Sept 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 LATE SUMMER ISSUE 1993

SO YOU THINK YOU HAVE PROBLEMS

Following are excerpts from a letter received recently by the Tamaqua Municipal Water Department. Names and location have been deleted for obvious reasons.

Dear Friends of Water & Sewer Dept.

I would like to know what I should do or what the water dept. can do for me.

The people living next door are using my water lines for their "C.B." and Scatter (probably means Scanner) that's to listen to police calls. They have it fixed in the kitchen that they can turn the pressure on and off from the (water) lines to suit them, and it interferes with my heating system. Sometimes the water doesn't come on for my heat and my pipes bang terrible. This has been going for over one year.

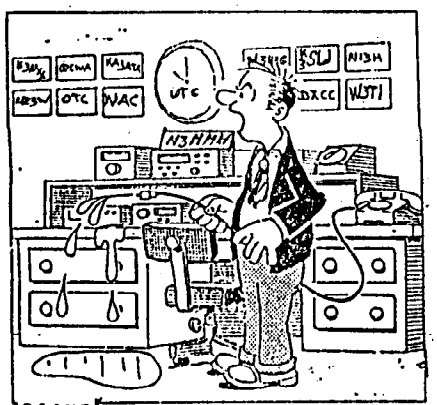
When she is trying that scatter the pressure in my hot water goes down. I just done (washed) some clothes and the pipes banged. Those people are driving me crazy. (Also the Water Dept. girls)

I had a plumber 6 times last year and again 2 weeks ago and he said "Mrs -------- There is nothing wrong. It's all coming from someone else if you have any banging in your pipes. Etc. etc....

[At $ 25.00 an hour, is this another indication of the type plumbers they're turning out today.]

The above story is true. The Water Department turned the letter over to the Borough Manager, The Borough Manager turned the letter over to the Zoneing Officer,K3NYX, The Zoneing officer turned the letter over to the Tamaqua Transmitting Societies RFI Committee,

Now we have the problem ! How do you cure RFI in someone's plumbing that is coming from a SCATTER next door ? Got any ideas ? ?



DIANE!--- DID YOU HOOK MY RG-8 TO YOUR GARDEN DRIP SYSTEM ??

Well we just got the FIRE CRACKER issue to bed and in the mail when the July issue of QST arrived and by now every one has had time to read the editorial on page 9,"WHERE ARE ALL THE NOVICES" by K1ZZ. I guess you'll agree that our Fire Cracker editorial had covered a partial answer to his question. But when an Amateur Radio license is more easily acquired, its value seems to diminish and the No-code teck is very, very easy to come by.

Now let's take a look-see, where do all those Tecks end up ? Monitoring a three county area here in the Anthracite region you are always able to strike up a QSO on one or more of the Two meter repeaters. They all have a N3--- call prefix so you don't know if you have contacted a General or Teck, so how can you tell ? It's easy !

Keep the QSO going for 4 or 5 minutes and you'll soon know.



FROM WHERE WE SIT

Shall we refer to the Fire Cracker issue. Recall it stated that up till post WW II the General and Extra class exams were tough to pass. You realy had to have some knowledge about Radio, construction and on-the-air experience.

Well not anymore ! So hang on to your seat belts because this gets better, word for word, as we continue. That package of Novice and Technician exams elements related to in the column "NEXT EXAM TIME". We took time to review them and almost fell through the floor. Good thing the shack floor is well braced. Now you don't even have to memorize those hard Electronic formulas. YES ! Every exam element has all the necessary formulas printed right on the front page.

$$\frac{F}{IR} \qquad Ft. = \frac{984}{F(Mhz)} \qquad Ft. = \frac{468}{F(Mhz)} \qquad Ft. = \frac{234}{F(Mhz)} \qquad M = \frac{300}{F(Mhz)}$$

YES ! There they are in big bold print, just as big as life. Since they can print this information on the front of an exam element why not permit a candidate to use a calculator that has the formulas all entered in its program memory ? See anything wrong with that ? I don't.

