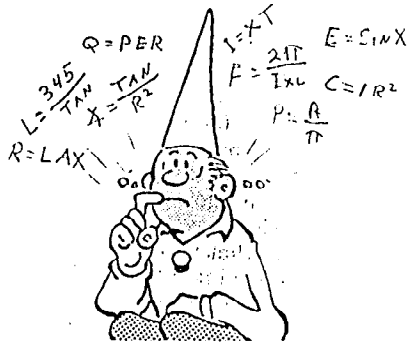
Feb 93

SPLATTER

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

1993 GROUND HOG ISSUE 1993



THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT EXAMS

If you happen to be an "Elmer" pass this info along to your protege. At the time of this writing it is still permissible for two general class operators to administer the Novice class exam and submit it to the FCC. In the future this practice may be eliminated and may be given only at a volunteer exam session by three or more examiners

Since the advent of the No-Code Technician, more and more have taken this short cut route into amateur radio. They get to operate on six meters and up. After getting their feet wet on VHF they hear about all that activity below 30 Mhz. and then check the manual. They notice all they need to operate there are novice class privileges and they're set. AND they only have to pass element 1a, the 5 WPM code test. Reading further they also read that the Novice class test is FREE - No charge.

BUT - such is not the case. Yes ! Novice class exams are free, providing they get that license first. Since "Said" newcomer has already passed element 2 and 3a that entitles him/her to the Technician privileges. It will now cost the price of examinations just to take element 1a, 5 WPM code test.

Now you see why we teach only the Novice class. Exams are free and should they want to get on 2 meters, all it takes is passing element 3a.

Questions for the present novice class element (2) and the Technician element (3a) shall be obsolete starting July, 1, 1993. The new question pools for these elements have been released January 1st and any exams for novice or technician given after July 1, 1993 will contain the new questions. The new questions can be identified by a different numbering system which are three characters shorter.

Continued next page - -

SOCIETY OFFICERS FOR 1993

It was a record breaking election at our annual Xmas meeting-party. Nominations and election took all of 82 seconds to elect the following officers of the society.

President N3HHH
Vice Pres. N3LBB
Secy. Treas. W3TI
Activity Mgr. K3NYX

OUR GEOGRAPHY LESSON

It's surprising, almost catistrophic, when you ask a recent graduate from high school, do you know where (a certain country) is located ? You'll flip when and if you get an answer. They never heard of Uruguay, and Chile is something you make with beans.

When you entered amateur radio's world of DX, one learns all about Geography and names of countries you never knew existed. Did you know presently there are 325 DX countries on the list ? Did you also know that names of various countries have been changed over the last quarter century? Follows is a small list of those. Some have also changed call letter prefix. Can you give the name of the country prior to its present name ? The call prefix is given first, followed by the countries present name. What was it called before ? How many do you know ?

TY2 - Benin
Z2 - Zimbabwe
ZR3 - Namibia
A4 - Sultanate of Oman
7O-South Yemin
XT- Burkina Faso
5R - Madagascar
TN - Congo
7Q - Malawi
A2 - Botswana
ZS- Rep. of S. Africa
J2 - Djibouti
SU - Egypt
7P - Lesotho
9Q - Zaire
5H3 - Tanzania
SØ - Western Sahara

The answers are on another page.



I don't know what he say.
I only got no-code license



FROM WHERE WE SIT

Don't be fooled by the replication above. It might remind you of some one on the editorial staff. Regardless, our topics shall continue to either give praise or tear someone apart. And as in previous bulletins we shall endevor to add to make it informative and instructive as well as entertaining.

No matter what deity you were reared with, at one time or another have been taught "It is better to give than to receive", "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you", plus many other quots regarding mankind and human behavior. President Lincoln made the statement "All mem were created equal".

Not true ! There is a minority (thank goodness) that do not beleive nor have been taught the above. Nor fall in the catagory who believe in the equality of mankind.

Five years ago Radio Shack,Tandy Corp. Texas announced that all Radio Shack stores were to show courtesy to amateur radio clubs by encouraging and permitting them to display meeting notices and other associated activities in their stores. Our society took advantage of the free advertising and placed Hamfest flyers at Lehighton and Hazleton stores. Frackville and Pottsville stores had not been built yet, but later were included.

