SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB ARRL

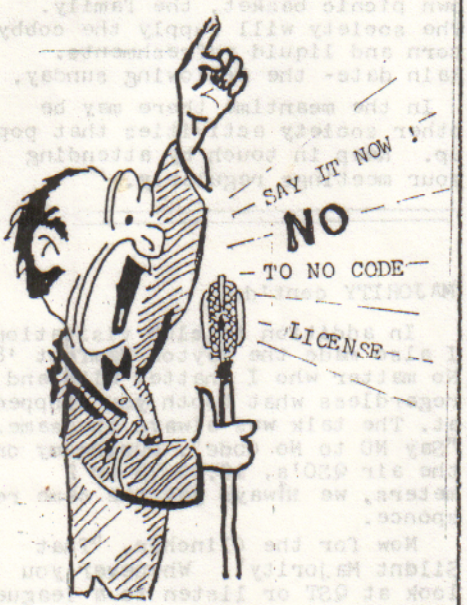
SPLATTER

This Sardine Wrapper is printed from time to time and distributed to the membership of the TAMAQUA TRANSMITTING SOCIETY, Tamaqua, Pa. 18252

SUMMER 1989

THE SILENT MAJORITY

Since our last SPLATTER which dwelved quite firmly on the issue of "No Code license", we have had the oportunity to travel a bit. I attended the Atlantic Division directors called meeting held at Bristol, Pa. We met and talked with about 25 other assistant directors, Section Managers, andclub officialsfrom W. NY., W. Pa. S.NJ and E. Pa. While swapping notes and words with these appointed and elected officials of the league it seems to me that about 95 % of them have had an excellant Brain Washing job done on them by ARRL. The greater percentage of them realy beleive in a No Code license. All they see is a greater number in the ranks and dollar $igns.



Now for the other side of the coin. I have visited with four radio clubs in a three county radius and found no support what-soever on the No Code deal. Another group which hang out mainly on the Anthracite Digipeater are very dead set against it. This is directly where the "No Code People' will run to. Have you any idea what this could do to the moral and activity on YOUR local digipeater or 220 Mhz. net ? To my knowledge there has never been much segregation in the amateur service. However, there could be a first time - You bet'cha.

Continued next page

SUMMER ACTIVITIES 1989

Now that the hamfest is history we can settle down to other society activities. For you that missed a few meetings or two in April-May, you also missed out on a few on-the-spot activities. During the middle of March PP&L Berwick Neuclear plant had an evacuation drill in which the Tamaqua Emergency team functioned perfectly. However, the county could use a few more lessons.

On April 30, a contingent of operators led by K3NYX and W3COW assisted the annual Hazleton Walk-A-Thon in cooperation with the Anthracite repeater assn.

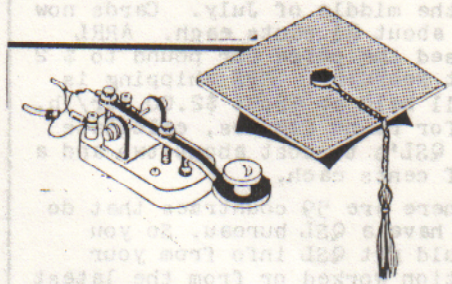
On May 8 the Appalation Amateur Radio Assn. put out a call for assistance with the "Tour De Trump" bicycle races as they were passing through Schuylkill county. W3COW and W3TI volunteered and were placed at a high vantage point south of Cresona. There were more than 135 cyclists who passed us. Communications were maintained from when they entered the county and west to the county line.

With the cooperation of more that 20 operators, mostly mobile, WA3YMU andWB3FTL coordinated and ran the show from the area State police baracks. The Pine Grove repeater 146-64 Mhz. was the primary frequency in use.

Now for future activities. Regards the VHF QSO party our society got the green light again to use the Anthracite repeater site. Final planing meeting will be held June 4. The real action takes place saturday june 10th. We will be operating on 2 and 6 meters, SSB and CW. We don't go for a big score but just to add to the QRM and get warmed up for Field Day. If you can't help during the day, we could use extra operators saturday nite.

