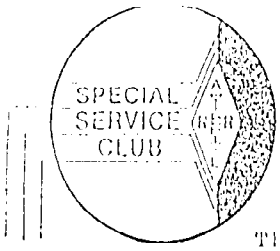
March 89



SPLATTER

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

SPRING ISSUE 1989

FROM WHERE WE SIT ---

What a way to start an editorial! However, let's keep the above statement in mind throughout this article. If you have been keeping up to date with the news by now you should have heard that ARRL is bringing the pot to boil again on the issue of "A no code license". Yes, it's true, there is a movement in the Northeast toward reaction and action on having FCC draw up a No Code Amateur License.

!!! JUST SAY NO !!!

If you recall, the FCC was told to back off in 1983 when the commercials tried to get them to make a no-code ticket available then, ARRL invested a few bucks in project "Novice Enhancement", that laid the no-code deal to rest for the time being. Since then the latest report shows amateur licensing has increased beyond 440 thousand. Yet, the league states their Novice Enhancement program not to be as succesful as had been anticipated.

!!! JUST SAY NO !!!

Well they're at it again. This time it is the league who is being prodded by commercial interests. "Lets get more Hams", "We need to sell more ham gear", "We need more league members". Latest info has the league spending a few thou- for a committee to study the need for same. And... who do you think is on said committee? Ha! You guessed it, non other than Tandy Corp. of Radio Shack and the AEA, Inc. You can be certain as to what their vote will be.

!!! JUST SAY NO !!!

Let's look at it from a different view point. A little more than 25 years ago FCC just walked in and took away the 27 Mhz. band from us and gave it FREE - no code - and later, NO LICENSE to the CB group. Just listen to those frequencies today, it's a crying shame. Well, there you have it, a prime example of what to expect. They got what the Communications Manufacturers wanted, a no code communicaitons area. I generally get sick in the stomach when I listen a few minutes.

!!! JUST SAY NO !!!

Now, from another angle, turn the dial back to ten meters. Listen to the voices of inexperience, or the recently converted CB'er who just got their Novice or Teck ticket --- or did they? Cruise that band on any Sunday afternoon and copy all the stateside calls you hear. Then take an extra hour and check them in a recent call book. You'll get the surprise of your life how many are not in the book. Delete any WA's or KA's who may just got their ticket. Most of those not listed will be K's or W's. Nuff said. Picture what other ham bands will be like in the near future.

!!! JUST SAY NO !!!

The argument you hear which is prognosticated by the media, is that by 1990 the large commercial communictions interests will have discarded all of their C.W. equipment. That's great, so much for the advancement of the State of the Art. But, we are not commercial operators. I believe that is why they call us amateurs. Wouldn't it be nice that some time after the year 2000 a license amateur could say "I still operate CW", you recall --- that is the form of communications the commercials dropped back in the 90's and it is still the only signals that get the message through the QRN.

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There is no doubt that the question of a "No Code License" will be brought to a vote. BUT BY WHOM? Will the vote be for and by ARRL Members alone? Will it be by ARRL and the commercial interests who conducted the survey? Or.... by all of the licensed hams in the United States who worked and studied for their privilege to operate their amateur station?

!!! JUST SAY NO !!!

In the course of human events, when it comes to pass that the "No Code" is adopted, I foresee a decisive decrease in "Old Timer" Leaque Membership. **So, the Leaque wins their battle, but sinks the ship.**

!!! JUST SAY NO !!!

XMAS PARTY 1988

Perhaps a bit late in reporting but the group congregated at 2330z and after cocktails and happy hour, had a splendid dinner served by our resturanteur, Louis Vitalli.

After a round of introductions of new faces present and a few words of welcome by prexy NI3H, a very short business session followed. Treasurers report noted since the hike on postage our balance has depleted quite a bit. 15 letters of communication were handled by the secretary during the year. Bulletins mailed to the membership and shall continue this practice for 89'.

