

**Richmond Amateur Telecommunications Society**  
**SOLID COPY**  
**APRIL 1999**

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**APRIL MEETING**

Friday, April 16, at 8:00 PM, Derbyshire Baptist Church, 8800 Derbyshire Road. See everyone there!

**MEETING PLACE TO CHANGE**

RATS is looking for a place to hold its monthly meetings. After the May meeting, we will no longer be able to use the current facilities. Please notify an officer or director if you have a suggestion for a new meeting location .

**PROGRAM COORDINATOR**

Many thanks to J.T., KF4ONR, for agreeing to arrange programs for our meetings. Would you share your area of interest & expertise with the club? Do you have a suggestion for a topic or speaker? Contact J.T. and let him know.

Interesting and informative programs are essential to club success. Let's show our appreciation and support by attending meetings and volunteering to help with a program and/or special event.

**SPEAKING OF SPECIAL EVENTS...**

Congratulations to Stan Slaughter, N4GUX, and wife Suzi, N3LUW, on the birth of their daughter, Kathleen Michelle on March 16. Kathleen arrived at 10:36 AM, weighing nearly 5 lb. 10 oz and measuring 19" in length. We wish the three of them and big brother Chris the best and hope they are all doing well.

**"TRIGGER" RILEE, SK**

Many of the RATS members probably have listened to WD4IDG as he talked about his love for sailing and camping on the Chesapeake Bay. Ernest "Trigger" Rilee became a Silent Key on December 13, 1998. "Trigger", as he was known by all, served for several years as the RATS

treasurer and was a dedicated supporter of the activities of the club. Raised near West Point, Virginia, "Trigger" lived in the Lakeside area of Richmond and was employed by Blue & Gray Transportation Company. He is survived by his wife, Kay and a son, Mike. Mike and his wife have three young daughters.

Submitted by Warren Winner, N4NCL

### **VE EXAMS**

Saturday, April 10, 1999 9:00 AM & Saturday, June 12, 1999 9:00 AM at J. S. Reynolds Community College, 1651 East Parham Road, Building B, Room 201. Pre-register with PAT WILSON, K4OW at 932-9424 or email at pw@i2020.net.

Monday, May 3, 1999. 7:30 PM & Monday, June 7, 1999. 7:30 PM at the Curtis Elementary School, 3600 W. Hundred Road (Route 10), Chester, VA. Pre-register with TONY AMATO, KR4UQ, at 717-5237

### **SKYWARN TRAINING**

April 13 6:30 p.m. at Henrico Fire Training Facility, 7001 Parham Road. Kim Cooney is Focal Point. (804)501-5515. Registration is limited to 30!

April 28 7:00 p.m. North Location -- TBA

### **RULES & REGS**

News from the ARRL and FCC

### **SPRING VHF/UHF SPRINTS**

Several VHF/UHF groups have picked up sponsorship of the Spring VHF/UHF Sprints, formerly sponsored by the ARRL. The five events will continue to be held in April and May, starting this year with the 144-MHz Sprint on April 12. In January the League announced it would no longer sponsor the Spring Sprints, citing a lack of participation and budget factors.

The new sponsors are:

- ✧ the Rocky Mountain VHF+ Group will sponsor the 144 MHz Sprint on April 12;
- ✧ the 50 MHz DX Bulletin will sponsor the 222 MHz Sprint on April 20;

- ✧ the North East Weak Signal Group will sponsor the 432 MHz Sprint on April 28;
- ✧ the Badger Contesters will sponsor the 902, 1296 and 2304 MHz Sprint on May 8,
- ✧ and the Great Lakes VHF/UHF Group will sponsor the 50 MHz Sprint on May 15-16.

The object of the Spring Sprints is to work as many stations in Maidenhead grid squares as possible. See ARRLWeb Contest Branch announcement for more information.

Tnx ARRL Letter Online March 12, 1999

### STATES -WIDE RADIO FOXHUNT WEEKEND

The second annual National Foxhunting Weekend will take place April 17-18, CQ VHF magazine reports. Radio clubs and other groups are encouraged to conduct "foxhunts" during that weekend or another in April, and to report their results.

"There are no mandatory time periods, no universal rules and no log sheets," writes event coordinator and foxhunting veteran Joe Moell, KOOV in the April issue of CQ VHF. "It's just a weekend to set aside for your club, school or Scout group to try this exciting aspect of ham radio." Foxhunters don't even have to have a ham ticket "since they will be receiving, not transmitting."

