

The Antique Wireless Association

Member Profiles

75 Meter Net (3867)



Edited and printed by Doug Crompton, WA3DSP

Contributions by AWA net members

2003 AWA, Doug Crompton, Richboro, PA



**Cover Photo - The gang at Peddlers Village, Hart Tavern, Lahaska, PA - April 25, 2002
(L-R) W2OBJ, K3BLC, K3OLV, W2DGB, W3NE, W3VVS, K2TAE**

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Luncheon get-together at Peddlers Village, Hart Tavern

Lahaska, PA - April 25, 2002

W2OBJ, K3BLC, K3OLV, W2DGB, W3NE, W3VVS, K2TAE, WA3DSP

Brief History of the AWA M-W-F SSB Net

By Paul Bohlander, W3VVS

In the beginning there was no formal net. Early members of AWA in the Rochester area would meet on 3897 KHz Sunday noon and on 3902 KHz Tuesday evening at 8:00 PM. As time went on, 3903 KHz was chosen for Sunday noon and 3865 KHz for Tuesday evening at 8:00 PM. Several years passed and the Sunday noon frequency remained on 3903 KHz and the Tuesday night frequency became 3866 KHz.

Throughout the early years no one assumed net control and round table QSO's included such early AWA members as Bruce Kelley W2ICE, Lincoln Cundall W2LC, Ken Gardner W2BGN, Charles Brelsford K2WW, and Robert Morris W2LV.

In June of 1976 a more-or-less formal net was established to meet on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday (hereafter referred to as the MWF net) at 9:30 AM on 3866 KHz. Bruce Kelley W2ICE acted as net control, although others mentioned above would occasionally take over the net. In September of 1979 the Sunday noon net also moved to 3866 KHz.

Net operating frequencies were periodically changed from time to time and finally in June 1985, 3867 KHz was chosen as the frequency for the MWF net at 9:30 AM as well as for Sunday 5:00 PM and Tuesday 8:00 PM operations. In June 1986, 3837 KHz became the Tuesday 8:00 PM frequency and since 1986, 3867 KHz and 3837 KHz have been the frequencies published in the OTB for the MWF 9:30 AM net and the Tuesday 8:00 PM net.

Net control stations active throughout the 1970's and 1980's were Bruce Kelley W2ICE (at home) or W2AN (at the museum) while Mike Feher N4FS handled the Sunday noon and Tuesday 8:00 PM nets.

In March of 1993, Bruce Kelley turned over the MWF 9:30 AM net to Millard "Hoagy" Hoagland W2SHN of Dryden NY. "Hoagy" faithfully presided over the MWF net until December 2000 when he passed the net control responsibility over to Albert Roehm W2OBJ of Cranford NJ.

In February 2000 the Tuesday 8:00 PM net control was taken over by Norman Erway WB2SYQ

Note that there are other active AWA frequencies published in the OTB.



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ALBERT ROEM

W2OBJ

XYL. Estelle, WA2PBD



June 22, 2001

Hi AWA Op 's,

I'm also enclosing a small picture of "ye ole NCS, circa 2001". The shack was (and is) always undergoing changes in gear since I do a lot of experimenting, building and remodeling. Currently, the equipment in use consists of the following: Kenwood TS--530, TS--830 and TS--711A (VHF All--Mode), Index Labs QRP Plus with a 50--Watt homebrew amp, Alinco DX--77 (XYL's rig), Drake TR--7A and a vintage setup using a Hallicrafters HT--37 Xmtr/Drake 2--B Rcvr. Of all the gear I've had over the years, I honestly think the Index Labs QRP rig sounds the best on CW. The antenna is a simple center--fed wire about 170--feet long and up about 25--feet.

Our immediate family consists of two daughters, two cats and a dog. We have six grandchildren (three boys and three girls) ranging in age from 10 to 26 years old. The older daughter and grand--daughter are licensed teachers. So am I. Although my formal training was in Civil Engineering (stress analysis of hot piping, pressure vessel and structural design, etc.) I also spent many years developing electronic instrumentation and training programs at Exxon's Bayway oil refinery. After 37 1/2 years with Exxon, an early retirement opportunity allowed me to teach math and electronic courses at local colleges.

During all those years I also wore many other hats, some too numerous to mention. However, several decades of time were devoted to Scouting, Sunday School Superintendent, and as a part-time professional musician (Clarinet and Sax). I got interested in ham radio before WWII when I joined the Boy Scouts. I'm now 73 years old, hold Extra--Class and Commercial Licenses, serve as a VE and still enjoy CW.

73, and CU on the nets, Al

AL ROEM, W2OBJ



Here's a 54 year old picture of W2OBJ. This shack was in my bedroom on the second floor of a two family house in Linden, NJ. The calendar shows the date to be May 1947. As I recall, the headphones are surplus HS-33. Shown on the right hand end of the desk is a BC-342-N with my father's old RCA loudspeaker on the top. In the center is an S-38 receiver with a code practice oscillator, clock and 10 meter converter on its' top. The microphone is a surplus T-17B. In front of the S-38 (and partially hidden) is a J-38 straight key and logbook. To the left of the S-38 is a borrowed homebrew transmitter for 160, 80 and 40 meters. Above that is a transmitter I assembled from a kit. I can't remember the model number but it might be a Stancor 10-P or 20-P or something like that. It probably used one or two 6L6's in the final. You can also see a small desk lamp and an assortment of plug-in coils and crystals for the transmitters. I still have the clock and it still works. It was a gift from Estelle before we were married. By the way, we were married in October 1949, so it will be 52years this fall.

I don't remember much about the antenna set-up. However, I do recall it was a dipole stapled under the eave along one side of the house (probably 40 meters since that was my favorite band then). Behind me (not shown) is a surplus Collins ART-13, which I was building power supplies for. I also had an SCR-522 for 2meters around that time. All that radio stuff is long gone. Well, those were the good old days, for sure, hi.

Donald A. King W1YCW



I was born on November 11, 1913. My mother was Ruth C. Clark, born May 29, 1886, a Registered Nurse and my father was Charles P. King, born May 13, 1881, a farmer. I went to a one-room school through the seventh grade and then went to the Center School in Sutton, MA for the eight grade through the end of high school. I graduated in 1931 at the height of the depression. We were not poor. We just didn't have any money. We had plenty of work at home.

The first time I heard radio was the 1925 World Series, Pittsburgh vs. Washington. I don't remember who won. My first radio was a 1926 Crosley 51. The best DX were stations KNX and KFI. I was allowed to stay up on Friday and Saturday nights to listen. We didn't have electric lights; so there was little or no man made noise.

In 1929 we moved to where I now live in Manchaug, MA, an 1826 mill village. Having a place of my own to collect old radios and tools, I started to build my own radios. In 1930 I built my first shortwave radio, a regenerative detector with one step audio. My best DX was G5SW. I continued building sets until 1937. I joined the ARRL in 1932.

In 1935 I became interested in auto racing. By 1937 I built a dirt-track car and raced on the fairgrounds in the northeast. Racing took up my life until WWII started.

I enlisted in the Army Air Corps, later the Army Air Force, on December 23, 1941. After basic training at Jefferson Barracks, MO, I was sent to Roosevelt Aviation School to be trained as an aircraft mechanic.

After my training I was sent to Elmendorf Air Base near Anchorage AK, where I was assigned to the 42nd Troop Carrier Squadron. I was put on flying status as a flying mechanic on a C53. C53's were modified DC-3's that were used by the airline industry. The seats and galleys were removed and wooden seats were installed along each side of the cabin. A radio operator's location was put on the right side where the galley had previously been. I spent 19 months flying over Alaska and the Aleutian Islands, surviving one bad crash. We went down in a snowstorm and were picked up five days later. I suffered no injuries. Because there was no heat in the plane I was wearing heavy flying clothes, which protected me.

I returned to stateside duty in 1944 and married Elizabeth F. Kelly of Pawtucket, RI. We have one daughter, Marian C. King born on November 11, 1953 and one granddaughter Sarah E. King, born September 31, 1981.

My YL has been in a nursing home since September 1998.

I was recalled to duty as a flight engineer in September 1950. While I was stationed at Tyndall Air Force Base in Florida my interest in Amateur Radio was rekindled. I purchased a Hallicrafters S38B in the PX for \$42.50. My YL lived with me in town and more or less supported us by working in the Panama City Hospital (Good Girl!)

