

JUNE/84

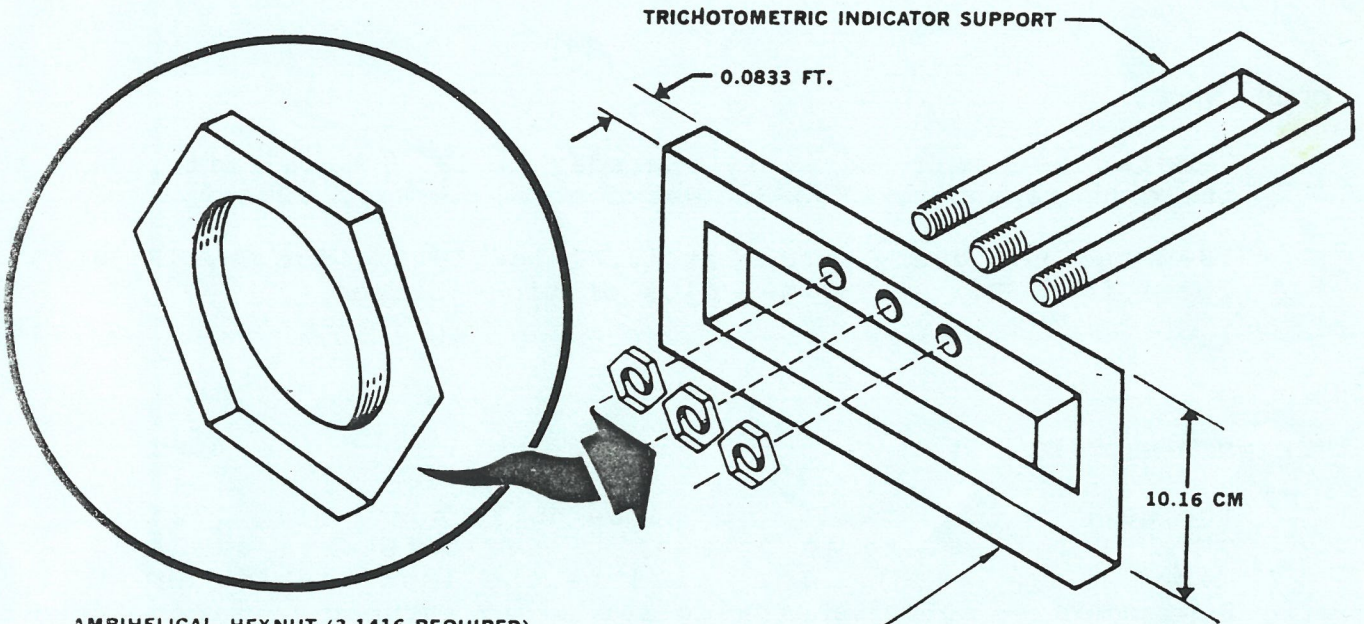
N.S.A.R.C. Inc.
Post Box 171
Oshawa, Ont.
L1H 7L1



To

VE3CRK
R DAY
454 HOLCAN AVE.
OSHAWA
ONT. L1G 5X6

First Class Première classe



AMBIHELICAL HEXNUT (3.1416 REQUIRED)

MATERIAL: Ag + Au
(SLIVER THREADS AMONG THE GALLED)

RECTABULAR EXCRUSION BRACKET (MIL-6-2980)

It will be noted that in attaching the bracket to the support, a special ambihelical hexnut is used. The application of this nut is unique in that any attempt to remove it in conventional manner only tightens it. Because of this design, the nut must be fully screwed on before it can be screwed off.—Courtesy NAA "Operations & Service News"

NORTH SHORE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc. NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 171
Oshawa, Ontario, Canada
L1H 7L1

