



the RARRA RAG

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VOL. 42

APRIL 1990

NO. 8

ANNUAL OLD TIMERS NITE

An evening of nostalgia

FRIDAY, APRIL 6th

- highlights of RaRa activities in the 30's and 40's.
- scenes at Doud Legion Post and Vince's 50 Acres hamfests.
- RaRa members go mobile in 1948!
- early RDXA and VHF club stations.

Come and join your friends. Recognition to the oldest and earliest licensed. Kelley promises to keep things moving!

HAMFEST LABELING PARTY

by Ed Holdsworth, N2EH

I want to express my appreciation to those that showed up Saturday morning, March 3rd, on such short notice to assist with putting the labels on the more than 12,000 Hamfest brochures. The short notice was at the meeting Friday evening. Those that showed up were: Lia WA2NFY, Lee W2WPF, Marcy WA2URE, Walt N2IZT, Bud WA2UGE, Bob N2EVG, Dave KA2J with his xyl Donna and sons Michael and Joey, Phil N2GLU with his son Michael, Neal WB2EKP, Otto WB2RJB and Al N2JSZ.

Thanks again for the help.

RDXA MEETING — APRIL 17th

An Antenna Forum-panel discussion is the subject of our next meeting for all hams interesting in DXing and contesting.

Everyone interested in gaining new ideas for a better antenna is invited— 7:30 p.m., 111 Westfall Road, Tuesday, April 17th.

Bring your list of DX stations worked to address from our 1990 International Callbook.

For more information, call Bob, WE2T, RDXA Secty/Treas, 334-1103.

GET LOST IN THE WOODS

Do you realize that in about 3 months our annual get lost in the woods of Pennsylvania weekend will be here? You can have two chances to do this if you want to. There will be a separate rally run out of Williamsport, Pennsylvania in early May, plus the STPR out of Wellsboro the first weekend in June. Former workers on STPR will get a mailing outlining these different rallies. Carefully check the worker registration form(s) you fill out, to make sure you get the right one(s).

STPR will be slightly different this year. The Creek Crossing will still be there, but the Asaph Picnic Area stage will be run only in the afternoon. The night run will start with a transit (normal driving to Ole Bull State Park. Four stages will be run out there and then the usual stages back toward Wellsboro. This means that there will be no stages run until about 8:15, and the crews out by Ole Bull won't get through until about 11 p.m. The rest of the rally is about on a normal schedule with radio requirements.

Some of your personal schedules may be affected by these changes. But, we do hope to see you in Wellsboro, June 2nd. If you want further information, please call, Roger Harnaart, 235-0662.

ROCHESTER HAMFEST

MAY 18, 19, 20, 1990

SILENT KEY

HARRY LOTT
W2ARX

February 25, 1990

the **RARA RAG**

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FIELD DAY '90

It is just a few short weeks to Spring, though the chill air temperature makes me want to say "Winter". It's hard to believe that the annual Field Day Exercise is a mere eleven weeks from this Friday's RaRa meeting. With that in mind, and Hamfest season underway, it isn't too early to start gathering your thoughts about Field Day.

RaRa will again be sending out a contingent of stalwart individuals, "armed to the teeth" with their ingenuity and willingness to have fun, to set up in Mendon Ponds Park. Our plans this year are very similar to last year; get on the air, eat well, have fun, and learn a few new things from each other along the way. However, there are a couple of added attractions this year.

There will be a "join-in" antenna making party in which those who get there early will be able to find out just how easy it is to make a respectable antenna out of some inexpensive, readily available materials. Maybe we'll see how many contacts we can make with it in one hour? Some lucky participant will be able to take a great antenna home with them.

Later in the day will be a "real time" satellite tracking demo with lots of helpful hints on getting the most for your hard earned paycheck, and the culminating event will be, (drum roll, please) awarding of the coveted title, "The Hand". Each year we have several individuals who distinguish themselves by working CW contacts with a straight key. High speed sending or receiving is *not* the criteria for the award. The qualities sought, are those exemplified by our first winner for whom the award, "The Hand", is named.