Advanced class exam elements are next to be revised and should go into affect July 1, 1994. Will those elements also list the formulas on the front page ? What in the world will F.C.C. and the VEC's dream up next to get more Amateurs licensed ?

At the time of this writing there were over a half million licensed Amateurs in the United States, with more and more entering our hobby each week. Technician class boasting the greater number and Novice coming in last.

W1ZZ asks "Where are all the Novices". There are many Radio Clubs like ours throughout the country that still teach and turn out a hand full of Novices each year and more than 95 % become active on C. W. (For the information of the Tecks, That's Morse Code). Once a Novice gets a taste of CW they notice how easy it is to have a nice QSO with someone in Europe, Africa, Japan etc. This whets their appetite and they move on to General or higher. A Novice only stays in the Novice class for a very short time and moves up the ladder whereas the No code teck likes to talk and seems very well satisfied with a rig you never have to tune up, just press the button and talk.

So why are there so many more Technicians versus Novices today ? Do you still need a Blueprint ? QUANTITY or QUALITY !

Tamaqua Transmitting Society

SOCIETY OFFICERS

President N3HHH
Vice Pres. N3LBB
Secy-Treas. W3TI
Chaplain KA3SID
Activity Mgr. K3NYX

The regular business meeting is held the first Friday of every month at the Tamaqua Italian Club in Tamaqua, Pa. at 8 p.m. Committee and technical meetings every Wednesday evening. All interested parties are invited to attend.

HALLOWEEN PARADE 93"

Ending our year of Society activities we have been supplying control, set-up, and operating communications for the Annual Tamaqua Halloween Parade. We have been assisting the Tamaqua Lions Club with their endeavors for more than a quarter century. This activity gives our society members a few hours operating practice which could be associated with any local emergency condition.

Halloween Parade 93' will be on Tuesday October 26. Park and meet in back of the Municipal building between 5 and 5:30 p.m. Bring a clip board and Handi-talkie. Members having no H.T. are also needed to assist at the comm-center and other areas. Dress according to the Wx.

WHICH WAY IS UP

A recent article in a well known West Coast Ham magazine explained how to locate true north and if you work DX your beam heading should be on true north rather than magnetic north from a Compass.

The procedures given by K7CC required a 3 or 4 foot stake driven into the ground to cast the suns shadow. Two readings were taken an hour apart, a T-square or carpenters square was also required. Well, his system gave me 3 different readings at 3 different hourly intervals and 3 different directions to true north.

Then I remembered a pamphlet I got from the Government Printing office about 25 years ago on how to make a Sun Dial. They tell time by the Suns shadow and at 12 noon no shadow is cast by the Sun Dials Gnomon. On the other hand, a 3 foot stake driven vertically in the ground will cast a shadow that points directly to true North just 4 minutes past 12 noon.

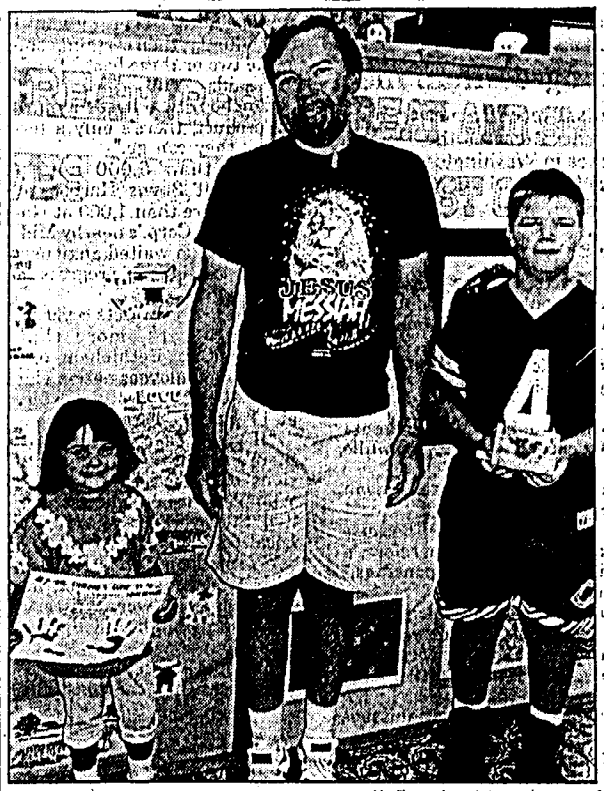
Known facts, The Eastern Standard Time zone begins at 75° Longitude. Central Standard Time starts at 90° Longitude, or every 15° Longitude is equal to one hour - 60 minutes. From this we can calculate and find each degree of the Earths circumference is equivalent to 4 minutes.