June 1984

OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE

President	Bill Sutton	VE3MLW	623-2846
Secretary	(To be elected)		
Treasurer	Mac McFarlane	VE3XI	723-8484
Director	Joe White	VE3IHS	623-4069
Director	Bill Fortune	VE3NTI	986-5656
Registrar	Keith Wyard-Scott	VE3GDF	723-5758
Get-well cards	Ted Brant	VE3ADD	668-3561
Editor	Charlie Bissett	VE3IBO	668-7481
Editor	Neil McAlister	VE3KSP	668-4161

CLUB STATION VE3NSR

CLUB REPEATER VE3OSH 147.72 in
147.12 out

CLUB NETS

2-meter net each and every Thursday at 19:30 local time, on the club repeater, VE3OSH. Net control is Roy, VE3AAF.

10-meter net every Sunday at 13:00 local time for CW; 13:30 local for SSB. 28.200 MHz plus or minus beacon.

THE NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting will be on Tuesday, June 12th at O'Neill Collegiate in Oshawa, in the cafeteria at 20:00 local time. (8 PM). This will be the **last meeting until September** -- so we're looking for a big turnout to kick off the summer season.

FROM OUR FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT -- KA2KNZ

Just read an article called "Trees Talk to One Another" (article attached.) It set me to thinking, for instance ...

TREES TALK TO ONE ANOTHER

Experiments conducted by two Penn State researchers show that trees can do a most unexpected thing: communicate with one another in order to warn of possible predators.

Jack Schultz and Ian Baldwin found last summer that trees under attack by insects or animals will release an unidentified chemical into the air as a distress signal. Upon receiving the signal, nearby trees step up their production of tannin—a poison in the leaves that gives insects indigestion. The team learned, too, that production of the poison is in proportion to the duration and intensity of the attack.

What also impressed the researchers is that some trees seem to be selective about when they'll protect themselves. In late summer, with fall coming on, one type of tree takes no steps to defend its leaves with tannin. □

"VE3WIL Willow here. Good to hear you again NY2WP (White Pine). Things are going OK here. Did you hear about AL4SP? Over."

"No, Will, have not. Back to you -- by the way, was that Southern Pine? Over."

"That's a roger. We were having a nice QSO when all of a sudden I heard this awful noise. I asked what was going on. He said, 'My Gawd! They're here to bleed me again! This turpentine bunch are rugged!' Some of the trees just couldn't take it, just gave up. Now they're pulp. Over."

"VE3WIL, NY2WP here. I know what you mean. I was talking to VE3POP Poplar, and I heard the same thing. But the noise was a chainsaw! This poor tree started to groan, then his signal went off the air. Now he's a silent tree! Lucky I live in a park: I'm protected. Back to you."

"Yeah, White Pine, That's how the chips fall. I hear a breaker. Go the break."

"NY2WP, CA6FIR. Thanx fir letting me come in. Longtime no see. Handle here is Doug -- Douglas Fir -- heard you guys rustling in the wind, I had to step in to say we've had some scares out here with flooding and fires. But generally we park trees have it pretty good. Some other areas, though ... lost some old friends. Say! Here's the XYL ..."

"Hi, Fran Fir here. Is Frieda around?"

"NY2WP: No, Fran. Sorry, she's busy trying to get that old owl who nests here out of her branches."

"Well then give her my best, and tell her our little saplings are coming along fine. Doug Junior has just turned 100. Our little daughter got struck by lightning the other day -- she lost some bark and a few limbs, but the tree surgeon says she'll recover OK. The poor dear is only 80."

"NY2WP back for a final. Sorry to hear about your daughter, Fran and Doug, and I'll wish her a speedy recovery. If you'll excuse me now, I've got to attend to that stupid owl. Out of my branches! Good ... he's gone. Now we can settle in for the night. 73s all around, and good evening. NY2WP is clear."

"VE3WIL says 73s all around. And give my best to the wife and saplings. We're shutting down."

"73s. CA6FIR is gone."

Good night, all! Dick, KA2KNZ, Fort Myers, Florida

ABOUT C.A.R.F.