Foxhunting may be done by car or on foot, and groups are encouraged to use either or both. It is fun, competitive, and teaches important direction-finding skills that may be useful in emergency situations, such as searching for lost hikers or downed airplanes, and finding interference sources.

Groups participating in the CQ VHF National Foxhunting Weekend are encouraged to send reports of their activity directly to Joe Moell, KOOV, at PO Box 2508, Fullerton, CA 92837, or via e-mail to foxhunt@cq-vhf.com. Moell's site <http://members.aol.com/homingin/> has more on techniques and equipment.

--CQ VHF Tnx ARRL Letter Online March 12, 1999

### SUBMARINES ON THE AIR

The Submarine Veterans Amateur Radio Association will take to the air April 24-25 weekend , commemorating the anniversary of the submarine service. Over 20 museum submarines will have volunteers manning the radio rooms, some restored and operable with original equipment.

Stations will operate on or around 3943, 7243, 14,243, 21,313, and 28,343 kHz. A certificate of participation is available for at least four QSLs from submarines worked. Send copies of at least four cards from submarines worked to Jim Flanders, W00OG, 1539 California Tr, Plano, TX 75023-4300; jaf@sprintmail.com. For information, contact Flanders or Carl Raish, 1873 S Tennyson St, Denver, CO 80219; kg0hs@juno.com, or visit <http://www.flash.net/~jflandrs/index.html>.

(Participating museum submarines are listed at ARRLWeb Extra news section on their Members Only site.)

Tnx ARRL Letter Online April 3, 1999

### **WORLD AMATEUR RADIO CORNER**

Many overseas correspondents have been expelled from Yugoslavia due to the NATO air strikes. Voice of Russia World Service, Radio Tirana, Radio Yugoslavia, and the BBC World Service offer varied viewpoints on the activities in the Balkans. The Voice of Russia sides with the Serbs, while Radio Tirana, from the Albanian capital, supports the other side, and Radio Yugoslavia presents the Milosevic regime perspective.

Larry Magne, editor-in-chief of International Broadcasting Services Ltd. which publishes Passport to World Band Radio, finds it odd that Radio Yugoslavia was still active on March 25 on 7115 kHz.. Typically short-wave stations are the first thing the bombers go after.

Russia has been heard evenings on 7125, 7180, 7250, 12,020, 12,040, and 15,595 kHz. Radio Tirana is found on 7160 kHz between 0245 and 0400 UTC. Mange says that Russia's broadcast schedule is more unpredictable now due to the economic crisis than when it was known as Radio Moscow.

Magne says 5975 kHz is the best spot for the BBC World Service. Croatian Radio also has been heard evenings on 9925 kHz. Radio B92 (92.5 MHz) in Belgrade has been shut down by the Yugoslav government but has attempted to continued to broadcast via the Internet to avoid possible censorship.

B92's web site, <http://www.b92.net/> offers English-language broadcasts, which have as a rule not been available since the bombing began. The website suggests trying the Real Broadcast Network if listeners experience problems. The web site provides news in English and Serbian.

Tnx ARRL Letter Online March 26, 1999

### **FEEDLINE**

Editorials, Articles, Etc. from Members  
...Now Where Are Our Heroes?

Well, Ole Bill was acquitted on "facts" that he lied about another trial questions instead of lying about the present trial issues. He won on legal jargon. His trial was not about sex issues, but the fact that he lied while under oath about anything. All he had to do was plead the fifth amendment. But he didn't have enough sense to do that in spite of the fact that he was a skillful lawyer before entering public office. But one man's goof is not the real issue for me. The majority of the Republican Party and the majority of the Democratic Party backed him up and supported him in his wrongful doing.

All during the trial, one can see where Ole Bill was coached on proper answers, who to allow to ask questions, and was protected from the blunt issues of wrong-doing just because of his office.

Again, this is no tremendous issue for me.

After good ole Bill passed the partial birth abortion bill, he was praised for the needless slaughter of millions of precious babies who could be killed (aborted) as long as nothing more than the head was out of the birth canal: you see, it is not a human product until the birth process is complete. This did bother me as I learned the method of abortion in this manner. But I don't see a need for the details of this process here.

