



The RIVER CITY RADIO RAG is published by:

The Iowa City Amateur Radio Club
Box 4 Iowa City, Iowa 52240

and

The University of Iowa Amateur Radio Club

The deadline for submission of material is the 20th of the month preceding the desired month of publication. Any article dealing with any aspect of amateur radio is welcome. It is not our intent to edit prospective articles; however, we reserve the right to delay the publication of an article due to space limitations. Any submission deemed not of general interest to the amateur community or not in the general good interest of amateur radio will not be published.

Iowa City Amateur Radio Club Officers for 1978

President: Charles Lindsey WBØVRQ

Vice-President: Kenny Kucera WBØZXU

Secretary-Treasurer: Bob Lucas WAØDXZ

Dues for the Iowa City Amateur Radio Club are \$5.00 per year (includes a subscription to this publication). Permission to reprint is granted if credit is given to the author and this newsletter.

The Iowa City Amateur Radio Club meets the second Wednesday of each month in the Community Room in the basement of the First National Bank of Iowa City at Towncrest, 1117 William Street, Iowa City, Iowa.

The meeting begins at 7:30 P.M. local time.

Co-Editors of the RAG: Kenneth Hudachek WBØVRN
Dick Coon WBØVMV
Dorothy Coon WBØVMX

CHECK IN, PLEASE

IOWA CODE NET--Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 6:45 P.M. local time. 80 Meters--Slow Code Net--3.713.

JOHNSON COUNTY EMERGENCY NET--Sunday, 7:30 P.M. local time. 146.25 input; 146.85 output. If Repeater is down, try 146.52 Simplex.

The next meeting of the Iowa City Amateur Radio Club will be Wednesday, February 8, 1978, at 7:30 P.M. local time in the basement of the First National Bank in Towncrest.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

Thirty-eight people attended the January meeting of the Iowa City Amateur Radio Club. I wonder if that is a record?

John Seboldt, KØJD, gave a most informative program on traffic handling, including the National Traffic System. This is an evening set-up which meets every evening at 6 P.M. local time. CW is the mode of operation. The system handles messages mainly through the 9th and 10th regions.

Craig, KØCF, has agreed to be the Chairman of Field Day. Because of a prior commitment he may not be able to attend, but he will have it organized. The Club voted to purchase 500 feet of RG 213 coax for Field Day.

Ray, WBØPJU, accepted the position of Activities Chairman.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MARY ANN LENTH. She received her Novice ticket January 16th and made her first QSO with another YL in Connecticut the same day.

Thanks for the fine response to our first effort as co-editors of the RAG. Last month's cover was a diagram of a Beat Frequency Oscillator.

The Bicycle Club will have a demonstration at the Mall the same day as the Amateur Radio Demonstration-- February 18, 1978. Novice classes will start the 28th.

When I first contemplated writing a thumbnail sketch of some of our friends and fellow Amateur Radio enthusiasts, I did not in my wildest expectations expect to pick for my first subject a member of the ARRL Secret Society-- "The Royal Order of 'WOUFF HONG.'" However, after further talk with Max, I was not surprised to hear of his accomplishments.

Max, WØLFF, first became interested in Amateur Radio in the Spring of 1932. His first temporary license was issued to him when he signed an affidavit stating he had the ability to operate CW and had a knowledge of radio theory. In April of 1933 he was notified to appear at an examination point to upgrade his license to a Class B. This he accomplished. Class B was equivalent to what is now a General ticket. In July, 1935, a Class A license--the equivalent of what is now an Advanced license--was issued to W9LFF and Mobile W9M11. Iowa was changed to District Ø in 1949.

When he first was licensed on a temporary Max was allowed to use phone on 10 meters and 160 meters; also, CW on all bands and all frequencies. Things have changed since the early thirties!

Max has been a member of the Iowa City Amateur Radio Club since 1932. The Club met monthly in the American Legion Building--which has since burned and has been replaced by the Iowa City Recreation Building. The President of the Club at that time was Mark Sutton, original owner and operator of Sutton Radio and Television Shop.

Our distinguished subject is a member of many select groups, and has been awarded recognition in several; namely,

Old Timers Club
Rag Chewers' Award
Quarter Century Wireless Association
Society of Wireless Pioneers
And the aforementioned WOUFF HONG Society.

Max attended Horace Mann Grade School and graduated from University High School here in Iowa City. After graduation he held several positions in various cafes and coffee shops until he applied for a position with CAA (which has since

been changed to FAA). His experience in Amateur Radio was instrumental in his successful career as an air-control operator. This started in Iowa City in 1941, then included assignments in Atlantic, Iowa, and La Junta, Colorado, and to complete the circle, back to Iowa City. When commercial traffic was moved to Cedar Rapids, Max went along.