For operators who do any amount of QSLing, membership in the **Canadian Amateur Radio Federation (C.A.R.F.)** is a real bargain. Many of us who have joined (and who don't consider ourselves super-active operators) have nevertheless found that what we save in postage by using the C.A.R.F. outgoing QSL bureau more than pays for their annual membership dues.

Besides this benefit, which would itself justify membership, the organization publishes a monthly newsletter ("The Canadian Amateur") full of good stuff of specific interest to amateurs here in VE-land. If you want more info, contact C.A.R.F. at P.O. Box 356, Kingston Ont. K7L 4W2.

To add to your summer fun, we've reproduced a couple pages from TCA, showing their new, up-to-date **listing of area repeaters**. Those who've been thinking about adding 70 cm to the shack, get a load of all these new Toronto-area repeaters for UHF! Admittedly, most of them are still pretty quiet -- but with all that resource now available, it seems inevitable that more and more people will start using this band. Now, wouldn't you love to see our club acquire a new, 70 cm machine? Then send your large donation to the Editors' Swiss bank account, and they will be happy to return a receipt from Argentina ...

REVIEW: THE ROCHESTER HAMFEST

In pursuit of all the news that's fit to broadcast, your dedicated reporter awoke from his comfy bed at 5 in the morning, and made the trek to Rochester this year with VE3IFY, Paul, from the Skywide ARC in Etobicoke. We arrived in Rochester by 9:30, in plenty of time to ogle most of the goodies before they were sold.

Indoors, in the new equipment department, most of the popular current rigs were available. There were a few exceptional deals (e.g. the new Kenwood TR-7930 2-meter mobile for US\$319) -- but with the Canadian dollar now worth only US\$0.72, bargains were a little harder to find than in former years, once the exchange was calculated. Should we rename our enfeebled Canadian "Dollar" a "Pezuzo" to avoid confusion with the more valuable American variety?

Outdoors the weather smiled on a big and well-stocked fleamarket. In addition to the inevitable wide selection of "boat anchors", there were a large number of older hf rigs in very nice condition -- ideal for a novice looking to get on the air without blowing the bank account, or for the op who needs a second rig for the cottage.

If you missed this event, and still want to go bargain-hunting in W-land, there's another fleamarket in Batavia NY on July 8, we believe.

-- VE3KSP

BY SPECIAL REQUEST: A FIFTY-YEAR PERSPECTIVE BY VE3AIY

At a recent club meeting I told an old friend that it was 50 years since I got my first ham license. I thought nothing of it then, but he passed the information on and now I've been asked to write something about ham radio back in those days ...

[continued]

In 1934 the population of Oshawa was only 23,400. There were two active hams, VE3SZ Lorne and VE3JV Al. Both are past presidents of NSARC.

I probably have to give Earl, VE3AZT, credit for getting me interested in radio because I had met him in 1929 when I was still in public school and he was servicing radios, even then. I remember asking him if he would build me a one-tube short-wave set, but the price for everything including batteries was \$12.00 — too much in the middle of the Depression.

After going to night school to learn electricity, and joining the Ontario Regiment to learn CW in the Signal Corps (which didn't work out) I asked Milt Graham if he would be interested in studying along with me to see if we could both get ham licenses.

We got together frequently to study code and theory on our own. After four months practicing code for 20 minutes per day, I was up to 17 wpm. In March 1934 we passed the test. He received the call VE3QN; mine was VE3RM. It was also at this time that the Dept. of Marine started to issue three-letter calls.

Milt, VE3QN, was responsible for the 2-meter tent one field day, and used a wind-driven charger to keep the battery up during the whole period. The equipment was all home-brew. The transmitters were built on a board using copper tubing out of an old car for the coils. They were self-excited rigs, and most of the parts were taken from old radios. We checked to see if the rig worked by holding a neon bulb near the copper "tank" coil. We found out we could light up a 4-foot fluorescent tube the same way! Recently I tried this with my present 2-meter rig, and found I could light a similar tube off the 1/4-wave whip.

