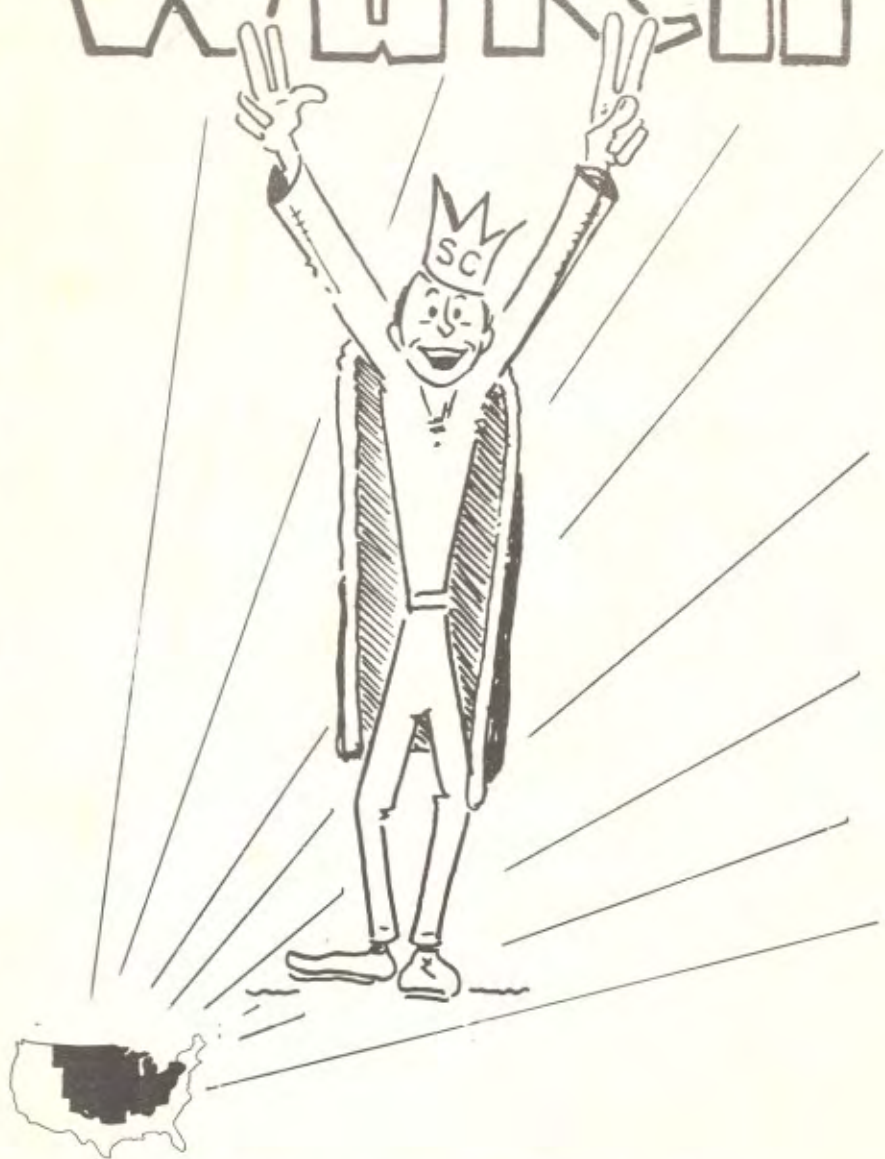


NOVEMBER 1973

W RADIO Watch



Midwest Amateur Radio Service

² *Midwest Amateur Radio Service*

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The RADIO WATCH is published monthly by the Midwest Amateur Radio Service, Inc., for its members. Articles are welcomed and should be sent to the editor. The right is reserved to edit and revise materials as needed. Full permission is granted to quote from the WATCH, provided a credit line is included.

