



JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2001

REMARCS

www.marc-radio.org

25 Years of Service and Fun Through Amateur Radio

RADIO AMATEUR CIVIL EMERGENCY SERVICE and AMATEUR SATELLITE FUN FEATURED AT JANUARY AND FEBRUARY CLUB MEETING PROGRAMS Junque Auction and Aviation Electronics Coming in Future Months

MARC's January 16 meeting program will be on RACES, the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service, presented by **Bob Lees W3ZQN**, past president of MARC and current Radio Officer for Montgomery County. Bob is going to explain what RACES is, and why hams should be actively involved with the emergency communications group in our home counties.

Even in these days of wireless phones and the Internet, when the stuff hits the fan, emergency management authorities call upon Amateur Radio to help them protect the public. When everything else goes down, ham radio goes on. If you know some new hams who are not MARC members and not involved in ARES or RACES yet, this is an important meeting to bring them to.

It has been years since MARC had a top-notch program on satellites. So long, in fact, that we were still meeting at the bank on City Line Avenue! Consequently, we are very pleased to announce that **Foster Schucker K3FXS** will speak about

Amateur Radio satellites at our February 20 meeting. **Janet KA3VTQ** thought of asking Foster to speak to us.

Our March meeting will be the annual Junque Auction. We moved it later in the year, hoping it wouldn't be messed up by bad weather again.

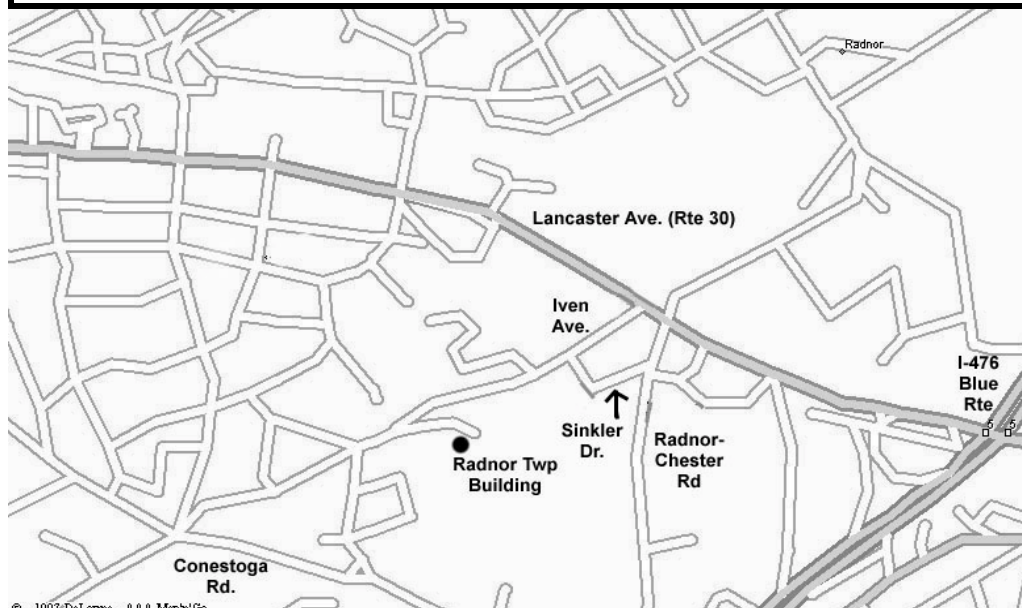
In April, we'll hear from the manager of Research and Development for the FAA at the Atlantic City Airport. This will be special fun for pilots (real planes or model aircraft). **Gene WB3FTJ** and **Judy N3MBW** found this speaker for us.

Details on these programs will be published in the next newsletter. Suggestions for speakers and program topics are welcome ... pass them to any member of the MARC board.

As always, MARC meetings are open to anyone with an interest in Amateur Radio or high technology. Don't you have a friend you could bring to the MARC meeting?

NEW MEETING LOCATION AND DATE

MARC now meets at the Radnor Township building in St. Davids
Third Tuesday of each month, 8 PM
January 16 / February 20



Going west on Lancaster Avenue: You cannot turn left onto Iven Avenue! Turn left on Radnor-Chester Road (major intersection with traffic light). Immediately turn right on Sinkler Drive. Go to T-intersection with Iven Ave. and turn left. Make a sharp left at the V-intersection onto lane (Creek Drive) where township building is located.

