

FEED BACK

GEORGIAN BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWS

Editor Bill VE3EFX

MAY 1976

|           |             |            |        |
|-----------|-------------|------------|--------|
| Executive | President   | Dick Shave | VE3BIS |
|           | Vice Pres.  | Dave Dixon | VE3DXO |
|           | Sec. Treas. | Cy Weaver  | VE3DQA |

\* \* \* \* \*

The April meeting was attended by 16 members and visitors, the number being reduced as the Easter weekend was so close.

Jim, VE3CRV intimated that seven people were scheduled to take the exam for an Amateur licence and two would try for the Advanced licence on April 27th.

The new repeater installation was discussed and the need for a duplexer was brought up. The device is necessary as the receiver is desensing on high power and we are currently operating at about 25w instead of the 80w that is available. A levy of \$15 is being asked for from Club members to cover the cost of the new duplexer which will cost \$350. The levy will only apply to repeater users, and if anyone feels that he cannot afford the \$15 any donation to the cause will be very acceptable.

The Field Day was discussed and it will be held at the QTH of XJ3HXX on HWY 21 near Alvanly.

The next meeting will be held on May 20th and will consist of a short business meeting followed by a trip on Jim's boat which is an enjoyable experience if the last one is anything to judge by. Be at the CIAG computer bldg by 8on the evening of the meeting.

VE3BIS brought up the subject of a beam and tower for club use, I'll make comment on this on another page.

Two movies were shown and coffee and donuts were served before the meeting was closed.

Nominations for the new club executive are; Pres. VE3DXO, Vice Pres. VE3NIP, Secy/Treas. VE3DQA, Tech. Dir. VE3CRV, Prog. Dir. VE3BSF, Editor VE3HIZ.

The 20m band has been very good over the Easter period and in general the other bands have been good too except for the higher static levels on 30m. Some spots have been seen on the sun but I'm not sure if we are into the new cycle yet or not. DX on 20m like TI9, YB3, SU, JA0 and all the usual African and Europeans were heard at one time or another.

KF3HIR and XJ3EFK worked TI9WD on Cocos Island for a new one but we missed the YB3 as Tess had to take Ontars.

\* \* \* \* \*

In my opinion we don't need a triband beam and tower for our Field Day and other /P operations. My reasons for this statement are 1. On Field Day the idea is to contact as many stations as possible in the time available, not work DX. The time and effort involved in erecting a tower and beam can be better used in getting the stations on the air and making contacts. Also on /P operations like the Split Rail Festival we should be primarily interested in talking to the public and not trying to work DX. The station that can make a solid contact into the States and Canada will achieve more impact than a DX contact that is for the most part unintelligible to the people we are trying to impress. 2. the beam has to be rotated and this is often inconvenient whereas a multiband antenna doesn't have this disadvantage. 3. The beam and tower will not be used by the club to any great extent and so does not warrant the cost. If we lend the antenna out to members it will be a major operation getting it dismantled and moved whenever we need it. 4 A mast is something I would definitely not recommend as I was involved in putting one up on many occasions with the club in Caithness, Scotland. It was 40' high and took about six very athletic people to control till all the guys were tightened. I have pictures of the thing bent like a bow as we struggled to get it vertical.

\* \* \* \* \*

Last month I put, what I thought was, a controversial item in Feedback about the old homebrew versus commercial gear. The idea being to stimulate some comment from the members. Apart from some mumbling by Bob, VE3FCW, a Homebrewer from way back, I don't know if anyone else even read it. Bob was going to write up a strong rebuttal but it hasn't arrived by press time. This month a brief go at Log Keeping. How often do you hear the comment, "I don't log 2m contacts", or "You don't need to put /m contacts in the log". Some of you don't log local contacts, net contacts, 30m contacts and I'm sure every one of these guys has read the regulations at one time or another. No wonder their log lasts them for years but I wonder what they tell the DOC inspector when he calls to check out the station and sign the log. Where do you sit in this group?

