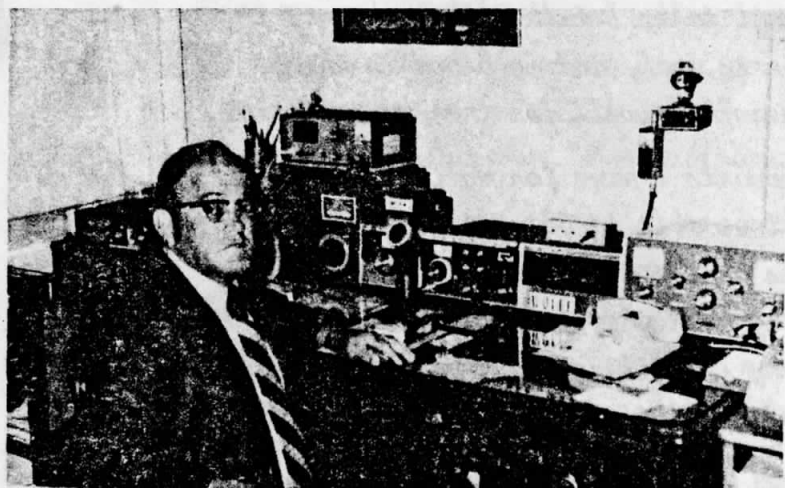


WOLF

MAX R. OTTO - 733 W. BENTON ST.
IOWA CITY, IOWA 52240 - ZONE 4



STATION

DATE

GMT

BAND

MODE

RST

PSE

OSL

TNX

73,

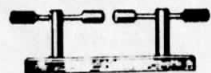
Max

337-7111



I'M FINE - - -

There is nothing the matter with me
I'm as healthy as I can be.
I have arthritis in both knees,
And when I talk, I talk with a wheeze.
My pulse is weak, and my blood is thin,
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.
Arch supports I have for my feet, or I
wouldn't be able to be on the street.
Sleep is denied me night after night.
But every morning I find I'm alright.
My memory is failing, my head's in a spin,
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.
The moral is this, as this tale I unfold,
That for you and me who are growing old,
It's better to say, "I'm Fine" with a grin
Then to let folks know the shape I'm in.
How do I know my youth is all spent?
Well, my get up and go has got up and went!
But really I don't mind, when I think with a grin,
Of all the good places my get up has been.



DEDICATED — to the men who "went down
all those who have earned their living
since the day



- - - - THANKYOU !!!

Old age is gold, I've heard it said.
But sometimes I wonder as I get into bed.
With my ears in the drawer and my teeth in a cup
My eyes on the table until I get up.
Ere sleep comes o'er me, I say to myself,
Is there anything else, I should lay on the shelf
When I was young my slippers were red,
I would kick my heels clear over my head.
When I grew older, my slippers were blue,
But I could still dance the whole night through.
Now when I'm old, my slippers are black,
I walk to the store, and puff my way back.
I get up each morning and dust off my wits.
Pick up the paper and read the "O-Bits"
If my name is still missing I know I'm not dead,
So I get a good breakfast, and go back to bed.

(Anonymous)

to sea in ships" as Wireless Telegraphers and
"pounding brass" as wireless or radio ops
of Marconi.





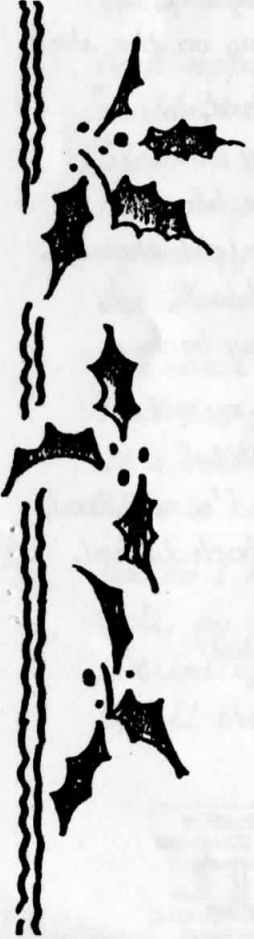
Profound thoughts from a deep Thinker...