Then you have 10 days rest and to keep on the good side of the XYL, take her to the QCWA dinner at Vitali's on June 17th. This will be Chapter 33 Penn-Jersey spring dinner meeting and is open to one and all. The dinner will function the same as our annual Xmas party. Cocktails at 6 PM. Order from the menu and dinner served around 7 oc'lock. No reservations, just be there.

Continued next page



NOVICE CORNER

I guess it's time to report on Opwration Novice Class. As previously reported the news media was contacted back in October of '88. The announcement was closed out as of December 31. It turned out that the first class was held January 27.

We started with 12 candidates and had 2 drop-outs the first instruction class. Around the 8th. class session we had the misfortune to loose one because of a heart attack. From the remaining 9 we had 7 pass the novice test and should have their ticket by now.

Comment from the instructor is due at this time. The class must be commended for enduring my type of instruction. I must say, they all did a terrific job on the written portion of the test.

It had been 7 years since I left the class room. I just passed my 69th. year and doubt if we will be picking up the chaulk or text book any time in the future. Looking back in time I was instrumental in teaching and getting more that 190 Novice, Technicians, and general class operators over the hump. On behalf of the society and myself we wish our latest class of novices success in Future exams and endevors.

U4MIR

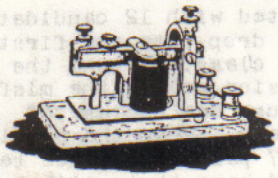
In case you are behind in the news, the Russian space station had 2 meter amateur activity aboard during April. A couple of county stations noted they had made two-way QSO with U4MIR. Ye editor made contact on two different dates. Now all we have to do is wait for the QSL card. I wonder how fast the mails travel from space ?

DX QSL BUREAU

Our societies DX QSL service has been functioning for about 5 years and is saving our DX'ers a bundle each year. The secretary collects your out going cards about 3 times a year and mails them to ARRL for proper disposition to countries through-out the globe.

Bringing you up to date on how it works. Bring your cards to club meeting. Next pick-up will be the middle of July. Cards now run about 2½ cents each. ARRL raised the price per pound to $ 2 last February. UPS shipping is still held at about $2.00 per/lb. So for round figures, calculate you QSL's to cost about two and a half cents each.

There are 59 countries that do not have a QSL bureau. So you should get QSL info from your station worked or from the latest DX bulletin. The following is a re print of those countries call prefixes that have no outlet via the ARRL QSL bureau. If you put cards for these countries in your out-going pile, they will be discarded and not returned. Please check your cards against the list.



The following country and prefix of calls are not served by the ARRL DX QSL out-going buro. Mail these direct.

A5	Bhutan	TZ	Mali
A6	United Arab Emirates	V4	St Christopher and Nevis
A7	Qatar	VP2E	Anguilla
BV	Taiwan	VR6	Pitcairn Island
C9	Mozambique	XT	Burkina Faso
D6	Comoros	XU	Kampuchea
ET	Ethiopia	XW	Laos
HZ	Saudi Arabia	XX9	Macao
J5	Guinea-Bissau	XZ	Burma
KC4	US bases in Antarctica	YA	Afghanistan
KC6	Belau	ZA	Albania
KC6	Micronesia	ZD7	St Helena
KH1	Baker and Howland Is	ZD9	Tristan da Cunha
KH3	Johnston Is	ZK3	Tokelau
KH5	Palmyra and Jarvis Is	3C	Equatorial Guinea
KH7	Kure Is	3V	Tunisia
KH9	Wake Is	3W	Vietnam
KP1	Navassa Is	3X	Guinea
KP5	Desecheo Is	4W	North Yemen
P5	North Korea	5A	Libya
SU	Egypt	5H	Tanzania
T2	Tuvalu	5R	Madagascar
T3	Kiribati	5U	Niger
T5	Somalia	5X	Uganda
TJ	Cameroon	7O	South Yemen
TL	Central African Rep	7Q	Malawi
TN	Congo	8Q	Maldives
TT	Chad	9G	Ghana
TY	Benin	9N	Nepal
		9U	Burundi



SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

In a more recent QST you should have read the report returned by the committee to examine the possibilities for introducing a No Code license. This committee spent one day in Chicago and made up a 4 page report (3650 words) which was submitted to ARRL.

