



# the RARA RAG

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**ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.**

VOL 41

APRIL 1989

No. 8

## OLD TIME MOVIES AT APRIL 7th MEETING

RaRa members will have a special treat at their April Meeting when club historian Bruce Kelley will present a double feature. First will be a movie of a RaRa picnic 50 years ago at Westminister Park. Many old timers will be seen with their XYLs playing game and enjoying themselves at long picnic tables.

A more recent film (1950's) will be an ARRL Field Day at Bare Hill overlooking Canandaigua Lake. Here one may see familiar faces erecting tents and antennas and eventually operating from the old G.R.S. truck. It was a fun weekend. Kelley says the show lasts about 40 minutes and is in 16 mm. Kodachrome.

## OUTGOING QSL BUREAU HAS (ANOTHER) RECORD BROKEN

In these days of record-breaking sun spots, thousands of DX QSL cards go through the ARRL Outgoing QSL Bureau. I waded through the stacks of cards the other day to find Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, busily at work tossing cards into the appropriate country slots. He mentioned to me that the previous record of single shipments by members was shattered recently. The details are as follows: The original record was held by Donald Havlicek, N8DE, with 35 pounds of cards. That record was tied on January 26, 1989 by Stanley Pope, K9MFI, who also submitted 35 pounds of cards. It gets better. On January 31, Bob Cox, K2EST, sent 43 pounds of cards in to the bureau.

The record-shattering shipment arrived February 2 - 54 pounds, sent in by Mike Koss, W9SU/W87PAX! As sunspot cycle 22 continues to bless us with tremendous propagation, I am certain that Mike's record will not stand for long! Anyone have an extra back brace? - NUØX

*Tnx ARRL Letter*

## ANNUAL AWA SPRING AUCTION

The Annual AWA Spring Auction will be held Saturday, April 29, 9:30 a.m. at the American Legion Building, east of Holcomb (East Bloomfield) on Rte. 5&20. Ed Gable, K2MP, will man the gavel to sell a large collection of old receivers, meters, parts and tubes. No minimum - everything goes!

## ERROR IN ICOM FREQUENCY CHART NOTED

If you utilize the frequency spectrum chart developed by Gordon West, published by ICOM and dated August 1988 you should be aware of an error.

The chart shows the Advanced portion of the 15 meter phone band beginning at 21.220 MHz. It actually begins at 21.225 MHz.

ICOM has been made aware of the problem, and has taken steps to correct it. All future printing of these charts will reflect the changes.

*TNX Mel Frerking, KB4MQ*

*Tnx ARRL Letter*

## SILENT KEYS

EDGAR A. COAPMAN, JR.

WA2QNS

January 30, 1989

ART BOHNKE

KA2BGW

March 14, 1989

# the RARA RAG

Published by  
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Amateur Radio News Service

## TOWER RESTRICTIONS — AGAIN

by Ed Gable, K2MP

Very quietly, on January 4, 1989, New York State Senator E. Levy introduced an Act to amend the environmental conservation laws in regard to construction of towers. Within the Act it defines regulated towers as any such towers that are "exceeding the tree line or exceeding 50 feet, whichever is lower". The purpose of the legislation is to regulate towers which "may adversely affect, impair and diminish the visual beauty and quality of the valuable scenic, historic, architectural, geological, recreational and aesthetic resources and land uses of this State...." The Act continues in stating that permits may be obtained from the State upon application and approval, but only after proving that the tower is needed and that every possible alternative, including sharing other towers, has been investigated. Further, and this is interesting "all owners of existing or approved towers and all applicants shall agree to share future use of their towers or tower sites under reasonable terms...." I think I'll go share with KM2P's beautiful 100 footer on Westfall Road!! Or, how about that unused tower space on Pinnacle Hill.... OK, back to reality, further, it states the Act shall not be in effect within city limits of a municipality of 500,000 or more population. The intent is to especially preserve the beauty of our State Parks and recreational areas, but certainly does not preclude placing a heavy burden on the Amateur wanting to install a typical installation. The Act is Article 50 on S-208 of the Environmental Conservation Law and goes into effect on January 1, 1990 - unless the NYS Senate hears otherwise. The ARRL has been notified and your local voice of concern is appropriate.

## W1AW RENOVATION BEGINS!

Construction work on the renovation of W1AW is now beginning, and is scheduled to be completed in time for ribbon-cutting in July. During the reconstruction, W1AW will operate from temporary quarters in a trailer adjacent to the present building and the same antenna system will be used.