As most of you probably know, we can now get callsign license plates for passenger vehicles in Ontario. I have included in this issue of Feedback full details on the method of applying as there are sure to be some who don't know what is going on. It is to be hoped that most of the amateurs in the province will get their plates after all the effort that went into this project over the past few years.

\* \* \* \* \*

You may remember the questionnaire in TOA a few months ago regarding a proposed Novice license in Canada. Well, of the 1700 or so RSO members only 93 sent in the form, and of that number 60 were in favour and 32 against. I wonder how many of our club members didn't bother to vote.

\* \* \* \* \*

The repeater at OSR failed and Jim went out with a crew on Saturday April 10th to install the new transistorized machine. After it was installed it was found that the receiver was being de-sensitized. Jim went out again on the Sunday morning and after some juggling of antenna leads and power levels he succeeded in getting a reasonable operating machine, but at this time it looks as if we are going to need a good duplexer to effectively isolate the RX from the TX output.

\* \* \* \* \*

On the EFX QTH these days I spend most of the time listening to OSCAR passes and I think I have the orbital predictions pretty well figured out. It is easy to determine when you will get acquisition of signal (AOS) on a given pass if you have a globe and can mount a piece of wire on it to represent an orbit. On passes that travel up the centre of the Atlantic the European stations come in at 89 on the mode B 2m output. Even passes that don't give us AOS till the satellite is over the arctic regions provide about 10 minutes of good access into Europe. If you are unable to get the 145.925 to 145.975mhz part of the 2m band, you can get a lot of fun listening to the mode A signals on 10m.

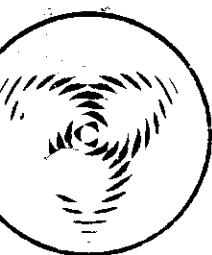
I tried to work in to OSCAR 7 with 10w of cw into a collinear antenna but I need a beam so that will be the next addition. In the next week or two I hope to have my tracking device in operation to move the antenna in azimuth and elevation. The weather is the main drawback to getting things done outdoors.

\* \* \* \* \*

Contrary to the statement on the boat trip on another page, the price is up to \$6 this year as the rental is now \$90 for the day.

\* \* \* \* \*

VE3TOF is working CW on 80 and 40 metres with the new 3200 and 33DZZ antenna.



Society of Ontario, Inc.

VE3RSO

Box 334, Station 1  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5Z 3P7

April 5, 1976

### FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Call Letter License Plates are now approved in Ontario.

### HOW TO GET THEM

The procedure to follow to obtain call-sign license plates for passenger vehicles, that is those now carrying standard 3 letter, 3 number plates is:

send a letter of application, together with a cheque or money order for \$25.00 payable to "Treasurer of Ontario", to:

The Ministry of Transportation and Communications,  
Queens Park,  
Toronto, Ontario,  
Attention: Miss E. Graham

The letter should show your full name, full address and VE3 call sign.

Instructions on what to do on receipt of the plates will be sent with the plates.

Any Queries should be directed to Miss Graham at the ministry.

Dan Robertson, VE3FOV

Secretary,

Radio Society of Ontario, Inc.



The April issue of Feedback was mailed in Tiverton on Sunday March 23th and I was told that it reached Goderich on Tuesday the 30th. The Owen Sound people didn't get it till Friday the 2nd of April and it had not arrived in Port Elgin, Markdale or Flesherton on Saturday the 3rd.

Harvey, VE3FOT tells me that he has been waiting three weeks on a parcel from Timmins. Now if my mail was being delayed to that extent I'd be doing something about it. The thing to do is to write a strongly worded letter to the Regional Director and get a fire lit under somebody so that you don't have any further trouble at least for a while.

Since I tangled with the postal authorities a couple of years ago, I get very good service, so if you guys are content to sit back and let these high priced dummies in the post office mess around with your mail, I'm sure they will continue to do so.

