



Di-Dah-Dit

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

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 1995 P.A.R.K. MEETING

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:15 P.M. INTRODUCTIONS WERE GIVEN WITH 36 MEMBERS AND GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE.

THE MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 1995 MEETING AND TREASURES REPORT WERE READ AND APPROVED.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

DAVE (WD8CYV) REPORTED HE HAD TO TURN OFF THE 147.39 REPEATER FOR ABOUT A HALF HOUR AS SOMEONE'S MICROPHONE WAS STAYING KEYED. HE SAID TO BE CAREFUL AND WATCH THAT YOU DON'T SIT ON YOUR MICROPHONE WHEN MOBILE. HE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO BUY A SPARE MICOR FOR THE 147.39 REPEATER. CURT (K8UC) MADE A MOTION TO LET DAVE (WD8CYV) BUY THE EQUIPMENT HE NEEDS FROM THE MONEY MADE FROM THE SALE OF THE SURPLUS KLUB EQUIPMENT. THE MOTION WAS VOTED ON AND PASSED. DAVE (WD8CYV) WOULD ALSO LIKE TWO MORE SECTIONS OF TOWER FOR THE 147.39 SITE. JERRY (KA8NJW) SAID HE HAS ONE SECTION.

JOHN (N8NBL) REPORTED HE TRIED TO CONTACT MR. ALLMAN FROM TCI TO SET UP A MEETING WITH HIM CONCERNING RELOCATION OF THE 146.97 REPEATER. MR. ALLMAN HAS NOT RETURNED HIS PHONE CALL. JOHN (N8NBL) SAID JEP(K8BOT) CALLED MR. ERICKSON WHO ALSO TRIED TO TALK TO MR. ALLMAN ON THE KLUB'S BEHALF. MR. ALLMAN HAS YET TO RESPOND TO MR. ERICKSON'S PHONE CALL

JOHN (N8NBL) ALSO REPORTED HE HAD TALKED TO JOHN HARPER ABOUT USING A TOWER HE HAS ON SAND HILL AS A POTENTIAL SITE FOR THE 146.97 REPEATER. JOHN (N8NBL) ALSO SAID WE WERE WELCOME TO USE THE MIX-100 TOWER IN VIENNA.

ROY (N8YYS) SUGGESTED WE GO AHEAD AND MAKE PLANS TO MOVE THE 146.97 REPEATER SITE. DON'T GET CAUGHT OFF GUARD, HE SAID. MORE DISCUSSION FOLLOWED ON MOVING THE 146.97 MACHINE.

OLD BUSINESS

ROY (N8YYS) REPORTED THE P.A.R.K. LICENSING CLASS IS IN ITS 8TH WEEK AND THERE ARE ABOUT 20 PEOPLE LEFT IN THE CLASS.

GLENN (W8KGM) HAS A TOWER AND A LOW BAND ANTENNA HE WILL GIVE AWAY FREE FOR TAKING IT DOWN. HE MAY ALSO HAVE SOME OLD PARTS AND GEAR.

NEW KLUB MEMBER - EMILY BODIE (KB8YPB)

LEO (WA8BMA) REPORTED ON UPCOMING EVENTS WHICH WILL REQUIRE THE HELP OF AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS.

MAY 6, 1995 SCHOOL BOY REGATTA
MAY 7, 1995 MOUNTAIN BIKE RACE

LEO (WA8BMA) IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE LACK OF PARTICIPATION FROM ARES MEMBERS AT PREVIOUS EVENTS.

MARY (KB8BOA) SAID THAT WHEN SHE VOLUNTEERED FOR PAST EVENTS SOME RACES MEMBERS MADE ARES MEMBERS FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE.

TOM (K5IID) MADE A MOTION TO CLOSE THE MEETING. FRED (KB8CCP) SECONDED THE MOTION. MEETING ENDED AT 8:10 P.M.

Klub Officers for 1995

President -	Roy Maul N8YYS
1st. VP	Ray Bodie N8TWV
2nd. VP	John McGuffey N8NBL
3rd. VP	Earl Hulce KB8HRG
Sec.	Larry Deems N8TGI
Tres.	Jane McGuffey N8M0W
Sarg/arms	Bob Lyens KB8EFB
NL Ed.	Jerry Wharton KA8NJW
Production	Mary Britton KB8BOA

W5YI petition would silence W1AW

A petition filed with the FCC would eliminate all one-way transmissions such as code practice and information bulletins on the Amateur bands below 30 Mhz, including those from W1AW.