Back home in 1951 I bought a SX-24 for \$60, re-learned the code and was licensed on March 10, 1953. I went on 40 meter CW and my first contact was W2RIM in the next town. My first DX contact was DL4WC. I upgraded to Advanced on July 14, 1969. I have equipment to cover 160 through 2 meters but only operate on 75 and 160 meters.

The W1YCW Shack



Radio Equipment used:

- Crosley 51, 1926 until stripped for parts in 1933
- Homemade receivers, 1930-1937 when I lost interest
- Hallicrafters S38B, 1950 when I regained interest.
- Hallicrafters SX-24, 1951-1957
- Hammarlund HQ-110 1957-1989
- Yaesu FT101F 1989 to date, several mods, added filters
- Homemade transmitters 1953-1962
- Heathkit HX-20, 1962-1989
- TS700A multimode, 2 meters

Barry Keyes W1GSO



Barry was born in September 1930 in Brooklyn, NY. He attended college from 1948 to 1951 and then served in the Korean War from 1952 to 1953. His specialty was Combat Intelligence including Communication Reconnaissance. He returned to college from 1955 to 1957. In 1955 he was licensed K2VBO with a General ticket. He began 35 years in the Aerospace industry in 1957 with Grumman Aircraft on Long Island. After five employment changes with major companies throughout the US, he retired in 1992. In 1989 purchased 18 acres in West Virginia and started building a house in 1991, which is just now finished. Barry enjoys operating CW but admits his fist is somewhat rusty.



(top shelf) circa 1924 Freshman double adjustable crystal detector

(middle shelf) Navy CMI-2003A key – WWII vintage

(bottom shelf) 3A DC supply to power remote SG230 antenna coupler

Antennas – 135 foot longwire, 4BTV vertical

Fred Schlagenhaft, K2HCT

During high school I did radio repair part-time. I received my amateur radio license in 1954 and graduated that year. I setup a shop at home and repaired home and auto radios, high-fidelity equipment, and installed and repaired PA systems. I also repaired talking book machines for the blind.

After 25 years with Western Electric as a telephone equipment repairman, I retired in 1985.

My two favorite hobbies are antique radio repair and restoration and antique auto collection. I am a member of the Antique Auto Club of America and collect brass era automobiles.

W2IXH

Bill Plimpton

William N. Plimpton Born Oct 5, 1919 in Baltimore Md. Mother Hilda E. Plimpton, Father Charles H. Plimpton. Went to 5 different schools. Graduated from High School at High Bridge, N.J. 6/38. First good job, Mason Helper, Laborer 1940. Wages 25¢ per hour. Moved to RD1, Martinsville, 1942. Got my first Ham Ticket, Sept. 14, 1940 -- W3IXH at High Bridge N.J. Got hired by American Airlines, October 5, 1942, sent to Boston, Mass to Eastern Radio Inst. Jumped the gun! Got the Q&A and studied it, got my 2nd Telegraph Ticket June 43. Put in 6 weeks Flight time at Chicago Municipal Airport as Flight Radio Operator on converted DC3's – C47's. This came to a screeching end; US Army Air Corps ended most commercial, civilian contracts. Got a 2nd phone ticket about 1943. Got my 1st Telegraph ticket 1944. In between somewhere I got my Class A Ham ticket.

Took a job with RCA Communications in 1946. Spent about 4 months at their New Brunswick, NJ Point-to-Point station. From there to Kahuka, HI. Next went to sea, on Liberty Ships for remainder of WW2 and up to 1946. As R/O in 1947 went to work for ESSO Shipping Co on Tankers as R/O On June 12, 1948 married Annice G. Hopkins, a pretty redhead, I met while at radio school in Boston From that union 6 children -- 4 girls' 2 boys. Now 11 grandchildren 2 great grandchildren. In 1951, left ESSO to work ashore. Numerous jobs and almost went Broke on low wages etc.

We moved to Paulinskill Lake, RD6 Newton 1963. Went back with Exxon as R/0 on tankers 1967 and stayed with them until I Retired on Oct. 1, 1981. Got Extra Class Ham ticket in New Orleans about 1970. All in all I have had a pretty eventful life, and got around to see a lot of different countries, etc. while going to sea.

Annie and I have been married 53 years. Been living here in Wellsboro, RD6 for 21 years. I now have 61 yrs in as an active Ham (less WW2 yrs). I have always enjoyed Ham Radio and have made a lot of friends through the Hobby. I enjoy the AWA net and membership.

73, Bill



K2LP

MARVIN (BUD) D. HALL Jr.



M.D. "Bud" Hall Jr. Born 8/02/21. Licensed W2LSX 1938. Cranford, NJ. High school '39. RCA institute '40, and Melville Aeronautical Institute, NY. Commercial telegraph and phone ticket 1941. Flight control communications American Airlines '41- '43. US Navy '43 -'46 radioman 2nd class set up communications station in Wakayama, Japan. Served aboard USS Cascade AD-16 and LST 681. Retired from Morris County College 1982. Moved to Cape Cod 1983.

K2IC

EARL KORF



**Earl in 1942 at age 38 in
WWII attached uniform
(Left) Earl's station in 1975**

I was born on July 27, 1904 in Elgin, OK at the living quarters of the railroad/ telegraph office on the second floor and the first sounds I probably heard were the clikety--clack of the Morse sounders just underneath My Dad was the station agent. These sounds have been with me almost my entire life. We later moved to south Texas, Alvin and Blessing.

At the age of 8, the Titanic sank and created my first interest wireless. I remember it well. Dad now compelled us, a brother, 2 sisters to learn the code.

In 1917 we moved to Vallejo CA to be near my brother Roy who was in Mare Island Navy hospital for most of the war. At the end of the war we moved to Napa. Five of us, all hams, started the first Napa amateur radio club with me as secretary: The fall of 1919 brought me my ticket, 6WX. First rig was a Ford spark coil and a galena crystal detector, later advancing to single tube receiver. It was a navy tube a VT something and a half KW rotary spark gap transmitter.

After several jobs at the glove and shirt factories, I started working as Western Union messenger and in 8 months had graduated and. worked relief at numerous stations, such as Napa, Sonoma. Santa.Rosa, San Mateo, and Monterey, etc. In a short time I was signed as permanent manager of the Ukiah office. At 18 I was the youngest manager in the SF bay area district.

Now by this time my older brother Roy was sailing the seven seas as wireless operator and told exciting stories of far a way places. It created a great desire to follow his foot--steps. So in August 1923, I quit my \$100 a month job at Western Union and signed on a small barkentine in SF bound for the South Seas. My job was a cabin boy; deck boy, and mess-boy with the grand monthly salary of \$30. Every one thought I was nuts. Anyway we sailed to Samoa and on way home, ran into a storm and we wrecked on a coral reef. The ship was lost but no loss of life.

I now had a touch of the sea life and was hooked.. But not as a cabin boy so after making two trips to Australia on the steamer Sonoma as ordinary seaman, I quit and went to radio school in SF and soon had my commercial license, radiotelegraph first class, third grade signed by Herbert Hoover, Secretary of Commerce. This was in March 1924. That summer I spent time in Alaska with Alaska Packers Assn, salmon fishing. Up and back on sailing ships. Then after 4 years of sailing the Pacific on many ships I decided to return to Alaska for the summer but the station in Naknek (KHT) decided to keep a radio operator there during the winter and I volunteered. So I spent the next 2 1/2 years at Naknek, returning to the states in Aug 1930. This was from May of 28 thru Aug 30. It was a great 2 1/2 years. Had ham license, K7ANS.

So in October 1930 I left the sea forever and joined the airlines (TWA) and spent 10 years as relief ground station radioman, working planes and our most efficient and speedy point-to-point circuits. Worked at every station coast to coast. In 1940 I finally decided to settle down and accepted very nice radio operator job at our most desired location, Burbank, CA.

