

Radio Klub

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

Di-Dah-Dit

KB8HRG '92 Ham of the Year

He helps maintain cable service for tens of thousands of TCI customers in West Virginia.

He is the resident engineer for the 146.970 Mhz and 147.390 Mhz repeaters, which serves hundreds of ham radio operators in Ohio and West Virginia.

He's been a licensed ham radio operator—three different times. He was Elmered by JEP, K8BOT.

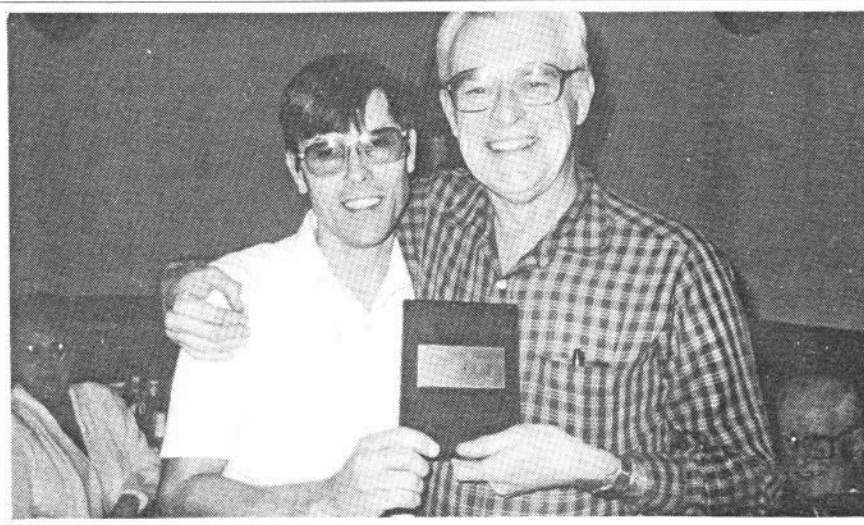
And at one time, he was married to an alien!

Who is he?

He's the Parkersburg Amateur Radio Klub's Ham of the Year—PARK VP, Earl Hulce.

"I was in the cable business when TCI was Durfee's Cable here in Parkersburg," Hulce says. For over 20 years he has donned pole climbers and his safety belt and climbed poles and towers throughout the TCI Cable system in sections of West Virginia and Ohio. His experience with electronics in the U.S. Navy inspired him to further his career in electronics.

Hulce told *Di-Dah-Dit*, "I was introduced to ham radio by two local hams, Norm Hemingway (SK), and Jim Palmer. As a matter of fact, Jim gave me my first ham exam—in 1975." After his first novice ticket expired, and ten years later, Hulce decided to get back on the air again as a novice. He retested in 1985.



Earl, KB8HRG (left) receives his Ham of the Year plaque from PARK President, Curt, K8UC at the Klub's January meeting.

Hulce adds, "My two old calls were, WN8PNR and KA8GWP—I think. I tested a third time in 1989 and became KB8HRG."

Earl's roots are in Lawrence, Kansas. His wife is Diane Johnson Hulce, N8PYE. Until recently, Diane was classified as an alien—being a native of Vancouver, British Columbia. She recently received her U.S. citizenship. Earl quips, "It's kind of nice not having to go home to an alien." Diane and Earl met and were married in San Francisco while Earl was in the Navy. The Hulces are members of the Open Door Baptist Church in Marietta.

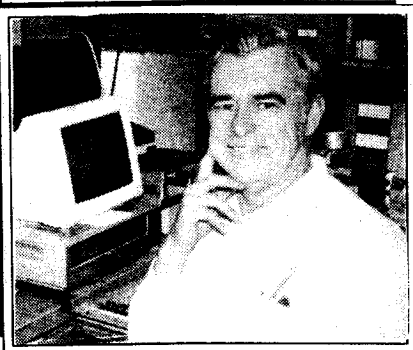
Earl says, "I like the people you meet on and off the air who are into ham radio. It is interesting to discover most of them have other hobbies, in addition to ham radio"

Hulce is one of those people, when you first meet him, you know you're going to like him. His positive attitude is pleasant to all who know him. And his willingness to "go on the hill" and burp the repeaters when they're not feeling well seems to always be okay with Earl.

Earl, the members of PARK congratulate you—and we really, really appreciate you. Diane, thanks for letting us use him.

