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
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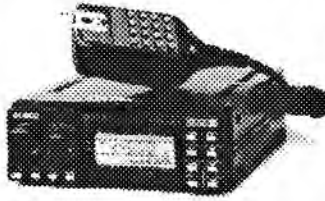
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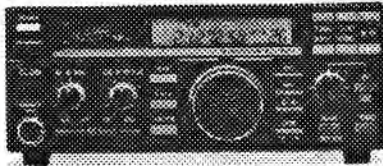


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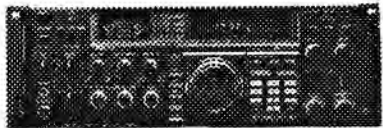
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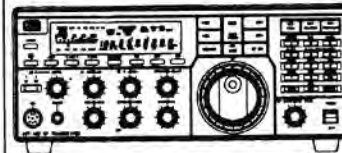


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ABOUT THE COVER

CRRL President Tom Atkins, VE3CDM, visited the headquarters station of CRAG, Club de Radio Aficionados de Guatemala while attending the IARU Region 2 Executive Committee meeting in Guatemala City.

It Seems to Us... /Il nous semble...

Deregulation Comments

A few amateurs have let us know that they did not appreciate the fact that ARRL commented on DOC's recent proposals to deregulate the Canadian Amateur Service. We were surprised when ARRL commented, but we were not unduly alarmed. Under IARU rules, IARU-member societies *are not* allowed to comment on developments in other countries by contacting the licensing authorities in those countries, but they *are* allowed to contact the IARU member-society in a country and voice a concern. That is what happened with deregulation.

In its submission on the DOC deregulation proposals, CRRL had three points to make: (1) the 10-MHz band needed special protection, (2) certain parts of the proposed regulatory text needed to be rewritten so Canadian amateurs would not have to obtain separate station licences to, say, run a mobile and base station concurrently, and (3) CRRL needed DOC support in getting Canadian amateurs to follow band plans based on the recommendations of IARU; CRRL felt that if Canadian amateurs were not informed and given some guidance, it could result in anarchy, upset the equilibrium between the US and Canadian amateur communities and lead to new US phone-band expansions, something that, traditionally, Canadian amateurs have opposed.

Those of us who worked on the CRRL submission actually found the ARRL comments a godsend. Before the comments arrived, we had a minor problem. How were we going to present the information in point three (3) above without offending US amateurs and provoking charges that we were judging them unfairly? Then the ARRL comments arrived and confirmed that we had read the situation correctly. We were off the hook.

We probably disappointed our friends in ARRL. Though ARRL never came right out and said so, it was obvious they were not comfortable with deregulation of the Canadian Amateur Service. In contrast, CRRL was comfortable and even commended DOC for its initiative. Some wording in the ARRL comments did creep into the CRRL submission (writers can never resist a nice turn of phrase), but unless it supported a CRRL position, points in the ARRL comments did not. For instance, ARRL noted that some of DOC's premises related to developments in the US were wrong, and commented that since these premises were wrong, DOC should consider dropping its deregulation proposals. CRRL noted that some of DOC's premises related to developments in the US were wrong, and com-

mented that it was too bad that DOC had even mentioned these developments because it would only serve as a red flag to some US amateurs and set the stage for some possible unwanted consequences later on. Finally, even though ARRL hoped that CRRL would forward their actual comments to DOC, CRRL did not.

Ten years ago, at a club meeting in London, Ontario, we asked Bill Wilson, VE3NR, then recently retired Director-General of DOC's Telcom Regs, if DOC had any problem accepting comments from ARRL, an organization whose headquarters, after all, was not in Canada. His reply was that DOC was always ready to listen to good ideas, no matter what the source.

That's the way it should be and that's the way it is with us. But it's also a little like Mackenzie King, who, on hearing from Britain that Canada had entered World War II, said that parliament would decide. While we listen to everyone, CRRL policies are made in Canada. —Harry MacLean, VE3GRO, Vice President, CRRL

FIRST ANNIVERSARY

This issue marks the first anniversary of *QST Canada*. It's become a bigger project than we expected since a few amateurs first tossed around the idea of getting something to replace the Canadian News-Fronts column in *QST*, but it's also been fun to assemble and produce.

Much of the success that *QST Canada* has enjoyed so far is the direct result of the support of our advertisers—and the support that has come from you, the readers. We don't pay for articles (at least not yet, hi) but we never seem to be short of interesting and well written material. In fact, we have an opposite problem—a backlog of articles from authors wondering if they're ever going to get published!

Some of you have asked about writing for *QST Canada*. It might be helpful to know that *QST Canada* is produced on a Mac SE using Quark XPress. Pages are proofed on a LaserWriter II NT and camera-ready copy is run out on a Linotronics 300. We can keyboard articles in, but it is always helpful if they arrive on diskette.

Our system accepts files from most word processors for the Mac, and it can also translate MS-DOS files created in Word, WordPerfect and WordStar—on 5.25- or 3.5-inch diskettes. Photos add a lot to articles. We can use colour or black-and-white. Don't forget a colour photo or two in vertical format for possible use on the front cover! —Harry MacLean, VE3GRO

All letters will be considered carefully. Letters are edited and may be condensed in order to have more information and readers' views presented. The publishers of *QST Canada* assume no responsibility for statements made by correspondents.

CANADIANS WERE FIRST

In the last sentence of the second paragraph of "75 years of ARRL", the lead article in April 1989 *QST Canada*, you state "...and it [the ARRL gesture] brought amateurs back on the air, first in the United States and then in Canada.

This is incorrect. To quote the *Canada Gazette* for 21 April, 1919, "His Excellency the Governor General-in-Council is pleased to order that... the order-in-council of 2 August, 1914 [the shut-down order] is cancelled from 15 April, 1919, and that on or after that date... the licensing of Amateur Experimental stations will be resumed."

American amateurs were not allowed back on the air until 1 October, 1919, five and one-half months after the Canadians. There is no evidence that the 15 April

Canadian decision was influenced by any action of ARRL. According to the unofficial history of ARRL, *200 Meters and Down*, the ARRL did not expand into Canada until January, 1920.

I am familiar with the amateur situation in the US and Canada at the time. My first Amateur Experimental station licence was granted 27 February, 1920. —George F W Reynolds, VE4AJ

GETTING THROUGH WITH AMATEUR RADIO—AND HOW IT SOUNDS FROM THERE

We have just returned from our annual winter escape. Contrary to some apprehension expressed by a fellow amateur with respect to air terminal security, no difficulty was encountered getting our gear through the security check at Pear-

son [Toronto] International Airport, or at the airport in Bermuda.

While operating VP9, it was a surprise to hear, on several occasions, VE amateurs blithely carrying on SSB QSOs with US stations—below 14150 kHz—without informing the US stations of the obvious infraction of the rules. A few VE/W4s were also operating below 14150 kHz. No big deal, perhaps, but I thought VE amateurs should know better.

I also noted a number of VEs spluttering their SSB signals over a full 10 kHz of the 20-metre band. Surely others should be considered and the microphone gain backed off a little. Who wants to hear all that breathing?! Several of my VP9 QSOs were brought to an abrupt halt by broad VE SSB signals below 14140 kHz. —Edmund Skoby, VE3PE

The Canadian Radio Relay League, Inc La Ligue Canadienne de la Radio Amateur, Inc



The Canadian Radio Relay League (CRRL) is a noncommercial association of radio amateurs organized for the promotion of Amateur Radio communications and experimentation, for the establishment of networks to provide communications in the event of disasters or other emergencies, for the advancement of the radio art and the public welfare, for the representation of radio amateurs in legislative and other matters, and for the maintenance of fraternalism and a high standard of conduct.

CRRL is incorporated under the Canada Corporations Act. Its affairs are governed by a seven-member Board of Directors elected every two years by the CRRL general membership. CRRL is noncommercial, and no one who could gain financially by the shaping of its affairs is eligible for membership on its Board.

CRRL is the Canadian member-society of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU). "Of, by and for the Canadian Radio Amateur", CRRL numbers within its ranks the vast majority of active amateurs in the nation and has a proud history of achievement in amateur affairs.

A bona fide interest in Amateur Radio is the only essential requirement for membership. An Amateur Radio licence is not required, although full voting membership is granted only to licensed amateurs in Canada.

Membership inquiries and general correspondence should be directed to CRRL Headquarters, Box 7009, Station E, London, ON N5Y 4J9 (519) 660-1200.

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Calendar



Attention: Deadline for items is the 1st of the second month preceding the month of publication. For example, information would have to reach *QST Canada* by January 1 to be included in a March issue.

Glacier-Waterton Park, AB/MO: International Hamfest, July 14-16, at Three Forks Campground, 16 miles west of East Glacier, Montana. This year's effort is sponsored by the Canadian amateurs but is being held on the US side to offer better accommodations for the large numbers expected to attend, ARRL and CRRL speakers, demos and seminars, QCWA meeting, dealer displays, fleamarket and auction, transmitter hunts, QLF contest, Best Mobile Installation contest, Saturday supper, Sunday breakfast and more—a real western hamfest. For additional information, contact Don Cole, VE6EY, 923 Whitehill Way NE, Calgary AB, T1Y 3G1.

Kitchener, ON: Central Ontario Amateur Radio Fleamarket, June 10 at Bingeman Park, Highway 7. Sponsored by Guelph and Kitchener-Waterloo ARCs. Southwestern Ontario's premier fleamarket. Contact Ray Jennings, VE3CZE, 61 Ottawa Cr, Guelph, ON N1E 2A8, Tel (519) 822-8342.

Maple Ridge, BC: Annual Hamfest, July 8-9 at St Patrick's Centre, 22589 121 Ave. Sponsored by Maple Ridge ARC. Commercial displays, fleamarket and food. Close to shopping and recreational centre. Camper space available, but no hookups. Talk-in on 146.20/.80 and 146.34/.94 MHz. For more information, contact Bob Houghton, VE7BZH, Box 292, Maple Ridge, BC V2X 7G2.

Red Deer, AB: Annual Picnic, June 16-18 at Burbank Campsite. Sponsored by Central Alberta Radio League (CARL). From Highway 2, take Blackfalds turnoff east on Secondary Road 597 to Joffre and follow the CARL signs. Bunny hunt, barbecue and fun. Talk-in on VE6QE, 147.00-146.40 MHz, 147.33 MHz simplex. Registration: \$15. Private campsite: \$5. Contact P Fitzgerald, VE6QT, 2 Odstone Green, Red Deer, AB T4N 5J1, Tel (403) 746-2621.