The address to write to is; W.J. McKellar, Customer Service, Southwestern Dist. Ontario Postal Region, London, Ont.

Be sure to give him all the details of the delay with dates .

\* \* \* \* \*

Up to the beginning of April Tess has worked 62 countries and 43 are confirmed.

\* \* \* \* \*

We hope to have Fred Locker, VE3EL at the meeting to demonstrate his Microprocessor so if you have not seen one of these in operation come along and meet Fred. If the bug bites and you decide to buy one Fred sells them, details were in Feedback a month or two back.

\* \* \* \* \*

Brian, VE3ERT expects to be leaving the area in August and returning to VE1 land. We will be sorry to see you go Brian , be sure to leave your new address so that you can continue to get Feedback.

\* \* \* \* \*

Don't forget the planned DXpedition to St Paul Island on May 23th till June 3rd. Hopefully the call will be VY0B and it counts for DXCC. Allband operation on CW and SSP is contemplated including operation in the Novice bands.

\* \* \* \* \*

John, VE3EYN has the cavities in VE3KIN and now the repeater is putting out about 55 watts so the coverage is improved.

\* \* \* \* \*

The 40m band is still producing good DX in the mornings, XJ3HIR and I worked VK7GM and many other Vh stations are heard around 7am.

I have included the entire contents of the CRRL newsletter #3/76 in this issue of Feedback as I feel it is important to inform all of you of the situation as we get closer to the 1979 WARC. Your membership in this organisation is well worth the \$10 per year and the cost of participation in the conference can be defrayed by getting more people to join the organisation.

\* \* \* \* \*

The GBARC got a mention in QST as being accepted into affiliation, did you see it?

\* \* \* \* \*

Nice to hear more people listening in to the Oscar passes and learning to make use of the data in Feedback. If you send in the info to AMSAT they will QSL and you can get a card for both the satellites. Usually Oscar 6 is only switched on during weekends so it isn't heard through the week unless it is being used for a special experiment.

\* \* \* \* \*

The new Radio Shack store is now open in Kincardine and doing a good business. It is located in the new shopping mall at the North end of town on HWY 21.

\* \* \* \* \*

VE3FCW isn't making much progress with WAS these days as he is involved with a plumbing project in the basement of the new hacienda.

\* \* \* \* \*

VE3AUB is the first member to pay his 1977 club dues, I guess we really scared Jack with that new bylaw.

\* \* \* \* \*

The annual club FISHING TRIP will be held on July 11th so if you plan to go, get in touch with VE3BIS on the net or at the club. Old Slippery wants the \$5 in at the same time (see how mercenary he is when he is running the show) so don't delay, he won't give you three months grace to pay up.

\* \* \* \* \*

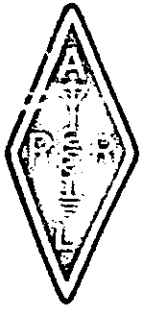
The May meeting will be held on the 20th at Spm in the CIAG computer building as usual so be there for the election of officers and the Field Day planning.

\* \* \* \* \*

A large group of sunspots were playing havoc with the bands in early April and they were easily visible to the naked eye. In the telescope they were a fine sight and VE3FV saw them also.

\* \* \* \* \*

VE3FHZ, Bill is a new amateur living on the camp at Bruce G.S. He hopes to get on 2.



# THE CANADIAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE

(CANADIAN DIVISION - AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE)

P.O. Box 418 - Sackville, N.B. E0A 3C0

Newsletter No. 3/76

March 1976

FROM THE DIRECTORS PERCH.

## W.A.R.C. '79

In my travels, I find that there appears to be some popular misconceptions concerning a World Administrative Radio Conference, especially insofar as voting procedure is concerned. In point of fact, organized bodies (i.e. IARU, CARF, CRRL etc) do not vote. Only nations vote. Furthermore, no matter how large or small a nation may be, they have but one vote.

We presently enjoy 13% of the radio spectrum below 30MHz. If we don't straighten ourselves out, apart from other considerations, we could end up sharing the 10, 15 and 160 meter bands with commercial stations.