Going east on Lancaster Avenue: Turn right onto Radnor-Chester Rd. and follow the preceding directions. You can turn right from Lancaster onto Iven, but the turn-off is hard to see at night.

There is parking behind the building and also across Creek Drive.

ABOUT MARC

wb3joe@marc-radio.org
http://www.marc-radio.org

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

3rd Tuesdays, 8 PM, Radnor
Township Building, St. Davids.
Guests welcome. Smoke-free.
Handicapped-accessible.

BOARD MEETINGS

4th Thursdays, 7:30 PM, Paoli
Hospital. Members may attend
as observers.

SYSTEMS

145.13/R, 147.06/R, 224.42/R
Webmaster: Steve N3ORH
(610-313-8080, smaslin@fast.net)

NETS

Club Net, Sundays, 8:30 PM
Traffic net, M/W/F, 8:30 PM
All nets on 147.06
Net Manager: Carter N3AO
(610-993-9623, n3ao@arrl.net)

DUES

\$15 Full (licensed Amateurs)
\$5 Associate (unlicensed persons)
Family rate \$5 per ham after first
member pays full dues.

NEWSLETTER

REMARCS is published in the odd
months, edited by Kay WT3P
(610-993-9623, wt3p@arrl.net)

BRING A FRIEND
TO A MARC MEETING!

VOX

David KB3CRY upgraded to Extra. Ted KA3QKV, Fred KA3NKK, and Don WB3AYT upgraded to General. Please welcome new member and new ham Robert KB3FSQ. Carter N3AO spoke to the Holmesburg ARC about HF mobile operating, assisted by Bart K4BF. Kay WT3P helped operate WX4TBW, one of the ARRL / National Weather Service special event stations, from Bradenton, Florida.

E-mail from Neil WA3RPG in Massachusetts sends 73 to the old gang and says, "I am working way too hard but have lots of new computer toys to work with (3-D workstation)." E-mail from David KA3HBK in Colorado, about our loss of the Winsor Room, wonders if we could put back the dirt we scrubbed off the walls and carpet. Honestly ... it crossed our minds, David, but we didn't hold the thought.

How about a message from some other members to let us know whassup with you?

NOVEMBER LICENSE TEST SESSION REPORT

Next Tests are February 3

Every candidate went home happy! We served 10 applicants on November 4. Five people upgraded to General, two upgraded to Extra, and two earned new Technician licenses. Three MARC members took advantage of their free test session, a membership benefit that will continue in 2001. The test fee is now \$10.

Examiners were Bob W3ZQN, Bob W3SA, Bob KA3NIQ, Paul NX3Q, Kay WT3P, Bart K4BF, Hugh N3HT, Bill W3KRB, and Dick K3ITH. Logistics were managed by Tom K3YPO.

The next MARC test session will be Saturday, February 3, at the Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church on Montgomery Avenue in Bryn Mawr. Paperwork starts at 9 AM. Pre-registration is strongly advised, because we cancel the session if nobody pre-registers. Contact Bob W3ZQN (610-265-6032, rjlees@aol.com) to register and get all the necessary information.

MARC BEGINS OUR 25th YEAR — 1976 / 2001

Some Highlights from the MARC Newsletter Archives

1976 - 1977

In November, 1976, users of the 147.06 WR3ABZ repeater met to form a radio club, eventually named the Mid-Atlantic ARC. Edited by Bob WA3PZO, the first RADNOR REPEATER NEWS appeared in December '76. Meetings were held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, and dues were \$10. The first president was Peter K3ZFG (SK). Meetings floated for a while ... Villanova University, the GE Space Center. The February '77 newsletter published an article by Bill W3YSZ and Mike WA3SYI on how to build a frequency synthesizer for 2 meters ... many VHF rigs were rock-bound in those days.

1981

In January, the RADNOR REPEATER NEWS, still edited by Bob WA3PZO, noted that the 145.13 repeater had gone on the air in December, 1980. Repeater callsigns were a thing of the past, and '06 signed WB3JOE, a club callsign. MARC met at the Metropolitan Federal Savings Bank at Haverford and City Line Avenues. Our president was Don WB3AYT, and Doug N3ADL (now W3CF) was VP.