Regina, SK: Saskatchewan Hamfest '89, August 11-13 at South Campus, Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Arts and Technology. Sponsored by Regina ARA. Displays, fleamarket, technical and non-technical sessions, ladies' program, contests and fun events. For more information, contact Bill Wood, VE5EE, Box 153, Regina, SK S4P 2Z6.

Advance Notices: CRRL National Convention, Winnipeg, MB, August 18-20. Hex-9 Group Packet Radio Symposium, Barrie, ON, September 16.

Amateur Radio Licence Plates

A look at a fascinating hobby within a hobby.

By Rob Gammon, VE3CJX
3640 Byng Road
Windsor, ON N8W 3H9

Thirteen years ago this past March, the Ontario government granted call letter licence plates to radio amateurs (they were the last jurisdiction anywhere in North America to do so). Since then, many changes have taken place in the world of licence plates. Some of the distinctiveness of amateur call letter plates has been lost in the recent flood of personalized licence plates. However, it is important to note that VE3 plates were the first exception to standard registration plates in Ontario. This confirms the importance of our fraternity and the value placed on our services by government officials.

The history of call letter licence plates in Canada began 37 years ago with the first such plates appearing in Quebec in 1952. Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Alberta followed in 1959; Saskatchewan in 1960; Newfoundland in 1962; British Columbia in 1963; and Manitoba in 1964. The Northwest Territories issued a mere two sets, VE8AJ and VE8MZ in 1962. Labrador combined with Newfoundland in 1965, and Yukon Territory began with

a modest six sets in 1973. Ontario finally came into line with the other provinces and territories in 1976.

I am an active member of ALPCA, the Automobile Licence Plate Collectors' Association. Some information on this organization might be of interest. It began as a small group of collectors meeting in New Hampshire in 1954, and now has 4500 members worldwide. ALPCA has an elected executive, a colourful newsletter and yearly conventions. The organization promotes all aspects of licence plate collection—including collecting Amateur Radio call letter licence plates.

The Photographs

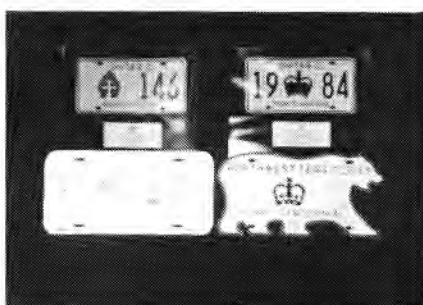
The accompanying photographs show typical Amateur Radio call plates. Looking across the top row below, the left-hand photo shows a complete set of Canadian Amateur Radio plates including an unusual VE5 call on an Alberta plate. This was accomplished by living on the border and being eligible to hold a Saskatchewan call while registering the vehicle in Alberta.

The centre photo shows amateur call

sign plates from the only areas outside the US and Canada that issue them. The Guam plate was sent to me by a former EC who provided these interesting details: The plate was attached to a Volkswagen at Agana Airport during Typhoon Pamela. With 200 mph winds and heavy rains, KG6JCM was acting as EC and was passing emergency traffic to Hawaii. He was the only remaining communications link with Guam! The KZ5 plate in the same photo will become increasingly rare since the US returned control of the Canal Zone to Panama and eliminated the prefix. The W7 plate is an early issue 1953 Nevada, slightly smaller than the official 6- by 12-inch size for North America, and a very unusual combination of copper on green. The KH6 plate was issued to a doctor in 1954 and is one of the few Hawaiian Amateur Radio plates issued before statehood.

The Yukon plates on the right include a complete run from 1973 to 1978. The prefix changed to VY1 in 1979. Note the changes in design, slogan and die spacing from year to year.

Looking along the bottom row, on the





left, the most popular plates by far among collectors are the unique bear-shaped plates from the Northwest Territories. The design was introduced in 1970 for the Territories' centennial and is still used today. Many of these "bears" are "in captivity". In particular demand: the VE8 call sign and low-number series.

In the centre, my most prized plate is not an Amateur Radio call sign plate at all! It's a 1973 Northwest Territories royal blue on white with the words "RCMP Centennial" across the bottom. The plate carries an embossed crown in the middle and came from the official car used by royalty visiting the territories.

On the right, the rarest Canadian call sign plates are not from the Yukon or the Northwest Territories, but from Labrador. Only a very few sets were issued and they prove to be extremely difficult to obtain, even for the most serious and dedicated collector. Some additional rare plates in my collection of five hundred are a

Above: A complete set of North American Amateur Radio licence plates, minus VE3. VE3 call letter licence plates became available only in 1976. (All photos courtesy of the author)

VE3FCH New Hampshire plate and a WA4NNS Newfoundland plate. Some military operators may also have been issued US call sign/VO1 plates, but I cannot confirm this.

Many multi-coloured and graphic plates are now available and provide collectors with an almost unlimited variety from Amateur Radio, vanity, low number, military, government, foreign and error types, to the more conventional passenger car and truck types. There are limited numbers of special plates issued to Indian bands in Minnesota, Maine and Florida. Handicapped, police and fire, POW and Medal of Honour plates are popular, as well as plates bearing the five Olympic rings.

Personalized plates are now available throughout North America. One change worth considering for Ontario plates

—and perhaps for others as well—is embossing the words "Amateur Radio" in place of a slogan like the "Yours to Discover". This would make our call sign-plates self-explanatory like the "Historic Vehicle" plates now in use.

As plate styles change and the number of collectors grow, interest in licence plate collecting increases, and like Amateur Radio itself, the world of licence plate offers an unlimited opportunity for expression and communication.

Can readers help? These plates are needed to complete a collection—first year issue: 1952 Quebec, 1959 Nova Scotia, 1959 New Brunswick, 1963 British Columbia; also Labrador VO2/VO6 before 1970 and Northwest Territories 1963, 64, 66, 71 and 72. Contact the author at the address in the byline above.

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THE CRRL BOOKSHELF

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Canadian Amateur Licensing Manual	\$18.75	\$17.00	100	\$1.50	<input type="checkbox"/>
Canadian Amateur Question Bank	10.00	9.00	112	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
Canadian Amateur Regulations Book	10.00	9.00	190	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
Canadian Amateur Code Tapes (OT)	38.00	34.25	200	2.50	<input type="checkbox"/>
Canadian Advanced Question Bank	10.00	9.00	116	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
Manuel de formation	18.75	17.00	101	1.50	<input type="checkbox"/>
Banque de questions première	10.00	9.00	113	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
Banque de questions supérieur	10.00	9.00	117	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
First Steps in Radio, W1FB	8.00	7.25	470	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
Premier pas en radio, W1FB (RAQI)	8.00	7.25	F900	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
Operating an Amateur Radio Station	1.25	1.25	300	1.00	<input type="checkbox"/>

OPERATING

	Non-Member	Member	Stock#	Postage	✓
Operating Manual	21.00	19.00	522	1.50	<input type="checkbox"/>
Complete DXer	15.75	14.25	440	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
Low Band DX	14.00	12.50	890	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
Low Band DX Software (available for many computers; send SASE for prices)					

OPERATING AIDS

	Non-Member	Member	Stock#	Postage	✓
1989 North American Callbook (OT)	36.00	32.50	720	1.50	<input type="checkbox"/>
1989 International Callbook (OT)	40.00	36.00	710	1.50	<input type="checkbox"/>
1989 Callbook Supplement (OT)	12.00	11.25	730	1.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Canadian Amateur Call Directory (OT)	20.00	18.00	220	1.50	<input type="checkbox"/>
Log Book (OT)	3.50	3.00	121	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
Super Log Book (OT)	5.75	5.00	125	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
Radiogram Forms (OT)	2.00	1.75	170	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
1989 ARRL Repeater Directory (OT)	7.00	6.00	193	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grid Locator for North America (OT)	2.00	1.50	800	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
DXCC Countries List (OT)	2.00	1.50	812	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
1989 Net Directory (OT)	2.00	1.50	823	1.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
ARRL World Map (OT)	13.50	12.25	840	2.50	<input type="checkbox"/>
Callbook Prefix Map of the World (OT)	8.50	7.75	RA10	*3.50	<input type="checkbox"/>
Callbook Prefix Map of N America (OT)	8.50	7.75	RA11	*3.50	<input type="checkbox"/>
Callbook Great Circle Map of World (OT)	8.50	7.75	RA12	*3.50	<input type="checkbox"/>

VHF-UHF

	Non-Member	Member	Stock#	Postage	✓
Basic Guide to VHF-UHF	10.75	9.50	790	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
RSGB Microwave Newsletter Collection	16.75	15.00	340	1.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
RSGB VHF-UHF Manual	32.25	29.00	370	1.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
All About VHF Amateur Radio	14.50	13.00	RP130	1.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Satellite Anthology	7.00	6.25	700	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
Satellite Experimenter's Handbook	16.00	14.50	540	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>

PACKET AND COMPUTERS

	Non-Member	Member	Stock#	Postage	✓
AX.25 Packet Protocol	\$12.75	\$11.50	430	\$.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
Computer Network Conference #6	14.00	12.50	601	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
Computer Network Conference #7	15.00	13.50	602	1.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gateway to Packet Radio	14.00	12.50	900	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
Get *** Connected to Packet	18.25	16.50	620	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>

ANTENNA BOOKS

	Non-Member	Member	Stock#	Postage	✓
1988 Antenna Book	24.00	21.50	411	1.50	<input type="checkbox"/>
RSGB HF Antennas for All Locations	21.25	19.00	330	1.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Antenna Compendium #1	15.75	14.25	420	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
Antenna Notebook, W1FB	11.50	10.25	405	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
Novice Antenna Notebook, W1FB	10.75	9.50	425	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yagi Antenna Design	21.00	19.00	630	1.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
All About Cubical Quad Antennas	12.00	10.75	RP110	1.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
All About Vertical Antennas	13.25	12.00	RP120	1.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Simple, Low-Cost Wire Antennas	14.50	13.00	RP140	1.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Beam Antenna Handbook	14.50	13.00	RP150	1.00	<input type="checkbox"/>

OTHER

	Non-Member	Member	Stock#	Postage	✓
1989 ARRL Handbook	32.25	29.00	494	2.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
ARRL Electronics Data Book	15.00	13.50	516	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
RSGB Radio Data Reference Book	21.25	19.00	380	1.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Radio Frequency Interference	5.75	5.25	532	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
Test Equipment for Radio Amateurs	21.25	19.00	360	1.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Solid State Design	17.00	15.25	551	1.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transmission Line Transformers	14.00	12.50	880	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hints and Kinks, 12th edition	6.25	5.75	512	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
QRP Notebook, W1FB	8.00	7.25	590	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
Morse Code - The Essential Language	8.00	7.25	610	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
200 Metres and Down	6.00	5.50	SL2	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fifty Years of ARRL	5.75	5.25	460	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gil	7.00	6.25	860	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>

CRRL INSIGNIA

	Non-Member	Member	Stock#	Postage	✓
Lapel Pins (OT)	2.50	2.50	130	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
Large Cloth Diamond (5") (OT)	3.00	3.00	141	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
Small Cloth Diamond (3") (OT)	2.00	2.00	151	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
ARES Circular Patch (4") (OT)	4.00	4.00	161	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>
Set of 3 CRRL Logo Decals (OT)	1.00	1.00	180	.75	<input type="checkbox"/>

*Special Note: Callbook maps ordered together can be shipped together. Add \$3.50 postage only once on orders of two and three Callbook maps.

