



Dixie Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

"Amateur Radio...

...When All Else Fails!"

Dixie Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

April 2008 Edition

May Club Meeting

7:00 P.M. Wednesday, May 21st



The next scheduled meeting of the Dixie Amateur Radio Club will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 21, 2008.

The meeting will be held at the St. George Community Building which is located on the west side of the south parking lot of the

Aldred (St. George) Senior Citizens Center at 245 North 200 West, St. George.

The meeting will begin at 7:00 P.M. Besides our Club members, anyone with an interest in learning more about Amateur Radio is invited to attend. Check the web site home page closer to the meeting date for more info on the meeting topics.

Volunteer Exam Session

6:00 P.M. Wednesday, May 21, 2008



There will be an ARRL Volunteer Exam Session held at 6:00 P.M. on Wednesday, May 21, 2008 at the same location as the regular Club Meeting described earlier.

If you are a person desiring to take your first Amateur Radio test or a currently licensed ham wanting to upgrade this month, please plan on attending. If you are a Volunteer Examiner who would like to help out at a session, please contact please contact the Club's V.E. Liaison Gary Zabriskie, N7ARE, via e-mail: n7are@arrl.net

Congratulations to the following who took their test at the February 20th and March 19th exam session and are newly licensed Technician Class Amateurs:

Ken Hammer, KE7RYU; St. George, UT
Arlo Mickelsen, KE7RYV; St. George, UT
Nina Spigner, KE7STV; New Harmony, UT
Teresa Lindquist, KE7STW; St. George, UT
John Sheely, KE7STX; Lehi, UT
Karolee Talbot, KE7STY; Washington, UT
Tiffany Harris, KE7STZ; St. George, UT
Shannon Klomp, KE7SUA; St. George, UT
Daniel Thompson, KE7SUB, Cannonville, UT

The following hams upgraded at these sessions:

Daniel Freerksen, KE7RDW; Spokane WA - General
Devin Anderson, KE7ROX; SLC, UT - Amateur Extra

The web site home page and May newsletter will have information on those who took the test at the April 16th Volunteer Exam session. Congratulations all of those of you from any earlier sessions.

International Marconi Day - April 26th



An important radio celebration is coming up. The 21st International Marconi Day event takes place on Saturday, April 26th. This is a 24 hour operating event held annually to celebrate the

birth of Guglielmo Marconi which took place on the 25th April 1874.

International Marconi Day is not a contest. Rather, it is an opportunity for radio amateurs around the world to make point-to-point contact with historic Marconi sites using High Frequency communications techniques similar to those used by Marconi. Its also a chance to qualify for an attractive citation for achieving the requisite number of Marconi Award stations worked. International Marconi Day is usually held on the Saturday closest to Marconi's birthday. Award Stations and rules for International Marconi Day are on line at www.gb4imd.org.uk

Again Marconi Day this year is on Saturday, April 26th and runs for 24 hours. Many commemorative stations around the world will be on to take part in the celebration.

Club President's Letter

Greetings!

As we move into the summer months, the days get hotter, the nights get shorter, and Field Day gets closer!

Yep, it's just around the corner! Field Day 2008 promises to be a fun time, as the Club has reserved the Dixie Sun Bowl in the center of town for our activities this year. The tentative plans are to run a 3A operation (3 transmitters, Club class, emergency power). 2 rigs for SSB, 1 for CW/Digital, and rigs for a GOTA station and a VHF/UHF station in case the 6 and/or 2 meter bands decides to favor us with a rare opening. Are you counting? That's 5 rigs. We're not going to cheat. The GOTA and VHF/UHF station are "free" stations we can utilize that do not add to our classification.



Ric Wayman, K7DLX

In order to operate all these stations, we're going to need your help. Please set aside the weekend of June 28-29 to come out and operate with us. Your license class does not matter. If you're unlicensed, it doesn't matter! Unlicensed prospective hams (along with Novices, Technicians, and new hams licensed less than one year) can operate the GOTA station under the tutelage of the GOTA coach and earn BIG bonus points for the operation.

The April meeting was well attended. We talked about Field Day and several members volunteered use of their equipment for the operation. One other thing was discussed at this meeting that affects all the club members - a proposed bylaws change.

