

# THE ZARC CARRIER

*The Newsletter of the Zanesville Amateur Radio Club*



## 100 Years of Voice

*From: The ARRL - The National Association for Amateur Radio*

"Hello!" Not surprisingly, it was the first word to be heard over the radio some 100 years ago.

From the time he was a young boy, Canadian Reginald Fessenden was fascinated with the idea of transmitting voice. Upon hearing his uncle describe Alexander Graham Bell's demonstration of the telephone, the 10 year-old reportedly asked, "Why do they need wires?" He then spent much of his life trying to figure it out.

His early attempts at voice transmission were unintelligible. With government backing, Fessenden, and his assistant Thiessen, kept trying various improvements until they met with success.

Listen to Fessenden's first voice transmission on December 23, 1900 -- he says, **"Hello! Test, 1, 2, 3, 4. Is it snowing where you are Mr. Thiessen?"**

Fessenden formed Signaling Company Pittsburgh millionaires tract with the government working with the helping perfect their between land stations the powerful transmit at this disposal, he periments in voice June 1906 successfully from his Brant Rock, at Plymouth, a distance



Reginald Fessenden's Workshop

improvements to the antenna installations at Brant Rock continued through the summer with more successful experiments until Fessenden was certain the process would work properly.

Working in secrecy, he planned a surprise for a 9 p.m. broadcast on Christmas Eve in 1906. With the assistance of his wife and trusted employees, he scripted a program of music and Bible readings. Shipboard operators had been tipped to listen for something special during the December 24 transmission, but no one could have anticipated what was planned. At the appointed hour, radio operators across the North Atlantic were surprised to hear voice coming from their radios, calling "CQ, CQ". It was Fessenden beginning the first "radio" program. After a brief introduction, Handel's "Largo" was played from an Edison wax cylinder phonograph, followed by the inventor playing "O, Holy Night" on his violin. The planned Bible reading by Mrs. Fessenden and his secretary had to be quickly covered by the inventor as the first reported cases of microphone fright and dead air occurred when both women froze.

After Fessenden's historic feat, thousands of inquisitive hobbyists began to experiment with this new fangled technology called Radio. They were, and are still, called "amateur" radio operators. Commercial broadcasting didn't begin for another 14 years after Fessenden's historic Christmas Eve broadcast. They labored in attics, barns, garages and cellars to perfect what we now call radio.

*Continued on page 6*

## Ham Radio's Christmas Home Alone -- A Horror Story

*By Ignacy Misztal, NO9E*

My wife was traveling overseas for a month around Christmas and the holiday season. She told me to enjoy myself, not to worry too much, and get plenty of rest.

I decided to spend the holidays taking on unfinished projects in ham radio. First was a search around the yard for a good location for a receive antenna for 160/80 m. The highest pine tree in my yard (90 ft) supports an inv L that finally made my signal competitive on transmit but not on receive. I noticed that pines in this tree were turning yellow and the tree was infested. Cutting the tree now would be inexpensive, but in a short time no tree cutter would want to climb it. I called various tree cutters. Nobody responded yet.

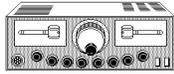
I bought a "super" SWR/power meter that is supposed to provide +/- 2% reading from 1 to 2500 W. I was very excited until I noticed that on a high SWR (5:1) antenna this meter was showing SWR of 1.5, a 300% error. A few days (and nights) later, the culprit was found: a parameter set to 0.900 instead of 0.999.

I purchased a new automatic antenna tuner. It was light, fast, automatic and relatively quiet. It tuned wonderfully, until I tuned 6m with full power. A relay broke. This meant no portable operation during Christmas despite a 60+ degree weather. The tuner came back from repairs 10 days later.

Often there is S9+ power noise in my neighborhood. I decided to track it down with a 4-el 2m and 8 el 70cm quad, a quite

*Continued on page 6*

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**THE ZARC CARRIER**

*The Zarc Carrier* is the newsletter of the Zanesville Amateur Radio Club, located in Zanesville, Muskingum County, Ohio and is published January, March, May, July, September, and November.