K3NYX, activity manager breifed on the years activity such as; W2ØØTI and the QSL's, Field Day at Still Creek, VHF QSO party at 2000 foot elevation, VE3 fishing trip and out May Hamfest. Noted the 1989 Hamfest will be May 21.

The final 1988 activity was the 10 meter contest. A call for log sheets noted W3COW made the most QSO. WA3OPX and N3GRD acted as judges. A certificate of Excellance and acheivement was presented to Teddy, W3COW.

Nominations for 1989 officers were N3GRD for Vice president. All other chairs to remain the same as 1988. The ballance of the eveining was rag chew'in and a slide presentation of most of the club activities in review from 1958 to the present.

The party QRT around 0330z. Next Xmas party December 18, 1989

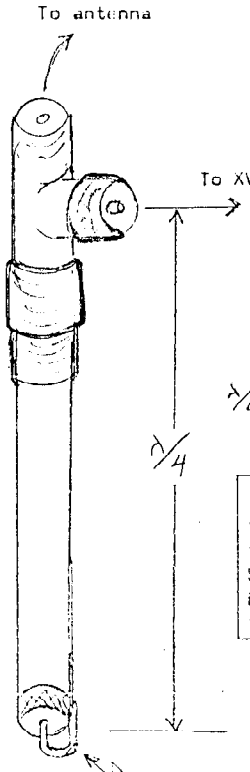
OUR NEW VICE PRESIDENT

Jim Rush N3GRD comes to us from New Boston, Pa. A commercal Industrial Electrician. He took his test at the November VE session at the Tamaqua exams last November. Since his election to V.P. Jim hasn't missed a meeting.

We do have one problem. It seems that every one of our club officers are camera shy. The best shot we could get of Jim was when he was leaving one of our meetings. (below) He is sportin' his new portable H.T.



THE GLITCHER By W3TI



Afraid of having your VHF gear blitzed by a lightning flash ? Who isn't ! The gimmic described here will not prevent destruction from a direct hit but it will bypass or short out high voltage glitches from nearby strikes of lightning. In order to fabricate the unit one will have to be a bit versed in algebra for the calculations. Parts are easily aquired.

DESIGNATORS FOR THE FORMULA

K factor = 5905
VF = Velocity factor of coax (see chart)
F = Center frequency of band used
λ/4 = ¼ wave length stub

$$\lambda/4 = \frac{\left(\frac{(5905)(VF)}{F}\right)}{2}$$

COAX LIST		
Type	Dielectric	VF
RG-8	Poly	.66
RG-58	"	.66
RG-8	Foam	.78
RG-59	"	.78
RG-11	"	.69
9913	Air space poly	.99

PARTS
1 Coax Tee connector
1 PL-259
Short length of coax. Must be same type as feed line.

INSTALLATION: Cut the coax feed line at a point close to where it enters your building or shack. Use proper coax connectors and let the stub hang outside. Do not ground the stub. Don't forget to put the usual rain drop loop in the coax.

Solder center conductor to outer braid, seal the exposed coax with silicone rubber sealer. DO NOT USE plastic electrical tape. There, now was that hard ?

HI OLD TIMER ? ?

This is a test. Do you qualify to be called an Old Timer. To test yourself you must check your junk box or work shop to find the following.

1. Short length of coax With hole blowed in its side.
2. TZ-40, 807 or 813 with plate cap melted off.
3. 1/2 dozen blown out AGC fuses.
4. 3 or 4 burned out piolet lamps.
5. Two-prong AC plug with its guts all burned and melted.
6. Ma. meter (2 or 3 inch) 0-300 The pointer needle has decided that zero reference is now located on the right hand side of the scale.
7. Ma. or Voltmeter with broken or cracked glass window.
8. Control or tuning knobs with set-screw threads stripped
9. Bakelite tube sockets with burned or crack marks between its terminals .
10. A pair (set) of test leads with one probe missing.
11. You recently had your call changed. You pull out the desk drawer and find 384 left-over QSL cards - Old Call -
12. You finally get time to clean out the tool box. You find a dozen left-over bottle caps from field day ... 3 years ago...
13. Small box of transistors. Each missing one lead.
14. A Xmtg type varible cap that looks like it had been blitzed by lightning (RF arc over)

HOW's DX By NI3H

Well, at this op's QTH, pretty good. Note some of these figures from WWV. Solor flux has as high as 278. It has been consistently over the 250 mark.As little as a year ago we were happy to see it break 100.