The qualities are:

- Sportsman like conduct, even when all else around has gone berserk.
- Logging a major portion of your time "on-the-air" making CW contacts. (Yes! It is OK if you only can receive three words a minute.)
- Demonstrates good team spirit during the Field Day Exercise.
- Participates in making Field Day enjoyable for all.

A sign-up sheet will be available at all club meetings. Please see the Membership Chairman, Keith Freeberg (N2BEL), for details or call him at (315) 589-8901 evenings and weekends. Call Now! You do not need a license to participate.

FOR SALE – For a NEW HAM! TS 520S in excellent condition with operating and service manuals and original box – \$375. Also like new VFO 820 in original box – \$120. EI, WB2BNJ, 248-8796.

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Amateur Radio News Service

THIRD PARTY AGREEMENT COUNTRIES LIST

Section 97.115 of FCC Rules ... authorizes an amateur station licensed by the FCC to transmit messages for a third party to any amateur station within the jurisdiction of a foreign government whose administration has made arrangements with the United States to allow amateur stations to be used for transmitting international communications on behalf of third parties.

Here are the countries that have made the necessary arrangements with the US to permit third-party messages (recently added countries are highlighted): Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, **Federal Islamic Republic of Comoros**, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ghana, The Gambia, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Israel, Jamaica, Jordan, Liberia, Mexico, **Federated States of Micronesia**, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, St. Christopher and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Sierra Leone, Swaziland, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom (special event stations with call sign prefix GB followed by a number other than 3), Uruguay, and Venezuela.

United Nations stations 4U1ITU in Geneva, Switzerland and 4U1VIC in Vienna, Austria, have also made arrangements with the US to permit third-party communications.

No amateur station regulated by the FCC shall transmit messages for a third party to any stations within the jurisdiction of any foreign government not listed above. This prohibition does not apply to a message for any third party who is eligible to be the control operator of the station.

Tnx ARRL Letter

HANDY PHONE NUMBERS

Don't throw out that old telephone book until you tear out the page that lists local emergency numbers (inside front cover). Keep it near your mobile rig in the car.

Tnx to Ron, WB8NWK, via RF Carrier

VIRUS INSURANCE

Lloyd's of London, the risk taking insurance company, will insure against system and data damage by computer viruses anywhere in the world - except in the US because of the large number of viruses there, according to the Financial Times of London.

Tnx W5YI via RF Carrier

RaRa CALENDAR FOR APRIL

(Please check with the respective club officers for correct times and locations of club meetings.)

- 1 - APRIL FOOLS' DAY
- 2 - DXCC #1 issued - 1947
- 3 - West Coast Qualifying Run - 10-35 WPM starts at 0400 Z
- 6 - RaRa Meeting - 8:00 p.m.
40 & 8 Club, 933 University Avenue
- 7 - W1AW Qualifying Run - 10-35 WPM starts at 0200 Z
- 7-8 - North American QSO Party - CW from 1800 Z 4/7 to 0600 Z 4/8
- 8 - PALM SUNDAY
- 9 - ARRL Spring Sprints - 144 MHz
- 10 - PASSOVER
 - Squaw Island ARC Meeting - 8:00 p.m. Sheriff's Office, 84 Ontario Street, Canandaigua
- 12 - Packet Group Meeting - 7:30 p.m.
111 Westfall Road
- 13 - GOOD FRIDAY
 - (tentative) VHF Group Meeting - 7:30 p.m. 111 Westfall Road
- 14-15 North American QSO Party - Phone 1800 Z 4/14 to 0600 Z 4/15
- 15 - EASTER SUNDAY
 - INCOME TAXES DUE
 - Titanic Disaster of 1912 shows value of Morse Code and wireless radio
- 17 - RDXA Meeting - 8:00 p.m.
111 Westfall Road
 - ARRL Spring Sprints - 2200 MHz
- 18 - Kodak Park ARC - 12:00 Noon
1st Floor, Building 28
 - Drumlins Meeting - 7:30 p.m. NYS Disaster Preparedness Headquarters Route 31, Newark (across from the State Police Barracks)
- 20 - RRRR Meeting - 8:00 p.m.
Pittsford Town Library
- 25 - ARRL Sprint Sprints - 432 MHz
 - Marconi born this date in 1874
- 27-29 Dayton Hamvention