Send in your items of ham related interest, such as swap n shop ads, new hams in the area, birthdays, anniversaries, silent keys, ham fests, special events, and original written articles. Deadline is the first of the month before the month to be published. Enclose a SASE if your material is to be returned to you.

Any material in *The Zarc Carrier* may be reprinted as long as you give credit to the newsletter, the original author, and the original publication, if given.

Sample copies are available upon request and a SASE. If your club receives a complementary copy of *The Zarc Carrier*, we would appreciate a copy of yours in exchange.

**ZARC MEMBERSHIP**

The Zanesville Amateur Radio Club is an incorporated not-for-profit association. Membership is open to anyone interested in the purposes of the organization and who agrees to abide by the by-laws and other rules and regulations that may, from time to time, be established by ZARC.

**ZARC Membership Application**

Date ..... New Membership ..... Renewal .....

Name ..... Call Sign .....

Address .....

City, St, Zip .....

Phone ..... ARRL Member - Yes ..... No .....

Prorates apply to new memberships only. Jan-Mar Apr-Jun Jul-Sep Oct-Dec

• Full (*Licensed Amateur*) ... 20.00 ... 15.00 ... 10.00 ... 5.00

• Family (*Of Full member—Licensed Amateurs—1st person, then \$5.00 for balance of family*) ... 10.00 ... 7.50 ... 5.00 ... 2.50

• Junior (*Licensed Amateur, 16 yrs. old or younger, still in school, not in same household as Family member*) ... 6.00 ... 4.50 ... 3.00 ... 1.50

• Associate (*Un-Licensed*) ... 10.00 ... 7.50 ... 5.00 ... 2.50

If Family Membership, Name and Call Sign of Full Member:

.....

E-Mail Address .....

Share E-Mail Address With: .... Members Only .... Anyone .... No One

Send ZARC CARRIER by: .... E-Mail (Adobe) .... USPS

Make check or money order out to ZARC and mail to:

Don Wahl, WA8BOV, ZARC Treasurer, P. O. Box 8203, Zanesville, Ohio 43701-8203



## ZARC Net Control Stations

The Zanesville Amateur Radio Club 2 meter net meets every Wednesday night at 9 PM on 146.610 PL 74.4. The PL and time out are off during the net. All licensed Amateur Radio operators are welcome to check in.

### December 2007

5th Mary Grandstaff, KB8ZXH  
 12th Open  
 19th Danny Grandstaff, KB8RIM  
 26th Zippo Gillogly, K8CYN

### January 2008

2nd Mary Grandstaff, KB8ZXH  
 9th Open  
 16th Open  
 23rd Danny Grandstaff, KB8RIM  
 30th Zippo Gillogly, K8CYN

Any ZARC club member is welcome to take an *Open* week as net control. Let me know that you are interested and I will see that you get a copy of the ZARC Net Preamble and assign you a Wednesday. Danny Grandstaff, KB8RIM, zcw8zzv@prodigy.net or 740-453-0400.

### The Armstrong Radio Repeater System

	<i>Licking County</i>	<i>Muskingum County</i>	<i>Guernsey County</i>	<i>Perry County</i>
VHF	146.835	147.075	147.000	146.820
UHF	443.925	442.250	444.375	none
PL	91.5	91.5	91.5	100.0

Due to recent events beyond my control, I have had to migrate the NARA and ZARC web-sites to a different server and address. The migration that I have needed to do is permanent. Here are the new but similar addresses:  
 Newark ARA <http://nara.eqth.info>  
 Zanesville ARC <http://zarc.eqth.info>  
 Other Amateur Radio related sites that were affected by the move are:  
 MULTIPSK <http://multipsk.eqth.info>  
 Study Guides <http://studyguide.eqth.info>  
 73, Earl, N8KBR, Web Master