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How to order: Please check the box at the end of the line for each item you want. Add costs and the amounts shown for postage. Enclose your personal cheque or money order for the total amount of the order. Ontario residents: Please add sales tax on total of costs and postage for all items marked (OT). Thank you.

Name: _____ Call: _____ CRRL Member?

Yes No

Address: _____

I enclose \$ _____

Postal Code: _____

Signature _____

IPARN

group of enthusiastic British Columbia amateurs is working hard to expand IPARN (pronounced "I-parn"), the Interprovincial Amateur Radio Network. Not a traffic net, IPARN hopes to establish and maintain a full-time Canada-wide communications network for voice and digital communications—by using a commercial geostationary satellite to interconnect existing Amateur Radio networks, particularly linked repeater systems. With IPARN in place, amateurs in any major centre in Canada would be able to speak to amateurs in similar centres—simply by dialling the appropriate DTMF (Touchtone™) codes on, say, a VHF handheld transceiver.

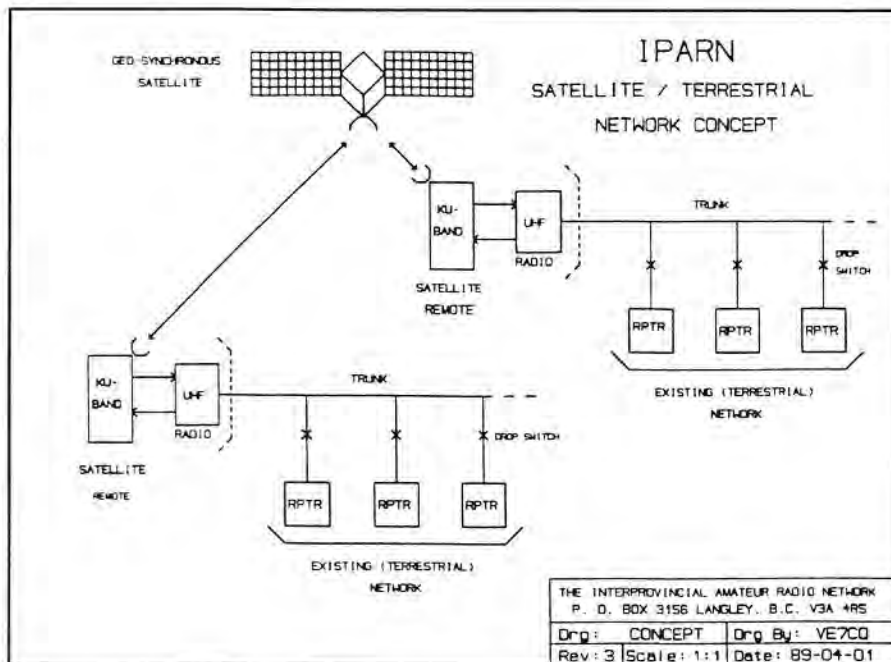
How soon might all this happen? This will depend on the support of Canadian amateurs. Right now, IPARN is conducting a membership campaign. Funds from this campaign will permit IPARN to establish its first city-to-city link. IPARN President William Blake, VE7CQ, and the IPARN Board of Directors expect this link will be the catalyst that will help IPARN grow. Membership in IPARN is \$36 for one year, \$95 for two years, and \$150 for five years. For more information, contact the IPARN Membership Coordinator, Box 3156, Langley, BC V3A 4R5.

ACROSS THE COUNTRY

□ Doug DeMaw, W1FB's popular collection of articles, *First Steps in Radio*, has been translated into French. *Premier pas en radio* is now available from RAQI, Radio Amateur du Quebec. Price: \$8.75. This is an excellent book for use with Amateur Radio classes. Order from RAQI, Box 1000, Postal Station M, Montreal, PQ H1V 3R2—or from CRRL Publishing, Box 7009, Station E, London, ON N5Y 4J9.

□ Prefix hunters, take note! To commemorate the 50th Anniversary of QEW, the Queen Elizabeth Highway between Fort Erie and Toronto, Ontario amateurs may use the special prefix CH3 from 0400 UTC June 7 until 0400 July 7. And, to publicize the International Scout Jamboree being held this summer on Prince Edward Island, Prince Edward Island Amateur Radio Association will be on the air with the special callsign CJ1PEI throughout July.

□ There's hope on the horizon for Canadian Amateur Radio operators and other users of the radio spectrum who are plagued by radiation from cable television systems. Ted Rogers of Rogers Cable Television, Western Cablevision, etc, is quoted in Peter C Newman's "Business



Watch Column" in 1989 March 20 *Maclean's* magazine as saying: "We're going to rebuild our systems with fibre optics". A subsequent report in the *London Free Press* indicated that London, Ontario, may be one of the first cities in Canada where cable television will switch to this new technology.

□ Canadian Airlines International is the official airline of the CRRL National Convention, to be held in Winnipeg on August 18-20. Mention the CRRL Convention and reference number 2055 to your booking agent, for a 15%-discount on the round-trip regular economy fares to the convention from anywhere in Canada. Flights may be booked through Canadian Airlines International's toll-free number, 1-800-268-4704. (In the Toronto area call 675-8256, in the US, use 1-800-426-7000). A further note: the Convention is being held in Winnipeg's International Hotel. Make reservations early as, even now, rooms are filling up.

□ The 1989 Annual Meeting of the CRRL Board of Directors was held in Rexdale, Ontario, on May 20-21. Minutes of the meeting will be carried in an upcoming issue of *QST Canada*.

□ The Radio Advisory Board of Canada (RABC) has announced that its 1989 Spectrum 20/20 conference will be held in Montreal on November 28-29. The conference, which it jointly sponsors with DOC, gives industry and government a unique opportunity to express views on issues affecting future use of the radio spectrum. With a registration fee of \$345

(early-bird \$295), the conference will not likely attract many individual amateurs. CRRL, as a member of RABC, will participate.

US NOTES

□ ARRL has divided the Washington Section into two sections: Eastern Washington (EWA) and Western Washington (WWA). Sections are the basic units of administration for the ARRL and CRRL field organizations, and are used as multipliers in popular contests like Field Day and the November Sweepstakes. This change brings the total number of ARRL and CRRL Sections to seventy-six.

□ A special ARRL committee has released a report recommending creation of a no-code licence in the US. (CRRL President Tom Atkins, VE3CDM, served on this committee as a consultant.) The committee favours a new class of licence with a written test somewhat more comprehensive than that for the present US Technician-class licence. Holders of the new licence would operate above 30 MHz, on all frequencies and with all privileges presently available to US Technicians, except that 2-metre operation would be limited to digital modes between 144.9 and 145.1 MHz. Full text of the report appeared in May *QST*.

□ The US FCC adopted a First Report and Order on General Docket 87-389, rules governing low-power unlicensed radio transmitters. The good news is that the Report and Order placed more stringent limits on the amount of RF leakage

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We are now open Saturdays from 9 am to 5 pm. Weekdays, for the present, are restricted to appointments for any time between 5 am to 10 pm. We normally are not maintaining a regular schedule during the week and therefore an advance appointment is essential to ensure your visit is successful. Sundays and holidays we are closed.

We carry a vast assortment of items ranging from medical, laboratory, scientific, photographic, optical, antiques and other strange pieces for the experimenter and enthusiasts as well as schools, labs and electronic firms. If in the area when we are open, feel free to drop in and browse through two floors loaded with surplus.

We are always happy to answer queries by phone or mail. Don't hesitate to phone us any time at home or warehouse. If by mail, a postage stamp to defray the cost of a reply would be appreciated. Due to the nature of surplus very few items are stocked in depth and as a result it is impossible to prepare a catalogue or listing which would remain valid for even a short period of time.

For the month of June the following are in stock: (1) Military field telephones, with handsets. Models "Type S", TA312PT and TA43PT. Any type while quantities last, \$50.00 per pair. (2) Volt-ohm meters, Simpson Model 635HV with leather case. \$30.00. (3) Small acoustic couplers, various makes but mostly Anderson Jacobsen 242A's at \$10.00 each. (4) We have received a further quantity of the popular Eddystone solid state communications receivers (10KHz-30MHz) Model 958/3. These are available at \$325.00 including copy of the manual. Unlike the earlier offering this lot does not come with the spares kit or cabinets. (5) Eddystone receiver 830/4, 100KHz to 30MHz, with dust cover at \$250.00. (6) One Air Ministry R1155 receiver. Looks quite good, with some technical information. \$85.00. (7) Tektronix storage oscilloscope Model 564B with 3A72 and 3B3 plugins. Operating condition. \$250.00. (8) Various makes and models of Tube Testers, our selection \$25.00. (9) Military WWII 19 set with power supply, connecting cable plus odds and ends including xtal calibration unit, variometer, junction boxes, manual etc. \$150.00. (10) Brass marine clocks (lever escapement chronometers) in gimbals, brass bound mahogany box approx 5"x5"x5" with double lid. Made by Waltham. \$650.00.

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The AR-100 Maxi-Probe. Unheard-of features and performance in one small package. Volts. Ohms. Audible continuity. Data Hold. Then add a full-function, TTL/CMOS logic probe. Screw-on accessory tips. Diode Test. Test Leads. And a storage case.

