ARRL 10 Meter Contest																																																																																				
15 ARRL 10 Meter Contest	16 7:00 PM PARF Net	17	18	19 Full Moon	20	21 OK DX RTTY Contest																																																																																				
22 Winter begins	23 7:00 PM PARF Net	24	25 Christmas	26	27 Last Quarter	28 8:00 AM Fellowship Breakfast at Fay-Ray's																																																																																				
29	30 7:00 PM PARF Net	31 New Year's Eve	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">Nov 2002</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>T</th> <th>F</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> </tr> <tr> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Nov 2002							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">Jan 2003</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>T</th> <th>F</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> <td>31</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Jan 2003							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
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The Radiator

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THE RADIATOR

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Total Membership: 119
Licensed: 100
Non-Licensed: 19



A Community Service Club Since 1981

W8CTT/R Home of the 147.135 & 146.610 Repeater System

DON'T FORGET OUR MONDAY NIGHT NET!
147.135 MHz AT 7:00 pm

Club Website: <http://www.qsl.net/w8ctt>

In This Issue

Club Gains Exposure at Massillon Hamfest	1
Christmas—Cycle 22 (A Christmas Story)	1
This Old Man—KC8SXM Profiles Dick Kovach, WA8KR	6
Slip Sliding Award We Go—PARF Present in Ft. Wayne	6
IARU Preps For World Radio Conference 2003	9
Skywarn Recognition Day in December	9
Meeting Minutes and More	Inside