You will find this change published in this newsletter (see page 5) as well as on our website. It concerns election of officers and clarifies several positions that will hopefully mitigate problems such as what happened during last year's elections. In order for this to pass, 2/3 of the members present at the May meeting must vote in the affirmative. Please familiarize yourself with the

proposed change, and come out in May to make your voice heard.

We will also be talking more about Field Day and hopefully tying up some more ends of people who wish to volunteer their time and equipment to help W7DRC rack up the big points in this year's contest. The other most important aspect of Field Day will also be discussed: Food. Who, what, when, how much, and how many will be served.

As of this writing it looks as if the stations will be in air-conditioned or swamp-cooled enclosures. There should be quite a few different shelters and tarps available as well. Camping on the floor of the Sun Bowl will apparently be allowed, so plan to bring your tent and spend the night with us.

In the meantime, should any of you have questions, please contact me at k7dlxham@gmail.com - I'd enjoy hearing your ideas, what you may have to offer us for Field Day, and concerns you may have, or anything else. 2008 is shaping up to be a good year for our club.

Tnx and 73!

Ric Wayman, K7DLX

Upcoming Event Announcement 7th Area QSO Party

What is it?

The 7th Area QSO party is going to be held on Saturday May 3rd through Sunday May 5th. The time of this on-the-air activity is from 13:00 UTC Saturday to 07:00 UTC Sunday. 7th call area stations work everyone, others work 7th area stations only. Work stations once per band/mode. 7th area mobiles (and those participating in other concurrent QSO parties or contests) may be worked again as they enter new counties.

Which Bands to use?

Bands to operate during the QSO party are 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, as well as on 6 and 2m, simplex only (not on 146.520). Suggested operating frequencies: 1815 and 40 kHz up on CW; 1845, 3855, 7235, 14255, 21355 and 28455 on SSB. Check 80m at 0500Z, 160m at 0530Z. All CW contacts must be made in the CW portion of the band.

What are the entry categories?

- **Single-op: high-power, low-power:** <150W, QRP <5W; CW, Phone, Mixed
- **Multi-single (including assisted single-op):** High, low and QRP
- **Multi-multi.** No differentiated mode or power levels

- **7th-area County Expedition:** single-op, multi-single, multi-multi
- **Mobile:** high-power, low-power, QRP; CW, Phone, Mixed

What is exchanged in the QSO?

7th area stations send signal report plus 5-letter state/county code (e.g. UTWSH); see list at:

<http://www.dixieham.org/forms/7qso.pdf>

County-line stations send multiple codes (state code needed only once, e.g. UTWSH/IRO). Non-7th-area stations send signal report plus state/province/"DX" two-letter codes. Stations in other QSO parties send their appropriate exchange. "Provinces" are VE1-9, VO and VY0-2. County-line contacts may be logged with one entry showing all counties or with one QSO entry for each county.

For more details and complete rules go to this page and click on the link for the 7th Area QSO Party:

http://www.dxzone.com/catalog/Contesting/QSO_Party/

Join the Club For the First Time or Renew your Membership!

Club membership dues for 2008 are being solicited. Dues are \$20.00 per member and \$25.00 per family for multiple ham families. As a matter of fact, you do not have to be a licensed Amateur Operator to join the club. (Licensed hams have "full-membership"). You just need to have an interest in Amateur Radio.

Check the Club's Membership Roster on the Club's web site to see that you are shown as a member. If you are not listed, you may have simply procrastinated. Please show support for your club and join. We will even accept your tardy dues for 2007 if you feel guilty. To pay your membership dues, please make a check or money order payable to "DARC" and bring it to the meeting or mail it to the club address:

Dixie Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 422
Santa Clara, UT 84765

...and while you are at it - Why not join the ARRL?

Founded in 1914, the 150,000-member ARRL -*The National Association for Amateur Radio*- is the national association for Amateur Radio in the USA. Other countries also have their own national associations.



The ARRL not only reflects the commitment and many enthusiasms of American hams, but

also provides leadership as the voice of Amateur Radio in the USA, whether in dealings with the Federal Communications Commission, the World Administrative Radio Conference, the International Amateur Radio Union, or with the general public.