What really did bother me the most is the moral decline and decay of the American people who re-elected this two- faced @#% \*\*&%\$ back into office! I don't know if it is because of the fact that most of us are uneducated as to the process of the partial birth thing, or if we just completely were blinded as to the kind of a person ole Bill is, or what the problem with us was...but he should never have made the second term. The fact that ole Bill made it back in for second term tells me about the moral condition of the general public.

Too many of us fill our homes with tobacco smoke, foul language, dirty jokes, alcoholic beverages, and suggested ways of living in front of our children, and fail to instill within them teachings that will help them make good choices and have integrity as future adults. No, I am not talking about all of us nor anyone specifically. I am talking about the majority of the American voting public. We come home from work, flop down in our favorite lazy boy, turn on the boob tube, light up, open a beer...and when (or if ) the kids come around with a need or chatter, we turn them off like they are not as important as the TV show. And if they make another attempt to get our attention, we holler at 'em and tell them things we later wish we had kept our mouths shut about while the kid slinks off into another room feeling like they are nothing in our eyes. We have stripped them of their pride, and they "know" that they have no importance with us.

The President of this wonderful country has stained his office with lies, deceit, adultery, draft dodging, etc. The U. S. congressmen have backed him up, or at least the majority of them have. The woman that is mixed up in this ordeal with him was about to have movie rights given her until ole Bill 'fessed up. Imagine paying a cheap twit millions for bragging of adultery with the President of this country. What shame!

Just the second week of this past December, I became a Granddad to two beautiful fraternal twins; a boy and a girl. I am so worried about them and the world you and I are making for them. Now that the United States federal officials cannot be trusted to tell the truth, Sky King is no longer, Roy Rogers is retired, the original Superman killed himself because he started believing he was actually bullet proof or could fly or both, where are our children's heroes/heroines?

Moms, Dads, it is up to us. We are going to have to be our children's heroes and heroines. We are going to have to teach our children about illegal drugs, the incorrect way to handle firearms, and about truth and integrity. They are not going to get it at school from their peers. It will have to come from us. If we don't become our children's hero, who will? Our children are ours to love, cherish and raise. Let's not disappoint them. Let's be an example for them to follow throughout their life. They need someone to look up to. Let's fill that gap, that need in their life...now let's be heroes and heroines!!! Submitted by KF4ONR, J.T.

### Classified Ads

### Frequency Grease

Developed for the military - now available to the public. Do you suffer from "radio wrist"? Frequency Grease will make your radio glide so smoothly from freq. to freq. that you won't even have to hit the band change button.

Available in 3-oz tubes for \$6.95 or 8-oz jars for \$14.95, plus \$1.50 shipping and handling.

To order, call 1-800-APR-FOOL or see PST Magazine

### DITS 'N DAHS

A column about miscellaneous topics

### POSSIBLE SPECIAL EVENTS

From Dave KW1DX

- ✂ WAN -- Worked All Neighbors
- ✂ WAS -- Worked All Streets (and u thought it was States)
- ✂ RAGD -- Raised All Garage Doors
- ✂ WAOO -- Worked All Official Observers
- ✂ BERC -- Bought Expensive Radio Cheap (TS-950SDX at \$300.00???)
- ✂ QRP -- ESP QSO With A W6
- ✂ TOP -- Timed Out Propagation
- ✂ BAL -- Bored All listeners
- ✂ TOR -- Timed Out Repeater
- ✂ TORA -- Timed Out Repeater Again
- ✂ WACO -- Worked All Club Officers
- ✂ TACD -- Tested all Commercial Devices (Dirty Linear)
- ✂ TAC -- Terrorized All Critters (Same Dirty Linear)-- On Key up: Dogs Howl, Birds Go Goofy, Cat scurries under Couch and all

rodents leave the premises!!!!

### **POSSIBLE NEW DXCC COUNTIES**

By AC6V & Internet

- ✂ Grief Reef
- ✂ Mary Cay (and Avon too)
- ✂ Not Atoll (So what is it??)
- ✂ Slim's Spit
- ✂ HOA Territory (Ms Clipboard Lives Here)
- ✂ Fantasy Island (Da Plane Da Plane -- Full of IRC's)
- ✂ Pay Atoll
- ✂ Skull Island -- Home of K1ng KØng
- ✂ Strait Sound -- No Processors Allowed!!
- ✂ Good Grief Reef
- ✂ Total Cay -- (Must give Cereal Number)
- ✂ QueEss Cay -- Breakins allowed
- ✂ Main Isle
- ✂ Troll Atoll
- ✂ Bootlegger's Strait (Huh -- Run that by again)
- ✂ Strait Ahead
- ✂ Pirates Cove
- ✂ Theater Isle
- ✂ Tobacco Spit
- ✂ Charcoal Reef (In the Barbecues Group)