BUT, even if all governments, currently sympathetic to amateur radio, vote in favor of the International Amateur Radio Union recommendations, we still could lose the battle in the end.

Let's look at W.A.R.C. voting procedure. The U.S. once had two votes, one for the U.S. and one for Puerto Rico. Now they have but one. On the other hand, Russia has three votes because two of its satellite countries are given separate status. But, we are not concerned about Russia because Russia is FOR amateur radio. It uses amateur radio to train its military. The powerful group we have to watch and prepare for, is the bloc called the Third World. Make no mistake, it is a political power to be reckoned with. It recently voted adversely in a maritime mobile situation, just to show its muscle...they didn't care about technical requirements...just the political results. So, we could be faced with a country like Yemen, with no radio amateurs, having one vote which could cancel the vote of Canada.

There are some of us who apparently feel secure in the knowledge that they are doing all they can to "sell" the merits of amateur radio to our governments. The CRRL is presently burning the midnight oil in order to present our DOC with the best possible argument, in favor of amateur radio; however, this is far from sufficient, because Canada could be outvoted, by a country like Yemen or anyone else.

What then can we do?

What we can do is to financially and morally support the only organization which can plead and sell the amateur radio cause, on a world wide scale. The International Amateur Radio Union. And, as the C.R.R.L. is the Canadian member of that organization, that means supporting it, in every possible way.

However, let's get down to some "nitty-gritty". The C.R.R.L. is supported only by its APRL individual memberships. Additionally, the I.A.R.U. is mainly supported by the ARRL membership, especially insofar as operating expense is concerned.

The actual cost of the defence of our world wide frequencies is estimated in several hundred of thousands of dollars. At the last ARRL Board Meeting, the special President's fund of \$100,000.00 (for the defence of frequencies) was replenished to its full amount...it had fallen to \$40,000.00. Additionally, another \$100,000.00 was voted for the establishment

a comprehensive recruiting and training program, by which we hope to increase the radio amateur members by at least 50%, come the 1979 W.A.R.C.

No matter which way one "cuts the cake", the fact remains that our future rests squarely on a united and positive stance. Furthermore, only the ARRL, with its human and financial resources, is in a position to effectively champion our cause, nationally or internationally.

The future of amateur radio, as we know and enjoy it, rests with you and your ARRL membership. There is no other way, other than to perhaps relinquish our pride and become "free-loaders".

Amateur radio, in its true spirit, knows no boundaries!

— . . . —

ARRL Membership continues to grow at an outstanding rate. During the period January 2 through February 5th we entered 3038 new ARRL members. The print order for March QST is 135,000!

R.A.S.O. reports that their target of 65 operators for the official Olympic station, CZ20, has now been attained. Should there be a further display of interest by licensed operators, towards the formation of a reserve volunteer group for this occasion, advise your local club so that they, in turn, can advise R.A.S.O.

R.A.S.O. have completed the distribution of a limited supply of Olympic QSL Cards, specially conceived for XJ or XN prefix QSO confirmation. Any amateur requiring these cards should address himself to the QSL Manager, of his Section, who maintains a stock.

ARRL Certificates of Merit, in recognition of outstanding service to amateur radio, have been awarded to the following amateurs: VF3AW and VF1FQ. C.R.R.L. Headquarters will always welcome recommendations for this Award, from Clubs and/or individuals. Such recommendations must always be accompanied with a complete dossier in order that a proper evaluation may be made. It is not awarded lightly.

Canadian Customs Duty. The CRRL is again looking into the matter of customs duty on amateur radio equipment. As some will remember, about twelve years ago, the Canadian Division made formal representation to the Tariff Board for the elimination or reduction of duty on ham equipment. At that time, our application was turned down, for several reasons; however, the main reason given was that several Canadian Amateur radio distributors, or ham equipment, indicated that they would "soon" be entering into Canadian manufacture. This never came about! Our legal Counsel, VF2VW, is currently in the process of reviewing all of the material connected with our previous application, in order to ascertain if a new application, at this time, could even stand a remote chance of success.

