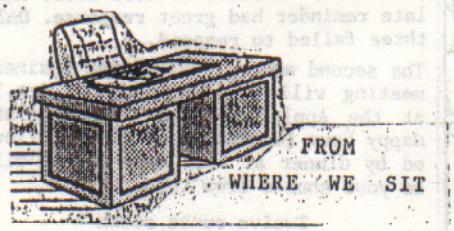
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SPLATTER

SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB — ARRL

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

FALL 1991 ISSUE



FROM WHERE WE SIT

NOTE For information to the membership, the editorial staff has been asked by the Atlantic division to discontinue making coment in our bulletin about the section manager. Well it's like this. When you get hooked on a good TV comedy show on the tube it is hard to break the habit. We continue to read about this fellow in QST and it reminds us of a good soap opera - you always tune in the next day to see who was taken over the coals.

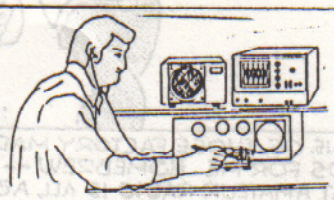
Well it is once more to the fore and the on-going saga of our wonderful EPA section manager. If you recall it was previously mentioned about a number of former very active section level appointment (including ye editor) which had been dropped, disappeared, kaput, well here's another to add to the list. For how many years, I can't remember, Brian Beitler KC3QB of Reading, Pa. was our Affiliated Club Coordinator and doing a fantastic job. Well, not any more.

To continue on an associated or parallel situation. Our society has been an ARRL affiliated club since it was organized back in the early 50's. Our group has always been very active in all ARRL functions. Then in 1984 Section Manager Kay Cragie KC3LM asked if we would consider becoming a Special Service Club and sent us the whole package of requirements, et cetera.

We were extremely surprized at the list of requirements because our society had been conforming to this list for many years. So we made application. This added extra to the society permitted us to plaster that little circular sticker on all our stationery and club bulletin for the past seven years.

Now for the clincher. Each year around February we get all kinds of renewal applications. One for being an ARRL affiliated club and another for renewal of the Special Service club staatus. After entering the necessary data they are forwarded to the section

continued next page



EVESDRIPPINGS By I. Duno

Acquiring that precious first amateur license that permits one to operate on FM or SSB phone is the first step in getting on the ham bands and a means to show off our intellect. Being one of the old school we listen on the bands for hours at a time, and have been accused of inactivity more than once. Not so, we have logged more than 20 hours a week on 75 meters, 5 hours on 15 and 20 while 10 is a complete bust. (Novice class of 1989 and '90 recall the ten meter warning ?)

On the other hand, it is remarkable how much one can learn by listening in on 2 meter repeater conversations. For example; An out of the area mobile actuates a repeater asking assistance and if anyone listening can give him directions to get to West Timbucktoo. Said mobile always gets an answer but the answering station never heard of West Timbucktoo. Yet he/she will ramble on and on about how to get to their hometown of North Spratsburg.

Then there is the newly up-grade operator who barely got by with a 71% passing grade at the recent visit to the VE. Continued listening denotes this person is now more knowledgeable, has more know-how, and smarts on how-to information which he imparts to the newly licensed novice and teck. If this type is so brilliant, how come he just squeaked by on a passing grade?

Did you know there are more antenna experts on two meters then on any other ham band. If you happen to visit said experts QTH one will find his antenna is wash-line height and when the XYL hangs out the wash to dry, she ends up with multiple R.F. burns on her fingers arms, and hands.

We could continue with a bucket full of comments by these intelectuals but you will find as we grow older we become to late smart and we trend to become a bit mellow with on the air comment. Perhaps that is why we put in more time at listening. Incidently, it is not the purpose nor intention of this article to single out any individual. But to be taken in the sense of constructive and instructive data only. Take time out to smell the daisies. Just monitor the bands from time to time.