The ARRL is the primary source of information about what is going on in the ham radio world. It provides books, news, support and information for individuals and clubs, special operating events, all sorts of continuing education classes and other benefits for its members.

Being a member of the ARRL is important for hams! Anyone interested in Amateur Radio is welcome to join the American Radio Relay League. If you join the ARRL for the first time through the Club, or renew your ARRL membership through the Club, our Club benefits directly financially.

Use this link below for more info on joining the Club and the ARRL: <http://www.dixieham.org/join.html>

Board Meeting follows Regular Club Meetings

There is a Club Board Meeting scheduled each month immediately following the "Refreshments" at the conclusion of the General Club Meeting. A reminder of this meeting will be announced during the regular Club meeting. Everyone is invited to stay and observe the Board in action.

You can see who our current Board Members are on the Club's Web Site.

Member Profiles Needed!

We still are in need of profiles of Club members to showcase in future Newsletters. Are you willing to be the next "famous" person profiled in these pages? If you are willing to tell us something about yourself, please e-mail your story or at least acknowledge your willingness to be profiled in a future edition of the Newsletter to the Editor at: w7drc@arrl.net. See this month's profile of Club Secretary Norm Smith, KE7FPG, on page 7 of this newsletter.

About Our Club

The Dixie Amateur Radio Club (DARC) is a non-profit [IRS 501(c)(3)] association of Amateur Radio operators, also known as "ham radio" operators, in southwestern Utah. DARC is affiliated with the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), the National Association for Amateur

Radio. Please use the navigation links below to explore our website. Amateur Radio operators are federally licensed by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to provide a radio service having a fundamental purpose as expressed in the following principles:

- (a) *Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications.*
- (b) *Continuation and extension of the amateur's proven ability to contribute to the advancement of the radio art.*
- (c) *Encouragement and improvement of the amateur service through rules which provide for advancing skills in both the communications and technical phases of the art.*
- (d) *Expansion of the existing reservoir within the amateur radio service of trained operators, technicians, and electronics experts.*
- (e) *Continuation and extension of the amateur's unique ability to enhance international goodwill.*

Members of the Dixie Amateur Radio Club provide voluntary public service radio communications throughout the area for activities such as the annual St. George Marathon and the Huntsman World Senior Games. Amateur Radio operators also maintain a readiness to provide emergency communications locally, regionally and world-wide in the event of a natural disaster or other calamity.

Utah Hamfest (ARRL Convention) at Bryce Canyon this Summer!



Utah Hamfest 2008 will be held at Ruby's Inn (www.rubysin.com). Features include BBQ/Eyeball QSO

Party (Friday eve. \$11), "Hickory Smoked Pulled Pork Dinner" with all the Carolina trimmings (Saturday eve, \$16), Sunday Breakfast and Keynote Speaker (\$12, under 12, \$6), Swap Meet (outside, free, bring your own table), Seminars and Forums, Vendors/Dealers, Children's Activities, Craft Activities, and Home Brew (Boutique), QSL Card Checker, Prize Drawings, Contests (CW, QLF, Mobile Installation, Transformer Toss, Transmitter Hunts), Wouff Hong, & Amateur License Exams. Adult Pre-registration is \$12 including a commemorative Pin, at the door \$15, pin not included, Youth (17 and under) Pre-registration is \$5, at the door \$7. For complete registration information Contact Eugene or Carol McWherter – n7ovt@arrl.net or kc7llw@arrl.net.

Be sure to visit www.utahhamfest.org for more information. A big registration drive for the Utah Hamfest began on February 23rd.

Upcoming Activities Needing Ham Volunteers

Our Club is actively seeking volunteers in April for the Cactus Huggler 100 mile tour -400+ riders April 26th. We need volunteers for that event.

We are looking for volunteers for the ARRL Rocky Mountain Convention at Bryce Canyon in July (see earlier story). Our Club is putting on the Friday PM BBQ as well as a Special event station and the CW contest. Are you willing to help out?

Please contact Dan Farwell, W8EQA at the Club Meeting or via e-mail: w8eqa@infowest.com if you can help out.