### **DX MOVIES -- BY AC6V**

- ✂ Pileup On The Orient Express
- ✂ Gone With The Wind -- A Yagi Story
- ✂ DXpedition To Skull Island By K1NG/KØNG
- ✂ Butch Cassidy And The Sundance Lid
- ✂ The Maltese Falklands
- ✂ To Live and Let Diode -- ØØ73
- ✂ CasaBlanker
- ✂ Silence Of The Hams - Starring Rachel Squelch
- ✂ M1SH MASH -- With RF Burns

- ✂ Gone With The Windom -- The Sequel
- ✂ Nightmare On Elmer Street -- With JA1SON
- ✂ VERTICLE!! Directed By Alfred Switchbox
- ✂ Name is James, Call is BØND -- Agent ØØ73

### QUESTIONABLE CALLS!!

Compiled By AC6V

PHØNY -- DX4U -- 6L6GC -- RG8U -- ST1NK-- SL1M -- P1RTE -- NØQSL -- DX1S -- NØDX\*\* -- WH1M -- L1D -- GR1D -- WØW -- OZØNE -- LØGUN

\*\* Issued Call

### REAL ISSUED CALLS -- HONEST!!

Are these calls actually issued -- look em up??

- ✂ N9CAT N6PIG K9PIG (huh) N1HOG W1HAM N6SSB N9MOO W2COP W2CU N6RIG N5BYE AC6V (volts) NØDX NØISE KR1S
- ✂ OZ2ZZZ and OZ5ZZZ (Sleepy Contest Stations)
- ✂ SINGLE HAMS -- NØGUY NØGAL NØHIM NØHER
- ✂ GREAT XYL -- NØNAG
- ✂ GREAT OM -- NØCAD
- ✂ STEPPED-ON HAM --- NØJAM (Please)
- ✂ REFINED CALIF HAM -- WB6SIR
- ✂ HAM IN HOA --- NØANT
- ✂ Muscle Bound Ham --- NØFAT
- ✂ HAM IN AN APT --- NØCAT, NØDOG
- ✂ PEDIGREED HAM -- NØCUR%%
- ✂ HAM IN JAIL --- NØRIG
- ✂ HAM IN DEBT --- HØCK%%
- ✂ Zero Gravity Ham -- W8LES
- ✂ AMBIVALENT HAM --- NØYES
- ✂ EDUCATED HAM -- NØALL
- ✂ HAM WITH BEST BEANS -- L1MA%%
- ✂ NOAH's NEIGHBOR -- NØARK
- ✂ SHOOT FROM THE HIP HAM --- NØAIM



- ✂ INDUSTRIOUS HAM -- WØRK
- ✂ EARLY BIRD HAM -- WØRM
- ✂ AFFECTIONATE HAM -- K1SS
- ✂ JUST PLAIN HAM -- PØRK%%
- ✂ VERY GOOD CALL -- N1CE
- ✂ ALL HEATH STATION -- K1TS
- ✂ HAM IN VEGAS --- u guessed it --NØWIN
- ✂ YOUNG HAM ---- W9KID (ex-KB9KID)
- ✂ DID I MAKE THESE UP ?? --- NØSIR -- They are
- ✂ all in the Book except those marked %% By AC6V
- ✂ THOSE GOOFY A CALLS (Thanks AK4P)
- ✂ ACØRN --- a nutty ham
- ✂ ABØRT --- pulls the plug on smoke tests
- ✂ ABØMB --- nuclear ham
- ✂ ADØRK --- Murphy's friend
- ✂ ABØOB --- Murphy's other friend
- ✂ AB1RD --- a plane, no its .....
- ✂ ABØUT --- a verb-ose ham
- ✂ ALØUD --- An Alaska Kilowatt
- ✂ AD1CK --- an undercover ham
- ✂ ACØRK -- a ham with champangne taste

**DAWG CALLS --**  
My Dog insisted on these!!

- ✂ Generic Dog -- K9DOG
- ✂ Original Dog -- W1ENR
- ✂ Pedigreed Dog -- NØCUR
- ✂ Hunting Dog ---- B1RD
- ✂ Sleuth Dog --- BLØOD
- ✂ Polish Dog -- SPØT
- ✂ Russian Dog --- RØVER
- ✂ Hungarian Dog --- HØUND
- ✂ German Dog -- DØGIE
- ✂ Alaskan Dog -- WØLF
- ✂ French Dog -- F1DO
- ✂ My Dog --- K9MUT