The western border of Tamaqua, Pa. is just one mile East of 76° Longitude

West Hazleton however, happens to be right on 76° longitude and when the WWV announcer says " The time is 1704 Universal Coordinated time" The suns shadow will be pointing directly to True North. Since we all can't have the privilege of living in West Hazleton you can get the correct time from the following data for your QTH.

QTH	UTC
Coaldale	1703 + 55 Sec.
Tamaqua	1703 + 58 Sec.
Hazleton	1703 + 59 Sec.
West Hazleton	1704
Mahanoy City	1704 + 4 Sec.
Pottsville	1704 + 11 Sec.
Frackville	1704 + 13 Sec.

This will be True North, Not Magnetic North as indicated from a navigators Compass. Check it out.



PASTOR WAYNE BENACK of the First Congregational United Church of Christ, stands with two of the school's Vacation Bible School participants.

OUR CHAPLAIN

It was 3 years ago Wayne, KA3SID joined our Society. Actually, after we found out he was a Minister he was railroaded into the position as Chaplain and has been active if and when his time permits. Being a pastor is like holding a 24 hour a day job. We have been trying for some time to get him to write some words of wisdom for "SPLATTER" but his excuse is,"I'm too busy".

This photo accompanied by a News Brief from the local Newspaper shows that Pastors do not lie. Wayne just finished teaching a Vacation Bible School that had 95 students with the top age of 17. WoW, think what our Society could do with a Novice instruction class that size.

With that kind of popularity maybe we could get him to help out with our Annual Novice instruction and hold a class of 50 or more.

GUNDERSON-PENN JERSEY CHAPTER 33

Our secretarial records indicate there was no autumn business meeting held October of 1992 and no Spring meeting 1993. At this time I draw your attention that our By-laws state that officers for our chapter are elected for a term of two years. The last official election was held during the October 12, 1991 meeting.

Therefore, in order for our chapter to stay legit, we must hold a business meeting at the October 6, 1993 luncheon gathering mainly for the purpose of nomination and election of officers for the next two years.

The present oficers are; President W2WIY, Vice Pres. W3IDD, Secretary W3TI, Treasurer W3APE, Directors WB2RAG and W2DGE.

Other items for possible action and/or discussion at this session are;

(1) The purchase of a chapter 33 banner from the National organization.

(2) Increase chapter interest by signing up Amateurs, Tacking the required 25 years for regular membership, and enter them as Social members who would receive the chapter bulletin.

(3) Any additional item(s) the membership might wish to address before the group.

Chapter members at present are; W3APE, W2DGE, W3HK, W3IDD, WA2IUU, WA2IVQ, K4JZP, WB2LDL, K3NYX, WB2RAG, W3TI, W2WIY, WA2ZGO.

CONGRATULATIONS WAYNE



NEW CSCE RULES

Members and Volunteer Examiners alike Please take especial NOTE.

Our Society has been with the Volunteer Examining program since 1985 and during that time period has been quite an experience. It is like a continuing educational program, once you become involved you are being instructed and trained, retrained and given different instruction on a continuing basis. Reminds me of a Chinese Soccer ball game. The rules are changed every 5 minutes.

Each time we receive a bulletin or correspondence from our ARRL - VEC, they either made additional rules or deleted some and/or made changes to the present one's.

In our last issue of SPLATTER we noted a few exam regulation changes. NOW brace yourself for some more.

Prior to July 1, 1993 if a candidate had a CSCE [Certificate of Successfully Completed Exam Element(s)] accompanying the 610 form, the CSCE had to be THE ORIGINAL, copies would not be accepted.

