

## **\*\* Explanation of the Graphical Memes from the Ham Radio Humor File \*\***

Jim, AB0HM, a fellow Handi-Hams Member who is blind, suggested that I create a textfile for blind hams who can't see the images from the Ham Radio Humor File. I have copied and pasted in the text from that file, so for the blind or visually impaired hams, they can enjoy the humor in one file. By combining everything, it does make this file rather large, but it's at least 45 pages smaller than the full file with all the memes/graphics. You can get that at <http://www.wx4qz.net/elk.htm> – and download the file “Selected Ham Radio Humor”. This file was last updated on December 12, 2025.

As the late Jerry Clower noted, “if you don't intend to laugh...go home, look in the mirror, to see what everyone else has been laughing at all these years”. And, Roger Rabbit noted “If you don't have a sense of humor...you're better off dead!!”. But, you'll see that with this file, “I have too much time on my hands” (hi hi).

Some of the items are NOT suitable for over the air (such as "The Missing Q Signals")...so, check the content before you decide to use these on the air...no matter the mode. However, even an item isn't suitable for on the air use, you can use these for eyeball QSO's (hi hi).

For the text entries, I ask that you give credit to either myself for providing the file, or for the individual noted in the material. Where you use something on the air, such as during a net, you can use your callsign to ID your station, per FCC rules.

Go to <http://www.wx4qz.net/elk.htm> – and look for “My Ham Radio Bio” for more info on me. A PDF viewer is required to read the file. This URL is the same as the hyperlink on my bio on the QRZ web site. These may not be in the order as they are in the full meme file.

- 1) There are two stick people, one a girl, holding a coral snake...and she's showing it to the guy. She says “Red touches yellow, which I think means a 24 ohm snake”. The thing is, that snake has a bite!!
- 2) A ham is at the eye doctor to read the eye chart. It has the letters A and E in large font on the top line. The second line has the letters G E C D in a smaller font. The third line has C F D A in a smaller font. The fourth line has G E A C

in smaller font, and the bottom line has what looks to be F B in the smallest font. Each one means a better visual acuity. Yet, the ham radio operator as a patient, instead of reading the actual letters, is saying the Morse Code equivalent for each one, all in sequence. The eye doctor is about to have a nervous breakdown!!

3) A ham (O M) is in bed with his wife (X Y L), but the thing he really loves is the H F rig between them. He's smiling, but she obviously is not!!

4) A Black and Yellow Sign, noting "Warning: Ham With An Attitude".

5) A pun graphic, that notes "I injured myself measuring radio frequency yesterday. It still Hertz" (spelled H E R T Z).

6) At Dayton Hamvention several years ago, a young lady (Y L) from Ohio drolled up her hair to be like a ham radio tower, with several antenna masts, and her callsign on the antenna!! She truly was both vertically and horizontally polarized!!

7) A young lady is in front of a Wishing Well. She throws a coin in, and says "I want to be irresistible to men!!". Her wish is granted, by being turned into an extremely nice H F rig. Truly, be careful what you wish for!!

8) A ham is working D X from his house, and tells the contact that he has made "Yes, I really am running 5 watts Q R P. But, I have an above average antenna system". It looks more like a 200 foot tower!!

9) A meme graphic with a bunch of resistors and batteries for drums, spaced to look like a drummer, a guitarist, and a vocalist, known as L E D Zeppelin, with L E D in all capital letters.

10) At the ham radio club banquet, you see four male ham radio operators at the table, and each has a handi-talkie. The conversation goes like this (with fictitious callsigns):

A) The ham at the far left, picks up his handi-talkie, and says "K0W3F, this is W0A3GH...can you pass the rolls, please??".

**B) Sitting next to him, K0W3F replies to W0A3GH, via his handi-talkie, “OK, Comin’ At Ya! And some peas this way, please!”.**

**C) Another ham at the other end of the table, picks up his handi-talkie, and says “Wow! You guys are so clear. It sounds like you’re right in the same room with me!!”.**

**D) The last one, who basically is Net Control, says “OK, guys...let’s keep the frequency open for drink orders!!”.**

**11) There’s a photo of a male ham radio operator, and the caption notes his spouse asking him “Did you buy another radio today??”. The responses that he gives are in the vein of “Who Wants To Be A Millionaire??”, as follows:**

- A. I won a giveaway.**
- B. I got a good deal on it.**
- C. It was an accident.**
- D. You look very pretty today.**

**I wonder if he chooses D, “Is That Your Final Answer??”.**

**12) A ham is on the air during Field Day, and as it ends around the middle of the day Sunday, his wife walks in, and says “Ok, Marconi!! Field Day Is Over. The Lawn Is Calling”.**

**Never mind Q R N in the grass. Speaking of which, there is a text deal on that from Lyle, K5VPM (SK) later in this file.**

**13) The scene is at a workplace, and this one gentleman tells his boss that “I’ll be out of the office the next few days, attending an international telecommunications event, studying the intersection of legacy technologies, with new digital modalities”. His boss replies “Wow!! Take all the time you need!!”.**

**In the next slide, the man’s co-worker said “I thought you were going to Dayton for Hamvention”...and the man tells his co-worker “Be quiet!!”.**

**14) A man is sitting out in the yard, with some ham radio gear on the table, and he’s getting soaked by the lawn sprinkler. His wife asks him “Why are**

**you sitting in the yard, with all this radio stuff on a table?? And, why is the sprinkler on??”??**

**In the next slide, his wife says “Wait!! You’re pretending to be at Hamvention!!”. He laments “Yes”.**

**15) The meme is entitled “How I Spend Money”. The individual denotes 3 categories.**

**A. Groceries – Just The Basics.**

**B. Household Items – Whichever Brands Are The Cheapest.**

**C. Ham Gear – The Wallet is opened wide, and the dollar bills are flying!!**

**16) Hamvention Facts, patterned the Nutrition Facts Label on most products. This was when it was at Hara Arena in Dayton...it has since moved to the Greene County Fairgrounds in Xenia.**

**Serving Size: 3 days**

**Amount Per Serving:**

**Miles Walked: 42**

**Cash Spent: \$800 (the amount is likely more now)**

**Percent Of Daily Value:**

**Boat Anchors: 99 percent**

**Collins: 80 percent**

**Hallicrafters: 59 percent**

**Chicken Band: 0 percent**

**Useless Trinkets: 62 percent**

**Handheld Rigs: 35 percent**

**Yaesu, Kenwood, Icom: 35 percent**

**Alinco, Chinese, and F R S: 22 percent**

**High School Band Booster Beer: 100 percent**

**Greasy Burgers: 9 percent**

**Hara Dogs: 10 percent**

**Intermod: 99 percent**

**Fun and Friends: 100 percent**

**Percent daily values are based on a typical ham. Your daily values may be higher or lower, depending on your personality, and if you are a tool or not.**

**17) A robber comes up to a gentleman, trying to rob him. The thug is told “You’re wasting your time – I’m a Ham”. I guess the robber is out of luck.**

**18) The ham radio bank after Hamvention. It’s a piggy bank, but you can see its ribs, as if it’s severely malnourished.**

**19) Band Condition Spray, in the style of the W D Forty blue and yellow spray container. It boasts the following:**

**A. Designed to enhance H F propagation.**

**B. Work Rare DX easily.**

**C. Works for all modes.**

**D. Will not damage the ionosphere.**

**E. Licensed Amateur Radio Use Only.**

**20) M F J 25685 Band Condition Spray. It boasts the following features:**

**A. Spray It On – High S W R is gone!!**

**B. Eliminates Antenna Tuners.**

**C. Works on all antennas – masts, verticals, dipoles, etc.**

**21) Ham Radio In Its Purest Form. It has the picture of a succulent ham, but it has the label “HamCom 3001”, along with several buttons, knobs, switches, a V U Meter, and a D T M F microphone.**

**22) Another Ham Shack Warning Sign. This one notes the following:**

**A. High Level Radio Frequency Area.**

**B. Amateur Radio Active, using the radioactive warning symbol.**

**C. When All Fails – Amateur Radio, with the ARRL logo.**

**D. Tampering with my ham radio may result in a severe [butt] whooping that you’ll never forget!!**

**23) Homemade Raspberry Pi F T Eight – with a photo of a raspberry pie, spelled P I E. I guess this makes for sweet propagation.**

**24) My alternative to a Raspberry Pi – a photo of a pineapple upside down cheesecake (and that sounds awfully tasty right now).**

**25) Logic gate for married hams. On the left, there are horizontal 2 lines...one next to the word HAM, and other for X Y L (his wife). They are joined together on the right by one vertical line. To the right of that is an oversized letter D – with a line right in the middle of the arch of the D, going to the right, with the word OUTPUT.**

**Below it, it lists the available options:**

**A. If the ham is wrong, and his wife is right; the output is that his wife is right.**

**B. If the ham and his wife are right; the output is that is wife is right.**

**C. If the ham is right, and his wife is wrong; the output is that the wife is right.**

**D. If the ham and his wife are wrong; the output is that the ham is wrong.**

**In other words, the wife is always going to be right. I guess that explains the meme of the public restrooms...with the men's restroom on the left, and the women's restroom on the right. It notes "Men to the left, because Women are always right".**

**26) The husband is standing outside in the backyard in his night clothes, with a pillow under his arm. His wife is glaring at him outside the bedroom window. The man is standing in front of an office desk, with a computer, printer, and other things on it. Sitting in the swivel chair, with spectacles (glasses) on, is the dog, in front of a dog house, with a note pad and pen.**

**The dog says "Good evening, sir. Will you be our guest for one night only?? Or, will this be your usual extended stay??".**

**27) There's a bumper sticker on the rear window of a vehicle, that notes "As a matter of fact, I don't have enough antennas on my car". This is "the perception".**

**28) To go with the previous one, is another vehicle, with at least 2 dozen antennas and a flashing blue light, on the hood, roof, and the back trunk. This is "the reality". And, we thought the FCC enforcement vehicles were loaded up!!**

**29) In a full gallon container, is a new formula, entitled "Liquid Concentrated Kerchunks" (when you key the push to talk on a repeater or reflector (quick keying), and don't identify the source of the transmission with your callsign). The product features:**

**A. Now with 10 percent more Q R M!!**

**B. Hit repeaters for miles!!**

**C. Never need to identify.**

**D. Voted #2 year after year.**

**E. Guaranteed to irritate.**

**F. Baofeng Compatible.**

**G. Lid Tested, CB-er Approved.**

**I guess that slickens up the interference!!**

**30) The new handi-talkie quad band antenna. With a crazy setup of PL 259 and B N C connectors, your have 4 connectors for a rubber duck antenna on 4 different bands.**

**31) The picture shows several nice radios, then the words of “A Ham’s Greatest Fear”. It is that he will die, and his wife will sell his radios for what he told her he paid for them!!**

**32) The husband is folding laundry, and his wife is at the laundry room entrance, scowling at him, saying “Look at you!! Folding laundry!! Last night, it was doing the dishes!! What part of NO – you are NOT getting another ham radio, do you not understand??!!”.**

**33) The new floor plan for the house. You small areas for the restroom, kitchen, and bathroom...maybe 5 percent of the entire area. By comparison, the other 95 percent notes “Ham Shack”.**

**34) The new Kenwood TS 99900 Contesting Transceiver. It features, on top of a nice H F rig, the following items:**

**A) A ten cup coffee put.**

**B) A 2.3 cubic foot refrigerator for fruits, vegetables, and beverages.**

**C) 1500 watts (with the microwave oven)**

**D) 200 watt Peak Envelope Power (P E P) Single Side Band (S S B). It notes that “actual output may vary, depending on the amount of devices running”.**

**35) A ham is on a street corner, holding up a cardboard sign, which notes:**

**“Not Homeless. Need Help With D M R. Please Help”.**



**36) The Free Speech Open Repeater Schematic. It's a crude sketch of a schematic diagram, with everything and the kitchen sink in it.**

**37) A billboard notes that "September Is Buy Your Husband A Ham Radio Month".**

**I don't think his wife would be too agreeable with that.**

**38) An angry wife is behind the door, as her husband is again "coming home late", trying to open the door. Her 3 responses to use on him are as follows:**

**A) A metal spoon – Coming Home Late**

**B) A rolling pin – Coming Home Drunk**

**C) A shotgun – Coming Home With Another Ham Radio**

**39) The Ham Radio Pager. It looks like an M F J Packet Radio Terminal Node Controller (T N C), but it has the following items:**

**A. A gray RESET button.**

**B. A red MUTE switch.**

**Then, it has the following red alert lights.**

**1. Two For One Burgers.**

**2. Chinese Buffet.**

**3. Free Samples At Sam's Club.**

**4. Broken Down Krispy Kreme Truck.**

**5. Female On Repeater.**

**Then, it has a green light to show when the radio is powered up.**

**I wonder what kind of warranty it has on it, and if it'll be for sale at Hamvention??**

**40) This is a classified ad on how a ham radio operator finds a spouse.**

**Wanted: Good woman who can cook, clean, and climb a tower. Must have a complete ham radio station. Send photo of radio station.**

**41) A photo of 3 ways to deal with poor operating hams (lids). They are:**

**A. The Wouff Hong.**

**B. The Rettysnitch.**

**C. The Unergumph.**

**I understand that Vaseline is optional before applying to the miscreant ham.**

**42) In memory of one of my area fellow Volunteer Examiners, Amy Thor, AG4HH (SK), she and Autumn LeFaye, W5ARL (another V E) found this cute critter, that they named Zeigfried, and it became our team mascot. He's holding a sign that says "I am already visualizing the duct tape over your mouth!!". It's a reminder to the V E's (including myself) to "keep quiet" once the examinees begin their tests.**

**43) A photo of a skeleton sitting in a chair, and it notes "Waiting For Your Callsign To Show Up In The F C C Database". This is especially true during a "Government Shutdown" – that's a redundancy in terms, if there ever was one.**

**44) Why Christmas Gifts Are Delayed. Santa and the reindeer team got tied up in the multi-band antenna array.**

**45) Why Hams Fail At Speed Dating. The woman asks him "Your Favorite Bands??" (meaning musical). He replies "Forty Meter CW and 6 Meters when it's open". She is now totally confused.**

**46) The coveted W A N (Worked All Neighbors) Award. This is for those hams whose R F I interferes with neighbors electronic equipment of all sorts. There are four levels:**

**A) Pest – four neighbors.**

**B) Nuisance – ten neighbors.**

**C) Pain In The Neck – fifty neighbors.**

**D) Criminal – Over one hundred neighbors.**

**Special Endorsements include three groups, to go with the “Worked All Appliances and Electronics”, and thanks from the Maytag Repairman and Sears Serviceman. The electronics include:**

**Group 1:**

**Television (antenna), Cable Television, Video Cassette Recorder, Telephone, Telephone Answering Machine, and Cellular Telephone.**

**Group 2:**

**Stereo, A M slash F M Radio, Audio Cassette, Phonograph (Record Player), CD Player, and Computer.**

**Group 3:**

**Garage Door Opener, Porch Light, Christmas Lights, Microwave Oven, Car Alarm, and Toaster.**

**47) The Real Cost Of Radio. While any hobby can nickel and dime you to death, this one has a detailed breakdown. Note that the costs may be higher now, than when this item was originally found. From Kelly, K7SU, who notes “You Have Been Warned!!”.**

**A. Used starter rig and antennas: \$800**

**B. ARRL Membership: \$60 (originally noted as \$49)**

**C. Local Club Membership: \$20**

**D. Club hat/vest memorabilia: \$150**

**E. House repairs from damage from antenna access hole: \$1,800**

**F. New chair for shack: \$169**

**G. Amplifier: \$2,500**

**H. Electrician bill for 220 volts to shack: \$1,600**

**I. Electrician bill from amp blowing kitchen breaker: \$1,100**

**J. New computer for logging digital modes: \$1,600**

**K. Money for wife for HER HOBBY: \$10,000**

**L. New tower and antennas: \$3,700**

**M. New homeowners insurance because towers are not allowed: \$3,100**

**N. Legal Fees from Home Owners Association: \$8,000**

**O. Home Owners Association Fines For Antennas: \$5,000**

**P. More Money for wife's hobby: \$19,500**

**Q. New rural home to get away from Home Owners Association: \$475,000**

**R. Money for Summits On The Air Rig and Antennas: \$2300**

**S. Medical Expenses for injuries getting to the Summits On The Air Site: \$8,500**

**T. New Four By Four S U V for getting to the Summits On The Air Sites: \$47,500**

**U. New Side By Side for getting to last 100 feet at Summits On The Air Site: \$16, 250**

**V. New Recreational Vehicle for Parks On The Air: \$31,500**

**W. New Rigs and Antennas for Parks On The Air Recreational Vehicle: \$3,200**

**X. Divorce: \$75,000**

**Y. One bedroom apartment deposit and rent: \$2,400**

**Z. Used starter rig and antennas: \$800 (back to item 47 A above).**

**Total: \$721,549**

**48) A phone call has a conversation between a son and his Dad.**

**Son: “Dad, you need to come home!!”.**

**Dad: “Son, I can’t. I’m in the hospital!!”.**

**Son: “Mom is trying to sell your ham radios for the price you told her they cost”.**

**The father is running down the street in nothing but his hospital gown!!**

**I wonder if he is now a cured ham??**

**49) A female is sobbing. She said “I told him ‘Me, or your radios!’”.**

**“He replied ‘73’, and left!!”.**

**50) One woman is sobbing, and her friend is trying to console her. She laments “He claimed he was a DX-er. But he only operates on F T Eight”.**