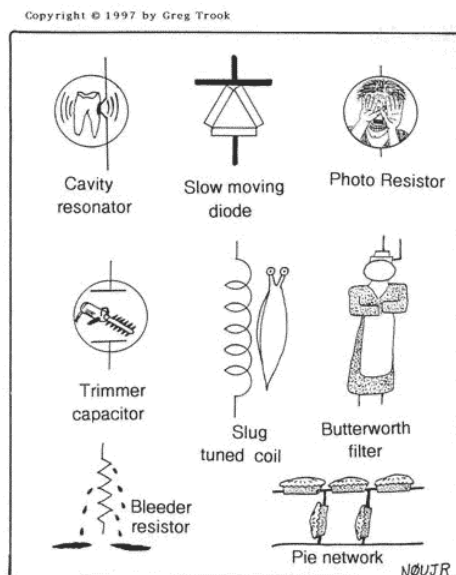
- ✂ IOTA Dog -- CØNEY
- ✂ Mad Dog --- GR1RRR
- ✂ Plain Dog --- PØOCH
- ✂ Apartment Dog --- T1NY
- ✂ Guard Dog --- GRØWL
- ✂ All AC6V Items --Copyrighted 1996, 1998
  
- ✂ Tnx Rod, AC6V;( slightly abridged due to space )

### **HAM RADIO HISTORY**

- ✂ 4 Billion BC - Earth is a swirling ball of flames. Propagation is extremely poor.
- ✂ 1 Billion BC - First dry land appears. It is divided up into grid squares.
- ✂ 500 Million BC - Second patch of dry land appears. First DXpedition Credit disallowed because of questionable licensing agreement.
- ✂ 400 Million BC - Flowering plants and grasses evolve. Telrex invents first beam antenna but sales are slow because of lack of suitable structures.
- ✂ 300 Million BC - First tree appears and is immediately cut down, stripped of branches, placed in a concrete base and named a telephone pole. Telrex sells first beam antenna.
- ✂ 200 Million BC - Second beam sold by Telrex. Installer falls from top of pole. First safety belt sold.
- ✂ 100 Million BC - First mountain appears. Repeater invented.
- ✂ 50 Million BC - It is decided by WARC that "seek you" is too cumbersome to send on CW, so abbreviation "CQ" is adopted. 4 Million BC - Humans replace swine as dominant species. The name "Ham Operator" hangs on, however.
- ✂ 3 Million BC - Dugout canoe invented. Maritime Mobile Net formed on 14.313 Mhz.
- ✂ 2 Million BC to 800 AD - Nothing much happens for a long time.
- ✂ 900 AD - Chinese invent gunpowder. BY1AA is first "Big Gun" DXer.
- ✂ 1790 AD - Ben Franklin invents long wire receiving antenna. Ground switch invented.
- ✂ 1961 AD -Second repeater erected. First repeater group refuses to change frequency. First repeater coordinator appointed.

1997 AD - Amateur Radio humor sinks to a new low.

Reprinted with permission from Greg, N0UJR



Little known standard electronic symbols.

Tnx, Greg, N0UJR

### INTERNET InSITES

Amateur Radio, Electronics, and Technology Related Websites

[N0UJR Cartoon Homepage](#) - Cartoons from his book N0UJR and His Friends by Greg Trook. Greg kindly gave permission to print the cartoon at the left and to provide us other cartoons for future issues. Thanks, Greg.

[Amateur Radio & DX Reference Guide](#) - With 88 pages and over 3000 links, this is the most comprehensive site I have found. Arranged by categories and alphabetically, the site is user-friendly. Rod, the author of this page, graciously gave permission to use material from his humor pages. Thanks, Rod.

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The purpose of Solid Copy is to provide club information and amateur radio news to members of the Richmond Amateur Telecommunications Society. Information or articles for inclusion must be received no later than the first of the publication month. Submit via the Internet at [solidcopy@rats.net](mailto:solidcopy@rats.net). Opinions expressed in Solid Copy do not necessarily represent the views of the officers, directors, or members of RATS, Inc. Material in this data file may not be reproduced or distributed IN ANY FORM without express written permission from RATS, Inc.

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