1986

In January/February REMARCS, edited by Kay KC3LM (pre-WT3P), we read that Paul WA3YZL was retiring as Technical chairman after about a

dozen years. We welcomed 1985 Novice class grad Floyd KA3OXA to the club. Al W3DZI (pre-N3EA) was president, and Bart KC3BP (pre-K4BF) was VP. VE testing was still pretty new, and members were cautioned not to study outdated license manuals from the old testing system.

1991

In January/February REMARCS, we read a lot about the WB3JOE packet radio BBS, whose sysop was Bart KC3BP. Dan KA3KHR was in uniform in Germany in connection with Operation Desert Storm ... fortunately, that's as close as he got to the hostilities. Carter KD3AO (pre-N3AO) was president, and Ron N3HEF (pre-W3ZV) was VP. Dues had risen to \$15. Rob KD3UP had just upgraded to Extra and was about to become WI3S.

1996

January/February REMARCS announced the hamfest's move to Kimberton. Tom N3JMA was president and Bob W3ZQN was VP. Enough members were on the Internet so that a list of interesting ham radio Web sites was published. Bart KC3BP retired as packet BBS sysop, and Steve N3ORH took up the job.

Look for more club history clips in REMARCS throughout the anniversary year.

FROM THE EDITOR'S JUNK BOX

Not long ago, I worked **Wayne AE5U** from Texarkana, Texas, on 20m PSK31. No biggie, except that Wayne is 87 years old. He told me about the version 1.5 update of the DigiPan software, which I hadn't heard about. Although Wayne lives in a retirement home, he insisted that the management let him have a vertical antenna so he can work HF. His typing left much to be desired, but heck, if I live to be 87, I'll be happy if I simply know my keyboard from third base.

You read about all sorts of pills, diets, and gimmicks for staying young. About that stuff, I don't know, but I do know that when people work on learning new things, they may continue to age (*there's only one alternative to that, and it ain't good!*), but they don't get old.

The quickest route to Geezer City is refusing to learn anything new or try anything different. This is just as true for the MTV generation as for anyone else. A person who never plugs anything new into his mind can be an old goat at any age.

Today's Amateur Radio has so many opportunities to explore that there's absolutely no excuse for turning into a fossil. When was the last time you tried a new mode ... satellites? CW? PSK31? Explored a new area of the spectrum ... HF? Two meter weak signal? Microwaves? Read a magazine article about an unfamiliar topic? Talked to someone on the repeater whom you don't already know? Learned to use a new piece of equipment or a new ham radio computer program? Surfing the Web's ham radio sites? Volunteered for an activity that isn't the same old same old? Picked up the soldering iron and built something?

If the answer to these and similar questions is "ummmmm," then make a New Year's Resolution to shake the dust out of your brains today and do something new, something fun, something worthwhile in ham radio that you haven't tried before. **Carter N3AO** helped me build a QRP transceiver kit this winter, something quite new for me. Get out of your own comfort zone and recapture the excitement that got you into this hobby in the first place. Happy NEW Year! — **73 de Kay WT3P**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 2000-2001

PRESIDENT

Steve Maslin N3ORH 610-313-8080
smaslin@fast.net

VICE PRESIDENT

Bart Feroe K4BF 610-367-4288
k4bf@arrl.net

SECRETARY

Bob Haase W3SA 610-293-1919
rhaase@bellatlantic.net

TREASURER

David DelPizzo KB3CRY 610-630-0129
del131@msn.com

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Kay Craigie WT3P 610-993-9623
wt3p@arrl.net

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Bill Owen W3KRB 610-325-3995
gem@op.net

PUBLIC SERVICE

Bob Palin N3JIZ 610-687-4587

TECHNICAL

Dennis Silage K3DS 610-353-4829
silage@vm.temple.edu

PROGRAMS

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

To 9/30/2002: Al Maslin N3EA 610-446-4936
amaslin@earthlink.net

To 9/30/2001: Janet Vann KA3VTQ
610-384-3163, jvann@ccis.net

CALLSIGN TRUSTEES

WB3JOE: Al Maslin N3EA 610-446-4936,
amaslin@earthlink.net
W3NWA: Kay Craigie WT3P 610-993-9623,
wt3p@arrl.net

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The board meets only once in November and December because of the holidays. This year, the meeting was on December 7. The board considered an extensive written report from the Technical chairman, who couldn't attend the meeting. The board decided that the first priority is to get the telephone lines serving our repeaters to work properly and to get all our repeaters working reliably. A backup repeater for '06 will be considered.