All of these stores were glad to assist and welcomed our activity announcements. However, the manager of the TAMAQUA store refused to allow it. His excuse was"The Texas office never made such a statement". We got the info via QST and an ARRL bulletin, but he still said "NO GO".

Continued next page

Exams continued.

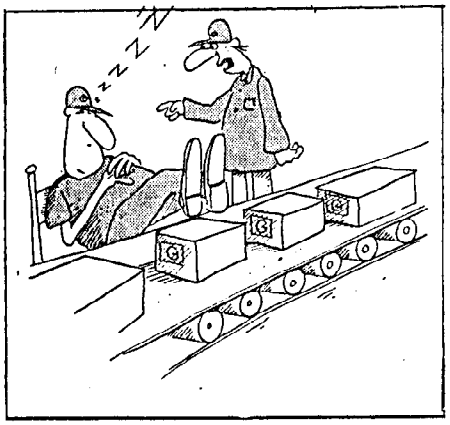
Our VE team and the society secratary will be receiving a copy of the new questions within a few weeks. If you are elmering a student for any of these exams we'll be glad to provide you with a copy. This offer is good only to members of the society.

As previously mentioned there is no charge for novice class elements. However, after January 1, 1993 the new cost for technician and higher class elements will be $ 5.60. When you plan to go for an up-grade exam don't forget to take your present valid license with you. ALSO a xerox copy which will be attached to your 610 form. If you have any CSCE (Certificates of successful completion of exams) the original certificate must be presented. Our VE team has had to deny acceptance of xerox copies. We don't make the rules, we just have to follow what the book says. When you pass any element(s) a new certificate is given you. If you happen to fail all elements taken, the examiner will return your original certificate which can be used until its date of expiration.

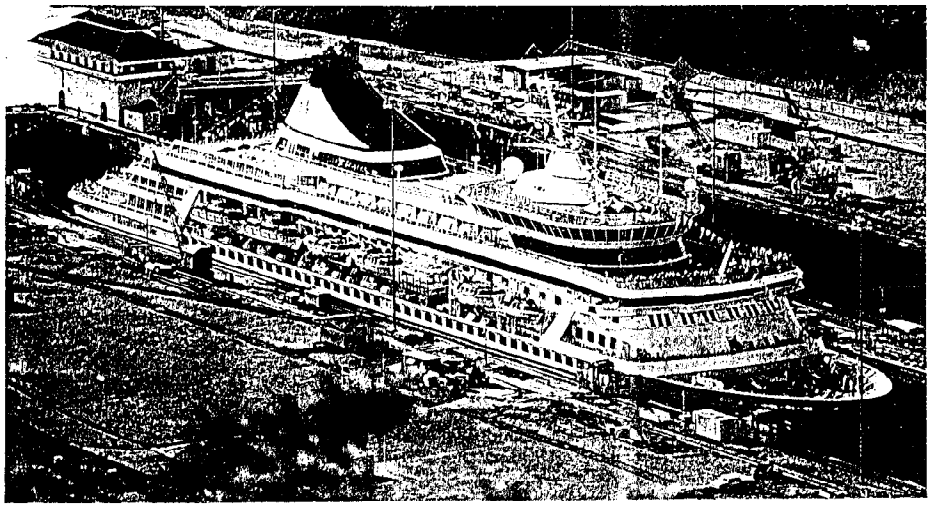
A xerox copy of the 610 form is another item that cannot be accepted for license renewal or up-grade at a VE session. BUT, if you just passed a novice exam and are waiting for your first license to arrive and you wish to try for the technician class license before you novice license comes from ye FCC. Then and ONLY then will a copy of your original 610 form be accepted as proof that you passed the novice exam. However, in the event that the new rules go into affect and all new novice exams will have to be given by 3 or more volunteer examiners, then any new novice will receive a CSCE which will carry over for a year before expiration.

Ever since the FCC dropped all amateur examination in our (the amateurs) laps, they have been adding, changing, and deleting rules governing volunteer examinations. The Tamaqua VE team has kept abreast and up to date with all changes. If you are not sure and have a question on any part of the exam, you can usually get the answers from the society secretary.

Above all, don't get tiffed at the examiners. They are licensed Hams just like you. They don't make the rules, They just have to abide by them.