**Printing Donated by:**  
**Dan's Barber Styling**  
 819 Linden Ave.,  
 Zanesville, Ohio

**The Fix It People!**  
**Communications Electronics**  
 2617 Palmer Rd.  
 Hebron, Oh 43025



**HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

## Area 2 Meter Nets

### Sunday

147.045 Coshocton 9 PM

### Monday

146.730 New Philadelphia 8 PM  
 147.030 Lancaster 9 PM  
 145.230 Coshocton 9 PM

### Tuesday

146.760 Columbus 7:30 PM  
 146.850 Cambridge 8 PM & 8:15 PM  
 146.670 Millersburg 9 PM  
 146.880 Newark 9 PM

### Wednesday

147.345 Logan 8:30 PM  
 146.610 Zanesville 9 PM  
 147.210 Wooster 9 PM

### Saturday

\* New Lexington 8 PM  
 \* © Multi-County Coalition 9 PM  
 \* The Armstrong Radio Repeater System  
 © Alternate Frequency 146.610

### **Other Area Nets**

#### Daily

147.240, PL 179.9 Columbus 7 PM

#### Wednesday s

1st - 8:30 PM 146.460  
 2nd - 8:30 PM 52.540 Simplex  
 3rd - 8:30 PM 28.390 SSB  
 4th - 8:30 PM 24.980 SSB  
 5th - 8:30 PM Wildcard  
 (Any of the above)

#### Thursday

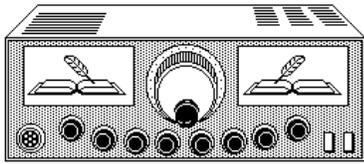
ZARC Six Meter Net 9 PM  
 51.135 FM Simplex

#### Friday

Johnny Appleseed 9 PM  
 28.450 USB

### **Multi-County Coalition N C S**

First Sat. - Licking County  
 Second Sat. - Guernsey County  
 Third Sat. - Muskingum County  
 Fourth Sat. - Open  
 Odd Fifth Sat. - Coshocton County



## From the Secretary



## ZANESVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

# Zippo Gillogly K8CYN

Meeting 2 Oct., 2007

Attending were: W8FHF, N8IMW, N8KBR, N8LJF, KB8RIM, KB8ZXH, and K8CYN. (7)

President Sonny Alfman W8FHF brought the non-meeting to order at 7:07 PM.

There was no official meeting again this month, because attendance was too low. The September Secretary's report was read. Treasurer's report was not available as Treasurer WA8BOV was absent due to an illness.

The next ZARC meeting attempt will be 6 November 07, probably still at the Emergency Operating Center (EOC), 2215 Old Adamsville Road.

ZARC again operated a Special Event "Y-Bridge City" Station Saturday September 29th. Approximately 100 contacts were made on 40 Meters. W8FHF reported that two ZARC members stopped by to watch.

The next scheduled Multi-County Coalition (MCC) meeting will be held at the Belmont County EOC on Sunday November 11<sup>th</sup> at 1400 hours (2 PM).

A Web-site address change should be noted by all members. It no longer is [zarc.eqth.com](http://zarc.eqth.com), but [zarc.eqth.info](http://zarc.eqth.info).

Electronic students at Zane State will be afforded a VE test session on 1 December, 2007.

Under the supervision of Russ N8MYK, CARA will hold a Hamfest on 24 August 2008, at the Pritchard-Laughlin Civic Center. It is located next to the Highway Patrol Post on US 40 west of Cambridge. VE tests will also be given.

Vice-President N8KBR will be absent next meeting due to a prior commitment. He also won the 50/50 drawing and donated a portion of his \$4.00 to the club.

On Saturday October 20<sup>th</sup>, a Special Event Station will be installed at the "S" Bridge east of New Concord (next to Peter's Creek Road and Cassel View VFD).

The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Boy Scout's Jamboree-On-The-Air will be observed at Camp Muskingum (near Conesville). Give them a contact if you can.

W8FHF indicated that he was working on a plan to involve five or more radio clubs, (from Wheeling, West Virginia to Maysville, Kentucky) in a huge special event. A commemoration of the "Zane Trace" route through Ohio

Everyone went home at 7:38 PM.

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Meeting 6 Nov., 2007

Attending were: W8FHF, N8IMW, N8KBR, WA8BOV, KA8UWO, AD4CO, WA8BNS, KD8WA, and K8CYN. (9)

There were no keys to unlock the EOC building this time so the meeting was transferred to TJ's Restaurant on Maple Ave, where President Sonny Alfman W8FHF brought the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

This meeting was declared to be in emergency executive session as all officers and one Trustee, were in attendance and a quorum could not be reached from regular members.

