THE MORNING CALL, Allentown, Pa., Tuesday, Jan. 22, 1957 17

Tamaqua 'Ham' Radio Club Aiding Handicapped Boy

A 14-year-old Barnesville, Schuylkill County, boy is leading a happier life, thanks to the Tamaqua Amateur Radio Club.

Walter Adams Jr., confined to a wheelchair with muscular dystrophy, is learning to become a "Ham" operator.

His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Adams Sr., recently learned of their son's love for radio. Through the boy's father and employes of Bethlehem Steel Co., where the elder Adams is employed, the Tamaqua club was notified.

The club immediately named Allen Breiner, Anthony Sarli and Joseph Blihar to a committee to visit the youth.

The committee saw to it young Adams was given a license manuel, radio handbook and a practice oscillator, used in learning Morse Code.

Last night, the club disclosed the boy is showing great interest in radio and issued him a year's free membership in the club.

A victim of the muscular disease the last 13 years, Walter has spent a major portion of his life in hospitals throughout the eastern states.

In other action by the club during last night's meeting in Tamaqua Borough Hall, new officers were installed.

They are Breiner, president; Sylvester Dallas, vice president; Joseph Lattanzi, secretary; William Masaitis, treasurer; Blihar, activities manager, and Dr. Joseph Flannagan, chaplain.

Plans were also discussed to hold the group's third annual field day exercises in June.

Named to a committee on arrangements were Blihar, chairman; Karl Pfeil, Masaitis, Carl Zimmerman Jr. and Sarli.

Radio Club Lists Plans For Program

Tentative program of the Tamaqua Amateur Radio Club's radio demonstration before Tamaqua High School Tri-Hi-Y Club was announced yesterday.

The program will be presented April 8 in the high school gymnasium.

Plans for the program were drawn up during yesterday's meeting of the club's planning committee in the Maennerchor Hall, Tamaqua.

Club members will set up and demonstrate radio equipment and transmission and receiving over radio telephone and telegraph (Morse Code). Also exhibited will be equipment constructed by a novice and general class radio operator.

Call letters of radio hams contacted by the Tamaqua club throughout the world will also be on display.

One of the highlights of the demonstration will be the transmission of radio messages to friends of Tri-Hi-Y members to all parts of the country.

The planning committee comprises Allen Breiner, club president; Karl Pfeil, Sylvester Dallas, Anthony Sarli and William Masaitis.

Next planning meeting will be held after the March 18 club meeting.

Tri-Hi-Y Sees Radio Exhibition

More than 130 members of the Tamaqua High School Tri-Hi-Y Club attended an amateur radio demonstration last night in the high school.

Tamaqua Amateur Radio Club staged the program.

The demonstration consisted of actual contacts by radio phone and Morse Code.

Conatcts were made with a ship at sea and to out-of-town "ham" operators in Ashland, Jim Thorpe and New York.

Members of the radio club reported poor reception due to weather conditions.

After the demonstration, a display of radio equipment was in charge of Anthony Sarli, William Maisitis, Joseph Blihar, Thomas Theodore, Sylvester Dallas and Allen Breiner.

A question and answer period was also conducted.

Club members operating radios from their homes were Richard Sarli, Roy Bridygham and Carl Zimmerman.

During the demonstrations, an emergency radio station was also set up to show the pupils how club members can keep in contact during an emergency or disaster.

Karl Pfeil was master of ceremonies.