"Hey Vinnie, wake up. The boss wants to know if you want to work overtime."



The photo shows a ship in one of the canal locks.
NO, It is not Budi's 35 footer.

THE ADVENTURES OF BUDI AND KATE

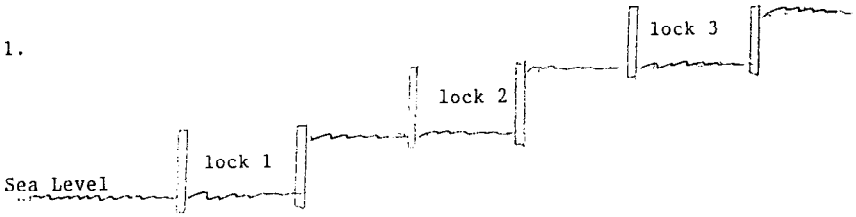
When last we left our adventurous duo they were in the Gulf of Mexico with automatic rifles pointed at them. So to continue ------

Holding guns on our vacationers the smugglers told them all they wanted was gasoline to continue their trip to Florida. Budi acknowledged that he had extra gasoline stored below. One of the dope runners boarded Budi's boat and instructed him to get one of the gas cans. Budi didn't argue with a gun pointed at him and just headed for the cabin to retrieve a five gallon can of petrol. His journey took him past his brand "K" transceiver which was still turned on and all warmed up. He had previously had a QSO on 40 meters when they were held up. In passing by the rig Budi nonchauntly tripped and fell against the operating table and pressed the MOX button (Manual Operated Xmitter), then proceded to get the can of gasoline for his intruders. Well you guessed it. While they were transferring the fuel the whole conversation was being transmitted via 40 meter SSB. The whole thing was monitored by a station in Florida and phone patched to the Coast Guard. They in turn notified a nearby coast guard cutter who got Budi's signal on their DF (direction finder) and were on the scene before the gasoline transfer was completed.

The coast guard replaced Budi's fuel that had been confiscated, thanked Budi and Kate for their alertness and assistance in capturing the three smugglers. Back on course again, Budi aimed his 35 footer toward the Panama Canal. They arrived at the canal entrance on July 7. Then came the waiting in line to get through the canal.

All the years Budi spent in the Navy, he had never gone through the isthmus of Panama. Then when it came time for them to maneuver into the first canal lock what do you think accompanied them ? It was one of U.S.A.'s finest, an Air Craft carrier. When the canal was built they didn't realize how large ships of the future would become. The canal locks only held the carrier and Budi's small 35 footer. It was a tight squeeze and all went well, until !

Figure 1.



INFO: A canal functions by a series of water steps as shown in figure 1. After a ship enters a lock at sea level (step 1) the lock gate is closed and water is left in from the second level of water (step 2). This raises the ship to the second level. It enters the next lock and raised higher, etc. Reaching the highest point of the canal, it begins to lower the ship in the same sequence. Only now instead of water filling the lock, the water is drained out of the lock lowering the ship to the next level till it reaches sea level again.

It was during the lowering phase that things began to happen. Upon entering a lowering lock, Budi grabed a line (rope) fastened to the bow of his 35 footer and tied it off to one of those funny looking bull-horns that are imbeded in the canal concrete walls. All went well until the water level began to lower to get down to the next level. The slack in the line (rope) became taut. The bow got higher, stern went lower. As we leave Budi and Kate their boat was at a 45 degree angle and Budi could not reach the bull-horn to untie the line.

Will this be the end of Their long planned vacation trip. More in next issue

GUNDERSON-PENN-JERSEY
Chapter 33

What ever happened to 1992, it's gone and '93 already on the way. Our chapter is now five years young and the fiscal year for the National association as well as chapter 33 begins the first of January. This means annual chapter dues are collectable as of January one. Chapter members that have already met that obligation will find their 1993 membership card enclosed. On the other hand, if said card is not enclosed, check for a red circle around your mailing address call letters which means you are in arrears. Dues may be sent to ye secretary or our treasurer, Eddie Gigliotti, W3APE 920 Oak Street, Bangor, Pa. 18013.

Our chapter still holds a regular monthly luncheon on the first Wednesday of each month at Luigi's on Rt. 64 Belvidere, N.J. Take a break from your daily routine and have lunch with the group. Bring the XYL also a friend. You do not have to be a member to enjoy the fraternal friendship of QCWA.