During the moving some scheduled transmissions may have to be omitted, and operation by visitors may have to be curtailed during certain periods.

Tnx ARRL Letter

## MAIL ORDER SCAM SNAGS HAMS

Postal inspectors are investigating what appears to be a ham radio equipment sales scam operating from Long Island, NY. Inspectors have focused their attention on the activities of Michael Harrison (call believed to be WB2PTI) and John McNamara in connection with a possible mail fraud carried out against ham radio operators that could total as much as six figures in losses. The suspected scam began with a two-color full-page ad in the December issue of *73 Magazine* advertising the supposed rebirth of the Atlas Radio Company which folded several years ago. The ad alleged that Atlas was back in business and was offering the President 10-meter HR-2510 mobile transceiver built by Uniden for \$219.95 prepaid to all fifty states. (It sells for \$205 wholesale from Uniden.) The ad claimed that Atlas and Uniden has joined forces to market the 2510. Many Amateurs placed orders and sent their checks which were promptly cashed. **NO UNITS WERE EVER SHIPPED!** In addition the number listed for Atlas is an answering machine that also responds to Dentron, Inc. ads. Dentron is also out of business and Atlas was liquidated in 1979. According to Dennis Had, K8KXK, of Raleigh, North Carolina, the founder and original owner of Dentron, he is very much aware of Michael Harrison's dealing. He said that Harrison cost him some \$14,000 back in 1979 and uses assumed names. Most Amateur publications know him and will not accept advertising from him.

*Tnx The Readout*

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## NEW CLOCK FOR UNCLE SAM

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), formerly the National Bureau of Standards, has a new clock. Their previous *atomic clock* counted the oscillations of the nitrogen atom in an ammonia molecule and was accurate to within one second in three years. NIST's new clock is based on the vibrations of cesium atom and won't lose or gain a single second for 300,000 years! For most of us, a quartz crystal keeps us accurate enough—plus or minus a couple of minutes a year.

*W5YI Report via The Readout*

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**WANTED** — for display — 1950 vintage television receiver with round screen. Could be Raytheon, Zenith or other make. Need not be working. Steve Sykes, KD2OM, 65 Culver Pkwy, Rochester - (716) 288-0920.

## RaRa CALENDAR FOR APRIL

- 1 - April Fools' Day
- 2 - Daylight Savings Time begins 2:00 a.m. (set clocks *ahead* one hour)
  - W1FH issued 1st DXCC by ARRL 1947
- 4 - West Coast Qualifying Run — 10-35 wpm starts at 0400Z
- 6 - New Moon
- 7 - **RaRa Meeting** - 8:00 p.m.  
40 & 8 Club, 933 University Avenue
- 8-9 North American QSO Party — CW starts 1800Z to 0600Z 4/9
  - QRP ARCI Spring QSO Party - CW starts 1200Z to 2400Z 4/9
  - MARAC County Hunters SSB Contest from 0000Z 4/8 to 2400Z 4/9
- 10 - ARRL Spring Sprint - 144MHZ starts at 1900 local time
  - W1AW Qualifying Run - 10-35 WPM starts at 0200Z
- 11 - Squaw Island ARC Meeting- 8:00 p.m. Sheriff's Office, 84 Ontario Street, Canandaigua
- 12-14 - YLRL DX/YL to NA/YL Contest- CW
- 13 - **Packet Group Meeting** - 7:30 p.m.  
111 Westfall Road
- 14 - **VHF Group Meeting** - 7:30 p.m.  
111 Westfall Road
- 15 - North American QSO Party - Phone starts 1800Z until 0600Z 4/16
  - IBM QSO Party
  - Sarnoff handles SOS from Titanic, 1912
- 18 - **RDXA Meeting** - 8:00 p.m.  
111 Westfall Road
  - ARRL Spring Sprints - 220 MHZ starts at 1900 local time
- 19 - **Drumlins Meeting** - 7:30 p.m.  
NYS Disaster Preparedness HQ,  
Route 31, Newark (across from the State Police Barracks)  
**Kodak Park ARC** - 12:00 noon  
1st Floor, Building 28
- 19-21 - YLRL DX/YL to NA/YL Contest -
  - 20 - Passover
  - 21 - Full Moon
  - 23 - W1AW Qualifying Run starts at 1900 Eastern Time
  - 25 - Marconi born this date in 1874
  - 26 - ARRL Spring Sprints - 432 MHZ starts at 1900 local time
- 28-30 - Dayton Hamvention

## CW SPEED AND ACCURACY

Here are a few miscellaneous tips for improving your speed and accuracy. Teach yourself to copy behind. Listen to the entire word before you begin to write it. Then write it while you are listening to the next word. Again, this is a new kind of coordination you need to acquire by practice. Good operators often copy several words behind, so that when the end of the message comes you have to wait until they finish writing it down before they acknowledge receipt, and if they break you for a fill, they will ask you for something a few words back, not the last word you sent. They set up a mental buffer that holds the material that is received until it can be put on paper, and processes it also, often helping the operator avoid errors in copying.