The petition was filed by Fred Maia, W5YI, Publisher of the commercial newsletter the W5YI Report. Maia is also the manager of the W5YI-Volunteer Examiner Coordinator and publishes training materials for amateurs.

Maia said that "Such transmissions do not comport with normal operating practices and, in 1995, they have outlived their usefulness." He said that he is "personally distressed at the level of anger that now exists on" the amateur HF bands, anger "primarily caused when one-way broadcast type transmissions interrupt two-way communications that are already in progress."

Maia's petition says that he is "especially concerned about the impact that this anger and the resulting malicious interference has on relatively new amateurs are increasingly upgrading their Technician VHF Amateur operator licenses to include the long range high frequency operation." setting a bad example for newcomers to Amateur Radio.

Maia cites the FCC rule that permits certain one-way transmissions on the amateur bands, calling section 97.3a)(23) "a very permissive category and taken in its broadest context, permits just about anything to be transmitted that is even remotely associated with the Amateur Service."

Maia says that although "the rules clearly state that '...licensees must cooper-

ate in selecting transmitting channels ...' and 'No frequency will be assigned for the exclusive of any station' bulletin stations recklessly go on the air on 'their' frequencies at 'their' scheduled times without the mandated 'cooperation' and without observing the most fundamental of operating practices, namely, to monitor the frequency for use before transmitting.

"The proliferation of these has caused chaos in the amateur community that has reached crisis proportions." Maia says.

Maia says that code practice is now available on computer software, and information bulletins about Amateur Radio can be had on various computer on-line services.

Maia proposes new FCC rules that would limit code practice and information bulletin stations to the amateur bands above 30 MHz.

According to the ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, incensed radio amateurs are calling ARRL Headquarters and ARRL Board members, wanting to know what they can do to defeat this petition, Until the FCC assigns a file number (beginning with the designation "RM") there is no file for the collection of comments. If an RM number is assigned, there will be period of 30 days for public comment.

It is also possible that the FCC will dismiss the petition without assigning an RM number, since the petition goes beyond other proposals for changes in the rules

ARRL NEWS BRIEFS

The 1995-96 Repeater Directory was made available in late April and has nearly 20,000 listings, including Australia and European Countries. Beacon listings have increased by nearly 200 in this edition. Complete listings of frequency coordinators, ARRL Committees and special Service Clubs also are included.

Another Amateur has been killed while erecting an antenna. The Dallas Morning News reported that on March 18, Ernest Rutledge, KC5CQR, of Keller, Texas was helping a friend install an antenna in his backyard and was electrocuted. Safety first.

Attention ARRL members making DXCC submissions or using the outgoing QSL Service: No need to remove the mailing label from your QST as proof of membership. Make a photocopy of the label (or of your membership certificate or wallet card). or simply jot down your membership number on a piece of paper. Last month, when we explained the rationale behind doing away with the plastic mailing bag, there was one other fact that was not mentioned. The use of the bags resulted, each month, in several hundred copies not being deliverable because the bags (along with the mailing label) were being destroyed by the machinery at the Post office. we expect that this will no longer be a problem.

The FCC is cutting back on its HF monitoring, according to sources. Several field are in the process of closing, including those in Baltimore, Buffalo, and Miami, and their functions are being transferred elsewhere. Other closings are not expected. The FCC is said to be converting all monitoring to remote control, from Laurel, Maryland.

You can be a part of the largest sporting event this year by joining hams in support of the 1995 Special Olympics World Summer Games. The games, to be held in Connecticut July 1 to 9, already have lined up Amateur Radio volunteers at the Games themselves. Amateurs around the country and the world can

join in by relaying and delivering messages to and from Games participants, and by contacting the Games special events station, W1SO (which will be seen by probably thousands of visitors and competitors). More information is on Pg. 38 of March QST.

SCHEDULE UPDATE FOR CALL SIGN APPLICATIONS

The Federal Communications Commission form necessary for applying for Amateur Radio vanity call signs — 610-V WILL BE AVAILABLE on May 1.

This form may be requested by calling the FCC Forms Distribution Center at 1 800-418-3636. Or send an SASE to ARRL-VEC for a form 610-V by return mail. Write 610-V request on the outer envelope.