- GEOGRAPHY ANSWERS -

Name now	Name before
Benin	Dahomey
Malawi	Northern Rhodesia
Zimbabwe	Southern Rhodesia
Botswawa	Bechuanaland
Namibia	South-west Africa
Rep. of S. Africa	South Africa
Sultanate of Oman	(two countries)
MP4 Muscat & Oman)	(Trucial Oman
Djibouti	French Somaliland
South Yemin	South Arabia
Egypt	United Arab Republic
Burkina Faso	(two)
Voltaic -	Upper Volta)
Lesotho	Basutoland
Madagascar	Malagasy Republic
Zaire	Republic of the Congo
Congo	Republic of Congo
Tanzania	Tanganyika
Western Sahara -	Ifni & Spanish Sahara

If you got 50 %, you're an expert.

WE SIT-Continued

All Radio Shack stores were glad to oblige and assist with our societies endeavors with Tamaqua being the exception. Our bulletin policy has always been, not to print or exploit any commercial or business advertising. However you must agree this item had to be brought to our memberships attention.

This item was not meant to discredit all Radio Shack stores but we leave you hang with the decision. Would you continue to purchase items at the Tamaqua RADIO SHACK ? Nuff sed.

1993 SOCIETY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

March 6	VE Exams at Tamaqua Municiple building.
April 16	Novice class exams ONLY.
May 30	Assist Tuscarora RC Flying club.
June 6	Tamaqua Hamfest.
June 6	VE Exams at the Hamfest.
June 26-27	Field Day Bash - 1993
August 7	VE Exams Tamaqua Municiple Building
August 22	Annual Family Picnic
Oct. 26	Tamaqua Halloween Parade
Nov. 13	VE Exams Borough building
Dec. 11	Annual Xmas Party

Regular monthly business meetings are held the First Friday of each month. Committee and Teck sessions are every Wednesday. Additional activities may be added thru out the year. Keep in touch with the society. Attend meetings

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THE CLOCK OF LIFE

The clock of life is wound but once
and no man has the power

To tell when the hands will stop.
At late or early hour.

Now is theonly time you own, live, love
and toil with will.

Place no faith in "Tomorrow" for the
clock may then be still.

Itis with deep regret that we record the passing of W3OHX. Emil Timko W3OHX became a silent key on November 8, 1992 An active amateur in the Hazleton area. An ardent DX'er and great supporter of the Tamaqua Annual Hamfest.

THE LEAGUE AND YOU

The following article was gleaned from "Penn Wireless Asso." bulletin whose editor in chief happens to be K3TX and appointed Assistant Director for the Atlantic Division. The article written by W3ZXV is also an Assistant Director and the three of us get to see, meet, and greet each other at the Atlantic Division cabinet meetings. His article is well written but tends to raise ARRL onto a high pedestal as the "Grand Poobaa" of Ham Radio. Gene and ye Splatter editor have been friends for many years past and knowing him, he would not knowingly write anything derogatory about the league. I, on the other hand, keep looking toward the progressive side of things and at times tend to stray from the beaten path. Whereby we take time to stop and listen for ideas in need for change. We hear some good, some not so - -, and at times you read about your ideas in SPLATTER. That, of course, is against the PRIME DIRECTIVE and has caused our Atlantic Division Director to slap ye editors wrists a few times because we printed the wrong thing. Our Society, small in numbers, but large when it comes to change and ideas. However, when you say "ARRL", DON'T ROCK THE BOAT, or else ....

Gene's article is printed in the larger type. Following each item we give additional information in smaller type.

ARRL - WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME ? and why should I join ?

By Eugene C. Pressler, W3ZXV

Wilford Brimley, the lovable old character actor may be giving you the best reason in his current Quaker Oats commercial, "Because it's the right thing to do".

Well, doing the right thing is not something that motivates everyone, so here are a couple of more tangible benefits that should give you enough reason to join the American Radio Relay League.

The League is the largest Amateur Radio organization in the world and since the earliest days of radio it has been our most effective spokesman for the Amateur radio service. ARRL offers us a host of important services which need our support. Included are..

W1AW bulletins and code practice and proficiency sessions.

