

W4CA LOG



*Amateur Radio News in
The Roanoke Valley*

W4CA LOG
P.O. Box 2002
ROANOKE, VA.



FIRST CLASS MAIL
Address Correction
Requested

Van Wimmer
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Salem, Va. 24153

Volume II Number 9. September, 1969

Pap's Pertinent Poop

This month's Poop is from the August "Auto Call" and is by George Goldstone, W8AP. In light of events of the past few weeks this may seem to be a bit late but then maybe you will remember some of the fine points the next time.

"Every year brings its share of tornadoes, floodings, and other natural disasters. Nearly every such tragic event creates a loss of vital communications, sometimes of short duration, and sometimes longer. Amateur radio established a tradition of public service in such disasters many years ago, and today, we lean heavily on this tradition to justify our use of radio frequencies. The "Emergency Nets" which have been set up by amateur groups supposedly represent a form of advance preparation for participation in emergency communications. But are the nets doing just that?

The writer adheres to a 30-year old concept of emergency communication nets. That concept involves a few simple steps:

First: LISTEN! At any time there is an apparent emergency, and you are either at your home station or in an automobile equipped with a mobile unit, LISTEN ON THE NET FREQUENCY! There just may be a station calling for help.

Second: OPEN THE NET, AND KEEP IT OPEN. If you hear nothing on the net frequency, and you should listen with the utmost care, give the net call, sign your call, and stand by. If another net member answers, ask him to stay on frequency and share the radio watch with you. Two sets of ears are better than one.

Third: ASSUME NET CONTROL UNTIL NCS COMES ON. Any emergency net worth a bean is a controlled net. No free-wheeling exhibitionists!

Fourth: MAINTAIN A LISTENING WATCH UNTIL THE EMERGENCY ENDS. This is often difficult, and invariably hard on your ears and stomach. If you have a good emergency net, other members will come on frequency and share the watch. It is particularly important that YL operators, and retirees, cover the net frequency during working hours of the day.

(Con't. on Page Two)

Paps Pertinent Poop (Con't from page one)

Fifth: OBSERVE NET DISCIPLINE. In short, don't make unasked for transmissions after you have reported in to Net Control. Every half-hour or so, the NCS can check to see who is still maintaining the watch.

We have come on frequency of the Michigan Emergency Net during several "tornado alerts" which usually saw tornadoes touching down someplace in Michigan. The QRN gets plenty fierce when these storms come along--and can you find any Michigan Emergency Net? Heck, no! You've got to wait until Sunday morning when everyone goes through a coffee hour. We have every reason to believe that a similar situation exists in other states, respecting their "Emergency Nets", at least on 75 meters.

It is fortunate that real emergencies don't come often. But is it too much to ask that "Emergency Nets" actually function as such and demonstrate some communications capability at the time it is needed? --W8AP"

News of the Roanoke Valley

We would like to have a large turn out when our guest speakers are here. Both of these men are very busy and we are very privileged to have them as guest speakers. (For more information see the Meeting Notice elsewhere in the Log. Ed.)

We have several programs coming up where the club is paying for food or drinks. These free items are for paid up club members and their families. Be sure your dues are up to date. If not, John will have his books at all of our meetings. (Note: Dues can be broken into payments if you wish.)

Would appreciate a few people coming early at the next meeting to help trim the lawn and bushes. Bring grass trimmers, hedge clippers, or a rake. Van Wimmer will be at the club house by 6:30.

A few people have started to get careless with cigarettes at the club meetings. Please use the ash trays if you must smoke. Ashes are very difficult to remove from our fine wood floors. Please help us keep our club house clean. We don't have a janitor, just club members.

(Con't on page three)

COMMUNICATIONS

Radio Club Does Big Job

By KEVIN CLEARY
News Staff Writer

Since amateur radio operators can set up their equipment anywhere a power supply is available, they are often invaluable in times of emergency such as the recent area flood.

Bob Johnston, a member of the Lynchburg Amateur Radio Club, went into the Lovingson area early last Wednesday on an Appalachian Power Co. helicopter.

He was armed with a small, battery-operated radio donated by the General Electric Co. and along with members of the Appalachian crew, couldn't believe what he saw.

"We set the chopper down several times on the way to Lovingson," he said, "and tried to do what we could, but the de-

struction was unbelievable."

Johnston proceeded to establish contact with a control center which had been set up at the Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone Co. building on Timberlake Road just outside of Lynchburg.

Until then, the only contact from Lovingson with the outside world was through a two-way radio in a State Police car which had contact with Appomattox.

The ham operators were called into action by the telephone company after all long distance lines were knocked out at Lovingson.

Johnston worked incessantly in the field for the first few days, helping establish a center at Lovingson with other amateur radio men on the U. S. 29

bypass which was turned into a landing strip.