Some DX worked since last bulletin : 40 Mtrs. VK9NS,ZX3DA,9Q 5DX,. 20 mtr. 4S7WP,5N2SKO,9X5 AA, 9Q5DX,TA4A, 15mtr. YB2BNJ. 4S7EA,VS6UP,C53GS,9Q5UN,VU2TCC. 10 mtrs. ZK2AA,PAØGAM/ST2, KC6MS

Now for the new 17 meter band. VK3NC @ 0544 Z. CE8NOK/ZL5 Antartica @0615. and ZL3 at 0735. Wpw- looks like more sleepless nights ahead.

I hope everyone noticed the major solor storm March 12 thru 14th. Northern lights were in rare form as witnessed by club members at the sunday nite meeting at QTH of W3TI. The bands were totally kaput. WWV was completely wipped out. March 15 at 0118 z WWV was heard again.Flux of 260, good, but A-index 176....

We won't be at the top for another 2 years. I wonder what miricles in DX we can expect by that time. Well, happy DX'ing.

SILENT KEY

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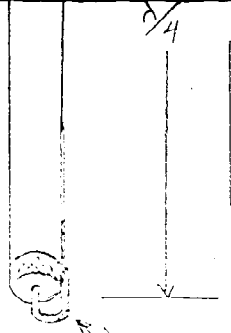


Jim N3GRD Latest photo

1989 SOCIETY OFFICERS

Pres.	Chip	NI3H
V. Pres.	Jim	N3GRD
Secy-Treas.	Al	W3TI
Act. Mgr.	Al	K3NYX

The society meets every Sunday at 8 PM. No dues required, just member activity. Special committee meetings on wednesdays.



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13. Small box of transistors. Each missing one lead.
14. A Xmtg type varible cap that looks like it had been blitzed by lightning (RF arc over)
15. You locate the long lost ticket. WOW, it expired 7 months ago.
16. 50 or more pieces of hook-up wire of various lengths. Never the length you need for the home brew project on the bench.
17. A 9 x 17 inch 16 ga. panel with 758 different sized holes drilled in it.

If you have 10 or more of the item listed - You're an OLD TIMER

If you list 5 - You're getting there. 4 and under, your still wet behind the ears.

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SILENT KEY

It is with deep regrets that I record the passing of Anthony Sarli, W3CMA. Tony joined silent keys on the morning of December 25, Christmas Day. He had been hospitalized since May 1988.

Tony was licensed in 1953 at one of our annual banquets when Joe Welsch gave exams at the Tamaqua Elks club. He was active on the HF bands up till 1980 and then only on 2 meter repeaters.

Tony was the society treasurer for more than 20 years and made sure every penny was accounted for.

Tamaqua

HAMFEST

COMPUTERFEST

NEW ENGLAND VALLEY FIRE COMPANY

May 21 - 9 am.

SPONSOR

TAMAQUA XMT'G. SOCIETY ~ ANTHRACITE RPT'R. ASSO.

RAIN or SHINE

Donation $ 3.00
per person

Tailgaters $ 1.00
Indoor Tables available
W/AC Power $ 3.00

FCC EXAMS 9 AM till 11:30
All code tests at 9 AM.
Exam fee is now $ 4.75
Make checks payable too:
ARRL-VEC . 610 forms are
available with a SASE too
K3NYX, Information below.

COMPUTER and ELECTRONIC
Hardware - Software - Flea Market

Prize Drawings every hour
Final drawing at 3 P.M.

