

RELAY CHATTER

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

PLAYGROUND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P. O. BOX 873 - FORT WALTON BEACH, FLORIDA 32548

NETS:

SUNDAY 9 PM - PARC REPEATER (19/79)
TUESDAY 7:30 PM - 146.52 MHZ (SIMPLEX)
WEDNESDAY 7:30 PM - 146.46 MHZ (SIMPLEX)

23 April 1988

SWAPFEST: This year's swapfest was a great success. Saturday provided the largest one day crowd that we have ever had. Sunday was slower but good. It is a shame that some of the dealers saw fit to tear down and leave about noon. To all that planned and worked to make this another success, CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

ELECTIONS: It will soon be time to elect officers for the new year. The current officers have done a great job and are to be commended for their efforts and accomplishments. When the nomination committee contacts you to add your name to the election slate this year, think twice before saying no. The club can only be as good as the members that participate and support it. Why not make yourself available for election to office?

NEW MEMBERS: Eleanor Porter, KB4CHI, and Alvin Sewell, N4SGQ are our newest members. Lets make sure that they get a warm welcome.

REPEATERS: The 19/79 machine is working great and the 60/00 machine is now back on the air after being down for repainting of the water tower in Destin. We are still experiencing some reception problems. The current antenna has been on top of the water tower for about twenty years. We will purchase and install a new antenna, which should solve the problem.

AMATEUR EXAMS: Our local VE group will conduct all classes of amateur examinations on June 18, 1988 at the PARC club facility. The door will close at 8:30 AM sharp so don't be late. Don't forget to bring the "original" of your license as well as the "copy" to be attached to your Form 610. Contact Darryl Davis, K4DVL, 862-3934, for additional details and to pre-register.

WWV STRATWARN: For those members that use WWV for time and sun spot information, you may have "Stratwarns". Despite high flux and low absorption, the bands sometimes seem to be dead, especially on low latitude paths. Stratwarn alerts occur when the sun "overheats" the lower ionosphere (D-layer), increasing turbulence, and allowing many oxygen molecules to rise into the higher F-layer. The oxygen molecules react with the ions in the F-layer, causing them to recombine into molecules, reducing the ion density of the F-layer. Since it is these ions that refract radio waves back to earth, the Stratwarn significantly lowers the Maximum Usable Frequency (MUF). (Thanks to the Orlando Amateur Radio Club "Listening Post.")

WANTED: The club is in the market to purchase another gin pole for member use. If any member has one and may wish to donate or sell it to the club, please contact Terry Young, K4KJP.

CONGRATULATIONS: Special recognition is due Gene Monk, W4ODW, for making two way communications with WBSLUA near Dallas, Texas on 902 MHz, a distance of approximately 625 miles. This exceeds the standing terrestrial record for two way qso on this band. Also, he has had a two way qso with K4NTD in Orlando on 2.3 GHz. Congratulations are due Terry Young, K4KJP, for placing first in Florida in both the Spring and Fall QRP contests using less than one watt of power.

NOTICE: Do you have news of any members special accomplishments either in or outside amateur radio? If so, please advise KF4BU so they may be recognized in coming issues of the "Relay Chatter."

CLUB ROSTER: If you notice any errors in the club roster data please advise KF4BU by telephone or letter.

Playground Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 873
Ft. Walton Bch., FL 32549



JOHN LAKIN W4MMW
10 LINWOOD RD NW
FORT WALTON BCH FL 32548