The AWA - Coal Dust - For November 1958

Meetings once each month 7:14

With the AREC * *

On October 13 a group of local operators together with Civil Defense director, Richard Bassler, performed a fete of Amateur Radioism now history. It was called a simulated emergency test or SET for short. Getting plenty of publicity we still only got a few operators to participate, to whom we are grateful. I will evade the details on SET but W3PTM/m, W3LDV/3, W3CPR, W3OML, W3RZV and W3ZRQ formed an emergency communications net that made our CD director prowd to have helped in operation SET. A complete report may be had at next AWA meet.

The point stressed on this SET was on proper useage of ARRL message form handleing. All quickly caught on to the system. During the next drill it is hoped to point out the proper and best methods of a net function and operation, duties of net members and its control center. In my travels I've noted where net members haveing previous experience can handle things fine when the chips are down. Its usually the operator with little or no experience who can mess up a smothly running net.

My thanks to those who assisted in SET for a job well done. As noted in the newspaper announcement, this SET is not open to AREC membership alone but welcomes in any operator regardless of age or location.

(AREC Cont'd.)

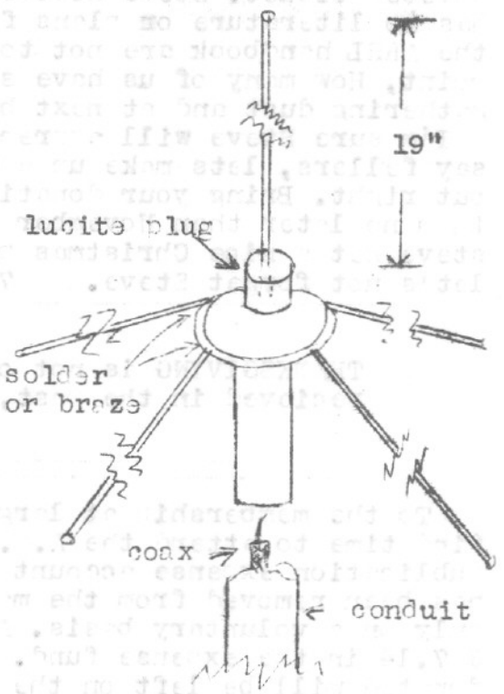
25th. ARRL "SS" - Nov. 15-16th 8-9th

HIGHEST scoreing AWA member recieves the Fur-Lined key handle. (for winter use only)

NEXT A.W.A. MEETINGwill be post-poned from Nov. 15 to November 22 nd. 8 P.M. at the American Hose Co., Tamaqua. Change of date is due to all AWA gang QRL in the ARRL Sweepstakes contest. C U CQ SS SS CQ SS SS

A use for the retired BUMPER-CHUTE (umbrella)

Necessity is the mother of invention so they say. Most of us have the urge to build things but in most cases (as in ours) a source of supply of the needed materials is required to put this urge in action. Needing an antenna for 2 meters and not wanting to spend to much cash to get one we run across a broken and retired umbrela. Measureing the rods (stays) we found them to be just the right length for a 2 meter ground plane antenna. In our case the wooden center pole was discarded and the unbroken stays were trimmed and drooped to form the radials of the ant. Useing a blow torch we soldered these in place. Soldering fulx will have to be used to assure a good solid joint washing in warm water will remove any excess flux and prevent corrosion. the top was fitted with a lucite plug and the verticle section inserted noe completes the ground plane antenna. The unit was found to fit into the end of a length of ½" thin-wall conduit which can be used as a support. Feeding the coax feed line up thru the conduit and soldering the braid to the radials and the center wire to the verticle rod completes the antenna. Illustrated at the right may give you a rough (very ruff) idea what it looks like.