D E L I C I O U S F O O D
By the Ladies Auxillary

Homing Pigeon Demonstrations

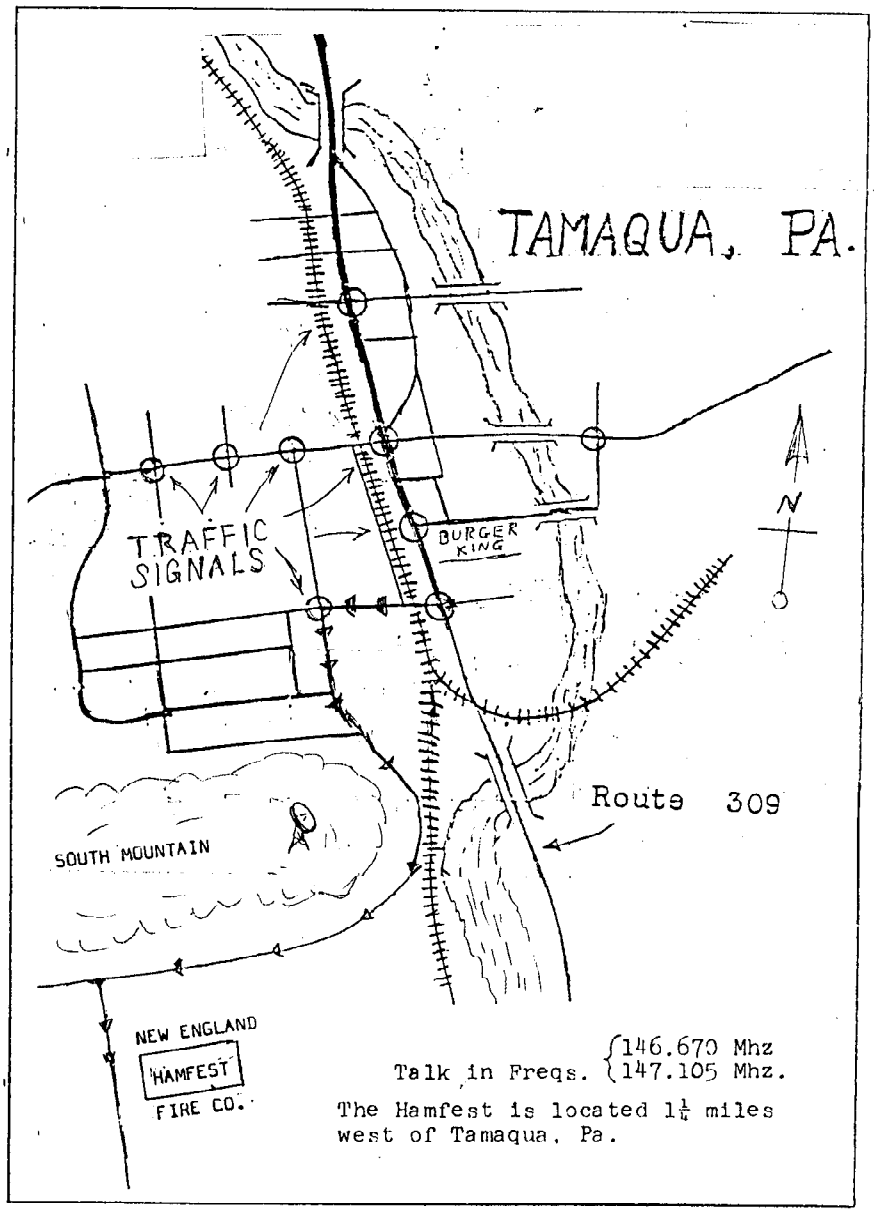
Your participation is invited

Ham gear, parts, Auction
11 AM and 1:30 PM

Visit the A.R.R.L booth

--------- and much more.

For additional information;
A.R. Breiner K3NYX
127 Market Street
Tamaqua, Pa. 18252



Talk in Freqs. { 146.670 Mhz
147.105 Mhz.

The Hamfest is located 1¼ miles west of Tamaqua, Pa.