The next ZARC meeting attempt will be 4 December 07, at a place to be determined.

The October Secretary's report was read and accepted. The Treasurer's report indicated a present balance of \$276.32.

Under emergency business, the due and payable, \$200 repeater tower lease was authorized to be paid.

KD8WA questioned the control of Club Radio Assets, in view of the limited access we have to them owing to W8TJT's extensive RV activities. He is sometimes unavailable, as is the equipment, for months at a time.

N8IMW introduced an income possibility with Pizza cards. These are available from several vendors. This should be discussed by the general membership when it reaches normal attendance.

There will be a Coshocton VE test session on Saturday, November 10<sup>th</sup>.

The next scheduled Multi-County Coalition (MCC) meeting will be held at the Belmont County EOC on Sunday November 11<sup>th</sup> at 1400 hours (2 PM).

Electronic students at Zane State will be afforded a VE test session on Saturday, 1 December, 2007.

W8FHF indicated that he will hold, sometime in February, a "TECHNICIAN CRAM COURSE" for professionals. The 8 am to 6:30 pm course and VE test will be offered in one day to first responders, police, EMA, and hospital workers.

Further, W8FHF indicated that he would not accept the President's position for 2008. He is a classic case of too many irons in the fire.

WA8BNS made a motion to adjourn. Meeting ended at 7:58 pm.



## Ohio Section News

By Joanne Solak, KJ30  
Affiliated Clubs Coordinator  
December 2007 News



HAPPY HOLIDAYS! Well, this is the last Ohio Section News for the year 2007. The year has been a very active one for the Ohio Section. There have been many "new" things happening the Section and if you have read each and every Section News this year, you should be up to date with them all!

A transformation has truly occurred in amateur radio since the elimination of the Morse Code testing. Here in the Ohio Section alone, there have been more amateur licensees, more license upgrades and a renewed interest in amateur radio as mentioned in many of the Club Newsletters I have received.

There have been New EC's and DEC's appointed. We have a new PIC (Emily Wells, KC8RAL, of Warren) for the Ohio Section since Scott Yonally, N8SY, resigned after eight years of service. We have a new Ohio Section Webmaster, Phil Nichols, KD8FGV. This is the official Ohio Section web site. Phil will have all the latest Ohio Section news on this web site at all times so make sure you visit it often at <www.iarc.ws/ohio>.

ARRL Memberships are on the rise. Great News! Club officers are reporting a rise in Club Memberships also since the elimination of the Morse Code testing and more interest in our hobby. Hope it continues.

We had the pleasure of hosting the Great Lakes Division Convention in Independence with lots of internationally known speakers, lots of action the whole weekend in September. Lots of seminars to please everyone.

The Ohio Section Conference in Columbus, September 15th. Was also a success! For the first time in eight years the Ohio Section Conference was moved to a new place. The conference was held at the State Fire Academy in Reynoldsburg, Ohio. It was very well attended.

Ohio's OSSBN changed frequency and the time of the Single Side Band Net. The third and evening daily sessions of the OSSBN is at 6 pm Eastern Time and on the OSSBN alternative frequency of 3.968 MHz. The changes were because of the 75 meter propagation problems.

Some really "good news" is that Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, Special Counsel for the FCC's Enforcement Bureau, has decided NOT to retire. He had announced his retirement effective January 2008. He decided it was just not the right decision for him right now since there are several issues on the table that he wants to continue working with through the amateur community.

Remember to file your annual report form in January. Make sure you report all Club Officer changes within your Club along with their names and addresses etc as asked for on the annual report form available on the ARRL web site.

Many Clubs are celebrating the Holiday Season with their annual Holiday Parties. Larry, WD8MPV, and I have been invited to many of them and plan to attend. Celebrate the Holidays with the fellowship of other members and their families at the annual Holiday Parties hosted by your local Club.

Well that's it for this time around, the last Ohio Section News for this year. Remember to keep me on your Mailing and/or your e-mail list and keep those bulletins and newsletters coming. I read every one of them from start to finish. The Spotlight Club of the month is still alive and well. It seems that the Holiday Season has taken priority of most clubs and no one has submitted there club info for the Spotlight! If you wish to have your Club Spotlitged as Club of the Month, send me the information no later than the 12th of the month so I can meet my publish date. If you have any questions about this or anything else pertaining to Ohio Section Clubs, feel free to call me, e-mail me, or write me. I will answer all.