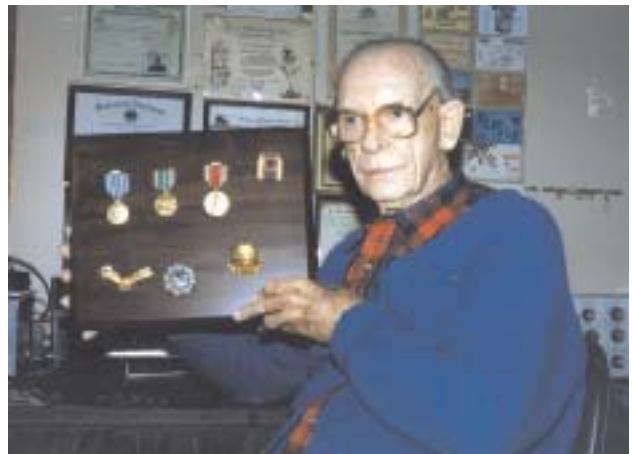
The war came on and I immediately signed up for TWA's military contract operation. Spent the first year of war, flying as flight radio operator on transport planes, then switched to a better job of Navigator. I have had many famous people flying on my flights. First trip was when we brought Jimmy Doolittle home from China to Washington, after his famous Tokyo bombing raid. Next we flew Eisenhower and Mark Clark to London in June 42. Also I was in Casa Blanca with the US group at the FDR, Churchill and Stalin conference. Passengers were FDR, Admiral King and their staffs. Other famous flights were , Madame Chang Kai--Shek when we flew her to USA and 6 months later took her home. These were Scary flights past the Japanese lines and as a result we were honored in Chungking with the Chinese Cloud and banner citations, presented by the General Lissmo with Gen Vinegar Joe Stilwell standing with us.

When the war ended, overseas contracts were issued to TWA and we started our overseas base in Cairo Egypt. I was assigned the Chief navigators job, which I held for the 10-year stay. Owned my own Piper J3 Cub. Those 10 years were great for Americans. Nice living, good money exchange rates and country club atmosphere living, with servants available cheap. But it ended in a hurry in 1956 when the Suez was taken over by Abdul Nasser and the resultant 3-nation attack on Egypt. The Americans were evacuated in a hurry to Alexandria where the US Navy transported us to safety to Italy. The base never re-opened and I spent rest of my TWA flying days based in Idlewild NY with my family.



Earl, 1997, age 87

**VWOA banquet. Recipient of Marconi
Gold Medal of Achievement award.**



Earl in 1997 with war medals.

On Aug 1st, 1964, TWA furloughed all the navigators when the Doppler and INS (Inertial Navigation System) was officially approved by the FAA. I retired at this time as company rules made cockpit crews retirement mandatory at age 60. I could have remained with TWA in an office job, but at reduced salary, so I took the retirement. But I had 6 more years of flying with various non-scheduled airlines that were not bound by the 60-year age limit. These six years were free-lance flying plus a 2 year stint with CIA flying DC 7 's. In 1972 I was grounded forever when Seaboard installed INS, thus putting; navigators out for good.

I ended my 30 years of flying with 15,500 hours of flight time, 1,400,000 miles traveled and 815 ocean crossings, with not one serious accident.

When I retired, I applied for my ham license, which had expired when I went to war. K2IC was issued. The Merchant seamen were finally recognized for their war effort and they were voted all the Military rights. It took 50 years to get this recognition but it finally came and 2 years later we ATC flying boys received ours. I am very proud of my Air Force discharge papers together with the various military medals.

I live in Lincroft NJ with my wife of 48 years and one of my sons. I have another son in California who is a professor of Computer Science at UCLA. AWA is one of my favorite nets. Good luck and God bless you all.

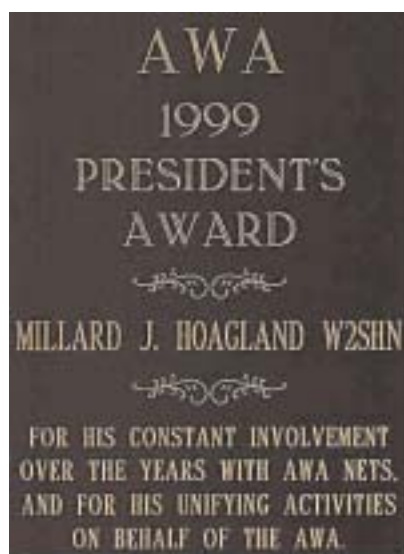


**Chief Radio Operator
Earl Korf in front of
Naknek Cannery radio
station (KHT) Alaska
summer of 1924**

W2SHN Millard Hoagland



I was born December 5, 1908 in New York State and lived in New York State all my life except for 4 years in Florida, which was 4 years too long! I moved to Dreyden in 1918. I became interested in radio when I heard KDKA shortly after they came on the air with the one tube radio I built. I graduated from High school in 1923. In 1925 I worked for GE in Schenectady and for 2 years assembled and tested Radiola 20's, 25's, and 104's. I went to work for NYSEG Oct 16, 1928 as a general troubleshooter. I retired December 31, 1971. Over the years I built several SSB excitors. I have three children living, six grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and two great-great-nephews. I have enjoyed ham radio since 1934 when I received my class B and class A in 1935. I especially enjoy the AWA nets. I was net control of the 3867 net for ten years.



K2TAE

Elwyn G. Erway



DOB Jan. 18, 1930 Bath, NY. Mother was Lizzie Bates Silliman Erway (1907) and Father was Lawrence C. Erway (1906). My mother was raised by the Silliman family after her true mother died at age 18 leaving 2 children. She was a school teacher and taught country schools until 1947 when she went to Hammondspport, NY to teach first grade and she taught the day she died in 1962. My dad was almost entirely self taught and spent the majority of his working life at Pleasant Valley Wine Company where he rose to superintendent. He died in Florida in 1969.

My education began in a country school where I stayed until 1941 when I started to attend Hammondspport Central School in the 7th grade, graduating in a huge class of 17 in 1947. I never attended a school where my mother taught. She went to Hammondspport the fall following my graduation.. Next schooling was at Utica, NY graduating 2 years later with a diploma in Mechanical Technology. My interest in electronics was stimulated there by the minister's son who dabbled in radio. Jobs weren't too plentiful so I did work at the winery for 1 1/2 years until Uncle Sam requested my services during the Korean War.

One of my hobbies, since abandoned, was roller slating and one Saturday evening in September of 1949 while skating I ran into (Literally) a young lady just learning to slate. She was most upset when I blundered into her and after almost a year and a half courtship we were married in January of 1951. We moved it up 3 weeks because of my being drafted. She stayed home while I served my 2 years in Southeast Alabama at Fort Rucker.

K2TAE

Elwyn G. Erway

Just prior to induction I started studying electronics by correspondence through DeForest's Institute and with some experience in radio I stayed in communications and out of the fighting in Korea.

I lucked out when Westinghouse built an electronic tube plant in Bath, NY near where we were married and it was natural to get a job there when I was discharged in 1953. I stayed there until 1965 when it was apparent that tubes were going out and the plant started to downsize. During this span our 3 children were born.

One of our tube engineers went to IBM and informed me a new plant was being built in Owego, NY and that they were hiring so as the story goes, "The Rest Is History". I had started to update my education in electronics by taking an engineering course, again by correspondence, on transistors and taking other classes available both in Westinghouse and IBM.

I worked in the military contract end of IBM's business from 1976 until retirement in 1990. This involved several off-site assignments at Naval Air Test Center, Patuxent, MD and a year and a half at Edwards AFB, CA. Even spent some time aboard ship in the Bahamas testing ASW warfare system by the use of helicopters. My specialty became the cabling systems used to hook all that gear together. No one wanted to do that mundane mechanical work but I enjoyed it..