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permitted from nonintentional radiating devices—radios, TVs, VCRs, stereo equipment and the like. The bad news is that noncompliant devices are “grandfathered” for ten years. Existing TV tuners, for instance, can be manufactured and sold for another ten years, having only to comply with today’s radiation limits. The really bad news is that FCC has adopted seven new “consumer bands” where intentional radiating devices including home security systems, garage door openers and low-power transmitters which radiate, say, a VCR output to TV sets around the house, may now operate with higher power than presently permitted, and that four of the bands—902–928 MHz, 2400–2483.5 MHz, 5725–5875 MHz and 24–24.25 GHz—overlap or are within present Amateur Radio bands. ARRL has formally petitioned the FCC for reconsideration and is taking other steps to protect amateur interests.

□ ARRL recently announced a project to develop the next generation of modems and protocols for HF packet communications. General information on the project—and on whom to contact for additional details—appears in May *QST*.

□ AMSAT and ARRL have announced that, once again, Amateur Radio will fly on board the Space Shuttle. Payload Specialist Ron Parise, WA4SIR, is expected to operate voice, video and packet radio during non-working hours on shuttle flight STS-35 scheduled for March, 1990.

NOTES FROM ALL OVER

□ If you operate Amateur Radio from a GM truck, GM is looking for you. They are conducting a survey of Amateur Radio use in their medium- and heavy-duty trucks, and they want to know what bands you use, your power output and your antenna location. Send information to EMC Department, General Motors Proving Ground, Milford, MI 48042.

□ The Winnipeg DX Club offers a special award to amateurs who make 31 contacts, five each from Africa, Asia, Europe, North America, South America and Oceania, plus one from Antarctica. The five North American contacts have to be with members of Winnipeg DX Club and all contacts have to be made after January 1, 1970. The award consists of a personalized presentation case containing a \$1 coin issued by the Royal Canadian Mint in (where else?) Winnipeg. Send cards or a log summary verified by two amateurs and yourself, \$3 or ten IRCs to Award Custodian Ivan Morin, VE4IM, 749 Garwood Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3M 1M4.

□ Be on the lookout for special event stations J6APX and 8JIYES, operating respectively from the Asia-Pacific Exposition (CW, SSB and packet, 80–6 metres) and from the Yokohama Exotic Showcase (160 metres–23 centimetres, all modes), now and throughout the summer. ■

All Aboard for the CRRL Convention!

CQ, CQ, CQ... Book your flight, reserve your room. It's convention time in the heart of North America. The CRRL National Convention, hosted by Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club, will be held in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Friday, August 18 to Sunday, August 20 at the International Inn near Winnipeg Airport.

Mid-August is vacation time, so bring the YL, XYL or OM and the harmonics. Winnipeg is fun. Winnipeg's 20th Annual Festival of Nations, Folkorama, takes place on August 6–20. This two-week celebration is one of North America's "super events" says the American Bus Association. Folkorama features over forty pavilions offering cultural entertainment, food and displays. There will be a two-hour closing show on August 20. Plan to catch it after the convention.

The City of Winnipeg has now completed arrangements with the Chinese government to borrow two giant pandas for the Assiniboine Park Zoo for a "Pandas in Person" visit. The giant pandas will be a "must see" on your convention visit to Winnipeg.

Also of interest, first-class museums: the Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature, the Dugald Costume Museum, the Western Canada Aviation Museum and Lower Fort Garry. Shopping? Winnipeg features a wide selection of modern shopping centres: Eaton Place, Portage Place, St. Vital Centre and Polo Park (less than one kilometre from the convention site).

The convention theme is "Amateur Radio Communications at the Crossroads". Friday night will feature a registration reception. Saturday forums will look at where we're at and where we're going. Expect vendor displays, a huge flea market a display of antiques—and special events for spouses and children. The Saturday night banquet features sumptuous food and a presentation by those world-famous DXers, Iris and Lloyd Colvin. Their presentation will be of interest to amateur and non-amateur alike. There will be a special closing breakfast on Sunday morning.

How's that for a good time—Amateur Radio and a vacation rolled into one. Plan to be in Winnipeg for the weekend of August 18–20. Plan to attend the convention.

We can supply registration forms, or use the one in this month's *QST Canada*. Need more information? Contact Convention '89 Committee, Box 352, Winnipeg, MB R3Z 2H6. See you at the convention! —Ed Henderson, VE4YU

Tout le monde à bord à la Convention!

CQ, CQ, CQ... Retenez votre vol, Réservez votre chambre. C'est le temps de la Convention au coeur de l'Amérique du nord. La Convention nationale du CRRL aura lieu à Winnipeg, Manitoba, le 18-20 août 1989, à l'International Inn, près de l'aéroport.

L'août est le temps des vacances. Amenez le YL, XYL ou OM et les enfants parce que nous allons nous amuser à Winnipeg! Le 20ème Festival des Nations de Winnipeg, Folkorama, se tiendra le 6-20 août. Selon l'Association Américaine des Autobus, ces deux semaines de célébration sont un des "super événements" de l'Amérique du nord, mettant en vedette plus de 40 pavillons offrant des divertissements culturels, de la nourriture et des expositions.

La Ville de Winnipeg a terminé les arrangements avec le gouvernement chinois, afin d'emprunter deux pandas géants pour le Zoo Assiniboine. Il faut les voir pendant votre visite à la convention de Winnipeg.

La région de Winnipeg a de nombreux musées de première classe comme le Musée de l'Homme de la Nature, le Musée des Costumes de Dugald, le Musée de l'Aviation et le Petit Fort Garry.

Vous pourrez magasiner à Winnipeg dans des centres modernes et divers comme Place Eaton, Place Portage, Centre St-Vital et Parc Polo (Parc Polo est situé à peu près une kilomètre du site de la convention).

Le thème de la convention est "Nouvelles voies de la radio amateurs". Les forums présenteront où nous en sommes et vers quoi nous nous dirigeons. Il y aura des vendeurs, un immense marché aux puces et une exposition d'antiquités. Un repas somptueux et une présentation de ces deux DXers connus mondialement, Iris et Lloyd Colvin, au banquet de samedi soir attireront les radio amateurs, et les autres aussi. Il y aura des événements spéciaux pour toute la famille, et la liste continue... ceci est le programme de samedi. Le vendredi, il y aura une réception d'accueil et le dimanche matin un petit-déjeuner spécial de clôture.

Bien! Qu'en pensez-vous? Serait-elle une bonne idée? La radio amateur et les vacances combinées! Alors, planifiez d'être à Winnipeg le week-end du 18-20 août. Pour de plus amples informations et formulaires d'inscription, écrivez au Club Radio Amateur de Winnipeg, Comité Convention 89, CP 352, Winnipeg, MB R3C 2H6. —Ed Henderson, VE4YU

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TS-790A Satellite Transceiver

The new Kenwood TS-790A VHF/UHF all-mode tri-band transceiver is designed for the VHF/UHF and satellite "power user." The new TS-790A is an all-mode 144/450/1200 MHz transceiver with many special enhancements such as Doppler shift compensation. Other features include dual receive, automatic mode selection, automatic repeater offset selection for FM repeater use, VFO or quick step channel tuning, direct keyboard frequency entry, 59 memory channels (10 channels for separate receive and transmit frequency storage), multiple scanning and multiple scan stop modes. The Automatic Lock Tuning (ALT) on 1200 MHz eliminates frequency drift. Power output is 45 watts on 144 MHz, 40 watts on 450 MHz, and 10 watts on 1200 MHz. (The 1200 MHz section is an optional module.)

- **High stability VFO.** The dual digital VFOs feature rock-stable TCXO (temperature compensated crystal oscillator) circuitry, with frequency stability of ± 3 ppm.

- **Operates on 13.8 VDC.** Perfect for mountain-top DXpeditions!

- **The mode switches confirm USB, LSB, CW, or FM selection with Morse Code.**

- **Dual Watch allows reception of two bands at the same time.**

- **Automatic mode and automatic repeater offset selection.**

- **Direct keyboard frequency entry.**

- **59 multi-function memory channels.** Store frequency, mode, tone information, offset, and quick step function. Ten memory channels for "odd split"

- **CTCSS encoder built-in.** Optional TSU-5 enables sub-tone decode.

- **Memory scroll function.** This feature allows you to check memory contents without changing the VFO frequency.

- **Multiple scanning functions.** Memory channel lock-out is also provided.
- **ALT—Automatic Lock Tuning—on 1200 MHz eliminates drift!**
- **500 Hz CW filter built-in.**
- **Packet radio terminal.**
- **Interference reduction controls:** 10 dB RF attenuator on 2m, noise blanker, IF shift, selectable AGC, all mode squelch.
- **Other useful controls:** RF power output control, speech processor, dual muting, frequency lock switch, RIT.
- **Voice synthesizer option.**
- **Computer control option.**

Optional Accessories:

- **PS-31** Power supply • **SP-31** External speaker
- **UT-10** 1200 MHz module • **VS-2** Voice synthesizer unit
- **TSU-5** Programmable CTCSS decoder
- **IF-232C** Computer interface • **MC-60A/MC-80/MC-85** Desk mics • **HS-5/HS-6** Headphones
- **MC-43S** Hand mic • **PG-2S** Extra DC cable



Complete service manuals are available for all Kenwood transceivers and most accessories. Specifications, features, and prices are subject to change without notice or obligation.

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TS-940S—the standard of performance by which all other transceivers are judged. Pushing the state-of-the-art in HF transceiver design and construction, no one has been able to match the TS-940S in performance, value and reliability. The product reviews glow with superlatives, and the field-proven performance shows that the TS-940S is “The Number One Rated HF Transceiver!”

• 100% duty cycle transmitter.

Kenwood specifies transmit duty cycle **time**. The TS-940S is guaranteed to operate at full power output for periods **exceeding one hour**. (14.250 MHz, CW, 110 watts.) Perfect for RTTY, SSTV, and other long-duration modes.

