

FLASH



MAD RIVER RADIO CLUB

VOLUME XI NO. 4

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EDITORS: KEN-WD9INF and TED-K8AQM

The October meeting at WD8LLD's QTH ran up against some formidable competition, an absolutely beautiful fall day. Nevertheless, those who attended had a good time seeing Goose's station, though a less good time (for the Brown's fans) watching the football team stink up the place against the Steelers. The most interesting feature of the LLD station is the 120 foot insulated base tower, which had started its useful life in (almost literally) K8AQM's back yard at an Adrian broadcast station.

A special visitor at the meeting was Bear, JA7RHJ, who is nearing the end of a six month stint at Proctor & Gamble headquarters in Cincinnati. Bear (who was the op at PJ7A in CQWW SSB) brought videos of the big JA7 contest stations, including JA7FWR, JH7DNO, and JH7WKQ. My most interesting observation was that nearly all towers in JA were self supporting; there's not enough land for guy wires! Also interesting were very large tribanders - I think one had about 10 elements on a 40 foot boom.

Goose says he's planning to make this an annual stop on the MRRC meeting tour. See you all there next year.

THE MAD RIVER RADIO CLUB

PRESIDENT: Jim Stahl - K8MR
30499 Jackson Rd.
Chagrin Falls, OH 44022

TREASURER: Goose Steingass - WD8LLD
1690 N. Honeytown Road
Wooster, Ohio 44691

***** MONDAY NIGHT NET - 3.825 MHz at 0030Z (8:30 local) *****

From The Fish

Its halftime of the fall contest season, and we've had a pretty good first half. CQWW SSB was not quite up to last year's exceptional standards, but by almost any other comparison it was great. Country totals on 10, 15, and 20 were up although QSOs on 15 and 20 were down. But one can't complain too much when the m/m's are working 150+ countries on 10 meters.

CW SS seemed to be a good weekend as well. The domestic short skip on the high bands gave us a taste of what Texas must be like all the time - like running the east coast on 20 meters at the start. Nothing wrong here that 500 fresh stations on Sunday morning wouldn't cure.

Good luck in the rest of the contests in late November and December. Remember the annual K8MR Christmas/New Year's Party and MRRC meeting on Saturday evening, January 6. Same scoop as in past years. There will be a map in the next issue of the Flash. Get the date on the calendar before your wife claims it for something boring. See you there.

DVK MODIFICATIONS de Drew, K3PA

Reprinted from the FRC NEWSLETTER, April, 1989

[Ed. --Both WD9INF and myself have DVKs and although I can't speak for Ken, my DVK has had some rf problems. This may be just the cure and is offered here just incase you may run across this problem too. K8AQM]

After trying the usual grounding and shielding, I could not eliminate RFI in my DVK. I was able to eliminate the problem by rolling off the response below RF in the audio input and output op amps. To make this change: locate U18(a LF347) on the DVK circuit board. Find R20(47K) and R35(47K unless gain of unit was changed). Bypass both these resistors with a 47 to 100 pf mica or ceramic capacitor. This should improve RFI susceptability greatly.

I also had problems with the DVK and low output mikes. To set the DVK gain appropriately, look at U18(LF347) pin 7 on an oscilloscope. In your normal on the air voice, you should see 2Y peak-to-peak here on voice peaks. If the signal is too small, increase the value of R35 proportionally, and vice versa. When properly set, the back panel gain control should be at 9-11 o'clock for the correct output to the radio.

SCORES! ! !

CQ WW SSB

	K8CC	M/M		N8CXX	M/S		W8FN	M/S	
	28	11	17	6	3	5	4	3	3
	128	12	38	42	12	36	35	10	22
	224	27	78	83	20	56	120	22	67
	733	38	125	302	35	110	513	38	124
	885	36	124	378	35	120	241	34	107
	1442	34	153	1091	32	139	781	31	135
	<hr/>			<hr/>			<hr/>		
	3540	158	535	1902	137	466	1694	138	458
	6.6 Meg			3,291,777			2,842,920		

Ops: N8CXX, NE8T
N8BTU, K8JM, KA8MVV

Ops: W8FN, KU8E

	K8MR	S/O		W8CAR	383 / 73 / 162	S/O + Packet
	4	2	3	N8ATR	1200 / 120 / 350	S/O + Packet
	10	6	8	WD9INF	360 / 76 / 173	S/O + Packet
	62	16	43			
	262	34	106			
	332	32	100			
	655	32	116			
	<hr/>					
	1325	132	376			
	1,887,918					

CW SWEEPSTAKES

W8FN 844 / 76
 K8MR 733 / 75
 K8AQM 676 / 75 K8JM op
 W8CAR 505 / 70
 K8CC 151 / 49
 N8CXX 100 / 48

Imagine yourself (it won't be difficult if it has happened to you) having just made a serious effort in a major contest. You are pleased with your performance and anxiously await the published results. Several months later that magazine arrives and you quickly locate the results it contains. You look first at the leaders box which should contain your score, but it's not there! You go to the line scores and it is not there either. You frantically check the disqualifications, checklogs and the entire article but your entry is nowhere to be found.

Sure, you remember other substantial scores of other operators in the past which never made it to print, but that was because they failed to send them in. You, however, distinctly recall the events of preparing and sending in your entry. Yes, it was completed and mailed in!