A HAM'S CHRISTMAS

"Twas the night before Christmas, and in the Ham Shack Was the warm glow of tubes in the transmitter rack. The log book was brought up to date with great care In case the FCC might someday be there. XYL and harmonics are snug in their beds. (No Tennessee Valley Indians to addle their heads) I plugged in the mike and the new VFO Getting all set for a nice QSO.

When from the relays there rose such a clatter I yanked the big switch to see what was the matter Then up on the roof by the two-meter beam There came QRM like a hedtrodyne scream. On Gonset, On Babcock, On Viking and Elmac! On Ranger, On Collins, On Heathkit and Elmac! Bias to the grid and volts to the plate, Just watch that S-meter while we all modulate! As I turned to the rig and reached for a dial From the antenna tuner Santa slid with a smile. An RF choke, he held tight in his teeth And coax encircling his head like a wreath. A bundle of Ham gear he had flung over his back Was that my name on a new power pack? He had a stub nose like an egg insulator And his cheeks glowed bright red like a hot oscillator. He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work Laying out all the gear, then turned with a jerk Said "PSE QSL" and up the feeders he rose. (Laying a wave meter alongside of his nose) He climbed up the dipole, to his team gave a whistle And away they all flew like a jet-propelled missile. But I heard his last signal from the Ionosphere, "Seventy-three; Eighty-Eight! and a Merry Xmas from Here!"

MIDCARS



<i>Oh give me an ohm</i>	<i>Oh give me a rig</i>
<i>Where the 'lectron does roam</i>	<i>For it need not be big</i>
<i>Where the volts and the amperes do play.</i>	<i>As I yak at the hams on the net.</i>
<i>Where seldom is code</i>	<i>To hear a strong voice</i>
<i>A discouraging mode</i>	<i>That will be my first choice</i>
<i>And the hams are transmitting all day.</i>	<i>While I log all the calls that I get.</i>
<i>Refrain:</i>	
<i>Ohm, ohm in the rig</i>	
<i>Where the volts and the amperes do play</i>	
<i>Where seldom is code</i>	
<i>A discouraging mode</i>	
<i>And the hams are transmitting all day.</i>	
<i>How often at night</i>	<i>Oh tune with good care</i>
<i>When the band is just right</i>	<i>For a time on the air</i>
<i>And the rig will glow like a big crown,</i>	<i>While you're carefully tuning the beam.</i>
<i>I sat at the mike</i>	
<i>For the DX that I like</i>	<i>The calls will come in</i>
<i>But I QSOed the ham across town.</i>	<i>And you'll have a broad grin</i>
	<i>Like a ham in a heavenly dream.</i>

(With apologies to "Home on the Range" - World Radio via WESKAY)

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Each one of us is a mixture of good qualities and some perhaps not - so good qualities.

In considering our fellow man, we should remember his good qualities and realize that his faults only prove that his, after all, a human being.

We should refrain from making harsh judgement of a person just because he happens to be a dirty, rotten, no-good son-of-a-B

Amen

SO WHAT IF YOU DECIDED TO
TAKE A SNOOZE ON A PARK BENCH,
AND ALL THE PIGEONS WITHIN A
TWENTY MILE RADIUS MISTOOK YOU
FOR A STATUE

.....Keep SMILING!



MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR

THE RIVER CITY RADIO RAG is Published by:

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

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: Kenneth Kucera, WBØZXU
SECRETARY-TREASURER: Craig Fastenow, KØCF
TRUSTEE: Gordon K. Johnson, WØAVH
ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN: Ray Forman, WBØPJU

Dues for the Iowa City Amateur Radio Club are \$5.00 per year (includes a subscription to this publication); Non-Resident \$2.50; Additional family memberships \$1.00.

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
Dorothy Coon, WBØVMX

There will be a FOX HUNT Sunday, December 3, 1978, at 2:00 P.M. The starting place will be the parking lot east of the Engineering Building. Chris, WØØEKP, will be the FOX.