HAM RADIO HUMOR

REWARD OFFERED:

A REWARD OF 500 MICROFARADS IS OFFERED FOR THE INFORMATION LEADING TO THE ARREST OF HOP-A-LONG CAPACITY. THIS UNRECTIFIED CRIMINAL ESCAPED FROM A WESTERN PRIMARY CELL WHERE HE HAD BEEN CLAMPED IN IONS AWAITING THE GAUSS CHAMBER.

HE IS CHARGED WITH THE INDUCTION OF AN 18 TURN COIL NAMED MILLI HENRY WHO WAS FOUND CHOKED AND ROBBED OF VALUABLE JOULES. HE IS ARMED WITH A CARBON ROD AND IS A POTENTIAL KILLER. CAPACITY IS ALSO CHARGED WITH DRIVING DC MOTOR OVER A WHEATSTONE BRIDGE AND REFUSING TO LET THE BAND-PASS.

IF ENCOUNTERED, HE MAY OFFER SERIES OF RESISTANCE. THE ELECTROMOTIVE FORCE SPENT THE NIGHT SEARCHING FOR HIM IN A MAGNETIC FIELD, WHERE HE HAD GONE TO EARTH. THEY HAD NO SUCCESS AND BELIEVED HE HAD RETURNED OHM VIA A SHORT CIRCUIT

HE WAS LAST SEEN RIDING A KILOCYCLE WITH HIS FRIEND EDDY CURRENT WHO WAS PLAYING A HARMONIC.

[Author Unknown]

Club Bylaws Revision Proposed

The Dixie Amateur Radio Club, Inc. Board of Directors is proposing that the Club Bylaws be revised by a vote of the general membership in regards to procedures for the conducting of elections for the Club Officers and Board. Key changes include: changing when nominations will be opened; putting in place a procedure for uncontested positions; and making permanent that all elections shall be done by mail ballot to all full members as was done this year (for office positions where there is more than one candidate).

Below is the section being proposed for amendment with the deletions shown in red and struck out and additions shown in green.