After reading this report a few times I come to the conclusion that the league picked a few "Dandies" on this committee.

The following is just a small portion of their report and I can't realy beleive that these were learned people with amateur radio licenses. It does prove one thing."None of these fellas were ever operating during a real honest to goodness emergency."

Read on - What do you think ?

Other Considerations

The Committee also considered the following concepts:

1. The Committee does not believe that every ham needs to know Morse Code for possible emergency work. While there may be some validity to this argument on the HF bands, the rarity of the use of CW for such an occurrence on VHF/UHF does not justify excluding prospective hams from the Amateur Service.

2. The Committee does not believe that every ham must know the code because it gets through in adverse propagation conditions. Digital modes have the same advantage. That the code does so is certainly true, but this is no reason to require it. There will be no prohibition against anyone using the code, but if the amateur can't get through, so be it. It happens to each of us almost every day. There is no absolute NEED to communicate through marginal conditions.

3. The Committee does not feel it necessary that every new ham be required to know the code because it is most simple technically and least expensive mode. Relatively few hams who operate VHF/UHF even have rigs capable of receiving CW or transmitting MCW on those bands. The days of building a junk box CW rig for these frequencies are long gone—if, indeed, they were ever really here. For those who might wish to use code, they certainly may.



Activities cont'd.

The climax is Field Day June 24-25. We have the "go ahead"to use Still Creek dam again as our ground plane. Finad plans will be made Wednesday 21st. at the usual meeting place. The antenna crew will congregate at the reservior around 10 AM saturday. Your assistance would be appreciated. If enough show, we might concider running the second rig.

To end our summer activities we have the Tamaqua Transmitting Society picnic bash. August 20, location, same as other years, 1/4 mile east of the hamfest site. New England Valley. Bring your own picnic basket, the family. The society will supply the cobby corn and liquid refreshments. Rain date- the following sunday.

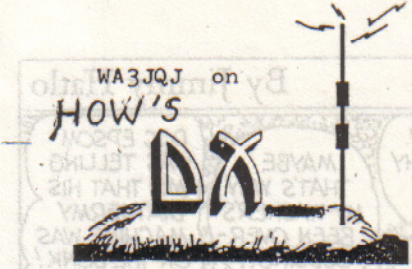
In the meantime there may be other society activities that pop up. Keep in touch by attending your meetings regularly.

MAJORITY cont'd.

In addition to club visitations I also made the Dayton Hamfest '89. No matter who I chatted with, and regardless what booth you stopped at. The talk was always the same. "Say NO to No Code". During my on the air QSO's, 10,40,75 or 2 meters, we always get the same responce.

Now for the Clincher, "That Sildnt Majority". Whenever you look at QST or listen to a league official, they always come up with the greater percentage who beleive in NO CODE. Yet, when you talk to the amateur at large you always get an opposite view point. Am I traveling in the wrong circles ?

In order that this comes to a head there must be a vote taken. And this is what YOU the amateur MUST do. These are words taken directly from the Atlantic Division Director Hugh Turnbull W3ABC. Write your comments on paper -PRO or CON, and mail them directly to him. NOT to ARRL. He stated he will take the count to the next board meeting and bring your desires to the floor of the board meeting. Mail to: 6903 Rhode Island Ave. College Park, Md. 20740



Band condx continue to be pretty good, cycle 22 has certainly proven interesting. Some DX worked since last report are; HL 5BDS (a Korean Antarctic station with QSL mgr. HL1ASS), FOØCW, TY9 SI, SV9ADH, TA2BK, FWØBX, FR4FD, CEØFFD, KNØE/KH3 and XF4L on Revilla Gigedo Island.

Another great source of DX continues to be on contests. Russian sponsored CQ-M is an example. TA1 AZ, UO5OAL, UI9AWX, and Jt1T in Mongolia for example. If your into prefix hunting, the soviets are issuing E-prefix calls. For exampleEW9BJ - asiatic Russia, EMØCOG - Kirghizia, EO9ACS in Moldavia. Don't hesitate to drop a line or call me for any DX info.