FOR SALE - SB101 Transceiver, SB600 Speaker and power supply, SB630 Console w/ phone patch - clock - timer, cantena dummy load, D104 mic. - \$295. Call Bob, WB2RCA, 671-1053.

HF OPS — WATCH THOSE VFO SPLITS

The FCC has issued over 240 notices of violation to amateur stations for improper operation during the recent 3Y5X Bouvet Island DXpedition. The notices were sent to US amateurs operating voice on frequencies reserved in this country for digital transmissions such as CW and RTTY. This is in violation of section 97.305(c) of the FCC rules which partitions various MF and HF amateur bands.

FCC believes that most of the violations resulted from "misuse of increasingly complex amateur service equipment rather than any willful action" but reminds amateurs that the station licensee is responsible for the proper operation of the station and will be held responsible for the transmission of an unauthorized emission under Section 97.103 of the Rules. Operation during the 3Y5X expedition is the subject of the March *QST* editorial. *Tnx ARRL Letter*

FUJI OSCAR 20 TAKES TO THE AIR AND THE AIRWAVES

JAS-1B (Fuji OSCAR 20) was successfully launched on February 7 at 0133 UTC from Tanegashima Space Center in Japan. In a congratulatory message to JARL President Shozo Hara, JA1AN, ARRL President Larry Price, W4RA, said "This second amateur satellite in the Fuji series is an important additional resource for Amateur Radio. It will be extremely useful for both day to day and disaster communications".

Like its predecessor, FO-12, JAS-1B is a spaceborne digital store-and-forward packet BBS using mode JD. It also carries a Mode JA linear transponder for SSB communication.

The mailbox feature requires a PSK modem and a TNC-2 using AX.25 link level protocol at 1200 baud. There are two downlink telemetry beacons on JAS-1b. The first one is for Mode JA at 435.795 MHz. It send CW or PSK with an output power of 100 mW. The second telemetry beacon is a Mode JD beacon and has a downlink frequency of 435.910 MHz. The Mode JD beacon sends PSK packets and has an output power of 1 watt.

Additional technical information on Fuji OSCAR 20 can be found in the September 1989 issue of *QEX*. *Tnx ARRL Letter*

THE RaRa RAG 20 YEARS AGO — APRIL 1970

by Ed Gable, K2MP

This issue of the *Rag* included a large supplement called the *Hamfest Times* where within it's six pages you met all of the speakers and honored guests to appear at the May Hamfest at Vince's Fifty Acres. The \$2.75 advanced tickets could be had by contacting Ticket Chairman Bob Lozen, WB2ERE, or by stopping at Rochester Radio to see Vic Lotempio, W2RIS. The April meeting is scheduled to be a field trip to RG&E's new atomic facility at the Brookwood plant in Ontario, New York. The Nominating Committee has been appointed: Chet Minges, W2VVG; Ray Leigh, W2SNI; and Lindus Caulum, WB2EID, will fill the slate. The FCC announced Amateur License fees are now at \$9.00 for upgrade and renewal. Speaking of FCC, as a benefit to RaRa members, this issue also included a form letter you could send to the FCC to satisfy Part 97.97 which stated you had to notify each FCC district you were going to drive through when mobiling on your vacation!! (So much for the "good old Days"!! Ed) The newly formed RRRA elected Charlie Mills, K2LDU, Chairman; Bob Jeffers, W2ALL, Vice-Chairman; and Bob Phelps, WB2DPD, Secretary. Joe Marsey, W2EMX, described one of our advertisers, Hirsch Sales of Williamsville, New York.