The board voted to continue the membership benefit of one free MARC VE test session per year. Also approved was spending not more than \$300 for the holiday party and up to \$200 for a long-lasting stencil for hamfest direction signs. The board meeting room has been reserved for 2001 on the

4th Thursday of the month. The treasury balance was \$8,787.93. Members will be encouraged to participate in Holmesburg ARC's FM simplex contest, but a MARC club callsign operation will not take place this year.

The need for 2001 Field Day chairmen was noted. Contacts to arrange the field will be made in early 2001, but without one or more members to captain the event, Field Day will not happen.

Club members may attend board meetings as observers. Issues that you would like to have presented to the board may be communicated to one of the Members-at-Large (listed in the box above on this page).

CLUB LOGO BADGES

MARC logo callsign badges look great and cost just \$8 including shipping to your home. If you have a new callsign or don't own a callsign badge, why not order a MARC badge now? Contact **Kay WT3P** (610-993-9623, wt3p@arrl.net) for an order form. MARC does not profit from these badge orders.

FIELD DAY RESULTS

Our Field Day results are on page 106 of December QST, about 2/3 down the right-most column. We're in the top half of scores in class 3A, which is very good. WE NEED FIELD DAY CHAIRMEN FOR 2001. If you want this MARC tradition to continue, step forward now and volunteer.

HOLMESBURG ARC ANNOUNCES DELAWARE VALLEY 2M FM SIMPLEX CONTEST

The Holmesburg Amateur Radio Club of Philadelphia announces the first Delaware Valley 2 Meter Simplex Contest, to be held Saturday, February 3, 2001, from 7 to 11 PM.

The contest is open to all radio amateurs. Stations within a 60 mile radius of Philadelphia's City Hall will exchange their zip code and contact number. Stations outside of the 60 mile radius will exchange their state and contact number. Stations from New York to Maryland will be able to participate in this evening event.

According to HARC President **Bob Josuweit WA3PZO**, the contest is designed for hams to enjoy meeting their neighbors on the air and experiencing something else besides repeater contacts. The contest allows clubs as well as individuals to participate. Bonus points are given for contacting other club stations/callsigns.

Contacts can be made on any 2 meter FM voice frequency provided there is no interference to repeater, digital, satellite, or other activities taking place in the two meter band. Contacts

on 146.52 are not permitted. For further information contact **WM3PEN @harcnet.org** or **WA3PZO@harcnet.org**.

SAMPLE CONTEST EXCHANGE

1. If you live in the 60 mile radius of William Penn (Philadelphia City Hall): "KB3AKK, this is WA3PZO. Please copy Number 1, zip 19136"
2. If you live outside of the 60 mile radius: "WA3PZO, this is N3EFN. Please copy Number 1, PA. "
3. If you work HARC's club call WM3PEN, exchange your information and make a note that it is the sponsoring club call and worth 3 points.

Other club calls will be worth 2 points. All other contacts count as 1 point. Final score will be the number of contacts X the number of zip codes/states in high (10W or more) and low power (less than 10W) categories. Individual, club station, and mobile awards will be issued. [tnx WA3PZO]

SANTA'S BRIGADE DELIVERS

MARC members contributed 10 gifts to the Main Line Volunteer Force's effort to share the holiday spirit with less-fortunate neighbors. Members who donated gifts in 2000 were **Mike KF3CD**, **Kim KB3COV**, **Bob WA3PZO**, **Gene WB3FTJ**, **Judy N3MBW**, **David KB3CRY**, **Steve K3KFD**, **Bill W3KRB**, **Dan KA3KHR**, **Bob W3SA**, **Carter N3AO**, and **Kay WT3P**. Particular thanks are due to **Mike KF3CD**, who collected gifts at the holiday party and delivered them to a shelter in Phoenixville.

BADGE LANYARD GROUP ORDER Save on Shipping Charges!

We can place a group order for the Amateur Radio ID badge lanyards sold on the ARRL Web site. These attractive yellow lanyards say "Amateur Radio" in black letters and have a clip to hold your badge or ID. No more holes in your clothes!

The lanyards only cost \$2.95 each. It's the shipping that gets expensive. By placing a group order, we can reduce the shipping charge per lanyard and save everyone some money.