The rules have been changed slightly. It is possible he may not be hidden on public property.

Charles, WBØVRQ, has purchased a Repeater. It currently is in his basement, but will be elsewhere soon. This is the third repeater in the Iowa City, Coralville, Oakdale area. Turn your radios to 147.96-.36 for an open access, limited coverage repeater. Charles is inviting all to use it, and he would welcome your comments.

When the powers that be decide for certain on the frequency of the repeater, Gene, KØCKX, will be happy to order repeater crystals for your Wilson hand-helds.

AND, if you do not have a Wilson hand-held, KØCKX will be happy to provide you with one. He has a supply of Wilson II radios (with and without the Touch Tone Pad) and would be happy to tell your spouses about the merits of this radio--in case you are to receive one for Christmas. The Wilson II includes a switch to control the power from 1 watt to 2.5 watts.

Call him at 354-4478.

The December meeting of the Iowa City Amateur Radio Club will be held in the usual place, First National Bank Drive-In in Towncrest, at the usual time--7:30 PM Local Time. There will be election of officers at this meeting.

Also, after this meeting there will be an election meeting of the Iowa City Repeater Association.

Dues for both groups will be due January 1, 1979.

Talked with Betty Schiel Monday night about several things-- Francis, WØTCH, her present status and her future.

Betty met Francis at the Veterans Administration Hospital here in Iowa City. She was working as a Volunteer, and Francis was a patient. They were married about a year later, in March of 1963. Francis also worked at the VA as a janitor. He had previously had surgery on his back and he developed emphysema and finally had to retire.

Retirement and Francis did not agree--he had nothing to keep him occupied other than drinking. He soon began to realize that this was not the way to live, so on his own he asked for treatment. He was at Oakdale and he joined AA. It was an uphill climb and the going was not always easy. For example, when Betty was hospitalized two years ago, Francis had a few bad days. Betty gives credit to Gil Voss for helping Francis. Personally, I think that a big share of the credit should go to Betty. She has always been right there to help him.

Francis had had his General License many years ago, but had not been on the radio. However, he had not let his license expire. One of the nice things Betty did was to buy him a radio. It was advertized in the Interstate Shopper--the owner was leaving town. He even put up the antenna for Francis. Amateur Radio was the answer to most of Francis' problems. It kept him busy and happy. Of course, he soon wanted a better radio, and he had it--Kenwood TS 520S. Glen, KAØBIS, now has the original radio. Francis worked about 111 countries. He was the "watch-bird" for all band openings and would come on two meters to tell people about band openings and special contacts. Ten meters was his favorite.

Betty went back to work Monday. She has worked at the Hospital School for twenty-three years. She said she will work there as long as they will have her. She is still staying with friends here in town, because a week ago she hurt her back and needs a little special care for that.

She plans to obtain her General License! In the past when she would listen to code to try to learn it, Francis would give her the answers before she could figure it out for herself. Now, after things settle down a bit for her, she is going to study.

Betty was the silent partner in the Francis-Betty team, but she has now come into her own, and before long will be heard loud and clear on the air waves.

At the November meeting of the Iowa City Amateur Radio Club we were warned about the improper use of phonetics in giving call signs. Someone from the Cedar Rapids area has recently received a "pink" slip from the FCC for improper use of phonetics when giving his call. The ARRL Handbook states, "USE PHONETICS ONLY AS REQUIRED. When clarifying genuinely doubtful expressions and in getting your call identified positively we suggest use of the International Telecommunication Union list. However, don't overdo its use.

A	ALFA	N	NOVEMBER
B	BRAVO	O	OSCAR
C	CHARLIE	P	PAPA
D	DELTA	Q	QUEBEC
E	ECHO	R	ROMEO
F	FOXTROT	S	SIERRA
G	GOLF	T	TANGO
H	HOTEL	U	UNIFORM
I	INDIA	V	VICTOR
J	JULIETT	W	WHISKEY
K	KILO	X	X-RAY
L	LIMA	Y	YANKEE
M	MIKE	Z	ZULU

Example: W1AW . . . W 1 ALFA WHISKEY . . . W1AW."