Copying words instead of letters speeds up the process too, and there is a point somewhere around 30 wpm where most of us find it necessary to do so if we want to increase our speed.

To increase your speed you have to work at a higher speed than you can copy accurately. But progress does not follow a smooth curve, rather our speed increases in jumps, followed by plateaus at the higher speed. Two such plateaus are especially noteworthy, the one just mentioned around 30 wpm where we recognize entire words as units, and an earlier one around 10 where we recognize letters as units, not the individual dits and dahs.

So when your progress seems to come to a halt, don't be discouraged. Your mind is setting up new pathways that will eventually speed up processing of code.

Copying is important. You may be able to follow the drift of a CW speed merchant, but the real test is whether you can put it down on paper. And yet listening without copying has its use too. You'll never be able to put it on paper unless you can first read it.

WIAW announces the source of the material being transmitted in code practice transmission, usually something from a previous issue of *QST*. Follow the text as you listen to the transmission, then occasionally stop looking at the text and just listen and try to read the code as you hear it. Look back at the text if you get lost. Do this a little, then try to copy without the text, and you may find you're doing better.

*an extract from the "Traffic" column  
by Chuck Clark, K4ZN,  
in Worldradio via The Groundwave*

## THE RaRa RAG 20 YEARS AGO —

### APRIL 1969

by Ed Gable, K2MP

"*UFO's Fact Not Fiction*", was the interesting title for the April meeting. Jim Sipprell, K2HYQ, of Hamburg, NY, who is with the National Investigation Committee on Aerial Phenomena, was the guest speaker. Although not necessarily related to Ham Radio, there is a growing interest in the subject and a regular UFO Net run by Wayne Green, W2NSD.

Tickets were available for the May tenth Hamfest held at Bristol 50 Acres from either ticket chairman Bob Lozen, WB2ERE, or from Vic LoTempio, W2RIS, at "*Roch Radio*". Dick Job, K2RTU, announced the Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club of Canandaigua was having their annual auction and that all RaRa members were invited. The results of the January VHF Contest were disappointing for the local gang as the South Jersey Radio Association recaptured 2nd place in the annual event. Published within this *Rag* was an informative four pager called *The Hamfest Times* published by RaRa and Managing Editor Harold Smith, WA2KND. This very well done publication, slick even by today's publishing standards, was design to sell, sell, sell the Rochester Hamfest. A home brew SSB exciter/receiver was the featured item at an advertised basement clearance sale at the home of Jerry Vogt, WA2GCF.

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## ARE YOU ONE OF THE THREE "WISE" MONKEYS?

Do you remember the story of the "*Three Wise Monkeys*" — hear no evil, see no evil, say no evil. Well, not many people have heard from them lately because they have said no evil nor good lately.

So don't be a monkey. If you have a story or a piece of information about local Amateur Radio activity, even if it is just another meeting of another local old or new club, let one of the co-editors know about it. Their names, addresses, and telephone numbers are listed on page two.

So be a really wise "*monkey*" and contribute something to the *Rag* for next month's issue.



## MEXICO TEMPORARY HAM LICENSES

Mexico is now issuing temporary licenses to ham radio operators wishing to operate in their country. Although no formal reciprocal licensing agreement has been signed, the Mexican license has been available for about a year and a half. Ever since the big Mexican earthquake, it's literally been a breeze to obtain a set of XE2 call letters for your stay in Mexico. The interesting thing to note is that you receive a Mexican class "General License" regardless of the class of license you hold here.

So, if you are a Novice here, you are immediately a General there with voice privileges on all worldwide bands with a maximum power limit of 250 watts. Now for the bad news! The only way you can get the license is to physically go to Mexico and do the paperwork. You can't go to your nearby Mexican Consulate in this country and do it, and you can't write to Mexican Authorities and do it either. So, if you are serious about getting this temporary license, follow these steps.

