

WB8VKB, Wells Chapin, W8GI Trustee

WR8AEN, Bill Martinek, W8JUY,
Trustee - I46.25 85
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C H E R R Y L A N D A . R . C .

September 1976
Volume III, No. 3 & 9

CHERRYLAND A.R.C.
TRAVERSE CITY, MICHIGAN

XX

PRES: Jack Leishman, K8YZW	BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
V. PRES: Bill Mader, WA8WWM	John Mesch, W8LQZ
REC. SEC: Edna Widman, WB8EYL	John Widman, WA8BUB
Corr. SEC: Elgen Walt, W8RNQ	Bill Martinek, W8JUY
TREAS: Joe Novak, W8TVT	

OFFICIAL CLUB NET: SMASH net, Sunday morning 9:00AM, 3935 Khz
XX

SEPTEMBER MEETING: The Cherryland Amateur Radio Club will meet on Tuesday, September 28, 1976, at the Northwestern M Michigan College Technical Center, Room 121, at 7:30 PM. The Tech Center is located on East Front Street, directly across from MacDonald's. Cookies and coffee will be served. Bring along a friend or anyone interested in amateur radio. Everyone is welcome.

The September meeting is one of our most important meetings of the year. It is at this meeting that our club officers for the ensuing year are elected, and the activities of the club are programmed. The program for the evening will be the premier showing of the slides taken at the 1975 Field Day activities ---this should be great fun to watch this champion event.

QST QST QST-----THE PREZ SEZ-----QST QST QST-----

With cooler weather arriving, amateur radio generally takes on a higher priority among one's interests. Our club will be planning many exciting activities to provide a variety of entertainment this year. Your involvement in club functions will help make these activities seem even more worthwhile. I would expect many new faces in our midst this year with the licensing of some 20 new hams this summer. With our membership rising to 70 members last year, I hope all of you will plan on attending Tuesday's meeting to show your support for the oncoming year. At this meeting, we will be electing new officers for 1976-77. A slate of candidates will be proposed and nominations will be accepted from the floor. If you have someone in mind for an office, or, if you would be interested yourself, please contact me before the meeting.

At this point, I sincerely thank all of you who helped make this past year the success that it was. I want to especially thank the Board, the officers and chairmen, who helped make my job as rewarding as it was. I truly hope this year will show continued interest and growth in all aspects of our club. See you Tuesday!!!!

Jack, K8YZW

I wonder how many of the club members have been observing the 'tongue-in-cheek' cartoon appearing on the editorial page of the Traverse City Record Eagle every Friday. The cartoon is titled "Around hereabouts" and is written and drawn by George Ferris. With astute observation one can observe various subtle connections with amateur radio; such as, each panel is numbered in morse code, or (in the case of last week) there is a small sign showing with the words 'W8SYQ is a ham'. For those who don't know George Ferris, he is W8FFG, and works out at Traverse City Electronics on South Airport Road.

As editor of the Cherry Juice, we have been fortunate to be on the mailing lists of several other radio club publications from around the country. One in particular is the club paper "QSP" from the Rocky Mountain V.H.F. Society in Boulder, Colo. This, incidently, was the group which built and flew the balloon-carrier repeater at the Denver ARRL convention. What a club activity this was, and even though the balloon did not attain the altitude expected, it still was an outstanding success.

We are indebted to the "QSP" for the following article, which we felt would be of interest to our club members:

COAX CABLE FACTS IN A NUTSHELL

T. H. Stahl, W8MO

The outer jacket on co-ax cable is very important in determining what the lifespan of the cable will be. Cable with vinyl jackets come in two types: Class 1 is a contaminating type originally used on cables such as RG-8/U, RG-58/U and RG-59/U. This jacket material when manufactured was kept flexible by incorporating a plastisizer or extender. Unfortunately, as soon as the cable is jacketed, the extender starts to move from the jacket through the shield braid into the polyethylene insulation around the center conductor. This causes the polyethylene to change its insulation characteristics with increasing electrical losses. These losses can be readily measured after a year or two. Thus the older cables, particularly surplus cable that is old, is no great bargain at any price.