6 METER REPEATER SUBBAND EXPANDED

The FCC has expanded the 6 meter repeater subband from 52-54 MHz to 51-54 MHz effective April 9, 1990, according to a Report and Order dated February 1. The FCC stated that this expansion will permit operation of additional repeaters to meet the increased demand.

Although supportive in its comments to the FCC, the ARRL agreed with commenters concerned about interference to stations operating in the Pacific DX window. Protection of these operations will be afforded through amendment of the voluntary band plans.

Section 97.205(b) is revised to read as follows:
97.205 Repeater station.

(b) *** A repeater station may receive and transmit only on the 10 m and shorter wavelength frequency bands except the 28.0 - 29.5 MHz, 50.0 - 51.0 MHz, 144.0 - 144.5 MHz, 145.5 - 146.0 MHz, 220 - 220.5 MHz, 431.0 - 433.0 MHz and 435.0 - 438.0 MHz segments.

Tnx ARRL Letter

BIG TROUBLE

by Alan McMillan, WØJK

How do "Hams" get into so much trouble? Mainly, by some persons or small and noisy factions asserting: "*We know the right way, you don't,*" or "*This is the only legal way to do it!*"

Whatever the situation today, we don't seem to LEARN FROM PAST HISTORY (as if this isn't true about most everything) on the ways of the FCC. Some groups and individuals are bound and determined to have us further restricted in more ways, and they will succeed if they don't stop bickering ON THE AIR and wanting the FCC to settle it. Work out problems in a DEMOCRATIC WAY. (We do have some history that indicates this is a good process.)

To clarify, for example: A couple of decades ago it was common practice for DX chasers on 20M to sit about 1 - 2 kc. up from the lower end of the phone band at 14,200 kc. It's true their (AM) sideband was often actually splashing a bit into the CW range, but finally one loud voice said IN PRINT that "*In my opinion this is not proper*". So that forced the FCC to make a ruling on it. Guess what? They ruled that the AM sidebands also had to be in the phone range. For decades, the FCC and most individuals had cared little. WHEN THE FCC IS PUBLICLY FORCED TO RULE, THEY ALWAYS RULE IN A WAY THAT WILL TEND TO BE MORE RESTRICTIVE!

In the mid 80s, wars started between groups that say THEY should be the area repeater coordinators. Unfortunately, several groups cannot control the same area! The war goes on and solutions are only found if the people involved sit down and cooperate. "ON THE AIR WARS" solve nothing. As good as Ham Radio is for communicating, it does not work for verbal wars. You have to sit FACE TO FACE to resolve these problems.

Another old war is that of NETS and anyone using "THEIR" frequency! Tact and cooperation usually go out the window when on the air. And now there are new wars of PHONE PATCH NETS that some find questionable. If you feel strongly about such an item and believe you can represent the fraternity at large in resolving problems then try to get the fellows to meet personally in a forum to reach decisions. Things should work out better for the fraternity in the end.

Remember that LAWS ARE SIMPLY THE OPINION OF THE MOST POWERFUL VOICES. Unfortunately, that doesn't always relate well to the majority. More harmony can be

reached with more diversified and considered input. Don't let the loudmouths be the self elected spokesman for the group.

What ever comes of this, the solution of forcing the FCC to settle the question will surely bring a reduction of priveleges, no matter which way any of us personally lean on any of these frequent rhubarbs that go one and on and on. Let's review and learn from past history.

73, Alan, WØJK via Ham Hum

FCC ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

Per an FCC Release dated January 11, 1990, Frederic K. Stark, KA2ULZ, from West Tagh-konic, New York has been fined \$1000 for pirate radio operation on 1000 kHz. The FCC received a complaint from the NY State Broadcasters Association in Albany that alleged an unauthorized station was rebroadcasting US Armed Forces Radio Network programs. The unauthorized station apparently interfered with the reception of a licensed station on 1010 kHz.

Using mobile radio direction finding equipment, an engineer from the New York FCC field office located the illegal station at the Stark residence. The unauthorized broadcast station was playing music and gave WNYS as its call letters.