So remember sometime when you least expect to see me, I will be seeing you. Until then from me and mine, to you and yours, the Happiest of Holiday Seasons!

OHIO SECTION DECEMBER HAMFESTS: December in hamfest free in Ohio.

*The Ohio Single Side Band Net meets 3 times a day  
(10:30am-4:15pm-6:45pm) on 3.972.5MHz.  
Why not join in on the fun and learn to pass formal traffic.*

## CHURCH

Submitted by:  
Bob Williamson, W8BLW

3-year-old, Reese: "Our Father, Who does art in heaven, Harold is His name." "Amen"

A little boy was overheard praying: "Lord, if you can't make me a better boy, don't worry about it. I'm having a real good time like I am."

I had been teaching my three-year-old daughter, Caitlin, the Lord's Prayer for several evenings at bedtime. She would repeat after me the lines from the prayer. Finally, she decided to go solo. I listened with pride as she carefully enunciated each word, right up to the end of the prayer: "Lead us not into temptation," she prayed, "but deliver us some E-mail. Amen."

A Sunday school teacher asked her children, as they were on the way to church service, "And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?" One bright little girl replied, "Because people are sleeping."

Six-year-old Angie and her four-year-old brother Joel were sitting together in church. Joel giggled, sang, and talked out loud. Finally, his big sister had had enough. "You're not supposed to talk out loud in church." "Why? Who's going to stop me?" Joel asked. Angie pointed to the back of the church and said, "See those two men standing by the door? They're hushers."

A mother was preparing pancakes for her sons, Kevin, 5 and Ryan, 3. The boys began to argue over who would get the first pancake. Their mother saw the opportunity for a moral lesson. "If Jesus were sitting here, He would say, "Let my brother have the first pancake, I can wait." Kevin turned to his brother and said, "Ryan, you be Jesus."

A wife invited some people to dinner. At the table, she turned to their six-year-old daughter and said, "Would you like to say the blessing?" "I wouldn't know what to say," the girl replied. "Just say what you here Mommy say," the wife answered. The daughter bowed her head and said, "Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner?"





## Handihams Courage

*From the Handi-Ham E-Letter, September 21, 2005*

### Avery's QTH: The T-R Switch

Welcome once again to my humble QTH. Today, most amateurs don't even give it a second thought when they are "on the air" chatting with someone. Most single sideband & CW HF rigs today have VOX, voice operated relays, which allows us to carry on a conversation much like on a telephone where we can break in on the other person's conversation and ask for a repeat or whatever. Same is true on Morse Code where there is complete "Break in" so we can hear the receiver in-between the dits and dahs of transmitting and can catch the other person if they ask for a repeat or have something else to interject into the conversation.

This wasn't always true. In the "Good Old Days" of Amateur Radio we had a big box containing the transmitter and another big box containing the receiver, so that caused a problem when transmitting of how to keep the RF from getting into the receiver and overloading it causing at the very least some loud feedback noise and at the very most some burned out components. On the positive side, if controlled it made a good way to monitor one's CW transmitting and get a good idea of what the Morse sounded like to the receiving operator.

One way to prevent this uncontrolled stuff from happening was to use separate antennas placed some distance apart for transmitting and receiving. Both the transmitter and receiver had standby switches which either turned on or off the plate voltage to the tubes. When transmitting, an operator would flip the receiver standby switch to standby, then the transmit switch to operate, say what they wanted, and then reverse the process when it was time to receive. Now, sometimes having two different antennas was not so good so if the same antenna could be used for both transmitting and receiving it would be much better.

OK, so now there was a third switch that came into the picture every time an operator went from transmit to receive, or reverse. Some rigs that had external VFO's needed still another switch to be changed. There could be a considerable delay from the time an operator was receiving to when they went to transmit (or reverse) depending on the set up at the station and the location of the switches. Someone then came up with an idea to use a relay with separate contacts to change everything automatically when just one switch was used. Bingo... the first push-to-talk rigs! Some people even used foot switches in parallel with the hand switch so they could keep their hands free for taking notes (copying Morse on a typewriter), adjusting the knobs on the receiver/transmitter, or what-have-you.