YEARS OF YORE By O. L. Tymer

The topic for this issue shall be Field Day food. Our society has always been very fortunate in the culinary department. We were never much on favor of the hot dog and hamburger menu. So we shall recall a number of past Field Day main courses. For three years we held F.D. at the Boy Scout camp Nisatin on top of the Blue Mountain. The camp would open up in the first week of July and Field Day week end found the camp cooks stocking up for the season and they used us to sample their menu for summer campers. Lunch, supper, breakfast, and dinner was exceptionally prepared and cost the club a small donation to the Boy Scout Council.

Then there was three F.D. week ends on top of the mountain at Shenandoah Heights. For Saturday noon lunch some one showed up with a pot of hamburger Bar-B-Que, and for the evening meal 25 roast chickens and roast potatoes made the scene.

I wonder if the older members recall Field Day at CAP headquarters in Frackville. The commander of CAP was George Berger, nonham, but interested in our group. He volunteered as cook and made the statement "I'll make anything you want, just supply the grub". One of our new younger members spoke up and said, We'll all have sirloin steak. Well, this was a bit strong for our budget but the newcomer said, Not to worry, my father is a butcher and I'll supply the steaks. Sure enough, Field Day morning he showed up with about 35 steaks about the size of a dinner plate and 1¼ inch thick. All we can add, George had a field day preparing all those steaks - - - Ah yes ! I can still smell the aroma

Not being satisfied with the high elevation of Shenandoah or Frackville, we ventured to newer hights. The highest peak in eastern Pennsylvania, Bears Head fire tower near Delano, 2100 feet above sea level.

Jack Eva W3QKS declared himself the cook and wow did he have problems. His coffee was strong enough for the spoon to stand up by itself. It came out of the pot boiling and when one partook of said concocktion, the comment was always the same "This coffee's just luke warm.

Jack then took a crack at heatin up the baked beans. The bean pot was boiling, yet to the palate they were just luke warm. It was then we came to the conclusion of what we learned in

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

affiliated club coordinator who signs them when and if they meet with his/her approval, then forwards them to ARRL headquarters.

Our renewal forms were received May 10, 1991 (over three months late) and sent on their way May 12. June 20 received a letter telling us Brian is no longer the club coordinator and we have new one. This means another delay. This means the renewal we should have received back in March will be delayed till August or September.

Meanwhile we read in a more recent QST of Brians resignation. This raises the question, did he realy resign or kicked out for doing a fabulous job ? When ye editor was SM he had the following philosophy; Be kind to the people you meet on the way up, because you meet the same people on the way down. Let's not forget, next S.M. election is coming up in January.

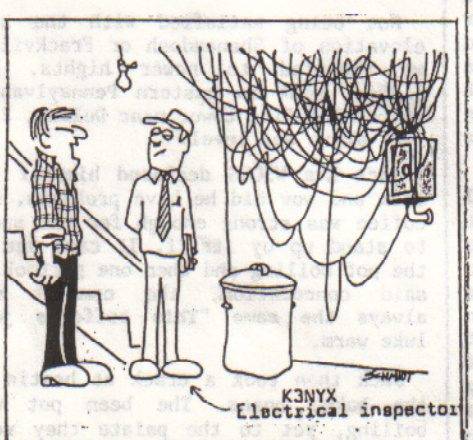
We printed elsewhere the six points required for a Special Service Club.

YORE cont'd.

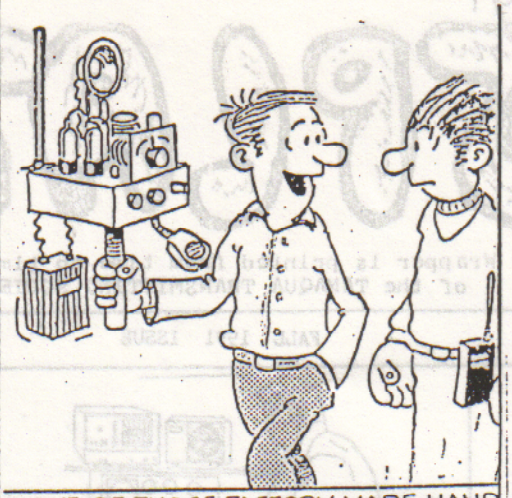
high school science class. As one goes up in elevation, the boiling point comes down. So that ended up as a luke warm Field Day.

