



Dummy Load

The Muscatine Repeater does exist and it will be on the air soon. This is an all homebrew repeater. It is completely supported by donations from its users. If all works out well it will even have an open autopatch.

The machine has open access with an input of 146.31 MHz. The timers reset on the beep. This allows time for breakers. The carrier does not have to drop. The machine will also relay severe weather alerts from the Moline Weather Office. The Repeater's voice I.D. will convey special information.

The repeater will have emergency power, provided by a fork lift battery. The repeater location is manned 24 hours a day.

On the autopatch you may hear several minutes of the NOAA weather bulletins by punching out #3. Punching #4 will stop the broadcast. The voice I.D. message may be heard by punching #2. They ask that people do not over use these features or they will be disconnected. The voice I.D. is set to operate once every thirty minutes. If the repeater is in use the I.D. will not operate until the carrier drops.

The Repeater is located at the offices of Radio Station KWPC/KFMH. The antenna is a Ringo Ranger, sixty feet above the building. The ERP is expected to be 100 watts when the PA is completed. The receiver and exciter are "buck" rigs from KØEGW. The controls and logic are from WBØGGI with thanks to WBØGAG for his autopatch controller.

For any other information, contact Dave Metz, WAØAUO, 725 Climer Street, Muscatine, Iowa.

Craig, KØCF, has volunteered to take over as the Club Secretary for the rest of this year. This position became vacant when Bob Lucas moved to Mississippi.

Good Luck, Bob!

IT TAKES A WØLFF TO CATCH A FOX

The Hidden Transmitter Hunt sounded like a lot of fun.

Craig, KØCF, was the Fox and he hid himself someplace within the city limits of Iowa City, University Heights or Coralville--in plain sight and on public property.

Those looking for him started from the parking lot of the Ironmen Inn. Most of them started with "loops" in hand--that is, all but Chris, WBØEKP. He was riding his motorcycle, had his antenna attached to a fishing pole. He would stop, take a reading, decide which direction to go, place the fishing pole on the seat of his cycle, sit on it, and away he would go.

We heard several bits of conversation:--

"Could we please have some high-power transmission?"

"Sure, no problem--however, you sound further away now than you did before."

"Does anyone want a slightly used loop?"

"This transmission is coming to you from the hidden transmitter. I'm in a parking lot with trees on three sides, and it is hot out here."

"I stopped for gas. Is the transmitter hunt still on?"

After almost an hour the Fox was found by Max, WØLFF, and his brother-in-law. Ken, WBØVRN; Charles, WBØVRQ; and Jim, WDØFBA, came in second. No records were broken, unless you want to consider the person who was the longest distance from the Fox when the hunt was over. We won't tell who that was.

By the way, Craig was in the City High parking lot.

Don't forget to tell your XYL about the Picnic at 5:00PM on Field Day Sunday.

ALL IN THE FAMILY

Max, WØLFF, to Charles, WBØVRQ: "Charles, I have a new award for you to work for."

"Which one?"

"WAH."

"What does the 'H' stand for?"

"Worked all Hudachek's!"

On the front porch railing at 2116 Hollywood Boulevard there is a sign, "THE HUDACHEK'S, KEN AND KATHY AND FAMILY." Don't let the quiet, serene exterior of that house fool you. Inside there is a beehive of activity, particularly in their Radio Shack.

Ken Hudachek is a fireman for the City of Iowa City, and also is the manager of Hagen's Vending Operations. A couple of years ago we twisted his arm and took him with us to the Novice Classes we were attending. Code was "Old Hat" to him as he had been in the Signal Corps in the Navy. Theory wasn't a problem for him either, and he received his Novice License, WBØVRN, on August 20, 1976. The following May he upped his ticket to Technician, and on June 21, 1977, he received his General License. His preferred method of operation is CW, and to date he is a member of the Rag Chewers Club, has the Worked All Districts Certificate, and the Code Proficiency Certificate. On CW he has worked 47 of the 50 States; on phone 42 of the 50.

In the meantime Kris, the eleven-year-old in the Hudachek Family, decided she wanted to be a "Ham." She passed the Novice Test and received her first license, WBØZGS, January 18, 1977. You may have read about her--both the Iowa City Press Citizen and the Cedar Rapids Gazette carried stories about her and showed pictures of her in the radio room. On May 26, 1978, she went to Rock Island, passed the test, and carried home her Technician License. She earned the Rag Chewers Award while she was a Novice. In addition to her radio activities, Kris is an Honor Student at Southeast Junior High, plays trumpet in the school band (she also plays the clarinet and the flute),

is on the cheer-leading team, is catcher for her softball team, crochets, and is available for baby-sitting in the Fair Meadows area. By the way, the phonetic of her call is Zany Girl Scout.