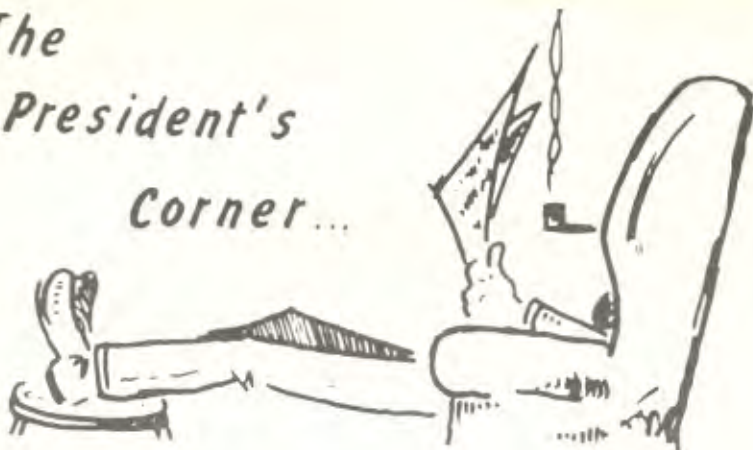
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Members' advertisements of a non-commercial nature are accepted free of charge, with no responsibility for the items offered. Commercial advertising rates upon request.

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Copy deadline is the 15th of the month preceding publication. The WATCH goes to press approximately the 5th of the month of publication.

...The
President's
Corner...



THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER . . .

The tellers have counted and certified the heaviest vote in Midcars' history for the election of officers for 1974. It is indicative of the healthy condition of the Service that so many members expressed their interest by casting a vote for the candidate of their choice. A letter has been sent by the President to each nominee, notifying him of the results of the election. Each nominee is to be congratulated, whether or not he won, for being honored by having his name placed on the ballot.

...

The officers for 1974 will be: President, Ed Brown, W0WYJ; Vice-President, Saunders Jones, W8MZS; Sect'y.-Treas., Jim Ray, W00GNL; Director, Kirby Strickland, WA9CMY, and Bud Robinson, W9CCB, who will be serving his second year as Director.

...

The decal order has been placed an by the time you read this they will, we hope, be ready for distribution to those who have ordered them. If you have not yet placed your order, 50 cents sent to the secretary will assure priority delivery. The "angel" idea worked like a charm and the decal order was placed by the time the October Watch was delivered. Thanks to everyone who participated. With each month that passes I am more and more convinced that we have the greatest bunch of gals and guys anywhere.

...

If you have an article, photograph, schematic, anecdote or other material you think will be of interest to the membership, be sure to send it to the Editor. You just may win the Warnock Award. Even if you don't win you will have added to the further personalizing of our publication.

...

Frank, W8LRO, and Lyle, W9JEB, with some help from others, have revived the 75 meter Midcars operation on 3903 but they need more Service Controllers. Frank and Lyle are having to spend too many consecutive hours without relief. Whenever possible, if only for a short time, let's get on 3903 in the evening and lend a hand.

...

Ray Wilson, formerly K9GPM, our immediate past president, is now W5TYR (Transplanted Yankee Rebel) and resides at 1126 Terranova Lane, Houston, Texas 77090. We wish him and his family good luck in their new home.

73, Bill - K4DLA

4 SEC. REPORT OF THE ODD BALL NET ACTIVITIES

A wierd group of Midcar' members frequently congregate down around '50' and yak about everything under the sun.

At a recent roll call the following usually normal members were heard to check in:

WBØGNL, K9MKM, WB4QNK, W9GET/8, WB4VIK, WA9ELV, WBØBMW, WBØQSO, WB9LRR, WB8GFJ, WB9ETE, W9QDM, K8IKT, W8MZS.

Others include: WB4CPO, W3HQW, WB8CEX, W9JLL, WB8GEG, KØTMK, and KH6HBZ/8.

Jim WB8GEG's XYL, Cathy joined the group and was the only bright spot in an otherwise dull group. HI!

If your call district is not well represented, you'd better get down there and join the group. Everyone seems to need support.

