



YARC-MITTER



NEXT MEETING SUNDAY JAN. 12TH.

JAN. 2014

THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE YONKERS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

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Bill Hall AB2HZ
Gabe DiGuglielmo KB2MAR

ELECTIONS JAN. MEETING

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE WILL GIVE THEIR REPORT, NOMINATIONS FROM THE FLOOR WILL BE ACCEPTED. VOTING WILL FOLLOW. TO VOTE YOU MUST BE A 2014 PAID UP MEMBER. FULL MEMBERS HAVE 1 VOTE. FAMILY MEMBERSHIP HAS 1 VOTE ONLY NO MATTER HOW MANY MEMBERS IN THAT MEMBERSHIP.

MEETING LOCATION

**THE LOCATION, GRINTON
WILL LIBRARY, 1500
CENTRAL PARK AVE
YONKERS NY---12 NOON
THE FLYNN ROOM**



**JOIN RENEW THE
ARRL THRU THE
YARC, THE CLUB
GETS \$2.00 FOR
EVERY RENEWAL AND
\$15.00 FOR EVERY
NEW MEMBERSHIP
FOR DETAILS
CONTACT WB2AUL**



**NEED HELP,
HELP STUDY
ING FOR UP-
GRADE. GET
IN TOUCH
JOHN,
WB2AUL, HE
MIGHT BE
ABLE TO
HELP YOU**

STUDY AND PASS YOUR EXAM. 914-969-6548



YARC-MITTER

**TO QUOTE A FAMOUS OLD YARC
TREASURER, ARMANDO COSENTINO,
DUES IS DUE---ITS THAT TIME OF YEAR
WHEN THE CLUB DUES ARE COLLECTED.
PLEASE MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO PAY
YOUR DUES AT A CLUB MEETING, OR BY
SENDING YOUR DUES IN TO THE CLUB AT.**

**A YONKERS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
PO BOX 378
CENTUCK STATION.
YONKERS,NY 10710**

**B GIL LUGO. K2YNY
33 TYNDALE PLACE
YONKERS N.Y. 10701**

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE
YARC**

CLUB NETS

**MONDAY—730PM—
INFORMATION
NET\
K2JJ MODERATOR—146.865—
PL110.9
WEDNESDAY—800PM—
TECHNICAL NET\
WB2AUL MODERATOR---
146.865—
PL110.9
THURSDAY—800PM—JUNIOR
OPS
NET
KF2FK MODERATOR—
146.865—
PL110.9
SUNDAY---700PM—10 METER
NET—28.456MHZ—USB—
WB2AUL**

LETS HOPE

Share this New Years Money Tree



**THE NEXT VE TESTING WILL BE HELD ON JAN.
5TH.**

**AT 830AM . PLEASE BRING TWO FORMS
OF ID. ONE ID MUST BE A PICTURE ID and A
PHOTO COPY OF EACH
TESTING IS HELD AT THE 1ST PRECINCT
ON EAST GRASSY SPRAIN ROAD IN
YONKERS NY. FOR FURTHER INFO
CONTACT WB2AUL JOHN 914-969-6548. IF
YOU CAN HELP AS A VE ON SUNDAY,**

RETIRED GUYS/GALS LUNCH NO LUNCH

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE RETIRED
GUYS/GALS WILL BE ,MARCH 20TH.
THURSDAY AT MONT OLYMPOS
RESTAURANT IN YONKERS THE TIME IS
1200 PM NOON, YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE
RETIRED TO JOIN US EVERYONE IS
WELCOME MEMBER OR NON MEMBER
ALIKE ARE INVITED. FURTHER INFO
CONTACT WB2AUL @9 1 4-969-6548**

HAM RADIO HUMOUR

TOP TEN REASONS FOR FIELD DAY

10. "I love the smell of fried power supplies in the morning."
9. Watching the FD chairman trying unsuccessfully to shoot an arrow tied to the 80 meter dipole through the top of a fir tree.
8. Seeing dignified QCWA members running around in silly T-shirts.
7. Mine field training in the cow pasture.
6. The barbecue. "CQ Food Day, CQ Food Day..."
5. Watching the FD chairman trying unsuccessfully to cook the birds he shot with the arrow while trying to raise the 80 meter dipole.
4. The eternal race between your fingers on the keyer paddles and the no-code mosquito hovering above them.
3. Seeing the FD chairman's tent fly up in the air, and wishing you had tied the 80 meter dipole to it as it flies over the fir tree.
2. Watching K9DOG lift his leg and improve your grounding system.
1. Learning from the FD chairman the correct procedure for using a Transmatch to tune a shunt fed fir tree.