**I guess he couldn’t work “up her sideband”.**

**51) There is a new hearing aid for men. It has 3 positions:**

**A. Pointing Up – Wife.**

**B. Pointing To The Left – Off.**

**C. Pointing Down – Ham Radio.**

**I guess this is how to tune out Q R M.**

**52) There is a picture with a car, with the right passenger window broken out. The text notes the following WARNING:**

**“Doug left a Baofeng on his front seat. Someone broke in, and left three more!! Please keep your Baofeng in the glove box for safety’s sake!!”**

**53) A photo of a teenager operating H F. The caption notes “If you get your kids interested in ham radio, they will never have money for alcohol or drugs”.**

**54) There is a photo of several dozen tires side by side in the ground, as in a driveway. The caption notes “My antenna instructions said to put a lot of radials in the ground for better antenna performance. I just do not see any difference.**

**I guess operating HF can be “tire some”.**

**55) A multi-level apartment building is on fire, and the ham radio operator hands a nice multi-band H F rig to the fireman, and he says “Take This!! I’ve got to go back, and get my wife!!”.**

**Guess where HIS priorities are??**

**56) There are 2 drunk panhandlers, down on their luck, sitting next to each other on the street corner. One asks the other “Booze And Gambling??”. He is told “I got hooked on the hard stuff. Icom, Kenwood, Yaesu, Acom, Flex, Rohn, Alinco, Comet, Times Microwave, CommScipe, Diamond, and Cushcraft. I even tried Baofeng once!!”.**

**57) Several cowboys are sitting around a campfire, and one his playing a fiddle. He’s chastised by another one, saying “For the love of beans, please tune that fiddle, Gus!! You sound worse than F T 8 on the wrong sideband!!”.**

**58) There is a new store coming to the Mall Depot later this year to specialize in parts and accessories for the electronic hobbyist, and radio amateur from beginning to pro.**

**It’s known as “The Ohm Depot”. I wonder if they’ll have a booth at Hamvention??**

**59) An older gentleman says “Back in my day” we had to walk to the F C C Field Office uphill in 20 feet of snow; and do 20 words per minute in front of the F C C, and build our radios out of old T V parts.**

**The way it used to be.**

**60) A photo of an individual holding a soldering iron, and it notes “If it smells like chicken, you’re holding it wrong!!”.**

**61) The woman tells her husband “Look me in the eye, and tell me you didn’t buy another radio”. His right eye is looking to the right, and his left eye is looking to the left.**

**I guess that he is guilty, and didn’t want to confess!!**

**62) Homer Simpson is having to write on the blackboard 100 times that “I will always be sure the frequency is clear before calling C Q”.**

**Personally, there are many hams on the air that need to do this punishment!!**

**63) There are several photos of one individual asking questions, and three other individuals responding. The exchange goes like this:**

**Question: Who Are We??**

**Answer: Ham Radio Operators!!**

**Question: What Do We Want??**

**Answer: More Radios!!**

**Question: Where Will We Put Them??**

**Answer: We Don’t Know!!**

**Some hams can really relate to this!!**

**64) This Valentine’s Day, take her to somewhere special: Ham Radio Outlet!!**

**This applies only if she's licensed as well!! Never mind the question of "Do You Ham, Take Radio, To Be Your Lawfully Wedded Spouse??"!!**

**65) Introducing the Ham Radio Operator's Wife Pillow, for those lonely days and nights when he won't get off the radio.**

**The pillow is made up of the left side of the blue long sleeve shirt, with an artificial arm, and buttons down the center of the shirt. This comforts her, while she's in the recliner chair.**

**66) A photo of caricatures of Samuel Morse and his wife, with their daughter and son...Dot and Dash.**

**67) A photo of a finger with a straight key, and the question "What do you call an apology written in dots and dashes?". The answer is "A Remorse Code".**

**68) A triangle is pointing at a naughty mathematical symbol, noting "That's a bad sine" (for a bad sine wave).**

**69) A guy noted "Yesterday, I saw an ad that said 'Radio For Sale, One Dollar. Volume stuck on full'". I thought, "I can't turn that down!!".**

**My question is "Does it squelch him from buying new radios??".**

**70) The ham is sending Morse Code with his headphones on. His angry wife is being him, ready to hit him with a baseball bat.**

**He likely never knew what him in this version of "pile-up".**

**71) A Ham Radio Belt Buckle with a Morse Code Keyer on it, and the words "Amateur Radio" below it.**

**That way, they don't get caught with their pants down while operating...or for those OM's who have 8 portables and battery packs on their belt!! (hi hi).**

**72) A Ham Radio Hoodie that notes "It's Okay if you don't like ham radio. It's kinds of a smart people hobby anyway".**

**This is what's known as "snob appeal".**



**73) A simple question and answer meme:**

**Question: Can ham radio make you a millionaire??**

**Answer: Yes...if you're a billionaire.**

**I guess with this item number (73), it means "goodbye to your money!!".**

**74) A ham has three electronic units, and he notes at the club meeting "Although I'm new to ham radio, I have already built three radios. A two meter radio, a six meter radio, and a forty meter radio".**

**The problem is that the two meter radio has two meters on it...the six meter radio has six meters on it, and the forty meter radio has...you guessed it...forty meters on it.**

**This is clearly an issue of semantics, or "we have a failure to communicate".**

**75) A photo of 2 porta-potties, side by side, with a twin mast antenna between them.**

**I guess the second antenna is in the basement, and we know what the Q R N represents, as the propagation stinks!! Maybe this is P P O T A – Porta-Potties On The Air!!**

**76) Logic Gate. A metal gate to keep trespassers out, but it's noted with logic gate symbols in the metal work.**

**77) This ham built his house (with a ham radio antenna on top) on a rotating huge rotary wheel with push knobs. The caption noted that "Somehow, Clyde never fully grasped the concept of rotating a beam".**

**My question is, "what does he do in windy/stormy weather??"**

**78) The wife screams, looking at their dog, noting "Someone hacked our account, and spent \$1,567 on ham radio equipment!!".**

**79) A father bear and a baby bear are in a log cabin, with ham radio gear. The little one asks “Papa, what’s a ham radio??”. Dad replies “Well son, it’s a bacon-flavored version of regular radio, perfect for breakfast transmissions”.**

**80) Ham Radio Operator: An introvert who shells out big bucks on expensive electronics, for the purpose of sitting in a room, attempting to connect with total strangers.**

**Truer words were never spoken.**

**81) There are 4 metal ducks lined up, and the caption notes “Today at a hamfest, I finally got all of my ducks in a row!!”.**

**I guess the bands are all quacked up.**

**82) There is a picture of a ham holding up dark cloud against the blue sky, and the caption notes “I saw the craziest message in the clouds today. Tell me I’m not the only one who saw it!!”. The message said “You deserve more ham radios”.**

**I see a massive storm coming with the X Y L!!**

**83) There is a black bunny rabbit, eating the paper of receipts. The caption notes “Helpful bunny, eating the evidence of my ham radio purchases”.**

**There will be a “hare raising experience”, and the wife will be “hopping mad” when she finds out!!**

**84) If you’ve ever said “Just One More Contact”, and it was three o’clock A M before you realized it, you might be a Ham Radio Operator.**

**85) The only thing I get excited about more than a good DX contact, is a package from DX Engineering.**

**Insert your favorite ham radio dealer above.**

**86) Impedance Matching Spray Paint. This is the rattle can edition, to tune your tower in seconds. Don’t fix your transmission line!! Paint over the problem!! It features:**

**A. Realigns coaxial chakras.**

**B. Reduces V S W R up to one hundred twelve percent.**

**C. Adds 3 D B of confidence.**

**D. Works on Yagi, Dipole, or bent coat hanger you call an antenna.**

**E. Now with Nano-Ferrite Polymetrics for directional R F Laminar Flow!!**

**Instructions For Use:**

**1. Shake can vigorously (to excite R F harmonics).**

**2. Spray liberally over mismatched surfaces.**

**3. Chant “Fifty Ohms...Fifty Ohms”, while grounding yourself.**

**4. Enjoy crisp modulation, and smug superiority”.**

**Note: It works well with the 2 other sprays noted in this file!!**

**87) How the Faraday Cage was invented. A woman is sitting on a park bench, and she is reading a manual. The metal grated trash can has been turned upside down, and in it, is the baby in its diaper, holding on to the metal grate, as if he’s in jail...and he does not look happy.**

**Well, when you’re testing for an exam, you need as little distraction as possible!!**

**88) There is a shack shot full of ham radio rigs and accessories...and the caption notes “If it’s ham radios, it’s not hoarding!!”.**

**I guess it’s “(H)am O)ver A)ll R)eal-Life D)oings I)n N)avi-G)ation!!”**

**89) You see this huge snake with a full belly from having just swallowed something. Beside the snake is a headset that has the audio “Please repeat, your last transmission was garbled”.**

**I guess this is Pythons On The Air.**

**90) The Shack Cleaning Day: A mythical event, where all the cables are untangled, the old Q S L cards are filed, and the coffee cups are removed from the operating desk. This is rarely seen in the wild.**

**91) A ham is at his station, but the coaxial cable has split, and is smoking. He's wondering if the S W R is a little high.**

**92) The definition of a vacuum tube: A tube with a vacuum cleaner on top of a circular tube. Maybe this sucks out all the Q R M and Q R N.**

**93) Bob is sitting in his chair, and he notices a Q S L card under his door. He is intrigued, especially because it is the closet door. I guess the mystery of the lost contact is now solved.**

**94) A new type of gum...Wrigley's Extra...long lasting ragchew. It's ham flavored, and Morse Code free. Never mind a cow chewing its cud...but I think someone needs to come up for air!!**

**95) A handi-talkie with a Tweco connector to extend the antenna. It's an extended range 2 meter HT antenna.**

**96) A picture of a burned out fuse, noting "For Sale: One Hundred Fuses. I have individually tested them, and they all worked". Yeah, worked at one time!!**

**97) A new dummies book...Ham Radio For Big Dummies. It boasts that you can memorize all the answers, sell junk at hamfests, and prepare for the big one. There's a picture of a photoshopped Fred G Sanford on the front, with the A R R L Logo on his hat, and it notes "the publication is by Fred G Sanford, and The G Is For Genius".**

**Never mind "It's The Big One!!"**

**98) Field Day Prep. My Honda Generator has bad gas. Most of us just blame the dog.**

**99) Ham Radio Store Parking. You have several vehicles in the parking lot.**

- A. The first one is an old pickup truck, in the space “Spark Gap”.**
- B. The second one is a regular size car, in the space “H F and V H F”.**
- C. The third one is a compact car, in the space “U H F and up”.**
- D. The fourth one is an armored car, in the space “Prepper”.**

**I wonder if they need blind hams to help them get out of the parking lot.**

**100) There is a boxing match, with one fighter saying “I want to save money”, versus another fighter saying “I want another radio”.**

**And, the winner is...**

**101) N 6 B J D notes “If a ham radio operator says he will fix it, there is no need for the X Y L to remind him every 6 months”.**

**102) There is a photo of two sets of vehicular wheels and shock absorbers, with one noting “positive camber”, and the other noting “negative camber”. Yet, it notes “I can’t find the setting for this in the Icom 7300 manual”.**

**Never mind trying to set up a mobile rig.**

**103) A little girl is on a double swing set, with her on one, and the other one is empty. In talking to her “imaginary friend”, she says “My Dad’s imaginary friends live in something called “Ham Radio”. Yet, they are “real friends” to him.**

**104) There is a dual image of the front ends of two vehicles, with the hoods up, and jumper cables attached to each. The caption notes “How To Jump A Car Battery”. Yet, in the bottom photo, you see two individuals with a jump rope, and the car battery jumping.**

**I wonder if you can do this on Field Day??**

**105) If radios were hamburgers, this is our menu.**

**A. Icom – looks like a huge bacon cheeseburger from Sonic.**

**B. Kenwood – looks like a quadruple cheeseburger from McDonald’s.**

**C. Yaesu – looks like a bacon cheeseburger from Burger King.**

**D. Homebrew – looks like a double hoagie sandwich on Texas Toast.**

**E. Motorola – a frozen piece of a steak.**

**F. Alinco – looks like chicken nuggets or “tater tots”.**

**G. Hallifcrafters – A Mastodon Pachyderm in the snow.**

**H. Flex – looks like a “Super Bull”.**

**I. Hammerlund – looks like a huge oversized cheeseburger.**

**J. Elecraft – looks like a microscopic cheeseburger, almost like from Krystal or White Castle.**

**K. Baofeng – Looks like a piece of shredded wheat from the cereal.**

**L. Heathkit – Looks like a rabbit pushing a grocery cart with carrots.**

**This proves that H.A.M. stands for “Have Another Meal”. Hold the Motorola, Hallicrafters, Baofeng, Heathkit, and Flex, please.**

**106) There are two islands nearby on the ocean, but there is a wire antenna strung from each single palm tree on each island, so they are connected. One group of island folks has an H F radio...and the folks on the other island note “Islands On The Air would be more fun if WE had a radio, too!!”.**

**I want to know how they strung that antenna wire.**

**107) A photo of 5 cats, each with different expressions, with basic radio modulation modes explained, using cats. They note Lower Side Band (L S B), Amplitude Modulation (A M), Upper Sideband (U S B), Frequency Modulation (F M), and a slimmed down version of the F M one, known as “Narrow F M”.**

**With K1TTY at the mic, I wonder if the signals were purr modulated??**

**108) The scene is a bedroom, with the husband and his wife in separate beds. The nightstand with the telephone is next to the husband's bed. Yet, the smoking remains of the phone are on the night stand, and in the husband's hand...from a phone call from the neighbor who's also a ham radio operator.**

**He told his wife that the neighbor asked "Does my radio interfere with any of your electronics when I transmit??".**

**He must have had "all knobs to the right".**

**109) The service man is in front of one of these old classic radios. The woman says "The local stations work fine, but I can't get W O R or W L W anymore". The technician replies "I'll have to look for a defect in the R F system".**

**110) A guy and a girl are on the couch, and his date does NOT look happy.**

**He tells her "Ohhhh...YOU thought I was a radiologist.**

**No, I'm a radio-ologist...I repair radios!!".**

**I think this relationship is about to go Q R T.**

**111) There is a picture of a small circular photographic film container. The caption notes "Getting older really sneaks up on you. My grandson asked me why I had such small Tupperware containers!!**

**112) The scene is on the inside of a cave, with prehistoric animals on the walls. There is a guy inside with a wooden club, and you see 6 pairs of feet of folks who have been knocked out by the main with the club. At the entrance to the cave, one individual says to another one beside him, "Comments have been turned off".**

**113) A guy, who obviously doesn't know much about ham radio, let alone Q R P operations, asks "Does less than one hundred watts even transmit??".**

**Q R P is when you care the most to send the very least.**

**114) The scene is a cat at a table, with a huge pepperoni pizza in front of him. The caption notes “The answer to all my problems probably isn’t pizza. But, I’m going to double check that!!”.**

**This is a theory worth verifying in the shack!!**

**115) A Google Search for “ladder lines” shows four ladders hanging from a line.**

**Seriously??!!**

**116) The photo shows Big Bird being escorted away by Darth Vader and armed guards...as the caption notes “When a General answers your CQ in the Extra segment of the band”.**

**117) The husband and wife are looking at an item that came in the mail. It notes “We have been trying to reach you about your Baofeng’s extended warranty!!”.**

**118) It looks like a tree frog and an iguana are on a tree branch, and the iguana is holding the tree frog’s mouth shut. The caption notes “Squelch Control Activated”.**

**I guess some things are easy to visualize.**

**119) The two types of ham radio operator. On the left, is the casual (and relaxed) ragchewer, and on the right, the competitive (but frustrated) D X er.**

**120) The new ham radio mobile rig has fancy rigs and a mic, strapped to the top and sides of a pig.**

**If you run them on high power, it gives a new meaning to “bacon frying”.**

**121) Amateur Radio Smoke Signals. One is sending up “C Q D X”, and the other just has a blank speaking balloon, as “if he’s at a loss for words”.**

**122) Ten different items on what H.A.M. in Ham Radio stands for:**



**A. Have Another Meal or Have A Muffin – two things hams love to do are talk and eat...and if you eat ham, you're cannibalistic (hi hi).**

**B. Haven't Any Money – considering the prices of hardware, software, accessories, etc., as well as meals at restaurants, this certainly holds true!!**

**C. Haven't Any Memory – when you can't remember what day of the week it is, what net you're supposed to run or check into, where you put your shack items, what your license expiration date is, what your license class privileges are, when you forget to power on the rig, set the right frequency or reflector, test the audio beforehand, hook the antenna back up, etc.**

**D. Have A Mess – a cluttered shack is a sign of genius – don't straighten it up, or you'll goof up my system, as I'm going for the "Bad Shackkeeping Award" (hi hi).**