WØLFF's only interruption in his FAA service was during World War II, when he volunteered to act as a radio communications operator with the U.S. Navy, and was stationed in Brazil for this operation. This was commendable service. It was this particular operation that qualified him for membership in the Society of Wireless Pioneers. When Max retired in 1975, I'm sure the FAA lost a person who was a devoted employee.

Max Otto, WØLFF, was married in 1939 to Esther Custis, and is the father of three boys. Bob is a lawyer in Iowa City. Bill is a pharmacist in Conway, Arkansas, and also operates his own dental supply business. Don is a D.V.M. in Maxwell, Iowa. There are four grandchildren--two boys and two girls.

At the present time our fellow Amateur is the Iowa Section Communications Manager and Official Observer for the ARRL. His interests now are in public service, traffic nets, and relaxation. On a weekly basis he handles traffic from persons in Antarctica, relaying their communications to relatives in Cedar Rapids via Ma Bell connections. Also, from Peru on a monthly basis he arranges for a communications link between a married couple--husband from Kalona, wife from Wellman--enabling them to communicate with relatives in their respective home towns.

I'm sure the communication equipment that Max operates at the present time differs greatly from his original equipment, which I presume was constructed with a soldering iron in one hand and a schematic diagram in the other. At the present time he operates a TS900 Kenwood with Hunter Bandit Linear Amplifier; TS520 Kenwood for mobile operation; and a Regency H.R. 212 for 2-meter operation.

I wish to thank Max for his very interesting and informative biographical sketch. It has been a definite pleasure to record this. I hope every reader enjoys it as much as I.

de Dick, WBØVMV

HR REPORTS

Don't swat your clock if it ticked a second less than WWV did New Year's Eve. NBS added a second to 1977's final minute to bring the world's clocks back into agreement.

"Frequency Standards and Clocks: A tutorial Introduction" is a very interesting 64-page technical note from NBS. In addition to discussing the various types of standards and clocks, it explains and defines the concepts of time, frequency, stability, and accuracy. Order C13.46:616 (Second Revision). It's \$1.30 from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

A Kilowatt Linear Amplifier is still another new product Kenwood will be unveiling soon. The TL-922 is a 2-KW PEP, 1-KW CW/RTTY amplifier covering 160 through 10 meters. It uses a pair of 3-500Zs and will be available in a month or so at around \$1000.

Automatic Swept tuning of amateur or other short-wave bands is provided by a recently announced motorized device. Tuning rate is continuously variable--up to ten minutes per sweep--and the inventor, David Schumann, 18062 Sandhurst Drive, Brook Part, Ohio 44142, is looking for a manufacturer who will produce it in either kit or finished form.

Texas tornado emergency just before Christmas generated much amateur radio assistance as three twisters, one causing considerable damage, were sighted. Repeaters WR5AAA, ATY, AFK, and ABX all helped in coordinating the activities of various government agencies and handling over 250 health and welfare messages. About 600 buildings were damaged, though only a few injuries and one death were reported. Amateur Radio Communications got very good media coverage during the episode.

SPECIAL WARNING TO ALL AMATEURS

Some amateurs are receiving surveys from a Collier Book Company, but attempts to identify "Collier" are so far inconclusive. Discretion is suggested in responding to it.

FOR SALE

Heathkit HW-2036 with Micoder. Aligned by Heath. Call Ed Berbari, WB4BVP, 354-7257 evenigns.

Heathkit SB 102 with power supply and speaker and CW Filter. John Seboldt, KØJD, 354-3219.

2-Meter Rig--2-Watt, hand held, 6 channel, all crystals, Nicads and more accessories. Call Dennis 337-4777 or 337-3864.

WANTED

Jim, WDØFBA, is looking for an SB500 Heathkit, 2-meter transverter. Call him at 338-2916.

All 1978 dues for the Iowa City Amateur Radio Club are due. \$5.00 is the tab. These can be paid at the next meeting or mail them to Bob Lucas, 1527 Muscatine Avenue, Iowa City.

The program for the February meeting will be on interference and TVI, and will be given by Lee, WØTGQ. Sounds like this is of interest to all of us.

Ken, WBØVRN, went through the new CALLBOOK, and made a list of all amateurs in Iowa City and vicinity. This month the RAG is being sent to all 151 amateurs--109 in Iowa City, 8 in West Branch, 10 in Solon, 3 in Oxford, 5 in West Liberty, one in Nichols, 3 in Swisher, one each in Lone Tree and Marengo, 3 in Riverside and 7 in North Liberty.

A trip to Chicago paid off for a couple of people. Mike, WBØZPY, now has his General license, and Ray, WBØPJU, upped his ticket to Advanced. Congratulations to both!

Don't forget to send your 610 to Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 904, Cedar Rapids, if you want to take an FCC Amateur Radio examination in Cedar Rapids February 25th.

OSCAR ACTIVITY

WBØZXU has been active on Oscar 7 both on Mode A and B (mostly B). WBØPJU has been active on Oscar Mode A, and WZØDXZ has worked Mode A with some success.