Some DX-peditions to watch for are; M-V Island beginning May 23, Svalbard June 3, and a possible Laccadive oper. sometome June or July. ZK1XV by WK2BCH on Rorotonga Island. The same group might include a week as 5W1GY and 3 weeks as VK2BCH/KH8.

If you happened to work XF4L Revilla, the 8 day operation produced 47,942 QSO. 40% CW, 60% on SSB averaging 260 QSO per hour. Till next time, Good Hunting.

CYCLE 22 NEWS

The 11-year sunspot cycle is gearing up for a predicted peak in December 1989. Researchers predict it will be one of the most violent in 250 years.

According to researchers at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the intensity of sunspot activity is expected to increase between now and next December. NOAA reports the average number of solar flares (51.3 per month over a 13-month period) is greater than that observed in a similar period in 1957 (40.7), previously the strongest sunspot cycle ever recorded.

NOAA researchers predict that the present cycle will peak close to 200 sunspots per month. Massive magnetic storms on the sun, which have played havoc with radio communications and electric power transmission, are expected to continue throughout this period. (TNX *Worldradio*)

ARRL MEMBERSHIP

We're saving bux via the DX QSL bureau, do y u want to save more ? If you renew your league membership through the society, you only pay $23.00 a year instead of $ 25. If you are over 65 or just a new member who is planning to join, you can save 5 bux. Need more info ? Contact W3TI the secretary. If you have a few months to go for renewal, do it now and save.

HAMFEST

HAMFEST '89

Well, the 13th annual Tamaqua Hamfest came to a succesful climax on May 21. The committee functioned perfectfully,No Glitches. Tailgaters and buyers left the place nice and clean. The VE's gave over 20 various exams and many left with smiling faces.

We can now say we are the LARGEST hamfest in Schuylkill and Carbon counties.

Some might say "13" is not to lucky a number. This was our 13 year and there are 13 members on the committee; N3CDE, W3COW, N3 CQB, N3GRD, K3IJ, W3IVG, NI3H, N3JD, K3NYX, KW3OPX, AI3Q, AI3R W3TI. They are already planning activities for next year.

CONVICTED AMATEUR ORDERED TO SHOW CAUSE

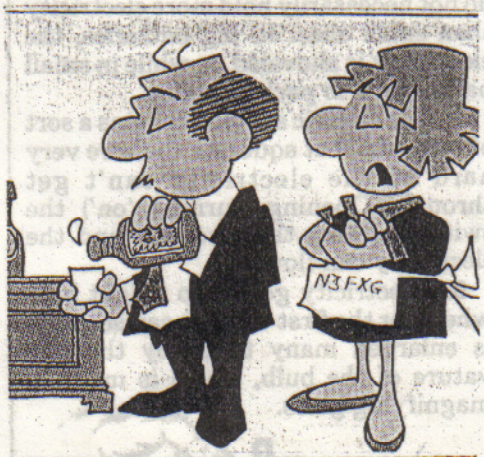
According to an FCC Order to Show Cause and Suspension Order released May 9, 1989, Jerry E. Gastil pleaded guilty and was convicted on February 22, 1988, of the offense of interference with Federal radio communications in violation of 18 U.S.C. Section 1362.

The conviction establishes that Gastil willfully and maliciously caused radio interference to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) between April 1 and 10, 1987 in violation of Sections 97.125 and 13.62 of FCC Rules.

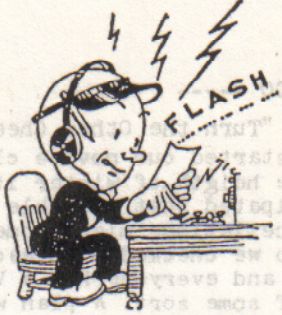
The Commission stated "it appears that Gastil lacks the requisite character qualifications to be a Commission licensee in the private radio services or to hold an operator license." The Commission went on to say "Malicious interference in any radio service is a very serious matter. It is the most serious violation found in the Amateur Radio Service, warranting the most stringent penalty."

DID YOU KNOW - - -

The names of the winning pidgeons at the hamfest were Blacky, Red Flash,and Guzle.