Wouldn't you know that receivers and transmitters began showing up with an accessory socket with switched voltages just for controlling relays? Now an operator could control everything just from one switch on the transmitter or receiver and not have to go hunting several switches every time they went from receive to transmit or back again. Some attempts to use tubes to control the process with automatic keyers, etc., were developed but after technology improved and solid-state devices came into being this whole process was replaced with electronics.

The equipment of today has all that high-tech circuitry built-in and we don't even give it a second thought as we work contests, DX, etc. Just think of the fun it was to have to keep changing all those switches just to make one contact on Field Day and then multiply that by all the contacts made in the contest for example.

So until next time, 73 and DX from K0HLA, Avery k0hla@handiham.org

### 100 Years of Voice *From page 1*

In 1912, Congress passed the first laws regulating radio transmissions in the U.S. By 1914, amateur experimenters were communicating nationwide, and setting up a system to relay messages from coast to coast (This is where the name "ARRL - American Radio Relay League, and then The National Association for Amateur Radio" came from!). In 1927, the precursor agency to the FCC was created by Congress and specific frequencies were assigned for various uses, including the ones set aside for Amateur Radio.

Amateur radio operators, also known as "hams", continued to be at the forefront of developing technologies years in advance of when they are rolled out to the public. FM, television, and even cellular telephones were all used by amateur radio operators many years ahead of the public.

<http://www.hello-radio.org/historyofradio.html>

### Horror Story *From page 1*

heavy antenna. The antenna picked plenty of noises but nothing pointing to a single pole or a house. When finally I picked up a promising direction, I tripped on a curb, spraining my ankle and cutting a hand.

Yaesu Mark V Field has a reputation of strong clicks on CW with a bandwidth of 5 KHz. I did a W8JI click mod. It was difficult and scary; to get to the RF board, one needs to disconnect some 15 connectors and gently push aside bundles of 100+ wires. It also involved soldering among SMD devices. After the mods, testing revealed that a CW signal became 20 KHz wide. Two days (and nights) later, I changed the antenna in the receiver from a few feet of wire to an external antenna. Now the signal was only 2 KHz wide. Apparently the wire was picking noise directly radiating from various cables in the radio.

When running a KW on 80m I noticed on my new SWR meter that SWR was slowly creeping up from 1.2 to 1.4. Apparently the balun feeding my ladderline dipole was overheating. I put a heavier balun, and with the cover off the tuner, I checked for heating with a KW signal. There was no heating, but a rotor controller for my 2-el 5 band quad emitted a black cloud of smoke. There was a frantic search for the rotor schematic late at night. After 3 resistors were replaced, the rotor worked again but with a 70 degree shift. The adjustment to eliminate the shift was stuck, but got unstuck 2 days later.

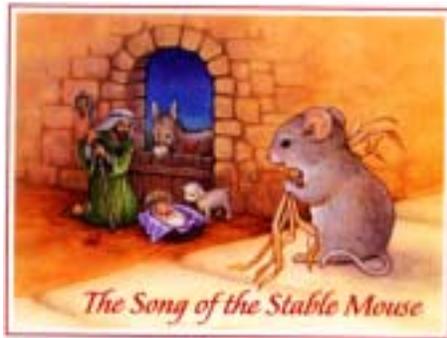
I have never been so tired after Christmas and the holiday season. And definitely my wife was not the problem.



### Motorola Buys Yaesu

Motorola USA has announced its intention to launch a tender offer to acquire a controlling interest in Vertex Standard Co, Ltd. Vertex Standard is the parent company of Yaesu. Motorola will own 80 percent of Vertex Standard; Tokogiken, a privately held Japanese company, controlled by current president and CEO of Vertex Standard Jun Hasegawa, will retain 20 percent, forming a joint venture. The total purchase price for 80 percent of the outstanding shares on a fully diluted basis will be approximately US \$108 million.

From ARRL Headquarters Newington CT. November 5, 2007. To all radio amateurs . Special Bulletin 7



'Twas the very first Christmas and throughout the house  
There was no room to share—even for one small mouse.

