



# REMARCS



## JULY/AUGUST 1996 SEE YOU AT THE HAMFEST!

MARC's first indoor/outdoor hamfest is just a few weeks away. Without the money we make on the hamfest, MARC would not be the club we know and enjoy. That's why every member's support is needed.

Last years rainy Sunday hurt our revenue badly. But with careful management by the Board, the club came through the year all right. Now we need a good hamfest to put us back on track for the future health of our club. With indoor sales for the first time, we will be able to do okay regardless of the weather . . . IF everyone helps.

Volunteers will be needed for Saturday set-up, so if you can't come on Sunday, how about Saturday? We will also need workers on Sunday afternoon for clean-up, in case you're tied up in the morning. And we need people to talk up the show on the air on all the frequencies you frequent.

The hamfest is hard work but also fun. If you are a new club member, it's a great way to meet people and know that you're contributing something to the organization at the same time. No prior experience is needed for most of the jobs that need to be done. See you there!

## PROGRAMS

Our July 18 speaker will be Don Young from Wayne, describing his adventures as a wireman in World War II. The wireman's job was to string communications wire, sometimes under enemy fire, and handle other communications tasks. Don has written about his experiences in a new book called *wire as a Weapon*. Also in July is homebrew night. Bring ham gear you have built and show it off to fellow club members.

The August 15 program will be given by Gene Pressler W3ZXV, from Maple Glen. His topic will be how he used radio to monitor the collision of a comet with the planet Jupiter several years ago. He wrote about the experiment in December, 1994, *QST*. Incidentally, Gene was recently named the ARRL Atlantic Division "Amateur of the Year" for 1996.

In addition, we will have a very special guest at the meeting in August. Read on!

## NICK UX0ZZ COMING TO THE USA!

After months of frustration in the USA and despair in the Ukraine, hams' efforts to bring Nick Bortnik UX0ZZ to America for medical treatment finally overcame bureaucratic roadblocks. Nick is coming to the USA in August.

MARC supported Mike N3IRZ's campaign to get an entry visa for Nick, whose mysterious illness cannot be treated in his homeland. Donations to pay Nicks travel expenses and medical bills poured in as a result of Bob WA3PZO's

### **ALERT! THREAT TO 2m AND 440 MHz!**

Joke? Not! Another radio service may want to share our most popular ham VHF/UHF bands.

MARC began 20 years ago as a repeater club. Since then, we've grown into a general-interest radio club, but we operate two voice repeaters and a packet BBS on 2 meters. They are where MARC lives, on the air.

The editorial in July *QST* explains what is at stake and how to back up the ARRL's defense of our bands using your own words. Put this newsletter down, and go read the editorial. Then write a letter as suggested there.

If you are not a League member, maybe it's time you joined the organization that's leading the fight to save our club's home on the ham bands. -- 73 de Kay WT3P

publicity drive in the Amateur Radio media.

The US Embassy in Kiev repeatedly refused to grant Nick a visa, despite ample proof that he would not become a burden to society here and would return to the Ukraine.

Three Congressmen helped get the US Embassy to relent. They are Jon Fox and Curt Weldon from Pennsylvania and Andrew Funderburk K4TPJ of North Carolina. Senator Specter's office also wrote to Kiev.

If you'd like to QSO with Nick, you can usually find him around 14.243 MHz at 6 PM our time.

Please come to the August meeting and greet Nick in person. Congratulations to all who took part in this humanitarian project