



The QUARAE



Volume 19 Issue 4

Editor John Lindvay

April 2018

Meet the New President



I was born on April 1, 1938, in Albion, PA., then moved to West Springfield, PA.

I attended Springfield Township School and Graduated in 1957.

I met Don Stichick, W3HLM in 7th grade. Some time while in school, Don obtained got his Ham License W3HLM. I used to go to his house and see some of his radios. I was interested in Ham Radio at this time, but never got a license. While still in high school at West Springfield as a non-Ham, Don and I used to go to the Conneaut, Ohio radio club. Had fun there.

Don and I joined the Air Force in 1957. I ended up in Radio school at Scott AFB in Illinois.

After Radio School I went to an AFB on the Island of Crete where I worked on radios and transmitters. We had a MARS station there and I had a lot of time to listen to the radios.

Once I heard Don as KG1IGT on Fletchers Ice Island in the Artic. After returning to the States, I was sent to Goodfellow AFB in San Angelo Texas. Was assigned to be a USAF MARS station which had a Ham Club Station, K5FFO (The flat footed fox). About a year later I became friends with a Ham from West Virginia who helped me get tested and got my call KN5ZDA and later K5ZDA. I operated there until getting out of the Air Force in 1961. After returning to PA got call K3QAS. Later

got a job in Massachusetts where I worked for 47 years until retiring in 2004. I spent most of my time on radio operation for MARS. I had very few HF contacts but was on the local repeaters. I was a member of the Minute Man Radio Club and the Mitre Radio Club for several years. I operated from Malden, Mass as K3QAS/1 for about 6 months then moved to Wilmington, Mass. There, I got callsign K1ZIK. Later on I got my advanced License and was involved with The EMA in Wilmington until my wife passed away in 2011. Later that year I decided to move back to PA. I now live in East Springfield. Still most of my activity is with USAF MARS. I operate on many different frequencies using Voice and Digital modes.

Shortly after moving back into this area I joined the RAE. I have helped out on many Public Service events. That's my story and I'm sticking to it.

Other interest :

YMCA at Edinboro twice a week.

I Bowl In Senior League in Girard twice a week during winter

I go biking when I can.

I have 8 raised gardens that I enjoy working in during the summer

I go Line Dancing once a week.

I go Square dancing once per month

Radio activity

USAF MARS Digital and Voice nets several days per week

VHF, UHF, HF mobile when I can 4

YASEU FT-100D ISS operation Using HRD ,EGG Beater antenna

Dstar using DVAP through internet. using IC 51A

Major equipment HF Ten-Tec OMNI VII

Antennas HF, 500ft Horizontal loop, Tri band beam TA-33, 35ft Tower ,and Wide band Dipole.

VHF/UHF IC-3210 Home DUAL band Vertical Antenna on tower

Mobile IC-7100, Screw Driver antenna with Auto tuner

East Cars and Marine Mobile Net from mobile

March 2018 General Meeting Minutes



Meeting started at 7:45 P.M.

Board Members and Officers Present:

K1ZIK-Ed Barlow, President, KB3ZVH-Richard Quinn, Secretary, N8WXQ- Frank Etzler, Treasurer, K3PLV-Craig Hill, KB3JZL- Gene Brinig, WB3DOM- Ron Seboldt, KC3GBD- Bob Sorento, N3SRF-George Younkin

Members Present:

KB3DPM- Dale , KA3CPV- Joe Ponchak, N3LBI- , KC3GOC- Mike Morrison, AD4UL- Doug Sweet (via Skype)

Program: N8WXQ- Frank Etzler gave a video about the K4M Midway Atoll 2009 Expedition

New Hams: None

Silent Keys: K3SBU Robert Dziubkowski

Visitors: KB3OFD- Torry Young, N3NKV- John Lis

Treasurer's Report: Checking \$ 1680.00

Membership Report: None

Facilities Report : KB3ZVH- Club House Clean-Up in April

Repeater Report: KB3THU Not at Meeting

Public Service: AD4UL will continue doing public service. He is checking on March of Dimes Walk and Races Certification. Schedule will be announced soon.

Contesting Report: None

Old Business: Elected 3 new Board Members: K3PLV- Craig Hill, KC3GBD- Bob Sorento, N3SRF- George Younkin who was elected Board ChElected new president K1ZIK- Ed Barlow

New Business: None

Meeting End At: 8:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by
Richard Quinn KB3ZVH Secretary



**Radio Association of Erie
Club Meeting – Thursday
April 5th^t at the Red Cross
Bldg. located at 4961
Pittsburgh Ave.**

**7:00 PM- General Meeting
Program: TBA**

“The Owl is Okay”

Back in the year 1999 my wife and I decided to go



to the channel island of Jersey for a vacation. Jersey is located in the English Channel about 100 miles south of England and 14 miles from France (Normandy). I thought it might be nice to do a little operating, but I did not want to take equipment. So I wrote to a number of stations I had worked in Jersey to ask about possibly operating from their house for a couple hours (This was before many people there had internet). I heard back from these people although none of them could accommodate me. A couple of weeks before we went I worked a guy at the Jersey club station who invited me to the club.