The punch line for the Dalano Field Day is yet to come. It has always been tradition that F.D. breakfast consist of coffee, toast, home fried spuds with bacon and eggs. Jack would start early Sunday morning with a jumbo size frying pan and fry up a mess of bacon. One of our members was a retired dentist from New Philadelphia, Dr. Joseph Flannigan, (now SK). After completed frying the batch of bacon, Doc asked to use Jacks frying pan. Jack complied and Doc dropped a quarter pound stick of butter into the pan. Heating same and melting the butter he gingerly dropped about ten slices of bacon into the bubbling melted butter. Then the fun began, a royal battle between Jack and Doc. I can still hear Jack shouting, "You don't use butter to fry bacon". Doc was a bit taller than Jack. Doc took his right fore finger, waving it back and forth under Jacks nose saying, " I donated five pounds of butter to this Field Day and if I want to fry my bacon in butter, I WILL". End of argument.

More of YORE next issue.



What da' ya mean ? Of course I did it all by myself.



NONE OF THOSE FACTORY MADE HAND HELDS FOR ME. HOMEBREW--THAT'S WHAT AMATEUR RADIO IS ALL ABOUT!

SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB

The following are the six items that are required for an SSC appointment.

(A) PUBLIC RELATIONS

We have no problen getting press coverage from 6 area news papers and cable TV, and work closely with the Tamaqua Borough manager and EMA.

(B) EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

Our group has always been involved in local EMA drills and activities since 1959.

(C) TRAINING

Novice and advanced class instruction courses are held in the Tamaqua High School since 1963.

(D) TECHNICAL ADVANCEMENT

Each Wednesday evening we hold Technical nite to give advanced training and answers to members problems.

(E) OTHER ACTIVITIES

1. Operated on Field Day since 1946.
2. Members are involved in NTS.
3. Have an active RFI committee.
4. Have held the Tamaqua Hamfest since 1975.
5. and a whole lot more.....

(F) MISCELLANEOUS

1. We have full cooperation with local government.
2. Bulletins are transmitted every Wednesday evening at 7 PM over two 2 meter repeaters. Even though our OBS has been cancelled does not stop us from imparting news and amateur radio bulletins to the members.
3. We keep the Tamaqua Public Library up to date with donations of VCR tapes on Amateur Radio.
4. The society, itself has a library of VCR tapes for loan to the members.
5. A club bulletin is printed and distributed about 4 times a year.
6. We keep in regular contact with Atlantic Division Director. A member of the society is an Assistant Director appointee since 1959.
7. The society has a slide show on amateur radio which is available to local civic groups.
8. The society has its own VE team and gives exams four times a year.

QCWA
QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSOCIATION, INC.

GUNDERSON
PENN - JERSEY
Chapter No. 33

In our last bulletin and secretary report we notified our chapter members who were in arrears of 1991 dues. This late reminder had great response. Only three failed to respond.

The second annual 1991 dinner-business meeting will be held Saturday Oct.12 at the Apple Mountain Country club. Happy hour (cocktails) will be followed by dinner at 7:30 P.M. Entree will be your choice from three;

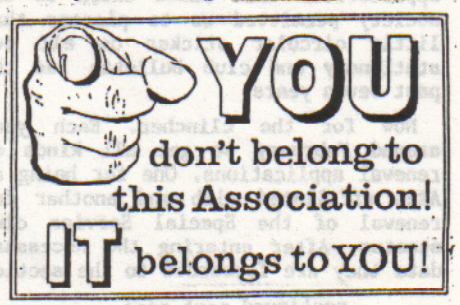
Twelve ounce steak
Baked Shrimp - Scampi
Chicken Marsala

A price of $ 15.00 per person includes tax and gratuity. Reservations MUST be made in advance, Contact our chapter president W2WIY of your intensions before Sat. Oct.5th. Everyone is welcome. QCWA membership is not a requirement. Bring the XYL, or someone else's. Got any ideas for a program ? Let's hear about it.