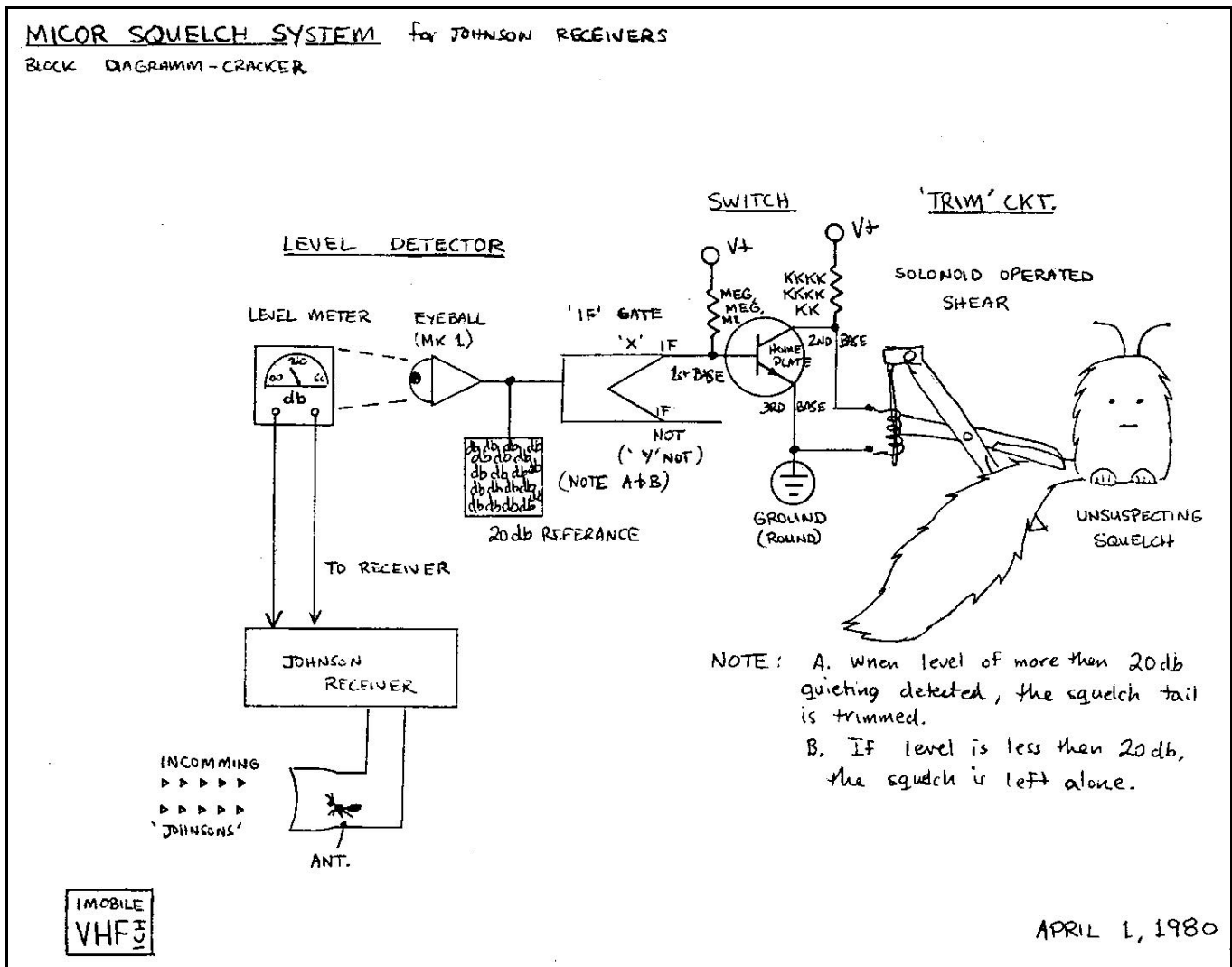
Article VII – Procedures for Elections

1. The Board of Directors shall form the Nomination and Election Committee prior to the ~~October~~ **September** general meeting. At the ~~October~~ **September** general meeting the committee shall announce the upcoming elections and solicit input from those members that may be interested in becoming a candidate for the Board of Directors and/or an Officer of the Club.
2. At the ~~November~~ **October** general meeting the Nomination and Election Committee shall present their slate of candidates nominated for each office. Nominations from the floor shall then be opened: any member in good standing may nominate qualified candidates for any office; a member in good standing shall second the nomination; nominated candidates must indicate if they accept the nomination. When nominated, seconded, and accepted the candidates name shall be added to the slate of nominees. ***The nominations will be reopened at the November meeting, and will be considered closed at the conclusion of that meeting, or when specifically closed by the presiding officer at that meeting. The Secretary shall be directed to cast a unanimous ballot for any unopposed offices at that time.***
3. The election for ~~the any contested office Board of Directors and Officers~~ shall be conducted ~~at the December annual meeting.~~ ***by mail as described in paragraph (5) and the slate of new Officers and Directors shall be announced at the December general meeting.***
4. Voting for members of the Board of Directors and Officers shall be by secret ballot ~~and each voter may vote for: President; Vice President; Secretary; Treasurer; and two board members.~~
5. ~~If the Board of Directors has determined that~~ Voting by mail shall be **a** ~~the~~ **the** method of voting. **Ballots** shall be sent by the secretary to each full member in good standing not more than thirty (30) days and not fewer than fifteen (15) days before the date set for the ~~election~~ **December General Meeting**. Ballots shall instruct members to seal their ballot in a ballot envelope and then place the sealed envelope into a larger envelope along with a signed paper, provided by the secretary, identifying the member whose vote is contained in the inner envelope. Ballots may be delivered to the secretary in person or by mail. Upon receiving the ballots, the secretary shall open the outer envelope; remove the identification paper and record which members have voted. The identification paper and outer envelope shall then be separated from the ballot envelope. The sealed ballot envelope shall be retained by the secretary until opened ~~on~~ **at** the ~~election~~ **December General Meeting.** ~~date:~~
6. ~~If the Board of Directors has determined that in-person voting shall be a method of voting, members voting in person at the annual meeting may obtain a ballot from the secretary at the annual meeting provided that the secretary's record does not indicate that the member voted by mail.~~
6. 7. ~~When voting in person and voting by mail are used in conjunction,~~ Completed mail ballots must be delivered to the secretary ~~prior to~~ before the **opening of the ballots at the date of the election** **December General Meeting.** ~~In-person ballots shall be identifiable by color or other means to insure that mail ballots are not used for in-person voting.~~