WANTED

HW-22A at a reasonable price. Need not be in mint condition, but fixable. Contact Jeff, W8HST at 7760 Willis Rd., Ypsilanti, MI 48197 or phone (313) 483-8689.

"DOCTOR, YOU'RE WANTED IN SURGERY — AGAIN"

While I was in the hospital following surgery, George, WB4UIW, brought me a 2-meter handie-talkie so that I could help pass the time by working through the local repeater. Two days after surgery, while under sedation for pain but fully alert, I heard a call from a mobile on a crosstown expressway about 10 miles away, asking for someone near a phone to report an accident to the Shively (a suburb of Louisville) police.

Having a bedside phone but being unable to reach the phone book, I dialed "O" and when the operator answered I asked her to connect me with the Shively police. She asked for my name and the reason for the call. I gave her my name and told her I wished to report an accident on the Watterson Expressway near Shively. The line suddenly went dead. About a minute later, two nurses and an orderly came rushing into my room and up to the bed. They had orders to "see if that patient is stable."

It seems I had been talking to the hospital switchboard operator instead of the telephone company operator, as I thought, and she thought I was off my rocker, reporting an accident 10 miles away while lying in a hospital bed. One of the nurses rushed to the window, when she realized I was coherent, looked out and said "Where is the accident?" I explained that the small unit beside me was a 2-way radio and that I had been talking to a mobile operator on the other side of town. She then called the switchboard, reported the patient was not nuts, but a ham radio operator. I was immediately connected with the Shively police and reported the accident. The grapevine quickly carried the story throughout the hospital and the next day my doctor arrived in the room laughing, and said it was the most hilarious thing that had happened around there in a long time.

Bill - K4DLA

ED'S GOT A FRENCH MIKE

Through the efforts of KØONK and KØENK, Olive Electronics donated a lavaliere mike to Ed, WØWYJ.

Ed uses it to tape the Radio Watch each month for the sightless members.

It may be that there is some misunderstanding regarding the effective date of the recently-enacted Midcars dues increase. It was assumed that the announcement in the October Watch that the proposed By-Law change had passed would constitute sufficient notice. Our Secretary has received numerous \$3 remittances in the recent past, despite the October Watch announcement. To eliminate the necessity for additional correspondence, we have accepted dues at the \$3 rate, in the absence of a published specific deadline. However, to avoid any further confusion, November 1, 1973 is the effective date. Any new or renewal memberships after that date will be at the \$5 annual rate.

HOUSEWIFE'S LAMENT OR HOW I LEARNED TO STOP NAGGING AND LOVE THE "MIKE"

There's no one with devotion
Like a "ham" with the commotion
That he sits and listens to with glassy stare.

Wife and mother - sis and brother
Try explaining to each other.
But as far as Dad's concerned
They just aren't there.

He prefers the squeaks and squeals
Interrupted just for meals
Other forms of entertainment aren't for him
For he's busy working "E Cars" - "Mid" or
"West" or "Over Sea Cars".
His alphabet consists of Q, R, M.

I for one have given up
And thank heaven for our "pup"
For without her I'd be talking to myself
Guess the honeymoon is over
When you're forced to talk to "Rover"
The message is, "Old girl you're on the shelf."

It was pretty bad before - I would
stand outside the door trying
desperately to start a conversation.
When he noticed me, at last,
I must answer him but fast.
When he shouted alright! Contact -
Call your Station!

By the time that we had signed
I was pretty much resigned
To my lot "of playing 2nd fiddle to a rig"
So I guess I'll play it right
I will join instead of fight
Otherwise I'm surely apt to "flip my wig".

Terry Lycett, WICDL
XYL of WIDKS
(he's the one with the dirty kitchen sink -
more adverse publicity for mama!!)

ARRL RADIOGRAM

To: Ed, WØWYJ

Your readings and comments make the Radio Watch excellent - even with the toothache. HI. Keep up the good work and thanks.