NEW RULES : As of July 1, 1993 the Volunteer Examiner can only accept a copy of the CSCE and must return the original to the examinee. Hence, if you show up at a test site with a CSCE you had better have it accompanied with a copy or you will be refused the exams requested. Pass this word around in your Rag-chews and Net operations.

THE ADVENTURERS OF BUDI AND KATE

Have you ever been stranded with the only thing you own are the cloths on your body ? Well recall when we left Budi and Kate they were in just such a dilemma. All that Budi's wallet contained was the warm Hawaiian air.

While they were recouping and pondering plans for their next plan of action, another vacationing couple, husband and wife, happened to pass by where they were seated and WHO do you think it was. Yes ! None other than Albert WHO and XYL Inez who just by happenstance were taking in the Islands on one of their secret lost safari's.

Albert and Inez, having majored in Psychology, knew right from the start that something was amiss with our adventuring duo.They were soon informed about their financial problem and the defunct Movie Production. Albert, being the Good Samaritan, got them reinstated in the hotel again but this didn't clear the way for them get travel expenses back to the States. Remember, the hotel confiscated their bags and luggage. Well while they were on the outside looking in someone ripped off their bags, luggage and all their credit cards. So this left them back to square one and in the same position as before.

Meanwhile, Albert learned the where-abouts of a local KH6--- and between them they originated a piece of traffic (Radiogram) that would explain Budi's situation and sent it via the National Traffic System. The message having been directed to Tamaqua via ye Tamaqua Transmitting Society secretary was picked up from the EPA CW traffic net. When informed, it didn't take long for the Society members to respond and come to the aid of their Companion in Arms. Remember when the call went out to save our Society postage fund ? Well the same response was shown and every member dug down into their piggy banks and made substantial donations. Using Western Union the "Budi Bail-out Fund" was wired directly to him at his Hawaiian hotel. That saved the day and paved the way for them to fly non-stop direct to Chicago.

There is no way that we have to substantiate the incidents that followed. Wether they had any bearing, direct or indirect, on Budi and Kates visit to Hawaii, but the following facts can be checked via the News Media.

Ten days after they left the Islands, Hawaii was hit by the devastating Hurricane Iniki. We understand that Albert Who and party left around the same time.

Budi and Kates flight took them directly over San Francisco and the Golden Gate bridge. While in route toward Chicago they were flying over Colorado when the stewardess made the announcement that San Francisco had just been struck by a very destructive Earthquake.

They landed in Chicago without further incident. A safe hop to the Wilkes Barre airport and then back home to Tamaqua, Pa.

And so we come to the end of the "Adventures of Budi and Kate". However, we're still in a quandary. A drug smuggling High Jacking, Panama Canal Incident, Hitch Hiking via a U.S. Aircraft Carrier, South Sea Island Head Hunters, Complete loss of Finances, Hurricane, Earthquake, and then two months later a 30 inch snow storm and the Blizzard of 93'. MMmmmmmmm, ! Makes one wonder ? ? ?

TAMAQUA TRANSMITTING SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP
July 1, 1993