Don't send any money now. Just let **Kay WT3P** (wt3p@arrl.net, 610-993-9623) know if you're interested. If you told me at the holiday party, I lost my notes ... please remind me.

A & A COMMUNICATIONS THANKS MARC

"Your hamfest committee was most cordial, hospitable, and generous to me last summer at the hamfest," writes **Gisele K3WAJ**, proprietor of A & A Communications. She sent us several nice ham radio accessories for holiday party door prizes.

Gisele says A & A (3208 Concord Pike, Wilmington, 302-278-2757) hopes to be at MARC's 2001 hamfest ... that's really good news.

HAMFEST PLANNING - JANUARY 28

Want to help make hamfest 2001 even better than last year's? Come to the planning meeting on the afternoon of January 28 at the home of **Mike KF3CD**. We need your ideas and your willingness to work ... many tasks can be completed before hamfest day. This is an open meeting for interested members who want to work on the 2001 hamfest. Contact **Mike** (610-935-4429, mpilotti@anro.com) for the starting time and driving directions.

HELP MARC SAVE YOUR MONEY! Try Electronic REMARCS

The postage increase from 33 to 34 cents means every paper copy of *REMARCS* will bite even more out of the club's treasury. That's YOUR money!

We are now about 50% electronic delivery, but more than half the club's members are on e-mail. Please read the information about electronic delivery in the membership renewal form on page 7. Could you switch over to electronic delivery? Every electronic copy saves the club money on printing and postage. That's your money, which could be spent on other club activities you enjoy.

We can even do a test delivery so you can see what the electronic edition is like. It's NOT a drab text file! It's identical to the paper edition, and you can print it on paper if you want to or read it on your screen.

PLEASE PAY DUES BEFORE MARCH 1

Dues are payable on or before March 1. By paying promptly, you prevent us from hassling you later. You save volunteer time and effort pestering you. If a snail-mail notice is necessary, that costs the club money we could have spent on something else. Please use the form on page 7. Thanks!

BUILDING THE ELECRAFT K-1

The K-1 is a 2-band QRP transceiver that a beginner like me shouldn't attempt without supervision by an experienced kit-builder like **Carter N3AO**.

Elecraft provides superb instruction manuals, in the great Heath-kit tradition, and there's an e-mail reflector for errata and for getting help when you're up to your aspidistra in alligators and don't know which way to float. Even so, if you're a beginner and don't have an expert coach at your elbow, start with something simpler to develop your skills and earn your diploma from the school of hard knocks.

Carter coached me on how to solder ... he learned a lot of technique from my father, **Jim KD3NI** (SK), so we kinda came full circle there. Pyool, that stuff stinks, but a little lead solder ain't quite the first strange thing I've inhaled in my life! So on with the show. Carter showed me how to position the components so they look nice as well as work.

We started working through the manual, putting components on the boards. Elecraft stops you every so often and tells you how to test your last module of work. If something's squirrely, you'll know it before it gets too confusing to locate and fix the problem.

I learned to wind toroidal inductors and transformers, and to strip and tin their leads. With bifocals, this truly draws a vacuum, if you get my meaning, despite the illuminated magnifier. But what's life without a challenge?

Time for the first smoke test. Hey, it didn't blow up! This thing seems to be working, so far. Tune in next issue for more about Pilgrim's Progress in QRP kit building — **Kay WT3P**

DO YOU KNOW GRACE?

Do you know how long the grace period is for renewing your ham license? A Volunteer Examiner was recently heard on a Delaware Valley repeater telling someone it's five years.

That's absolutely wrong. For many years, the grace period has been two years. The relevant Rule is at 97.21(3)(b).

If you file during the grace period, you cannot operate until your renewal is granted. Your renewal application must actually be received by the FCC before the two years is over, not just post-marked within the period. If your application is received after the two years is up, your license is dead and gone. You have to take the tests all over again.

It's upsetting that a VE would spread misinformation, but ultimately each one of us is responsible for knowing the FCC's Rules. "Somebody told me wrong," is no excuse.

Is "somebody" going to take your exams over again, if you mess up and let your ticket expire? The FCC recently refused to make an exception for some guys who said they didn't know Form 610 is no longer accepted, when they filed for renewal at the very end of their grace periods.