73, Helen, WBØHOX

HOW DO YOU GIVE A BAD SIGNAL REPORT??

1. QRM is too high, can't really tell here OM.
2. Gotta a 20 over noise level, guy working on his Ford.
3. Better than it was last week.
4. Battery is down in my hearing aid so
5. Pretty good compared to
6. I'm not qualified as a OO OM.
7. Dinner's ready, gotta run before they break my plate.
8. Anyone wanta pick-up the Service?
9. You're so strong my receivers just done a bottoms up.
10. Better ask someone who knows what your voice sounds like.

How many times have you been asked "How's my audio OM?", or "Do you detect any carrier on my signal (whistle-whistle-whistle)". When you're on the hot seat you sure can't tell the guy that his signal sounds like a four year old talking through his pacifier after discovering Santa Claus is a fake (as much as you would like to).

Some signals on the bank sound like a secret mixture of spark-gap, AM, FM, SSB, powered by two "D" cells and a Model of Coil

How do you tell a ham that his new \$50 speech processor sounds like someone dropping a handful of flat ball-bearings on a broken bass drum?

Some of the rigs on the air, at their best, sound like a duet with Tiny Tim and Andy Devine accompanied by the Salvation Army Band complete with tambourines.

To give a bad signal report is definitely not a way to make lasting friendships or a gold star in ham heaven

Have you ever told that Weeeaaak one that he's S2 and your buddy (?), next door, jumps in and says 20 over here

You immediately know, done went and dood it agin, made a friend for life

In amateur radio, signal reports are indeed very important. A fellow amateur's first opinion comes from the quality of your signal. It is of the utmost importance that all Midcars Service Comtrollers keep their signal as good as the state of the art

All signal reports should be given with diplomacy and the wisdom of King Solomon

At the end of this murky mess gleams a ray of light . . . the tape recorder. A good one (not a \$15.00 import that you bought at a garage sale for \$1.50)

Record his signal and let him decide for himself (off the service of course)

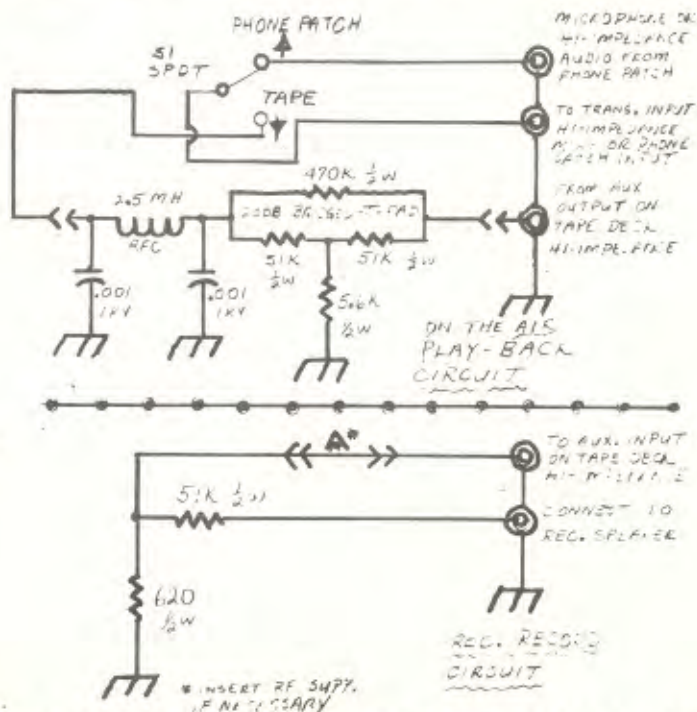
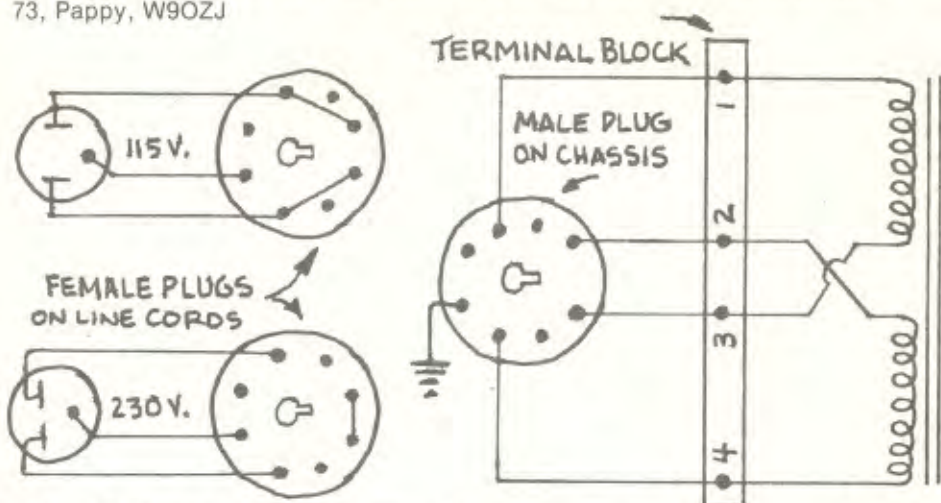
Attached are pads used at this station and provide a true and accurate reproduction . . . don't place a 50 cent mike to the speaker (next to the KW blower) and hold the rig mike next to the tape deck . . . This sure enhances the high frequencies and accents the background noise both in the shack and on the air. These pads were designed for the Heath SB station and a Radio Shack TR-88 recorder, but should work well with all types of stations.