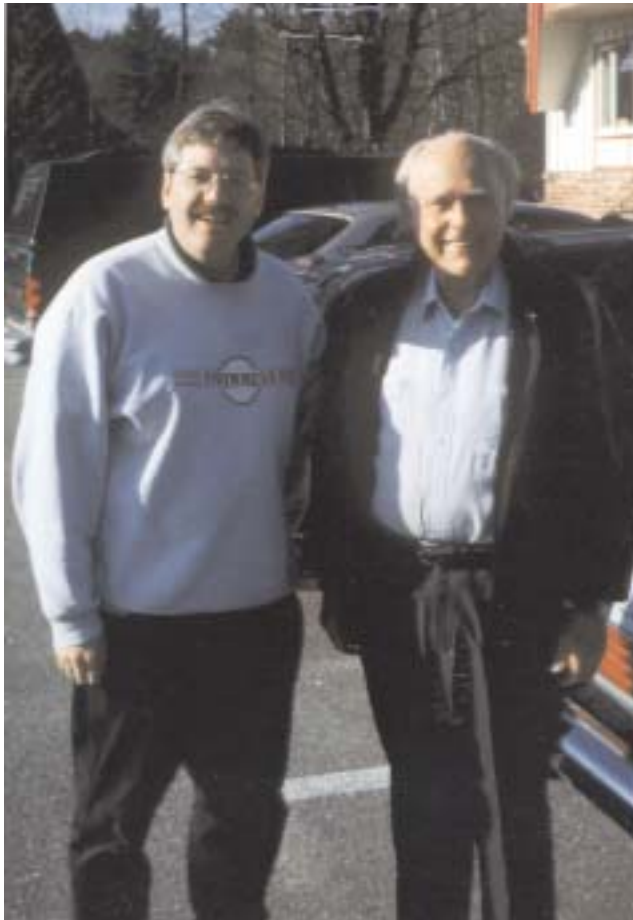
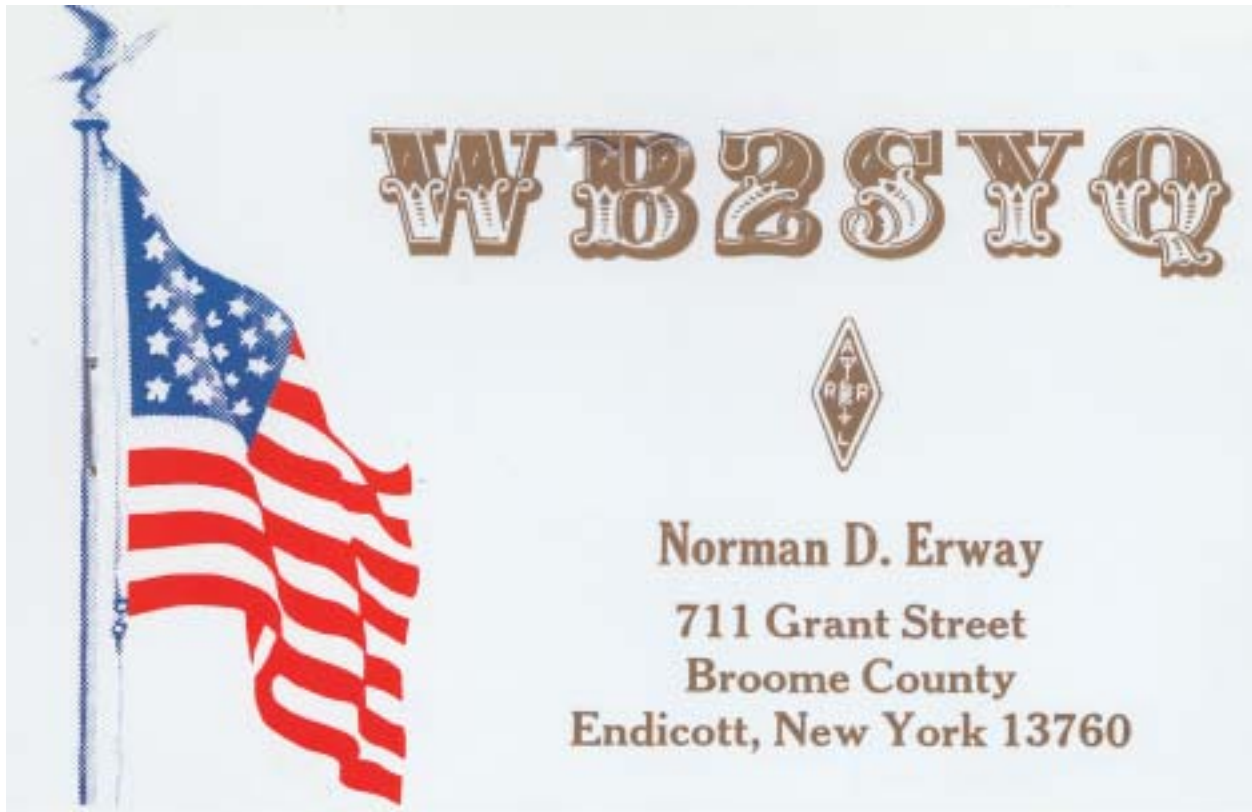
My hobbies are woodworking, gardening, bowling, fishing and woodcarving with some time also spent at leatherwork. Both Eleanor and I have spent literally years singing in church choirs and also in 2 choruses. She is the better musician and is also an artist and a pianist.

Family wise we have three grandchildren courtesy of our daughter, Elaine and the oldest grandson is now nearly 21 serving as a Mormon missionary in Greece finishing in May of 2002. The younger grandson just graduated from high school and plans to follow in his brothers footsteps. Our granddaughter is 11 and we will see what she will be doing. We have had to do a lot of traveling to keep up with them as our son--in--law was a Master Sergeant in the Air Force retiring at the end of February 2001. We even followed them to Turkey. They are moving to a place near Jackson, MS.

Our two sons are both divorced and Phillip, the elder, works as a maintenance technician to repair off track betting equipment all over Western NY. He has the call KB2VCL and is a no code tech. He lives in Leroy, NY. Our younger son, Norman, is more familiar to many of you as WBZSYQ and runs the AWA net on 3838 at 8 P.M. on Tuesdays. He's an extra as is his father. He lives in Endicott, NY about 8 miles from here. His working place is Lockheed Martin who bought out the plant where I was employed for IBM..

I first was licensed in 1956 as a general and updated on my 62nd birthday in 1992.. I am running about 800 watts from a Kenwood TS520 into an SB220 linear. I work only 75 and 2 phone but have antennas for 40, 15, 20 and 10. Some hams are envious of my 400 ft deep lot With room for lots of antenna farm along with several trees that I planted..

Thus it is for 71-1/2 years in a nutshell.



I was born on July 13, 1961 in Bath NY and was first licensed in November 1977 having passed my Technician Test at the Syracuse FCC office. I graduated and was hired by IBM as a technician in May of 1985 after having gotten married in March of 1985. In September of 1985 I bought my first Drake (TR-4cw w/RIT) at the the Elmira Hamfest. My wife left me in July 1989, I guess I should have slept with the DRAKE. I didn't do much with Ham radio until July 1994 when I went up to meet my Buddy WA2VCS Bob for the first time. I took my recently purchased Radio Shack HTX-202 up to show him, and the first time I laid eyes on him he was in his underwear. Funny how I never been quite the same since. I hit it off with him and his wife Barb and after stuffing our faces, he introduced me to some of the Binghamton Hams. My interest was rekindled and I finally put the TR4 on the air in August of 1994. I upgraded to Advanced in September 1994 and then to Extra in 1996. I have served as a VE since January 1997. In the fall of 1998 with some gentle coaxing from W20BJ I took over the Tuesday night 8:00 PM EST AWA net on 3837 LSB (plug plug). He got his though having taken over the M/W/F 9:30 AM AWA net.

WB2SYQ

Norman D. Erway

I still work at the former IBM Owego plant although it was sold to LORAL Corp. in March 1994 and then to Lockheed/Martin in 1996. It's easier than moving. I also frequent the Sunday 4:00 PM AM AWA net. On Saturday nights I usually get together with my local Ham Radio Buddies for food, fellowship, and flatulence (Pizza, Beer, Soda and you know). We always have fun playing with the radios and yelling about politics. Yes ham radio can be a fascinating and fattening hobby.



WILLIAM B. FIZETTE, W2DGB

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(570) 629--0637

Email: w2dgb@enter.net



Bill Fizette takes a moment from his organizational duties at the 1995 conference to chat with Gioia Marconi Braga, daughter of the inventor and featured banquet speaker.

Photo by Mrs. George Durfey.

In looking over the contents of the discovery envelope telling about the various members of the 75 M SSB net, I realized that the material I originally planned to submit told nothing of my current amateur radio activities. Thus this special write up.

While I have been a radio amateur for over 50 years, and am currently using the call that was originally assigned to me by the FCC when I was living in Albany, NY, I really can't lay any claim to being a superlative operator or even a great ham. It seems that there was never enough time, what with school, family, business, moving around, and what all. However, the interest in things radio is still there after some 60-plus years of fooling around with the bits and pieces, and I kept the interest alive during my wandering and student years by becoming a life member of ARRL and reading every bit of ham

radio literature that I could find. And I have, through this interest in amateur radio, become inducted into the AWA, and in due course met personally with some historically well-known and interesting people, such as John Reinartz, Clara Rieger, James Millen, and Marconi's daughter Gioia Marconi Braga, to name just a few. And of course, the rank and file of all the wonderful AWA members over the years, including the fascinating denizens of the various AWA amateur nets.