**E. Have A Mattress – eat, ham, sleep, repeat.**

**F. Have A Marriage – when you ham, take radio, to be your lawfully wedded spouse (hi hi).**

**G. Have A Meeting – when you have an eyeball QSO at a restaurant, hamfest, test session, etc.**

**H. Have A Minute – usually a very rare occurrence, when you're so busy with the hobby (hi hi).**

**I. Have A Malfunction – when part or all of your shack gear "does the smoke test" or quits working.**

**J. Have A Motormouth – for a ham who constantly does a soapbox monologue, and seems to not want or need to "come up for air". Some repeaters/nodes, etc. have 1 minute timeouts because of this.**

**As the late Paul Harvey noted, "And now, you know...the rest of the story".**

**123) According to N6BJD, there are 5 ways to have a good day:**

**A. Drink Coffee.**

**B. Avoid People.**

**C. Talk On Ham Radio.**

**D. Drink More Coffee.**

**E. Keep Avoiding People.**

**124) Two dachshunds are side by side. One with his mouth open, and the other with his mouth closed. The caption notes “He’s working split, you knucklehead!!”.**

**125) From a Dilbert Comic Strip years ago by Scott Adams. Dilbert says to this female, named Liz, “If I left engineering, and became a manager, would I be as sexy as I am now, Liz??”.**

**She replies “I think it would decrease your sex appeal by seventeen percent, but that’s just a planning number”.**

**So, he asks “What if I get my ham radio license to compensate for the loss??”.**

**She replies “Look at my arm...goose bumps!!”.**

**126) A new take on the Dr. Seuss Classic...Green Eggs and Ham. You have the green eggs, then an antenna tower and mast.**

**I do like DX...Ham I Am.**

**127) From a photoshopped Peanuts Comic Strip (originally done by the late Charles M. Schulz), Linus is telling a female classmate “Geography Class is a lot more fun, since I got my ham radio license”.**

**I’ll bet that Peppermint Patty couldn’t possible care less!!**

**128) N0UJR shows a photo of a ham with a myriad of electronic parts on the table, and the documentation notes “Assemble main board per figure 7-9”. The caption notes “Kit Fun”.**

**No thanks, I’ll buy mine fully assembled.**

**129) The inside of a vehicle with at least 2 dozen radios, microphones, and connectors. I'd hate to see the R F I generated, never mind the huge battery required to power all of these rigs!!**

**130) A confused new ham radio operator, with a headset, trying to figure out C Q, K W, 7 3, Eighty Eight, Q S B, Q R P, Q R Z, Q R N, Q R M, Q S Y, Q R L, Q S O, and D X.**

**No wonder his brain is as scrambled as the H F bands are at times!!**

**131) N0UJR notes a ham trying to have an Q S O on the H F bands. He says "Hang on a minute, Larry...my S W R is jumping. I'm going outside to see what the problem is".**

**The problem is one bear has climbed the tower, and messing with the antenna mast...while a second bear is waiting by the door for him to come outside.**

**It gives new meaning to the term "propagation is a real bear!!".**

**132) A modern day H F rig is next to an old tube type radio. The microphone on the old tube type radio snarls "Who are you calling 'old timer', young fella??!!".**

**133) Another ham radio shack warning sign that notes "WARNING!! Tampering with my ham radio will result in a [butt] whooping you'll never forget!!**

**134) A pen with several small ink cartridges with breaks, noting "My pen is ready to log my C W contacts".**

**135) A squirrel panicking, holding up his paws, and screaming...with the caption "Me...when my first ever H F contact insistently got my call wrong, and then moved on".**

**136) Two photos of a baby. The first photo has him crying, as in having to take a bath, and it notes "Up at 5 A M to go to work".**

**However, the second photo shows him with a huge happy face, noting "Up at 5 A M to work D X".**

**137) A split photo...first, the skyline of a big, industrious, fancy city, noting “Where normal people dream about living”.**

**Second, a photo of a ham radio operators QTH, surrounded by trees, and noting “Where hams dream about living”.**

**138) A photo of a burned up H F rig that caught fire. I guess he should’ve been operating Q R P, instead of “all knobs to the right”.**

**139) Picard and Riker of Star Trek, having a conversation. One says “When I was younger, my mother forbade me from making breakfast puns. She said ‘One more time, and you’re toast’. But my Dad kept egging me on...he was such a ham”!!**

**140) One ham is sitting on the edge of the bed, and his wife doesn’t look very happy. He says “She wanted a bedtime story...I gave her my Q S O log”.**

**141) The H F operator can’t figure out why his signal has gone bad. He looks outside, and notes that his wife has converted his multi-band HF antenna into a clothesline for the laundry to dry on.**

**I guess the bands are all washed out!!**

**142) A photo of a wide eyed, horrified kitten, on the couch, reaching between the cushions. The caption notes “When you’re looking for your H T, and touch something weird between the cushions”!!**

**143) A test diagram that notes. You can only pick one. Choose wisely.**

**You are told to pick one answer. Your choices are “one” and “wisely”.**

**I doubt this is what’s actually on the ham radio license exams!!**

**144) The look of the hamster with his mouth open, saying “Can You Hear Me Now??” (This one is for Lee, N9NJS, Chief Illinois Hamster).**

**145) The rabbit standing on a chair at the microphone, asking “Maybe I should try C W or maybe F T 8”.**

**146) A guy is up on a ladder, working to cut down a tree branch, that apparently interferes with where he wants to put his future tower and antennas. His wife cautions him about safely, and he snarls “Before you start, darling...if I need your advice, I’ll ask for it”.**

**After healing, the antenna goes here.**

**147) A picture of 4 sets of tools, including saws, drills, etc. by DeWalt, Ryobi, Milwaukee, and Makita. The caption notes “Hams don’t do shirts versus skins. This is how we pick teams.**

**148) The photo shows “my dream radio”...a \$6000 D C to Daylight Rig. Yet, the reality is “the bank”. This is why H.A.M. stands for “Haven’t Any Money”.**

**149) A dating young lady and her boyfriend are dreaming about things for the future, with their relationship.**

**She wants several items, including a house, a car, an engagement and wedding ring, nice clothes and shoes, worldwide travel, and children.**

**His dream is simple...A D C to Daylight H F rig.**

**150) A girl in class is tattling on one of her classmates...complaining “Miss Walters!! Gerald is making contacts with F T 8 again, instead of doing his coding work”.**

**151) A photo of a black cat, showing its fangs/teeth...and the caption notes “Your Station Has A Vampire Load Problem”.**

**152) You have a bunch of monks, chanting before an electronic resistor. The caption says “Join The Resistance”, and they’re chanting “Ohm”!!**

**153) A combination tool of pliers and a vise gripper – noted as Multi-Mode.**

**154) A rig with the word “BOOBIES” on the display, and the caption notes “Ham Radio Buyers All Fall For This One Trick”.**

**I think it should have said “HOBBIES”.**

**155) Two girls are chatting in the shrubbery. One asks “How did Vikings sent secret messages??”. The other one replies “By Norse Code”.**

**156) The opening words from Abraham Lincoln’s Gettysburg address, has been modified to ham radio approach. “Four Score And Seven”-’teen meters are my favorite bands”.**

**157) When the Ham Radio Operators Wife (X Y L) learns the lingo, it spells disaster, as follows, with her own Q codes:**

**A. Q R T – Quit Radio, it’s time for dinner.**

**B. Q R M – Quit Rolling Eyes.**

**C. Q S Y – Socialing (Online).**

**158) Pro Tip. If you drive to the gym, work DX on your mobile for ninety minutes, then drive home, you can still tell people that you went to the gym; as it is technically correct.**

**159) How I want the wiring my station to look – a single railroad track going down the right of way...that is the perception.**

**However, the reality, is a classification yard, with the tracks going off in all directions.**

**160) From an episode of the Flintstones cartoon, Fred has a rabbit on top of the TV set, and the picture reception is all garbled. The caption notes “When you use rabbit ears”.**

**161) Two rabbits are next to a radio, and one of them has his left ear pointed up. Guess which one is transmitting??**

**162) A little boy is on his back on the floor of the store, with a plunger in his face that he’s trying to remove. The caption asks “How’s your antenna install going??”.**

**163) If you remember the Waterful Ring-Toss, where objects are in this container of water, where you turn a knob...this is how non-hams see your comment about PSK 31...on “I see your signal on my waterfall”.**

**164) Doctor Electronics Doolittle. A two headed llama, with a head at each end. The caption is “voltage doubler circuit diagram”.**

**165) The father, holding his little one, and showing the book “Ham Radio” to the harmonic. The little one is wide-eyed, but I don’t think it’s the reaction that Dad was wanting!!**

**166) At the Health Point Trivial Care Clinic, the patients are discussing why they need to see the doctor. One woman says “Paper Cut. What about you??”. Obviously, a ham radio operator, he replies “F T 8”.**

**167) Two guys from a movie, and one asks the other “Have you ever tried working D X with a hotspot??”.**

**168) Behind the monitor of the computer, is a huge fur ball of a cat, and the caption notes “CAT CONTROL ACTIVATED!”.**

**169) A guy whose hair is standing on end, and he asks “What is this R F in the shack that you speak of??”.**

**170) On Halloween, next to the pumpkin, is a box of old radio tubes in a cigar box, and the sign notes “Only One Tube Per Trick Or Treater”**

**171) Also on Halloween, a ham has 3 candy machines out front, that you have to put 25 cents in to get some candy. The caption notes “Happy Halloween, Kids. I want a new radio”.**

**172) This image is rather quacked up with daffy-nitions:**

**A) Induction – the act of inserting ducks.**

**B) Deduction – the act of removing ducks.**

**C) Reduction – replacing a worn out duck with a replacement duck.**

**173) When you accidentally say “Ten Four” on Ten Meters...it’s like a chicken walking into the parking lot of a Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant.**

**174) The Amateur Radio Purple Crystal Award, for those who time out the repeaters. Here is that poem the certificate was created out of:**

**"To See What Repeaters That Bill Can Time Out"**

**For Bill Drummer, KC8YQL -- Written By Daryl Stout, N5VLZ**

**1) Repeaters, reflectors, with digital modes.  
Technology now, the way things all go.  
KC8YQL, for these, roams about.  
To see what reflectors that Bill can time out.**

**2) D-Star, D-Rats, and Echolink, too.  
VoIP, RF, there's so much to do.  
With so many modes, and nets there to scout,  
To see what reflectors that Bill can time out.**

**3) Making these nets is his daily task;  
Any spare time?? The question to ask.  
Into the hobby, with all of his clout.  
To see what reflectors that Bill can time out.**

**4) Keep Communicate, phonetics first part.  
You're Quite Lengthy, transmissions from the heart.  
Part of what the hobby's about.  
To see what reflectors that Bill can time out.**

**5) Aside from the nets, his knowledge is great.  
While he discusses, we're all glad to wait.  
Benefits all, not trash he does spout.  
To see what reflectors that Bill can time out.**

**6) For sure, Bill is active, on so many bands.  
Working his rig, the modes, with his hands.  
To catch a net fish, as big as a trout,  
To see what reflectors that Bill can time out.**



7) In working the nets, his signals so fine.  
His signals Q Five, or even, five nine.  
His heart for the hobby, there is no doubt.  
To see what reflectors that Bill can time out.

8) Though some will try there, with nets to compete.  
For nets to checkin to, Bill can't be beat.  
To miss a net there, does one just pout??  
To see what reflectors that Bill can time out.

9) It may seem like there, this poem is a roast.  
But to Bill Drummer, to him, it's a toast.  
We pick on the ones, that we care about.  
To see what reflectors that Bill can time out.

10) So, while this poem tribute, is noted in fun.  
Passion for hobby, there's no other one.  
Not boasting or bragging, the knowledge to flout.  
To see what reflectors that Bill can time out.

175) The CIANOTT Ham Radio Award, for those who “checked into all nets or tried to”.

Limerick verse written by Daryl Stout, N5VLZ

1) All amateur radio nets.  
Multiple modes to there get.  
If missed a checkin,  
Most think it's a sin.  
This award is a good bet.

2) Multiple modes on all bands.  
Checkin however you can.  
Digital, Voice.  
You do have a choice.  
Checking Net Lists with your hands.

3) All kinds of nets on the dock.  
All day and night, round the clock.

**Most at the same time,  
One thinks that's a crime,  
Time slots, one is not there, locked.**

**4) The name of this is CIANOTT.  
Nethoppers, it's what they got.  
Wide subjects, abound.  
You'll think you have drowned.  
The number of nets is a lot!!**

**5) So, this award is for you.  
For all nets that you check into.  
With happiness, glee.  
We say "Seven Three".  
Ham Radio Nets in full view.**

**176) From: Chris Stanford  
Subject: Wallsign for Hams to post**

**Here is something funny I found on the Internet somewhere. I thought that you would like to have a copy of it to print out and post in your shack's.**

**-----CUT HERE-----**

### **NOTICE TO ALL VISITORS**

**WHAT YOU ARE ABOUT TO WITNESS IS AN AMATEUR RADIO  
STATION LICENSED AS \_\_\_\_\_ BY THE FEDERAL  
COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION IN WASHINGTON, DC. BEFORE  
YOU ASK THE QUESTIONS, HERE ARE THE ANSWERS:**

**1) The total cost of this equipment cannot be discussed here as it creates marital conflicts.**

**2) No, we cannot send a message to your brother in Hong Kong. We would have suggested that you call Western Union; but alas, they do not do telegrams anymore.**

**3) This is strictly a hobby; we do not have the facilities or the time to fool around with TV sets, radios or hi-fi. We suggest that you see a serviceman.**

**4) Yes, the antenna in the backyard is essential to the operation of the equipment.**

**5) The farthest station we have contacted has been in the Ubangiland.**

**6) The cards on the wall are called QSL cards. They are confirmation of contacts made with other stations.**

**7) It is technically impossible for this station's equipment to interfere with television reception, telephones, computers, or stereo systems. Any interference problems of that nature are caused by design flaws in the home-entertainment devices themselves.**

**8) An Amateur Radio station may only be operated by a highly qualified, technically skilled electronics expert. It takes dedication, training and intelligence to reach the level of competence that justifies one to be licensed by the United States Federal Government. Therefore, it is not considered inappropriate to show proper awe, respect and general obsequiousness when I discuss my hobby or operate the controls.**

### **FURTHERMORE...**

**IF YOU ARE GRANTED THE EXTREME HONOR OF BEING INVITED TO SPEAK INTO THE MICROPHONE, PLEASE OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING RULES:**

**1) Speak in a low and soothing tone.**

**2) Do not disagree with me in any manner.**

**3) Say no bad words and tell no off-color jokes.**

**4) It is customary for guests to make complimentary remarks about this station and its licensed operator when talking to other hams on the air.**

**DO NOT TOUCH ANYTHING, TURN ANY KNOBS, SIT ON EQUIPMENT, ETC. I HAVE LOST SEVERAL VISITORS BY ELECTROCUTION IN THE PAST FEW WEEKS.**

**Thank you for your cooperation**

**-----CUT HERE-----**

**177) A ham is stopped on a street corner in his car, and this female prostitute says “\$50, and it’s whatever you want, baby”...thinking he’ll want sex. He replies “Well, I need to climb to the top of my tower, and bring down the rotor that is damaged”.**

**If only it was this simple!!**

**178) A picture of several minions side by side, with caption “Minions are takig over my ham shack”.**

**179) The little boy is sitting on the couch, and says “When Grandpa calls it ‘playing on the radio’, but all I hear is beeps like Bee Dee Dee Doo Bee Dee Dee Dee”.**

**180) Components Explained – Holiday Style. There is a huge cake, with rich looking, super sweet frosting on the table. There are 3 individuals next to the table.**

**A) A skinny ham, holding out his hand, as if to say “Keep It Away From Me”. This is defined as RESISTANCE. This is likely the one diabetics need to be!!**

**B) A medium sized ham, is slicing a nice big piece of cake for his plate. This is defined as INDUCTANCE.**

**C) A heavy set ham, who clearly ate too much. This is defined as CAPICITANCE.**

**181) A picture of Pinocchio with an extending nose (telling another lie), saying “that will be last radio that I buy”.**

**182) The sign out of the meeting of the First Area Radio Troupe of Scouts. These two old men note on the sign “Whippersnappers Are Welcome”...and they note “That should dispel the myth that we’re a bunch of old guys who don’t know how to get today’s youth to join us!!”.**

**183) This guy says “It’s an older code, sir...but it checks out”. At the top, it notes in Morse Code, “C Q POTA”.**

**184) A computer chip sees an old transistor tube, and exclaims “Grandpa!!”.**

**185) This is guy is next to a pear tree in December, and his ending to the classic song is “And A Baofeng In A Pear Tree”.**

**186) The Ham Shack, with clutter everywhere...and the caption “Shack Happens”.**

**187) The OM is ragchewing, but the wife is at the door of the shack with a large card that he has to read. It says “7 3 O M, I really must sign now. My dinner was ready 19 minutes ago, and if I don’t come and get it, my gorgeous, very patient X Y L is going to feet it to the dog!!”.**

