

S P A R K S

NORTH SHORE RADIO CLUB

S P A R K S

P.O. Box 171, Oshawa, Ont.

EXECUTIVE1974

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June, 1974

LAST MEETING

Field Day preparations were going to be discussed at this meeting but due to the absence of the co-ordinator it was decided to postpone them until next meeting.

NEXT MEETING Tuesday, June 11 8.00 p.m. Oshawa Airport

Field day plans should be formulated at this traditional field day meeting so whether or not you plan to take part this year come on out and join the discussion. We have only missed about one field day in many years and we had a very good score last year so if you want to try your hand at marathon operating then this is your chance.

2 FM

Mike, FIV is rebuilding some of the repeater logic circuitry so there may be a few minor changes in operation. A new identifier circuit with slow speed for Touchtone command and fast speed for normal identification at one minute intervals during use, a new COR (carrier operated relay) circuit, transmitter and receiver switching - this is already working as is the search lock to select either .40 or .72, transmit inhibit and other possible additions such as telemetry so that the condition of the machine can be monitored. A new duplexer has just been received by QG and will be installed shortly. Only the top antenna will be required for both transmit and receive and the bottom antenna can then be used for the alternate input. One of the transmitters is now switched to the 'tune' position and it can be touchtoned on instead of the 50 watt output strip if we suffer with too much desense. Since the duplexer and other parts cost a lot of money we are looking for donations. If you have not already contacted Harry for your 5 or 10 kc. donation send it to_

HARRY WESTWOOD, VE3QG 50 SHERWOOD ROAD EAST, PICKERING

For the newcomer we print a few words about repeater operation. Some repeaters like VE30SH have time-out features which are designed to discourage long ragchews so it is necessary to drop the 'tail' - within about 3 minutes in OSH's case and as little as a minute on some others. This allows the timer to reset and also allows that mobile to call in with his weak signal. He may be reporting an emergency situation and since repeaters are designed to provide extended mobile coverage it is necessary that he be heard. If you operate a base station, some arrangement to reduce power to a watt or so or use an indoor antenna would be advisable to reduce the interference to repeaters at some distance away on the same channels

All base stations should have the OPP and local police phone numbers posted up by the rig so they can be reached quickly if necessary. If you are mobiling and need any help you should announce it immediately upon breaking in as base stations may be in a deep discussion but will react if they are aware of the problem.

Some repeaters discourage the use for ragchew purposes except during late hours so you should become familiar with the rules before getting involved in this way. The time-out feature becomes obvious if you think about it and if you are a mobile station that has had trouble breaking into a group you will appreciate the need for pauses between transmissions. If the repeater does time out you wait for it to recover at which time it will probably identify and you can proceed again.

An ideal arrangement for emergency monitoring would be for several stations to spell each other during the day or evening. Retired or handicapped hams fill this need on some repeaters. This gives the mobileer a chance to get a telephone call in for emergency or other reasons which he may have for a message.

Squelch controls should be set just on the edge of the noise for greatest sensitivity. A weak signal may not break the squelch but if you hear a marginal signal, then you adjust the control so that there is some noise and you can often copy the weak signal perfectly. Antenna connectors often cause problems with output signal strength or incoming reception. Checking the output with an output power meter may show up the problem but it will affect the receive signal the most. Receiver sensitivity should be checked regularly and a good receiver should give at least 20 db. of quieting of the squelch noise with an input signal of .5 microvolt.

Off frequency signals may not be copied through a narrow band receiver but may be perfect through a wide band one. You should have the frequency checked by someone with a properly aligned discriminator set-up or by someone who can measure your direct signal accurately. A test box is an asset for checking out your transmitter and receiver and you should try and become familiar with your own equipment. If you have a diagram it may have test points and voltage measurements, especially the solid state newer rigs.

(3)

OSHAWA GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY PARADE

JUNE 16th

This parade commemorates the 50th anniversary of the City and control of the parade will be in the hands of the EMO. This year we hope to enlist the aid of some of the OSH users so if you can be on deck get in touch with FIV. We don't have the time but they are often about 10 a.m.

BITS N PIECES

RP and QG have their Heath scopes working nicely now. Harry says he has to drain all those wiggly lines off regularly before he uses it or it doesn't work right. AEQ has his new counter working properly, BCQ is working split channel now and then but he is going to master that Clegg. QG and FGL carried FGL's new Heath colour TV up from the basement the other day. Seems that Pat and the kids wanted to watch the cartoons in colour. ATI has a Standard C-826M mobile with 12 channels and is ready for the next car rally. FPP has buttoned up his Pip-squeak after soldering a coil that was causing trouble. He thinks he won't have to get inside of it again until next summer. DDD with the help of FGH and FHV put EWA's new 3 el beam up on the Beech St. tower in Whitby. ADJ hasn't got a chance now nor does GOU. CNO, DDD, DKW CMM and ?? went down to the Rochester hamfest for a look see but we don't know if they brought any goodies back.

Congratulations to Chuck Hewis, now VE3DPH on receiving his call. He is the first one of the 73/74 class to pass the test. Now we can take that VE3SWL off the club bulletin label

STOP THE PRESS

Bill, CMM has a new stick. Our source says it is a Hydro tower about 100 feet high and 4 feet at the base and is supposed to weigh 4 tons. FIV says the standby transmitter will have the filaments running at half voltage as they deteriorate with full voltage and no plate voltage. The TFM auction brought \$41.90 to the OSH treasury thanks to donations of gear for the auction. CMM helped to lessen QG's inventory by buying a few pieces and also picked up other stuff. Bob Jones, 3ADJ has a new address - RR 1, Janetville - we don't think Bob picked the highest hill though.

OPEN HOUSE 7.00 p.m. OSH site northeast of Raglan. JULY 9

Come on up and see what is new at the repeater and if it is a clear evening bring your telescope or field glasses. This would normally be club night but June is the last one for the summer season is here.

Have a nice vacation - this is the last bulletin til September.