



November 1993

Di-Dah-Dit

The Official Newsletter of the Parkersburg Amateur Radio Klub
P. O. Box 2112 Parkersburg, WV 26101

NAVY-MARINE MARS & KB8JWF

At the last Klub meeting Tim Smith, KB8JWF (our newest extra, see VE article) had some leaflets about MARS handed out to those in attendance. After looking over the papers I decided to give Tim a call and find out more. What follows is a brief overview of what was said.

JW- So Tim, I looked over the MARS papers and thought that I would get some more information for the Newsletter.

Tim-OK, Shoot.

JW- How long have you been working in MARS?

Tim- Jerry, I've been involved for about 18 months, and loved every minute.

JW- What got you involved with MARS in the first place?

Tim- When my youngest daughter, Judy Nicole, joined the Marines, the first communication I received was a MARS-GRAM. That's what got me started with the NAVY-MARINE MARS Program.

JW- Wow, that's neat! I didn't know you had a daughter in the Marines. Tim, what's the best part of MARS for you, other than talking to your daughter, I mean?

Tim- I guess the best reward you can get is the feeling of accomplishment you receive when you call a parent and tell them that their son or daughter is OK and doing well. Sometimes it is almost impossible to get off the phone because the parents want to share their experiences with you. Because they know you have something in common. It is also very rewarding to pass health and welfare messages from overseas, to parents and loved ones who have not been in contact because of a disaster. I passed traffic when the last Hurricane hit the south Pacific.

JW- Does this take a lot of time or can you be flexible?

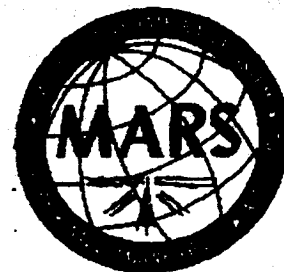
TIM- Last month (SEPT) I logged about 60 hours in various nets, but you don't need to work that hard to be a member. All that is required is 18 hours in a three month period.

JW- Anything else you would like to add?

Tim- Yes, Jerry, I feel that one of the best reasons to join is the ON THE AIR training. The Mars personnel will train you in all of the proper procedures necessary to pass traffic in a speedy and efficient manner. and you can be trained in any mode that you are able to run. Most of the Mars bands are just outside the Ham bands and your equipment will need modified but You will be talked through it step by step.

JW- OK, sounds like a good deal to me. If anyone else is interested I'll just have them call you. 73 Jerry.

WHAT FOLLOWS IS A SUMMERY OF THE MARS INFO PASSED OUT AT THE OCTOBER MEETING: (see page three)



New Klub Officers for 1993-94

Parkersburg Amateur Radio Klub

President - Rory Hughes KB8MDN

1st. VP- Roy Maull N8YYS

2nd. VP- John McGuffey N8NBL

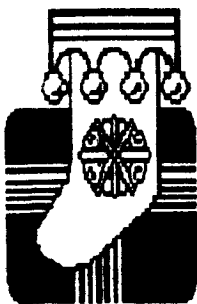
3rd. VP- Earl Hulce KB8HRG

Sec.- Tom Jones N8NMA

Treas.- Jane McGuffey N8MOW

NL Eds- Jerry KA8NJW

Russ N8PID



A VISIT FROM SANTA

Parkersburg (AP)— Word has been received that Santa will be harnessing his reindeer for a special trip to Parkersburg, WV for the annual Christmas party. This gala event will take place at the Washington Community Building on Dec. 11 at 5:30 PM. Unidentified sources have reported that the elves will take time from their toy making to provide the meat, bread, and drink for the dinner.

Santa requests that you bring a delicious covered dish to share with him so he will be full for the long trip back to the North Pole.

During an early interview, Santa indicated he was looking forward to the beautiful Christmas music that is to be provided by the PARK Chorale. All interested singers should contact Santa's helper, N8MOW.

According to the reports, Santa is especially excited about seeing the children's smiling faces. He has been especially busy this year loading batteries in all the electronic toys. Therefore requests that the parents bring a gift for their children for him to distribute.

More information will follow on this upcoming event. —N8MOW

Minutes of Regular meeting Oct. 11, 1993

The meeting was called to order at 7:19pm. The Minutes and Treasurer's Report were read and approved.

It was announced that the books had been audited and were OK.

Old Business:

Rory read a letter from the Vienna Board of Parks and Recreation concerning Field Day. A committee was formed to investigate the contents of the letter. The committee consisted of: John McGuffy, Rory Hughes and Roy Maull.

New Business:

Mary made an announcement that we needed to update our mailing and dues list. John McGuffy made a motion that we put something in the newsletter about it and Bob Lyons seconded. It was voted on and carried.

John McGuffy made a motion that we have a raffle. It was seconded by Tom Jones, voted on and carried. A committee was formed to decide what to raffle. Those serving are: John McGuffy, Steve Palmer and Larry Deema.

A Christmas Party was discussed and a committee of Irene, Georgia and Mary will handle the food and supplies. Jane will be in charge of the choir.