SUCH A HAM

SH-012



ARTICLES----IF YOU HAVE ANY ARTICLES OR PICTURES YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE PUBLISHED IN THE YARC-MITTER, JUST SEND THEM TO WB2AUL@AOL.COM, AND WE WILL MAKE SURE THAT THEY ARE PUBLISHED

PRESENTATIONS----WILL BE RETURNING TO THE MEETINGS, IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING YOUR INTERESTED IN AND WOULD LIKE TO SEE IT PRESENTED AT A MEETING OR IF YOU HAVE A PRESENTATION YOU WOULD LIKE TO GIVE AT A MEETING, LET WB2AUL KNOW AND HE WILL MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO HAVE IT.

VE'S WANTED. IF YOU'RE A ARRL REGISTERED VE. PLEASE SEND A EMAIL TO WB2AUL@AOL.COM, SO WE CAN PUT TOGETHER A UPDATED LIST OF VES IN THE CLUB.

WHERE DID THE WORD HAM COME FROM

Where did the term HAM come from? When did it come to popular use? The *real* explanation appears to be lost in the mists of time. There are a number of theories. *Some more plausible than others.* The one you'll likely hear the most is about "little station HAM". It goes like this. In the early days of radio, the government didn't assign call letters to amateurs. They just made up their own. Supposedly, three students at Harvard named Hyman, Almay, and Murray set up a station. They decided to use their initials as the call. Thus we have the little station HAM. When the Navy tried to grab control of all radio frequencies, these guys are supposed to have testified before Congress, and the story of little station HAM supposedly didn't leave a dry eye in the house. The press is supposed to have picked up this story of little station HAM, and amateurs have been known as hams ever since. Unfortunately for this story, none of it checks out. A past president of the ARRL did extensive research in an attempt to confirm this story. There is nothing in the Congressional record about little station HAM. There is nothing in contemporary press records. And there is no record of a Hyman, Almay, or Murray at Harvard at the time this supposedly happened. This story first surfaced in an amateur publication in 1948, and doesn't seem likely to die. But it appears to have no factual basis. Another story you may hear is that ham is the result of a Cockney pronunciation of (h)amateur. But that is unlikely for two reasons. First, the term was in use in America before there was substantial amateur activity in Britain. And second, voice transmission wasn't used by amateurs of the era, so how did a pronunciation get propagated by Morse? Another story you may hear is that it comes from a landline telegrapher's insult. Many operators of the day came from a landline background, and on the landlines a common insult was that someone was "ham fisted" in his sending. It is possible that commercial operators used this slang to refer to amateurs and it caught on. Certainly, the term LID came from landline telegrapher slang. (LID was a reference to use of a tobacco

can lid on the sounder to aid a poor operator in copying Morse.) This one may be true. It wouldn't be the first time that a group adopted a term originally meant as an insult to serve as a slang term for themselves.

But the one I like best goes like this. This era was filled with pulp magazines catering to the experimenter.

(Everyone at the end of the Victorian age apparently viewed himself as a closet inventor or tinkerer.) One

of these magazines was called *Home Amateur Mechanic*, and it featured many simple radio sets a person

could build. It is likely that when asked what kind of radio an operator was using, he might send back

RIG HR ES HAM, meaning that it was one of the circuits shown in *Home Amateur Mechanic* magazine.

Since telegraphers tend to abbreviate everything, due to the low throughput of Morse, this is plausible,

and *Home Amateur Mechanic* magazine certainly did exist in the correct era. So it was those HAM

radios which started the use of ham in amateur radio. Gary Coffman KE4ZV

Another Version Of Ham is from the telegraph days where a poor operator was said to be "Ham-Fisted".

Then there is this one. It is a corruption of "AM", which was a truncation of the word "amateur".

And Still another version -- possible connection with the acting profession. The term "Hamming it up" is often used to describe amateur acting performances.

And Still another version. *Electric Radio* magazine has been reprinting the columns that W. J. Halligan, the founder of Hallicrafters, wrote for the Boston Telegram in 1923 - 1924. In an item dated 4/16/23, Mr.