Don't tell me your having radio club meeting here again !



FROM HERE'n THERE

N3GRD is realy giving his new 2 meter mobile a real good workout.... We're still waiting to hear what the novice class picked up for call letters. W3TI attended the Dayton Hamfest and the only thing he brought back with him was rain..... If you want to contact ex-preexy K3NB you'll find him net control on Friday at 6 PM on 3917 Khz. and the Eastern Pennsy Fone & TFC net. KA3OPX pops up at all corners of the state with his homeing pidgeons....N3JD counting the days till the end of school.... NI3H is working days and nights sez its cutting into his DX'ing..... K3NYX was copied working DX on Charlie Whiskey- WOW .... Look out fellas, W3COW will have DXCC before 1990 gets here.... K3IJ is still running back and forth on the turnpike everyday ....N3FGY has the system of "Playing Hookey" down to a science.....K3SLJ has turned his front lawn into a parking lot for 18 wheelers.... We learned there are still a few of the attendees to the hamfest that don't know that chairs are made to sit on -- not tables..... Late ENTRY**** Our novice class picked up the KA3U-- block.... Harold KA3UOZ and Andy KA3UPB never got to use their calls. They both passed the Teck license test and now awaiting N3 -- Calls.

FCC ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

(News Release from the Bellevue, Washington FCC Field Office, dated April 28, 1989).

Working closely with the Amateur Auxiliary, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) was able to issue a Notice of Apparent Liability and subsequent Notice of Forfeiture to Mr. Billie E. Prell, N7FAQ, of Pasco, Washington.

The action against Prell was triggered by numerous complaints from other amateur radio operators who stated that he was transmitting radio signals on 146.04 MHz for the sole purpose of disrupting the communications already in progress on that frequency.

The intentional jamming signals were directly observed and identified by members of the Amateur Auxiliary's Local Interference Committee (LIC). The LIC forwarded the pertinent information to the local FCC office for investigation and enforcement.

Section 97.125 of the Commission's Rules prohibits causing malicious interference to other Amateur Radio operators. Causing malicious interference subjects the licensee to a monetary forfeiture or fine of $1000.

BE KIND TOO -----

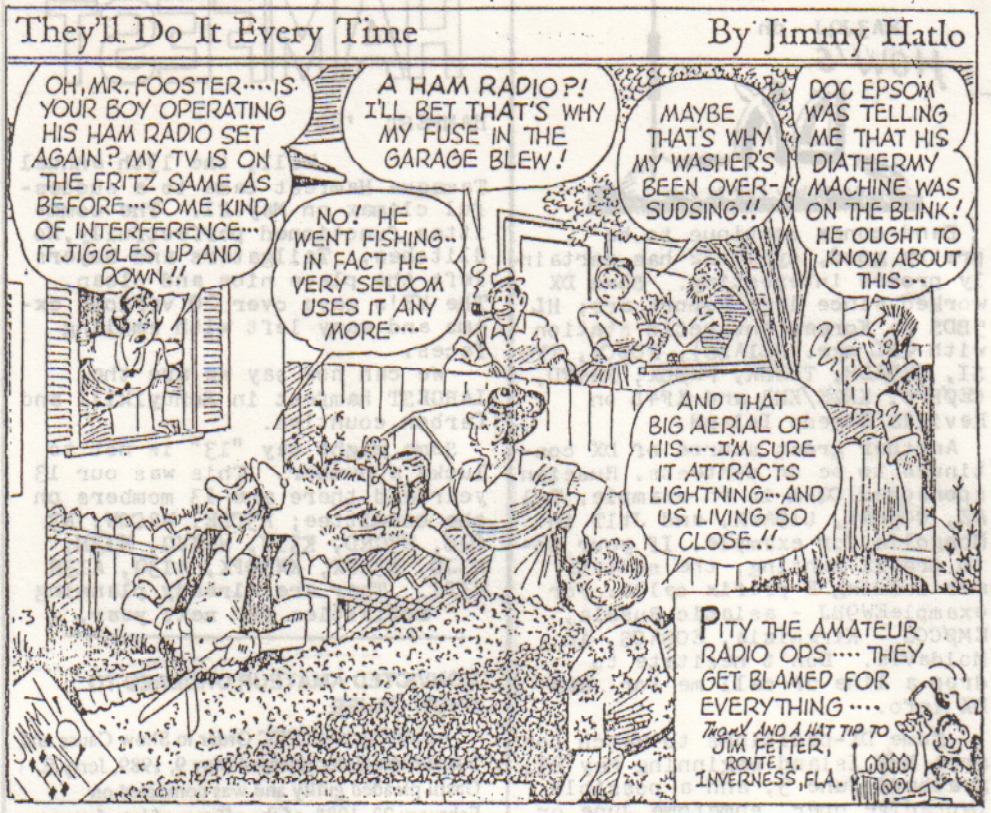
Or is it "Turn the Other Cheek"