We agree, the W1AW bulletins (sent at 18 WPM) are a great service to us and the Society. Especially since our Section Manager cancelled our Official Bulletin Station appointment. As far as the code practice goes, it's okey for the licensed ham who has receiving capabilities. It don't do much for the novice without a receiver. Over 95 % of our novice class candidates rely on cassette practice tapes. Beginners don't get QST, therefore have no way of checking their copy because the text is taken from QST back issues.

The Amateur Radio Emergency service, which has established an outstanding record of serving the public in countless natural disasters.

You are not required to be a member of ARRL to belong to a local or section or state emergency radio communications service. Any emergency net will gladly accept your volunteer assistance, be ye a league member or not.

Our Transmitting society has over 80 % league affiliated membership and a few years ago we asked the Section Emergency Coordinator for a supply of ARES identification cards and were refused on the grounds that our emergency group was not recognized by our county Emergency Coordinator. So we printed our own photo I.D. cards. Our group assists in all drills including real emergencies such as the Wilkes Barre and Johnstown floods and were never asked if we were ARRL members when we offered them our assistance.

The registered Amateur Radio Instructors program and Volunteer examiners to assist prospective new amateurs to obtain their licenses conveniently.

Regulatory assistance to help in situations involving FCC regulatory matters, antenna tower zoning restriction problems, reciprocal licensing procedures and a network of volunteer legal representatives.

If you have a zoning problem with your newly erected tower, league lawyers will assist in the form of advice. You will still require your own local legal advisor (lawyer) and he had better know the difference between local, state, and federal regulations regarding amateur radio towers.

Technical books, publications, learning and teaching materials.

No doubt about it, the league has some good technical publications but when you purchase them direct from the league you pay top dollar, plus shipping. Our society has learned to shop around. You can get the same publications at quite a discount and the savings are passed on to the membership. As for teaching materials, our class instructors were informed they have to pay for ARRL instruction lesson plans. Being a retired Electronics teacher, we designed our own. We did get to review the leagues teaching aids and we can only say, our students understood ours better than those from the league.

ARRL - sponsored contests which cover activities from emergency preparedness to just plain "Fun events".

You do not need to be a member of the league to participate in any, on the air, contests or events sponsored by ARRL.

A comprehensive ham radio equipment insurance program which offers low rates and solid protection for individual, club, and repeater organization equipment.

The equipment insurance program is a good deal, but you must be a member, Our only complaint was the rate hike after the San Francisco earthquake. They stated the reason was to cover those insurance claims. There must have been one heck of lot of insured hams in San Francisco at that time.

A field-based organization made up of a select group of locally-based volunteers to asist members in a wide variety of operating and technical activities.

That select group must keep to themselves all the time. Our Society being league affiliated has never been contacted by any of them. It would be nice to have a visit from one (or more) as a club program.

An outgoing foreign QSL service to assist in exchanging overseas QSL cards at a nominal cost to individuals on both sides of these exchanges.

The league's DX QSL program is a bargain and 6 or 8 of our societies DX'ers do take advantage via the club. Latest figures cost about 2 ½ centa per card.

A wide range of awards to recognize individual operating achievements. Included are some of the most prestigious awards available to Amateur Radio operators such as DXCC, WAS, WAC, etc.

At one time these awards and certificates were FREE to qualifying amateurs. Today aside from qualifying, you must pay for them over and above your membership fee.

Finally, the ARRL's membership magazine is delivered to your door each month chock full of information of the whole spectrum of amateur radio and league activities. QST is alone reason enough for supporting the ARRL.

And now we get to QST the monthly magazine. I can recall when QST and membership cost $ 5.00 a year and it was chock full of design and construction topics. The price today is $ 30.00 its contents trend to cater to the beginner. They seem to have forgotten about the elder member and the old timers.

Ye editor has been a league member since before WW II, also ten years as an elected league official. The league, at present, is our only voice and connection with the lobbyists in Washington, DC. It has its good points, then again not so - - The interjected comment between Gene's paragraphs are meant to be informative and not contradictory. This is so you get a clearer picture of the A.R.R.L.

I know that after our Division Director reads and digests the article I'll be getting another twenty lashes and more wrist slapping for being too outspoken. Oh Well ! - -