This is the last issue of the RAG for 1978, and the last issue of the RAG for Kenny, WBØVRN, and Dorothy, WBØVMX, to be co-editors. Someone else will take over next month.

Many thanks to all of you for your support and encouragement, and also for your tolerance with out shortcomings. On numerous occasions if we had not had contributions from Max, WØLFF, we would have sent out blank sheets of paper.

Sorry we didn't get to all of the Club Members for interviews. Perhaps someone will carry this on in the future.

Finally, we would like to thank Kathy, WDØGSS. Even though she hasn't been listed as a Co-editor, she has given us a great deal of help. And--each and every month she has been Johnny-on-the-spot to help fold, staple, and stamp. Without her the RAG would have been a day or two later. Thanks, Kathy!

Dennis Kahler, WBØMCX, has worked at Bob's Radio and Television at 2127 Muscatine Avenue for over thirty years, but his interest in amateur radio goes back further than that.

He was born at Oxford, Iowa, and has lived in this area all of his life. When he was in high school he wanted a ham license, but decided he couldn't afford the radio. Later, when he could afford a radio he had a few misgivings about his ability.

He was in Service in Korea and when he returned he went to school on the GI Bill in Des Moines at American Tech. At one time he had a second class phone license, but unfortunately let it expire. As you can see, it wasn't the technical part of FCC examinations that bothered him--it was the code.

In 1968 he received his Novice call, WNØYSZ. At that time a novice could use a small part of the Technicians' AM band for voice, but the license was only good for one year. Then a person could never again have a novice license. The FCC changed the rules so that a two-year novice was possible, but no voice was allowed. His novice license expired, and he tried for another amateur license.

Would you believe--he failed FCC Amateur Radio examinations twenty (20) times in five years? The examinations cost him \$9.00 each (9 x \$20 = \$180); study time was expensive, travel expenses were high, and all-told he figures it cost him \$3,000.00 to get his Amateur License. He took the tests in lots of places--Des Moines, Kansas City, Chicago, Rock Island, just to name a few. The Code just threw him. It even reached the point that Max, WØLFF, "wrote him up" in QST.

Dennis, I'm sure glad you finally made it!

For equipment he now has a Heath SB 101 (it used to belong to Craig, KØCF), a Wilson hand-held and an SBE 144. He is seldom on the air, mainly because he is more interested in antennas than radios. He has at least two antennas for each band, and has a two-meter beam. He also repairs radios.

Dennis (continued)

A year ago he was appointed to a two-year term as Johnson County Emergency Coordinator. He has been able to obtain amateur radio equipment for the Civil Defense Unit in Johnson County, and the antenna system for this has been acquired (thanks to Gene, KØCKX). Being Johnson County Emergency Coordinator also gets him the job of running the Sunday Night Johnson County Emergency Net.

He is looking for volunteers to take over the Net this next year--a week or a month at a time.

After learning all of the aforementioned information about Dennis, I was not surprised that he does not care for CW and that he hates cold weather. However, I was flabbergasted to learn that he has a collection of Antique Cars. He keeps them at his Mother's house in Oxford and works on them out there.

He is a member of Johnson County REACT and at one time was their Treasurer. He is not too active in this group any more, but he does go to their meetings.

Dennis and Dorothy live at 316 Fourth Avenue here in Iowa City. She is not interested in amateur radio, but she has no objections to his involvement in it.

Mark, WDØAWM, has an idea for a program. He likes to hear about the equipment other Hams have. He thinks someone with a good camera should take pictures of the equipment (radios, antennas, etc.) of the Club Members, and then show them at a meeting.

Perhaps someone will want to carry this through.

Check page 87 of the December QST.

Kenny Kucera, WBØZXU, was the leader for Single Operators in the Midwest Division in the 1978 September VHF Contest.