Halligan wrote: We have been asked for a definition of the "ham". A ham is a code enthusiast. The word

is probably a corrupted contraction of the word amateur and is used by all non-professional radio

telegraphers in describing themselves. -- *Electric Radio* #181, June 2004, p 38

ARRL VERSION OF ORIGIN OF HAM

"Ham: a poor operator. A 'plug.'" Date 1900

That's the definition of the word given in **G. M. Dodge's** *The Telegraph Instructor* even before radio. The

definition has never changed in wire telegraphy. The first wireless operators were landline telegraphers who left their offices to go to sea or to man the coastal stations. They brought with them their language and much of the tradition of their older profession. In those early days, spark was king and every station occupied the same wavelength-- or, more accurately perhaps, every station occupied the whole spectrum with its broad spark signal. Government stations, ships, coastal stations and the increasingly numerous amateur operators all competed for time and signal supremacy in each other's receivers. Many of the amateur stations were very powerful. Two amateurs, working across town, could effectively jam all the other operators in the area. When this happened, frustrated commercial operators would call the ship whose weaker signals had been blotted out by the amateurs and say "SRI OM THOSE #&\$!@ HAMS ARE JAMMING YOU." Amateurs, possibly unfamiliar with the real meaning of the term, picked it up and applied it to themselves in true "Yankee Doodle" fashion and wore it with pride. As the years advanced, the original meaning has completely disappeared.

BOTTOM LINE

ORIGIN OF THE TERM HAM HAS BEEN LOST IN THE MISTS OF TIME

Other HAM info links:

<http://www.ac6v.com/history.htm> more ham & radio history

<http://ac6v.com/73.htm#SSBH>origins

prepared by; W9IH Jan2007

FROM THE HERALD STATESMAN
14 FEB '47



ANSWERS TO "HAMS" PEACE MESSAGES from Yonkers in their Operations Tercentennial came from as far away as New Zealand and Australia. The Q.S.L. cards shown above on display came in during the last week. Pictured left to right are: Malcolm Williams of 461 Riverdale Avenue, W3ER; Joe Schimmel of 246 Devoe Avenue, W3QDM; Herman A. Bohning of 69 Jackson Street, W2MZV, and David M. Adlerblum of 14 Caryl Avenue, W2QAL. The "hams" have formed a new organization here, the Yonkers Amateur Radio Club, of which Mr. Adlerblum is secretary; Mr. Williams, activities manager, and Mr. Bohning, treasurer.

Peace Message Senders Form Yonkers Amateur Radio Club

Troster, Honorary President, Reads Letter From Armstrong, FM Inventor, On Pioneer Hams Of City

Yonkers amateur radio operators who took part in Operations Tercentennial in December, sending peace messages throughout the world, have formed a new organization—Yonkers Amateur Radio Club—Colonel Oliver J. Troster, Tercentennial Commission chairman, announces.

Colonel Troster is honorary president, and temporary officers are: Peter Dankovic, president;

Steven Kokinchak, vice-president; David Adlerblum, secretary; Herman Bohning, treasurer; George Hesse, recording secretary.

The first regular meeting will be on Tuesday, Feb. 25, at 8:30 P. M., at the State Armory, North Broadway.

Army Men Speak

Colonel Troster, Colonel Grant A. Williams, chief signal officer of the First Army at Governors Island, and Captain Leo F. McNulta, commanding the first Signal Company of the New York Guard here, spoke at a dinner at the Fanshaw Restaurant on Friday night when the organization was formed.

Colonel Troster read letters from Major Edwin H. Armstrong, former Yonkers resident who invented frequency modulation, the superheterodyne circuit and regenerative detector, and from Commander C. R. Runyon, Jr., of Yonkers, holder of one of the first amateur licenses issued in the country.

In his letter, Major Armstrong wrote he regretted not being able to be present "to talk about old

(Continued on Page Eight)

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RadioAmateurs Organize Here

(Continued From Page One)

times—the antenna from the top of the Palisades to Reg Wand's boat, Denny McCoy's kite-supported aerial coming down across the 6,600-volt line and the time when Randy Runyon and I rode the streets of Yonkers with the first five-meter mobile in town."

Armstrong Praises Group

Major Armstrong commended the operators for establishing the thousand contacts between Yonkers and the rest of the world and observed, "who of us struggling with the spark coils of 40 years ago trying to reach Mount Vernon and Ridgewood ever had the vision to dream that our successors would work in a realm of worldwide communication and would turn it into a powerful instrument of international good will?"

