

FEBRUARY
1991

Journal of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club

HI-O

REGULAR MEETINGS 2ND
THURSDAY EACH MONTH
RM 245 MCINTYRE BLDG
CONFEDERATION COLLEGE
EVERYONE WELCOME

PACKET CLUSTER ARRIVES!

I am setting up a Packet Cluster BBS which is designed to be an aid for working DX. Along with the DX info available in the future, it is a bulletin board system capable of all the ordinary chores of a regular bulletin board.

I would hope by the end of February it should be up full time with most of the bugs removed. The bugs are more operator orientated than program orientated. The system has a comprehensive help file and a users manual if available from myself for the cost of copying.

Packet cluster is a relatively new concept capable of dispersing DX information to connected stations automatically along with storing for future reference. It is capable of many functions including Maximum Useable Frequency calculations, listing WWV forecasts, bearing headings etcetera. There are files for bulletins, messages and all you need to access the system is VHF Packet. The system is running on a IBM compatible (80286) with a 40 megabyte hard drive and will run 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, providing there is enough interest.

We are going to give it a try. Hopefully it will increase the activity on the HF Bands as well as give local amateurs a place to list and pass traffic.

73's de VE3HFS Pat.

SIBLEY SKI TOUR

The first weekend in March marks the next Sibley Ski Tour. Seven to Eight (the more the merrier) hams are required for this event, and any student that wants to get involved is also invited. Further details will be available in the next week or so. Suffice to say, breakfast call at Pass Lake Petro Station at 0630 Saturday March 2nd...VE3BBS

D O N ' T F O R G E T D I N N E R

DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE ANNUAL DINNER MEETING AT THE RED OAK INN, FEBRUARY 23rd. TICKETS ARE \$25.00 EACH AND ARE AVAILABLE FROM SKIP VE3BBS (767-2307) OR DAVE VE3DOM. FESTIVITIES START ABOUT SIXISH AND THE GUEST SPEAKER WILL BE JOHN ILLINGSWORTH WHO SHALL REGALE US WITH STORIES ABOUT HIS SINGLE ENGINE TRANS OCEANIC FLIGHT. WOULD THAT BE EYEBALL DX? SEE YOU THERE.

IT WORKS !!!!!

Our new controller finally arrived, and the programming is presently being done (by VE3ILV and VE3DOM..Ed).

We hope to have most of the programming finished so that a demonstration of the controller can be conducted at the annual dinner meeting on February 23, 1991.

Some of the user features are:

- Touch tone pad test
- Primary, Secondary, Tertiary Autopatch
- User Loadable Autodialer Bank 0, Bank 1, Bank 2
- Patch Utility Group P,Q
- Patch Hangup
- User Loadable Autodialer Load/Erase Bank 0, Bank 1, Bank 2
- Reverse Patch
- Voice Response Telemetry
- Demo/Bulletin Board
- Mailbox
- Remote Base/Linking
- Paging
- Touch Tone Access Mode Up/Down
- Spare Audio Select
- User Function Remote Control
- User Mapped Control Operator Commands
- Individual User Access Commands

The user command codes will come later, once programming has been completed and some tentative scheduling for its operation will be announced at the dinner meeting. Thanks for your financial support that made this project possible.

Happy Repeating 73's de VE3ILV Len

INTERNATIONAL DOG SLED RACE

The first International Dog Sled Race is Friday/Saturday March 1st and 2nd from here to Grand Marais. Operators are required for this and mobile HF will come to the forefront again because of the distances involved. Interested amateurs please contact Skip (767-2307) or on 2 meters. More information at the annual dinner. Hope to see you there!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb. 23 - 1938- Annual Dinner - Red Oak Inn -
 March 2 - Sibley Ski Tour
 March 1 - 2 - International Dog Sled Race
 Feb 21/28 - Classes at Con College 1988-2188 - regular room
 March 7/21/28 - Classes
 March 14 - Regular Club Meeting
 Every Saturday -- 10:00 am - breakfast at Blue Parrot

ANOTHER SUCCESS FOR L.A.R.C.

Another International 500 snowmobile race has come and gone and once again the *Lakehead Amateur Radio Club* has another notch on its public service gun. In conversation with Bruce Andrews (Canadian Race Director) and George Rettner (Director) they both had rave comments about the abilities and services provided by the members that participated. Even without the 2 meter link to Grand Marais the operation went smoothly. Mobile HF proved to be the vital link back to Thunder Bay. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the following members for their valuable contribution:
 Old Fort William -
 VE3AJ, VE3ECV, VE3KRH, VE3TRE
 Check Point 3 - VE3AXL and helpers
 Check Point 4 - VE3AVS and newest licenced ham VE3FAL
 Fuel Stop - VE3VUK and friend, VE3XRC
 Check Point 6 - VE3JAJ & Son
 Check Point 7 - VE3ZG and Family
 Check Point 8 - VE3ICY
 Border Patrol - VE3EBL, VE3JAU
 US of A - VE3ILV, VE3LMV, VE3TKA
 Special thanks to Barb N0LEW, Neil KB0QS and Swede from Howland KA8MDN.
 Thunder Bay - VE3JQ, VE3HFS, VE3PHL, VE3NPS and last but certainly not least, our resident technical dude VE3BCD. A job well done guys and gals!
 73's de VE3BBS

ALERT Computers in the Shack has been moved to the April club meeting due to work commitment of VE3DOM. His employers haven't realized that the entire universe revolves around Amateur Radio!

THIS SPACE FOR RENT

GIVE ME A CALL TO LIST YOUR ITEMS FOR SALE, TO BUY, GIVE AWAY, PROCURE

REPORT CARD

The 98/91 Amateur Radio Classes sponsored by the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club are going very well and this year's drop out rate is much lower than the last few years. This is in spite of the fact that the information being presented is far in excess to what is required for the basic examination, probably closer to the advanced course in content.

So far the course has covered regulations, propagation, electron theory, Ohm's law, resistors, capacitors, reactance, resonance, impedance and receivers. Some of the topics yet to be covered are solid state devices, tubes, transmitters, antennas (still available Bill?) putting the shack together, morse code, and some other odds 'n sods. As we put the theory and math behind us the classes will become more "hands on". We are still looking for amateurs to present some of these subjects, and if you feel up to it give me or Tim VE3WCT a call. Texts and other materials are available for preparation.

We are using the CRRL textbook for the class, but I have been pulling information from all sorts of sources for the classes. Skip VE3BBS has a couple more of these textbooks and are for sale at the club's cost. The CARF also has an excellent textbook and if you prefer that one you can contact me for the address or Bob Bishop VE3JAB. While both texts represent an enormous effort on the part of the respective authors I believe there is a lot of room for improvement, especially in the quantity of illustrations and the quality of the printing. As they are the initial effort for the new licence structure I'm sure that future releases will be much improved.

Classes are every Thursday night, same room as club meetings, and amateurs are invited to audit the classes. Just be prepared to help field some of the questions! Coffee meet is at Pizza Delight on Arthur St. after every class.

73's Ed VE3SNW