**Can you say “No Pressure??”.**

**188) A parking lot sign with a ham radio rig and a microphone on it, with the warning: “Ham Radio Operator Parking Only. Violators Will Be Squelched”.**

**189) From the “Such A Ham” comic strip. The two husbands, who are hams, have set up a dipole line on the clothesline. One of the ham’s wives says “Stan and Cliff have been busy installing my clothesline all day, Mary”.**

**189) A hamfest advice table. The banner notes “Old Coots Giving Advice”...with the sub-heading, “It’s probably bad advice, but it’s free”.**

**190) They note that “exams are getting more difficult”.**

**There are 2 kinds of baluns for your antennas/feed lines):**

**A. The Hi Q Balun**

**B. The Haiku Balun – which follows the setup of three lines.**

**Five syllables in the first and third line, and Seven syllables in the second line.**

**Feed lines go in top.**

**Something is inside the box.**

**Dipole on Bottom.**

**191) I need a user friendly antenna tuner. The one I have is rather ornery.**

**It says on the display “Bro!! Do you even antenna??”**

**192) Piglet likes ham radio. He’s playing a ukelele, and sings “Generals Gathered In Their Masses”.**

**193) There are two lines for Customer Service. On the left, the line is for “More Gear”...and it is LONG. On the right, is the line for “Learning To Use Existing Gear”...and there is NOBODY in that line.**

**194) In the library, the librarian asks this young man at the table (with a sheepish grin) “Why are all the ham radio books in the Horror section??”.**

**\*\***

**If your signal is “scratchy”, does that mean you’re “itching” for a new antenna, rig, or shack setup?? (hi hi).**

**\*\***

**This is from the March, 1999 issue of WAVELENGTHS, the Arkansas Radio Emergency Services Club newsletter. The article is ECNALG -- a Backward Glance -- articles written by our senior or posthumous ham friends. This one was also written by Lyle Armstrong, K5VPM, who became a Silent Key in 1998. I personally remember when this happened, and it was, indeed, a very interesting experience!! DS**

**"Q R N in the Grass" by Lyle Armstrong, K5VPM**

**About the time a fellow figures he knows about all there is to know about**

**Q R M – Q R N – Q S B, and what causes the sounds he tunes in or out, something happens that doesn't add up, and the book solution doesn't fit. It's exasperating.**

**My ham shack is located in the attic of my house. I have the usual assorted dipoles and inverted V's that cover the HF bands, and an 8 element telex 2 meter beam. Like most fellows I meet on CW, 25-30 feet seems to be the average antenna height the majority of us are stuck with.**

**Well, one evening, I was trying to contact my brother, KA8CKL in Michigan, on a 15 meter schedule. The whole band was weird. There were strange harmonies and high pitched squeaking sounds. They all blended together, and were strong enough to block almost all CW signals...and what C W I could tune in was distorted and weak.**

**I called W5ZXS, and asked him if he noticed anything unusual on 15. Jolly said no...it was not open, but that was not unusual.**

**I was so intrigued by the strange sounds I spent the night checking the rig and all electronic equipment in the house...even shut off the VCR, TV, answering machine, microwave, and even the FM-AM radio. Then I shut off the fluorescent lights and the mercury vapor night light; I imagined that made a slight blip in the sound of the continuing background noise mess.**

**The scope showed definite sudden voltage peaks of different levels, and at uneven intervals. A tour of other bands revealed the fact that this freak interference covered all the HF bands. The "crud" was louder on 15 meters, but was audible on all HF bands, but not subject to being tuned out. I even tried a 12 volt DC HF receiver, and it yielded the same results.**

**Along about 2am, I checked into the Fertilizer Net, and even that brain trust group couldn't offer any answer to my problem. One regular member suggested I change brands. Finally, I checked out and went Q R T. In the light of day, I tried again...still there, but weaker. NUTS!!**

**I shut it all down, and fired up the mower and tried to cut the grass, which had been growing freely because of the rain and sun cycle. It was all the 5-horse Briggs and Stratton with a 21 inch blade could handle...but it had to be**

done, wet or not. So, I did it. The whole yard covers 175 by 200 feet around the house...it just about did me in.

About 5pm, I finished the job, cleaned up, crawled up the stairs to the shack, turned on the TS520S, flipped it to 2125 CW, and man, oh man!!

No Q R M – Q S B – Q R N or strange stuff at all!! Just a Cincinatti station calling C Q. I answered him - good Q S O - 73, C U L.

Well then, a check of the other H F bands revealed nothing abnormal. So what was it all about, anyhow?? Well, I finally figured it out...here is my diagnosis of the phenomena:

- 1) The unexplained noise was at my Q T H.
- 2) It stopped as soon as I cut the grass.
- 3) Nothing else was done at my Q T H.

#### **Conclusion:**

I figure that the grass was growing as fast as nature would allow. The sun-and-rain-and-sun-and-rain cycle cause the grass to grow at MORE THAN its maximum natural rate...and it was such an ideal growing condition that the molecules built up faster than the growth could occur. Then, this energy stress would discharge through the vascular bundles to the ground, and in so doing, would radiate a quick RF wave. The varied species of grass in my yard would account for the different levels and frequencies of RF emitted.

As a boy in Nebraska, I remember that on a hot, still night...a fellow could stand in a cornfield, and every few moments, could hear a loud squeak as the growth stress molecules would expand. The corn would grow in inch or two a day, but only at night when the wind died down could the jump in growth be heard. I just know that if I had a means of receiving and indicating some R F I, I would have seen the needle kick every time the corn squeaked.

I don't know enough about the super advanced electronics or solar phased agronomy to figure out any other solution that will fly.

Finally, if you want to enjoy the hobby at its finest, keep your grass cut short. And anyhow, why else is the green wire for ground?? Also, perhaps my



**grass grows so fast because of some unknown RF feedback from the Fertilizer Net frequency.**

**Submitted, subject to review...**

**Lyle E. Armstrong, K5VPM, SK**

**\*\***

**It's embarrassing when you get your tongue tied between your eye teeth, and can't see. I was telling 2 fellow hams about my limited electronics knowledge in the hobby, and I meant to say "a battery on a schematic"...but instead, I said "a schematic on a resistor"!!**

**That must be one huge resistor, or maybe Violet is a well endowed YL (hi hi).**

**\*\***

**My ham radio girlfriend is named "Annette", as "I do her every night". She's one of a few words, letting me get the last word in, so she has a spokesperson named "Mic".**

**\*\***

**Seen on a T-Shirt at the Huntsville, Alabama Hamfest in 2024:**

**"I would get more housework done, but my XYL keeps sending me to these [darn] hamfests".**

**\*\***

**On a train trip from Arkansas to Oregon back in 1994 (I took Amtrak to and from the National Square Dance Convention ®, one of my other hobbies, that I was involved with 5 years before I got my ham radio ticket), I was in my sleeping car compartment, monitoring a repeater in Wisconsin via my H T (this was long before D-Star, D M R, Echolink, WIRES-X, Fusion, etc.), and was "reading the mail" on a Q S O.**

**This one ham had just gotten out of the shower, and he apparently was as “naked as a jaybird”. He was ragchewing with the hams on frequency, then said “I need to get dressed, as my wife and I are going out for dinner tonight”. He then gave his callsign to sign off, and said he was clear of the repeater. One of his ham radio buddies then quipped “I’ll bet you didn’t know I had one of those Amateur Television Units that lets you see who you’re talking to!!”. I nearly fell out of the Sleeping Car compartment from laughter!! (hi hi).**

**\*\***

**A ham radio operator is met on the street corner by The Grim Reaper, who tells him “You know that D C to Daylight rig you ordered behind your wife’s back?? Well, it came to the house today, and she signed for it.**

**Do you want to go home and ‘face the music and her wrath’, or do you want to save yourself the trouble, and come with me now??”.**

**\*\***

**A ham radio operator had his shack down in the basement of his home. His wife never went down there, but she sternly warned him that “you can not get any new radios”.**

**Well, he was lucky enough to have “a candy store” (a place that sells new and used ham radio equipment and accessories, and it had an in-house rig service department), but he had to figure out how he was going to sneak in a new rig.**

**After some thought, he got the idea to take an empty box that one of his rigs was originally shipped in, and he told her that “the main rig has quit, so I’m going to take it in for service”. She told him “Fine...I’ll see you at dinner”. He came home later that day, and was happy as a kid on Christmas morning. He said that “they got the rig working again”...but what he DIDN’T tell her, was that there was a NEW RADIO in the box.**

**That worked...until she inevitably figured out what was going on.**

**\*\***

**There were 4 O M's (old men, what male hams are referred to as), sitting at a table in a restaurant in Annapolis, Maryland...telling each other dirty jokes in Morse Code, also known as C W (for Continuous Wave).**

**This stunningly gorgeous, curvaceous female walked up to them, and sternly admonished them "You boys need to watch your language. I teach CW at the Naval Academy across the street!!", and promptly walked out!! They were as red as tomatoes from embarrassment!! (true story).**

**\*\***

**Most people don't know that The Father Of Our Country (the United States Of America) was a ham radio operator. In fact, he was not only a ham, but he was a C W operator. We know this fact, because of the old story about the cherry tree being destroyed. When his angry father demanded to know who chopped down the tree, George responded "I didit dadah".**

**All he needed now was Ben (Franklin) to find something current, and he got a charge out of flying a kite in a thunderstorm.**

**\*\***

**DX MOVIES – I guess popcorn and butter are optional.**

**Pileup On The Orient Express**

**Gone With The Wind -- A Yagi Story**

**Dxpedition To Skull Island By K1NG/K0NG**

**Butch Cassidy And The Sundance Kid**

**First BL0OD**

**The Maltese Falklands**

**To Live and Let Diode -- 0073**

**CasaBlanker**

**Citizen Band**

**Key Largo**

**HamaLot -- The Old DXer is at it again**

**Silence Of The Hams - Starring Rachel Squelch**

**Contact - Starring AL1IEN**

**Zulu -- The Ultimate PileUp!!**

**Fifth Element -- Story about a 4 element yagi starring Bruce Willis**

**Custer's Last QSO -- He left the Sabers, Gatling Guns & HT's at the Fort!!!**

**ZULU Dawn -- Durnford didn't do well either!!**

**ZULU Dawn -- GrayLine Prequel**

**M1SH MASH -- With RF Burns**

**Gone With The Windom -- The Sequel**

**Nightmare On Elmer Street -- With JA1SON**

**VERTICAL!! Directed By Alfred Switchbox**

**Name is James, Call is B0ND -- Agent 0073**

**N8CPA writes: "I love the smell of generator exhaust in the morning  
– It smells like Field Day! [ 7:00AM June 28, 1997]"**

**\*\***

**NEW HAM RADIO AWARDS: – See how many of these you can get (hi hi).**

**B A L U N -- Bored All Listeners Under Noise**

**B E R C -- Bought Expensive Radio Cheap (TS-950SDX at \$300.00???)**

**C I A N O T T – Checked Into All Nets, Or Tried To (for the nethoppers)**

**Q T O T P – Quickest Tickle On the Pickle (for the quick keyers)**

**Q R P -- ESP QSO With A W6**

**R A G D -- Raised All Garage Doors**

**T A C D -- Tested all Commercial Devices (Dirty Linear):**

**Worked the Phone, TV, All Audio Devices, Door Bells, Burglar Alarms, Paper Shredder, Garage Doors, Cell Phones et al.**

**T A C -- Terrorized All Critters (Same Dirty Linear):**

**On Key up: Dogs Howl, Birds Go Goofy, Cat scurries under Couch, and all rodents leave the premises!!!!**

**T O A R – Timed Out All Reflectors (or Repeaters)**

**T O P -- Timed Out Propagation**

**T O R -- Timed Out Repeater (or Reflector)**

**T O R A -- Timed Out Repeater (or Reflector) Again**

**T P C A – The Purple Crystal Award (companion award to T O A R, T O P, T O R, and T O R A)**

**5 W A N -- Five Band Worked All Neighbors (easy one)**

**W A N -- Worked All Neighbors (see sample certificate elsewhere in this file)**

**W A N A -- Worked All Neighbors Again**

**W A S -- Worked All Streets (and you thought it was States)**

**W A C O -- Worked All Club Officers**

**W A O O -- Worked All Official Observers**

**\*\***

**The E.D. Net – from a late 2012/early 2013 PCL Net**

**The N0KFQ BBS in Branson, Missouri, was online from 1980 to 2018, serving packet stations in Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and other areas, as a full featured packet BBS, with both RF and Telnet Access. K.O. Higgs (N0KFQ) (SK) was the Sysop...and his wife, Billie, KB0WSA (SK) was Net Control. After her passing in October, 2016...Bob, NS2B, took over as the Net Control. K.O. became a Silent Key 2 years after Billie's death. But, at the time of this net, both Billie and K.O. were still with us, and it made for a great net every week. Everything was typed at the keyboard. For info on The PCL Net, go to <http://www.wx4qz.net/elk.htm> – and look for the file on The PCL Net.**

**Anyway, a little background information first...**

**The conversation that night started around my new callsign (at that time), WX1DER. I was originally licensed as N5VLZ in 1991 as a No-Code Technician. Then after my wife died in April, 2007, I used Ham Test Online™ (<https://www.hamradiolicenseexam.com>) to go from Technician to General in 14 days, then from General to Amateur Extra 13 days later. It was the best money that I have ever spent in Amateur Radio – see their website for details. They offer a money back guarantee if you fail the test!!**

**I had changed the original N5VLZ callsign to the vanity callsign of AE5WX in June, 2009...since severe weather communications via amateur radio was what got me interested in the hobby in 1991. Then, I changed to WX1DER in December, 2012...I got it just after a Christmas Day, 2012 storm, with nearly a foot of snow to much of Arkansas. It was the first time that snow had fallen in Little Rock on Christmas Day since 1926!!**

**WX1DER (which was short for “Weather Wonder”) was the name of a series of weather features that I had done in college at the University Of Arkansas At Little Rock (UALR, where I'm now their amateur radio club VE Team Leader), where I majored in Radio/TV/Film (RTVF), a student from 1978 to**

**1983. At the time, The Weather Channel had just come on the air, and had a feature called “A Meteorological Minute”. So, I did something similar, called “A Weather Wonder”...because “We analyze data, forecasts, and text....but, we wonder what weather will happen next”. Indeed, meteorology is an inexact science, with nearly 2 dozen forecast models that have to be analyzed several times a day by forecasters.**

**Note that I’m NOT a meteorologist, but instead, I’m an amateur weather enthusiast. However, I do know enough to be dangerous...and “I did stay at a Holiday Inn Express last night” (hi hi). In March, 2019, I changed my callsign to WX4QZ, as I got burned out on weather nets, etc. after 28 years in ham radio (nearly quitting the hobby as a result)...and the theme was now trains and railroads. But, as of Dec. 15, 2023, I returned back to my original callsign of N5VLZ (now as a vanity), especially considering I’ve used ham radio at 2 square dance events to save the lives of individuals.**

**Anyway, back to The PCL Net...**

**One ham, Ed, KI0HQ, wanted the vanity callsign of K0ED...but a ham in California had that callsign already. He added that “I’m married, and E.D. is not an issue”. With ham radio operators, each ham is the ONLY one in the world with that specific callsign.**

**As noted earlier, at the time, Net Control was Billie, KB0WSA, N0KFQ's XYL (wife). She moderated the net from their home in Branson (which I got to visit during an OzarkCon QRP Weekend in early April several years ago). It was a roundtable discussion, and it went around to each member, and all of us are typing at our computer keyboards.**

**Well, after I had made my comments, and Ed had made his, it was the turn of an older ham in Minnesota, Roger, KB0SON. He thought that E.D. stood for “Electronic Doofus”!!**

**Now, \*\*I personally can relate to that\*\*, as electronics was NEVER my forte'; although you have to know some electronic theory with each ham radio license exam. I can tell you the colors on a resistor, thanks to Violet (hi hi), I know as little as not even an amp of electricity can kill you, and I know what a battery is on a schematic diagram...but that’s about it.**

**As a side note, the acronym B B R O Y G B V G W stands for “Bad Boys [Ravish] Our Young Girls, But Violet Gives Willingly”. The first letter of each of those words is the first letter in the color on the resistor.**

**After Roger got done, it was over to K.O., N0KFQ – all he typed was “I'm curious to see how Ed is going to explain E.D. to Roger”. At this point, I'm chuckling like crazy.**

**It got back to Billie, KB0WSA (Net Control), and she turned it over to Ed, KI0HQ. He typed “Billie?? Do you know Morse Code??”. She typed back “Yes, and I know a lot of other things as well”!!**

**I was about to urinate in my pants from laughter by now, as Ed typed in the Morse Code characters for “erectile dysfunction”...which like an enlarged prostate, is just part of a man growing old!! But, I'll bet Roger, KB0SON, was red with embarrassment!!**

**Several weeks after KB0WSA had become a Silent Key, I again brought up the great memory of “The E.D. Net”, and her widower, N0KFQ, happily noted “it was so refreshing to hear of that again...and it was exactly the way that Daryl (at that time, WX1DER) told it”!!**