Having started our novice class during the heigth of winter it was anticipated that possible class cancellations might come about. So we checked with each candidate and everyone had a VHF scanner of some sort. A plan was devised that we'd use the two meter repeaters to inform them of any class cancellations.

We give bulletins over 146-67 so that frequency was cleared. Contact was then made with 146-64 Appalation Repeater control operator and the Bowmanstown 147-255 repeater and asked each permission to use their repeater for such announcements regarding class cancellation. Each group welcomed us to use their unit anytime for such announcements. Well the system worked. We only used it once during a freezing rain storm.

OH! Your wondering why the other two (very local) county repeaters were not used ? Well, ye editor contacted the control operator at three different times and asked the same questions for permission etc. etc. Well three times the question was evaded and went unanswered. I wonder if it was time for the proverbial brick wall to fall on ME for the answer.

? ? ?



QSL MIR

If you happened to be fortunate enough to make contact with the Soviet Space Station Mir, QSL cards from U1MIR, U2MIR, U3MIR, U4MIR and U5MIR may be obtained by sending your card to Boris Stepanov, UW3AX, PO Box 679, Moscow, 107207, USSR.

All about electricity

JOE STROLIN, K1REC

I have been fiddlin' with electricity for 50 years! While I'm still able, I'd like to pass along some of my vast knowledge about this stuff.

1. Electricity is manufactured in power plants where it is fed into wires and wrapped around large drums that hang on poles.

2. Some electricity does not need to go through wires, like that used for lightning, for example, and portable radios. This kind of electricity is not manufactured, but just hangs around in the air, loose.

3. Electricity makes a low humming noise. This noise may be pitched differently for use in telephones, doorbells and electronic organs.

4. Electricity must be grounded before it can function — except in airplanes, which have their own arrangements.

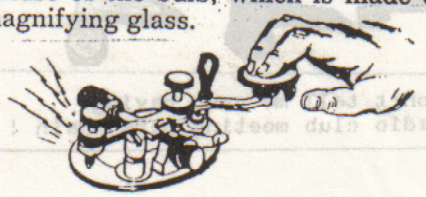
5. Although electricity does not leak out of an empty socket, if you put your finger in the socket you can tell it's there. So if it is not leaking out, what else is it doing?

6. Electricity is made of two ingredients, negative and positive. One ingredient travels along a wire covered with white plastic, the other ingredient along a wire covered with black plastic. These two wires connect to a device called a plug. There the two ingredients are mixed to form electricity.

7. Electricity may be stored in boxes, called batteries. Big batteries do not necessarily hold more electricity than small ones. In big batteries, the electricity is shoveled in, while in small batteries, it is packed in flat.

8. The electric switch contains a sort of vise grip that squeezes the wire very hard so the electricity can't get through. Opening (turning 'on') the switch releases the vise grip and the electricity can flow.

9. Electricity goes into a light bulb where for the first time we can see it! It is enlarged many times by the curvature of the bulb, which is made of magnifying glass.



10. Why does the light bulb blow out? 'Cause as any schoolboy knows, heat converts oxygen into moisture. When all the oxygen in the bulb becomes moisture, then the water quenches the spark.

11. Colored electricity lights red and green bulbs and stoplights.

12. Negative electricity runs refrigerators.

13. Some people who don't understand electricity wire their fuse boxes to hold little glass things with fuse wire in them. I find chicken wire better, and it won't blow out, even if the dryer goes up in flames.