There was a first reading for membership in Richard Wilson.

John McGuffy moved that the meeting be adjourned and Jep seconded. The Meeting was adjourned at 8:47 pm. with 28 in attendance. Tom N8NMA Sec.

RAFFLE

The raffle this year will be \$120.00 worth of groceries from Ralph's Supermarket. The groceries will cost the Klub \$100.00

Tickets will be \$1.00 each or 7 for \$5.00. Money can be turned in to Lynn Palmer, N8IIM, Mary Britton, KB8BOA, or Jane McGuffy, N8MOW. Unsold tickets and money are due back by December 8. The drawing will be held at the Christmas party in December 11.

NOVICE TESTING UNDER VECs

As of July 1, 1993, all Novice exams must be administered under the Volunteers Examiner Coordinator (VEC) system. Under the amended Part 97 testing rules, all Novice examinations must now be administered by the volunteer examiners accredited by a VEC. The previous system, which permitted two General, Advanced and or Extra class license to administer an ad hoc Novice licensing session ended on June 30th. If you have any questions regarding Novice examining, please contact any VEC serving your area.

FOR SALE

#453TEKTRONIX SCOPE

— dual trace, 50 mhz with case, probes & manual. \$300 or may trade for low-band 160-10 meter transceiver or linear amp. (614) 374-8440
Glenn W8KGN

Klub/ARES Net on
146.970
Tuesday's at 9 p.m.
Valley Girls Net
146.970
Thursday's at 9 p.m.

WHAT IS MARS?

The Navy -Marine Corps Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) is an organization of licensed Amateur Radio operators interested in military radio communications. The primary concept of MARS is to meet the requirements of training for any communications emergency.

WHAT DOES MARS DO?

MARS not only adds to the enjoyment of your radio hobby, be it designing, building or operating, but it also provides auxiliary communications to military, civil, and disaster officials during periods of emergency. MARS provides a potential reserve of trained radio communicators. MARS also handles morale and quasi-official record and voice communications traffic for armed forces and authorized U. S. government personnel stationed throughout the world.

HOW DOES MARS OPERATE?

MARS member stations meet periodically in scheduled networks on military frequencies outside the Amateur Bands. These networks operate to train members in military communications by handling MARS Administrative, third party, and official emergency traffic.

MODES AND FREQUENCIES USED BY MARS?

Typically, any mode of operation may be found on MARS networks. More than 100 radio frequencies throughout the radio spectrum are being used by MARS, from 4 to 20 mhz. There is also a VHF band 148-150.8 Mhz for FM simplex or repeater operation.

HOW WOULD I BENEFIT BY JOINING NAVY MARS?

By receiving a membership certificate authorizing operation on military frequencies.

By receiving on-the-air training in military communications procedures and instructions in the use and modification of military communications equipment.

By becoming eligible for selected electronic courses offered by the U.S. Navy Correspondence Course Center.

By receiving, after six months of active membership and as available, excess electronic equipment and supplies.

By receiving points for MARS participation toward your retirement in the Naval Reserve if you are a Navy reservist.

By friendly association with an ever-increasing number of fellow Amateurs devoted to volunteer military and public emergency communications.

THAT SOUNDS GREAT! AM I ELIGIBLE TO JOIN?

If you can answer yes to the following, you are eligible to join the Navy MARS.

A. I am 14 years old or older.

B. I am a U.S. citizen or resident alien.

C. I possess a valid Amateur Radio License issued by the FCC or other competent U.S. authority. D. I possess a station capable of operating on MARS frequencies, modifications may be necessary.

E. I am not a member of Army or Air Force MARS.

F. I will operate a minimum of 18 hours per calendar quarter with 12 of the 18 hours being on area or region HF networks.

Area contact is TIM SMITH KB8JWF

ARRL FRIENDSHIP AWARD

The ARRL is offering a new award to promote the friendliness of Amateur Radio. This award, the Friendship Award, is easy to obtain because the rules were written to make it possible for any ARRL member to qualify. Any license class or Amateur band may be used. You may use repeater, rtty, cw, phone or any other mode that strikes your fancy.

The text of the certificate says, in part, "These contacts were made in the spirit of friendship. Let all who read know that radio amateurs are friendly. They give friendly advice and counsel to beginners...These words sum up the spirit of this award."

Starting November 1 you may begin making contacts for this award. Keep a record of information required in rule 2. Contact the Klub or Jerry (KA8NJW) for an entry blank. You can also contact the ARRL HQ for full details.