VY 73, Larry, KF8NW

President's Corner



Curt Fouse, K8UC

Mama mia! Map-mania

WOW! The New Year is already a month old. 1993 is moving right along.

Not too much new at the K8UC shack. I didn't hit Santa up for much this time around. He did follow through with the small item I did ask for—a great circle map centered on my shack here in Washington Bottom. But somehow Santa, or one of his elves, got his wires crossed and I ended up with a tremendous great circle map—centered on Rhode Island! How did that happen? I don't know. I registered a complaint with the supplier, but as of yet, they have not corrected the problem.

My map problems don't stop there though. I ordered some topographical maps from Uncle Sam. And Ol' Unc shorted me the map titled "Belmont." The cost of this one was \$2.50, (about a tenth of what the great circle map cost. That's big bux for we retirees, Hi).

My problems with the "topo" maps are further complicated with—who do I complain to?

George Bush was president when

I ordered the maps. But during the campaign "they" said Bush was only interested in international problems, not domestic ones.

Should I consider talking to Clinton? I am having trouble trying to re-read his lips now that the election is over. Some would say Clinton was trying to learn a little Reaganomics from Ronald Reagan when Clinton visited the former president.

But my inside track tells me that Hillary was there to get some tips from Nancy on how to run the country. I think I'll write a note to Hillary—that way, maybe I'll get some results.

The ARRL has given the FCC a "want list." It includes an allocation of more new frequencies. That's sort of positive thinking. Don't ask to keep what we have. Ask for more and maybe they (FCC) will allow us to keep what we have.

I wonder if Hillary has ever considered becoming a ham? Do you think that would help?

A final note, the Amateur Radio classes are off and running at the Red Cross. Be sure to encourage the instructors—Jerry, KA8NJW, Larry KB8NRB, Tim KB8JWF and Carl, K8OWL.

73, 'til next month. Curt, K8UC

Klub Notes

submitted by
Rory, KB8MDN, secretary

Ruth Ann Oliver elected as our newest member.

Cal Nay, N8RNY and Mike Harris, N8SCV received first reading on their applications.

Fred, KB8CCP displayed and explained the homebrewed 2-meter ground plane he built and uses.

Dues for 1993 are coming up for renewal. \$16 single, \$24 family.

BUY, SELL and TRADE

For sale—ICOM 3210-A, 25 watt 2-meter and 70-cm dual band mobile. \$350. Call Dana, WV8G. 422-1823.

Kenwood R-2000 general coverage receiver with VHF converter/scanner, antenna tuner and pre-amp (for the rcvr) and a trap dipole. This is a top-of-the-line receiver for the SWL or ham shack. New, the system cost about \$900. Make an offer for the entire package to R.H. Nutter, 1-614-678-2679

John, W8WEJ, is looking for a Hallicrafters SR-160, must be reasonably priced. Phone 295-6436.

Send items to:
Larry, KF8NW
Rt. 3 Box 157
Washington, WV 26181-9336

NOTEBOOK ITEMS

Indoor Hamfest scheduled for February 27-28 in Cincinnati.

W5YI test session at the E.O.C. on Staunton Ave. in Parkersburg will be conducted February 20, at 10:30 a.m.

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.

The First Night of Classes—

from the Camera Bug's eye



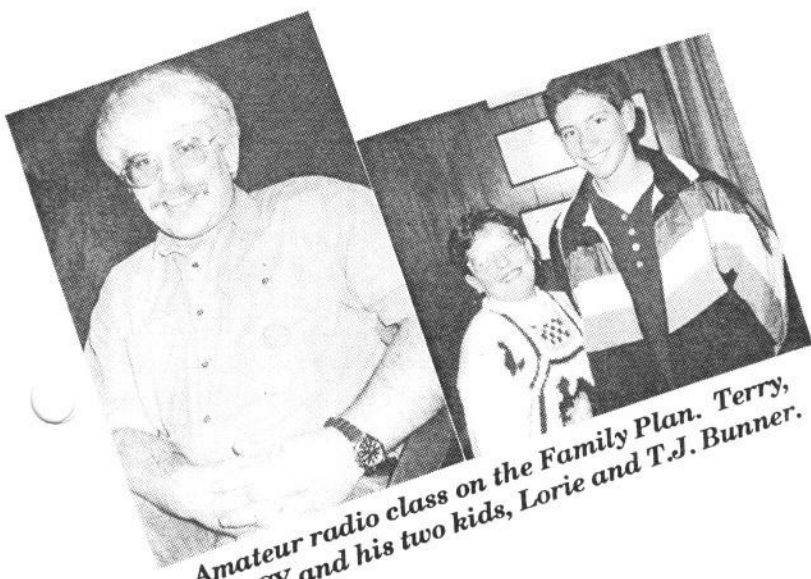
The future of ham radio in the Mid-Ohio Valley—the 1993 PARK amateur class.