W3TI	X	Allen R. Breiner	212 Race Street	Tamaqua	18252	668-3098
K3NYX	T	Allen R. Breiner	127 Market Street	Tamaqua	18252	668-5198
K3NB	X	Dave Evans	18 N. Balliet St.	Frackville	17931	874-1818
K3KNL	G	Mike Cuttic	750 West Pine St.	Frackville	17931	874-2269
NI3H	X	Dave Christ	406 Pine Street	Tamaqua	18252	668-2056
N3HHG	A	Harold Kunkel	420 Spruce Street	Tamaqua	18252	668-0638
N3HHH	G	Andrew Hitzel	R D 4, Box 4025	Pottsville	17901	544-8011
KA3WGF	X	Jim Graver	327 Thirwell Ave.	Hazleton	18201	454-0309
KA3WGG	A	Albert Larichiuta	R D 1, Box 100	New Ringgold	17960	386-3322
KA3OPX	G	Danny Yakubisin	700 Garfield St.	Hazleton	18201	454-2700
NZ3W	X	Bob Petrey	R D 1, Box 1586	Barnesville	18214	467-3303
KA3YZF	T	Amanda Petrey	R D 1, Box 1586	Barnesville	18214	467-3303
N3KCN	T	Judy Petrey	R D 1, Box 1586	Barnesville	18214	467-3303
N3LBB	T	Joseph Chakan	R D 1, Box 1157	Tamaqua	18252	668-5677
KA3SID	G	Wayne Benack	120 East Ridge St.	Coaldale	18218	645-9834
KB3ABY	N	Anthony Sfarra Sr.	R D 2, Box 225	New Ringgold	17960	386-5206
KB3ACB	N	Jeffrey Kunkel	R D 1, Box 1008	Tamaqua	18252	668-3053
KA3FUL	G	Gary Fleischute	803 N. Norwegian St.	Pottsville	17901	622-1549
WB2YVW	T	Russel Stevenson	RD 1,1257 Bahundy Rd.	Orwigsburg	17961	366-2253
AA3CU	X	William Petrey	130 Park Place	Mahanoy City	17948	773-2497
KB3ATA	N	David Olsen	P.O. Box 2156	Hazleton	18201	455-2479
WY3K	X	William Dale Jr.	R D 3, Box 56	Tamaqua	18252	386-2384

MEMBER STATISTICS - Employed 14, Retired 4, Self employed 3, Student 1.
STATION ACTIVITIES - 9 Rag Chewers, CW & SSB 7, Packet 2, CW only 2, 4 on VHF only, 6 on VHF & HF, 2 CW only 2 SSB only.5 work DX and five are not active on any ham bands at present. 31.8 % Extra Class, 9 % have Advanced tickets, 22.7% are Generals, 22.7 % Technician, 13.6 % Novice class.

THE ELECTRONIC MAZE

In the Fire Cracker issue you had the Electronic Maze. There was a long continuous electric circuit and a short one. Figure 1 is the answer to the longest and Figure 2, the shortest. How many of you took Figure 3 as the shortest ? Yep ! There were 3 different routes in the maze. Sneaky - were we not.

As a review, which direction does D.C. current travel ? (a) Through a diode, (b) in an inductor,(c) Capacitor,(d) a Zener,(e) an LED, (f) an ammeter, (g) a voltmeter. How many recognized this symbol —|◀—