**K.O. passed away two years after Billie had become a Silent Key...both of them are sorely missed.**

**The Legacy of K.O. and Billie, and the PCL Net continues most every Monday at 8pm Eastern Time, on the NS2B BBS in Penfield, New York. Please see the file at <http://www.wx4qz.net/elk.htm> for more info.**

**\*\***

**One amateur radio operator quipped that he was starting a MAPGA group; to “Make Amateur Packet Great Again”. Since packet radio is the one and only digital mode that’s “error free”, I guess you could say that it TRUMPS all the other modes (hi hi).**

**\*\***

**"Having a Ham As A Pet"**



**From the Feb. 1998 issue of "Wavelengths", the monthly newsletter of the Arkansas Radio Emergency Services Amateur Radio Club, in Little Rock, Arkansas. The Wavelengths editor at that time was Fred Hunt, KK5AA. While the club is still in existence (the club callsign is N5AT, and they have a Facebook page), I don't know if the newsletter still exists or not.**

## **INTRODUCTION:**

**The pet Ham is one of the most intelligent of pets, often seeming almost human. But, he can also be one of the most difficult to keep. Only a person with a great deal of patience and understanding should attempt to keep a pet Ham. The following is a short guide to some of the most important things that you should know about caring for your pet Ham.**

## **LIVING AREA:**

**Your pet Ham should have a private area of his own, an entire room, if possible, where he will not be disturbed. He will spend many happy hours alone there, with his collection of treasures (boxes, wires, bits of metal, glass, paper, plastic, etc. that he'll bring home regularly). He should be encouraged to confine his activities to this nest room, in order to protect the rest of the house from his natural tendencies toward noise, clutter, and making holes in the walls.**

## **EXPENSES:**

**Raising your pet Ham can turn into an expensive hobby. But, unlike most pets, the pet Ham can be trained to work outside the home for short periods, and thus, bring in enough money to cover all of his expenses.**

## **FEEDING:**

**The well behaved pet Ham will be able to eat with the family on occasion. But, he usually feels more comfortable and secure if he can take many of his meals in the privacy of his nest room. It will be your responsibility to see that your pet Ham is kept well supplied with food and drinks during the long periods of time that he will spend alone in the nest room.**

## **HOUSEKEEPING:**

**Pet Hams can usually be trained to use the family bathroom facilities (at least, we hope so, anyway...or maybe it's the photo of the porta-potty with dual antennas on it...P O T A for Potty On The Air (noted earlier in this file (hi hi))).**

## **OBEDIENCE TRAINING:**

**Most pet Hams can be trained to respond to a few simple commands. The easiest for him is SIT and SPEAK. Once your pet Ham has learned these commands, he will sometimes practice them on his own for hours at a time.**

## **HEALTH CARE:**

**The pet Ham is especially subject to minor irritations of the lower back, and sore throat; from too much sitting and speaking. The special CW breed tends to have a tired wrist rather than sore throat...and RTTY versions may suffer from tired and hurting eyes, depending on his age and monitor. These can be relieved by sufficient rest periods when symptoms flare up.**

## **TRAVELING:**

**Your pet Ham will gladly travel with you in the family car, if he is allowed to bring some of the collection from his nest room. His favorite trips will be to places where he can associate with other pet Hams from other families.**

## **BREEDING:**

**If you plan to breed your pet Ham, you should do so as early as possible after you get him. As the pet Ham matures, he becomes more and more reluctant to engage in any activities not connected with his nest room collection!!**

**\*\***

**The following is from the December, 2004 issue of WorldRadio magazine; and is entitled "You've Got Big Trouble", written by Virgil Sipes, W7YEN.**

**Having been in Amateur Radio on and off for most of the last 50 years, I've experienced my share of troubles. I've talked with other amateurs, and it appears that my troubles are not unique. In fact, having trouble seems to be the norm. Over the years, I've discovered that problems and errors can be classified into two basic categories.**

**A) Troubles that are fixed with a little extra work, a little more mental engagement, and maybe some verbal lubrication.**

**B) Troubles that might require more than the Gross National Product of a small country to correct.**

**Some troubles are so momentous, that they belong in their own special category. One of my records to date is 213 discrete solid-state devices wiped out with one slip of a probe. I've listed some of the troubles I've experienced, some troubles I've known others to experience, and some troubles that I can envision, but never hope to encounter.**

**1) You're in trouble -- when you key your new kilowatt transmitter, and the room lights go out. You're in BIG trouble -- when you key your new kilowatt transmitter, and the street lights go out.**

**2) You're in trouble -- when you've accidentally been operating out of band, and get a letter from the FCC. You're in BIG trouble -- when you've accidentally been operating out of band, and you get a visit from the KGB.**

**3) You're in trouble -- when you measure the voltage to your new mobile transceiver, and it measures +8 volts. You're in BIG trouble -- when you measure the voltage to your new mobile transceiver, and it measures -8 volts.**

**4) You're in trouble -- when measuring your 850 volt power supply, you've set your multimeter on the 100 ohm scale. You're in BIG trouble -- when measuring your 850 volt power supply, you've set your multimeter on the 100 amp scale.**

**5) You're in trouble -- when you're changing the oil in your Field Day Generator, and metal fillings come out. You're in BIG trouble -- when you're changing the oil in your Field Day Generator, and nothing comes out.**

**6) You're in trouble -- when your rig is set to 220 VAC, and you connect it to 110 VAC. You're in BIG trouble -- when your rig is set to 110 VAC, and you connect it to 220 VAC.**

**7) You're in trouble -- when you use your new kilowatt transmitter, and the antenna relay is stuck in transmit. You're in BIG trouble -- when you use your new kilowatt transmitter, and the antenna relay is stuck in receive.**

**8) You're in trouble -- after you transmit to your favorite local repeater with your new home-brew rig, the local repeater won't shut off. You're in BIG trouble -- after you transmit to your favorite local repeater with your new home-brew rig, all local repeaters won't shut off.**

**9) You're in trouble -- when you make a call on 6 meters, and the neighbors complain about your interfering with their TV Channel 2. You're in BIG trouble -- when you make a call on 6 meters, and Channel 2 complains about your interfering with their TV.**

**10) You're in trouble -- when you pick up your handheld after it was sitting in your open convertible all night, and water runs out. You're in BIG trouble -- when you pick up your handheld after it was sitting in your open convertible all night, and there's a bubble in the display.**

**11) You're in trouble -- when you tighten the clamp bolts on your aluminum antenna mast, and the clamp bolts strip. You're in BIG trouble -- when you tighten the clamp bolts on your aluminum antenna mast, and the clamp bolts don't strip.**

**12) You're in trouble -- when you start transmitting SSB, and your RF current meter isn't moving. You're in BIG trouble -- when you stop transmitting SSB, and your RF current meter keeps moving.**

**13) You're in trouble -- when you operate your Morse Code Key, and the contacts spark. You're in BIG trouble -- when you operate your Morse Code Key, and the contacts weld.**

**14) You're in trouble -- when you discover that you've been operating below the 160 meter band. You're in BIG trouble -- when you hear that you've been nominated for the Broadcaster Of The Year Award.**

**15) You're in trouble -- when you rotate your beam antenna, and you hear a grinding noise. You're in BIG trouble -- when you rotate your beam antenna, and you hear a helicopter noise.**

**16) You're in trouble -- when you drop your new handheld in the river, and it floats away. You're in BIG trouble -- when you drop your new handheld in the river, and it doesn't float.**

**17) You're in trouble -- the guy-wires on your new tower are resonant. You're in BIG trouble -- the guy-wires on your new tower have melted.**

**18) You're in trouble -- when your girl friend wants to get her Amateur Radio license, and she wants you to help her study. You're in BIG trouble -- when your girl friend wants to get her Amateur Radio license, and she wants your best friend to help her study.**

**\*\***

**The W7YEN corollary to Murphy's Law: you have a 50/50 chance of being right, and a 90/10 chance of being wrong.**

**\*\***

**Rules of Radio -- Found on the internet – VE9DAN, Oyster River, NB. Rev 1. June 1/97**

**1) There shall be no talking by the family during a QSO.**

**2) The XYL shall assist with antenna construction when, and only when required.**

**3) The shack budget will take precedence over all other incidental items such as mortgages, food, echoes, etc.**

**4) Christmas stocking stuffers for the OM must include at least two items for the shack (total value of not less than \$300). (I guess the Baofeng HT's are out of the question).**

**5) Flea markets, hamfests, and field days over-rule family holidays.**

**6) Furry pets are not allowed near the rig (except for testing purposes).**

**7) TVI never occurs within the home. If it does, it's negligible, and doesn't count.**

**8) All trees around QTH shall be considered antenna supports, and not "greenery", "landscaping", or other such nonsense. Corollary: Any tree may be cut down, pruned, poisoned, dug up, or otherwise removed should it be in the way of wire.**

**9) The last postage stamp and envelope in the home shall be reserved for direct QSL mailings, and not for personal letters, bills, or mail orders (unless orders are for shack).**

**10) Any number of holes may be drilled in the family car to accommodate mobile whips. Corollary: Coax may droop across the steering column occasionally.**

**11) Never herewith shall insurance coverage of shack items be less than triple the replacement value, notwithstanding acts of God.**

**12) Burger King ® must never allow the holy Whopper ® oven to cool. (Actually, it's the flame broiler...but it does cool off after the closing time shut down. But while in operation, temperatures have to be over 1200 degrees, and the belt set at the right speed, to cook the meat thoroughly...food poisoning is no fun).**

**13) Newly licensed hams must honor, praise, look up to, ask easy questions of, and purchase coffee for, all the old guys.**

**14) The XYL shall anticipate good band propagation conditions at all times, and whenever rare DX flows in, she shall without fail;**

**a) Keep log when requested;**

**b) Hold all phone calls -- except those from other hams;**

**c) Call the OM's work QTH the next morning, and cover his absence with a good excuse;**

**d) Appear very excited;**

**e) Change all her plans to suit;**

**f) Provide steaming coffee at 45 minute intervals;**

**g) Cancel all household chores, and in particular, cancel vacuuming.**

**15) All materials owned by the work QTH can, and will be used for ham projects.**

**16) These rules may be modified at any time, without notice, to continuously be in the OM's best interest.**

**17) The most recent licensee must bear the brunt of our collective teasing until the next new licensee fills his humiliated shoes.**

**18) All members of all radio clubs must support, in unsurpassed vigor and cooperation, whatever the resident "contest man" suggests.**

**19) Whence OM bears unrelentless fright of tower height, others must climb said structure unfailingly upon request.**

**20) Refer longstanding rule #15. Verily, if you cannot convince work QTH to donate items for thine shack, thou shalt quit said despicable workplace without notice. Simply QRT-eth hastily-eth.**

**21) New rule added by Rich, WB2MBM, August 11/97 via pactor:**

**I'd like to add a rule to the list... "Coax cables may be routed to achieve the lowest loss, regardless of whether they cause doors, windows, etc., to be blocked or otherwise not to function. And if the house appears to be trapped in a sort of rubber "spider's web," that's a plus rather than a minus."**

**\*\***

**Originally seen at local area ham radio club meeting in the early 1990's as a handout...folks were snapping these up like they were money (hi hi):**

**This is an Amateur Radio Station. It's licensed by the Federal Communications Commission. I had to learn Morse Code, and a lot of electronic theory to be able to operate it legally.**

**In this station, it is possible to transmit and receive signals from all over the world...dealing with emergency and routine traffic, creating international goodwill and diplomacy.**

**I did a lot to do a lot; so don't give me any static about how messy this place is.**

**\*\***

**The Missing Q signals -- Credit for this goes to:**

**Lenny, K5OVC...Ken, W8OB...Don, W6ZO...John, W2AGN...Fred, K6DGW...Thom, K3HRN...Jim, W7RY...Brian, W0NW...Fred, K5QLF, Jeffrey, WA6FWI, and Daryl, N5VLZ.**

**Note: Some of these are a bit "salty" in language...so they're not suitable for on the air use. However, they are great for a laugh, and an eyeball QSO, especially at a hamfest...as "dirty old hams need love, too"...and, they may also be alternatives for some standard Q signals (hi hi).**

**\*\***

**Some Q signals have never made it to the ARRL's official list. Here are some that may agree would be useful in appropriate situations. As with regular Q signals, each can be a statement or a question, depending on whether a question mark follows it.**

**QAS - I am speaking out of my @\$\$**

**QAS? - Are you speaking out of your @\$\$?**

**QBA - My antenna is BIG!**

**QBA? - How big is your antenna?**

**QBO - Don't sit next to that guy in the meeting.**

**QBO? - Buddy, can you spare some soap?**



**QBS - It's getting deep in here.**

**QBS? - Did I tell you about the one that got away?**

**QBS - Clean the bird \$h!+ off your antenna so you can hear me**

**QBS? - Should I clean the bird \$h!+ off my antenna so I can hear you**

**(As a side note, one of the “CB Radio 12 codes” (different than the regular “10 codes” notes “Can’t receive you; a bird [pooped] on my antenna!)).**

**And, you need to wash that off your vehicle, as it will do damage to the paint.**

**QCP - I am using Cat Power (From Rotary Cat Power Wheel)**

**QCP? - Are you using Cat Power?**

**QCW - I am going to whistle Morse Code on FM (or SSB)**

**QCW? - Why are you whistling Morse?**

**QDR - D@mn Right the frequency is busy!} In response to QRL**

**QDR? - Do you have a Receiver?} In response to QRL**

**QET - Phone home.**

**QET? - Has anyone called me from another planet?**

**QEW - Copy is difficult due to Ear Wax.**

**QEW? - Is copy difficult due to Ear Wax?**

**QFH - This frequency is MINE! - go elsewhere.**

**QFH? - Is this frequency hogged?**

**QHD – I have to finish my honey-do’s before I can play radio.**

**QHD? – Are you having to finish honey-do’s?**

**QHI - I am jumping in quick to say hi, then going QRT.**

**QHI? - Are you leaving after only one transmission?**

**QKB? - How many knobs does your radio have?**

**QKB n - My radio has "n" knobs.**

**QKN? - How many of them do you know how to use?**

**QKN n - I think I know how to use "n" of them.**

**QKS? - How many knobs and switches does your rig have, and how many do you understand?**

**QKS nn n – My rig has ## knobs and switches, but I only understand # of them.**

**QLF - I am sending with my left foot.**

**QLF? - Are you sending with your left foot?**

**QLK - I am sending with my left foot and keyboard.**

**QLK? - Are you sending with your left foot and keyboard?**

**QNO - I am sending through a non-standard orifice.**

**QNO? - Are you sending through a non-standard orifice?**

**QOF - Yes, I am an Old F@rt.**

**QOF? - Are you an old F@rt?**

**QOK - Your last transmission was Okie Dokie.**

**QOK? - Was my last transmission OK?**

**QPD - I got “qaught with my pants down”.**

**QPD?? - Do you need a tighter belt on your britches??**

**QPM - Your signal is purr modulated.**

**QPM? - Is my signal purr modulated?**

**QPU – Somebody has a crappy signal.**

**QPU? – Did you f@rt??**

**QRC - Warning, rag chewer on frequency.**

**QRC? - Are you a rag chewer?**

**QRG - You are transmitting in or near the (wavelength or frequency) amateur band.**

**QRG? - Am I transmitting in or near an amateur band, and if so which one?**

**QRW - Means Qrp - Really Weak**

**QRW? - Qrp, you are Really Weak?**

**QWC? - Who cares?**

**QWC - I don't care.**

**QWC - I have to go to the bathroom.**

**QWC? - Do you have to go to the bathroom?**

**QZZ - I fell asleep at the mike.**

**QZZ? - Is that a 60Hz hum, or are you snoring?**

**\*\***

**From Avery Finn, K0HLA...**

**I've been looking for the new HT just out. You know the one. It's the all band, all mode, self contained battery, and antenna, 1000 watt shirt pocket size, selling for \$25.50 -- what a deal!!**

**It's manufactured by the new Amateur Radio Company A.P. Ril F. Ool. Pierre Pullinmyleg is an authorized agent.**

**\*\***

**From The Ether Net BBS, Little Rock, Arkansas, Bill Shryock, N5HQ, Sysop (the BBS is long since QRT):**

### **Ten Commandments For Technicians:**

- 1. Beware the lightning that lurketh in the undischarged capacitor, lest it cause thee to bounce upon thy buttocks in a most un-technician-like manner.**
- 2. Cause thou the switch that supplieth large quantities of juice to be opened and thus tagged, that thy days in this Earthly vale of tears be long.**
- 3. Prove to thyself that all circuits that radiateth and upon which thou toil are grounded and thusly tagged, lest they lift thee unto radio heaven.**
- 4. Tarry thou not amongst those fools that engageth in intentional shocks, for they are surely non-believers, and are not longeth for this world.**

**5. Take care that thou useth the proper method when thou taketh the measure of a high voltage circuit, lest thou incinerate both thyself and thy meter.**

**6. Take care thou tampereth not with interlocks and safety devices, for this incurreth the wrath of thy supervisor and bringeth the fury of the safety inspector upon thy head and about thy shoulders.**

**7. Toil not thou on energized equipment, for if thou so doest, thy fellow workers will surely buy beers for thy widow and console her otherwise.**