D.O.C. is now proceeding with the development of regulations for a Novice Class of amateur license. They expect to be in a position to publish the proposed regulations in the Canada Gazette about the middle of June in order to provide the Amateur Fraternity and other interested individuals with an opportunity to comment and to develop a consensus of opinion. The CRRL is already on record, with D.O.C. favoring the creation of a Novice class of license.

The ARRL makes available free, to interested teachers, a curriculum book for classroom use of OSCAR in teaching math, physics, astronomy, communications, electronics and space science. The book explains in elementary language how to use a simple shortwave receiver to teach and learn what keeps a satellite up, what governs its speed and how to use OSCAR for many math and science classroom activities. Hundreds of school students already have participated in the program. Students using the educational package learn how to determine the satellites period, how long it takes to go once around the globe; its increment, how many degrees farther west it will be when it crosses the equator next time; and its inclination, the angle at which the satellite path crosses the equator. For those interested in this program, please address your request to Assistant Secretary Harris, ARRL, 225 Main Street, Newington, Conn. 06111, U.S.A.



# GET IN THE SWIM

## AT

# ONTARIO HAMFEST 76

### JULY 9, 10, 11.

- FLEAMARKET
- COMMERCIAL DISPLAYS
- CINEMA BINGO GAMES
- WEEKEND CAMPOUT
- OLYMPIC SIZE SWIMMING POOL
- BEERGARDEN
- SATURDAY EVENING SPAGHETTI & MEATBALL SUPPER (INCLUDED IN YOUR REGISTRATION PRICE).
- SATURDAY EVENING CAMPFIRE HOOTENANY PRIZES PRIZES PRIZES PRIZES PRIZES

#### LOCATION

:STEELWORKERS RECREATION CENTRE,  
CEDAR SPRINGS RD.,  
BURLINGTON, ONT.

TALK IN 146.16 146.76  
147.81 147.21



#### REGISTRATION RATES

REGISTERED HAMS 3.50

XYL, YL, HARMONICS 1.50

After June 15

REGISTERED HAMS \$4.00

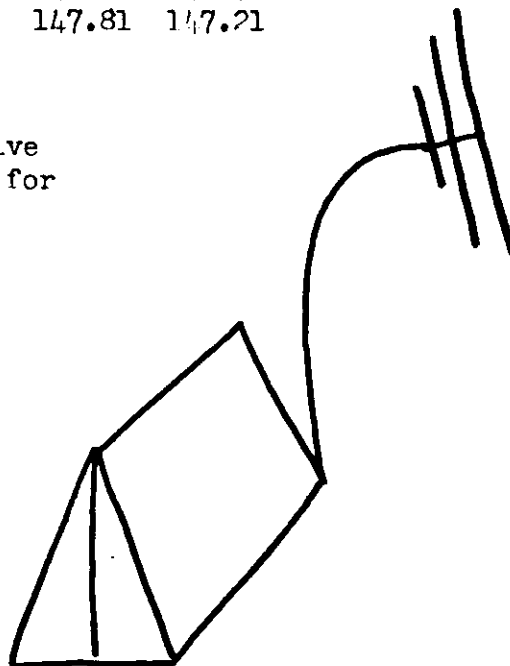
XYL, YL, HARMONICS \$2.00

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CO-OP

CANADA



VE3BFZ

Bill Cowan  
824 Bricker Street  
P.O. Box 1269  
PORT ELGIN, Ontario  
N0H 2C0

My Ham Radio Story

VE3 BFZ

30 March 1976

My first introduction to ham radio was in Bracebridge in 1932.

My brother, Bob, (VE3 DCT) was digging into "cats whisker" detectors, progressing on to TRF, etc.