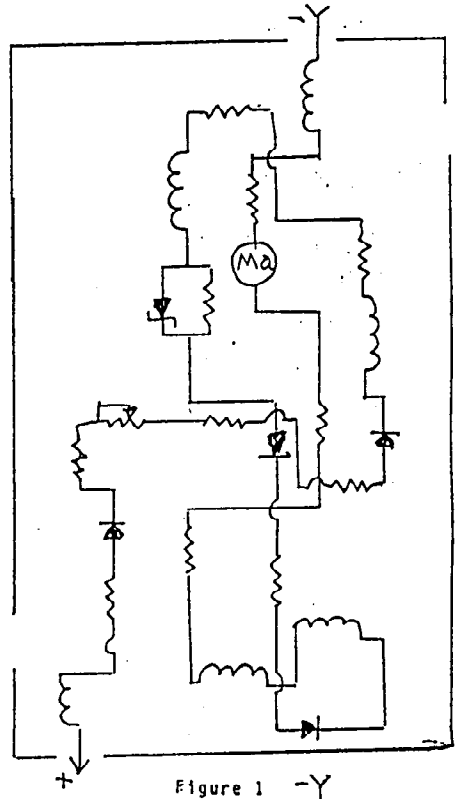


Figure 1

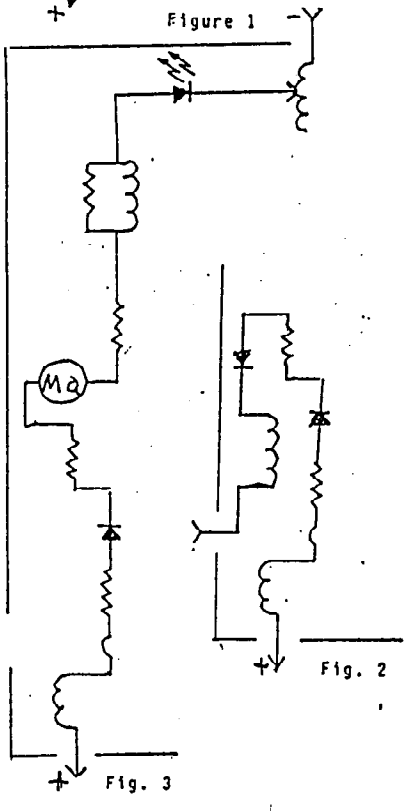


Fig. 2

Fig. 3

SOAP BOX DERBY

On Friday August 13 the Society performed in a yoemanly manner at taking over the job of running the Tamaqua Soap Box Derby for the South Ward Playground Asso. The activity was chaired by K3NYX, Activity Mgr. All bases were covered, such as the Start and Finnish line, Ambulance, Police security, and Public relations (press). A KUDOS to KB3ATA, KA3WGF, KB3ASZ, KB3ACB, AA3CU, WB2YVW, K3NYX, WY3K, and W3TI for a job well done.

Ye secretary was contacted by the South Ward Playground Asso. on July 12, asking our assistance because we had previously handled Soap Box communications between 1963 and 1975. It was discussed briefly on Wednesday 28, and brought before the Society at the August 6 meeting. The activity Mgr. is empowered to enter any and all such activity that entails any assistance to the Community and the Public Welfare. Public Relations entered this Society announcement in five area News Papers.

Therefore, any member who did not know about this activity should not complain. Incidently, the Society has volunteered their services for the 1994 races. KEEP up to date - KEEP in the know. ATTEND THE MEETINGS !

WRITING AN ARTICLE FOR SPLATTER

Our recent Bulletin evaluation netted some marvelous results. We even got some volunteers to write or design an article. The following information should help and give you some idea on how to go about it. Contributing articles are always welcome.

The greater percentage of the membership get QST and other Ham magazines, so try to keep away from duplication of articles, unless they are of extreme importance. If you write an article long hand, about 10 written lines on 8½ x 11 inch paper are equal to about 15 to 17 lines of single column in print. 20 written lines give us about 35 to 37 printed lines in the bulletin. If you use a typewriter, you can save us a lot of time.

(a) Be certain the print is not to light that the duplicator would have a hard time to print.

(b)If you use an electronic mill, set the type for 12 characters per inch and use single spacing.

(c) Each line should be 3½ inches (or 80 Millimeters) in length. Long words at the end of a sentence may be hyphenated.

If you write about an activity, don't forget to use the 5 - W's.

Who-What-Why-When-and-Where.

The bulletin is printed on an average of 4 times a year. Sometimes 5 with a SPECIAL issue. Deadline for your article(s) will be January 25, April 10, July 10, and September 10.

Pick a topic and start writing.

LOOKING AHEAD

By the time this SPLATTER is printed and distributed, our Society will have held a few meetings, made changes to our Bylaws, held FCC exam sessions, supplied communications for a Soap Box Derby, and Halloween parade control.

With the Annual Xmas party we close another year of Society activity and 1994 will be right around the corner and another long list of activity will make the scene.

Follows are a few of the events to look forward too.

1. We start the year with Novice class starting Friday January 28.
2. V.E. Exams in early March
3. Novice class exams April 15.
4. Tamaqua Hamfest June 5.
5. V.E. exams in early August.
6. Soap Box Derby middle of August.
7. Annual Family picnic Aug. 21, 1994.
8. Halloween parade Oct.25, 1994.
9. V.E. Exams early November.
10. Annual Xmas party Dec. 10, 1994

This, as you know, is only a partial list because there are always those in-between activities that pop up out of no where.