**8. Service thou equipment not alone, for electrical cooking is a slothful process and thou might sizzle in thine own juices for hours upon a hot circuit before thy Maker sees fit to end thy misery.**

**9. Trifle thou not with radioactive tubes and substances, lest thou commenceth to glow in the dark liketh a lightning bug, and thy spouse hath no further use for thee except for thy wages.**

**10. Causeth thou to be tagged all modifications made by thee upon equipment, lest thy successor teareth out his hair and goeth slowly mad in his attempt to decide what manner of creature madeth a nest in the wiring of such equipment.**

**\*\***

**The Triple Play:**

**The Ham Radio Wedding, The Honeymoon And More, And Ham For The Holidays**

**Written By Daryl Stout, Webmaster, Cabot Nightflyers Net  
Updated June 6, 2024**

**Please email me at [wx1der@gmail.com](mailto:wx1der@gmail.com) with questions, comments, corrections (especially in Part 3), etc.**

**\*\***

**\* Overview \***

**This file is a combination of 3 presentations in one.**

**The first one was "The Ham Radio Wedding", which united Ham and Radio in Holy Telephony, originally done on Valentine's Day Weekend, 2012.**

**Nine months later (for obvious reasons), we had, from a trusted group of Official Observers and Virtual Monitors (hi hi), "The Honeymoon And More"...which detailed the honeymoon, and the harmonics early years. The last one, planned for July, 2013, along the line of a "Christmas in July" theme, we have "Ham For The Holidays". Based on the melody of "The 12 Days Of Christmas", it was modified for "The 12 Days Of Hamming", detailing 12 items in the ham radio hobby.**

**Unfortunately, due to equipment failure and other issues, the combination "Triple Play" for the Cabot Nightflyers Net, didn't occur. With a lack of recordings, plus changing of my callsign, the removal of a YouTube video of a wedding at a ham radio club, and changes in the issuance of a paper copy of ham radio licenses (among other things), the script has been redone into one file.**

**If these are done on the air, you will need to give pauses to reset the repeaters, Echolink Nodes, etc., and identify your station, per the amateur radio rules for your country. Also, I ask that yours truly, Daryl Stout, be given credit for the material...but no other "compensation" is required.**

**I have made the file available for all to download and use, to bring a little humor into ones day, as there's so little to laugh at in the world today. You may wish to edit the "personal comments" that I have made...and for the net name...but keeping the comments may add a bit of "extra flavor" to the presentation. This is especially true for those who are Volunteer Examiners, who have had similar experiences at license exam sessions that I have noted in "Ham For The Holidays".**

**Those who are not ham radio operators may not understand all the punny humor; but those who are hams, will likely bust out laughing. So, before doing these on the air, you might want to advise people to make a quick restroom trip, not be eating or drinking, or pull off to the side of the road. Otherwise, they may have a mess on their hands...or worse, wreck their vehicle.**

**Besides the 3 segments, there are 4 digital mode sound files...CW, PSK31, RTTY, and Packet. And, there are also short Third party traffic segments, all these as part of "The Ham Radio Wedding". The Third Party Traffic is courtesy of fellow computer bulletin board system operator, the late Tim Cornett, who was not a licensed ham radio operator (Tim passed away several years ago).**

**You can create your own audio file with the words done by Tim Cornett, and you can find audio samples of the modes of CW, PSK31, RTTY, and Packet, via your favorite search engine. While the audio files may not actually be what is noted in the script, it shows what those modes sound like.**

**Note that since The Cabot Nightlyers Net went on hiatus several years ago, and I was doing the website...until the net returns (that is up to the original Net Control station, Steve Tune, KC5FWE)...that website will remain inactive as a result. As of late August, 2023, there is no word on when the net may resume, if it ever does.**

**\*\***

### **\* Introduction \***

**While ham radio is a hobby, some of us joke as if it is an obsession!! So, with credit and glory to The Lord Jesus Christ for the inspiration; and with extensive research in the "creative juices department", I've figured out what a "ham radio wedding"...plus a "ham radio honeymoon", and "Ham ForThe Holidays" might be like. Please note that these are just "fun skits", done "tongue in cheek", as it were. The skits noted are NOT actual weddings, honeymoons, or holiday events; although the "Ham For The Holidays" segment comes close.**

**This is because, in real life, a bona fide wedding ceremony requires an Ordained Minister, Justice Of The Peace, etc. to officiate the ceremony...and, the couple has to have a marriage license, among other things. I know that myself, having been originally married in 2003, but I've been a widower since 2007.**

**As an aside, when my bride to be and I went to get our marriage license, the county clerk made a mistake, entering her birth year as 1658, instead of 1958.**

**I quipped "she sure looks good for 344 years of age", and she added "Well, I do sell Avon"!!**

**Amid the raucous laughter...the blushing, embarrassed clerk had to tear up the license she was typing (apparently, they weren't yet doing it with a computer), and start over. People in the Pulaski County Courthouse in downtown Little Rock, Arkansas...including both city, county, and state law enforcement officers, entered the County Clerks office to ask "what is going on in there??", for all the laughter, screams, and noise!! The embarrassed clerk lamented "You don't want to know!!", which brought another round of raucous laughter (hi hi).**

**While there is a "ham radio license" noted in the skit, it's rather bizarre to consider the context that someone would actually marry a piece of electronic equipment!! Besides, think of all the issues surrounding "consummation of the relationship" ...and that will be covered in "The Honeymoon And More" (hi hi).**

**As noted, the humor has quite a bit of ham radio puns, also known as "a play on words" ...and the beauty of the pun is in the groan of the recipient!! An example of a pun is that "The idea of a ham radio traders net might have gotten started when a pig was sold by a farmer to a Country Pawn Shop, and the transaction became known as the first Ham Hock".**

**Please don't throw the tomatoes at me...I'd rather have them in a salad...as H.A.M. stands for "Have Another Meal", among other things...see the related photo elsewhere in this file. Plus, I enjoy BLT sandwiches (hi hi).**

**These skits were designed for a little levity, and a little bit of fun...as there is so little in the world to laugh at nowadays. There are several in central Arkansas, including yours truly, who fondly remember the "fertilizer nets", done by the late J.M. Jolly, W5ZXS (SK)...and I think he would've done something like this on that net.**

**And now, the Cabot Nightflyers Net is proud to present tonight's training presentations...starting with "The Ham Radio Wedding" ...enjoy.**

**\*\***

## **\* The Ham Radio Wedding - Uniting Ham And Radio In Holy Telephony \***

**With "pun" in mind, we are privileged to welcome you to the marriage ceremony of "ham" and "radio". After a short engagement...because concerning Radio, Ham could not resistor...wanting to inductor into being a part of his family, and start a new one. So, they've decided to do more than just "shack up".**

**Dearly beloved, we are gathered here today for this special net for the joyous occasion to join ham and radio in Holy Telephony. Ham has just passed his amateur radio license exams, so he will be Third Party Traffic, as he waits on his callsign from the FCC, which will be available to him after "The Honeymoon And More"...which we'll cover later.**

**The general format of this RF, or Real Fine, ceremony, will be participatory in nature...and for the bride and groom, it is a big deal...and the atmosphere is rather electric, to say the least.**

**If anyone here feels that ham and radio should not be united in Marriage of Holy Telephony, let them key up now, or never pound their brass. However, you likely will be subjected to the wrath of the Wouff Hong, Rettysnitch, and Ugerumph by both families if you object (hi hi).**

**Does the father of the bride, KenWood, give his consent for this special occasion??**

**[Sound of "Yes, I do", 20 wpm CW]**

**Do you ham, take radio, to be your lawfully wedded spouse?? To love, honor, and cherish?? In DXCC and WAS?? In QRM and QRN?? With Rohn 25 and G5RV?? With coaxial cable and various connectors?? With logbooks and manuals?? With Solder and Testing Equipment?? Respecting The Wouff Hong, Rettysnitch, and Ugerumph, Your License, and Privileges. Forsaking all others, as long as you both shall transmit and receive, during your relationship, until Silent Key, do you part??**

**[Sound of male voice "QSL. I Certainly Do."(Tim Cornett)]**



**Do you radio, take ham, to be your lawfully wedded spouse?? To love, honor, and cherish?? In DXCC and WAS?? In QRM and QRN?? With Rohn 25 and G5RV?? With coaxial cable and various connectors?? With logbooks and manuals?? With Solder and Testing Equipment?? Respecting The Wouff Hong, Rettysnitch, and Ugerumph, Your License, and Privileges. Forsaking all others, as long as you both shall transmit and receive, during your relationship, until Silent Key, do you part??**

**[Sound of PSK31]**

**In lieu of a prayer and Bible reading, I feel that The Amateur's Code, written in 1928, by the late Paul M. Segal, W9EEA, is appropriate for this ceremony. As such, I would expect that both of you, "ham" and "radio", would follow these traits, as you both transmit and receive throughout your relationship.**

**You are to be:**

**CONSIDERATE: Never knowingly operating in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.**

**LOYAL: Offering loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs, and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally, and internationally.**

**PROGRESSIVE: With knowledge abreast of science, a well built and efficient station, and operation beyond reproach.**

**FRIENDLY: With slow and patient operation when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, co-operation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.**

**BALANCED: Radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school, or community.**

**PATRIOTIC: With station and skill always ready for service to country and community.**

**Please stand by while I get the special marriage connectors.**

**With these specially prepared BNC, SMA, and PL259 connectors, along with LED lights...each of you are to present them to each other, and either say or transmit "With This Connector, I thee, LED".**

**These special combination connectors and LED's...light emitting diodes...will show that you will light up with excitement each time you transmit throughout your relationship.**

**[Sound of male voice "With This Connector, I Thee, LED"]. (Tim Cornett)**

**[Sound Of RTTY]**

**In as much as both of you have hereby promised your devotion, and lifelong commitment to each other; before Net Control, and all these witnesses on the net...by the power that has been invested in me, by the Cabot Nightflyers Net, as Webmaster, I now pronounce you "ham" and "radio".**

**You may now kiss the mic.**

**[Sound of packet burst]**

**[MaleVoice "My bride just told me to packet. The honeymoon will be at Dayton Hamvention in May...and we will have music of The Ham Band at the reception." ] (Tim Cornett)**

**At net time, few details were available on the reception, but we assume it was excellent. As for the food that was served, we understand everyone got a charge out of an electrically delicious salad concoction that was prepared, known as Ohm Slaw. And, let's definitely not forget the delightfully D-Layer rich dessert of P Times I Equals E.**

**We have no word on the wedding cake that was served...the removal of the garter...the bridal bouquet...what everyone was wearing...how many guests were in attendance, who got the garter and bouquet, etc. However, we understand the wedding gifts consisted of several nice electronic, and ornamental, items and accessories for the ham radio shack, among other things...which were much appreciated by the bride and groom.**

**\*\***

## **\* The Honeymoon And More \***

**And now, by special arrangement, from (dare we say it??!!) a trusted group of Official Observers and Virtual Monitors, the Cabot Nightflyers Net is proud to present "The Honeymoon And More".**

**The first night together, they said that their love for each other was more solid than a soldered coaxial connector, and that it'd withstand the test of time, more surely than gasfield hardline.**

**After all, they wanted to zero beat their frequencies, to only pull each others signal out of the pileup, as when the band opened up, they would be each others first and only contact. Their devotion to each other was to be more powerful than all of their combined signals.**

**And, they wanted to be sure that they resonated together, as they planned to be together, to not go on separate beam headings; with only being silent keys, would they part.**

**After all, concerning Radio, Ham could not resistor...wanting to inductor into being a part of his family, and start a new one. And, that's why they decided to get married, and do more than just "shack up".**

**And so, in the honeymoon suite...after turning down the lights, and putting on some soft JT-65 music, ham and radio assumed positions of horizontal and vertical polarization, as they got to intimately know each other.**

**He would run his hands over the dials and knobs, caressing them, pushing the buttons, turning the knobs, trying to find the contacts that felt so good...to ensure that they did it with frequency...mainly because he wanted to work up her sideband.**

**But, they took care not to spread out the wide assortment of wedding gifts...especially the many Morse Code keyers...on where they would sleep, because they didn't want to become infested with bed bugs. Otherwise, that would be a real pain in the brass.**

**And, even though it would involve CW Continuous Writing, they did want to spend time filling out the numerous QSL Thank You Cards to all who had**

attended the wedding ceremony. They would then be sorted out on the DX Bureau there in the Honeymoon Suite, right next to the Amateur Television setup, where they planned to watch special ham radio videos and DVD's that evening.

Another thing that attracted Ham to Radio, was the out of band receive capabilities. This way, they could listen to non-ham radio communications, when they wanted to just "relax", or when band conditions were lousy. It turns out that both of them were ardent golfing fans. Radio had 18 holes for her ventilation slots, and that made it possible for them to keep cool during fore play. But, they were not caddy in their relationship.

During anger or otherwise...they pledged not to beat each other with the antennas from their vehicle, as they realized that was the quickest way to come down with "van aerial disease". But, considering the atmosphere, I doubt either was served a "Notice Of Violation"; and all newly married couples are entitled to some privacy.

But, to celebrate their joyous union in Holy Telephony, they planned to work the station from the Newfane DX Association out of Ransomville, New York...with the callsign of N2SEX...November Two Sierra Echo Ex-Ray. We understand this is one of the best CW stations that one can work, especially during Field Day. But, for the honeymoon setting, I guess it could be said that CW stood for "Continuous Whoopee" (hi hi).

Unfortunately, we understand that the time after the honeymoon apparently wasn't all bliss. As for cravings, it wasn't for pickles and ice cream, as you might think. Ham had to give up eating food, and having 807's around Radio. This was because he invariably would share the food with her, and the particles would drop into the ventilation slots, causing Radio to become rather distorted in her speaking...and quite ill at times. That usually led to morning sickness, which was a common occurrence...but not what you would think.

It always happened between midnight and midday...but was more so concentrated between just shortly after midnight and just before sunrise. Every time just as the overnight, juicy, elusive, high priority DX, or prized Dxpedition contact was about to be made and logged, the bands would fail...or Ham would bump Radio with excitement, and go off of frequency,

losing the contact. Even worse, he'd hit the power switch, and Radio would give him the Silent Treatment in anger. Both were subject to band and mood changes at the discretion of the propagationist relatives, which they felt were trying to hurt their relationship.

Radio was also jealous of the 807's, because of their tubular nature; but also because Ham had his drink mugs propped up with Beverage Antennas. Radio threatened to short out the relationship if one of those got poured on her, because she got too hot, with the excitors.

Exams, and RF safety evaluations, had to be constantly conducted, due to expansion of each others capabilities, and radio was constantly being poked, probed, and prodded with antenna analyzers, ammeters, watt meters, and other such devices.

While waiting for the harmonics to be born, there were some tense moments. Radio would groan "DX, DX, DX!! That's all you ever think about!! You probably don't even remember the wedding night!!". Ham replied "Not so, my dear. That was Feb. 12, 2012, when you helped me work X-RayTango One, The Charlie Romeo Zero, The Alpha Charlie Six, and the rare DXpeditions". Radio had to admit that Ham was right.

After the birth of the harmonics, which was amazingly on a clear frequency, in room 5-9-9, the harmonics were wrapped in dipoles, to protect the fragile antennas and knobs. Connectors had to be used to hold the dipoles in place, otherwise the harmonics would be naturally exposed.

While they had an extended warranty, they had to be sure that the harmonics were properly immunized, and to protect the family from infection by parasitic elements. After all, the RF cough and sneeze noise splatter was considered both messy, and unsanitary.

No word on the intensity or length of the labor process, how many harmonics there were, their genders, names, or birth weights. That was unavailable at net time, due to HIPPA regulations...in this case, Harmonic Information Personal Protection Agreement.

As time passed, the harmonics would be instructed...digitally first...then in voice. It turned out that Aunt Enna, with her son, Ray Dee Oh, and his XYL,

**Olivia, would become trusted babysitters. Olivia was also very attractive, and a cat lover...which made her purr-RTTY.**

**Ham and Radio were always having to packet...that is, the case with all the supplies for the harmonics, whenever they went somewhere. They also had to be sure that they didn't watch too much slow scan TV...as it was bad for their displays. However, they learned to speak the frequencies, by number, and name, rather quickly.**

**Also, they would have to give the harmonics a QSO party, as the harmonics aged a year. Many contacts were made, from many modes, with QSL cards of birthday wishes. Everyone seemed to have a Field Day with these parties. Entertainment was provided by the digital ensembles of RTTY, JT-65, CW, PSK31, Packet, and other Open Band Groups. With such a large crowd, the events were usually outdoors, with participants having to use logs to sit on. As the event usually went on into the evening hours, illumination of the activities was brought by several satel lights, which had a wide coverage area. But, caution had to be used with the evidence of certain outdoor insects, so everyone was given a timely tick talk.**

**While the harmonics did learn early on how to be submersible in bathing, care had to be taken with the dispensing of AC and DC brand juice, so the parents and harmonics wouldn't float away, or be too emotionally charged afterwards. Steps were also taken to prevent overheating, due to extensive transmissions.**

**Cooking for all of their meals was done in a Digi-Pan, so the family was well nourished, to say the least. No word on the exact cuisine, but they did avoid eating ham. And, that was not because of kosher reasons, but they didn't want to be thought of as cannibalistic. And, no word on if any of the family had any digestive tract issues to deal with. But, with rapidly changing technology, the gaseous tubes of their ancestors were removed via electric surgery long ago.**

**To keep the family comfortable, all wore telegraphy outfits, the Mores Coat brand. This also kept the harmonics keyed in to their parents commands, and their parents were keyed into what the harmonics were doing.**

**This also kept the family from getting bugs, and becoming ill. The harmonics were also taught, as their parents were, to constantly greet their friends, with**

a CW continuous wave. At night, the shack bedrooms were illuminated by a soft satel light, with soft JT-65 music helping everyone rest easier.