He said he hoped to be able to invite the operators to visit the Alpine transmitter.

Mr. Runyon wrote he was to be in Washington last night and said he has "missed the friendly contacts established over the years by ham radio."

Prizes Awarded

Colonel Troster awarded first prize for the number of contacts made and distance covered in Operations Tercentennial to Jerry Sucher of 106 Hilltop Acres. Bob Avrutik of 484 Hawthorne Avenue won second prize; Herman Bohning of 69 Jackson Street, third prize; Milo Atkinson of 69 Verona Avenue, fourth prize.

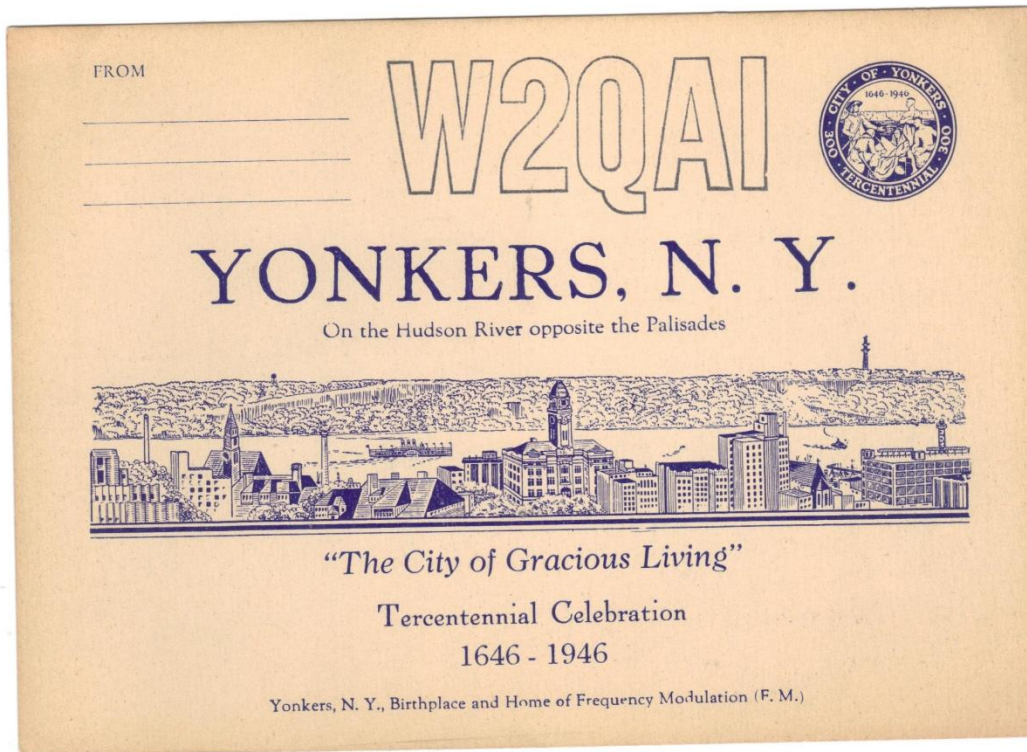
Colonel Troster reported peace messages to 12 foreign countries including Canada, Denmark, England, South Africa, Australia,

Cuba, Holland, France, Germany, British West Indies, Kwajaleen Islands and New Zealand.

The "hams" also made contacts in 40 states in this country, Alaska and Hawaiian Islands.

Special Q.S.L. acknowledgement cards are being sent all radio amateurs who were contacted. The cards bear a silhouette of the Yonkers' waterfront against the Palisades and note, "The City of Gracious Living, Yonkers, N. Y., the Birthplace and Home of Frequency Modulation."

YONKERS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



City Hall, Yonkers, N. Y.
December, 1946

Yonkers is celebrating its 300th anniversary. The people of Yonkers hope and pray with the peoples of other cities and nations throughout the world for prompt consummation of a lasting peace.

Yonkers Tercentennial Commission
Colonel Oliver J. Troster
Chairman

Please relay this message to the presiding officer of your community and submit to local newspaper.

Kindly forward all clippings, QSL cards and acknowledgements to

Box "300"
Yonkers, N. Y., U. S. A.
to be preserved in the Yonkers Public Library.

STAMP

FROM CITY HALL, YONKERS, N. Y.

To _____

YONKERS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
YONKERS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB ARCHIVES
SEVENTY YEARS OF HISTORY