As said before, the source of supply prompted us to use an old umbrella. If it just so happens that you are completely out of stock now in broken umbrellas I would suggest you wait till the next rain storm and themn make a tour of the neighborhood, espacially the homes with a number of harmonics and we are sure you will be well supplied with enough damaged umbrellas that will put you in the antenna bizness. Who knows, you may even run across another idea for a better system to broken potato mashers for a VHF antenna.

WHO's WHO and WHERE * *

From time to time we try to publish the where-abouts you may find the membership of the A.W.A. on the amateur bands. This time we also take the liberty to add those local ops who are not listed on the AWA membership list. If ? ? follows call then there is insuficient info on the operator or we haven't herd him for some time.

W3CPR	all bands fone-CW.	W3IGH	80,40,20,15 CW 75 fone
K3BGF	? ?	W3CSO	? ?
W3CUK	75-40 fone	W3KJJ	80,40,20,15 CW 75 fone
W3CMA	? ?	W3LDV	80,40,20 CW 75 fone 2 mtr
W3ZRQ	all bands fone CW. 2 mtrs.	W3OML	80 CW 75 fone.
W3EEK	40 fone-CW	W3CQW	? ?
W3FLJ	? ?	W3OFL	? ?
W3PHF	? ?	W3RZV	40,20,15,10 fone
W3PTM	75 fone 2 mtrs.	W3ZPW	? ?
W3ZXF	QRL colledge		

If there are any calls not listed it is not intentional, its just that we have no info on said station.

AREC (Cond't)

One thing which has to be clarefied is the difference between AREC and RACES. AREC is an ARRL emergency service with headquarters at West Hartford, Conn. Membership only requires a general class license and registration with your county emergency coordinator. RACES on the other hand is a Federal set-up and works in conjunction with Civil Defense. This requires fileing application with the FCC and obtaining a special RACES license. Also participating in C D drills at least 2 times a month to retain this license.

The AREC on the other hand works with RACES where ever and when ever possible. This SET was purely voluntary and those who participated should be given a hand for takeing time out to plan and operate such a net. One thing we always say is that a disaster never gives us any time to get ready. It strikes at any time and any where. Are you ready ?

On November 23 the RACES or Schuylkill County Civil defense radio system will put on a drill. All RACES stations are requested to participate. Information now available is that it will be on or about 3855 to 3860 Kc. 11 A.M to ? Further information will be transmitted on 3855 Kc. Sundays at 11 A.M. as soon as we get it from the County C D director. Alternate frequencies will be 3610 Kc.

We showed the local CD director what we can do so lets show the county big-wigs the same thing.

QST QST QST Callin' all Radio Amateurs * *

Back in the August issue we told you about our foreign coorespondent in Germany DL land. The latest letter from Steve states that he has passed the exam and pacing the floor. By this time he should have the coveted ticket. Steve however tells me of a perplexing situation. He has no literature or plans for building his station. QST magazine and the ARRL handbook are not to be found in germany. SO, to cum to the point, How many of us have some old QST mags or an old ARRL handbook gathering dust and at next housecleaning time will be thrown out ? ?

I'm sure Steve will appreciate any and all donations of such. So wat say fellers, lets make up a Christmas package and help our D X member out right. Bring your donations to the next meeting or see that I have them no later then November 22. I shall see that all get due credit and steve get a nice Christmas present. Steve hasn't forgotten about us-let's not forget Steve. 73 - W3ZRQ

THANKSGIVING is not only to give thanks for what we have recieved in the past, but also for what we are about to reve.

Happy Tnxgvng fellers...

To the membership at large..or to those of us finding it hard to find time to attend the A.W.A. meetings we wish to state that this publication expense account has been cut to the bone. Inactive membership has been removed from the mailing list. Postage donations are still only on a voluntary basis. After this mailing there will be exactly $ 7.14 in the expense fund. Those who at one time or another have donated will be left on the mailing list. The balance of this fund will be printed on the upper right hand corner of the paper each month and will apear as (example) 7:14 . When the fund is exhasted the publication will cease. AR Sig Al W3ZRQ