More mobile units were quickly sent into the area and began coordinating rescue operations in the devastated Massies Mill and Davis Creek sections.

Johnston, employed as a designer at the General Electric Co., spent so much time talking that by Saturday he could hardly speak above a whisper.

George Rose, who was out of town when the disaster struck, made it to the center on Timberlake Road an hour after he returned to Lynchburg.

He explained the operation as follows: All transmissions are made on one frequency no matter where they originate from.

These signals are picked up by a unit located on Tobacco Row Mountain and are repeated on another frequency for reception.

This repeating system is designed primarily to give a wider range of reception and avoid confusion.

During the first part of the operation, all of the transmissions were handled by the Lynchburg control center and were relayed to the specific unit desired.

Later, the center in Lovingson began handling its own messages directly.

Another important function of the Lynchburg center, Rose said, was to "patch" emergency telephone calls to the disaster area.

He said this was accomplished by dialing the number from Lynchburg, then connecting the party in Lovingson by radio. Before long distance telephone service was restored this was one of the few ways emergency equipment could be called for.

Rose, a senior development engineer for GE, said that volunteers from the Lynchburg Repeater Association also joined in the operation.

According to Rose, all of the work was done without pay. He listed other members of the two organizations who donated their services: Ed Cox, Doug Baker, Bob Brown, Macon Carville, Lynn White and Harry Mill.

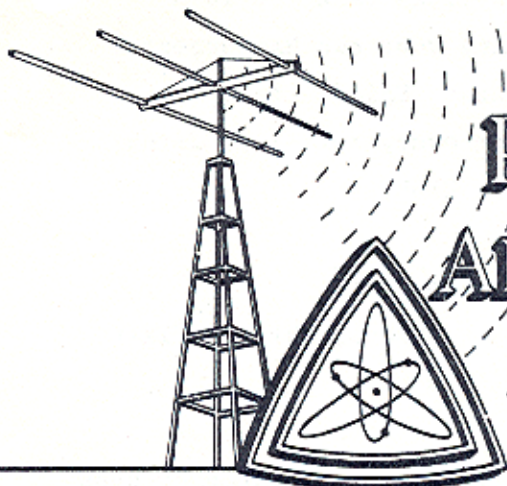
Also, Bob Martin, Mickey Bradford, Etta Hogan, Tom McKee, Don Brah and Carl Sensabaugh.

Rose said the organizations have previously gone into action in the Lynchburg area to coordinate forest fire fighting efforts in the mountains and help in a search for a missing child.

Hamfest Calendar

MARYLAND-The annual Hamfest for the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, sponsored by the Foundation For Amateur Radio, will be held at the Gaithersburg Fairgrounds in nearby Gaithersburg, Maryland, on Sunday, September 21, from 1000 until 1700 hours. (This is a big one.)

WEST VIRGINIA-Roanoke Division Convention. Huntington, W.Va. October 11-12. (See One Page Add elsewhere in Log.)



ROANOKE VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

CLUBHOUSE

110 Union Street — Salem, Virginia 24153
(CLUB MEETINGS ON THE SECOND AND FOURTH FRIDAY EA. MONTH)

The Virginia QSO Party will be held the weekend of March 21 - 23, 1970.

All amateurs are invited to participate in the Virginia QSO Party sponsored by the Roanoke Valley Amateur Radio Club. Virginia stations are urged to work as many out-of-state stations as possible to permit others to earn credit for the Old Dominion County Award and for USA-CA.

Rules:

- 1) Contacts will be made during the 32 hour period from 1800 GMT Saturday, March 21, 1970 to 0200 GMT Monday, March 23, 1970.
- 2) No power limit or minimum time limit.
- 3) The same station may be worked once on each difference band.
- 4) The general call is "CQ VA"; Virginia stations are requested to identify themselves by signing "DE VA" or THIS IS VIRGINIA."
- 5) Virginia amateurs residing in independent cities will use a neighboring county in contest exchange, and will use that county throughout the contest. (Max. counties - 96)
- 6) Phone and CW will be considered separate contests, and separate logs should be submitted.

Exchanges:

Virginia stations will send QSO Number, RS/RST Report, and County; Example - NR 56 - 579 - FRANKLIN. Out-of-state stations will send QSO Number RS/RST Report and State, Province or Country.

Scoring:

Virginia stations will count one point for each complete contact, including those with other Virginia stations. Multiply the number of QSO points by the number of States, Provinces, Countries and Virginia Counties worked to obtain TOTAL score. (Do not count Va. as a State or Canada as Country.) Out-of-state stations likewise count one point for each complete contact with a Virginia station. Multiply the number of QSO points by the number of different Virginia Counties worked.

Out-of-state stations multiply number of complete contacts with Va. Stations times the number of Virginia Counties worked.