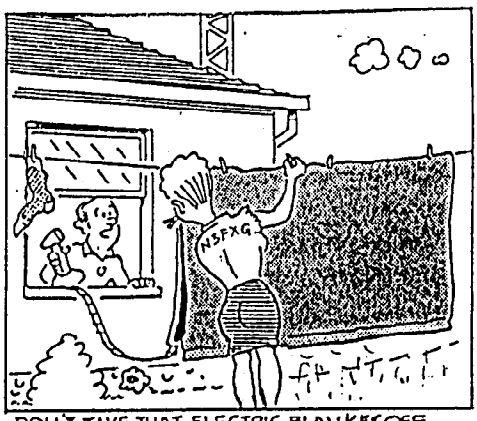
DID YOU KNOW

The American Radio Relay League's official beginning was December 1915 when the first issue of QST was published. Hiram Percy Maxim and Clarence Tuska are credited with it beginning and origin. Maxim's call was 1WH. There is no record of Tuska's call. Ye editor met and talked with Clarence Tuska at a dinner during the early 50's and his comment, "I never had an Amateur License issued by the F.C.C." Evidently, one of ARRL's organizers was a Pirate or Bootlegger.

The League was out of business for some time during the early years. On October 9, 1917 a 1¢ post card was mailed to each member informing them the League was closing down because the managing editor, Clarence Tuska was joining the military to fight in the War to end All Wars. The last issue of QST was published as Volume II. No.X dated September 1917

More background on the ARRL can be found in the publication "Two Hundred Meters and Down", by Clinton B. DeSota.

* NOTE, There is no record of DeSota ever having an Amateur Radio license either.



DON'T TAKE THAT ELECTRIC BLANKET OFF THERE, YET--- IT RESONATES ON 40 METERS!

Milestones In Telegraphic History

--1844--

(May 1)—First test of new overhead wire (quickly strung 35km through treetops and on posts) from Annapolis Junction to Washington DC.

(May 24)—Morse (now 53 years old) gives first official demonstration of his telegraph using overhead wire from the Supreme Court Chamber in the Capitol Building in Washington (his location) to Baltimore (Vail's location). Using his letter code ("American" Morse), Annie Ellsworth's (daughter of the Commissioner of Patents) selected phrase, "What hath God wrought!" (Numbers 23:23) is sent from Washington to Baltimore.

--1845--

Cooke & Wheatstone patent a "Single-needle Telegraph" (in Europe) which requires only one overhead wire and earth return.

--1846--

Telegraph operators in the U.S. are beginning to "sound read" the code from Morse's register (much to the dismay of their management, who wants the letters decoded from the inked paper strip).

--1847-1871--

1847-1871 Morse (56 to 80 years old) lives in his summer home in Locust Grove, Poughkeepsie, NY.

--1849--

First "teleprinter" circuit (N.Y. to Philadelphia). Uses Royal E. House teleprinter. (This unit, which resembles a small piano, was the first telegraph instrument to print actual letters rather than code symbols.)

--1851--

(April 1)—W.U. is started under the direction of Sibley by parent company, New York & Mississippi Valley Printing Telegraph Company. New company has the U.S. rights to the House teleprinter. (About 50 different telegraph companies are in existance, and none of their lines interconnect.)

Look for more TELEGRAPHIC HISTORY in the next issue of SPLATTER.

BULLETIN EVALUATION

Here are the results of that Bulletin Evaluation questionaire you filled out at the September meeting. It has given ye editor some insight about what you want to see in our "SPLATTER", and some things we can eliminate.

There were sixteen members at that meeting, but I disqualified myself (W3TI) because of reasons obvious. From the remaining fifteen there were three who did not return in their evaluation sheet. Those three constitute 20 % of those present and will still be counted, but as disinterested parties regarding any part of the Bulletin.

Recall, you circled the number of your choice, such as;

(1) Excellent, (2) Good, (3) Needs Improvement, (4) Fair, (5) Delete.

Here are the percentages;

1. "From where we sit" (1) 40 %, (2) 26 %, (3) 13 % + 20 % not interested.