DECEMBER CHRISTMAS RADIO WATCH WILL
BE SUPER PICTURE ISSUE. EXPECT TO RUN
4 OR 5 PAGES OF PHOTOS OF MEMBERS...
SEND YOURS IN NOW, DEADLINE NOV. 20TH
HURRY!

For SB-200 or SB-220 owners who wish to run their linears either on 115 or 230 volts.

Refer to drawing. Remove line cord and all jumpers from terminal block. Enlarge line cord hole in chassis accommodate an octal male plug. Connect terminals to plug as shown. On the end of the removed line cord install an octal female plug and wire as shown. Make up a 230 volt line cord in the same manner and wire as in diagram. This makes your linear quite universal.

73, Pappy, W9OZJ



Ed. Note:

IF ABOVE ILLUSTRATION IS NOT PRINTED CLEARLY CONTACT GLEN, K9MKM FOR SCHEMATIC.

8 THE RICH GET RICHER

Remember last month's picture of Paul, WA8ASQ's, elaborate shack loaded with goodies. Well now I know how he acquired all that equipment.

He attends Swap & Shops and Hamfests and comes up with the winning prize ticket.

Congratulations Paul on your recent acquisition of a Genave GTX-10 2M Transceiver.

A PRAYER FOR OLDER PEOPLE

Dear Lord, help me to remain silent so that I do not miss a single word of wisdom uttered by my children or grandchildren, who, through some mysterious process, have learned everything there is to know.

And please, dear Lord, grant me the strength of character to rise above hurt feelings, when, for weeks - or months - I do not receive so much as a telephone call or a postcard, for this is called "self pity." After all, I must remember my children are busy with church, business, bridge, golf, bowling, clubs and pressing demands of daily living.

Help me, dear Lord, to bite my tongue when I am reminded of an interesting experience of my younger years, lest I be accused of living in the past. And, Lord, please rescue me from the temptation to relate such an experience for if someone has heard me tell it before, I will surely be considered well on the road to senility.

Give me patience and tolerance, Lord, when my grandchildren come to visit. Strike me deaf so I will not hear the crashing of my china ash trays, or the banging of my English silver on the tile floor. Strike me blind so I will not see the little darlings carving their initials on my mahogany coffee table. I must remember that things are different today. Children must be allowed to express themselves, so their personalities will not be warped.