1. Make 5 copies of your valid U.S. Amateur license. Any grade, including Novice is acceptable and 5 copies of your birth certificate.
2. Obtain a Mexican tourist card or Visa and make 5 copies of that.
3. Obtain from the Mexican consulate Mexican Form HD-1.
4. Go to any major Mexican city (Tijuana is the closest) and find the office of "*Secretaria De Comunicaciones Y Transportaciones*". (SCT)
5. SCT will fill out some paperwork and then send you down the street to the Department De Hacienda or "*General De Normatividad Y Control de Comunicaciones, Delegacion Regional*", where you pay your license fee. The fee is 50,000 pesos which is a little less than \$50 American.
6. Once you have the receipt for payment of the fee, return to the SCT office and follow their instructions. Don't get pushy, and smile a lot. Usually the license (XE----) will be issued on spot. However, in smaller cities, they may ask you to come back in a few days.
7. The license will be good for the term of your tourist or visa permit and can be renewed along with these permits.
8. To renew, recontact the SCT. You need to submit a log book filled with all of your communications. The fee is around 9,000 pesos (less than \$10).

It helps to be able to speak a little Mexican too. They may ask you for a letter of recommendation from a local Mexican Amateur to act as your sponsor. Usually they don't ask for this, but if you can get it ahead of time, it may prove beneficial.

WorldRadio, WB6NOA via The Readout

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## WIRE ANTENNAS AND TREES: GETTING THEM UP

Tom Rosebush, VE3KZE, Ed., SPARC-GAP  
via The Mike & Key

If you're like me, blessed with a bounty of curiosity when it comes to antennas and gifted with an assortment of tall trees to "try them on", then you have probably tried many different ways of erecting your wired creations up into the uppermost branches.

I've had my greatest successes with a LA-CROSSE ball, which is available at better sporting goods emporiums. This ball is about the size of a hard baseball, and consists of heavy "India" rubber.

To get the best usage out of the ball, you must first drill a small ( $\frac{1}{8}$ ) hole right through the center of it. A small "fishwire" is constructed of a scrap piece of copper wire by forming a small hook on one end that will fit through the ball and "fish" back the start on a long length of lightweight nylon twine.

Tie this twine to the ball, and then uncoil long loops of the line onto the ground, being careful not to lay it upon twigs, etc. which might impede the flight of the twine up to its ultimate destination. The balance of the line can be "staked" to the ground by a long screwdriver driven through the spool, and pointing (roughly) in the direction of your throw to facilitate unwinding of the additional line. Take careful aim of your target branch, and throw the ball such that it sails up and over the limb. If you miss the first time don't worry; the lacrosse ball is heavy enough that it won't "hang up" halfway during its descent to ground. Also, it's a simple matter to snip off the twine at the ball and pull the string back to your original "launch pad" to start the process all over again, with nothing wasted.

Believe me, I've tried everything from bows and arrows, slingshots, to empty beer bottles in my efforts at erecting the ultimate skywire. Nothing approaches the success I've had with the lacrosse ball.

Oh yes, it helps if you've been accustomed to throwing baseballs in your day; the highest branch in my trees check in at about 70 feet.

From ARNS

## 17 METER BAND OPEN!!

On the morning of January 30, the FCC issued a news release which announced the opening of the new amateur 17-meter band (18.068 - 18.168 MHz) that very evening at 0001 Z, January 31 (7:01 PM EST)!

A copy of the news release was obtained by ARRL Counsel Chris Imlay, N3AKD, and faxed to HQ. A bulletin announcing the opening of the new band was immediately sent over W1AW. Word spread quickly; at 0001 Z that night it was wall-to-wall signals to usher in US entry to the new band. W1AW worked 70 stations that evening before the band closed. The 17-meter band is one of three new HF bands allocated to the amateur service by the 1979 World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC).

The other two bands, 30 meters (10.1 - 10.150 MHz) and 12 meters (24.890 - 24.990 MHz) have already been allocated to the amateur service.

Early US amateur occupancy - it was to become exclusively amateur on July 1 - was contingent upon the relocation of certain US government stations that had informed the FCC of their continued presence to that date. But the FCC said it would continue to monitor usage looking for possible early entry for US amateurs.

On September 28, 1988 the ARRL filed a request for temporary use of the 17-meter band, pointing out that over 60 countries already allowed their amateur access to the band, and the additional US amateur stations using the band would not cause any significant additional interference to the remaining Government fixed stations. The request was renewed in our comments in PR Docket 88-467, filed on October 31.

