



Di-Dah-Dit

Klub covers it—from A to Z

(Editor's note. Jerry Wharton, KA8NJW, in retrospect, remembers some of the highlights of his two terms as president of PARK. On behalf of the Klub, Jerry, we salute you for your service to our organization.)

Iwould like to start by saying, "I have enjoyed the past two years as president of the Parkersburg Amateur Radio Klub."

We (*the Klub and I*) have had some great times and a whole lot of fun during the last two years.

Sometimes, I must admit, it was similar to 'gator rasslin'. Eleventh-hour attempts to find hams willing to help out on projects made it seem that way. For the most part, all of you gave freely of yourselves and your precious time and talent. And for that I am thankful.

The 'rasslin' times were few compared to the the *real* good times. I think you'll be surprised at just how much the Klub was involved with.

I don't—repeat—don't take credit for these accomplishments and Klub functions. Nor do I intend to imply that all of these events originated or were conducted by PARK alone.

"... it was similar to 'gator rasslin'."

Jerry, KA8NJW, reflection

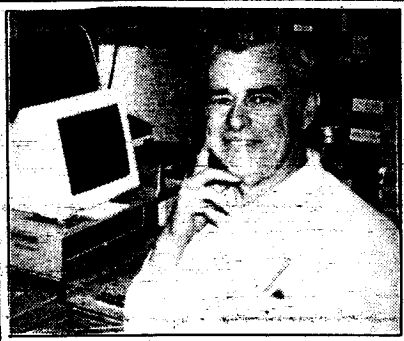
Instead, I am giving the praise to all of the active members of PARK who did their best for PARK and ham radio. Let's apply the same (if not more) dedication in the upcoming year. Thanks gang!

Here is my partial list of some things we accomplished and we were involved with. I think this covers it from A to Z.

- A. Boy Scout Jamborees
- B. Christmas parades
- C. Radio demo at mall
- D. GE Fun Run
- E. Honey Festival Run
- F. Raffles worth \$1500
- G. Christmas parties
- H. Code & No Code courses
- I. Amateur radio picnics
- J. Good Field Day scores
- K. Two stations at Boy Scout Camporee
- L. Bicycle ride for MS
- M. Homecoming chair rentals worth about \$1000
- N. '39-machine back in service
- O. Communications for the half-marathon
- P. Program on packet
- Q. Program on ATV
- R. Program on electrical safety
- S. Program on mobile installation
- T. Program on Bunny-hunting
- U. Program about ARES
- V. Program about AMSAT
- W. Desert Storm Victory Parade
- X. XYL's licensed and active
- Y. YL's communication outings (two or three, I think.)
- Z. Zee many trips Earl, KB8HRG and others made to the repeaters

73—Jerry, KA8NJW

President's Corner



Curt Fouse, K8UC

Hi Gang! It's sure a relief to have the tough campaign behind me.

I was getting tired of all the false accusations about my extramarital affairs, bribes from organized crime, the coal industry and the Japanese lobbyists.

I must admit though the mudslinging, open-faced lies, kissing of babies (and some moms) helped me. Also, I feel the fine job I did buttering-up the press and the fact that they fell for my line of "Read my lips . . . no new taxes—I mean dues." really paid off. That fact that no one wanted the job didn't hurt my chances either. Hi.

Now comes all the perks that Jerry received during his terms. The wife and I are looking forward to the Caribbean cruise (at Klub expense, of course) to check out the ham activity in that region. We'll be sure to give you all a report of the hurricane damage to Hawaii, when we return from that freebie trip too. Hi.

Seriously folks. Jerry, KA8NJW, has done a great job. And he will be a tough act to follow.

Many of you will find out how much he has done when you serve on a committee. I plan to organize committees to get things done. If you're asked to serve, please help by accepting.

For those who did not attend the September meeting—Jerry, KA8NJW and Larry, KF8NW have agreed to produce a newsletter for us. They can only do this with your input. Help them communicate upcoming events, classes, testing, picnics and such.

Looking ahead to this fall and winter, the Klub is planning an "On-air CW class" and regular AR classes. Would you like to help? Call me on the '97-machine.

How about an area-wide callbook?

I think we need an audit or inventory of Klub holdings, equipment, materials, books, etc. and their location.

And what are your ideas on a new meetin' place? Do we need a bigger place? We had a full house last month. Let me know your thoughts and ideas.

73—Curt, K8UC

Check It Out

The Klub will sponsor a Fall Get-together at Parkersburg City Park on Saturday October 10th at 2 p.m., at the shelter closest to the horse-shoe pitching pavilion.

All radio amateurs and their families are invited. **You do not have to be a PARK member to attend.**

The Klub will provide the burgers and buns.

You bring a covered dish with your favorite food in it. And your drinks (no alcoholic beverages, please) and your own table service.

After the meal, games for adults and children will take place.

This event will be held rain or shine.

W5YI testing will be held at the Emergency Operations Center on Staunton Avenue in Parkersburg, Saturday October 10, 1992. 10 a.m. sign-in time. Testing begins at 10:30 a.m.

Parkersburg Amateur Radio Klub 1992-1993 Officers and staff

Curt Fouse, K8UC, President
Earl Hulce, KB8HRG, VP
John McGuffy, N8NBL, VP
Bob Lyons, KB8EFB, VP
Rory Hughes, KB8MDN, Sect.
Jane McGuffy, N8MOW, Treas.
Jerry Wharton, KA8NJW, Ed.
Larry Dale, KF8NW, Ed.