• Full 90 Day Limited Warranty

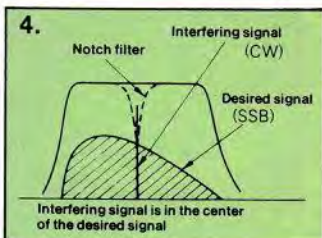
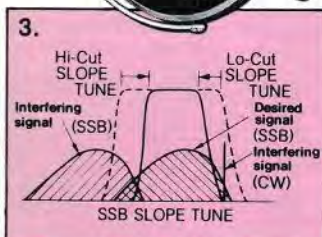
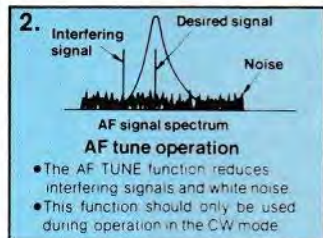
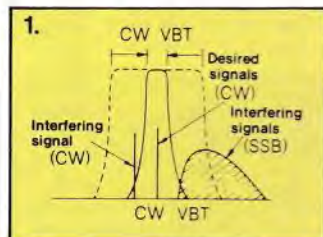
• **Extremely stable phase locked loop (PLL) VFO.** Reference frequency accuracy is measured in **parts per million!**

Optional accessories:

• AT-940 full range (160-10m) automatic antenna tuner • SP-940 external speaker with audio filtering • YG-455C-1 (500 Hz), YG-455CN-1 (250 Hz), YK-88C-1 (500 Hz) CW filters; YK-88A-1 (6 kHz) AM filter • VS-1 voice synthesizer • SO-1 temperature compensated

crystal oscillator • MC-43S UP/DOWN hand mic. • MC-60A, MC-80, MC-85 deluxe base station mics. • PC-1A phone patch • TL-922A linear amplifier • SM-220 station monitor • BS-8 pan display • SW-200A and SW-2000 SWR and power meters • IF-232C/IF-10B computer interface.

Complete service manuals are available for all Kenwood transceivers and most accessories. Specifications, features, and prices are subject to change without notice or obligation.



1) **CW Variable Bandwidth Tuning.** Vary the passband width continuously in the CW, FSK, and AM modes, without affecting the center frequency. This effectively minimizes QRM from nearby SSB and CW signals.

2) **AF Tune.** Enabled with the push of a button, this CW interference fighter inserts a tunable, three-pole active filter between the SSB/CW demodulator and the audio amplifier. During CW QSOs, this control can be used to reduce interfering signals and noise, and peaks audio frequency response for optimum CW performance.

3) **SSB Slope Tuning.** Operating in the LSB and USB modes, this front panel control allows independent, continuously variable adjustment of the high or low frequency slopes of the IF passband. The LCD sub display illustrates the filtering position.

4) **IF Notch Filter.** The tunable notch filter sharply attenuates interfering signals by as much as 40 dB. As shown here, the interfering signal is reduced, while the desired signal remains unaffected. The notch filter works in all modes except FM.

• **Complete all band, all mode transceiver with general coverage receiver.** Receiver covers 150 kHz-30 MHz. All modes built-in: AM, FM, CW, FSK, LSB, USB.

• **Superb, human engineered front panel layout for the DX-minded or contesting ham.** Large fluorescent tube main display with dimmer; direct keyboard input of frequency; flywheel type main tuning knob with optical encoder mechanism all combine to make the TS-940S a joy to operate.

• **One-touch frequency check (T-F SET) during split operations.**

• **Unique LCD sub display indicates VFO, graphic indication of VBT and SSB Slope tuning, and time.**

• **Simple one step mode changing with CW announcement.**

• **Other vital operating functions.** Selectable semi or full break-in CW (OSK), RIT/XIT, all mode squelch, RF attenuator, filter select switch, selectable AGC, CW variable pitch control, speech processor, and RF power output control, programmable band scan or 40 channel memory scan.

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The CRRL Field Organization Forum

BILL MUNDAY, VE5WM; SK



Amateurs everywhere will be saddened to learn of the passing Bill Munday, VE5WM. Bill was active in public service and served as ARRL and later, CRRL, Saskatchewan Section Manager for many years.

REPORTS FOR MARCH 1989

Alberta: SM/STM/DEC: Bill Gillespie, VE6ABC, ASM: VE6AMM, SEC/TC: VE6AFO, OO: VE6TY Northern Alberta Amateur Radio Club amateurs in the final stage of preparation for the Namao Hamfest on May 26-28. Amateur Radio station at Edmonton Space Sciences Centre attracting lots of public interest. Thanks to local amateurs for manning the station with HF, VHF and packet. Band conditions during the past month make things difficult, even for local communications. Alberta amateurs looking forward to CARL annual picnic at Blackfields on June 16-18 and the Glacier-Water-ton Hamfest at Three Forks, Montana, on July 14-16.

British Columbia: SM: Ernie Savage, VE7FB. British Columbia Public Service Net manager Jim, VE7JN, reports check-ins: high 189, low 117, total 4833. British Columbia Phone Net meets 3729 kHz at 1330 UTC. British Columbia Emergency Net Manager Ferdi, VE7EJU, reports QNI 783, QTC 202. Net meets 3651 kHz at 0600 UTC. Net speed is 12 wpm and traffic is handled at your speed. Please come and try BCEN. They are one fine group and visitors are welcome to stay and enjoy the art of CW. So many say it is a dying art and not needed. How foolish can these lazy people be? Herb, VE7ZK, is in hospital with a serious stroke. Is it true that there will be no Ham Happening on Vancouver Island this year? They were fun hamfests.

Manitoba: SM: Jack Adams, VE4JA. band conditions have been trying, to say the least, but we can't say that we weren't warned. Between solar flares and aurora, NTS nets have been rough. What is surprising is that with all the flutter, communications on HF packet has been quite brisk. A number of Canadian packeteers have gathered on 14105 kHz, and with many stations having PBS capabilities, much traffic is flowing via these private mailbox systems. Just a reminder to those that use these systems: your message number should be included in the text as this makes replies much easier by allowing reference your message number rather than the assigned computer number. Field Day is coming up fast. here in Dauphin, Dauphin Amateur Radio Club plans to hold Field Day activity at the provincial campground on the shore of Lake Dauphin. Hopefully, there will be many campers who will come and watch the activity and become interested in the hobby. Don't forget to advertise your activity. It's worth points. Plan your holiday, weekend or whatever, and attend the CRRL National Convention in Winnipeg, hosted by Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club on August 18-20. Try and work a Winnipeg station while the convention is on. Operators in Winnipeg and surrounding area will be sharing the special call sign VB4WARC. Yours truly hopes to make a contact, as Ed, VE4YU, states that special QSL

Reports invited: CRRL Section Managers (SMs) and their Section-level assistants coordinate traffic handling, emergency communications and bulletin service across Canada. Your SM (name and address appears on page 2 of this *QST Canada*) welcomes reports of individual and club activities for publication in this column. Activities do not have to be related to the CRRL Field Organization or to CRRL.

cards will be available to confirmed contacts. What have you got to sell or trade? Bring it with you to the convention which should have a great flea market. CU at the National Convention in August.

Maritimes-Newfoundland: SM: Carl Anderson, VE1BQQ, ASM: Ned Mulrooney, VO1MN, STM: Mel Lever, VE1VX, BM: Brent Taylor, VE1APG, EC (New Brunswick): Brian Upton, VE1ZJ. Congratulations to Jonathan Dursi, VE1CBP of Halifax, who received a \$US 500 grant from the ARRL Foundation to promote Amateur Radio at St Patrick's High School. Our traffic manager, Mel Lever, VE1VX, wrote to Maritimes-Newfoundland Section radio clubs to invite more participation in traffic handling. he reports that new stations are checking into the Atlantic provinces Net (APN) already. At the present time, most of our population centres are not covered by active APN members, so you are invited to join APN which meets on 3654 kHz, 2000 AST/ADT. High-speed CW is not required. Listen a few nights to see how straightforward net procedure is. (QN signals are used.) Field Day entrants; remember you can earn an easy 100 points by sending a formal message to the Section Manager during Field Day. See the rules in May QST. I will check into the Maritimes Phone Net, 3750 kHz, on the Saturday night of Field Day weekend to make it easy to send me the message, but you can give the message to any other station to relay. Good luck in this year's Field Day.

Ontario: SM: Larry Thivierge, VE3GT, STM: VE3CYR, SEC: VE3GV, BM: VE3GSA, TC: VE3EGO. Gremlins were at work in a previous column. VE3CD and VE3SB have been licensed for 56 years, not 26 years as stated in the April edition of this column. Apologies to both. Windsor ARC enjoyed a slide presentation by CRRL Vice President VE3GRO. A lively discussion was conducted and found to be very informative. VE3JPP has joined the ranks of QRPers using an HW-7. Welland County ARC's annual dinner dance turned out to be an outstanding event. New directors for the Toronto FM Society are VE3PXS and VE3DSS, while VE3EJW takes over the position of membership chairman and VE3PTX fills the technical seat. If you operate your amateur rig mobile from a GM truck, GM is looking for information from you. They are conducting a survey of Amateur Radio use in medium- and heavy-duty trucks, and want to know about the bands you use, your power output and antenna location. Responses go to EMC department, General Motors Proving Ground 40-EMC, Milford, MI 48042. Peterborough ARC Amateur of the year Award was presented to VE3AUU for his service to the club throughout the year. VE3KLX is happy to be back in Ottawa after spending several years as a technician at North Bay Airport. At Scarborough ARC's Technical Achievement Night, VE3MCF won the Technical Achievement Award while VE3QF won the Senator's Silver Screwdriver Award. A proposal has been presented to expand the CANWARN program into Chatham, the rest of Kent County and Lambton County. The program is in its second year and has proved itself quite successful. VE3JLL and VE3MOZ are new voices on the air from Pakenham. regretfully, I report that VE3ABW has become a Silent Key. VE3PPE is new OBS for Ottawa's Capital City Net. Repeater operation has never been more reliable or wide-ranging. Today you can find repeaters in virtually every corner of the country. In fact the average ratio of amateurs to repeaters is about 35 to 1 and dropping, meaning that we are building more repeaters on more bands while not declining in numbers. Our amateur population has been pretty static the last couple of years, but, hopefully, that should change

with the VHF-only licence. New amateurs calls are VE3PLZ and VE3SSA. Congratulations to both!

Quebec: SM: Harold Moreau, VE2BP, STM: VE2EDO, SEC: VE2LYC, BM: VE2ALE. Field Day is June 24-25. let's all have fun and participate. The CRRL National Convention will be held in Winnipeg on August 18-20. Victor, VE2 GDZ, et environs 100 membres de UMS se sont rendus à St-Damase à la cabane à sucre et tous ont passé une agréable journée. VE2 MO a maintenant un local au service de ses membres. Real, VE2 GIW, demeure maintenant à Beloeil.