I get my jollies from working with the old gear. As many of you know, I try to research the articles that I write for the OTB by working on the equipment first. For example, the National NC-44 receiver, which will be discussed in the Feb. '02 OTB, went over my workbench before the article was written. For years I have been fascinated by the products of the National Company designed and manufactured during the 1930s under the leadership of Jim Millen, such as the HRO and the sliding coil receivers. I will continue to work with receivers. For the May issue, current plans are to describe my experiences with the first National AC-DC receivers, the NC-80 and -81 X. There is a long list of other receivers remaining to be worked on.

BILL FIZETTE, W2DGB

Other than that, transmitters are beginning to fascinate me all over again. On the bench right now, as most of you know from my on--the--air comments, is a resurrected--from--the garbage--pile, what was a rusty, beat up, and totally forlorn Heath DX-- 100. Hopefully this will be finished within the next few weeks, and if I get the inspiration, will be written up in either ER or the OTB. It might even work. Stay tuned.

Aside from that, also on the transmitter to--do list is a 1937 Utah UAT--I transmitter, a 1937 Utah Jr. transmitter, a replica late--20s REL Hartley using a 10 with Heising modulation, and a 200--watt 813 AM rig modulated with a pair of 811 s. Most of these will be built from scratch, using the parts that have accumulated.

There are three stations at this location, named by Bob Raide W2ZM as Studios A, B, and C. Studio A is the main one in the basement shop area, and is occupied by a rebuilt 75A4, a CE 100V, some SSB transceivers, and whatever AM rig I can get to work at the time. Right now, with both the Viking 1 and the Collins 32V3 on the sick list, I am using a Johnson Ranger. The Kenwood SSB transceiver that I acquired from K2HCT this past summer is currently doing yeoman service on the SSB nets, replacing my eight--dollar wonder, the rebuilt Heath HW--101. The antenna from Studio A is a 500--ft. horizontal loop fed with open wire, using a Heath air balun and a high--pass MFJ tuner. (Sorry, Al. The low--pass tuner is definitely on my construction list. One of these days.) But it does tune up on all bands!

Studio B is up in the "library" where I have my desk, computer, and reference books, and where my AWA activities are generated. Nothing but an Atlas 210X feeding a simple 75 meter dipole through another high--pass tuner. Various old receivers dot the corners of the room; included are a rack--mount HR05--RA 1, an NC--200, the NC--44, and a Sargent Model 8--34.

Studio C is in a corner of the outside workshop building, where I have this-and--that in the way of gear that seems to change. The antenna there is a vertical delta loop cut for 75 meters, fed with open wire and an air balun and a tuner that, again, seems to load it up nicely on all the low frequency bands

If I am lucky, I will live long enough to complete most of the projects on my list. But right now it is a heck of a lot of fun. I do know one thing ...ham radio and the AWA activities keep my interest in life cranking right along. I don't have time to be sick!

Henryville, PA December, 2001

W3BFH

Thomas S. Dix, Jr.



Radio Affiliations: Amateur Radio: W3BFH. September 26, 1930; Radiotelephone, First Class, April 29, 1937; Radiotelephone, First Class, Radar Endorsement, May 29, 1975; ARRL, QCWA, Life Member Radio Club Of America, Antique Wireless Association.

My working career started with a job at RCA in Camden, NJ in 1933. The job was building transmitters for use in Police Departments. As I remember they had a pair of type 45's in the output. Around 1936 we built transmitters for the U.S. Navy, Model TBL, TBK, and the phone version of the TBK. RCA closed that department in 1937, and I got a job at Bendix Radio in Baltimore, Maryland. That lasted about two years, and I decided to look into a job at Westinghouse Electric who had just moved to Baltimore from Chicopee Falls, Mass. I worked at Westinghouse all during WWII. In 1945, Westinghouse opened a new Division called Home Entertainment to build radios and television receivers in Sunbury, Pa. That was a fun job, designing television receivers. We had to build most of our test equipment, since the industry was so new nobody was making anything for it. The operation was moved to Metucen, NJ and I settled in Matawan, N.J. on a 2-acre lot with lots of room for antennas. Since this QTH was in the 2nd district I was assigned K2EGO. Around 1953 I got one of those job offers you can't refuse and moved to Air Associates in Orange, NJ as Chief Engineer. The job was fun, but the company decided to move to Florida; so I left and went to work for the Philco--Ford Corp. in Philadelphia, Pa. In 1960, moved to Sudbury, Mass. to work for Waters Mfg. Bob Waters, W1PRI wanted to get in to the Amateur radio business and we got started making phone-patch equipment and transistor grid- dip meters.

W3BFH

Thomas S. Dix, Jr.

I came back to the Pennsylvania area in 1962 and am still here. Since I was never in a different radio district for more than 5 years, the FCC still had my first call, so I was fortunate in getting my first call, W3BFH, back again.

As for ham radio; I built my own gear for a long time. In 1930, there wasn't much store--bought gear anyway, and being in high School I didn't j have any money anyway. In 1975 I acquired my first commercial ham radio, a TEMPO 1 transceiver. That lasted until 1985 when I bought a KENWOOD 430. Still have it, plus a YAESU 757GX that I use for CW. Also have amplifier with a 4--1000 in it. Antennas include a 14 Mhz extended Zepp, Two 14 Mhz 3 Wave Colinears and a 4 Mhz Extended Zepp. With Coaxial relays I can change antennas to suit the direction I want for DX. Test equipment includes the usual assortment of scopes, multi--meters, Frequency Counters, Signal Generators, tools, etc. I guess you could say CW is my favorite mode of operation; but I enjoy phone too. Have three Vibrotex type keys, plus one straight key for straight key mite. Hi.

73, Tom

It is with deep regret that we report the passing of Tom's wife, Sally on December 21, 2002. Tom subsequently had a heart attack and ended up in the hospital and he has been in and out of a rehabilitation center. A memorial service was held for his wife on Jan 11, 2003.



K3BLC

JOHN M. BETZER

Born June 27, 1927 in Silver Spring, PA located in Lancaster County. I am the oldest of four children having two brothers and one sister. I grew up with an interest in building play shacks and to learn about repairing radios. I built my own house in 1955 with the help of sub contractors and live in it with my wife of fifty plus years. We have three children, two girls and one boy. Our oldest daughter lives in Lancaster. The other two children live in the state of Washington.

I received my amateur radio license in 1957 and built my first 2 and 6 meter transmitters including the power supply. I assembled a low bander transmitter and other kits that I purchased from Heathkit. At present I have a Kenwood TR7950 2 meter FM transceiver and a Kenwood TS--430S low band transceiver.

HISTORY OF EMPLOYMENT

1983-1992 Maintenance Supervisor at Burnham Corp. Burnham manufactures hot water cast iron and steel boilers for commercial, industrial and domestic use. I was responsible for the maintenance of five buildings, production machinery and other equipment in all the buildings. Also had to install and put new equipment into operation.

1974-1983 Maintenance Supervisor for American Chain and Cable Company which built custom made hoists and cranes for Industrial use. I was responsible for maintenance of the building and equipment.

1962-1974 Schick Inc. Schick built personal care products, such as shavers, hair dryers and ladies' hair curlers While employed there I held three positions, Senior Electronics Technician, Manufacturing Engineer and Maintenance Supervisor.

1947-1962 I worked for Hamilton Watch Company as a Senior Electronics Technician in the Electronics Laboratory. We were responsible for all electronic equipment in the entire facility. I also spent a year as production supervisor in the pulse transformer section