Dear Lord, release me from the craving to give advice to a loved-one, when I see him or her heading toward disaster. Give me courage and self-discipline to close my eyes, my ears and my mouth, lest I be guilty of interfering. I should, however, keep my funds available to my sons in case of financial difficulties; and my home open to my daughters (and their children) if their marriages do not go well and they should need a place to "think things over."

Keep me, dear Lord, in good health, for I never know when I may receive word by telephone or telegram that I am urgently needed to stay with the grandchildren while their parents are off for a holiday; or the young wife is in the hospital, having another baby.

And, dear Lord, please keep me solid and solvent, so that if I should need housing or nursing care toward the end, I will be able to maintain my independence and not have to ask my children to take care of me. For, dear Lord, it is a well know fact that a mother can somehow manage to take care of five children;but five children can not take care of one mother.

(Thanks to Bud, W9CCB, who submitted the above. Editor.)

Over the past three years, as I have monitored 7258, it seemed that the most unneeded call that was heard is: "Is MIDCARS in operation".

Now all the operator needed was a receiver tuned near the frequency of 7258, and if there was heterodynes, foreign broadcast, and other weird noises at high signal levels, the operator would know that MIDCARS was in operation.

Much of this interference is intentional, and a lot of effort has been made to reduce it. Just how effective has MIDCARS members protests to the ARRL and the FCC been? To answer this in part, here is my experience at last spring's Dayton Hamvention.

Near the end of the ARRL Forum, old bashful me stood up and asked why was such obvious, deliberate, and malicious interference to established contact allowed to go on unchecked, seemingly, and what was being done about it?

Mr. Booth, W3PS, ARRL counselor, and Mr. Huntoon, W1RW, "QST" editor both got up, and for the next ten minutes or more, they lectured on the problems of identity, priority, and the ability of the FCC to enforce their own Rules and Regulations. They were very well informed about the problem. Things which I had never considered, to be sure.

After the program, as I was leaving the room, a man asked me if I was an official of MIDCARS, which I assured him I was not. He then introduced himself as attached to the Michigan monitoring station (I thought, "Oh boy, now I've had it, they're going after me because I've complained". Hi) and he wanted me to know that they also were very aware of the problem, and also, that some days, telephone calls from MIDCARS members came so fast that the staff could not complete their normal duties.

So, let's stay with it, the powers that be know what's going on, and sooner or later they will be able to cope with it.

73, Ray - WA9ABI/WB9FEK

DEAR BOB,

I just thought I would write and tell a little about myself.

First of all, I have brown hair and eyes and I am twenty one years of age. I obtained my novice license in 1966 and I got my general class license in 1967.

I enjoy working with Midcars, and I have been with the Service ever since it began.

I like to rag chew, but not with large groups.

Although I like to keep in touch with old friends, I like to constantly make new ones. I like working with c.w. very much.

I do a limited amount of traffic work, but I do not make it a habit to check into the state traffic nets day after day.

I like swapping and trading equipment and I also like to learn about antennas. I have always been fascinated with all types of antennas and what they will or will not do under specified conditions. I've done some phone patching in the past, but I do not do it anymore as I sold my patch at the Dayton Hamvention due to the fact that I practically never used it.

I do not do any homebrewing, but I buy everything I want already assembled with the exception of antennas.

I am sorry that I do not have a picture of myself to send along at the moment, but when I get one I will send it along.

However, I am enclosing a QSL card.

Best of 73 for now. Charles, WA8YRU

WA4BKB - Enclosed dues for my son in the Navy, WB4PSP - What a terrific job you gentlemen are doing! More power to you.

K8HFP - Am a newcomer to Midcars - An excellent Service. Keep up the very fine work.

WA9REW - Keep up the good work.

WA9ABI - I don't use the Service very much, but I listen a lot, and consider myself a staunch supporter of Midcars. HI.

The above are from the September Mail Bag. Thanks to everyone for the decal orders, especially the Angels!