Saskatchewan: Bruce Rattray, VE5RC. April brings temperatures of 5 and springlike days. This is also the day that Bill, VE5WM, comes home from hospital for a week as a change during his fight with leukemia. I can't begin to tell you what an outstanding example Bill sets to us all as a courageous person and a fine gentleman. Special thanks to Syl, VE5YK and his communications crew of amateurs and non-amateurs who provided a 100%-successful dispatch operation for the Labatt's Briar held in Saskatoon in March. Operations were on 406 MHz using Motorola gear, and proved again that amateurs can provide valuable public service as communicators: 564 hours of communications thanks to Syl, VE5TYK and Ivadelle: Ed, VE5GE; Bill, VE5WC, and Janet; Percy, VE5RP, and Ethel; Bill, VE5DN; Rob, VE5OPO; Ernie, VE5EH; Jim, VE5KQ; Don, VE5HQ; Mark, VE5ZN; Dave, VE5BEH; Bruce, VE5RC, and Bonnie; Monty, VE5MN, Alan, VE5PF and Brad and Lynda Wiebe; VE5WM, who was with us in heart. VE5EE and Bill, VE5WM, who was with us in heart. VE5EE says that the Saskatchewan Provincial Hamfest set for August 11-13 in Regina, promises to produce many fine memories for all who attend. A handsome Provincial Amateur Radio pin has been designed and will be available for a nominal sum. Did you know that Ben Cruise, VE5YJ of Moose Jaw, was first licensed in 1939? Now you know! Good DX and 73.

Silent Keys

Conducted By Ray Staines, VE3JZ

It is with deep regret that we record the passing of these amateurs:

VE2LFL, Rick Dupre, Sorel, PQ
VE3AAQ, Matthew Reid, Lakefield, ON
VE3WG, Horace Fairbourne, Brockville, ON
VE5WM, William Munday, Regina, SK
VE6ARN, Jeff Watson, Edmonton, AB
VE6HB, Raymond Jungling, Drumheller, AB
VE7CTE, Brian E West, Burnaby, BC
VE7DTC, Dan Crouse, Telegraph Creek, BC
VE7QT, Owen Evans, Comox, BC
VE7RU, Ron Lockhart, Victoria, BC

Note: Silent Key reports sent to *QST Canada* must include name, address and call sign of reporter in order to be listed. To avoid unfortunate errors, reports are confirmed only through acknowledgement from the family of the deceased. Thus, those who report a Silent Key may not receive an acknowledgement from

What Field Day Means to Me

Something to get you thinking about taking part.

By John Gowron, VE4ADS
40 Juniper Rd
Oakbank, MB R0E 1J0

Field Day. To each of us, it means something different. To me, Field Day is what Amateur Radio is all about. Amateur radio is about testing—testing ourselves in time of emergency, in the pileups, in our ability to communicate with the world. Testing ourselves to learn more, to be better citizens.

During Field Day, we test our ability to communicate under pressure, and we test our ability to work with others, doing as a kind of community what most of us do as individuals. We are challenged to assemble a working station and keep it working for a period of time that most of us are not accustomed to, and under conditions that are far from ideal. We have a good time but when it's all over there is the real feeling of satisfaction. We were tested, and we succeeded.

I was first introduced to the ritual of Field Day in the spring of 1977. I had been working towards my licence. I had read all about Field Day in *QST*. Now I was actually going to take part in one.

So there I was with the "real hams" assembling antennas and station, trying to get the generator going and actually working a station under someone's guidance. The thrill was something beyond description. I knew then what I understand today: that I was being tested. On the Sunday afternoon, after all the equipment was packed away and we sat down for a barbecue, I knew I had passed the test. For the rest of the summer, I spent every spare hour studying. In September after that Field Day, I was tested one more time. I passed and a new station, VE4ADS, was born.

Since that sunny day in the June of 1977, I have allowed myself to be tested by Field Day every year. Some years were a greater challenge than others, but each time I succeeded. After every Field Day, I felt renewed and knew that I was an "Amateur Radio" person—a ham.

Some Field Days were small ones where I would be on vacation with my trusty Argonaut QRP rig and a simple dipole, and I would test myself. Most of the times, the goals I set were not high and it was easy to succeed. On other Field Days, there would be many amateurs involved, and I was the person in charge, sometimes looking after manpower, equipment, the site—everything. Again, I was being tested and when I succeeded, it felt good.

One of the things I particularly enjoy testing during Field Day is antennas. Over the years, we have used many designs: the simple one-band dipoles, the all-band flat tops fed with 450-ohm line and a transmatch, the giant four- and five-ele-

and my biggest test to date: planning it, building it at the Field Day site in the morning and getting it to work in time for the big start. We started with only a handful of spacers for the centre feed conductors, and a spool of wire. The morning was taken up with measuring and re-measuring, cutting, and soldering. Yori, the chief engineer, spent most of that morning on his hands and knees while the others and myself got our "tower" together. That "tower" was an extension ladder and a gin pole. Height: about 40 feet.

When all the wire was ready, the test of getting the monster up began. Each element was attached to a halyard that came from the top of our ladder-tower.

Remember that there were five elements—the longest 30 feet and the shortest 20 feet. These were spaced at intervals of 14, 13, 12 and 9 feet, giving a total length of about 50 feet from the tower to the second support with a height 30 feet to allow for sag. The trick would be to attach each element so they would end up equally spaced when we pulled up the halyard. This took several tries. Then the radials—two per element attached to the centre feed conductors—were laid out. Soon, at last, our giant was up. The transmatch was attached to the feedpoint was adjusted for lowest SWR, and we were on



VE4ADS and VE4ACK: being tested is what Field Day is all about.

ment monoband yagis at sixty feet and the sloping dipoles with reflectors; there were the 300-foot-per-side V-beams, and most recently, a giant five-element vertically polarized monopole log periodic array, optimized for 40 metres. No photo could do it justice, but it was big and it worked well. With a 100-watts transceiver, it gave us 1000 watts ERP. The only problem was that the forward lobe was too narrow and we had a hard time working W2s and W7s. But we certainly commanded a frequency to the south!

That antenna was Yori, VE4ACK's

the air working stations. Once again, we had passed a test.

Being tested, whether it be in Amateur Radio or in the run of daily life makes all of us better people. We learn resourcefulness, tolerance and cooperation. We learn about ourselves, our strengths and our weaknesses. We learn to strengthen ourselves where we are weak by drawing on past accomplishments.

Next time—this year—when you are asked to take part in Field Day, don't shy away. Instead, get in there and test yourself. ■

A June Day Remembered: Oakville ARC, 1988

The men came, one woman and a dog — the gates swung open — the guard smiled good morning — the sun shone — the parked gulls flew away — the lake water glinted — the cars located — the beige dust rose in little spurts from their wheels — the brown grass crackled under pacing feet — the men surveyed — the trees moved and the winds strengthened — the lake lapped — the technicolor power plant sited — the four stations joggled trailers in place — the bow twanged — the tenuous lines circumvented the boughs — the dipoles inched up — the men debated — the tower assembled — the beam created, attached — the cumbersome spindly framework elbowed up — the wind played fair — the men grunted — the orange lines linked power, aerial and shack — the rigs distributed — the men mumbled — the sun climbed higher — the winds strengthened — the heat welled up — the papers fluttered in the readying shacks — the power plant throbbed to life — the rigs lit — the men joked — the ether awoke — the stations spoke with eloquence — the electrified voices radiated — the packet squirted intelligence — the Morse key sputtered its secret code — the far-flung stations responded — VE3QST was there — W2SEX was there, old friend — the notables stood out, markers every two or three kilohertz — the weaker ones struggled, underneath or in between — the tents erected — the cooking machines stood attentive, ready — the chairs circled — the sun rose higher — the winds strengthened — the heat festered — the day eroded — the men sweated — the power plant droned — the logs lengthened — the relief ops relieved — the clouds swirled — the cacophony increased — the meat sizzled — the cool drinks cooled — the ladies came, lightly dressed, chatting — the desserts appeared — the men rested — the circled chairs filled — the tea party began — the airy conversation opened — the chefs did their skillful thing — the cooking machines disgorged — the men consumed — the ladies tasted — the tree shadows advanced — the bedlam resumed — the shacks sweltered — the cycle wheels spun — the riders pedalled furiously — the humanized electrons fed the hungry rigs — the logs lengthened with the special points therefrom — the bands waxed — the winds strengthened — the sun simmered — the wet heat oppressed — the men persevered — the power plant faltered not — the rain came not — the oil tanker moored — the crew sought refreshment — the Pig and Whistle beckoned — the sun dropped behind the trees — the darkness descended — the winds abated — the skip increased — the midwest appeared, followed by the far

west — the faint light illuminated the men — the bugs cruised — the beverages circulated — the pencils blunted — the logs lengthened — the power plant droned — the night wore away — the dawn dawned — the men creaked — the daylight recharged the activity — the Johnny-on-the-Spot reverberated — the cooking machines found new fragrance — the men consumed, drank — the yellow sun elevated from a stagnant lake — the cool front moved through — the visitors visited — the old friends showed — the logs lengthened — the men found new frenzy, their finest hour — the twenty-four hours neared their sad end — the four stations signed — the power plant's drone dwindled — the silence returned — the men moved stiffly — the logs carried

the story — the stations disassembled — the dipoles decoupled — the tower crawled down — the men were smug — the encampment repacked, reloaded, decamped — the last beige dust stirred by the leaving car wheels — the gates swung open — the guard smiled good afternoon — the caravan left — the gulls came back — the browned grass crackled — the lake water glinted — the trees moved a bit, stringless — the history was made — the men, one woman and a dog slept — a June Day remembered. —*Bill Thomas, VE3HGJ*

In 1988, VE3HB, Oakville Amateur Radio Club, operating Field Day from their site overlooking Lake Ontario, earned 2414 points in Class 3A. ■

Field Day Update

□ This year's Field Day happens on June 24–25. For full rules, consult 1989 May *QST*, p 103. If your club is affiliated with CRRL, you'll receive a Field Day package (entry forms, dupe sheets to photocopy, etc) in the mail. If your club is not affiliated, but would like a package, send an SASE to CRRL—fast.