Next, the harmonics would learn at 5, 13, and 20 words per QSO. Then, they would be graded through 5 levels of education, Novice, Technician, General, Advanced, and Amateur Extra. They had to learn good operating habits, and to avoid being lids...as there were already enough for their AC and DC brand juice glasses. They also had to listen to Radio, so she wouldn't have to repeater self on what she said.

For the sake of privacy, there was no word on the amount of needing changing of the dipoles, and switching to regular outfits. However, as noted earlier, they preferred to go natural...especially on outdoor events. Rumor has it they did learn to QRP rather quickly...probably from all the AC and DC brand juice that they had been consuming over the years, to keep from overheating.

As time passed, the family got bonded and grounded to each other. Thoughts turned to as the harmonics got older, it'd be time to get their licenses, so they too, could enjoy what their parents had. Every 10 years, ham, radio, and the harmonics would go in to have their licenses renewed, even though they wouldn't have to be re-examined in such great detail, as they were initially.

Unfortunately, medical and other issues would show up every so often, and they had to go to the HRO or Gigaparts clinics for treatment. And, wouldn't you know it, there was a long wait before they were seen by the staff. However, the care at the facilities was excellent, as those who worked at the facilities were very knowledgeable about their work, and they were back at their QTH's in record time. Thankfully, the need for major surgical procedures was extremely rare.

No word on the need or extent of prescriptions, except for those to various amateur radio publications (such as QST and CQ), clubs and organizations (such as the American Radio Relay League and Courage Kenny Handi-Hams), or nets (such as the National Traffic System Nets). The Ham Radio Equipment Insurance sure made paying the medical bills a lot easier.

However, they each had to constantly review Part 97, to be sure they were in the spirit of amateur radio. But, when harmonic violations did occur, the

**Official Observers were diligent in letting their parents know of them...and the continuous whipping CW paddles were definitely in use on the harmonics backsides.**

**It's rumored that the battery fanny packs were removed before the discipline was administered with the Wouff Hong, Rettysnitch, and Ugerumph. And, while the harmonics may have felt that the discipline stung like 10 50 hertz, their parents knew that the warnings before discipline were always the SAME, and they made sure that the harmonics wouldn't become tone deaf. And it seemed like the most likely time for the discipline was to be needed was between 11am and 12 Noon on Wednesdays.**

**But, the discipline was not rough enough to the point of making their signals bleed. And, the noise level of the harmonics in response to the discipline was not known; and it's none of our business.**

**The more serious violations required the harmonics to go to court in west, wearing their Mores Coat outfits. This was because the pink slips were too skimpy for the sake of decency for the females...not to mention they especially looked even worse on the males!! One also had to be careful not to rile E. Hollingsworth, the Enforcement Judge. He had a reputation of sending scofflaws to Hellschriber as punishment. No word on how long they had to be there, or if the Wouff Hong, Rettysnitch, and Ugerumph were in use by the bandwidth demons on the miscreants.**

**In time, it was time for the harmonics to date and marry...and for them to follow in the footsteps of their parents. Once they reached 25 years of age, they were able to become part of the Quarter Century Wireless Association. And so, with ham and radio saying seven three (best wishes) to their harmonics, and eighty eight (love and kisses) to each other...that is a look at the lives of ham and radio, and their harmonics.**

**\*\***

## **Ham For The Holidays -- The 12 Days Of Hamming**

**And now...with a Christmas In July theme...never mind longing for cooler weather in summer (especially in August in Arkansas), the Cabot Nightflyers Net is proud to present "Ham For The Holidays".**



**Using the melody of the song "The 12 Days Of Christmas", I've created a new tune, as it were..."The 12 Days Of Hamming". Instead of more ham radio pun humor, it's now a gift giving scene, with Radio providing gifts for Ham, and the harmonics...and I'm sure that some may be glad that the majority of the dry humor is over...at least for now (hi hi).**

**However, while metrically correct in what will be noted...since any singing on the airwaves is defined as music...no matter how badly one sings...and since music is prohibited on the amateur radio frequencies, as per FCC rules, I obviously can not sing these lyrics on the air, or with this recording. That even means not even tenor solo...which is ten or eleven miles away, and so low that no one can hear it (hi hi).**

**Anyway, each of these are different items that are experienced in the hobby, and it's by no means an all inclusive list...because there is just too much in amateur radio to just cover 12 categories.**

**For each one listed, though...I have included an explanation (some brief, and some detailed) of each one. This could be for the ham radio operator who has, or wants everything (hi hi).**

**\*\***

**On the 1st day of Hamming, my radio gave to me:**

**A license, callsign, from the FCC.**

**This is obviously needed for one getting on the air in the first place. Today, the Technician Class license is the entry level license into amateur radio. Morse Code is no longer required for a ham radio license...but you can still learn and use the original digital mode, CW...and many amateur radio operators do just that. But, you no longer have to prove that you know Morse Code at the license exam session. There are several options for studying for a ham radio license exam...which are multiple choice, and can be with, or without schematic diagrams.**

**If you pass an exam, congratulations!! Unlike years ago, when you had to have the paper copy of your license "in hand" before you transmitted for the first time...you now can get on the air as soon as your callsign appears in the**

**FCC ULS database, which can be anywhere from 5 days to 2 weeks or more after the exam session.**

**Some exam teams can now upload the session data to the Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) electronically, and if the session is held on a Sunday through Thursday, the VEC can have the data to the FCC within 24 hours. If the session is either on a Friday or a weekend, the VEC will have the data by Monday (if it's a US holiday, it will be to the VEC, then the FCC on Tuesday). If it has been more than two weeks since your exam, and you still have not received an email from the FCC on your license/callsign, you can call the Exam Team Leader (Liaison), who can contact the VEC, to find out what the delay is, and get back to you.**

**Note that if the FCC Electronic Batch Filing System goes down, there is a delay on processing new, renewed, or upgraded licenses, or callsign changes (sequential or vanity). One will have to exercise “extra patience” until the problem is fixed. While the VEC has the data, they can’t transmit it to the FCC, until the Electronic Batch Filing System is back online. Once it is, though, data is in there within 24 hours.**

**And, if there’s a “government shutdown” (there’s a redundancy, if there ever was one (hi hi)), no license processing is done until the government re-opens; and unfortunately, that may take quite awhile to occur. The thing is, if the “shutdown” lasts more than a year (Oct. 1, a year after it started, or Sep. 30 if it’s on a leap year)), everyone who took an exam for a new or upgraded license, will have done it for nothing...as the CSCE only lasts 365 days...unless the FCC posts an extension in renewals, etc.**

**Not to mention the many hams whose license will expire during the shutdown, as that knocks them off the air...let alone those whose licenses lapse (the license expired 2 years ago). In the latter case, they lose their callsign and privileges. These would then have 24 hours after the government shutdown ends, and the FCC reopens, to contact the FCC, and take care of things. In the case of an extended government shutdown, as noted, the FCC will usually post an extension for renewals, etc.**

**In short, the easiest way to do it online through the CORES and ULS system, but those are offline during a government shutdown.**

For what you'll need to bring to an exam session to take the exam, go to <https://www.arrrl.org/what-to-bring-to-an-exam-session> – failure to follow this checklist may mean that you can't take the exam(s).

As a note, cheating in any form, is NOT tolerated...and you could forever lose your chance to get an amateur radio license...never mind the examiners could lose their licenses and accreditation FOR LIFE, if they certify passing a ham radio license exam fraudulently. If you have studied well, you should have no problem in passing the exam(s).

Also, at an exam session, one must answer whether or not they have been convicted of a felony in state or federal court. A "YES" answer is NOT an "automatic disqualification", but it all depends upon the circumstances that surround the conviction -- <https://www.arrrl.org/fcc-qualification-question> has further details on this.

As of April 19, 2022, there is now a \$35 fee that must be paid to the FCC, within 10 days of the exam, for a new or renewed ham radio license, or for a Vanity Callsign Request. There is NO FEE for a LICENSE UPGRADE or for a Sequential Callsign Request. For more information on the \$35 fee, go to <https://www.arrrl.org/fcc-application-fee> -- that \$35 fee is payable direct to the FCC, and NOT to the VE Team. Once the fee is paid, the FCC will send you a link to download your license. You must pay the fee within 10 days, or the request is dismissed. Then, you'll have to restart the process, and possibly pay another \$35 fee.

Note that depending on the VEC, an exam fee may be charged. For exams with ARRL/VEC, as of 2025, it's \$15, per exam element...basically, that gets you "a seat at the exam session". If you pass one exam, you can take the next exam in line for free; but if you fail an exam, you can re-take the failed exam element again, with a different set of questions, for another exam fee. Check with the VEC group for the current exam fee.

As a side note, at one session I did several years ago, this one ham had failed his General Class exam more than once (he ran a small store with ham radio items). Each time he brought the test book and answer sheet to us, he had another \$15 for the exam fee. When I asked him "What is your wife going to say about this??", he growled "This is a business expense...shut up!!". All of the examiners roared with laughter (hi hi).

**Note that you're the ONLY one in the world with that specific callsign.**

**As of Feb. 17, 2015, the FCC is NO LONGER ISSUING PAPER LICENSES to amateur radio operators. But, one can logon to the FCC ULS website on the internet at <https://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=home> using their Federal Registration Number and password, and either print an "official copy" for ones shack (and ones wallet), or an "unofficial reference copy", to show at a future license exam session, if you decide to upgrade your license, so you can get proper credit, and not have to take that exam again. For more information on how to obtain a copy of your amateur radio license, go to <https://www.arrl.org/obtain-license-copy>**

**You won't have a choice in the first callsign that you get...but you can apply for a new sequential callsign, or choose your own vanity callsign. The format of the callsign is limited by both the current license class that you hold, and if such a callsign is available. Details on the vanity callsigns can be found at <https://www.arrl.org/vanity-call-signs>**

**Once again, as of April 19, 2022, there is a \$35 fee for each vanity callsign request made...and, there is an 18 to 21 day waiting period (sometimes longer) once you apply for the vanity callsign, and to when it is issued. Once the new vanity callsign is issued, your former callsign is no longer valid for use on the air. Once again, <https://www.arrl.org/fcc-application-fee> has more info on the \$35 fee. So, before you apply for a vanity callsign, be sure that you want to CHANGE your current callsign. Note that once you're issued your first callsign by the FCC, it will NOT change, UNLESS you request such.**

**Unfortunately, not every amateur radio operator has passed a license exam on the first try...and for some, it takes a large amount of tries to pass their exam. However, it must be stressed that there is NO DISGRACE IN FAILING an exam. But, once you do pass the exam (even if just barely), as far as anyone else is concerned...once you have your callsign, you made a perfect score on the test(s) the first time...and it's no one else's business on what your score was, how many times it took you to pass the exam, etc.**

**Examinees who are disabled in some way, or who may have reading/learning disabilities, or other issues...can request special exam accommodations at the exam session. However, they must contact the Exam Session Leader as far in advance of the exam session as possible, so that proper arrangements can be**

**made...such as large print exam books, or reading of the exams to them, with the examinee telling the examiner which answers to mark on the answer sheet, or even giving a test at the examinees home. Medical documentation may be required, if the disability is not obvious.**

**As noted, the VE Team can "make a house call" to the residence or even the hospital room of the examinee, if serious medical issues are present, where it would be too stressful on the examinee to travel, or be at a session with other examinees. However, the examinee will have to still provide photo ID, the exam fee, and other items, that are noted at <https://www.arrl.org/what-to-bring-to-an-exam-session>**

**\*\***

**On the 2nd day of Hamming, my radio gave to me:**

**Two license upgrades, and a license, callsign from the FCC.**

**Starting with the Technician Class license, the other two licenses available are General...the one that most ham radio operators hold, and the Amateur Extra Class license. While Novice and Advanced Class operators are still around, no new licenses for these are being issued...but holders of these licenses may renew them at the appropriate time.**

**Also, once you have your license and callsign, if you pass a higher license class exam at a test session, you can use your new privileges immediately, with special suffix identifiers, when you are on the upgraded bands...until your upgrade shows up in the FCC ULS. Once the upgrade shows up in the FCC ULS, you no longer have to use the special suffix identifiers.**

**As noted earlier, while you have to pay \$35 to the FCC for a new or renewed license, or for a vanity callsign request, there is NO FEE for a license upgrade, or a change in your sequential callsign.**

**General, Advanced, and Amateur Extra Class licensees can also apply to become Volunteer Examiners (VE's), who give and grade the exams...as long as their license is valid and unexpired, it has never been suspended or revoked, and they are at least 18 years of age. Once they've passed the accreditation process by the particular Volunteer Examiner Coordinator**

**(VEC), they can serve at any license session done by that VEC, providing the Test Session Liaison OK's them to serve. The VE's license class determines which exams they can give, and grade.**

**With ARRL/VEC, the accreditation process involves the prospective VE downloading (or purchasing from The ARRL Store), the ARRL VE Manual. They are to fill out the application, plus the 40 question open book, un-timed exam – it's the easiest "open book test" you'll ever take in your life, as you fill it out at your leisure.**

**Once completed, they mail or fax the completed application, plus a copy of their General, Advanced, or Amateur Extra Class license, to ARRL/VEC, for processing. Four to six weeks later, they will get a nice certificate, suitable for framing, plus a laminated VE Badge (so it can't be altered), and noting which license class they are...as it determines what exam(s) they can give and grade.**

**As a side note, being a Volunteer Examiner (VE) is the most rewarding thing that I've ever done in amateur radio...because you are giving back to the hobby, and getting new hams licensed. If you remember how thrilled you were when you got your first license, you can imagine how thrilled the VE's are, when you do pass the exam.**

**Also, we usually say "winner for a chicken dinner"...as if we said "ham", it would make us look cannibalistic (hi hi).**

**\*\***

**On the 3rd day of Hamming, my radio gave to me:**

**Three different radios, two license upgrades, and a license, callsign from the FCC.**

**The "main bands" in ham radio are now HF (which has 160, 80, 75, 60, 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12, and 10 meters)...VHF (6, 2, and 1.25 meters), UHF (70, 33, and 23 centimeters), and SHF (everything above that). There are other bands as well; but these are the main ones, on frequency charts of various license class privileges.**

**Many Ham Radio Transceivers, whether base station, handi-talkie, or mobile, are transmitting in just a single band. However, others now can have the transmitting capabilities via dual band, triband, or even quad-band. And, the way that technology is advancing, in the not too distant future, more transmitting bands in a radio may be covered.**

**Some radios even have "out of band receive", where you can listen to such things as aircraft, local restaurant crew communication channels, railroads, NOAA Weather Radio, regular broadcast stations, and more.**

**\*\***

**On the 4th day of Hamming, my radio gave to me:**

**Four sets of antennas, three different radios, two license upgrades, and a license, callsign from the FCC.**

**G5RV's, J-Poles, Yagi's and Magmounts, are among the many types of antennas available to work the various bands. Some are very small and simple to build, set up, and work with; while others are on huge towers of stations that literally "work the world" with amateur radio.**

**\*\***

**On the 5th day of Hamming, my radio gave to me:**

**5 Band DXCC. Four sets of antennas, three different radios, two license upgrades, and a license, callsign from the FCC.**

**One of the most prized awards in amateur radio...and one of the most difficult to obtain...it's gained by making contacts in at least 100 different countries around the world, on 5 different amateur radio bands, using the desired mode...voice or digital.**

**This doesn't apply to "internet radio"; see the file "Operating Internet Radio" at <http://www.wx4qz.net/elk.htm> for more information. However, for those who have to operate "internet radio", a special award may be set up by various organizations.**

**However, as per the “Operating Internet Radio File” at the above URL, many hams are now in settings where RF gear and antennas are either restricted, or prohibited altogether, from HomeOwners Associations (HOA’s), Covenants, Creeds, and Restrictions (CC&R’s)...or they’re in either an assisted living or medical facility; where RFI could lead to medical devices could malfunctions, causing someone’s death.**

**While “internet radio” is not “true ham radio”, one can still be involved in the hobby, and their license “isn’t just a sheet of paper”. One’s health can change in the blink of an eye, and you can go from operating RF to “internet radio” in a very short period of time.**

**\*\***

**On the 6th day of Hamming, my radio gave to me:**

**6 Meter Clean Sweep, 5 Band DXCC. Four sets of antennas, three different radios, two license upgrades, and a license, callsign from the FCC.**