Congratulations, Kenny!

IN MEMORIAM

Francis Schiel, WØTCH

Richard Coon, WBØVMV

There was a friend whose heart was good.
He walked with men and understood.
His was a voice that spoke to cheer,
And fell like music on the ear.
His was a smile that men loved to see:
His was a hand that asked no fee-
For friendliness or kindness done.
And now that he has journeyed on,
His is a fame that never ends-
He leaves behind uncounted friends.

QUESTIONNAIRE

Mary Ann, WØGDJ, would like some input from you Club Members about a Code Practice Net. The Oakdale Repeater is now operational, and Charles' Repeater is about ready.

Are you interested in a Code Practice Net?

On which Repeater? or All Repeaters?

Would you listen?

Would you help?

Your comments would be appreciated

As you probably know, Mary Ann and Russ, AEØR, have taught several classes of code, and have been instrumental in helping quite a few people acquire their Novice licenses. The possibility of a Code Practice Net is another example of their desire and willingness to help others.

MICHAEL L. SONDERGARD
Press-Citizen Reporter

Two Iowa City ham radio operators who communicated with a Peoples Temple follower several months ago were stunned to learn they had spoken with a religious cultist who played a part in the bizarre, grisly killings at Guyana last week.

"After the realization came to me about what happened, it hit me very hard," says Ray Forman, a building maintenance worker at the University of Iowa Oakdale campus who spoke with the cultist for about half an hour. "It set me back. I was very disappointed, awestruck, especially when you consider it was Americans killing Americans."

The man Forman spoke with was Albert Touchette, who has been identified in news reports as one of three men who allegedly shot and killed Congressman Leo Ryan of California, three newsmen and a defecting cultist last Saturday night at the Peoples Temple commune in Jonestown. Touchette is believed to have been killed or to have been a participant in the mass suicide-murder of 775 cultists which followed the attack on Ryan.

According to a QSL card sent by Touchette to Forman's home address in Iowa City, the two men spoke with each other in early February. The cards are often exchanged by ham radio operators to verify contact with fellow operators in other countries. Forman's card carried a message almost identical to the one received more than a month later (March 31) by Craig Fastenow, an electronics engineer at University Hospital.

But Fastenow and Forman

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The Iowa City Press Citizen

note there are differences between the cards, and in the impressions they had of Touchette in separate conversations.

For one thing, the card Forman received was hand-written and less elaborate than the postcard sent to him by Fastenow. Foreman's was sent in an envelope and was identified as the Peoples Temple Agricultural Mission. Fastenow's card, bearing an almost identical message, was typewritten, stamped and

Peoples Temple Agricultural/Medical Project

Working to assist the Guyanese Government to feed, clothe, and house its people, and further the human service goals that have characterized Peoples Temple.

Radio KBCF confirming our QSO on 4/31/78

GMV 6525 UR SSB X CW AM

RST 5/7 MHL 14 XMTR YAESU RCVR 101FE

Antenna MOSLEY CL 36
Comments:

Thanks for the QSL. This is a very beautiful country. The people are very friendly to the USA. They are doing a great job and appreciate whatever encouragement offered. Best wishes to you and yours.

CUL 73° WB6 MID/ØR3
AL Albert Touchette - Jonestown



Post Card

Craig F. Fastenow

1207 Wylde Green Road

Iowa City, Iowa 52240

USA

Cont. next page

featured three color photographs of Temple workers on the front. Ironically, the photographs were surrounded by a blood red border. The source was identified as the Peoples Temple Agricultural-Medical Project. Both were signed "Al."

"It struck me that what he was saying on the air when I talked with him was for propaganda purposes," Fastenow says. "He talked about all the great things the agriculture and medical project was doing for Guyana."

Indeed, both cards refer to the Temple as an organization "working to assist the Guyanese government to feed, clothe and house its people, and further the human service goals that have characterized the Peoples Temple."