If you don't own a current copy of Part 97, get one and read it. The ARRL's *FCC RULE BOOK* (12th edition, 2000) gives the text of the Rules and an explanation in plain English. This is important whether we are new licensees or have been hams for decades. Rules change, and each of us has to stay up to date. It's all part of placing the right high value on the privilege of being hams.

OUT OF SORTS?

Plenty of people old enough to vote aren't at ease with a rotary dial telephone. Many of them have to think when they must tell time from an analog clock. Many people don't know what a car's choke did, let alone how to set it, and how many of you know which part of a horse the martingale goes on? Common knowledge can become uncommon in just a few years' time!

The last paper callbook was published about half a dozen years ago, after sales fell off and CD-ROM technology spread. Many hams have never had their hands on a paper callbook. They've never looked up a callsign in a book. They've only used computer look-ups where you type in the callsign and the information comes up on the screen.

So it shouldn't have come as a big surprise that some MARC members are confused by the club roster. The list isn't alphabetized by last name, because hams often don't know each other's last names. It's sorted basically like a USA callbook.

The callbook sorted USA callsigns first by the call-area digit. We don't do that for the MARC list, because nearly everybody

in the club is a "3." It would be more annoying than useful to group MARC members by call area digits. From there on out, we do a standard callbook sort.

First, members are sorted by suffix (A, ADI, AGS, AO, AYT, AZO, BED, BF, etc.). If two members have the same suffix, then we sort on the prefix. That's why K3RIZ is listed before WA3RIZ, and NM3S appears before WI3S.

The day may come when a callbook sort is so unfamiliar to most hams that lists of callsigns will be sorted on the whole call. Then, those of us who remember the big thick books of wispy paper will be the ones having a hard time finding ourselves in the list.

Paper callbooks were fun to leaf through, and you can't do that with a CD-ROM. But the books were clumsy to handle and the print was about the size of a virus. You couldn't interface them with your logging program ... except we didn't have logging programs, so that didn't matter. Amazing how time and technology fly!

HOLIDAY PARTY WAS FUN FOR ALL

Our last meeting at the library, the annual holiday party, was coordinated by **Janet KA3VTQ**, with help from **Dieter WB3JWU**, **Kay WT3P** and **Mike KF3CD**. Everyone had a good time. Our 15 years at the library ended on a note of holiday cheer.

DX FUN: "QSL, QSL"

QSLing DX stations for awards and personal enjoyment is a big part of the hobby for many hams. Looking back in my early logs, I see some good DX contacts that I never got cards for because I didn't know how to QSL them. Here are some tips on choosing a QSL method. Other MARC DXers are invited to share their tricks of the trade.

Basic choices for sending QSL cards to DX stations are (1) sending directly to the DX's callbook address; (2) sending via a QSL manager; (3) sending via the QSL bureau.

If the DX operator indicates which of these methods he or she prefers, then do it that way. If not, then you have some homework to do and choices to make.

"QSL direct"

Sending QSL's directly to the DX's callbook address (often abbreviated "CBA" on CW and digital) requires looking up the address on a CD-ROM or the Internet (try QRZ.COM for starters). Use an airmail envelope if possible, though they're hard to find at office supply stores. Enclose a self-addressed envelope (also airmail type) and be sure to put "USA" in your address. Enclose sufficient return postage. Two International Reply Coupons (IRC's are sold at post offices) or \$2 in cash will get the job done. The 2001 postage jump makes overseas airmail cost 80¢ an ounce. This is not a cheap way to QSL.

"QSL via manager"

QSL managers are volunteers who receive QSL cards for DX stations and send out the DX's cards to the deserving. Some live in the USA, but many live elsewhere. Regardless of rumors you may hear, QSL managers do not profit from what they do. Most wind up in the red. DXpeditions almost always use QSL managers, and a lot of individual DX hams do, too ... either because they don't want to fool with the correspondence or because the postal service in their countries is unreliable. Sometimes the manager turns out to be the home-country callsign of a ham who's operating abroad.

It isn't always obvious that a DX station has a manager or who that manager might be. Take a few days to research the matter, so you can QSL via a manager if one turns out to exist. For a manager in the USA, send a self-addressed stamped envelope. For a manager outside the USA, follow the mailing advice given for direct QSL's. And be patient. Big DXpeditions make a lot of contacts. Last fall's Kingman Reef DXpedition,

for instance, made over 80,000 QSO's! Those cards will probably take a long time to arrive.