The next day you phone the contest results author and he checks his records. "No, we don't have any record of receiving them. They must have gotten lost in the mail." Your heart drops with bitter disappointment. All of that preparation, operating, final compilation and work for naught.

Is this just a contester's nightmare? Well, the above scenario recently happened to Pat NZ4K who operated WB8JBM in the 1989 ARRL DX phone contest. His 20 meter single band score should have been #1 in the USA! It was over 430K with the next closest score at 236K. That may not seem like quite an accomplishment to many, but from out here in the Midwest those kinds of honors are difficult to come by.

I'm sure this is not the first occurrence of this sort of thing and others have experienced the same trauma in the past. If you have avoided this problem so far, that's good. But it may be wise to take a few precautionary steps to be sure that it doesn't ever happen to you. I know we will from now on.

The simplest and least expensive is the self-addressed stamped card that you may include with your entry. You may even have a place on the card for the person receiving the logs to sign. Be sure to put it on top and maybe use a non-white card so that it will be noticed immediately. The card will be sent back to you confirming the receipt of your logs. If you don't receive your card back in a week or two, better do some checking.

Another effective but slightly more expensive method is to make a quick phone call to the log collector some time after you have sent them in. There is something about hearing directly from the person in charge that he has your logs in hand. In either of the above methods, send your logs in "First Class". The rate for a typical sized entry is about the same as third class anyway.

Some have sent their logs in by registered mail. This is a little more expensive, but it seems to assure the logs reach their destination on the first try.

Having the high-claimed scores published early is also beneficial. If your score isn't in there and it should have been, it allows time to get it straightened out. This also addresses any improper categorization of logs received.

I hope this information has been beneficial and will prevent someone else from going through the same disappointment in the future.

Visalia Busted Call Competition

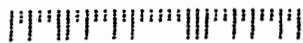
The September/October NCJ included an article by OH2BH concerning busted calls and a test given at Visalia last April. Here is that test. Complete the callsign, or note if it is a valid call as written, or if it's not a possible call.

BUSTED CALL CONTEST By Team Finlandia

Visalia, California
April 23, 1988

1	ZL3G__	26	VK6H__
2	J6D__	27	WB4BB__
3	G3M__J	28	5H3B__
4	__UIUN	29	UB3__WA
5	WOA__H	30	UP7__
6	W3__PL	31	K2QA__
7	RU1D__	32	HB9__MO
8	DA1W__	33	4X4__J
9	EA3V__	34	N3JT/_ __ _
10	HZ1__Z	35	KL7R__
11	JA2YK__	36	VP__W
12	JA3YK__	37	TK5VN__
13	J6LAD/_ __	38	RL8PY__
14	F6EX	39	XE2__X
15	LA1__	40	Y35__
16	W8A__	41	UZ9__YA
17	W8ZF/_	42	VE7S__
18	OK7A__	43	U5WF
19	5B4T__	44	VE2A__S/W6
20	JH1DT__	45	ZS6BC__
21	UR1R__X	46	ZS6BS__
22	SM5G__G	47	K4__X
23	SM2__KM	48	NR5__
24	LZ2KZ	49	LX9B__
25	OHO__H	50	WN4KN

Your Callsign: _____



44022
CHAGRIN FALLS, OH
30499 JACKSON RD.
JIM STAHL
K8MR P 2



KEN ROGNER - WDJNF
2520 CENTENNIAL ROAD
TOLEDO, OHIO 43617

Answers

- | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 1. ZL3GQ | 18. OK7AA | 35. KL7RA |
| 2. J6DX | 19. 5B4TI | 36. VP5W |
| 3. G3MXJ | 20. JH1DTC | 37. OK |
| 4. 4U1UN | 21. UR1RWX | 38. RL8PYL |
| 5. W0AIH | 22. SM5GMG | 39. XE2MX |
| 6. W3LPL | 23. SM2EKM | 40. Y35K |
| 7. RU1DZ | 24. OK | 41. UZ9AYA |
| 8. DA1WA | 25. OH0BH | 42. VE7SV or SZ |
| 9. EA3VY | 26. VK6HD | 43. OK |
| 10. HZ1HZ | 27. WB4BBH | 44. VE2AQS/W6 |
| 11. JA2YKA | 28. 5H3BH | 45. ZS6BCR |
| 12. JA3YKC | 29. UB3IWA | 46. ZS6BSZ |
| 13. J6LAD/9Y | 30. UP7A | 47. K4VX |
| 14. NG | 31. K2QAR | 48. NR5M |
| 15. LA1H,K,or T | 32. HB9AMO | 49. LX9BV |
| 16. W8AH | 33. 4X4NJ | 50. NG |
| 17. W8ZF/4 | 34. N3JT/HK0 | |

OK= OK as such NG = Not possible

Best Known Calls

1. W8AH,4U1UN, HZ1HZ (0)
2. W0AIH, W3LPL,OH0BH (1)
3. NR5M, UP7A (2)
4. HB9AMO,XE2MX, ZL3GQ (3)

Least Known Calls.

1. WB4BBH, Y35K (24)
2. RU1DZ, ZS6BCR (22)
3. LX9BV (21)
4. ZS6BSZ (20)
5. JH1DTC, W8ZF/4 (19)
6. UB3IWA (18)
7. LZ2KZ,K2QAR (15)