Learning the code came next for Bob and then a visit from the radio inspector for the licensing test, resulted in VE3 ABM operating out of Bracebridge (making a population of 6 hams in Bracebridge).

From 1932 to 1935, I watched Bob hook up the hay wire "bread board" rigs with whatever equipment he could scrounge.

During this period I learned the code well enough to copy call signs, learned enough of the general technology that the bug had gotten a good hold.

From 1936 to 1939, I lost touch with ham radio because of joining the working group in preference to higher education (a questionable decision).

In 1939 I joined the Provost Corps with the Algonquin regiment and quickly found out that there should be better things in life.

At this point I managed to manipulate myself into the R.C.A.F. as an aircrew candidate.

As you are probably aware, supply and demand in aircrew candidates dictated your career. I was fortunate to hit the time when wireless air gunners were short supply, so off to wireless school. (I didn't question why W.A.G.'s were short supply!!!)

At any rate I was back into the radio business and went through training at Guelph.

During this time the interest and bit of "know-how" I had picked up with VE3 ABM was worth a lot in making the course both interesting and productive.

At the embarkation depot in Halifax our class was scheduled for the U.K.

Being a mercenary fellow I thought I would ask the pay master what my allowances would be in the U.K. The pay master looked up with a straight face and said "you're a wireless air gunner aren't you, lad? Let me see what the records show. I am sorry, son, it appears from my records that we haven't had to pay allowances to any W.A.G.'s to date!!!"

At this point I understood the supply and demand!!!

The next day as we were ready to embark, the warrant officer stopped the line and in the typical army volunteer procedure said, "You, you and you will report to the adjutant's office." I happened to be one of the "you's" and, of course, immediately tried to remember what "hellery" I had got mixed up in the night before, so I could prepare my plea of not guilty.

I didn't have to plea as we were re-routed to Eastern Air Command and finally into the work of "aviation mobile".

We did a lot of listening during those days, so I had lots of time to practice my code.

Later when I was flying transport command, I got lots of operating, transmitting the manifest to base.

When I was appointed Signals Officer in Eastern Air Command in Halifax, I got a chance to pick up a bit of commercial operating, get involved in the installation of a RTTY between Halifax, Goose Bay Labrador and Ottawa.

At this point I decided I had better look to the future and get some more technical knowledge. This I accomplished by manipulating a transfer to a Radar officer's training course at Clinton, Ontario.

This was a shock to my system, first because I wasn't used to the "BS" in training command and secondly, I didn't know centimeter equipment from a spider. However, I persevered and gained some useful knowledge to help me in both my future employment and Ham radio.

I mustered out of the air force in the fall of 1945 and attended the Electronic Technician course at Ryerson in Toronto.

I think we were the first or second class through Ryerson under the Rehab plan.

Still no Ham radio allowed but the bug was still gnawing away.

After graduating from Ryerson and a few flings into electronics in Toronto, I joined N.R.C. in Chalk River, January 1947, later becoming A.E.C.L.

Settling into Deep River took some time so no progress in Ham radio until 1952 when I received my license VE3 BFZ.

I had lots of help from Jack VE3 YX, Frank VE3 BSR, Bert Wood, Norm Delahunty and many others.

We had a good radio club, lots of loot from the declared surplus at the plant, and lots of the latest test equipment available on loan.

My first equipment was a 6L6 (glass) running barefoot, with a similar clothes line antenna that I am running at present on 75.

My receiver was a superhet that I built, in which I designed a bit too much sensitivity and as a result, I sometimes had two transmitters, one on a known frequency (6L6 barefoot) and the receiver on some very objectionable frequencies.

I finally picked up a surplus communications receiver and built up a Clapp oscillator VFO and added a driver multiplier

to an 807 (worked schedule with brother Bob VP5 AY for 4 years).

Then push-pull 807's, big time, and finally 813's, really big show!

Corona and breakdown across insulators was now a problem both for me and the neighbours.

Tuned feeders, SWR, antenna research was now in order, a new field, and at first pass, rather formidable.