□ Nortown Amateur Radio Club of Toronto is sponsoring a new trophy for the Canadian station that achieves the highest score—regardless of entry class—in the annual ARRL-CRRL Field Day. The trophy, to be known as the CRRL Field Day Trophy, will replace the Keith Russel Memorial Trophy, available only to Ontario stations.

□ A new Field Day Challenge Trophy is now available for Canadian stations entering Class 2A. This has come about as a result of a friendly east-west challenge between VE7CVA, Cowichan Valley ARC, and VE1FO, Halifax ARC for the top Canadian spot in Class 2A in the 1988 Field Day. VE1FO had earned top spot in 1987, and by doing it again in 1988, won the trophy for the first year. The trophy, an attractive plaque, is co-sponsored by Cowichan Valley ARC and Halifax ARC and is available to the Canadian station that takes top honours in Class 2A. Give it a try. Several stations came close last year. With a little more push, they could win this trophy in this year's Field Day. —*VE1BQO*

□ Don't forget that you can earn an easy 100 points for your Field Day operation by sending a formal message to your CRRL Section Manager during Field Day. Name and address of your CRRL Section Manager appears on page 2 of this *QST Canada*. ■



Above: The new Field Day Challenge Trophy sponsored by Halifax ARC and Cowichan Valley (BC) ARC. Halifax ARC won the trophy in 1988. Below: Halifax ARC Field Day Coordinator, Bill Elliott, VE1MR, presents the trophy to officers of Halifax ARC: VE1PQ, VE1CHI and VE1BM. (VE1BQO photos)

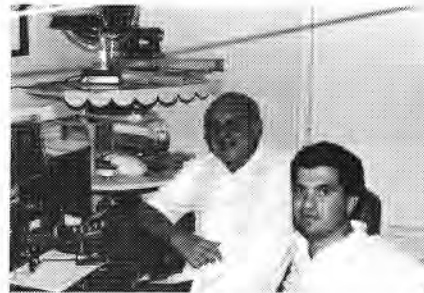


While Honeymooning in XE3 Land...

Back in June, 1983, while on a honeymoon in Cancun, Mexico, I got the OK from my XYL to visit with Fernando, XE3FP, with whom I had talked previously from Montreal. While making arrangements with Fernando for our eyeball QSO, he informed me that there was an Amateur Radio operator living quite close to where I was visiting: Dr Pepe Alba, XF3D, an MD on the island of Cancun. One phone call to Pepe and we were invited to a Mexican-style supper at his home. I accepted without hesitation.

Being the only Amateur Radio operator in Cancun could be boring, but Pepe says he enjoys it. He has his own 2-metre autopatch system and he takes incoming doctor calls on it. That would be illegal in Canada, but when you have to run to nine different hotels all day long to take care of patients, it makes life a lot easier. Other equipment in his shack: A TS-120 and an RTTY reader which he uses mostly to get weather information. Whenever there's a storm approaching the city, he's the one who informs the mayor and other concerned officials what's happening.

On Sunday, June 12, we started our four-hour drive to Merida, 200 miles farther into the Yucatan Peninsula, for our eyeball QSO with Fernando. The road was very bumpy and narrow, but we made it with no problems at all. Once in Merida, we had trouble finding XE3FP. It's hard when you don't speak Spanish, but a dozen times around the block and we finally located him. After a nice welcome and the usual rest and chit-chat, Fernando didn't waste any time. We started our visit of Merida and the Mayan ruins on the outskirts of the city. Just before supper we had a nice swim in the



Top Left: The observatory at Chichen Itza: 105 degrees in the shade! Top right: XE3FP and VE2DWH/XE3 in XE3FP's shack. Bottom left: XE3D when not tending to patients. Bottom right: A ranch windmill tower supports XE3FP's beam. (VE2DWH photos)

pool of a private club where Fernando is a member. The place was very quiet. The only noise: the singing of tropical birds.

Later in the evening, it was time for some Amateur Radio (after all, I had gone a full week without talking through a mike!). Fernando's shack was equipped with an IC-720A and a TS-130SV. Outside was a large Wilson triband beam. After a few CQs to Montreal, we had a contact into the city and were able to speak with my brother, VE2DTH (now VE3PIK) who relayed greetings to my family and the family of my XYL.

The following day we went on a shopping spree. Prices in Mexico are low compared to ours. For example, a 26-ounce bottle of rum was less than \$2 and a bottle of vodka went for \$1.65. In the afternoon, I had a 2-metre QSO with José, XE3FC, and soon after we were on our way back to Cancun. Halfway back we encountered a thunderstorm, the kind that makes radio amateurs nervous, but we made it. The rest of the week was spent enjoying the Caribbean. No more Amateur Radio. That was it for our XE3 operation. —Zareh Amadouny, VE2DWH ■

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Smoke

The following article from the Palomar (California) Research Club has appeared in several club newsletters. It came to us via VE4AG's Ad Astra, published for the Atari Microcomputer Network.

Basic truth! The chairman of the Palomar Research Club, an Amateur Radio group, has discovered what makes integrated circuits (ICs) work. He says that smoke is what makes them work because every time you let smoke out of an IC, it stops working. This can be verified through testing.

I was flabbergasted by the thought of it! Of course! Smoke must make all electrical things work. Just recall the last time you were working on that voltage regulator and the smoke escaped from it. Or that LM386

audio amplifier. Didn't it quit working?

I smile as more of the truth dawns. It's the wiring harness that carries the smoke from one circuit to another, and when the harness springs a leak, it lets smoke out of everything at once, and then nothing works.

Take the starter motor on your car, for instance. It requires large quantities of smoke to work properly. That's why the wires are so large. It's so simple now that the truth is known. Why didn't someone think of this before?

It really is obvious. You can continue to expand on this hypothesis by considering this: why are circuits made by British firms more likely to leak than others? Things that are British always leak! British convertible tops always leak. British engines always

leak oil. British displacer units leak hydrostatic fluid. British tires leak air. The British government leaks defence secrets. So it's natural for British electronic circuits to leak smoke.

Now we can understand why everyone thinks that the answer to everything is putting smoke detectors all over the place. Too bad that we didn't think of the idea before the other guys beat us to it. Even the smoke detector proves the law about escaping smoke. Think about it. When smoke escapes from a smoke detector, it doesn't work either. Now if we could just figure out some way of getting the smoke detector to detect that it was losing smoke by sensing the smoke, we would have it made. Somebody should work on that...



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Ed Henderson, VE4YU, CONVENTION 89, P. O. Box 352, Winnipeg MB R3C 2H6

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Strays



UPCOMING IN PEI

Look for VE1PEI and/or VE1CFB operating from Summerside, PEI, during the World Junior Softball Championships being held there on June 23-25. Stations will be manned by members of Prince Edward Island Amateur Radio Association and Slemmon Park Amateur Radio Club.

Prince Edward Island Amateur Radio Association will operate special-event station CJ1PEI from the Boy Scout of Canada Jamboree '89 at Fort Amherst Historic Park—24 hours a day if conditions permit—July 15-23. Look for CJ1PEI on all bands and modes including packet and satellite. QSL to receive a special card through the bureau.

CW OSCILLATOR



Last month we ran a circuit for a useful little CW oscillator that used only two transistors and a handful of parts. Unfortunately, we didn't have room for a photo. Here it is. Just so you get an idea of the size, we're also showing you Ed Dutton, VE3EWO, of London ARC Swap Shop fame. Ed is wearing his civilian clothes. (VE3BB1 photo)

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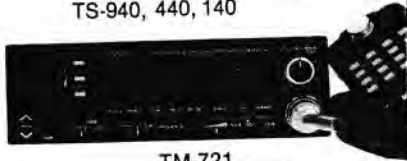
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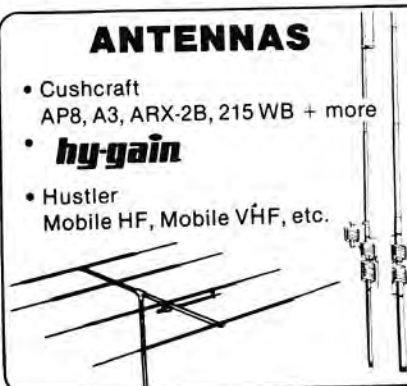
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- ARRL
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Emergency Net Control

In a typical disaster situation, emergency stations will be located at such key points as the disaster site, the emergency control centre, the Red Cross headquarters, one or more reception centres and so forth. These stations will operate on one or more emergency nets. Control of the net will be vested in a net control station (NCS) appointed by the emergency coordinator (EC). This month we'll look at some of the duties of the NCS, at how he or she should control the net, and at training. We'll assume that the net operates on voice on VHF.

The function of the net, of course, is to pass traffic related to the emergency, and in many respects it will operate in the same way as any of the traffic nets of the National Traffic System (NTS). Here are some points of similarity:

1. The NCS must be calm, courteous, incisive and clearly in charge of the net. He or she maintains control solely through voice and timing—by being boss but not by being bossy.

2. The NCS must ensure that all traffic is handled between net stations in a expeditious manner, and must ensure that emergency or priority traffic is handled first. While speed is important, the net control station—and all participants in the net—must first strive for accuracy.

3. The NCS must keep track of all stations on the net, and of all traffic handled, using an appropriate record-keeping system.

4. The NCS must know and use standard phonetics and prowords, and must avoid—like the plague—the use of Q-signals (save the Q-signals for Morse code).

5. The NCS must be prepared for untrained amateurs breaking in to offer their services, and must deal with them politely but firmly. He or she must be prepared for malicious interference which is best dealt with by ignoring it.

6. The NCS must be prepared to send stations to another repeater or simplex channel to pass traffic, keep track of where stations are, and check them back into the net when they return.

7. The NCS should identify his or her station and the function of the net frequently.

8. The NCS's equipment, power supply and antenna must be in top working condition and be able to reach all stations on the net using relay stations only when absolutely necessary.

9. Emergency operators must be trained in net operations including message handling, and must follow procedures that have been established beforehand. Their transmissions should

be brief and they must know and use standard phonetics and prowords.

10. Operators must follow the instructions of NCS fully. They should speak only when spoken to, unless they have emergency traffic that must be passed immediately or they wish to be excused from the net.

With an emergency net, the NCS must consider other matters as well:

1. In activating the net and at regular intervals thereafter, the NCS should iden-

tify the purpose of the net and should review items that should be known by net members and other amateurs monitoring the net.