Awards:

Highest scoring station in each state, Province, and country will receive a certificate. Virginia stations will compete for First, Second, Third, Fourth, and Fifth place certificates.

Suggested Frequencies:

CW - 3560, 7060, 14060, 21060, 28060.

PHONE - 3930, 7235, 14240/14340, 21310/21400

Logs, showing Dates - Times - Station Contacted - Bands - Mode - Location - and Final Score must be received no later than April 30, 1970. Send Logs plus a self-addressed stamped 4 x 9 1/2 envelope to:

ROANOKE VALLEY ARC
110 UNION STREET
SALEM, VIRGINIA 24153

MEETING NOTICE

Sept. 7 (Sunday) Both Clubs. PICNIC at Mowles Springs Park 6-10PM
Located on 12 Oclock Knob Road, Salem. Bring your own Hamburgers &
Hot Dogs. Bring a dish. (Baked Beans, Potato Salad, etc.).
June Wood is going to make enough chile for everyone. Soft drinks
furnish by the Roanoke Valley Amateur Radio Club.

Sept. 12 (FRIDAY) Both Clubs. Time: 7:30PM Watermelon Feed
8:00PM Club Meeting. Officer Nominations. Discuss Hamfest Flier.

Sept. 26 Officer Elections.

Guest Speaker: Mr.C.R. Marshall, Systems Engineer Automated Process
Control - Australian General Electric Company Pty. LTD.

Subject: Discussion on "Life In Australia". + Question & Answer
Session.

Oct. 8 (Wednesday) Location: Barn Dinner Theatre - Airport Road; Roa., Va.
Officer Installation Banquet. BY RESERVATION ONLY. See Add Below.
This meeting will replace the Friday Oct. 10th meeting.

Oct. 24 (Friday) Guest Speaker: Dr.F.M. Baily
Subject: "Coherent Light And Radio Waves"
Demonstration: Will use a Laser to demonstrate diffraction properties of light.

FOR RESERVATIONS CALL VAN WIMMER 389-2806



**THE OLD
BARN
DINNER
THEATRE**

**RVARC OFFICER
INSTALLATION BANQUET
GOURMET FOOD
BROADWAY PLAY**

"BORN YESTERDAY"
Comedy

DATE WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 8th

2.75 PER PERSON

This Banquet will replace the Oct. 10th Meeting

BY RESERVATION ONLY

TICKETS ON SALE AT CLUB MEETINGS

NOTE: THE DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS OR CANCELLATION IS SEPT. 29, 1969
GUEST ARE WELCOME. SAME PRICE. BY RESERVATION ONLY.

Virginia Counties

- | | | |
|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Accomack | 36. Gloucester | 71. Powhatan |
| 2. Albermarle | 37. Goochland | 72. Prince Edward |
| 3. Alleghany | 38. Grayson | 73. Prince George |
| 4. Amelia | 39. Greene | 74. Prince William |
| 5. Amherst | 40. Greensville | 75. Pulaski |
| 6. Appomattox | 41. Halifax | 76. Rappahannock |
| 7. Arlington | 42. Hanover | 77. Richmond |
| 8. Augusta | 43. Henrice | 78. Roanoke |
| 9. Bath | 44. Henry | 79. Rockbridge |
| 10. Bedford | 45. Highland | 80. Rockingham |
| 11. Bland | 46. Isle of Wight | 81. Russell |
| 12. Botetourt | 47. James City | 82. Scott |
| 13. Brunswick | 48. King & Queen | 83. Shenandoah |
| 14. Buchanan | 49. King George | 84. Smyth |
| 15. Buckingham | 50. King William | 85. Southampton |
| 16. Campbell | 51. Lancaster | 86. Spotsylvania |
| 17. Caroline | 52. Lee | 87. Stafford |
| 18. Carroll | 53. Loudeun | 88. Surry |
| 19. Charles City | 54. Louisa | 89. Sussex |
| 20. Charlotte | 55. Lunenburg | 90. Tazewell |
| 21. Chesterfield | 56. Madisen | 91. Warren |
| 22. Clark | 57. Mathews | 92. Washington |
| 23. Craig | 58. Mecklenburg | 93. Westmoreland |
| 24. Culpeper | 59. Middlesex | 94. Wise |
| 25. Cumberland | 60. Montgomery | 95. Wythe |
| 26. Dickerson | 61. Nansemond | 96. York |
| 27. Dinwiddie | 62. Nelson | |
| 28. Essex | 63. New Kent | |
| 29. Fairfax | 64. Northampton | |
| 30. Fauquier | 65. Northumberland | |
| 31. Floyd | 66. Nottoway | |
| 32. Fluvanna | 67. Orange | |
| 33. Franklin | 68. Page | |
| 34. Frederick | 69. Patrick | |
| 35. Giles | 70. Pittsylvania | |