- 7. 8: A member of the Nomination and Election Committee, the current secretary and two members of the club that are not running for office shall open and count the ballots **at the December General Meeting** and certify the election results.
- 8. 9: The secretary shall retain all ballots for 45 days following an election. ~~If the election is non-contested, the ballots shall be destroyed at the end of the 45-day period.~~
- 9. 10: The candidate for each **contested** office: President; Vice President; Secretary; Treasurer, with the most votes shall be deemed elected, and the two candidates for board members with the most votes shall be deemed elected.
- 10. 11: The elected Board of Directors and Officers shall take office effective January 1st of the following year.

MORE HAM RADIO HUMOR

When the Micor squelch first came out, it's ability to automatically trim the squelch tail length from a normal tail on a noisy signal to zero tail on a 20db quieting (or better) signal was unique. The squelch chip was custom made by Moto Semi for Moto Comm. The chip can be installed in almost any receiver - and was (even in tube-type receivers). This cartoon was drawn by a ham who knows the Johnson FM radios inside, outside, and backwards...



Club Member Profile

Norman E. Smith, KE7FPG



I've been an Amateur Radio Operator for just a couple of years, but my interest goes back many years.

The following is a short summary of my journey into Ham Radio:

I was born in West Orange, New Jersey. When I was about seven years old my dad gave me a crystal set. One day while I was tuning it, I heard this man's voice talking to someone else. I was to find out that this man was a ham and he lived only a few houses away. One day when I ran into the man out in front of his house I told him that I heard him on my crystal set. He offered to show me his radio station, and to explain what it was all about. That was the start to a long journey.

With the help of this kind man I began to learn radio theory and electronics. He was a good teacher and helped me with the Morse Code.

Time went by and I maintained my friendship with this man, but just never went and got a license. There were so many other things going on for a boy of my age.

After High School and College I enlisted in the U.S. Navy. After Boot Camp and as an Electronics Technician I was assigned to the USS Arneb. This was an Attack Cargo Ship (AKA) that had been assigned as the Flag Ship for Operation Deep Freeze I & II. The USS Arneb, had responsibilities as the Flag Ship for the operation and included being the Operation Center for Admiral George J. Dufek under command of Admiral Arleigh Burke, Chief of Naval Operations at that time. (If you want to know more about Operation Deepfreeze do an internet search on persons, places or things in this paragraph). I extended my tour of duty in the U.S. Navy so that I could make the second trip to Antarctica and participate in Operation Deep freeze III.

Here is a little information on what I went through on these tours of duty to the Antarctic.

Many months of training exercises at sea, in both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. Several months of classroom training on electronics theory and shipboard

radar and communications equipment maintenance. Training on almost anything you can think of that might happen in an environment that is found in the sub-freezing climate of the Antarctic.

My specific job responsibilities involved maintenance of shipboard and amphibious electronics.

My ship was stationed in Norfolk VA. When it was time to ship out on the tour of duty we would travel south - head through the Panama Canal and proceed to many of the cities in Australia and New Zealand. We would usually tie up at ports for one or two weeks at a time to re-supply and were able to spend time in each. Some of the cities I visited were Sydney and Melbourne Australia, Christ Church New Zealand and on the way back we would stop off in Capetown and Johannesburg South Africa and then on to Montevideo Uruguay and Buenos Aires Brazil.

Then it was on our way through the ice to Antarctica. Along the way were giant icebergs many times larger than the ships. There were often times that the ice was just too thick for us to readily break through. On one occasion high winds came up and these icebergs would ram into the ships. We often found ourselves wedged in and the ship could not maneuver. There was one time that a giant iceberg that was the size of the island of Manhattan, so they say, rammed our ship and began ripping large holes in the re-enforced sides. I looked over the side of the ship and saw holes that you could drive a truck through and water was pouring into the ship. I thought to myself "wow - I think we are going to sink". Luckily this was one of the things that we had trained for. They hung some of our landing craft over the other side of the ship which pulled the holes up out of the water so that our emergency crews could repair the damage. It took several days to repair and news of our trouble made newspapers throughout the world.