Ron was one who answered my letter. Ron had used the call GJ4DIY when he was on Jersey. I did not know that anyone licensed by the Radio Society of Great Britain just changed his call slightly when he went to another entity, such as GD4DIY if Ron would operate from the Isle of Man. So even though Ron did not live on Jersey he suggested a number of restaurants and attractions to visit.

Recently I saw Ron, G4DIY, and Alan, G4NXG were operating from Guernsey. I talked to Ron on 40 meters, but conditions were not very good. The next day I said hello to Alan on 20 meters. Alan and I chatted for a while. I asked about Lee who I knew had some health problems and no longer made the trip with Ron. I had met Ron and Lee many years earlier in person – more on that later. Alan told me Lee was still walking with crutches and many times used a wheelchair. Alan

then told me Lee wrote a book. The title is “[The Owl Is Ok](#)”. It was about Lee’s trials and tribulations as a DXer and had quite a bit of humor in it. I ordered a copy from Amazon and read it. I enjoyed it. I found one surprise in it. Here is my surprise: “I like Jersey but really prefer Guernsey. In Jersey we met up with Craig, MJ/K3PLV and Peter, MJ/K8PT. They both come over every year from North America to operate the club station. While we were operating from Saint Ouens Bay, we were in a major JA pileup and the lads from America were operating from the Jersey Radio Club. They heard us working JA but could not hear much of the pileup. They traveled by car to where we were operating on top of a World War II gun emplacement. I think it’s fair to say they were impressed with the station setup. Later I went for a meal with them both. Ron wouldn’t leave the pileup! Craig told me he thought we were “Winding him up” when he heard Ron working the Japanese stations. He told me he could hear Ron fine, but not who he was talking to. He explained that even with the club’s three element beam, they could not hear the stations through the high noise level. What could I say to that?”

Ron uses a full size vertical for 40 meters, which telescopes in for the higher bands. They also use 150 to 220 radials. Of course being on the beach with the wet salt sand helps a lot. By the way, the club station is in a three story World War II German Signals bunker.

So you never know when you will pop up in a book. Lee said he has sold quite a few through the RSGB and various ham “gettogethers”. If anyone would like to read the book I will gladly lend it out or it can be bought through Amazon as a book or for a Kindle.

73,

Craig – K3PLV

ARRL: How can we help?

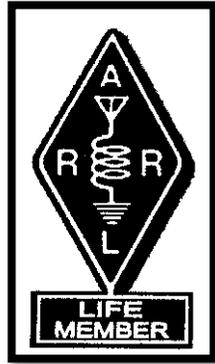
By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

Recently, I received this email from a reader:

“Hi Dan,

“Hope you’re doing well. I have a couple of questions about the ARRL. I’ve been reading your

blog and other sources, and it's clear that the ARRL is in a little trouble. I have to say, though, that as soon as the current administration in D.C. notices that some of their friends can make money off of amateur radio bandwidth, the whole amateur radio service is in very serious jeopardy. The only way I can think of to counter that would be an organization like the ARRL, and I think there's really only one organization like the ARRL. Is that not true? If it is, how can we help?"



I replied that it is true that there's only one organization like the ARRL. In the past, there have been groups that have tried to compete with the ARRL, but they've never really taken off. It's an incredible amount of work to set up an organization like the ARRL and none of the alternates have been able to get to critical mass.

The second question—How can we help?—is the big question. Here are a few thoughts:

- Join the ARRL. If you're not currently a member, join. You'll have little or no influence, if you are not a member.
- If you are a member, but your friends are not, encourage them to join. The more members the ARRL has, the more influence it will have. This is common sense, but the ARRL doesn't really seem to care about this. In the past, I've encouraged the ARRL to set a membership goal of 25% of licensed radio amateurs ([link 1](#), [link 2](#)). I honestly don't think this is asking too much, and I've never heard a good argument for them not to do this. They continue to ignore me, and the percentage of licensed radio amateurs that are ARRL members continues to decline.
- Take an interest in ARRL matters and let your director and vice director know your

views. Get your friends to do likewise. Get on the mailing lists for the board meeting agendas and minutes. To do this, log into the ARRL website, click on "Edit your profile," then "Edit email subscriptions."

- Invite your ARRL elected officials—your division director, vice director, and section manager—to talk at your club meetings. Be prepared to grill them on issues that you think are important.
- Run for office yourself. I ran for Great Lakes Division vice director twice. Unfortunately, I lost both times, but even running is a way to have an impact. I'd like to see the "loyal opposition" gets organized and challenge the status quo, especially in divisions where I think the current director is making bad decisions.

Having said all that, there are ways to make an impact besides playing ARRL politics:

- Get on the air. It's easier to lose bands if we're not using them. Encourage others to be active.
- Be an Elmer to those that need it.
- Teach classes to help those who want a license get a license and to help those who are already licensed to upgrade their licenses.
- Be an ambassador for amateur radio, especially to related groups, such as the "maker" groups that have sprung up around the country. Make sure that they know about your amateur radio club and the classes and exam sessions that you offer.