Despite all this vast knowledge, I still don't understand a few things about electricity, like how a computer that speaks English can be programmed to speak French, which is a different voltage? Also neon signs are a mystery. How is the electricity trained to spell out things? How does the electricity know when the toast is ready?

P.S. Most of what I have learned was from *Readers' Digest. —From the Column "Sam Sez," North Haven Island, ME. The QRA News, Quannapowitt (ME) Radio Association. Reported by Norm Brooks, K6FO.* □



Announcement Enclosed

Gunderson Penn-Jersey Chapter 33

QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSOCIATION, INC.

SPRING 1989

SECRETARY REPORT

We must report that to date the cost of operating our QCWA chapter has been kept to a bare minimum. Our constitution and by-laws, official stationery, and association bulletins have been printed to date by K3NYX -FREE. Therefore, the only real expense to the association has been postage and envelopes.

Now, however since the chapter was orginized we have experienced an increase in postage. During the formation and chartering we did have a lot of letter writing. Since then the most postage has spent on bulletin mailings.

Now-- Regards the bulletin. You have'nt received one in a long time. Well if you check back in a past bulletin I stated that we need input, items to print, subject matter. WELL I didn't get any. Hence nothing to print but blank pages. I doubt if you would like to have me give a detailed chapter on my recent trip to the Dayton Hamvention. As matter of fact, I'm pushing my luck to get enough information in print for this bulletin.

As for the state of the association, we can report no silent keys this past year. Our present membership is 25. Our membership drive in the Allentown-Bethlehem area was shot down when they decided to organize their own in that area. Otherwise we seemed to hold our own.

SPRING DINNER MEETING

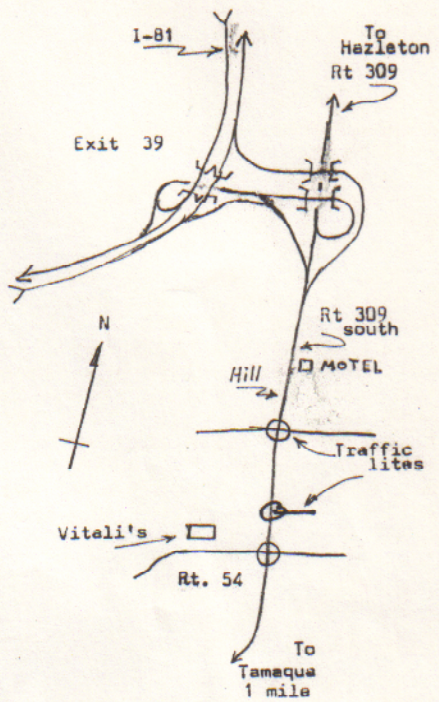
The spring dinner meeting will be held on Saturday June 17, 1989. It will be held at the same location as last year. Vitali's country house north of Tamaqua, Pa. The group will gather around 6 to 6:30 for cocktails and we'll try to have our meals served by 7 PM. This will be followed by a short business meeting.

The group that attended last year agreed that the food was OK and decided to go back this year.

For details on how to get to Vitali's, see the map. Those comming from the south, take 309 thru Tamaqua. Turn left at the intersection of 309 and 54. It's about 1/2 mile on your right. Please fill in the bottom section and return it so we can inform the resturant for preparation.

For motel, make reservations via 717-668-0100 . For dinner we order from the menu. Other data, see W3TI on 3982 Khz.





DUES

Nobody likes to hear that expression, but according to the by-laws it has to be brought up. Membership dues are $ 5.00 per year, payable during the first quarter of the year. New membership who have joined during the last quarter of the year are to be credited for the following year.

Tear off bottom portion and return before June 17, 1989 ----- Do it now ! It's later then you think.

Too:
A. R. Breiner W3TI
Secy. QCWA Chapter 33
212 Race Street
Tamaqua, Pa. 18252

QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSOCIATION, INC.

CALL _____ NAME _____

Yes we'll be at the SPRING FLING dinner meeting

Counting me, the number of people attending will be _____ number

QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASS'N., Inc.