DECISIONS - DECISIONS -

It has been tradition that the nomination and election of officers of our society be held at the Annual Xmas party which will be December 14th. this year. It is also the time we hear the officers annual reports. Time is also taken to hear your comment and ideas to correct and/or improve upon past and future activities. Do you recall last year's party you expressed the desire to return to the first Friday of the month business meetings. We don't retain attendance records but only the June Field Day meeting was well attended as well as the December Xmas party/meeting. The other ten meetings only turned out about four or five of the active members. This lack of attendance has a discouraging affect upon the regulars. I recall a show of 18 hands affirmative to hold the monthly meeting. Now 5 out of 18 or only 27% attending. Let's vote on it again this year, at least we know we'll get 27% will vote yes. On the other hand, the weekly Wednesday evening Teck session continue to be well attended.

The next Tamaqua VE tests will be on November 2nd. at the Tamaqua Municipal building. 9 A.M.

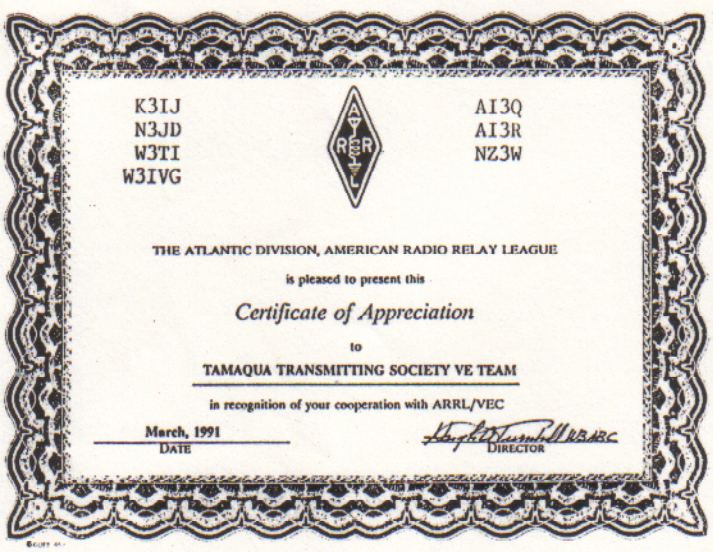


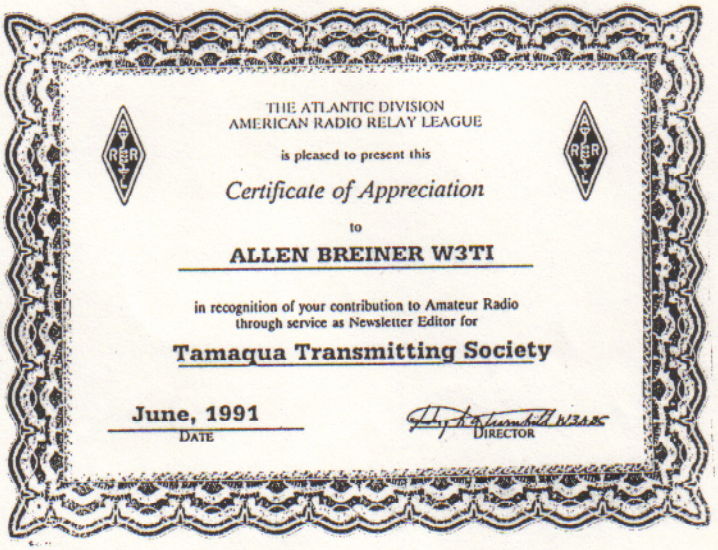
K U D O S

If you're like me you'll wonder if there is such a word "Kudos". Believe me, there is, I looked it up in the dictionary. Definition, "Giving glory or praise for achievement etc." Shown here are reduced copies of certificates our society received recently via pony express.

