ARRL RFI Survey Preliminary Results

The October 1994 issue of *Field Forum* featured a survey on the subject of RFI. Survey conductor Ed Hare, KA1CV, ARRL Laboratory Supervisor, reports "so far, we have heard from 42 clubs! If your club hasn't completed this important survey, please refer back to the October issue, or contact me at Headquarters to get a copy of the survey form and instructions. Your input will benefit ARRL and staff at FCC Field Offices. Here are the preliminary results."

Number of clubs responding: 42

1. How many licensed amateurs attended the survey meeting? **1183**

2. How many had an interference problem when using their station transmitter? **607** (51% of total attendance)

3. Of the total number of licensees attending the meeting (1183), how many had a problem with television or VCR interference, including cable TV? **483** (41% of total attendance); 80% of interference problems from #2 above.

4. Of the total cases of television or VCR interference, how many were with a television or VCR manufactured within the past two years? **83** (7% of total attendance, 14% of interference problems from #2, 17% of TVI, VCRI from #3). Note: Many of the responses indicated that people did not know the age of the TV or VCR. Many left this blank, cited 0, or cited that ALL of the TVI was to sets of recent manufacture.

5. Of the cases of television or VCR interference, how many involved a problem with a TV or VCR connected to a cable system? **260** (22% of total attendance, 43% of interference problems from #2, 54% of TVI, VCRI from #3). Note: Apparently, cable TV is not a cure-all for TVI!

6. Of the total number of all cases of interference, how many involved a problem with equipment connected to the telephone system, such as telephones, FAX machines, etc? **359** (30% of total attendance, 59% of interference problems from #2). Note: There have been more cases of TVI than telephone interference.

7. Of the total number of all cases of interference, how many involved interference with types of equipment other than televisions, VCRs or telephone equipment? **211** (18% of total attendance, 35% of interference problems from #2).

8. Of the total number of all cases of interference , how many involved a problem with someone not living in your immediate home (a neighbor)? **268** (23% of total attendance, 44% of interference problems from #2).

9. Of the total number of all cases of interference, how many involved a problem with consumer electronics equipment in your own home? **425** (36% of total attendance, 70% of interference problems from #2).

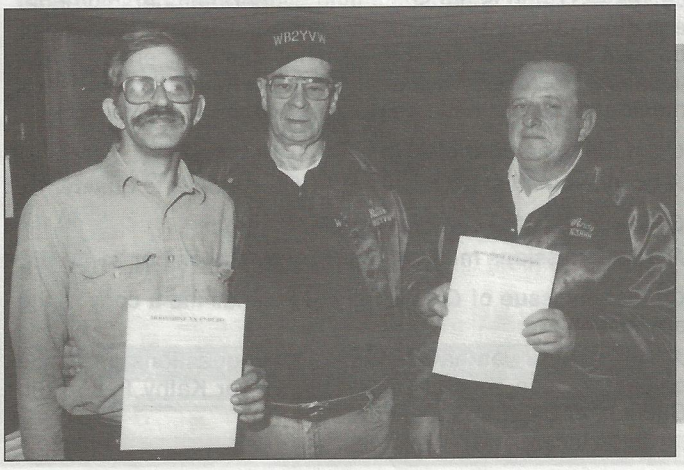
10. How many amateurs have had a problem with interference to their amateur stations from anything other than another amateur station (electrical, other services, cable TV, etc.) **523** (49% of total attendance)

11. Of all the interference to consumer equipment (yours or a neighbor's), how many have had these interference problems reported to the FCC? **62** (out of 693 listed in 8 and 9 above — 9%)

12. Of all the interference to consumer equipment (yours or a neighbor's), how many have reported these interference problems to the ARRL? **18** (2.6%). Note: In spite of all the publicity the ARRL RFI and TIS programs have received, hams are still not turning to us for help with their RFI problems.

13. Of all the interference to consumer equipment (yours or a neighbor's), how many have had these interference problems reported to the involved consumer-equipment manufacturer or to the Electronic Industries Association? **52** (7.5%)

14. How many hams are having an interference problem that is still active now? **356** (30% of the total attendance) Note: This was the big surprise!



Hams Save Life

Russell Stevenson, WB2YVW, center, net control operator for the Moonshine Motorcycle Enduro presents a certificate of appreciation to Gary Flieschut, KA3FUL, left, President of the Schuylkill Amateur Radio Repeater Association, Andrew Hitzel, N3HHH, right, and James Moore, W3ASA (not in photo) for their efforts in locating a seriously injured motorcyclist. Through determination and perseverance they were able to locate the injured cyclist and lead the first-aid personnel to the scene of the accident. Without the efforts of Gary, Andy, and Jim, the cyclist may not have survived. **(photo Andrew Catchmark, N3LBM)**