73, Jim, W9GET/8

HOW DO YOU EARN YOUR BREAD?

Send a note or your QSL card with your occupation and year first licensed to Glen, K9MKM.

Glen will tabulate the data and in a future issue of the Watch, we'll list the different occupations, etc., of our members.

TEN ELECTRO-COMMANDMENTS

- I. Beware the lightning that lurketh in an undischarged capacitor, lest it cause thee to bounce upon they buttocks in a most unseemly manner.
- II. Cause thou the switch that supplieth large quantities of juice to be opened and thusly tagged that thy days may be long in this earthly vale of tears.
- III. Prove to thyself that all circuits that radiateth and upon which thou worketh are grounded and thusly tagged lest they lift thee to RF potential and causeth thee to make like a radiator too.
- IV. Tarry thou not amongst fools who engage in intentional shocks, for they are surely non-believers and are not long for this world.
- V. Take care thou useth the proper caution when thou taketh the measure of a high voltage circuit so that thou dost not incinerate both thee and thy test meter.
- VI. Take care thou tampereth not with interlocks and safety devices, for this incurreth the wrath of the powers that be and bringeth their fury upon thy head.
- VII. Work thee not on energized equipment for, if thou dost so, thy acquaintances will surely be buying beers for they widow and consoling her in certain ways not generally acceptable to thee.
- VIII. Verily, verily, I say unto thee: never service equipment alone, for electrical cooking is sometimes a slothful process and thou might sizzle in thine own fat upon a hot circuit for hours on end before thy Maker sees fit to end they misery and drag thee into his fold.
- IX. Trifle not with radioactive tubes and substance lest thou commence to glow in the dark like unto a lightning bug, and thy wife be frustrated and have no further use for thee, except for they wages.
- X. Commit to memory all the words of the prophets which are written in the safety manuals and which giveth out the straight dope.

(Editor's Note: We don't know to whom we are indebted for the above, because the copy got separated from its envelope. Whoever you are thanks very much; we like it!)

...from the shack

of K8IKT



EDITORIAL

Many words have been spoken and written about handling the job of Service Control. If you haven't seen a copy of the Operations Manual, published earlier this year, ask Jim, W9GET/8 and he'll send you one. It's packed with good tips and information.

Much of ham radio is highly technical in nature. Assuming you have a fairly good signal, running the Service becomes an art. It takes a different type of skill than getting that signal out of your antenna.

Over the year, I've observed many different Service Controllers and I think we've got as skillful a group of hams as there are on the bands.

It's interesting to see the newer members get up the courage to take the Service and over a short period of time become skilled, more confident and unflappable SC's.

At times the job can be demanding and frustrating. You may find a pile up of check-ins, each wanting to rag-chew; other times the Service loafs along. Band conditions can be excellent or plain lousey.

The SC has to evaluate all conditions and act accordingly. Sometimes a note of humor is what's needed to keep things rolling. John, WB4VIK was heard to say - under a particularly busy time, "OK everyone relax and take an Alka-Seltzer and we'll get you taken care of."

Any member with the desire to run the Service should take a crack at it. The SC is King!



DOES YOUR CALL APPEAR HERE?

W4AFD
W4CLR

W3DKW
WB4MMJ

WB4UIW
WA5IMO

WA8AWJ
W8KUK

WB9DKS
W9CL

You're the big winners this month. Send the editor anything you wish about yourself.

Article, picture, QSL - anything I can publish about you.

This, of course, does not mean that other members can't submit an article or picture. Everyone is encouraged to send material for the Watch.

73, Bob, K8IKT

MIDWEST AMATEUR
RADIO SERVICE
7258 & 3903 kHz

The All Day,
Every Day Service...
Where The Action Is!



Jim Moore, W9GET/8
Sec/Treas
7015 White Rd.
Muskegon, Mich.
49442



FIRST CLASS

WA9VLK
VERN WEISS
719 W WATER ST
KANKAKEE

DEC
IL 60901