Later cables have used what is called a Class 2A jacket. This material is long lived, abrasion resistant, not damaged by sunlight, can be buried for underground runs, and best of all, is noncontaminating to the polyethylene center conductor insulation. All of these advantages add up to a useful life of 10 to 20 years and the Class 2A jacketed cable has not, I repeat, has not increased the cost of the cable to us, the amateur using co-ax cable. Examples of these cables are RG-213 replacing RG-8/U, RG-58C/U replacing RG-58/U, and RG-59B/U replacing RG-59/U, etc.

With RG-8/U no longer being a MIL-SPEC cable, the shielding no longer has to be made so well. The result is cheapened shielding, less density of the braid. This has been cheapened to such an extent that if you bend the cable the braid spreads to leave holes in it so that you can see the center insulation. Therefore, it behooves us to refuse to purchase non-MIL-SPEC cables. As frequencies get higher, there would be more and more RF leakage through these poorly made cables. The manufacturers did not cut the price on the non-MIL-SPEC cables merely cheapened them.

Theoretically, foamed insulation on cables should increase their efficiency. However, there are none of them made to MIL-SPEC ~~XXX~~ as far as shielding, do not have Class 2A jackets and, unless the foam is gas filled to keep moisture from oozing through the jacket into the foam, are not desirable. Losses go up very rapidly if moisture gets into the foamed insulation.

To conclude, stick with late types of co-ax using Class 2A jackets, leaving the foamed co-ax to the TV types. Jacket type for a particular co-ax cable can be checked in the cable maker's catalog. Cable jacketed with a Class 2A-jacket is no more expensive than the older non-MIL-SPEC cables. (Compiled from Amphenol and Times Wire & Engineering data. Reprinted from DARA bulletin via Cora C collector and Emitter and Ø Beat.)

The following is quoted from HR report No. 113, Sept. 17, 1976

PROPAGATION REPORT-SEPTEMBER 20-OCTOBER 5. Old Sol came through with some of those predicted mini-flares and put last week's prognostications just about on the nose. 15 meter openings from much of the U.S. to Europe and even the Near East resulted, rewarding 15 meter buffs who'd been sweating out the summer doldrums and also heralding the seasonal upswing now definitely taking place.

New Solar Cycle spot groups are now a 50/50 bet to appear in this forecast period and, coupled with equinoctial seasonal trends, will accelerate improving band conditions. Despite the general improvement, however, two disturbed periods -- September 19-22 and 29-30 -- are still expected. Both are relatively minor, but will knock out polar path DX for a few days.

Don't Let Current HF improvements fool you, W9RX warns -- the experts say we're still on the downward slide so the wise DX'er weekends are now going to low frequency antenna improvements.

For those that might be interested in working and QSL'ing a couple of the lesser heard Caribbean islands, your editor will be operating from the island of Grenada using the call of VP2G-- (call not yet assigned)(hopefully VP2GWM!) from approximately October 13 through 21~~X~~, and from the island of Barbados, using the call 8P6GU, from October 23 through Nov. 4. As in the past few years, I will be keeping morning skeds with some of the local boys on 20 meters around 8 to 8:30 AM. Hopefully, I will be operating all bands, 160 through 10, as time and conditions permit. I particularly would be interested in making skeds with any of the newer Novice stations. Any takers? Of course, the two weeks in Barbados will be spent (enjoyably) with Doug and Jean DeMaw, W1CER and W1CKK! As of this writing Doug is not sure the type of equipment he will be using, but I will be hand carrying (carefully) the new TS-820.

REPEATER NOTES --- Our repeater, WR8AEN, has been doing it's usual terrific job this summer. Many visiting hams made use of it, resulting in quite a few "eye-ball" QSO's. The one major difficulty was the loss of our tape ident at some in-opportune times. Hopefully, we will have the CW ident installed before long. We are still ~~hope~~ hoping that the logistics of moving the 80 foot pole from Kalkaska to the repeater site can be overcome, and that we can have the pole installed before winter sets in. The extra height would help some of the low lying areas.