In its news release, the FCC said that the Department of Defense (DOD) was still utilizing major portions of the 17 meter band and would continue to do so until July 1, 1989. However, DOD had agreed to allow secondary use of the band by US amateur stations, subject to immediate termination if interference is caused to Government operations. After July 1, the band will be exclusively amateur; until then, amateurs also are obligated to avoid interfering with stations in the fixed service operating in other countries.

The band is open to all General, Advanced and Extra class licensees with a maximum output power of 1500 watts. As recommended by all IARU regions, the telegraphy emission A1A is permitted in the entire band, with RTTY/packet recommended from 18.100 - 18.100 MHz. SSB/analog subband is from 18.110 - 18.168 MHz.

## TWO CALLS MUCH BETTER THAN ONE

Those of us who monitor some of the 2-meter frequencies hear it every day. "-- is VE3-x- is any---round--". Or sometimes it goes like "WA2XVZ mobile VE3 needingsomeinfoisanyonearoundto help..." By the time we pick up our ears to the fact that someone is there and maybe they need some help, the caller is gone, away to some other repeater channel, looking for the instant reply.

People who really need assistance should realize that monitoring a channel is an exercise in mental filtering. We tend to filter out a lot of things that sound trivial, while going about other tasks in the basement or garage. When you really want to attract attention, for street directions or other emergencies, try calling twice. Three times is even better. Remember that the person monitoring may be doing something that he (or she) just cannot drop, like a wet glue joint, decanting some home-brew, or trying to get a tricky bit of a carburetor together without dropping bits into the dirt. So give another try and let those with scanners have a chance to latch onto the RF. And have patience.

Although I've forgotten his name, we had a VU- in the city for a year or two who had the distinction of the greatest long-delay-comeback. He would announce that he was on the air, and the quick-on-the-trigger fellers would call him immediately, only to wait sometimes three minutes for a reply. It was an exercise in discipline. Patience will pay.

*de Gord, VE3DY via The Groundwave*

## RENAMING EXTRA CLASS TICKET

The FCC has accepted for public comment the petition of Iowa amateur Keith Greiner, AK0Q, of Des Moines. Greiner, a marketing research executive in the banking field, seeks to change the title of the Amateur Extra Class license to a title which may be more widely recognized as having the highest rank among all amateur radio licenses. The proposed title is "Master of Communications".

*W5YI Report via Metroplex*

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## ABOUT AMATEUR CONCERNS OVER 10 METER RADIOS

Since Uniden and Radio Shack began advertising their respective "affordable 10 meter radios" there has been a lot of amateur concern about the rig being purchased and used by unlicensed persons.

There are several points to be kept in mind with these radios.

Tandy/Radio Shack has notified potential purchasers of the equipment of the FCC licensing requirement in at least four ways: in their advertising flyer, in a prominent place on the outside of the box, on a sticker placed on the top of the rig itself, and in a lengthy explanation in the instruction manual. The manual also contains information on how to get help in studying for a license, and joining ARRL.

There is no legal requirement that a potential purchaser prove he/she is licensed before a transmitter is sold. To our best knowledge, no major retailer imposes such a limitation on their sales people voluntarily.

ARRL has long supported a point-of-sale proof-of-licensing requirement for obtaining transmitting equipment. In the deregulatory environment of the past decade, and with the budgetary constraints under which federal agencies like the FCC are now operating, there has been no reasonable possibility of promoting such legislation.

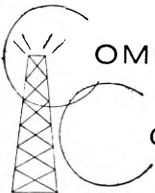
Officials of both corporations are well aware of amateur concerns. There are many hams in both organizations. And, while they are in business to make a profit, we have every reason to believe that these radios are designed for the amateur market and not for bootleggers or for conversion to out-of-band use. The interest by these respective corporations is received as a sign that the industry shares the belief that Amateur Radio has a bright future.

*Tnx ARRL Letter*

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## AMSAT 10 METER NET OPERATIONAL

A new educational 10 meter net began operations February 12. Sponsored by AMSAT, the weekly net meets on Sundays at 1900 UTC on 28.460 MHz.

The frequency was chosen was to promote Novice/Technician class licensees operating, and to introduce them to OSCAR satellites.

A wide range of satellite-related topics will be discussed on the net. The level of all discussions will be "introductory" in nature.

*Tnx ARRL Letter*

## GENERAL MOTORS HAM SURVEY UNDERWAY

Do you operate your ham rig mobile from a GM truck? If so, GM is looking for some information from you.