RULES

1. The ARRL Friendship Award is available to any ARRL member who submits log contacts that show two-way communications with 26 stations whose call signs end with each of the 26 letters of the alphabet (for example, KB8BMA, KB8EFB, K8UC...K8JZZ)
2. Log extracts should indicate the contact date, call sign, name, location and another fact about the person contacted. (Other facts could include names of friends or family members or hobbies favorite sports, etc.)
3. Contacts may be made on any authorized Amateur Radio frequency using any authorized mode. Contacts made through repeaters and satellites are permitted and welcome.
4. Contacts may be made from (or to) any location to any number of locations.
5. Special endorsements (band, mode, etc.) are not available for this award.
6. Contacts must be made November 1, 1993 or later.
7. Application Procedure:
 - a) An application form can be obtained from an affiliated club or from ARRL HQ.
 - b) Completed applications should be submitted to any participating ARRL-affiliated club or the ARRL HQ.
 - c) Applications sent to ARRL HQ must include a 9 x 12-inch SASE with two units of postage (2 ounces)
(From 11/93 QST)

Parkersburg Amateur Radio Klub
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ABOUT THE O.A.R.C. Inc.

This is the Ohio Area Repeater Council, it coordinates the 97 machine, I think. Tim WA8CRW gave me this information to pass on to the members of PARK.

In the late 1950's inventive hams began experimenting with connecting the output of a receiver to the input of a transmitter. Some additional circuitry allowed this arrangement to provide automatic retransmission of amateur signals. These "repeaters" provided a much greater range of dependable communication on the VHF bands. Because of the proliferation of these "repeaters", the FCC decided in 1972 to require special "WR" prefix licenses for these stations. These licenses were issued with limitations on station coverage (erp).

With the increasing availability of equipment specifically designed for VHF service, hams became more interested in constructing repeaters. As the quantity and profile of repeaters increased, so did interference from various sources. Repeater frequency coordination was becoming increasingly necessary. In the winter of 1970 a meeting was held in Philadelphia, PA at which the concept of coordination was agreed upon (on 2 meters, the use of 600 KHz splits). This was the preliminary step in forming groups like the O.A.R.C. where repeater trustees and technicians met to discuss their respective problems and institute the concept of repeater coordination.

In the 1980's the FCC suddenly stopped issuing WR call signs and deregulated the construction of repeaters. An increasing number of repeater applications resulted. Some FCC backed authority became necessary to give the repeater council the ability to enforce coordination.

In 1984 the FCC issued a rule change basically giving repeater councils the authority to sanction a repeater before it was put on the air to make an attempt to limit the interference to existing users. "Coordination" is interpreted to mean a system approved for operation by a select organization of hams knowledgeable in the various intricacies of repeaters and their operation. In order to follow this guideline, the Ohio Area Repeater Council was restructured and the Constitution was updated to better perform the function it had already been doing.

Since that time, the O.A.R.C. has provided coordination and maintained records of all repeaters operating in Ohio. These records have proven to be useful to the F.C.C. more than once in enforcing the rules of Amateur Radio.

The O.A.R.C. consists of trustees of repeaters operating in Ohio. Each trustee of a coordinated repeater is eligible to be a member of O.A.R.C. and to be elected to a position within the council. The Board of Directors consists of five directors elected from the membership at large, one each year, for a five year term. The Board of Directors appoints Staff members (secretary, Treasurer, Coordination Committee, etc) as required to assist with the day-to-day operations of the council. The O.A.R.C. is a member of the Mid-America Coordination Council, Inc. (M.A.C.C.) which is a group of (currently 18) repeater councils. M.A.C.C. establishes uniform guidelines and technical standards of repeater operation.

Dues for membership for the trustee of a repeater coordinated with the O.A.R.C. are \$5.00 per repeater per year. Membership in the O.A.R.C. is NOT a requirement for the issuance of coordination.

General membership meetings are held in April and October of each year, usually at the Red Cross Headquarters, 995 E. Broad St., Columbus, OH. on the second Saturday of the month.

The Board of Directors of the O.A.R.C. meets monthly or bi-monthly, on the second Saturday of the month, to conduct general business. These meetings are open to interested parties.



VE TEST RESULTS!!

As announced in the last Newsletter, VE tests were held on October 23rd. at the Red Cross in Parkersburg, under the Direction of Curt K8UC. The RESULTS:

There were 15 applicants and 13 of these people passed at least one element.

Technician or Tech plus: Charles Hedges, Juanita (KB8OZO) hedges, Larry Weaver, James Christie, Paul Anderson, Kenneth Riffe, Roger McGee, Ronald Schnell.

General: Karen (KB8NSA) West, Norman (WA8NED) Weber.

Advanced: Larry (N8TGI) Deems Sr.

Extra Class: Tim (KB8JWF) Smith

I would like to thank all who helped with the testing and congratulate all those who passed. Jerry

ARRL Friendship Award

Name: _____ Call sign: _____

Address: _____

All applicants MUST complete the following statement:

"I currently hold ARRL membership expiring _____." OR attach label from QST wrapper.
month, year

Here I have listed stations that I have worked according to the rules of the ARRL Friendship Award.
 Please issue the award to me.

Signature: _____

Contact Date	Call sign	First Name	Location	Other Fact
	A			
	B			
	C			
	D			
	E			
	F			
	G			
	H			
	I			
	J			
	K			
	L			
	M			
	N			
	O			
	P			
	Q			
	R			
	S			
	T			
	U			
	V			
	W			
	X			
	Y			
	Z			

Place portable indicator of call sign first, for example: HC1/K4ERO