2. FCC Rule Changes etc. (1) 46 %, (2) 20 %, (3) 13 %, + 20 % not interested.

3. Problems & Puzzles, (1) 13 %, (2) 26 %, (3) 33 %, + 20 % not interested.

4. Technical Articles, (1) 33 %, (2) 20 %, (3) 26 %, + 20 % not interested.

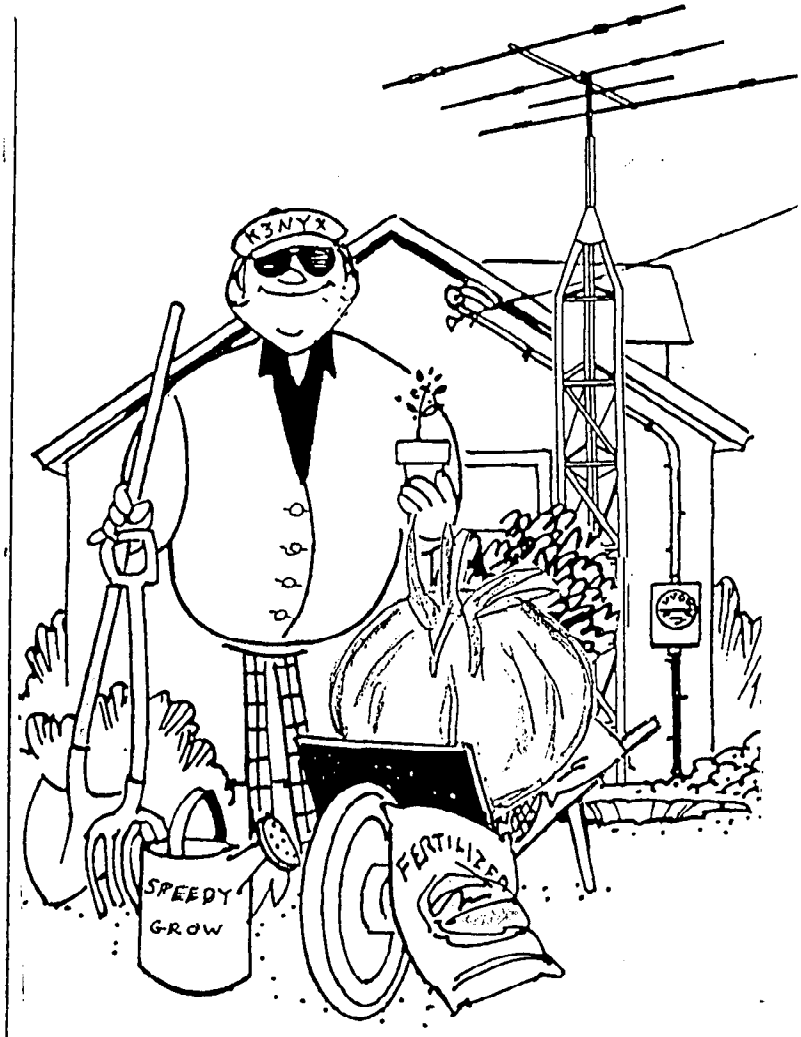
5. Future Activities, (1) 33 %, (2) 26 %, (3) 13 %, + 20 % not interested.

6. Old Time Radio, (1) 53 %, (2) 20 %, (4) 6 %, + 20 % not interested.

There were 40 % who believed we should not add anything, in addition to the left-over 20 %.

We also had 40 % who gave their thoughts on what might be added. There were a few who are interested in writing future articles for our bulletin, which will be gratefully accepted and published.

We thank every one for taking a few minutes to fill out that sheet.



THE SECRET OF GROWING
A 25 lb. TOMATO

The Great Tomato Race of 1993 went off without a Sqwish. Every entry was red-ripe. This year there were three entries, KB3ABY, W3TI, and K3NYX. The various entries weighed in between 9½ to 13 ounces. But K3NYX out ran all with 1 lb. 4 Oz. Tomato sandwiches were enjoyed by all after the September 3rd. meeting. Start planing now for next years event.

VOLUNTEER EXAMINERS TAKE NOTE

The next Amateur Licensing exams by our VE team will be Saturday November 13 at the Tamaqua Municipal Building. All Society activities at present are at a nul, so now is a good time to review all those new and changed rules that were made by our VEC over the past few months. Our record shows us right up there with the Big Guns. Let's not take any chances and foul up. You, as a Society of Amateur Operators, have been doing a great job. KUDOS