The certificate on the left gives our Volunteer Examiner team a pat on the back. However, we must explain that two-thirds of the team are from the Anthracite Repeater Association. So all the credit does not go to our Tamaqua Society, even though they are members of our Tamaqua club. The calls of the VE team have been placed on the mini version of the certificate. We encourage any of our members who are Advanced or Extra class to join the team. Just ask for information at any society function, club meeting, or technical session.

The certificate on the right was sent to ye editor. However, he cannot take all the credit for generating our society bulletin. Because there is more than one person involved in its editing. Our "How's DX" column is written by NI3H when there's any DX to talk about and it has been quite skimpy of late. Society activities details usually come from the Activities Manager K3NYX. On occasion members and officers add a few comments. Lest we forget, it is the member activities that gives us subject matter. Hence, Ye editor accepts the certificate on behalf of our active membership. Kudos to all.





THE PROBLEM - ANSWERS

The schematic of the resistance problem in last Splatter bulletin originally looked like that in figure 1. Then we made it easy for you as shown in figure 2. Now for the solution. If you got R_t to equal 2 ohms, you did it right.

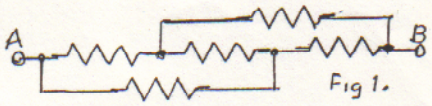


Fig 1.

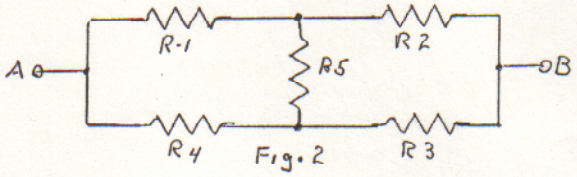


Fig. 2

For clarification we draw the schematic once more as in figure 3, and you immediately recognize it as a bridge circuit.

To treat it as a bridge we can change the circuit again as in figure 4. Ah-ha, what hoppen to R_5 you ask ? According to Kirchoff, resistor R_5 would act as a complete short and we can calculate R_t as follows.

$$R_t = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{R_1 + R_2} + \frac{1}{R_3 + R_4}} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2+4} + \frac{1}{2+1}} =$$

$$R_t = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{3}} = \frac{1}{0.1666 + 0.33333} =$$

$$R_t = \frac{1}{0.5} = 2 \text{ ohms.}$$

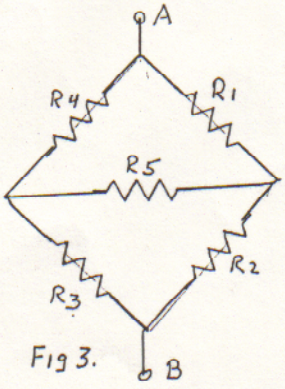


Fig 3.

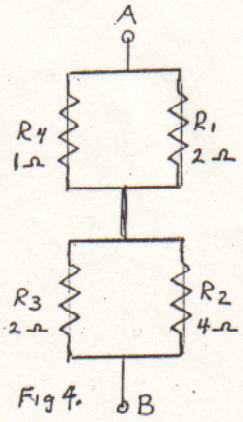


Fig 4.

Okey, now that you figured that one, If 17 volts were applied between points A and B. How much current will pass through R_1 and R_3 ?

LAST MINUTE INFO - We just received the Special Service Club renewal for 1991. In another five months we'll be receiving the 1992 renewal forms. Question - Is all this waiting and form fileing worth it ? ? ?

Tamaqua Transmitting Society

SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB — ARRL

212 Race Street, Tamaqua, Pa. 18252

President WA3WGG
Vice Pres. WA3WGF
Secretary W3TI
Act. Mgr. K3NYX

SECRETARY / TREASURER REPORT 1991

To the membership:

Each year you receive a financial report usually at the annual Christmas party. This year the report will be part of the bulletin and distributed to members only. The report will be for each account, i.e. The repeater account and the General account.