But finally I gathered enough "rules of thumb" to overcome most of the problems in feeders and antennae.

VE3 BIS moved into the area around the later part of my "hamming" in Deep River, in fact, we worked in the same department (of course we never discussed Ham radio during the day!).

In 1958, I moved to Peterborough to work with C.G.E. in their Nuclear Program.

I was now forced to dig into Ham radio if I wanted to keep alive in the Electronic field, because after 20 years experience in Electronics, I was now working in process system design and installation, a field that my electronic background was useful but not essential.

I started out in Peterborough with a Heath DX60 feeding an end-fed Zepp, a nice clean installation for a change.

I didn't dare run my 813's in Peterborough until I knew my neighbours better and the better I got to know them, I decided to stay on low power.

Off the air again from 1968 to 1972 because of transfer to Pakistan,

I took my receiver to Pakistan, so I could monitor the ham bands for familiar calls.

We monitored 20 meters on a schedule basis during our stay in Pakistan and was about 25% successful in listening to

traffic directed to us via VE3 DCT/W2 (brother Bob in N.Y.) and a VE1 in St. John's.

It sure would have been a ball working out of "AP" land if we could have received privileges.

Back to Canada and operating again from Peterborough, using my new Hot Water 101.

Still operating only CW and still happy!!!

Moved up to OSR country in 1972 and ran into a flurry of Ham activities and a real FB group of fellows, typical of the fraternity of Amature Radio.

I have always insisted that Amature Radio would remain a hobby with me and if it conflicted with my family life and work to any extent, then the hobby must go. Since I am still enjoying the hobby it is obvious that I have been successful in meeting these requirements.

All this flurry of activity and bit of a push by "Slippery Dick" and minimal activity on CW in this area I decided to apply for my advanced ticket which was picked up in November 1973.

Two meters - why in "H" would I want to start that?

Again, a couple of trips to the club meeting with BIS and listening to the gang handling traffic, insults, etc. I end up with 2 meter gear and really enjoying it.

My present "rice box" equipment covering HF and VHF bands appears to satisfy my requirements at this time and takes up less space than my old power supply for the 813's.

I am still struggling to merge from vacuum tube to solid state circuitry, which is now a necessity since all my equipment is now solid state (going to apply for the "Shave Kit").

To sum it all up, Ham radio has provided me a welcome link in all parts of the world I have visited, a welcome relaxation from work and the trials and tribulations of a growing family, and still after all these years, I pump a bit more adrenalin when I get answers to my CQ, be it Southampton or New Zealand.

73's

Bill

\* \* \* \* \*

Bill's story is an excellent effort and I was very pleased to get it only a few days after he received his copy of Feedback. The other Bill, VE3FOF sent in his story at the same time and it will be in the June issue of the newsletter. This kind of co-operation makes life a lot easier for the editor and I hope that when Jim takes over, he gets the same assistance in producing an interesting newsletter.

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XJ3EFX got the Bicentennial WAS award #201 at the end of March and it is a very nice certificate. ARRL only took two weeks to get it back from the day I sent in the cards and application.

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During a QSO with WB5KWU on 20 metres I commented that he had a very strong signal for a mobile and he promised to send details of his antenna with the QSL. For the interest of the membership, here is the description.

The antenna consists of a CB 102" whip mounted on the trunk and fed with 40' 6" of RG58/u through a 15 turn coil on a 3' form. The coil is tapped at 10 turns for 20 metre operation and you use the whole coil for 40 metre operation. I have worked this station on a couple of occasions and he really puts out with this antenna. He coils up the excess coax and it seemsto have no adverse effect.

\* \* \* \* \*

XJ3HIR and XJ3EFX finally got the VX9A QSL cards and these are about the most interesting and unusual cards I have ever seen. This was my 144th country confirmed.

\* \* \* \* \*

The GBARC net is on 3.783mhz at 09.30 on Sunday and 2m each night at 7pm on OSR.