CQ CQ CQ... Antenna Party Or, Mayday! State Farm

submitted by Tim, KB8JWF

Dear Sirs,

I am writing in response to your request for additional information.

In the N-block of the accident report, I put "poor planning" as the cause of the accident. Your most recent letter requests a more thorough explanation. I trust the following details will suffice.

I am an amateur radio operator. On the date of the accident, I was working alone while erecting my new 80-foot tower.

After successfully completing the work, I noticed, I had accumulated about 300 pounds of tools and unused hardware. Most of this was hanging from the tower at or near the top. Rather than carry all of this down, piece by piece, I decided to use a small barrel which was attached to the rope on the gin pole (the gin pole was secured to the top of the tower).

I secured the other end of the rope at ground level. Then I went up the tower. Along the way, I gathered the tools and hardware and deposited them into the barrel at the top of the tower.

With this accomplished, I climbed back down the tower. After I untied the rope, I held on to it tightly to insure a slow decent of the 300 pounds of tools and hardware in the barrel.

Please refer to the W-block on your form. You'll notice my weight is 155 pounds.

Upon being swiftly jerked from the ground, I lost my presence of mind and forget to let go of the rope. Needless to say, I proceeded at a very rapid pace, with rope in hand, up the tower. At about the 40-foot mark, I collided with the barrel. This will explain under the heading "injuries sustained" my fractured skull and broken collarbone. However, I might mention, the barrel did slow down ever so slightly after this encounter.

I didn't stop being hurled up the tower until the fingers of my right hand were jammed two knuckles deep into the pulley attached to the top of the gin pole. With determination, despite the dreadful pain, I continued to hold the rope. At about this same time, the barrel hit the ground with such force it caused the bottom to fall out of the barrel. Devoid of the hardware and tools the barrel's approximate weight was 20 pounds. (Again, please refer to my weight in the W-block on your form.)

As you can imagine, I began to descend down the side of the tower at what seemed to be an even faster pace than I experienced going up. In the vicinity of the 40-foot mark, I again encountered the barrel (without its contents and bottom). This explains under the heading "other injuries sustained"—the two broken ankles and lacerations on my legs and lower torso.

I feel the second encounter with the barrel slowed me down substantially. This explains why I only cracked three vertebrae in my back upon landing on the tools and hardware at the bottom of the tower.

I am sorry to report though, as I lay there on the tools, in pain and unable to stand up, with the damaged barrel now suspended 80 feet directly above me, I somehow thought it would be a good time to inspect the injuries to my hands—I let go of the rope.

If you need further information, please let me know.

A Vacation Made Complete

In the September 1992 issue of *Worldradio* there is a story about two hams from North Carolina who intercepted a distress signal from a shrimp boat about to enter Cuban waters.

The article told about how the boat was without nav/com gear after a lightning strike. And how the Coast Guard in Miami couldn't make direct contact with the disabled vessel.

The hams from North Carolina were vacationing in Hawaii. They were using their friends rig

to talk back home when they heard the distress call. For the next several hours, the story goes, the hams relayed communication between the Coast Guard and the boat. The boat was lead safely back to international waters without incident.

Vacation complete? Yes, theirs.

My recent vacation to North Carolina (to visit my grandson) was made complete by this story and the people involved, too.

While listening to a two-meter

QSO, I soon realized that one of the parties talking was Bill, KB4UZN—one of the hams featured in the article.

I identified and was welcomed to the conversation. Bill proceeded to relate some details of the rescue which were not mentioned in the article.

Most people can tell you there is a High Point, NC. And this QSO with Bill was the *high point* of my vacation—made complete with ham radio.

73—Ray, N8TWV

The Little Letter 'E'

by: Stephen, W3HFT

Someone has advanced the opinion that the letter 'E' is the most unfortunate letter in the alphabet.

It is always out cash, forever in debt. Never out of danger. In hell all the time. And has never been in God's Country.

But we call attention to the fact that 'E' has doubled up on Freedom and is never in war and is always in peace.

It is the beginning of existence, the commencement of ease and the end of trouble.

Furthermore, without 'E' there would be no meat, no life and no Heaven. It is the center of honesty. Makes love perfect. And without it there would be no editors and no news.

And after all that—it is the easiest letter to learn in Morse Code—just one "dit."

The Delaware/Lehigh ARC, Inc., Nazareth, PA
submitted by John, WD8LKT

**JOIN THE ARRL
THIS YEAR! QSL?**

Di—Dah—Dit? What's in a name?

The name implies confirmation and repeating (it is CW for Roger and repeaters ID with, /"R"). Klub activity, plans and ideas are confirmed and repeated in these pages.

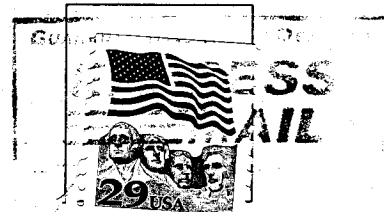
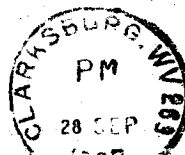
We hope you enjoy the new format and articles.

What makes a newsletter successful? Your input.

Please submit all articles, news bits, announcements and such to: Jerry, KA8NJW or Larry, KF8NW. Deadline is the 20th of each month.

TNX, Editors

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