Illegal radio operation is a violation of 47 CFR section 301 of the Communications Act. Unlicensed radio operations may be subject to fines of up to \$100,000 and/or one year in prison.

Tnx ARRL Letter

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS FOR 1990

| EVENT | DATE |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Parkinsons Crop Walk | 4/21/90 |
| Alphabet Run | 4/29/90 |
| Lilac International Biathalon | 5/27/90 |
| Webster Sprint Triathalon | 6/02/90 |
| Northampton Park Carriage Competition | 6/03/90 |
| Human Race | 6/10/90 |
| Chili Travel Tournament | 6/15/90 |
| Finger Lakes Triathalon | 6/17/90 |
| American Lung Association Bike Tour | 6/30/90 |
| Mendon Pony Club Competition | 7/07/90 |
| Rochester-Monroe Epic Bike Tour | 8/18/90 |
| Hamlin Beach International Triathalon | 8/19/90 |
| Rams Bike Tour | 9/08/90 |
| Mendon Pony Club Meet | 9/01/90 |
| Irondequoit Triathalon | 9/16/90 |
| R. E. Ginna Pre-Drill | 10/17/90 |
| Walnut Hill Driving Competition | 11/16/90 |
| R. E. Ginna Evacuation Drill | 11/28/90 |

XEROX SS EFFORT FALLS SHORT

WB2VPH IS NEW FM KING

WB2FNF SNAGS HIGH SCORE YL

by Wayne King, N2WK

The Xerox ARC pulled out every stop in an effort to dethrone the RDXA as this area's top VHF sweepstakes club but came up empty handed for the second straight year. A total of 93 percent of the club participated in hopes their high numbers would offset the scoring power and contest experience of the RDXA. Out of a possible 60 points the RDXA edged Xerox 56-53 in one of the closest races for the Rochester CUP in recent years. Xerox was led by WB2ELB with a score of 21K as they submitted 39 logs with a score of 49,570 and 3,159 QSO's. The RDXA entered 28 logs with a score of 122,793 with 3,951 QSO's to take the CUP for the second consecutive year. Jeff, W2HPF, was their leading station with a score of 43,792 followed by Mark, NM2J, who added 24,805. Kodak ARC placed third in the competition with 43 CUP points. With a score of 155,204 and 2,343 QSO's led by N2WK's 114K and Steve, KD2KQ's total of 25,606 Kodak surprised RaRa who finished 4th with 37 CUP points to 36 for the 5th place Genesee Repeater Association.

Rich, WB2VPH, is the new FM ONLY King logging 296 Q's on 3 bands. Ending up in 2nd was John, WA2SHN, with 277 Q's also on 3 bands and Met, WT2L, operating on 2 bands finished 3rd with 269 Q's. 4th place went to Curtis who grabbed 252 FM only Q's and Pete, WB2SUN, who has won this class for the last three years ended up with 247 Q's in 5th place for 1990.

Billie, WB2FNF, was this years high scoring YL. Her score of 8,450 was too much for Marguerite, NU2U, to overtake who had a very nice score of 8,405. In 3rd place was last year's winner Helen, WA2YPT, followed by Marcy, WA2URE, and Lea, WA2NFY.

Final 1990 Standings for the Rochester CUP:

| Club | Pts | Score | QSO's | Logs | Club % |
|-----------|-----|---------|-------|------|--------|
| RDXA | 56 | 122,793 | 3,951 | 28 | 43.5 |
| XEROX ARC | 53 | 49,555 | 3,154 | 38 | 93.0 |
| KODAK ARC | 43 | 155,204 | 2,343 | 15 | 16.0 |
| RaRa | 37 | 104,916 | 3,688 | 24 | 3.2 |
| GRA | 36 | 47,340 | 2,877 | 22 | 9.1 |
| SIARC | 34 | 39,298 | 1,153 | 13 | 43.0 |
| RRRA | 31 | 59,390 | 2,492 | 16 | 5.3 |
| GRAM | 22 | 48,164 | 753 | 3 | |
| RAPS | 13 | 28,017 | 660 | 3 | 7.5 |
| Drumlines | 8 | 16,677 | 410 | 3 | 3.7 |