I'd love to hear any other thoughts that you all may have on this. I really do think that at this point, we need to inundate the ARRL Board and staff with input from the membership. While they may have a long history of ignoring the membership and just

going about their own merry way, now is really a time of change, and this might be the right time to set the ARRL on a better path.

+++++

When he's not getting all worked up over ARRL politics, Dan blogs about amateur radio at KB6NU.Com, teaches amateur radio classes, and works CW on the HF bands. He's the author of the *No Nonsense* amateur radio license study guides and *The CW Geek's Guide to Having Fun with Morse Code*.

Let's Call CQ

We talk a lot about the band conditions due to the Sunspot cycle. Most of it on Facebook and other places is about how "dead" the bands are at this point. We all can't wait until the cycle starts to rise and we will be making contacts with little effort. I remember in my conversation with Chuck Adams, K7QO, that he really enjoys operating is "Pigrig", one watt, CW transceiver on 20 meters. When I asked him, (I liberally paraphrase) "but Chuck, the bands are dead. How does that work for you?" His reply was that while most hams are listening to the bands, he calls CQ until he gets a reply. Works every time.

My QSO this week is with Tomas Hood, NW7US, who has years of expertise in propagation and Solar activity. He is the propagation editor of more than a few radio magazines and websites. In our post-recording conversation we discussed this phenomenon of listening and not calling CQ. I even had this idea that maybe one of the reasons that the digital modes are so successful is because they "beacon", as part of the whole digital experience, the same as calling CQ. This is why they make contacts. From what I see, looking at PSK Reporter, hams are making lots of contacts worldwide using the digital modes. While SSB may not be working so well, CW and the digital modes seem to work fine.

I like to work on my bench or make the podcast while listening to the bands. Jeff Damm, WA7MLH, says that he will put his keyer in CQ mode while he is working on a new radio. Invariably, sometimes after many minutes, he gets a reply. Great idea Jeff!.
From 4Z1ULG, Eric Gunth

I think I'll just put an "Out of Order" sticker on my forehead and call it a day.

Free QSTs

My father recently passed away (Ed Gubish, W3POS), and I have found quite a few QST magazines in the basement in good condition dating from 1965-1988. Most are bound (see attached photo). If the RAE would like a donation, or any member would like them, please let me know.

Chris Gubish
724-544-7241

QUARAE Articles

We need membership help with articles for the QuaRae. Almost anything will do. A cartoon, a photograph, thoughts on Ham Radio. I like to thank all the people who have contributed in the past. But don't rest on your laurels. Keep sending material to John Lindvay. My email is jlindvay@msn.com.

Just remember, once you're over the hill you begin to pick up speed. Why I Like Retirement !

HAM Calendar

April 1 – Easter

April 3 – Corry Amateur Radio Club Meeting

April 5 – RAE Meeting

April 7 - Mississippi QSO Party

www.arrlmiss.org

April 7 - Missouri QSO Party

www.w0ma.org

April 7 - Florida State Parks on the Air

flspota.org/rules

April 10 – Wattsburg Club Meeting

April 12 – Union City Club Meeting

April 14 - New Mexico QSO Party

www.newmexicoqsoparty.org

April 14 - North Dakota QSO Party

www.kg0yl.net/QSO.html

April 14 - Georgia QSO Party

www.georgiaqsoparty.org

April 15 - ARRL Rookie Roundup,

www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup

April 15 – Tax Day

April 18 – World Amateur Radio Day

April 21 - Nebraska QSO Party

qcwa.org/chapter025.htm

April 21 - Michigan QSO Party

www.miqp.org/Rules.htm

April 21 - Ontario QSO Party

www.va3cco.com/oqp

April 21 – VE Session

April 28 - Florida QSO Party

floridaqsoparty.org

Keep scrolling!

Local Nets UHF/VHF/HF

DAY	TIME	FREQ	MODE	COMMENTS
SUNDAY	7PM	50.190	USB	6MTR SSB NET
SUNDAY	9PM	146.61/82/70	FM	ARES/RACES TNG NET
MONDAY	8PM	144.450	AM	2 METER SIMPLEX
TUESDAY	8PM	50.400	AM	6 METER AM NET
WED	6:30PM	146.61/82	FM	NBEMS NET
THU	8PM	144.210	USB	210 ROUND-UP
FRIDAY	8PM	144.210	USB	210 ROUND-UP
SAT	8PM	50.400	AM	6 METER RAGCHEW
DAILY	8PM	146.61/70/82	FM	MAIL BAG NET
DAILY	9PM	146.61	FM	RAG CHEW NET
LOCAL HF NETS				
DAILY	8AM	14.340	USB	FORT PIERCE NET
DAILY	6:30PM	7.233+or-	LSB	ERIE CONNECTION
WED	8PM	28.410	USB	NOVICE TECH NET
SUNDAY	8PM	29.000	USB	LAKE ERIE EMERGENCY NET

HF = RED 2 METER = BLACK 6 METER = BLUE