While at The Antarctic, at the base called "Little America", I had the opportunity to visit the Ham Station located on the base (KC4USN). At one of the occasions with the hams there, I was able to contact my friend in New Jersey.

After leaving the Navy I returned to Verona N.J. I had achieved a high level of expertise in Electronics Technology, so I decided to make it my career.

Soon after my return to Verona I bought a partnership in a TV Sales And Service Business.

After a year or two of this I decided I could not make enough money so I decided to try the Electronics Industry. I worked as an electronics technician at several small manufacturing companies, Curtis Wright, Norwood Electronics and Monsanto Instruments. At this point I want to mention that at all of these small

manufacturing companies I picked up extremely valuable experience which turned out to be of great help as I advanced in my career.

I had heard about this new company, Storage Technology Corporation, that was just getting starting in Boulder, Colorado. I applied for an engineering position with them. They hired me as a Manufacturing Engineer. I started right away and stayed with this company for close to 20 years.

As a Manufacturing Engineer at Storage Technology my assignments included designing, building and maintaining fixtures and test equipment in support of the manufacturing / production lines that assembled and tested the sub assemblies that were used in the tape and disk drives manufactured at Storage Technology. My responsibilities also included writing the assembly and test procedures for these products.

This was a very exciting company, fast growing and loaded with opportunities for those who wanted to work hard. I was the 159th employee and within 5 years they had over 6000 employees. In 10 years they had over 12000 world wide. I was asked to start and manage their Metrology and Calibration Control Dept. Within two years I had 19 highly skilled technicians and engineers working for me.

While living in Colorado Mary Ann, my wife, and I built our home in the mountains. We built our house right in the center of 17 acres. What a setting for great ham antennas, but I still had not gotten a license. From our house we could not see any other homes - we loved it, closest neighbor was half a mile away. It was a common occurrence for us to look out the window and see Deer, Elk, Bear, Coyote, Wild Cat and Mountain Lion. We had electric heat in our house, but saved money by using our two wood burning stoves. We cut and split our fire wood from our property. About 7 cords a year.

After more than 15 years with Storage Technology Corporation I was approached by Coors Ceramics Company in Golden, Colorado. They had heard about the success I had with setting up the Metrology Department at Storage Tech, and made me an offer I could not refuse. At Coors I worked directly for one of the Coors Brothers. After about six years with Coors Ceramics, we moved to Florida and became care givers to My Wife's parents. After several years in Fl., we decided it was time to move on. Mary Ann wanted to be closer to her daughters Lynn in Denver and Debbie in Salt Lake. And here we are in St. George. I'm retired now and finally have my Ham Licence.

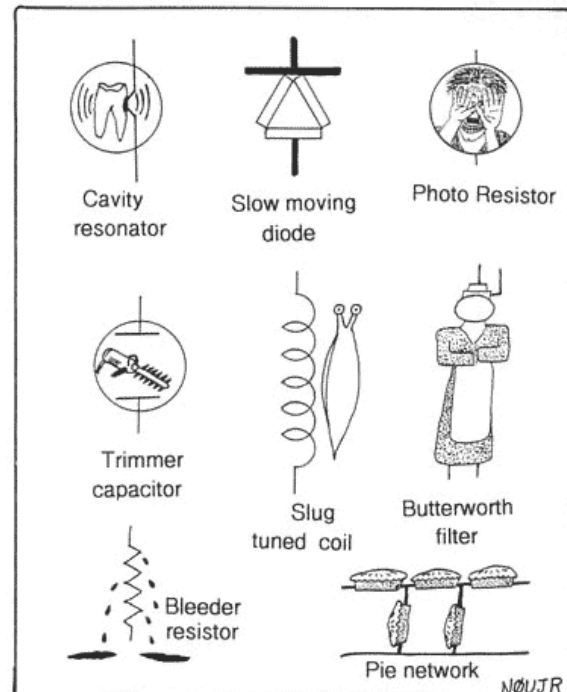
EVEN MORE HAM RADIO HUMOR

(You can't have too much humor - especially when trying to explain to your significant other just exactly "WHY" you need that new HF to daylight transceiver!)



"Well it all started when I was a child...I felt that I had difficulty communicating with people..."

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Little known standard electronic symbols.