Some of the top scoring VHF Stations:

| FM Only | Q's | High YL | Score |
|---------|-----|---------|-------|
| WB2VPH | 296 | WB2FNF | 8450 |
| WA2SHN | 277 | NU2U | 8405 |
| WT2L | 269 | WA2YPT | 4648 |
| N2HKD | 252 | WA2URE | 3024 |
| WB2SUN | 247 | WA2NFY | 411 |
| KB2SE | 226 | N2FBN | 102 |
| N2EZS | 221 | N2ILN | 24 |
| KB2WN | 215 | WV2J | 10 |
| KB2BLS | 208 | | |
| KE2GE | 204 | | |
| KE2MK | 200 | | |
| W2XG | 194 | | |
| WA2EKT | 192 | | |
| W02P | 184 | | |
| N2IZW | 169 | | |
| N2HJD | 165 | | |
| K2YA | 160 | | |
| W2DHV | 154 | | |
| ND2Z | 150 | | |
| K2BCL | 147 | | |

| Club | Leaders | Score |
|-----------|---------|---------|
| RDXA | W2HPF | 43,792 |
| XEROX | WB2ELB | 21,216 |
| KODAK | N2WK | 144,426 |
| RaRa | K2JD | 18,734 |
| GRA | WB2FNF | 8,540 |
| SIARC | WB2JLR | 35,904 |
| RRRA | WA2ZNC | 15,414 |
| GRAM | K2AN | 42,350 |
| RAPS | KE2DI | 21,505 |
| Drumlines | K2MPE | 11,502 |

RVHFG Banquet in April 21st, at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$10.00 and must be purchased by April 10th. Contact N2WK at 247-7283.

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OUR BAD MANNERS ARE SHOWING

Dear Metroplex,

It could have been one of Ham Radio's shining moments. The Norwegian DX-pedition to Bouvet Island (3Y), one of the rarest of the rare DX islands.

Well, needless to say, the worldwide spotlight brought to bear on 14.175 MHz was just too much for some Hams to leave alone. In order to allow some operating "elbow room" the first 2 weeks, the Bouvet Hams were 5 kHz off the U.S. band and they listened, over an admittedly VERY wide range, for U.S. operators.

No sooner did one errant Ham transmit on his wrong split-VFO than dozens of "helpful" policemen let him know right on Bouvet's frequency. Then each "freq-cop" had to be insulted by others telling him/her to be quiet! That, combined with intentional "CQ's", "Is this frequency is use", "where is he located", and other assorted garbage, brought innocent cries of "Enough" and "You're disgusting" ... naturally right on the out-of-band frequency. The Mexican and Canadian operators, who had every right to be there, left the frequency in horror.

Fortunately most of the tens-of-thousands who called from within the 20-30 kHz of U.S. Band space, resisted giving comments. But the damage is done ... on the heels of a Panama invasion, U.S. Amateurs now take on the foreign phone band!!!

Lets hope sanity returns to DXing, and that other Hams will still journey the thousands of life-threatening miles to give us all that rare chance at a rare country.

DX is ... let it be.

73, Hank (WA2OVG), via Metroplex

RFI CASE DISMISSED IN WASHINGTON SUPERIOR COURT

The RFI nuisance case of Luedke and Abigando v Hudson has been dismissed by the Superior Court of the state of Washington. The case is one of the few recent cases in which a nuisance complaint was dismissed by the court for lack of jurisdiction. The court stated that only the FCC has exclusive jurisdiction over cases involving RFI.

The case involved Dr. Wayne Hudson, KT7G, a resident of King County, Washington, and his two neighbors, Messrs. Luedke and Abigando. After an initial complaint of RFI by his neighbors, Hudson had his station inspected by the FCC and a private firm. His equipemnt was found to be operating in accordance with FCC rules. The RFI problems, however, continued and his neighbors took him to small claims court. The court ruled in Hudson's favor when it was determined that his neighbors touch lamps were the actual cause of the RFI.