"QSL via buro"

That's how they spell it on CW and digital. The resemblance to "burro" is apt, because the bureau is as slow as a donkey cart. On the other hand, it's cheap.

The ARRL operates an outgoing QSL service at ARRL HQ which sends League members' QSL's in packages to bureaus operated by other countries' national Amateur Radio societies. There is a small fee for this service, which is only for ARRL members. Instructions are available as handouts at most hamfests, on the ARRL Web site, and on page 67 of September 2000 QST. Once the cards are overseas, the foreign bureaus forward them to the recipients.

Some countries have no bureau. Be sure to read the list!

The ARRL also operates regional QSL bureaus for foreign cards coming into the USA. These bureaus are staffed by volunteers (not paid ARRL employees) who sort and re-mail the DX QSLs to us. This service is open to all American hams, whether or not they are ARRL members. Which incoming bureau you use is determined by the digit in your callsign, not by where you live. The incoming bureaus' addresses and general instructions are available as handouts at most hamfests, on the ARRL Web site, and page 61 of December 2000 QST.

If a DX station has a QSL manager, can you send your card to the manager via the bureau? Yes, but be warned that some QSL managers refuse to reply to bureau cards. It's controversial, but that's the situation. All depends on how much you really want that QSL card. You cannot send return postage or SASE's to DX stations or their managers through the bureau.

Using the bureau is great for cards going to relatively common countries. You are going to work a zillion stations in these countries, so there is no pressing reason to spend a lot of money on direct QSL's.

When I was a new ham, though, I sent the card direct for my first contact with any country. I was much too excited to wait for the bureau, which can take years. I still love to see those SASE's come back to me. Any way you get them, QSL's are the best part of any day's mail! — 73 & DX de Kay WT3P

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR RADIO AMATEURS

Do you know any hams who are going to college or post-secondary technical school next year? How about some scholarship money to help pay the bills?

The Foundation for Amateur Radio will administer 67 scholarships for the 2001-02 school year, ranging in value from \$500 to \$2,500. FAR is a non-profit consortium of 75 ham radio clubs in the Washington / Baltimore area that fully funds some scholarships and administers others for donors. Hams may compete for the scholarships if they plan to pursue a full-time course of study beyond high school and are enrolled in or

accepted for enrollment at an accredited institution.

Additional information and an application form may be requested by letter or QSL card postmarked prior to April 30, 2001, from FAR Scholarships, PO Box 831, Riverdale, MD 20738. FAR has a Web site, but it isn't up to date and there's no downloadable application package.

The ARRL Foundation also offers scholarships. The application deadline is February 1, 2001. Get all the information and download applications from www.arrl.org/arrlf/scholgen.html.

REMARCS		JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2001		7
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM Renewals are due by March 1. We do not accept more than one year's dues at a time. Send form and check payable to "MARC" to Mid-Atlantic ARC, PO Box 2154, Southeastern, PA 19399-2154.				
NAME			CALLSIGN	
ADDRESS				
CITY			STATE	ZIP + 4
TELEPHONE			OK to publish phone? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
E-MAIL ADDRESS			OK to publish e-mail? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Newsletter delivery via: E-mail <input type="checkbox"/> Paper mail <input type="checkbox"/> (Please see newsletter delivery note below.)				
License Class: E A G T+ T N Non-USA None			ARRL Member? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Please compute amount due:				
Full member (licensed ham) @ \$15			\$	
Family member (licensed ham, after 1 st member pays full dues) @ \$5			\$	
Associate member (unlicensed person) @ \$5			\$	
TOTAL DUE WITH THIS FORM			\$	

Newsletter delivery note:

Newsletters can be provided as e-mail file attachments. The file size is usually less than 300k. To receive the newsletter electronically, members need an e-mail provider which allows file attachments and the Adobe Acrobat Reader software version 3 or later (comes with many software packages and available as free download from www.adobe.com). Members are encouraged to choose electronic delivery, because it saves the club a great deal of money on printing and postage, reduces the editor's volunteer work load, and gets the newsletter to you faster. The e-mail version looks exactly like the paper version and can be printed on paper or read on the screen. If you would like to try a sample electronic copy before making your choice, please e-mail the editor: wt3p@arrl.net.

FEEDBACK FORM

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