Receivers were simple two or three-tube sets at first, but it was not long until we were building superhets.

The only other piece of equipment you needed was a monitor: essentially a well-shielded one-tube battery-operated receiver, required when tuning the transmitter or checking the quality of your own signal.

To tune up you first found a place in the band, then turned on the monitor and tuned it until you heard the signal from the monitor in that same place on the band. Next step was plugging the phones into the monitor and tuning the transmitter 'til you heard the signal at zero-beat in the monitor.

With this kind of equipment you called "CQ" and then tuned the whole band to see if anyone answered your call! It was two or three years later that a friend asked me if I noticed that some hams were coming back to us on our own frequencies. I hadn't noticed because the two frequencies had always been independent of each other. Anyway, that was the beginning of VFOs, making room for lots more stations and eliminating all that tuning.

A circuit came out in the mid-30s for a transceiver for the old 5-meter band. It required only three tubes, making it possible to use phone without all the expense of building a regular phone transmitter. It also made it possible to go mobile for the first time! By now there were a few more hams in Oshawa and a few of these rigs were built. I found this part of ham radio particularly interesting. No other services had started to use mobiles, so it was something novel.

Several years had gone by since hams had used spark-gap transmitters, (though some ships were still using them). This was progress indeed, but we still did not have such things as co-ax, SWR bridges, beam antennas, towers, or solid state devices.

[continued]

Unfortunately, we don't hear much from VE3QN now, as his health is not good and he doesn't feel like getting on the air. Of course he built his own equipment in the 30s: He used a transformer which he not only wound himself, but for which he also cut out the laminations from stove pipes. I buzzed a lot, but it worked. One day he took me down into his basement to show me his battery charger -- a washing machine motor driving a car generator. He reached down to remove one of the clips and the battery blew up! Luckily neither of us was injured.

Nowadays I'm happy working with printed circuit boards. They're better and safer. While you can buy a lot of equipment ready-made, there are still many things you can make yourself. For me, this is still an interesting and important part of our hobby.

-- Ron Wragg, VE3AIY

FROM THE EDITORS' DESKS

There is more than one way to solve the problem of high production costs: We've managed to improve the word-processor's printer for this issue. Letter-quality print not only looks better than that "computerish" dot-matrix stuff, but from a purely practical standpoint, it now enables us to pack 75 characters per line instead of 65, as formerly.

In recent years the NSARC newsletter has never been published during the summer months: There's nothing sacred about this tradition, however, and we'd be quite willing to put out a mid-summer flyer -- but that depends on members' interest and the all-important state of club finances. We'll ask about this at the upcoming June meeting. If you have any opinion, let us or the Executive know.

Still, there's a good chance that this may be the last regular issue you'll be receiving until September. As we close the current series, therefore, we are grateful to everybody who has contributed time, or ideas, or articles to get your "new", resuscitated NSARC newsletter off the ground again in 1984. We've really been having fun doing this each month, although we've discovered it is a big job, even with two of us tackling it. All the more credit, therefore, to intrepid Editors of former years who took on the task of publishing the old "SPARKS" single-handed!

You can bet we'll be saving up more ideas and bugging fellow-members for more contributions over the summer; and we'll look forward to being back again in full swing this fall.

Please remember NSARC's full slate of **summer events**: The "Sermon on the Mount", the August corn roast, the canoe race, Field Day on June 23 and 24. Even if we're unable to keep you informed for the next couple of months, stay in touch with club happenings with Roy, VE3AAF, on the Thursday night 2-meter net!

We wish you all a safe and happy summer!

-- All the Best de VE3KSP et VE3IBO

MURPHY'S EIGHTH LAW -

IF YOU TINKER WITH OR TRY TO IMPROVE
SOMETHING LONG ENOUGH, EVENTUALLY IT
WILL BREAK!

- Murphy 