Not satisfied, Luedke and Abigando took their case to Washington State Superior Court. The Superior Court determined that "The Supremacy Clause of the United State Constitution bars the instant state law claims ... since RFI problems are within the exclusive jurisdiction of the FCC preempting any state laws to the contrary..." In addition, the court determined that the neighbors had not taken steps to solve their own RFI problems as requested by the FCC.

Hudson's neighbors also sought an injunction on the basis of aesthetics saying that his antennas were unsightly. The court responded by saying that aesthetic impact is not a ground for injunctive relief. It concluded by reaffirming that the court's jurisdiction is preempted by federal law and that the FCC has exclusive jurisdiction over RFI problems.

Tnx ARRL Letter

Patrick C. Moyer, N2AIW Attorney & Counselor-at-Law

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VOL. 4

SPECIAL APRIL FOOL'S EDITION 1990

NO. 1

NAMES IN THE NEWS

● Manuel Noriega, the former leader of Panama, has finally received his Amateur Radio license from the Vatican Embassy in Panama City where he took refuge after last December's U.S. invasion. Noreiga, now HV1SIN/HP – a Novice level ham, used his time to study Amateur Radio theory and code while in seclusion at the nunciature. He told "The Gag" that he could have reached a higher class license, but the U.S. Army's rock-n-roll music interfered with his code practice.

● Jimmy Bakker, "The Gag" has learned from federal Freedom of Information Act requests has been studying to get his own Novice ticket when he is not performing janitorial work at the Federal Correctional Center in Rochester, Minnesota. Federal officials are concerned that the former multi-millionaire, mega-tel-evangelist may make use of the Morse Code with his tin cup banging on the bars of his cell to raise money to keep his wife, Tammy Faye, up to her eye-lashes in cosmetics.

● George Bush, Dan Quayle, and all five members of the Federal Council on Communications failed their Novice Amateur Radio exams in a recent challenge test administered by "The Gag's" V.E.'s in the White House basement last month. Bush had wanted to be an active part of his own "thousand points of light" programs, and blamed his failure on the noise from the still running Col. Oliver North paper shredding machine.

HAM KILLED AT HIS QTH

Jim Ruckles, KØONE, of Denver, Colorado, was killed in a household accident just after he completed competition in the January VHF Sweepstakes Contest.

Jim, a ham for over twenty years, had just gone to bed after completing all 24 hours of the contest. His XYL, Maude, gave "The Gag" an exclusive interview about the accident: "I told him for

years to get all those ham radio magazines and junk he collected out of the attic. I told him I could see the bedroom ceiling falling down and killing us someday. Well, it finally happened. Lucky thing I had gone shopping or I'd be dead, too!"

Rescue Squad Chief Steve Kipling who investigated the accident told "The Gag": "We've been afraid for years of this happening with NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC collectors. But this guy had twenty-plus years of four different ham magazines and all his equipment up there. He was asking for this to happen, y'know".

ALL HAM RADIO

In an attempt to diffuse criticism of too many secret Defense Department Space Shuttle missions, NASA announced that as soon as one can be scheduled, NASA will launch an all-amateur radio mission.

NASA and the League of Amateur Radio Ragchewers (L.A.R.R.) officials stated that the five-person crew, yet to be selected, will have one ham from each class of U.S. license – Novice, Technician, Advanced, and Extra. The main focus of the mission will be to retrieve previously shuttle-launched Defense Department "spy satellites" and convert the on-board electronics while still in earth orbit into OSCAR-type, amateur radio satellites.

The L.A.R.R. announced at the same press conference a temporary, five-year dues increase to \$10,000 per L.A.R.R. member so that the League can purchase and build its' own space shuttle. L.A.R.R. Board of Directors still has to decide whether to call it the "Maxim" or the "Goldwater".



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