K3BLC

JOHN M. BETZER



EDUCATION

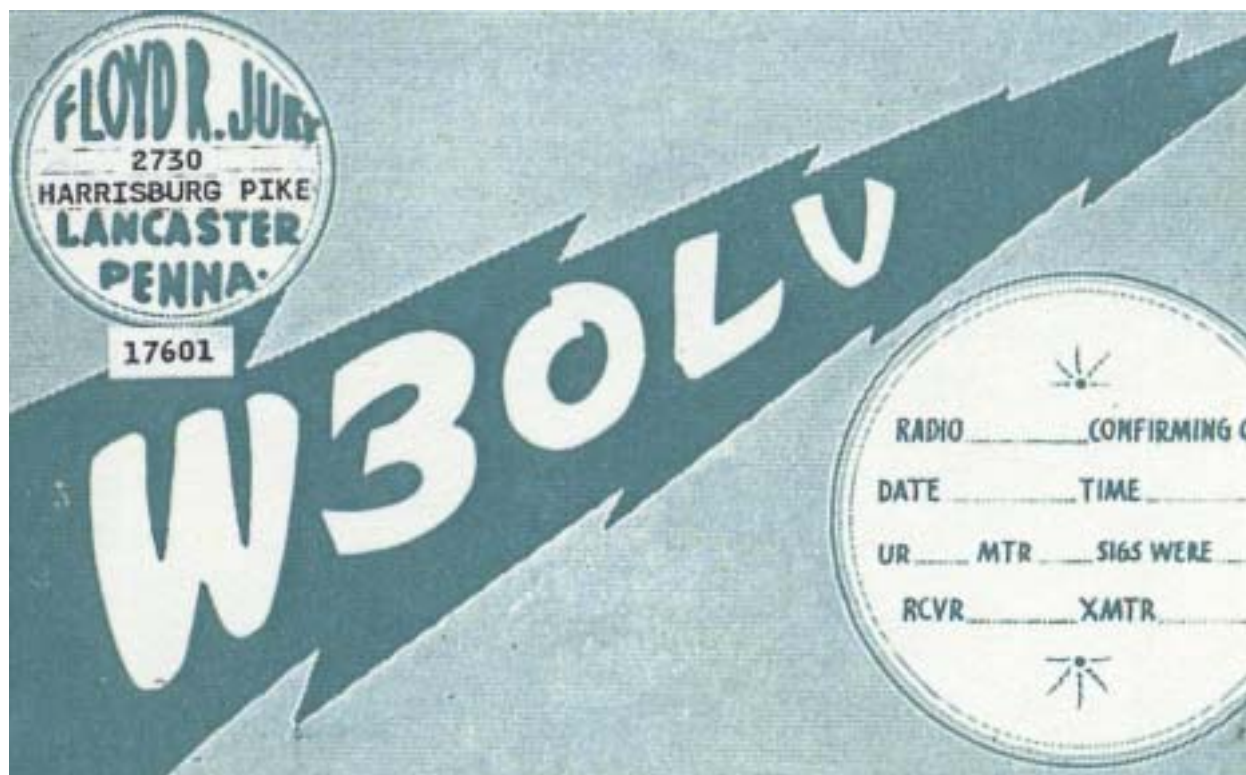
Graduated Hempfield High School in 1945. Spent nine years attending night school at Franklin and Marshall College and Penn State Extension taking engineering job related courses.

ORGANIZATIONS

Hempfield United Methodist Church , Silver Spring Volunteer Fire Company,. Industrial Management Club - York, PA, American Welding Society,. Society of Manufacturing Engineers, American Society for Metals, East Hempfield Exchange Club, Centerville AARP, and Lancaster Transmitting Society.

W3OLV

Floyd Jury



Floyd R. Jury born May 7, 1926 in Canton Ohio (twin brother Lloyd)

Moved to Lancaster, PA. When I was two years old.

First ham license May 5, 1948, W3OLV

My electronic tag started when I was drafted into the U.S. Army Air Corps in WWII .

Radio mechanic Truax Field Madison, WS.

Electronic school Chanute Field, IL.

Radar school Boca Raton Field, FL.

After the war...

Radio course from (N.R.I.) National Radio Institute under G. I. Bill.

Television course by John W. Wentworth on PBS TV on basic electronics, Reliance Industry Maintenance School Cleveland, Ohio.

Built many Heathkits, Schober theater organ, early 2-meter transmitters, and converted war surplus equipment. Replaced low-band heath equipment SB303, SB401 with Collins 32S-3, 75S-3B, Henry 2KD classic (table top) linear amplifier, Dentron ant. Monitor tuner. Active in early moon bounce work on 144, also amateur TV on 432.

W3OLV

Floyd Jury

Worked at Hamilton Watch Company before the war in jewel manufacturing department. After the war worked as electronic tech. In maintenance department repaired watch rate recorders, paging system etc. Later in the military section I repaired spin tables and electronics used for tag mechanical time fuses, and finally in the precision metals section I repaired sendzimir mills and all types of heat treating and vacuum furnaces and controls. Took early retirement May 1981, and my dear wife Erma passed away one year later, June 15, 1982.

Life member ARRL, Life member AWA, member MAARC. (Mid--Atlantic Antique Radio Club) and member TCA (Tube Collectors Association). My other hobbies include collecting early TV camera pick up tubes, early cathode ray tubes, early radar tubes. I also have a large collection of early oscillographs and oscilloscopes.



Bob Thomas, W3NE

216 Sunrise Lane, Philadelphia, PA 19118



I was born October 6, 1927, graduated from high school in 1945 and from Drexel Institute in 1950. In my last two years of high school I worked afternoons and summers at the manufacturing division of Herbach and Rademan, which could trace its roots as a radio store to the early 'thirties. I was a dogsbody (today I would be called an "Intern"). It was at H&R that I learned "what's what" in quality radio construction. Among other things, I wound coils for a multi--band Tx/Rx "spy" set built into a suitcase, tested TRF B/C shipboard receivers, built and tested portable Geiger counters, which were rather new then, and spent countless hours spraying MFP on military gear. After receiving my degree I worked as a design engineer for El--Tronics -- an H&R spin--off -- on CAA DME test gear and production test fixtures for service instruments that El--Tronics was manufacturing for RCA. The company was a financial disaster, however, so I left in 1951 for the RCA Broadcast Systems Division.

Activity in color television was in a frenzy then, and I was assigned to design new studio audio/video switchers, distribution systems, and laboratory test equipment. When that technology matured in 1959 I transferred to a new video tape recorder design team, over the years having responsibility for all signal systems in the RCA broadcast VTR product line. By 1982 RCA was living on borrowed time from years of mismanagement, so I took early retirement and joined the ABC Television Network in New York. It was a great job, evaluating new equipment for ABC News and Sports in the lab and on remotes at political conventions, golf tournaments, Indy 500 and the Olympics. My last few years centered on HDTV developments, and I retired as Director of Technology in 1992.

My interest in radio began with construction of a regen from an article in Popular Mechanics. I got a Class B ticket (W3QZO) in 1950 and the operated on 40 CW with a BC--45915--40, and on 2--meter AM with an SCR-- 522, which was eventually replaced by numerous homebrew VHF transmitters and converters. Around 1953 I joined a mobile radio club that operated on a 10M "intercom" frequency. That got me into building crystal--controlled transmitters and receivers for the car (see photos, over). When SSB was getting started I built a knockoff of the Central Electronics 20A to drive my Viking II as an 80/40M linear. I lost interest in SSB as soon as the exciter was finished and went on to other construction projects; I have to admit I prefer building to operating. After retirement my interest turned toward the vintage equipment I could not afford the first time around (photo above) but most of it is now gone in preparation for moving to a retirement apartment. Other hobbies have included photography, free flight and RC airplanes, letterpress printing, construction and operation of live steam locomotives, and the dreaded computer. Like most of us, what I really need now is time! 73

BOB THOMAS, W3NE



W3NE HOME BREW EQUIPMENT

TOP: 80/40M 1939 CW Transmitter, 6AG7/6L6, Internal P.S.

CENTER (L to R): 10M Mobile AM Tx/RX (2E26); 10M Tx (6146); 10M Dual B.W. Rx w/IF Shift

BOTTOM: 10M Solid State Walkie--Talkie (QST 4--61, pp.36--42); Central Electronics 20A "Knockoff"

W3VVS

H. Paul Bohlander



W3VVS (Ex W8VVS, W4LBP)
Born: Lakewood, Ohio August 30, 1919

Amateur Licenses: Class B 4/5/41, Class A 10/11/41, Advance 2/8/52, Extra2/11/86
Commercial Licenses: Radio Telephone First 7/15/41, Radio Telephone Second 9/10/41
Graduated Dodge Radio and Telegraph Institute 1941.
Transmitter engineer WMRN Marion, Ohio 1941-42.
Code and theory instructor 1503 Signal Corps Service Training Unit. 1942-1943
Philco Corp. field engineer 1943 contracted to Navy
Bureau of Aeronautics as radar instructor, flight operations, and ground maintenance.
Served with various Navy shore aeronautical activities and
with Marine Squadron VMSB-331 in the South Pacific. 1943-1950

Retired from Philco-Ford as Senior Technical writer in 1975.
Freelance writer for Multitech Corp., Jerrold Electronics, and General Instrument Corp. 1975-1981

W3VVS

H. Paul Bohlander



Paul poses in his basement “museum” featuring many of the National SW3’s he has restored.

WILLIAM E. DENK

W3IGU



William E. (Bill) Denk, W3IGU (ex. W9FPC)

Born August 21, 1910 in the state of North Dakota, I graduated from high school in 1928, and received my M.S.E.E. degree from the University of North Dakota in 1933. I did post-graduate work at M.I.T. in 1936/37, following which I was employed in the Patent Department of Philco Corporation, becoming a registered Patent Agent in 1946.