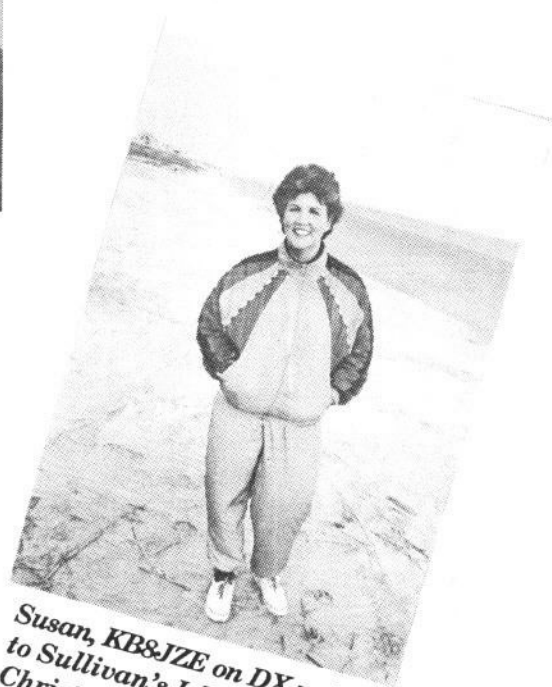
Upgrade material. W8OFB (old, fat, bald) with his back to you. (l-r) Mike, N8SCV-Karen, KB8NSA-Ray, N8TWV-Ken, KB8NUR-Cal, N8RNY-Terry, N8LCY.



The powers that be. (l-r) Tim, KB8JWF and Jerry, KA8NJW—the instructors.



Amateur radio class on the Family Plan. Terry, N8LCY and his two kids, Lorie and T.J. Bunner.



Susan, KB8JZE on DX-pedition to Sullivan's Island, SC. Wx Christmas Day, sunny and 60.

Top Band- Top Guns

John, W8WEJ and Mike, N8DGV, operated the ARRL 160-contest from John's farm in Wirt County, recently.

Their score? Very impressive: Multi-op category, 667 QSOs, three countries, 68 sections—total score 95,495.

They used an inverted "L" with elevated radials for transmitting and three beverage antennas for receive.

John participated in the CQ 160-meter cw contest in late January—hope you had a chance to work him.

John and Tom, AA4VV, Sam, W8VVE and Ed, W8VT launched a blimp with a 160-meter verticle attached. And they used it during a recent CQ contest.

Di-Dah-Dit congratulates you, guys.

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

WA8CRW's Pocket J-pole

Can't hit the repeater from the orchard?

Having trouble getting into the digipeater while on your hike?

Or would you like to just hang "one more" antenna from the family room ceiling fan?

This little "diddy" will do the job for you.

Build it, and then roll it it up and take it with you for a go-anywhere 2-meter antenna.

Measurements are critical: The total length of the twin lead, which is shorted at the bottom, must be 56 3/4 inches. The short leg of the J-pole is to be precisely 16 inches. *Again these measurement are from the tip of the shorted leads, not the insulation.*

Attach the coax braid to the long side of the "J" up exactly 1 1/4 inch.

Attach the center lead of the coax to the short leg of the "J", again up exactly 1 1/4 inch.

The notch cut out must be 3/8 inch.

Providing you follow these directions carefully and pay attention to detail you will have a perfect 50Ω match for your HT or packet station. Let me know how it works out for you.

73, Tim, WA8CRW

loop for
hanging

300Ω
twin
lead
ribbon

cut
out a
notch
3/8
inch

short
two
leads
together

Use RG58u
coax, connect
center lead to
16" side, braid to
the 56-3/4"
side. Use BNC
or PL-259 on
radio end

56
3/4"

16"

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