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## FROM THE EDITOR'S JUNK BOX

At Dayton, I went to see the video and slides from the 3Y0PI DXpedition to Peter I Island off the coast of Antarctica. Until 9 radio Amateurs went to the Norwegian-controlled island last February, more landings had been made on the moon than on Peter I. As expensive as it was dangerous (VERY), the DXpedition made about 60,000 QSOs. I am always amazed that these big-gun DXpeditioners do not look like crazy people, all logical evidence to the contrary.



The next day, with several hours before my plane left for home and a nearly-full tank of gas already paid for, I was not in the mood to hang around a shopping mall or the Dayton airport. What the heck, I thought, I've never been to Indiana before. New York, London, Paris, Amsterdam, Pennsauken . . . but not Indiana. So I pointed the nose of my rented pearl-gray T-Bird west on Interstate 70 and headed for the Central Time Zone.



Well, as risky business goes, my expedition to Indiana doesn't compare to the time a couple of years ago when I stepped into a hotel elevator in York, Pennsylvania, that was cram-full of hairy biker-dudes whose collective breath exuded enough bourbon and marijuana fumes to make a bull dizzy. Though what they were laughing so uproariously about was imperceptible to me, I decided to think it was funny, too. Just a bloomin' howl, man.

Is there a connection between the thrill of imperiling one's neck on a desolate mountain blip in the Antarctic pack ice and my impulse to have lunch in Indiana?

I think so. I think hams need to do what we haven't tried, go where we haven't been. Ham radio offers the willing spirit a great many ways to avoid becoming bored and boring . . . but I don't think I need to become *quite* as interesting as the guys who went to Peter I.  
-73 de WT3P

## MAY 7 LICENSE TEST SESSION



MARC's VE team gave tests on Saturday, May 7, in Bryn Mawr. The VEs were BOB W3SA, BOB KA3NIQ, DENNIS WB2LGJ, PAUL NX3Q, WALT WB3BDP, CARTER KD3AO, AL W3DZI, HUGH KC3IE, and ROB

WI3S. Six candidates were tested. Although there were no upgrades, certificates were issued for 1 13 wpm test, 1 Advanced theory, and 1 Novice theory.

ARRL/VEC has advised VE teams not to release of names and test results of individuals without their express written consent. Consequently, our VEs cannot provide to REMARCS the names of MARC members who pass tests at our VE sessions.

We still want to honk the horn for you, but you'll have to come to the Editor now with your good news. Please do! News of your success inspires others to keep working on their own upgrades.

The next MARC test sessions will be on August 13 and October 29, and on February 4, 1995. Tests are given at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church on Montgomery Avenue in Bryn Mawr, with registration starting at 9: 15 AM. BOB W3ZQN (265-6032) has all the details and directions to the church.

We are able to hold our tests at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian through the good efforts of TOM K3YPO, our liaison with church officials.

## FIELD DAY: BIG SUCCESS IN 1994

The predicted rainstorms and zero propagation didn't materialize! Field Day captain MITCH N3BGA's rough estimate of the numbers shows 292 CW contacts and 1058 phone QSOs. The total of 1360 QSOs is not a club record but it's close. The ribbon for most contacts per band/mode goes to 80m phone, with about 600 Qs. Over 215 contacts were made on 40 CW. Over 300 contacts on 10/15/20m were made using the club's new beam antenna. About 60 people, including 7 guests, signed the participant log . . . this looks like a new record. Mitch estimates our score to be 3,584 points. Look for more Field Day results in the next newsletter.

### SOME FIELD DAY HISTORY

YEAR	QSOS	PEOPLE	POINTS
1994*	1,360	60	3,564
1993	1,097	40	3,180
1992	1,431	40	3,954
1991	1,032	40	3,362
1990	599	32	2,122
1989	908	27	3,136
1988	937	45	3,428
1987	719	26	2,502
1986	394	13	1,624

\*Figures are approximate

## MEMBERSHIP SURVEY RESULTS

Thirty-five members responded to the questionnaire in the last newsletter. Twenty-five responses were received in time for inclusion in a written report to the Board; the later 10 said much the same things as the first 25. What follows is a boil-down of the report highlights.