My interest in radio began in the 1920's with the growth of broadcasting. In my teens, I was selling radios in my Dad's drug store, and repairing there. I received my first ham radio license, W9FPC, in 1928. Following my retirement after 37 years with Philco Corporation (which was acquired by Ford Motor Company in 1961) I did patent consulting work for a number of years with a Philadelphia patent law firm.

Jane and William Denk

Christian on Pitcairn Island. My rig is a Kenwood TS--180--S with most DX contacts having been made on 15 and 20 meters. My beam is on a 56 foot TRISTAO mast.

My wife Jane and I were jointly Secretary/Treasurer of ARCA (Antique Radio Club of America), which was later absorbed by AWA (Antique Wireless Association), of which I am a Life Member. Until recently I was Book Review Editor of AWA's "Old Timers Bulletin" and Chairman of the Bruce Kelley Old Timers Bulletin Award. I am a 65-year+ member of QCWA and a Fellow of the Radio Club of America.

Jane and I have been married 54 years (after a three week courtship) and have two daughters.

Back to ham radio -- I have worked more than 260 foreign countries, including one with Fletcher

William E. Denk - W3IGU

AWA ANTIQUE
WIRELESS
ASSOCIATION



William Denk of Devon, President of the Antique Radio Club of America, operates an Atwater Kent “breadboard” radio. Horn-shaped object at right is the speaker.



Denk tunes in on a 1917 U.S. Army crystal set; he says antique-radio collectors are often engineers.

Photos from a very old and yellowed Sunday January 16, 1977

Philadelphia Inquirer article, Antiques section 10-F

“Collectors aren’t quite tuned in yet to antique radios”

WA3DSP

DOUG

CROMPTON



After reading and editing all of the input for the AWA net booklet, I consider myself at a distinct advantage in writing my own bio. So here goes. I hope you all enjoy the book.

I was born May 15, 1950 in Philadelphia and I spent the first 18 years of my life in the suburbs. First Hatboro and then at age 4 my family moved to Glenside. My radio and technology interest began early. My mother tells me that at a very early age I was always interested in wiring and how things worked. The first thing I would do when my parents took me to visit was ask if I could go into the basement. I am sure I embarrassed them but I wanted to see the pipes and wires and the heater, all very fascinating things to me. They still are!

I became an avid SWL'er and collector of radio and electronic things when I was old enough to do that. It was intermixed with Boy Scouts and other childhood hobbies. I can remember at about age 12 building a Knight-kit Spanmaster regenerative receiver. My favorite reading material was a technical book. My first ARRL amateur radio handbook was the 1962 edition, which I read from cover to cover and dreamed of building one of the transmitters.

At about age 14, I was finally ready to get my novice license. I built a Heathkit HR-10 receiver and a Knight-kit T-60 transmitter. I can remember operating CW for hours with headphones when I first received my license. I would go to bed at night and hear the 'dits' and 'dahs' in my sleep. I also operated on the 2-meter novice band. It was AM then and you tuned for the other station, as most all operation was crystal control. Before the year expiration date of my novice license was up I upgraded to a general class. A few years later I again upgraded to advance and I also received a second-class radiotelephone license, now a general radiotelephone license

I joined the Air Force when I was 19. It was the Vietnam era and my lottery number was very low as I remember. I tested through most of the schooling and spent four years as an avionics technician servicing aircraft radio and radar equipment. Fortunately I never made it to Vietnam but I did get as far as Guam where I also worked part-time for RCA Global at their trans-pacific transmitting facility. I stood watch and maintained 10KW independent sideband transmitters that carried phone circuits to Vietnam.

After my discharge from the Air Force in 1973, I worked for Jerrold Electronics (now Motorola) and in 1974 joined the Navy Civil Service at the Naval Air Development Center in Warminster, PA. There I worked on many interesting projects including infrared imaging and detection, magnetics

research, computer design, and aircraft simulation. I retired from the Civil Service in 1996 when the Navy moved the facility to Patuxant River, MD. I also started a company with two partners in 1987. We design and manufacture test equipment for the computer hard disk industry. Our facility is located in Horsham, PA.

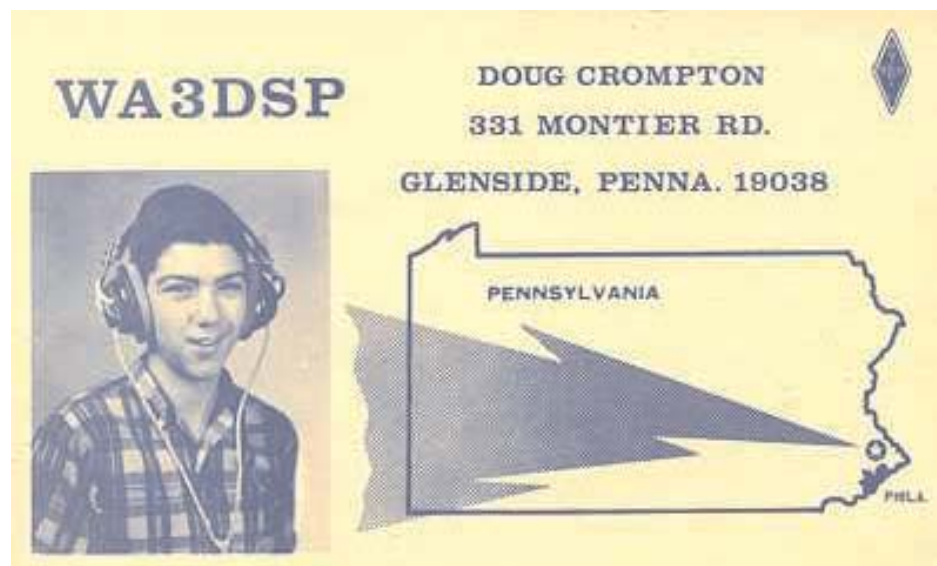
My activities in Amateur Radio in the later years have primarily revolved around computers. I wrote a number of software packages to interface the computer to RTTY and CW in mid 1980's. This was before we had the computers we use today. We used 8-bit microprocessors that we built ourselves. I was involved with packet radio at its infancy and I have maintained a ham radio to Internet packet gateway for years. I collect antique radio's, old electronic equipment and publications. I am active in a number of nets and a member of the Warminster Amateur Radio Club. I am extensively involved in computers. I maintain my own server and I write and host web pages on the Internet. I am a life member of the ARRL, QCWA and AWA.

73 Doug



Operating the AWA December contest with more modern test equipment in the background.

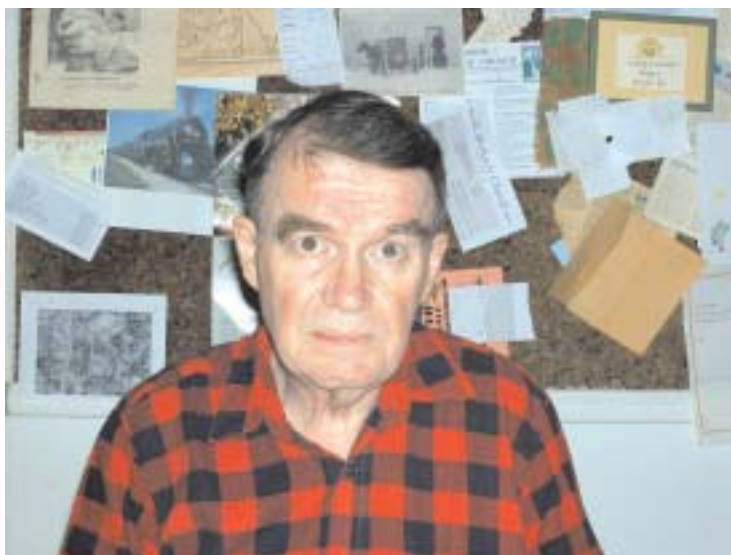
I use a Kenwood TS-450 or TS-430 on the AWA net.



My first QSL when I was a novice in 1965 and lived in Glenside.