"My impression of the guy was that he sounded kind of like a nut...well, maybe nut isn't the right word, but it was just that he kept repeating the same thing on other stations, the same propaganda. I don't recall him ever using term Peoples Temple. He said he was promulgating goodwill through amateur radio."

Forman says it appears things changed between the times he and Fastenow spoke with Touchette.

"I got the feeling he really felt like he was doing a good service to the world," Forman says. "But Craig said he thought it was kind of a push-push type of thing. When I talked to him I didn't feel he was hustling money, but he was asking for medical

help. He just sounded like a very dedicated person. He didn't say at the time he was a member of the cult, but just identified himself as a doctor who was doing a service. And he just identified the people he was helping as people in the country (of Guyana)."

Forman responded to Touchette's request by arranging a "phone patch" through the emergency room at University Hospital. In other words, he says, he called the hospital and asked a doctor there to provide Touchette with the answer to a medical question he (Touchette) wanted answered. Forman doesn't know who the doctor was who spoke with Touchette on the phone.

Touchette apparently contacted numerous other ham radio operators throughout the U.S. over the period of many months. Most of those communications were purely "chance happenings," because a listener would have had to pick up Touchette's particular frequency, according to Fastenow.

Both Fastenow and Forman, who are members of the Iowa City Amateur Radio Club, said their communications were by chance, and that they had few recollections of their conversations.

"He (Touchette) didn't sound like the type who would blow away a bunch of people," Forman recalls. "But that was several months ago and a lot of things could have happened since then."



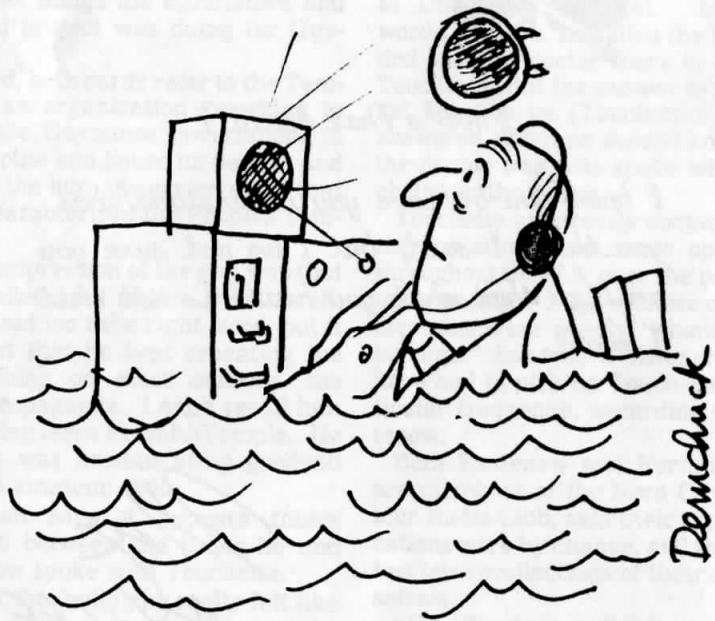
How's That Again ?

I know you believe you understand what you think I said, but I am not sure you realize that what you heard is not what I meant.

73

*Max
WFLFF*





"HOW ARE THINGS OTHERWISE?"

THIRD MRTY TRAFFIC

This is traffic you handle after you arrive home from two other parties.

SO WHAT IF YOU MISTOOK THE
HAIR SPRAY CAN FOR YOUR DEODORANT,
AND NOW YOU CAN'T RAISE YOUR ARMS

.....Keep SMILING!



SO WHAT IF YOU JUST TOOK A
FAST-ACTING LAXATIVE AND SOME
CLOWN IN A MINI-CAR SNEAKED UP
BEHIND YOU AND BLEW HIS HORN

.....Keep SMILING!



Hi Dorothy - -

I am sending you a few space fillers for the "Rag"

I thought you might like to see a current picture
of my shack.

Please note the meter readings. Full blast on the
output, and minimum SWR.

73

Max



I'M MECHANICALLY INCLINED...
I SCREW UP EVERYTHING!