Half the respondents have been club members for 5 years or less, and nearly 1/3 have been licensed for 5 years or less. In terms of license class, the respondents were reasonably representative of the membership.

### Members on the Air...

**40%** are on HF  
**37%** use CW on the air  
**24** out of 25 are on 2m FM  
**32%** are on 222 MHz  
**28%** are on 440 MHz  
**44%** are on packet

Other band/mode interests mentioned by 3 or fewer people each include HF packet, ATV, RTTY, AMTOR, PACtor, 6 meters, satellite, AM, 1.2 GHz, and weak signal VHF.

On the operating interests check-off list, nearly every item was checked by someone. The most popular interests, checked by 30% or more of the respondents, were DXing (60% marked it), rag chewing (57%), using packet BBSs (35%) public service communications (35%), social/club nets (30%) and contesting (30%).

Most members who answered the questionnaire are active in the club. Club meetings, public service events, and the hamfest were the club activities checked most often.

Nearly half of the respondents said they first heard about MARC from friends. Five heard about the club on the repeaters and 5 via our license courses.

Why are they members? Reasons checked by at least half the respondents were that they like the club meetings and newsletter (18 each), to support the repeaters (15) because MARC members are friendly (15), because they like club activities (12), and because family and friends are members (12).

Nearly all the respondents use 147.06/R sometimes or often, with 145.13/R use almost as common. Not quite half ever use 224.42/R; nobody said he uses it often. Seventy-five percent said they use WB3JOE PBBS sometimes or often.

Suggestions about improving the repeaters included having remote inputs, using PL tones, adding power, better antennas, and softening the courtesy beep on '06. Suggestions for the packet BBS included eliminating the @TRIBBS bulletins and allowing more than 2 simultaneous user connects [See the "Packet Pocket" on page 4].

Most respondents said they get enough information about the club.

Several respondents liked everything about the meetings. The program is the most popular segment, followed by the social break and the business meeting. The business meeting was the only item mentioned as "liked least." However, asked to rate the amount of time spent on each portion, most people felt it was "just right" . . . though the point is well-taken that people want the business portion kept brief and to the point,

Most people preferred keeping the starting time at 8 PM and the ending time at 10 PM. For those who'd like a longer social period, don't forget that many people arrive around 7:30 PM to chat, and some friends even get together for dinner beforehand.

All the listed program topics elicited some interest, which gives a lot of elbow room. Other topics suggested were propagation, antennas, and the new GTOR digital protocol.

About half the respondents check into the traffic and club nets at least sometimes. There was a little interest in having some other kinds of nets (technical Q & A, packet how-to). Interest in CW training on the air was also on the low side.

What other activities would people like the club to have? Most people left this line blank. Suggestions received were to have an annual special event station, Q & A sessions about technical subjects, new-license and upgrade classes, and technical work parties. Any volunteers interested in starting such services

should contact a Member-at-Large.

No strong negative input was received, even though it was okay to answer anonymously.

For most of those who answered the survey, MARC is doing a good job of providing enjoyment of ham radio in a variety of ways. It appears from the input received that nothing much is broken. However, it's always possible to make good things better, and that's what the Board is going to try to do.

A clear strength we can build on is the perception that MARC is a friendly club. We can all try to make sure that friendliness is extended to new faces and voices on the repeaters as well as to familiar ones.

Don't wait for the next membership survey to let the Board know what you think about what our club should be doing. Keep the comments coming.

If you would like a copy of the whole 5-page report, please send an SASE to WT3P's callbook address.

## MEMBERSHIP PROMOTION

Sample copies of *REMARCS* with a cover note about the club were mailed to 80 non-members who live in or near Wayne. The note invited recipients to come to meetings and Field Day.

The Buckmaster CD-ROM callbook was used to find these people by zipcode and create mailing labels.

If the project is a success, we'll continue it to additional zipcodes. So far, we've done 19087, 19312, 19333, 19010, and part of 19301.

Several new people came to the June meeting as a result of the mailing. Three copies came back with bad addresses . . . say, does the FCC have your correct mailing address?

The best membership promotion is still inviting our friends to MARC meetings and activities. Who could you invite to the July and August meetings?