TWO AMATEUR SATELLITES LOST IN RUSSIAN LAUNCH

Two Amateur satellites were lost when their launch vehicle exploded. the Israeli built Gurwin-1 TechSAT and the Mexican UNAMSAT were part of the payload of a Russian SS-25 rocket originally built to carry ballistic missiles and recently converted to launch satellites.

The Reuters news agency said the rocket, which was launched from Russia's Plesetsk cosmodrome, came down in the Russian Far East, in the Sea of Okhotsk, on March 28.

Both satellites were designed for packet repeater use. VIA ARRL Letter 4/3/95

PARK/ARES NET
Tuesdays at 9:00 pm
146.970

Ramps Banned in California

Tim Smith/KB8JWF

My daughter, LCPL Judy N. Smith, stationed at Camp Pendleton in California, regularly went to the Ramp Dinner held by the Washington Volunteer Fire Department each year with my wife and I. We always enjoyed the meal and saw many friends and neighbors there.

Since she was not able to attend the last three dinners while serving her time in the Marine Corps, I decided last year to send her some fresh ramps VIA UPS two day service. For those who may not know, UPS second day delivery sometimes runs into five days, anyway, that is how long it took for the box to get there.

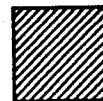
Nicole (Judy) was out in the field when the box finally arrived and delivered to Battalion Headquarters. Being in the field, she was not there

to accept the box, but by this time it was an emergency. Her fiance, who is now her husband, was called to headquarters on the double. When he arrived, the office staff was outside and he was ordered to get his girlfriends mail and take it out to the parking lot. None of the staff would touch it.

Nicole was brought in from the field and with one whiff, she knew immediately what it was. After explaining that eating ramps in the spring was a West Virginia thing, she was instructed to send me a message VIA Mars, "send no more ramps to California". Jeff, my new son-in-law who is from Cincinnati, Ohio, said he has never smelled anything like that in his entire life.

They have been in Okinawa, Japan for three weeks now and missed another fine dinner at the fire station. Hmmm, I wonder if they allow ramps in Japan?

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Results of VE testing announced

The results of the 1995 P.A.R.K. amateur radio classes were reflected in two test sessions conducted by the Klub's VE Team. This year's class testing was conducted in coordination with the first of two national test dates sponsored by the ARRL.

Results of May 9 testing (radio class testing):

Total elements given	47
New licenses earned	11
7 tech	
2 tech-plus	
1 general	
1 advanced	

52 percent of the candidates who tested earned a license or upgrade
48 percent of the candidates who tested failed to earn a license or upgrade

Results of May 13 testing (make goods from radio class/ ARRL test day):

Total elements given	15
New licenses earned	05
1 novice	
1 tech	
2 tech-plus	
1 advanced	

45 percent of the candidates who tested earned a license or upgrade
55 percent of the candidates who tested failed to earn a license or upgrade

The highlights of the testing were split between candidates Ted Walter, Charles Robideaux and Earlene Carpenter.

Walter passed his 5 wpm code test. Then he went on to pass every written element given (with perfect scores). Roy, N8YYS who taught the class, admitted Walter at times brought the instructor back in line. Walter said, "With all the written stuff out of the way, now I can concentrate on getting the code."

Robideaux didn't pass the code test, but he did very well on passing four of the written elements.

Carpenter studied at home and tested and got her tech-plus license. She then dropped out of the regular classes and went to the upgrade class. From there she tested successfully for her General and her Advanced Class licenses and missed the 20 wpm code test by one question. *(Her husband Archie Carpenter, Jr. is keeping pace with her. He too successfully passed tests all the way to Advanced Class)*

Congratulations to all of you.

And a special thanks to Roy, N8YYS and Carl, K8OWL for teaching the classes.

Special thanks to all of the VEs who helped make both sessions of testing flow smoothly.

JEP, K8BOT—Connie, WD8MIO—Curt, K8UC Tim, KB8JWF—John, WD8LKT—Carl, K8OWL George, KVAH (*make that K-8-VAH*)—Larry, N8TGI—Roy, N8YYS—Lynne, KF8MJ (*first time with our team—hope to see more of you, Lynne*)

Some additional help was given by a non-VE who helped with the session: Suz, KB8JZE.

Submitted by,

Larry, KF8NW
ARRL VE liaison

Next P.A.R.K. VE testing

ARRL

National Exam Day

September 30 1995 at 9 a.m.
(location TBA)