Paul J. Mooney

K4KRE



Born Feb 26, 1935 in the same city as Edwin Armstrong, Yonkers, NY. Marriage to Joan in 1958 gave us a son and 3 daughters and 25 wonderful years together. Unfortunately she died of cancer in 1984 at age 48. First licensed at age 15 in 1950, I became involved with the Yonkers ham group and engaged in transmitter hunts, field day and Civil Defense activities. Upon graduating from Cardinal Hayes H.S., Bronx NYC, I worked for a year at a small transformer manufacturer as a test technician. I then went to Manhattan College, Riverdale NYC and earned a BEE degree in electrical engineering. From there I went to Bendix Corp. in York PA doing development work on radar systems for 4.5 years. Following that I traveled to Alexandria VA to start working for AMF Inc. My first task there, involved design and development of electronic systems for a satellite instrument which was to fly on NASA's Orbiting Solar Observatory (OSO). This effort stretched over 7 years and eventually included field testing and launch support for the satellite instrument as well as development and field support for evaluation prototypes flown on Aerobee rockets at White Sands NM. The next 5 years were spent with the Potter and Brumfield division of AMF developing industrial control systems and my remaining 11 years at AMF doing industrial product development for various AMF business units. Some projects were, automated fast food processing equipment, tire retreading machines, electronic scoreboards and tobacco processing machines, to name a few. When in 1985, AMF was sold and dissolved as a corporate entity, I went to work for a company contracted to the Department of Energy and was engaged in engineering video conferencing systems for DOE. I retired from this work in 2000.

My first interest in radio was sparked by a crystal set construction article in a Cub Scout manual. I was determined to try it. My father, who was in no way electrically oriented, still managed to collect the wire, a set of Brandes phones and a chunk of galena, even though WWII shortage conditions existed at the time. He also made me a beautiful crystal holder and cat's whisker from brass which I still have. The set worked and the next few years were spent assembling various hookups using old radio parts and detectors such as razor blades and carbon/needle as well as galena. Armstrong's FM station tower at Alpine NJ was line of sight across the Hudson River from my house so it became the signal generator for some of my experiments.

My first tube set was an Allied kit using two 76s as regenerative detector and line operated rectifier. It was assembled using my father's soldering irons heated on the gas stove. Afternoons, in my first year of high school, were spent in the physics lab learning code from a surplus Air Force course on 78 rpm records. I plateaued at 10 wpm so I began to practice at home using the regen set on 40 meters. In spite of, or maybe because of, the regen's hand capacity, backlash and QRM problems, my speed improved and thinking I was ready for 13 wpm (no novice class then) I made the long trip by trolley and subway to the old Federal building in NYC. I didn't pass the code. Back then you had to wait 30 days to retake the test so I returned 30 days later and this time passed. A few weeks later my General Class (equivalent to the old class B) license arrived with the call W2FBX. After waiting the required year, I again trekked to NYC and passed the Advanced Class (equivalent to the old Class A) license exam even though that class was to be discontinued only to be revived when Extra Class was introduced.

Upon receiving my license, I pooled the money I had earned caddying at a golf course and bought a Hallicrafters S-40B. With a few bucks left over, I journeyed to Radio Row (Cortland St.) and bought a 10 meter Lysco transmitter intended for mobile use. My parents sprang some birthday money and I was able to buy a power supply kit from the old Radio Shack electronic distributor in Boston. I was now on the air on 10 meters with 5 watts and made many local and some short skip contacts. After a few months I built a 9 watt 6K6 crystal oscillator for 40 meters and worked some CW with California my best DX. Some time later, I built a not too successful 40 meter phone rig using parallel 6L6s, clamper tube modulated with a 6Y6 and carbon microphone.

That was pretty much my ham activity until I entered college at which point ham radio activity for me just about ceased due to studies and work to pay for tuition. After graduation, marriage, family, work and a revived interest in model railroading diverted me from radio and my license lapsed.

In 1973, a chance conversation with a ham friend at work made me realize I was missing a lot of developments in the radio field. Interest was revived and I set out to regain my license with Extra Class the goal. During a trip to Yonkers to visit my folks I took a day and traveled back to the same old Federal building in NYC and sat for and passed the 20 wpm code test. Then I found that the new progressive licensing rules required I take the General, Advanced and Extra tests which I did in one gruelling session. At any rate, I passed and received my present call, K4KRE.

In the late 1970s I responded to an AWA ad in the QST classifieds and to my surprise, received a nice letter from Bruce Kelly in which he told of frequent trips to Virginia visiting relatives and described in detail the best route for traveling to the museum. In 1981, on a vacation trip, my wife and I visited the museum and Bruce gave us a guided tour along with an application for AWA membership which I sent in on returning home. After that I became a regular on the 80 meter Tuesday night AWA net. Some time in the early 1980s, John Nagle K4KJ began having a display of old time equipment at the Foundation For Amateur Radio (FAR) hamfest, held at Gaithersburg MD, with the object of attracting new AWA members. When John passed away, Mike Feher N4FS put on a display for a couple of years until a job change took him out of the area. I then took over and have set up an AWA display at the FAR hamfest every year since. In addition, on requests from other hamfest organizers, I have been presenting displays at the York PA, Columbia MD (CARA) and recently, Carlisle PA hamfests.

After receiving my K4KRE call in 1973, I got on 40 CW using a 6AG7 crystal oscillator with home brew converter into a surplus McLaughlin Signal Splitter for receiving. This was followed by a Ten-Tec Argonaut 509 with about 2 watts output on CW and SSB. Some time later I built a linear amplifier using a pair of parallel 1625s with about 100 watts out. A long time interest in video technology led to building a home brew slow scan TV monitor using the old 8 second scan technology. In 1983 I acquired a Ten-Tec Corsair and that remains my main rig today. With the availability of the low cost 6502 microprocessor in 1975, I bought one and built up a simple computer system with 1 K memory, toggle switches for data entry and hex LED display. With it I experimented with machine language programming. This was followed by a Radio Shack Color Computer and finally a series of PCs. I find the PC useful for setting up calculations in BASIC language as well as for circuit designs and functional simulations. I have no interest in games and very little in Internet activity.

My interest in antique radio is in exploring the history of technical development of telecommunications technology. I'm not a collector although I have a few items, mostly ham radio related, which in time I hope to restore to at least operating condition. Otherwise, my activity consists of experimenting with electronic circuits, trying different communications technologies such as SSTV, FAX, PSK31, etc. Currently I'm working toward improving the efficiency of crystal radio circuits. Also, a strong interest in model railroading continues.

K4KRE STATION



Top Shelf - Antenna Coupler - Ant: 90 ft cntr fed 450 line, Middle Shelf - Microphone Preamp / Slow Scan TV Filter, Ten-Tec Corsair Transceiver, Bottom Shelf - Power Supply, Front - Digital Clock, Rear - SSTV Mode Selector, Top Computer Parallel Port Select Switch, Bottom - View Port SSTV Adapter



Second Station - Top Shelf - 80 Meter UX-210 Hartley 1929 Transmitter, Plate Current Meter, 300 Volt Power Supply, Antique Multitap Filament Transformer, Mid Level - 9 Watt 80/40 Meter 6AG7 Xtal Oscillator Transmitter, Table Level - Hallicrafters S-76 Receiver, Antenna Changeover Switch, Bunnell Straight Key

Chris Wincey, N1BKR

To the AWA membership,

June 28, 2001

I Joined the Navy in 1945 and became a radio striker in 1946. Got discharged in 1947 and went to Mellville Radio -- Institute in NYC and got --a FCC 2nd class commercial ticket in 1948. Also got my first Ham license, W2ZXT, in 1945.

Then also in 1948 I got my license from the US Coast Guard as Radio Officer. Now all qualified I went into the Merchant ships and stayed at sea until 1987 when I took my retirement and went ashore. After retiring from sailing I went ashore and worked as a brass banger for WSC for 15 months and then gave up working for good.

Called the state of Maine my home for many years and eventually got N1BKR.. Settled in New Jersey for a few years, then I moved to PA for ten years and decided to go to FL, where I lasted about a year and half and returned to PA. Hated Florida and love PA

Over the years I sailed in many ships. Passenger ships, Freighters, Tankers, Container ships and even for a time on a small research vessel in the north Atlantic. Had short stints in coast stations, 1962 at WNY and 1974 at WCC. Really liked working at those stations but my first love was the sea.

I am primarily a CW operator and work all the Ham bands. Most fone done on AWA net on 75 mtrs. Also use 2 meters. Been playing lately with 'PSK31'.

Have a boat and go fishing couple of days a week. My health pretty good and I'll probably go deer hunting this fall.

That's about all. Sorry if I've bored you.

73's de CH
Chris Wincey

We are sorry to report that N1BKR became a silent key on February 6, 2002

