



Di-Dah-Dit

Radio Klub THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE PARKERSBURG AMATEUR RADIO KLUB
P.O. Box 2112, Parkersburg, WV 26101

It cost\$ big dollar\$ for them illegal hollar\$

Have you ever been tempted to cross the line on the FCC rules or proper operating practices?

Our suggestion is—don't do it!

It can cost you your license and several hundreds, even thousands of dollars. A jail term or two. And maybe all of your equipment.

Here are some excerpts from published reports in the April 1992 QST.

2-meter rig used in New York accident hoax

A 19-year old New York man, Wayne A. Michalak, plead guilty to falsely reporting an airplane crash.

He reportedly purchased a used rig from a Radio Shack store in Medina, New York. The owner of the store helped police identify Michalak.

According to Michalak's statement, he broadcasted a fake report of an airplane crash, so he could *test* the radio and try to get a response. He did!

Sheriff inspector, Thomas Beilein, made an early estimate of the cost of the search at \$60-\$70,000. But, later reduced that amount.

Thanks to hams, who kept Michalak on the air, radio direction-finding techniques and the fact that he took the radio back for a refund—he was apprehended.

Fake SOS costs ham \$50,000

Jorge Mestre, NS3K of Fairfax, Virginia, has agreed to pay \$50,000 for his fake SOS in August 1992. Mestre, lost his ticket—forever! (Good)

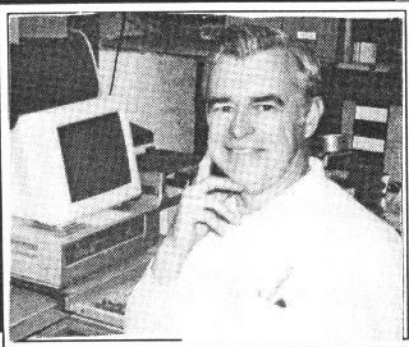
He will be sentenced in May 1993, and could face up to six years in prison and a \$250,000 fine. His equipment, *as would yours*, has its own "thumb-print." The FCC used some test results of his equipment to confirm its use in the incident.

And the FCC used their long-range radio-direction finding network to nab him too.

Amateur radio operators reported the distress calls (which were about a sinking ship in the West Indies) to the Coast Guard and the FCC.

(Editor's note. Hams help hams when they report illegal operation on the airwaves. By policing our frequencies and reporting improper and illegal activity, we insure a secure future for Amateur Radio.)

President's Corner



Curt Fouse, K8UC

QST

de K8UC

Calling all amateurs! Especially those who are not ARRL members.

The Klub is encouraging our members to become members of ARRL.

Why? You may ask. And rightfully so.

With 50 percent of our members as "League" members, we (Klub) enjoy an *affiliated status* with the ARRL.

Many benefits for the Klub and individual members include:

QST magazine; ARRL is a "BIG STICK" in Washington, DC (which is where Congress plays around

and the FCC lives); The Klub also gets a kickback from memberships, which helps us maintain repeaters and other Klub equipment.

Alright, who would you rather give the kickback to? Some politician? Or yourself?

You always find good articles in QST magazine. In April's issue you find articles on: fighting aluminum corrosion; two-band yagis for 12 and 17 meters (*I'd like a set of these, myself*); the new ham will enjoy "Ham Connection" and wouldn't you know, there's an article about some YLs starting a net on two-meters. *They must have heard about our gals here in the Mid-Ohio Valley starting their net.*

Klub Notes

submitted by
Rory, KB8MDN, secretary

No report submitted at presstime

Will you please consider ARRL membership? \$30 individual fee. \$34 family membership.

While I'm in the "askie" mode, not the same as ASCII—

Let me ask you for any call sign auto license plates you may have floating around that you're not currently using. I have a pretty good collection started and would like to add yours to my wall.

Just tell the DMV that you need a new plate and then give me your old one. Or you may elect to put it on the front of your car or on your own wall. Not sure how Ohio replaces them. *Can you explain, N8HOC, Joe?*

Have you been to the Ten-Tec plant? Come to the next meeting. I hope to have a video about it. And I'll tell of my visit there. **73 K8UC, Curt**

Parkersburg Amateur Radio Klub 1992-1993 Officers and staff

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

FYI:

(For your information)



ARRL VE test session April 6.
VEs needed. Time: 7 p.m. Place: Red
Cross Center, 8th and Market Streets,
Parkersburg. Contact: K8UC, Curt.

Though this session is in concert with the current run of classes being conducted by the Klub, walk-ins will be accepted.



Morse Code Exams (all speeds)



Written Exams for all license grades

Where have HamFests taken you? *Or have you been taken?*



"Dayton was a blast! I couldn't believe it!"

"My XYL said she never wants to hear the word ham and fest used together, unless I buy her some orthopedic shoes and an ample supply of Dr. Scholl's Foot Ease."

"The guy who sold it to me said, 'I think it works. At least it did when the other guy had it.'"

"I can't wait for the next HamFest."

'Tis the season for searching through your "junque" and the pure-junk of others at HamFests.

We'd like to hear about your hamfest experiences.

Please let us know, good or bad, small or large. What has happened as you've waltzed through the tables and displays with your eyes open and your pocketbooks empty?

Are the trips worth it?

Does the fellowship with other amateurs make it worthwhile?

Let us know. Send your comments to:

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Rt. 3 PO Box 157

Washington, WV 26181

What is that noise? Packet Racket!

If you've ever scanned the section of the two-meter band from 145.000Mhz and beyond, you've probably heard packet screams. *(Also on HF freqs)*

Similar to what a banshee must sound like, this scream—is just that! Working packet is a scream.

Many of you already know this. Some of you are experienced packeteers and I can only say, I wish I had made the jump before.

Working under the guidance of a person, or persons, who know what they're doing is priority. Thank you K8VAH, George, KB8HRG,

Earl and K8HQU, Herman. These three-muskateers, sorry! I mean packeteers, helped me over my first bumpy spots on packet.

Working my bugs out included installing a kit-type TNC from A&A Electronics (cost about \$50).

There were other things like cables, and plugs and hook-up pins and LEDs that needed installed—which after I found my glasses were easy to do. *(Only one LED in backwards.)*

By the way, who's great (?) idea was it to miniaturize electronics?

One keystroke was what prevented me from having the perfect start-up on packet. After connecting to my first station, I was unable to "chat." The computer locked-up and sent, what I assume was, a false command or ground to

my HT and I was stuck in Xmit.

I thought, Whoa! This ain't fun. But then when I worked the final bug out, I was off and screamin'.

With my new-found mode, and N8LDM, Duane's help, I checked in to my first DAREN net, my first RACES net and spent the entire day in the shack.

KB8JWF, Tim and I screamed at each other—what an enjoyable mode!

My first experience on packet was great and I look forward to screamin' at you sometime. 73's KF8NW, Larry

Don't forget!
Tuesday night
is
NetNight
on Nine-Seven
at
Nine-oh-Clock

Don't forget!
YL/XYL Net.
Thursday nights at
9 p.m. on the PARK
147.390 + repeater
(Open to all YL/XYLs)

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