THE REPEATER ACCOUNTS:

This is supplied from Hamfest receipts and handles all Hamfest expenses and is maintained by the balance left over.

Hamfest expenses 1991	$ 112.01
Balance after Hamfest expenses.	$ 278.50

Repeater expenses

ARRL Repeater insurance.	$ 30.50
New Repeater antenna.	57.05
25 Ft. 52 ohm hard-line coax	10.40
Hamfest site reservation.	50.00
Misc. W2ØØ postaage, freq. counter batteries	29.00
Total Expended	$ 176.95

Donations to the Society from the repeater account.

June VHF QSO contest.	$ 20.28
Field Day expenses	55.88
Annual picnic expenses.	52.30
Total	$ 128.46
Total expended for 1991	$ 305.41
Deficit taken from 1990 balance	$ 26.91

THE GENERAL ACCOUNT.

All member donations are credited to this account.

Balance from last report	$ 61.22

Expenses Dec. 2, 1990 to Dec. 1, 1991

Five bulletin mailings postage	$ 36.81
500 # 10 envelopes	8.47
Secretary postage	10.33
Typewriter ribbon, glue stick etc.	15.20
Total expenses	$ 70.81

Donations were made to this account by the following members in 1991.

N3HHH, N3HHG, W3JWB, K3NB, K3NYX, W3TI.

Total donations to date: $ 40.00

Present Balance in this account - $ 30.41

Continued on next page.

REPEATER ACCOUNT.

As you can see this account ended in the red for 1991 and we had to rely on some of the balance from 1990. The judiciary committee has concluded until we can elevate the repeater account we shall have to curtail donations for Field Day, annual picnic, and other society functions.

Back in the 1930's you could enter the corner pub with a nickel in your pocket and get a 15 once beer. That 5¢ piece also entitled you to partake of a three course FREE lunch set up at the corner of the bar. Let's face it, the days of the nickel beer and free lunch are history.

+ +

THE GENERAL ACCOUNT.

As noted, when we gave our report last Christmas this account was quite healthy but who could foresee the postage hike by February 1991. This has caused a bit of a drain on the balance. In review of donations for 1990, there were eleven members who donated $ 72.50. That is quite a contrast to compare with six members who made $ 40.00 donations for 1991.

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IN SUMMATION.

So what of the future of the Tamaqua Transmitting Society ? There shall NOT be any discontinuance of any club functions. However, we shall have to revert to the system used by the club when first organized and a very successful system for many years. Each activity shall have to be financially self sustaining, i.e. Each member or guest attending said activity will be asked to pay their fair share of total expenses incurred. For example; If fifteen members attend Field Day and the two day affair expenses are $ 50.00. Each member shall be expected to reimburse the society $ 3.33. The elder members can recall Field Day expenses were never more than four bucks a mamber.

As far as the bulletin "SPLATTER", there are sufficient envelopes in stock for about ten bulletins. BUT there is only sufficient postage funds for two bulletin mailings. We can discontinue the bulletins and keep in touch via club meetings. Contrary to opinion, the Society will not become defunct. We shall be glad to consider any suggestions or corrective ideas from "You" the members.

##

SOCIETY MEETINGS.

In another part of the bulletin we gave a report on the Society's regular Friday meetings. We have no idea how many showed for the July meeting and found Vitali's closed for vacation. The August meeting had a show of six and the September meeting the secretary and activities manager were present. We all know that summer time is loaded with other activities, but if you recall, it was you the members who wanted these sessions and now you don't attend. Has the novelty of Ham Radio faded or gone by the wayside ? So as not to infringe to greatly on your valuable time it has been decided to discontinue the Friday meetings for the time being.

The next Society activity will be the Tamaqua Lions Halloween parade on October 29, followed by the Christmas Party in December. The 8 o'clock Wednesday evening Teck sessions are still very well attended. We hope everyone has had an enjoyable summer.