So he went to the stable where the oxen were fed  
To get straw from the manger to fashion a bed.

But alas the small creature found Someone asleep  
On the straw where the oxen and donkeys and sheep  
Would come for their food—yet stranger indeed  
Was the fact shepherds knelt right where animals feed.

The voices of angels danced on the night air,  
The mouse knew heaven's music, though he'd never been there—  
And though his mouse heart was incredibly small  
It filled with such joy it could not hold it all.

The mouse had to join Nature's glorious song  
And his wholehearted "squeak" could be heard right along  
With the chorus of angels, the cows gentle "moos",  
And the wonder of shepherds who sang the Good News.

For it doesn't matter if you're big or small,  
If you're born to sing solo or can't sing at all,  
As Christmas draws near it is your time to sing  
From a heart filled with praise for our Savior, our King!

*Merry Christmas*

Here is a dissertation on physical science for your enlightenment. I don't know where it came from so it must be true!

Today's scientific question is: What in the world is electricity and where does it go after it leaves the toaster?

Here is a simple experiment that will teach you an important electrical lesson: On a cool dry day, scuff your feet along a carpet, then reach your hand into a friend's mouth and touch one of his dental fillings. Did you notice how your friend twitched violently and cried out in pain? This teaches one that electricity can be a very powerful force, but we must never use it to hurt others unless we need to learn an important lesson about electricity.

It also illustrates how an electrical circuit works. When you scuffed your feet, you picked up batches of "electrons", which are very small objects that carpet manufacturers weave into carpet so that they will attract dirt. The electrons travel through your bloodstream and collect in your finger, where they form a spark that

leaps to your friend's filling, then travel down to his feet and back into the carpet, thus completing the circuit.

AMAZING ELECTRONIC FACT: If you scuffed your feet long enough without touching anything, you would build up so many electrons that your finger would explode! But this is nothing to worry about unless you have carpeting.

Although we modern persons tend to take our electric lights, radios, mixers, etc. for granted, hundreds of years ago people did not have any of these things, which is just as well because there was no place to plug them in. Then along came the first Electrical Pioneer, Benjamin Franklin, who flew a kite in a lightning storm and received a serious electrical shock. This proved that lightning was powered by the same force as carpets, but it also damaged Franklin's brain so severely that he started speaking only in incomprehensible maxims, such as, "A penny saved is a penny earned." Eventually he had to be given a job running the post office.

After Franklin came a herd of Electrical Pioneers whose names have become part of our electrical terminology: Myron Volt, Mary Louise Amp, James Watt, Bob Transformer, etc. These pioneers conducted many important electrical experiments. Among them, Galvani discovered (this is the truth) that when he attached two different kinds of metal to the leg of a frog, an electrical current developed and the frog's leg kicked, even though it was no longer attached to the frog, which was dead anyway. Galvani's discovery led to enormous advances in the field of amphibian medicine. Today, skilled veterinary surgeons can take a frog that has been seriously injured or killed, implant pieces of metal in its muscles, and watch it hop back into the pond -- almost.

But the greatest Electrical Pioneer of them all was Thomas Edison, who was a brilliant inventor despite the fact that he had little formal education and lived in New Jersey. Edison's first major invention in 1877 was the phonograph, which could soon be found in thousands of American homes, where it basically sat until 1923, when the record was invented. But Edison's greatest achievement came in 1879 when he invented the electric company. Edison's design was a brilliant adaptation of the simple electrical circuit: the electric company sends electricity through a wire to a customer, then immediately gets the electricity back through another wire, then (this is the brilliant part) sends it right back to the customer again.

This means that an electric company can sell a customer the same batch of electricity thousands of times a day and never get caught, since very few customers take the time to examine their electricity closely. In fact, the last year any new electricity was generated was 1937.

Today, thanks to men like Edison and Franklin, and frogs like Galvani's, we receive almost unlimited benefits from electricity. For example, in the past decade scientists have developed the laser, an electronic appliance so powerful that it can vaporize a bulldozer 2000 yards away, yet so precise that doctors can use it to perform delicate operations to the human eyeball, provided they remember to change the power setting from "Bulldozer" to "Eyeball."