MICRO-PROCESSORS --- Anyone interested in micro-processors? Be sure to see Al. W8CYO, at this Tuesday's meeting of the CARC. The Straits Area Radio Club will be visiting a computer hobbyist for a live demonstration and explanation, October 19th. If you would like to attend, see Al for more details. How about getting together a car-load to go?

FOR SALE:

Clegg AC power supply, #011, 5 amp., \$40.00. Ernie Phipps, W8ALG

Collins receiver, 75A4, \$275.00. Bill Martinck, W8JUY

"HAIL TO THE CHIEF"-----

As our 1975-76 club year comes to a close, we extend our heartfelt gratitude and congratulations on a job well done to Jack, K8YZW. Through his leadership the Cherryland Amateur Radio Club increased it's membership by almost 20 new members, our activities for the year were an outstanding success, and he, single handedly, took the "bull by the horns" and took our repeater out of the talk stage and made it operational. Thanks, Jack, for making our year such an enjoyable ~~XXXX~~ ham radio year.

NEW LICENSEE'S --- The following is a list of those who have successfully passed their licenses this past summer: Aaron Plowman, W8ZQE, Jim Peplinski, W8ZQA; Allan Leinbach, W8ZQB; Frank Glowacki, WD8?; Dave, W8CDC and Mary, W8CGA, Matteson; Joe Fike, WD8CKV; Bill Ackerman, W8?---; Shirley Mesch, W8BZP; Bill Chase, W8WEW; Sue Mader, W8CBU; Bob Wilson, W8?---; Bruce and George Van Farow, W8?---s; Mike Garrity, WD8?---; Jeff Glover, W8?---; and Robert Berry, WD8?---. We also want to mention that Don Chase, W8HIW and Glenn Sanford W8? both wrote their Advanced Class licenses and passed. In fact, Glenn went down only to write his General, which he ~~had~~ did and passed, and ~~then~~ was asked if he would like to take a try at his Advanced, which he did and also passed. Congrats to all of you. Come on Bill Mader, if you don't hurry up and pass your Extra C class, everyone will catch up to you!!!!

With all these new Novices, how about one of you writing a piece for the next Cherry Juice describing that great experience of making that ~~first~~ first contact.---PSE QRS !!

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Sept. 28, 1976 - CARC meeting
Oct. 19 - Straits Area Club meeting
Ocdt ? - CARC hidden xmtr hunt
Oct. 26 - CARC meeting
Nov. 23 - CARC meeting

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DON'T FORGET ----WEAR YOUR NAME BADGE NEXT TUESDAY NIGHT

We're looking for ideas to do for klub meetings this year. The meetings are chances for hou to learn smething new or brush up on something old. If any of you has a program in mind to present or one you would like to see, now is the time /to get it going. Let's make our club meetings an enjoyable and fun part of what is obviously the world's most interesting hobby.

The following is a list of those members who have agreed to having their names proposed for nominaztions as club officers. Nominations may be also made from the floor, providing~~x~~ that member has agreed to having his name placed on the ballot.

President --- Bill Mader, WA8WWM
Vice President - Glen Sanford, W or K8 ?
8 Treasurer - Joe Novak, W8TVT
8 Rec. Secretary - Mary Mathison, WN8CGA
Corr. Secretary- Sue Mader, WN8CBU
Jack, K8YZW, automatically becomes a member of the Board of Directors for a one year term. He will join John Mesch and Bill Martinck, as Board members.

SEE YOU ALL TUESDAY NIGHT, SEPTEMBER 28, 1976. 7:30 PM

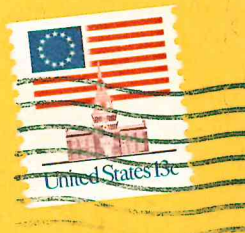
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TRAVERSE CITY, MI 496
SEP 25
-PM
1976



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