**Called "the magic band", the area just above HF, and at the low end of the VHF spectrum...when tropospheric ducting occurs, inducing skip; one can literally work coast to coast, or even across the ocean, on 6 meters. Technician Class licensees and above have full access to this band. In some areas where foggy conditions are present, tropospheric ducting can enhance the “skip”.**

**\*\***

**On the 7th day of Hamming, my radio gave to me:**

**7 Nights Of Net Logs, 6 Meter Clean Sweep, 5 Band DXCC. Four sets of antennas, three different radios, two license upgrades, and a license, callsign from the FCC.**

**There are literally nets on every night of the week, on various bands and modes. They can be on HF, VHF, UHF, SHF, EHF, AllStar, APRS, DMR, DMR+, D-Star, D-Rats, M17, P25, TGIF, WIRES-X, Yaesu System Fusion, VoIP (Echolink, HamSphere, CQ200, etc.), or other modes...and they can be phone or digital.**



**The nets can be for formal written traffic, traders nets (where ham radio operators can list ham radio equipment that they want to buy, sell, or trade)...on a special topic (such as trains, weather, pun humor, cooking/food, ham radio technology, RV's/camping, or even Bible Study)...or just a general ragchew or roundtable net...the format of each is determined by Net Control.**

**With very few exceptions, all nets are DIRECTED, and all stations will contact Net Control before attempting to contact another station on the net. Plus, all stations checking into the net are required to follow the instructions of Net Control, as well as the protocol and format of the net. Stations failing to do risk being muted or blocked from the net.**

**On D-Star or other digital modes, the callsign of the transmitting station is automatically sent when they key up...whether to speak, or for what's known as a "quick key checkin to a net"...done either into a D-Star repeater, or a D-Star Reflector, if these are connected into an internet gateway. Basically, there is "no way to hide ones identity" on D-Star...whether one is transmitting via:**

**1) Their computer with a DV Dongle, a DVAP, a ThumbDV, or a DV MegaStick 30...all which connect to the computer's USB port. There is also the SharkRF OpenSpot 4 Pro, and the SharkRF M1KE, which work with one's cellphone or their computer, with no rig required...but the SharkRF devices require a Wi-Fi network.**

**2) Their rig, which also may have a cable connected to the computer, if they are running a certain software for the particular mode.**

**D-Star is affectionately known as "Echolink On Steroids", and I personally use it more than Echolink for nets during the week. Several nets also meet on D-Rats during the net, on various Ratreflectors, where they can chat, exchange files and messages in real time, and find other hams with the Maps Feature.**

**There are several files in my D-Rats Shared Folder on getting started with D-Rats, mostly in PDF format...and other files are in the D-Star Users Group on groups.io (Yahoo Groups is no more, due to security issues). You can also get these from <http://www.wx4qz.net/elk.htm> – look for the file named “Mode Overview”...it's over 100 pages, due to all the information, and you'll need a PDF viewer to read the file.**

**\*\***

**On the 8th day of Hamming, my radio gave to me:**

**8 the Hamfest Start Time, 7 Nights Of Net Logs, 6 Meter Clean Sweep, 5 Band DXCC. Four sets of antennas, three different radios, two license upgrades, and a license, callsign from the FCC.**

**Most hamfests are just half day events for a few hours...usually on Saturday; although some can be as much as 3 days, such as Hamvention™, held in mid-May each year in Ohio. Venues of where all of the activities are held, the availability of license exam sessions, the number of forums, dealers, and flea market vendors, etc.; plus costs for transportation, lodging and meals in the area, event admission, prize tickets, prizes offered, and tables for vendors, among other things, vary by event. In short, the bigger the event, the higher the cost. This includes costs for eating, plus overnight lodging, if the hamfest is a multi-day event.**

**In most cases, the start time for these events is 8am local time. And, for many, that means an "early wake up call" ...so, they can make the long drive, to get there when the hamfest opens, to either get good deals at the flea market (also known as the boneyard), or from dealers; or taking part in a forum, a license exam session, and more. Some events may start on a Friday afternoon, and then continue for much of the day on Saturday, with some continuing on a Sunday.**

**With these hamfests, you must be a licensed amateur radio operator to win the radio prizes. Everyone must be present to win any of the prizes awarded...the exception is the grand prize, awarded at the end of the hamfest...when the crowd then usually "parts like the Red Sea" (hi hi).**

**\*\***

**On the 9th day of Hamming, my radio gave to me:**

**9 modes on digital, 8 the Hamfest Start Time, 7 Nights Of Net Logs, 6 Meter Clean Sweep, 5 Band DXCC. Four sets of antennas, three different radios, two license upgrades, and a license, callsign from the FCC.**

**Operating digital is the beauty of ham radio, as you can go farther on that mode than with voice, although many hams refer to voice as "phone". Nine such modes are CW (also known as Morse Code), Packet, APRS, PSK31, radioteletype (also known as RTTY (pronounced "ritty"))...there are at least 2 big RTTY contests each year), JT65, Amateur Television, MT63, and Amtor (Amateur Teleprinting Over Radio).**

**There are many more modes in the hobby...digital and otherwise...but for now, this will have to do. And, the digital modes can be used on the "digital portions" of nearly all amateur radio bands available to your license class. In short, digital modes are not just for HF.**

**As a side note, when I was still able to have an HF setup and indoor antennas at my residence; one day, on 20 meters, using an indoor antenna, with just 15 watts of power, inside my apartment with the windows closed, I worked a station in Utah, 1000 miles away, on JT-65!! Plus, I was seeing other stations on the other side of the world!! Various software programs, freeware and shareware, are available, for these digital modes.**

**For those who don't want to "talk" on ham radio, digital is the mode for you!! Depending on the mode of operation, and the software used... your computer will do the logging, and identify your station for you. You just type in what you want to say. For many new hams, "mic fright" is a very real issue.**

**Awhile back, I heard of 2 amateur radio operators in the Hawaiian Islands, who could not get a decent voice QSO. So, they went up into the digital portion of the 70 centimeter band, fired up their computers, software, and went to PSK31 mode. They reportedly "never had such a good QSO". Note that while PSK31 isn't "error free", as packet radio is, you can still get a good idea as to the conversation, with what is being typed. You can have around 10 QSO's in a narrow bandwidth space on PSK31.**

**\*\***

**On the 10th day of Hamming, my radio gave to me:**

**10 Different Wouff Hongs, 9 modes on digital, 8 the Hamfest Start Time, 7 Nights Of Net Logs, 6 Meter Clean Sweep, 5 Band DXCC. Four sets of**

**antennas, three different radios, two license upgrades, and a license, callsign from the FCC.**

**Founded by T.O.M. ("The Old Man", W1AW, Hiram Percy Maxim himself), The Royal Order Of The Wouff Hong is a "secret society", with the "device" to be used as a mode of discipline and correction on "lids" (amateur radio operators with poor on the air operating habits). No explanation or details are known on how the discipline, or the mode of discipline, is to be administered to the miscreant amateur radio operator – however, I'm told that "Vaseline is optional" (hi hi). A photo of the Wouff Hong, Rettysnitch, and the Ugerumph, is noted earlier in this document.**

**You must be a paid up ARRL member...either for the current year, or an ARRL Life Member...to participate; and the initiation ceremony is done only at ARRL Division or National Conventions.**

**There are no dues, no officers, and no politics in The Royal Order Of The Wouff Hong. And, there's nothing degrading or vulgar during the ceremony. You will do a lot of laughing...plus, all of the participants get a very nice certificate afterwards. I personally have gone through it twice, and look forward to doing so again.**

**As for the laughter; for both the Wouff Hong Ceremony, as was for this net...you better "have an empty bladder", as it were, before the ceremony starts. While that wasn't my problem, I laughed until I hurt, and thought I was going to cry...never mind possibly urinate in my pants!! (hi hi).**

**\*\***

**On the 11th day of Hamming, my radio gave to me:**

**11 New Harmonics, 10 Different Wouff Hongs, 9 modes on digital, 8 the Hamfest Start Time, 7 Nights Of Net Logs, 6 Meter Clean Sweep, 5 Band DXCC. Four sets of antennas, three different radios, two license upgrades, and a license, callsign from the FCC.**

**While not all amateur radio operators will get married, and then have a family...especially a large one (gotten from CW (Continuous Whoopee (hi hi))...and the total of harmonics may be more like one or two, instead of**

**eleven; the bottom line is that we need to get new blood into the hobby...to replace those who are leaving the hobby by either letting their licenses lapse...or they die (becoming Silent Keys).**

**I've personally been at license exam sessions, as a VE Session Liaison, as well as an administering VE, where the entire family (Dad, Mom, and their kids) have all gotten their Technician Class license in the same day...talk about spreading the happiness around of the new licensees!! It was truly a joy to sign the CSCE's of the newly licensed family of hams!! We joked that "they'll be fighting over the radio" (hi hi).**

**Basically, the youth of today are the amateur radio operators of tomorrow. In short, if we don't replace these operators that are no longer in the hobby, attrition will kill ham radio...no pun intended.**

**\*\***

**On the 12th day of Hamming, my radio gave to me:**

**12 Hours at Field Day, 11 New Harmonics, 10 Different Wouff Hongs, 9 modes on Digital, 8 the Hamfest Start Time, 7 Nights Of Net Logs, 6 Meter Clean Sweep, 5 Band DXCC. Four sets of antennas, three different radios, two license upgrades, and a license, callsign from the FCC.**

**Always held on the 4th full weekend of June each year, ARRL Field Day is a chance for ham radio operators to set up portable operations in a wide variety of locations, running on emergency power for 24 hours, and to show the public, that truly..."when all else fails, ham radio is there".**

**A similar event, known as Winter Field Day, is held during the latter part of January...usually the last full weekend of the month. Further details are available at <https://www.winterfieldday.com> and on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/winterfielddday/>**

**\*\***

**The following story is true...and while I've done nets since I was first licensed in 1991, and done exams since late 2007, this item is "my legacy" in the hobby (hi hi).**

Several years ago, before I had cataract surgery, my visual acuity had gone to 20/2000, and I had been severely nearsighted since elementary school...not to mention having worn glasses for over 40 years. So, I was “legally blind”...and even at 35, I was unable to drive at night. Dr. Mike McFarland, of McFarland Eye Center in central Arkansas (who first pioneered the “no stitch cataract surgery”) lamented “you’re too young to not be able to drive at night”.

The surgery restored my visual acuity to 20/20...with astigmatism evident at times...even though I use 2.00 power reading glasses at the computer, or with my Android smartphone.

But, as of June, 2022...“dry corneas” and “suspect glaucoma” resulted in blurred vision without warning while driving; so I no longer drive, or have a car. While I use eye drops several times a day, apparently there isn’t much that can be done. Along with having “floaters” (nothing can be done about them), this has greatly reduced the amount of time that I can spend at the computer, for doing ham radio traffic nets or otherwise.

At a central Arkansas hamfest several years ago, I was chairman of both Talk-In, and a Packet Station...having a VHF Packet Station set up as a demo. I had recruited 3 blind ham radio operators to help...Sam, N5SRB (SK), Tracy, KC5EIQ (SK), and Tim, K5TEL. Both N5SRB and KC5EIQ are Silent Keys now, and K5TEL moved to Pennsylvania awhile back to be with family...but, I occasionally talk to him via D-Star. He has moved back to Arkansas as of November, 2025.

While I had to escort the blind ham radio operators to and from the restroom (nature tends to call at the most inopportune time), then had to get their food for them from the concessions area...their being at the Talk-In Station table allowed me the chance to explore the hamfest for eyeball QSO’s, gear, etc., without being at the table for the entire event.

But, the running joke was that “Talk-In was being run by 4 blind hams (who can’t see or drive); and they’re giving us directions to the hamfest!!” (hi hi). As a side note, many of these blind hams can program a handie talkie (HT) like no one I’ve ever seen!! That was more the case with older rigs...I’m not sure about the newer ones, with all the new features.

**The kicker was that the event was a Friday night and Saturday day event, and was held at the former Little Rock Expo Center and The Outlet Mall, at Exit 126 (County Line Road/Alexander Exit) off of Interstate 30 in southwest Little Rock (it's now the south campus and Culinary Institute of Pulaski Technical College, now also part of the University Of Arkansas System).**

**The overhead lighting in the parking lot was not working, and they had just blacktopped (paved) the parking lot, but had not yet striped it. With my night vision not the best (I didn't realize it was due to a combination of cataracts and nearsightedness), I groaned "I'm lost. I can't find my way out of this parking lot!!" – that proved to be my big mistake, and I should've suspected that something was up (hi hi).**

**One of the blind hams asked me for the mic, keyed up the wide area coverage repeater, and announced "This is a Talk-Out Net, for the Talk-In Station; who can't find his way out of the hamfest parking lot!!".**

**I grabbed the mic, and said in sarcasm "I want to use your seeing eye dog", and he replied in kind "You can't...he's tied to the front bumper right now"!! (hi hi).**

**I was red with embarrassment, and the other hams were laughing wildly. Yet, several years after this incident...in having to put my Mom first in area hospitals, then to a nursing home prior to her death in August, 2019...I'd get LOST in the hospital parking decks (their directional signage isn't the best).**

**At the last hamfest that was held in Little Rock in 2016...I had overseen the VE Testing (license exams). Afterwards, I walked over to where all of these blind hams were gathered, I "tried to disguise my voice", and asked "Excuse me, sir?? Can you help me get out of this hamfest parking lot??!!".**

**One of the blind hams screamed "Daryl!! You rascal!". Everyone within earshot knew EXACTLY the significance of that, and all of us busted out in raucous laughter (hi hi). To this day, I get asked if I need help getting out of parking lots (hamfest and otherwise), and hospital parking decks!! But, if you can't laugh at yourself, you have got a lot of problems.**

**\*\***

**And to finish things off on a bizarre note...especially since there's so little in the world to laugh it...here's a bit of a suggestive and punny joke (maybe Ham and Radio did this as well on their wedding night (hi hi)).**

**Now, what this couple did (noted in the joke below) is NOT my idea of a good time. However, what a couple (married before The Good Lord and their peers) does in the privacy of their bedroom (hopefully, with no Official Observers or Virtual Monitors around), is strictly their business. If both are consenting to such, more power to them...never mind "all knobs to the right"...as "she's perfectly adjusted, so he doesn't need to touch the knobs" (hi hi).**

**\*\***

**One evening, this OM and his XYL were looking for "new ways to get frisky", in making love. As a side note, I don't know if I'd classify this as CW for "Continuous Whoopee" or not (hi hi).**

**Anyway, he enters the bedroom, and she is "in the mood", and says to her OM "Beat Me!! Whip Me!!". Basically, "she wants sex big time".**

**Well, he didn't have anything handy in the QTH...so, he then went out to the garage, and removed the mobile magmount antennas from their vehicles. As a side note, it appears that the antennas had "quick disconnects" – for what basically amounted to "a quickie", and I guess a "sexy checkin" is one that's "in and out" (hi hi).**

**Anyway, they proceeded to get butt naked, then to thrash and beat the living daylights out each other with the antennas (never mind "zero beating their frequencies" to work "up her sideband" (hi hi)).**

**After several minutes, they're red from the beatings all over each other, and drenched in sweat...but they're happy. (I wonder what adult beverages they drank beforehand; because I didn't think you'd do this if you were sober!!).**

**Well, a few days later, they have to go to the Emergency Room, from the severe pain and stinging from the "kinky beatings". Once there, the doctor has them both strip butt naked...and he asks them (likely condescendingly) "Did you get this from having sex??" They tearfully confess that they did.**



**The doctor says “I thought so. That’s the worst case of van-aerial disease that I’ve ever seen”!!**

**As a side note, when I was talking to my late mother-in-law several years ago, when I got to the punchline, she started laughing wildly...but my late wife groaned “Oh, No!!” at the dry pun humor. I’ve told this joke to other amateur radio operators, and the reaction was the same (laughter)!!**

**\*\***

**I hope that you enjoyed this file..and even some adult humor with it. Yet, there is so little to laugh at in the world nowadays.**

**In tribute to the “blind ham trio” of Tracy, KC5EIQ (SK), Sam, N5SRB (SK), and Tim, K5TEL, they and I were fans of the group Hudson and Landy, which did a skit years ago, called “The Prospector”. After an instance of dry pun humor (as there is so much of in this file), one of us would utter “Heh Eh”. Then, all of us, in unison, would say “Boy, I couldn’t live like that!!”, then we’d all bust out laughing!!**

**You can view that video on YouTube at:**

**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vi1DTMP8-nc>**

**If you have items you’d like to add, please contact me at either [wx1der@gmail.com](mailto:wx1der@gmail.com) or [n5vlz@duck.com](mailto:n5vlz@duck.com) – and to all who provided material for this file, there are so many of them, that if I try to mention everyone, I’m going to leave someone out. So, please consider this a hearty “THANK YOU!!” for all of your funny contributions.**

**Because “dirty old hams need love, too”...note that “with ham radio programs on the shack computer – they call it software, because they can’t keep it up!! (hi hi).**

**7 3, and thanks for reading.**

**Daryl Stout, N5VLZ, Little Rock, Arkansas**