2. The NCS should stress that it is a directed net and that he or she will call net members and not vice versa.

3. The NCS will select primary and secondary operators, depending on the location of the disaster and of the emergency stations involved in the net.

4. If the net is conducted on a repeater,

Field Organization Reports March 1989

CRRL Section Emergency Coordinator Reports

Reports were received from the following SECs (DECs and ECs reporting to SECs are listed in brackets) denoting a total ARES membership of 805:

Reporting ARES Members
VE3GV (VE3s FOB, FUN, GNW, HEP, HNH, HSF, ITT, JJA, JPP, KBU, KXB, LBU, LFV, LKI, LPM, LYW, MB, SV, TNL, and K6GMU/VE3) 235
VE6AFO (VE6s AMM, CBJ) 570

CRRL Section Traffic Manager Reports

Call	Orig	Rcvd	Sent	Divd	Total
VE1DLC	1	13	7	4	25
VE1IH	0	11	10	1	22
VE1ALU	1	8	8	1	18
VE1CRS	6	0	6	0	12
VE2EDO	5	16	22	10	53
VE2BP	4	17	9	14	44
VE2EC	8	14	8	11	41
VE2WH	0	9	8	9	26
VE2JN	1	7	8	2	18
VE2ALE	0	6	2	0	8
VE3ORN	6	115	109	18	248
VE3CYR	1	96	63	2	162
VE3GSQ	0	81	80	1	162
VE3GNW	1	36	59	2	98
VE3GT	0	29	50	0	79
VE3FGU	0	39	32	0	71
VE3EAM	7	17	7	17	48
VE3IN	0	36	2	6	44
VE3ATK(L)	4	8	18	2	32
VE3SB(L)	2	11	16	2	31
VE3EWD	6	2	17	2	27
VE3K CZ	3	10	6	8	27
VE3NVJ	1	11	10	4	26
VE3RJN	1	12	3	0	16
VE3BDM	0	2	10	1	13
VE3BAJ	0	2	10	0	12
VE4JA	19	17	23	22	81
VE4JR	0	24	20	2	46
VE4LB	0	30	10	2	42
VE4RO	0	20	20	0	40
VE4TE	0	31	5	0	36
VE6CHK	-	-	-	-	158
VE6CPP	-	-	-	-	28
VE6GUS	-	-	-	-	17
VE6AMM	-	-	-	-	7
VE6ABC	-	-	-	-	6
VE7EJU	9	88	124	0	221
VE7ANG	1	19	82	2	104
VE7FRZ	13	21	32	0	66
VE7CCJ	11	27	18	3	59
VE7XA	0	21	24	10	55
VE7CBL	5	23	10	16	54
VE7FB	1	21	16	8	46
VE6XG/7	0	8	26	20	36
VE7EGM	0	9	13	1	23
VE7BCF	8	5	8	0	21
VE7BZI	1	6	1	6	14

National Traffic System

Net (Mgr)	Sess	QNI	QTC
APN (VE1BKM)	6	19	77
KTN (VE3AJN)	14	116	16
OLN (VE3POJ)	30	570	43
OPN (VE3IN)	30	702	213
OQN-1 (VE3GSQ)	26	43	21
OQN-D (VE3ORN)	29	112	66
OQN-E (VE3CYR)	31	158	136
OQN-L (VE3GSQ)	20	57	29
MEPN (VE4LB)	31	1178	21
MMWX (VE4TE)	31	366	23
MTN (VE4IX)	28	224	42
SATN (VE5AGM)	30	120	5
SPN (VE5AE)	19	958	9
APSN (VE6AKY)	31	1109	22
ATN (VE6CPP)	31	197	84
BCEN (VE7EJU)	31	783	202

Brass Pounders' League

This listing is available to amateurs who report to their SM a traffic total of 500 or a sum of originations and delivery points of 100 or more for any calendar month. All messages must be handled on amateur frequencies, using standard ARRL-CRRL form, within 48 hours of receipt.

BPL: None this month

Public Service Honour Roll

This listing is available to amateurs whose public service performance during the month indicated qualifies for 60 or more points in the following nine categories (as reported to their SM). Please note maximum points for each category: (1) Checking into CW nets, 1 point each, max 30; (2) Checking into phone/RTTY nets, 1 point each, max 30; (3) NCS CW nets, 3 points each, max 12; (4) NCS phone/RTTY nets, 3 points each, max 12; (5) Performing assigned NTS liaison, 3 points each, max 12; (6) Delivering a formal message to a third party, 1 point each, no max; (7) Handling an emergency message, 5 points each, no max; (8) Serving as an EC or NM for an entire month, 5 points max; (9) Participating in a public-service event, 5 points each, no max. Amateurs who qualify for Public Service Honour Roll 12 consecutive months, or 18 months out of a 24-month period, will be awarded a special certificate from CRRL Headquarters.

PSHR: VE6CHK (158), VE4JA (128), VE4LB (108), VE3ORN (107), VE4STU (74), VE4IX (72), VE3CYR (70), VE4RO (67), VE7EJU (67), VE3GT (65), VE4JR (61), VE3GSQ (60)

Service and Specialized Nets

Independent Net Managers: Your monthly reports are welcomed. Send to CRRL, Box 7009, Station E, London, ON N5Y 4J9.

Net (Mgr)	Sess	QNI	QTC
ARES CANADA (VE3GV)	4	96	2
CRRL ONTARS (VE3BC)	31	11311	0
ARG (VE5EE)	31	645	0
MJARC (VE5MML)	30	366	0
SWX (VE5EX)	30	628	0
AARES (VE6AMM)	4	143	0

the NCS should make sure that the repeater is not timed out by net members who fail to wait for the courtesy beep or the squelch tail to drop.

5. The NCS should assign an appropriate tactical name to each station in the net. Typical of these might be "Disaster Site", "Reception centre 3", "Township ECC" etc. Every thirty minutes maximum, the NCS should have each station identify itself by giving both its tactical name and its legally assigned call sign.

6. The NCS should decide, based on the nature of the disaster, whether UTC or local time should be used with messages.

7. The NCS should be sensitive to the possibility of misinterpretation of information passed on by citizens who may be listening in on scanners. (The *Kingston ARES Emergency Communications Plan* prohibits members from transmitting personal observations or opinions unless specifically requested to do so by a responsible official.) In particular, the NCS must ensure that no information is passed on casualties or fatalities, the only exception being when this is in the text of a formal message signed by a responsible official.

All in all, the NCS sets the standard for the whole operation. Well, you may ask, how are the skills developed?

The answer is through training and experience. Training can be provided in emergency exercises and by practising as

NCS of an ARES group's periodic net. Frequent monitoring of NTS traffic nets and participation in them will provide an ideal to strive for.

Here in Kingston, we hold a short (15-minute) ARES net every week and we rotate the job of NCS among all our ARES members. About twice a year, we issue duty sheets which list all the net times for the following six months and the operator who will serve as NCS for net session. Our operators consider this a serious responsibility and, on the odd occasion when an assigned operator is unable to serve, the operator notifies the Assistant Emergency Coordinator (AEC) in charge of Operations in advance so a substitute can be appointed.

To assist controller of these nets, we have developed a one-page list called *Information for Net Controllers* which is kept in the back of each operator's emergency communications plan. This suggests (we don't intend to insult anyone's intelligence) that the net preamble be used and provides tips from the material above. It also indicates how to open and close the net and list names of NTS and other nets which may be needed to pass messages on in a real emergency.

The old saying that practice makes perfect certainly applies to net control. One of the most valuable assets an ARES group can have in a disaster is an adequate supply of trained net controllers

who can ensure accurate and speedy handling of emergency traffic.

Many thanks to John Lester, VE3MB, an experienced net controller and EC, whose notes were used in compiling the information above. —Bob Boyd, VE3SV

ARES is a branch of the CRRL Field Organization, although you do not have to be a CRRL member to take part.

Interested in forming an ARES group? Contact your CRRL SM or SEC for details. Interested in meeting other amateurs interested in emergency communications? Check into the ARES Canada Net, 14115 kHz, every Sunday at 2000 UTC.

It is hoped that this column, which also appears in The Canadian Amateur, will serve as an ongoing source of news and information about ARES activities across Canada. ARES members, particularly ECs, are invited to send information on what they are doing and developments they would like to share. Bob Boyd, VE3SV, will pull this together for future columns with the objective of increasing our ability to serve, should disaster strike. ■

COVER CAPTION CORRECTION

In the caption for last month's cover photo VE2DFO was incorrectly identified as Don Waters instead of Don Falle. Our apologies to both these VHFers for the mixup. ■

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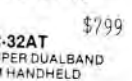
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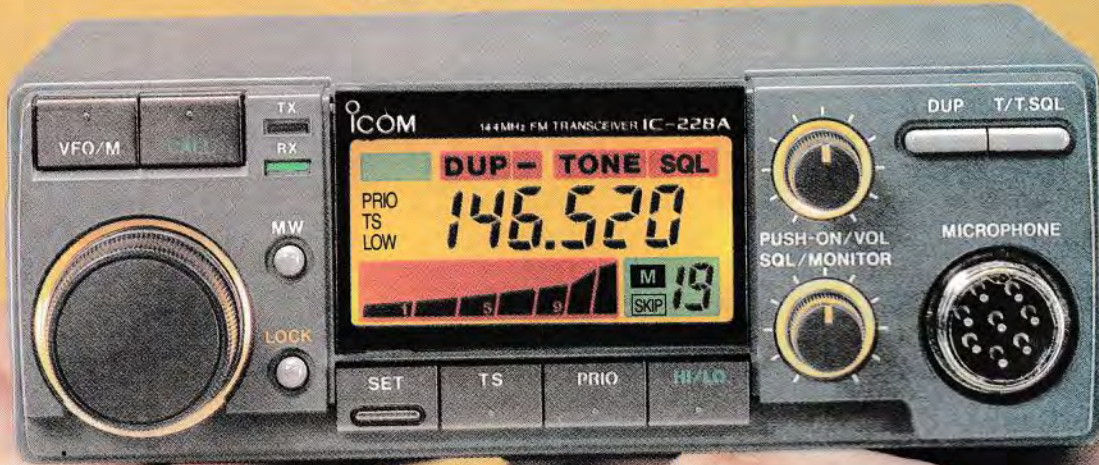


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