Give this web site a try sometime for some interesting ham related items. Just highlight below, right click, copy, and paste to the address bar and go.

<http://www.technotetime.com/items/all-products/gifts-for-electrical-electronics-trades-and-hams/gifts-for-ham-radio-operators/list.htm>



## The Night Before Christmas" Ham Radio-style



'Twas the night before Christmas, when all  
through the town,  
The snowstorm was raging, the phone lines  
were down;  
The wind it did howl, the tree limbs did crack,  
I hope that St. Nick isn't forced to turn back.  
The wife making cookies, the kids making  
noise,  
While away in the shack, by my rig I was  
poised.  
The finals were glowing, the mike gain was  
set,  
I was chasing DX to see what I could get.  
The bands were all empty, the frequencies  
clear,  
Except one lone station that sounded quite  
near.  
He was calling CQ and my interest did pique,  
When he ended transmission with the words,  
"Old St. Nick".  
I answered back quickly, I used great dispatch,  
If this were St. Nicholas, good God, what a  
catch!  
We exchanged information, it was really quite  
graphic,  
Then he came back and said,  
"I've emergency traffic!"  
His reindeer were tired, his elves in a grump,  
If he didn't land soon, then his sleigh he would  
dump.  
I thought very carefully, I thought very hard,  
Then I gave him directions to my snow cov-  
ered yard.  
As he flew past my window, his hair like a  
mane,  
He reined in his chargers and called them by  
name:  
"Whoa, Anode! Whoa, Cathode! Whoa, Zener!  
Whoa, Diode!

Stop, Heater! Stop, Grid leak! Stop, Bias! Stop,  
Triode!  
You're flying too low! you're flying too fast!  
Look out, you dumb reindeer, his antenna mast!"  
So into the backyard the reindeer did drop,  
St. Nick, the elves, and the sleigh went kerplop!  
Then at the back door, I heard this loud knocking,  
"Open up in there, or I won't fill your stocking!"  
As I turned off the light and was leaving the shack,  
Into the house Saint Nicholas came from the back-  
-  
His two-meter rig held to his hip with a strap,  
"Hams do it in the shack" on the front of his cap.  
The sack that he carried made his aged brow fur-  
row,  
And he handed me a card that read,  
"QSL Via Bureau".  
His clothes were all sooty, from his shoes to his  
vest;  
I felt like a novice taking his test.  
His fingers were calloused and from what I could  
tell,  
This came from a straight key that I'll bet he used  
well.  
I offered him coffee, I offered him smokes,  
I tried easing the tension by telling ham jokes.  
Then he nodded his head and raised up his thumb,  
He smiled like an Elmer, did I ever feel dumb.  
He grabbed up his sack and went straight for the  
tree,  
And placed in it a large present for me.  
When he finished his work, he stood up, took a  
bow,  
Then out the back door to his team he did plow.  
But I heard him exclaim as he flew o'er the land,  
"Beware the FCC, friend, we were both out of  
band!"  
Merry Christmas from my house to yours!

**18th Annual**

# Tusco A.R.C. Hamfest

*Where friends meet and meet new friends.*

**SUNDAY JANUARY 20, 2008**  
**965 North Wooster Ave. Strasburg, Ohio**

**DIRECTIONS:** Exit 87 off I-77 to SR 250 W (1.9 miles)

**Talk/Check in on 146.730-**

**Admission:** \$5.00 Donation at the door

**Tables:** \$10.00 *Plus Admission*

**Open:** 6:00 am for set up, 8:00 am to ??? for public.

**Parking:** FREE, close parking available in rear.



## Dealers Welcome!

*For additional information and to reserve tables contact:*

Janice Green KB8YDK, Gary Green K8WFN

32210 Norris RD • Tippecanoe, Ohio 44699

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**\*\*PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN EXTENSION CORDS.  
120 VOLTS IS AVAILABLE.**

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## Down Memory Lane



1940 Buick Century Model 61 Touring Sedan



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THE WIFE SAID "YOU'RE NOT PUTTING A MOBILE ANTENNA ON MY CAR!"

*From the Best of Beasley—Worldradio Books*