At first Kathy (Ken's XYL) said she would have nothing to do with Ham Radio--she said she wasn't 'technical.' She felt she had a full schedule being a homemaker for her brood, and had previously given up a career in the business world to pursue this endeavor. There was no pressure from her family--she decided on her own to take the Novice Classes. On February 21, 1978, she received her Novice License, WDØGSS. She, also, went to Rock Island on May 26th and received her Technician License.

Kevin Hudachek is nine years old (he'll be ten on Friday), and he says he isn't ready for Amateur Radio yet. He is too busy with wrestling, Little League, swimming, bike riding, fishing, and being an all-around boy.

Ken has a Kenwood 520 with a 2-meter transverter, plus a Heath HW-2036, and Ken and Kathy have "HIS and HERS" Kenwood TS-2200's.

Kris was told that when she passed the Technician Test she could have a radio of her own, but (believe it or not) she said she didn't want one--she wanted to have her ears pierced. The little gold earrings are lovely.

de WBØVMV and WBØVMX

Several other people from this area made successful trips to Rock Island in May:

Dan Soda, WBØWAJ, upped his ticket to General.

Jim Snead, WDØHMA, received his Technician's License.

Bob Kerf, WDØGTE, received his Technician's License.

Owen Edwards, WDØGUS, also brought home a Technician's license.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF YOU!

In the May, 1978, IEEE Transactions on Vehicular Technology, three Motorola engineers conclude that NO HEALTH HAZARD exists from operating a 2-meter hand-held close to your face, even with high power and a "rubber ducky" antenna. Their well-documented research shows 150 MHz RF penetrates the body much less than previously supposed, with a temperature increase of less than 0.1°C measured after one minute's exposure to six watts radiated from a helical antenna only 0.2 inch from the body.

Credit for passing the CW exam can now be retained by an FCC license applicant even though he failed the written test. In a decision last week, the Commissioners agreed to allow an applicant such credit for up to one year after he takes an exam. To receive the CW credit the applicant will be given an FCC Form 845 by the Field Office at the time of the exam. He turns it in when he returns for another try and receives credit for the CW portion of the exam.

Form 845 will be honored only by the Field Office that issued it. This rule change is effective immediately.

Ex-Novices whose licenses expired less than a year ago will be eligible to apply for reinstatement just like any other Amateur licensees under the FCC's recent rule change making Novice licenses good for five years and renewable. This means any former Novice whose license expired after May 15, 1977, can submit a Form 610 on or after this May 15, but within one year of his original expiration date, when the new provisions become effective, and regain his license for a full five years--without retaking an examination.

OSCAR 8's orbital data is now so refined that its change in period due to gravitational drag has been determined. The formula is $103.231836 - 1.117 \times 10^{-6} N$ where N is the orbit number, with the shift in longitude $25.80870162 - 2.325 \times 10^{-7} N^\circ$ /orbit. This calculates out to a decrease in period of about 60 microseconds per orbit or about .0001 minute per week, at which rate OSCAR 8 should fall back into the atmosphere in about 2300 years.

If all else fails, you can obtain the new ARRL Repeater Directory for a SASE to "Repeater Directory" at ARRL. Send 54 cents for first class postage; 40 for third.

For Sale, Dentron Super Tuner.....\$90.00
Call WDØFBA at 338-2916 after June 19th.

Terry Cellman, WDØAWL has 500 feet of copperweld telephone wire to give away. This is fine for a dipole antenna-- doesn't stretch much. He thought some of the new novices might be interested.

Mike Alwine, WDØHGG, received his General Ticket in February. He is looking for a 2-meter rig. Wants to find one for less than \$200. We told him the Kenwood TS-2200's could be purchased for that price range, but don't know if he bought one.

Last month's cover was a Hi-Power 2-meter linear amplifier. This is from the TAB book, HAM RADIO PROJECTS for Novice and Technician, by Bert Simon, W2UUN. If you don't have the book and want the information on this, call Dick, WBØVMV.

Whenever a supplement to the Call Book is published, we send a copy of the RAG to the new people listed from this area.

Sorry the RAG is a little late this month. The Coon's have been busy refurbishing their living room--paneling, painting, new carpet, and all of that good stuff. Half of the living room is now a new Radio Shack. We are quite proud of it and you are all invited to stop by for a visit.