General Motors is conducting a survey of Amateur Radio use in medium and heavy duty trucks. If you operate your rig in one of these units, please write and describe the bands you operate on, the power output and antenna location. Send responses to the following address:

EMC Department  
General Motors Proving Ground  
40-EMC  
Milford, MI 48042

*Tnx ARRL Letter*

**FOR SALE** - ICOM IC-290A all mode 2 meter transceiver \$375.00. Call Neal, WB2EKP, 359-2672.

## ROCHESTER HAMFEST

MAY 19-20-21, 1989

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# The **ARAR GAG**

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**ASSOCIATION OF RADIO AMATEURS OF ROCHESTER, Ltd.**

VOL. 3

SPECIAL APRIL FOOL'S EDITION 1989

NO. 1

## **BUDGET DEFICIT TO BE BALANCED ON HAMS BACK**

After its failed attempt to solve the Saving and Loans Banking crisis by trying to impose a service charge on every \$100 saved, the Bush Administration has come up with an idea to solve the federal budget deficit.

The idea comes from the FCC's Division to Incorporate Monetary Ways to Increase Technology (D.I.M.W.I.T.). The D.I.M.W.I.T. idea is to install tiny microprocessor counting devices in each ham's rig and hand-held. Each device will count the number of "dits" and "dahs" and voice transmissions made by a ham operator. For every thousand "dits" and/or "dahs", a service charge of one cent will be assessed. For every voice exchange, a similar one cent fee will be imposed.

Mr. M. Snerd of D.I.M.W.I.T. said his office is still investigating ways such fees can be applied to Packet, Slow-Scan/Fast-Scan Amateur Television, and other forms of Amateur Radio activities. An unidentified spokesperson for the League of Amateur Radio Ragchewers (L.A.R.R.) said such proposals are under review of the League, and should have a response to the proposal with the comment period, and at least six months prior to one anticipated by the Service Parcels United (S.P.U.) company.

## **VOLUNTEER EXAMINERS TOO NICE**

via GEARVAKf BULLETIN

The FCC thinks Volunteer Examiners are not being nasty enough, according to an official statement issued Friday by FCC spokesman, Ralph R. Spiffie. Said Spiffie, "*Back in the days when the FCC tested people for ham tickets, our examiners were trained to be real nasty and mean. That way we could intimidate people and weed out the wimps from ham radio. Nowadays, Volunteer Examiners refuse to intimidate anybody. All they do is make sure nobody cheats*". Spiffie said that the FCC might require Volunteer Examiners to attend a week of Marine Corps Boot Camp to learn nastiness before administering examinations.

## **MEETING CANCELLED**

The annual meeting of A.R.A.R. which had been scheduled for this month has been cancelled. It will be re-scheduled for a joint Auction/Meeting with "R.F.A.R.C.", whenever they hold their next meeting.

## **KA6DUM: THE FINAL CHAPTER**

Over the last two years, the A.R.A.R. Gag has been the first (and only) Amateur Radio publication to keep you posted on the unhappy divorce and property settlement proceedings against Elmer Hunnicutt, KA6DUM. His ex-wife, Betty, sued him for divorce in 1987, and demanded and won custody of his ham radio gear. Elmer won visitation and operating rights, but on the L.A.R.R. Old Key Night 1987, he rig-napped his Kenwood TS-440-S.

Since our last edition, Betty joined the Wives of Hams Organized to Reduce Yesterday's Outdated Understandings (WHO-R-YOU). WHO-R-YOU is a support group of wives of ham radio operators who feel neglected by their husbands. Betty and the Technical Support Group of WHO-R-YOU coordinated and implemented the largest ever "*Bunny Hunt*" in the United States and found Elmer. He was operating QRP and using photoelectric solar cells so he couldn't be traced to his hide-out in Death Valley.

The F.C.C. and F.B.I. immediately arrested Elmer on charges of inter-state rig-napping and operating under a false call-sign.

## **LIPS NOT WORTH READING**

As a result of President George Bush's promise for "*no new taxes*" in a "*kinder, gentler America*", the I.R.S. has had to cancel the "*Pride and Joy*" clauses of the tax code which would have given Amateur Radio operators extra dependent deductions for their equipment.

Administration spokesperson Oliver South said the deductions had to be cancelled since other hobbyists (coin collectors, stamp collectors, etc.) would have lobbied Congress "*from now 'til Doomsday*" demanding similar deductions for their hobbies as well.