

73[®] Amateur Radio Today

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Talk About a Cold Reception!



AL7PJ, page 30

QRP Kit Survey (Y2K precaution?)

Ferrite Loop Xmtg Antenna (yep!)

Filter Design for Dummies

CW: A Better Fist

CW: How to Have More Fun



allowed our states to confiscate our homes and property with what they call property taxes. That's rent, and if you don't pay the rent you'll find out that you don't actually own your home. We've allowed them to screw up our schools, the medical system, the courts, prisons, and so on. It's one hell of a mess and all unnecessary. And they've done it all with the money they've taken from you and me.

Foxhunting

The Garden City ARC newsletter mentioned that they are running foxhunts once a month. I wonder how many clubs are doing this? I sure don't see much of a sign of it in the club newsletters I'm getting. Yes, I read the newsletters.

How about some letters or articles for 73 on foxhunting? Maybe you've had some interesting adventures? Found some unusual places to hide the fox? Are your members doing all their hunting from cars or are you making them get out and walk? I think the US is the only country where much of the foxhunting is done in cars. Hams in most countries are out there on foot. It's good exercise for some of you pork-bellied hams.

What equipment are the winners using?

Have you considered doing some videos of your hunts? I'd love to see some. I'll never forget a Philmont film which showed them hiding the fox in the women's toilet of a police station, with the coax going out the window, under a lake, to the antenna mounted under a little bridge. The hunting cars drove over the bridge, with their antennas twirling to keep on target.

Ham clubs are desperate for entertainment, so if you can whup together some fun foxhunting material and make copies available, I think you'll get a lot of good PR for the club. You might even find other local clubs interested in seeing it too, like Lions, Elks, Chambers of Commerce, Rotary, etc. Heaven knows, amateur radio can use the publicity.

Lost Memories

My aunt is in her late 90s, and since my uncle died last year she hasn't been functioning well. I tried for several years to get her to sit down and start writing about how things were in our home town when she was young. It was a different world then, and to many of us, a fascinating one. So it's too late to get her to write now ... a lost treasure.

It wasn't until I started publishing my first magazine that I did much writing. Now I write every day and I enjoy it. Heck, I love it! There's so much to write about that I'll never run out. And no snide comments about my repeating myself. Sure, I do that, but mainly because when I wrote it the first (or 10th) time, I could see that it didn't stick. Secondly, because I write for several publications, sometimes I forget what I've written *what* for.

Okay, that's enough about me. The person you are most interested in is you. Now, how can I get you to start writing? It gets easier and more fun the more you do it. What can you write about? Hell's bells, there must be something by now that you know more about than most other people. Or some adventure you've had that others would be interested in reading about.

Or, how about writing about the more exciting times you've had in amateur radio. It might be something I'd find interesting enough to publish. And I guarantee that your club newsletter editor will be tickled to get some help. I get dozens of club newsletters every month. Yes, I read 'em. And most, sad to say, are deadly snores. I keep hoping to read some stories about interesting foxhunts, about adventures members have had, DXpeditions, and so on.

Oh, you haven't been on a DXpedition? Lordy, what does it take to blast you out of that rut? I went on my first DXpedition 40 years ago and I still remember every minute of it. Wow, that was an exciting

trip! We almost got killed ... twice! We went to Navassa Island, down between Haiti and Jamaica. It's a little desert island (about three square miles) with high cliffs all around, so even getting onto the island was a challenge. I was the licensee and got the call KC4AF. Some chap in Alabama has the call, now that they've changed the callsign system.

Then there was the all-ham African hunting safari in northern Kenya. That was another trip that none of us who were there will ever forget one minute of. Robby 5Z4ERR talked me into organizing it during our contacts on 20m.

Nowadays I write mostly about things I've researched. Have you bothered to get off your duff and make it your business to learn about something? What does it take to motivate you? It just isn't all that difficult to learn more about something than 99.9% of the public knows.

If you can't write from your experience or something you've learned about, how about trying poetry? We've about zero ham poets. I love poetry, so let's see what you can do. And please make it scan, okay? Golly, they taught us how to make poetry scan in the 3rd grade. Do they still teach that? And they taught us to read music about the same time, and how to tell good paintings from bad. I'll bet they don't teach that anymore. That education did well for me when I got interested in photography, and then really paid off when I became a TV cameraman. Soon I was made the chief cameraman at WPIX in New York and was doing one-hour variety shows all with my one camera.

Instead of using your computer to play games or wasting time rattling around the Internet, get into your word processor and let's see what emerges. Write for yourself. Write for me. Write for your club newsletter. Write to friends. If you're in business, then how about a newsletter for your customers to build their awareness of your products or services?

Just writing about this was fun for me. It brought back memories of the hunting safari, the time we almost got killed by the Somalian bandits ... and the ham European trip I organized on which we had an audience with the Pope. And making 10 GHz contacts from the top of Mt. Monadnock ... once in a dense fog while contacting New York, and several times freezing my fingers in the middle of the night while tuning for WA1KPS in Vermont or Connecticut. Or working all continents one morning in a half-hour when the skip was perfect. Working slow-scan TV from Jordan and from Navassa (on my second trip there as KC4DX). DXing from Swaziland, Nepal and other weird places. Well, these might not be worth reading about in 73, but such memories would be great for your club newsletter ... so how about writing about your ham adventures?

The Threat

I called David Jacobs to ask some questions about his book, *The Threat*, with the subtitle, "The Secret Agenda: What the Aliens Really Want ... and How They Plan to Get It," ISBN 0-684-81484-6, Simon & Schuster, 288 pages, 1998. He was too busy to answer many questions, and I had a bunch. He's a history professor at Temple University and had a stack of papers to grade before taking off for somewhere the next morning to give a talk. So I made a list of my questions and snailed 'em. Yeah, when I enjoy a book I often call or write the author — and that frequently leads to some fascinating conversations and new friends.

Dr. Jacobs has been teaching a regularly scheduled course on UFOs for 20 years and has hypnotically debriefed hundreds of abductees in an effort to find out what the aliens' program is all about. Yes, there are thousands of abductees, but very few of them remember anything about their abductions unless put under deep hypnosis. He found

Continued on page 64

Barter 'n' Buy

Turn your old ham and computer gear into cash now. Sure, you can wait for a hamfest to try and dump it, but you know you'll get a far more realistic price if you have it out where 100,000 active ham potential buyers can see it, rather than the few hundred local hams who come by a flea market table. Check your attic, garage, cellar and closet shelves and get cash for your ham and computer gear before it's too old to sell. You know you're not going to use it again, so why leave it for your widow to throw out? That stuff isn't getting any younger! The 73 Flea Market, Barter 'n' Buy, costs you peanuts (almost)—comes to 35 cents a word for individual (noncommercial!) ads and \$1.00 a word for commercial ads. Don't plan on telling a long story. Use abbreviations, cram it in. But be honest. There are plenty of hams who love to fix things, so if it doesn't work, say so.

Make your list, count the words, including your call, address and phone number. Include a check or your credit card number and expiration. If you're placing a commercial ad, include an additional phone number, separate from your ad.

This is a monthly magazine, not a daily newspaper, so figure a couple months before the action starts; then be prepared. If you get too many calls, you priced it low. If you don't get many calls, too high.

So get busy. Blow the dust off, check everything out, make sure it still works right and maybe you can help make a ham newcomer or retired old timer happy with that rig you're not using now. Or you might get busy on your computer and put together a list of small gear/parts to send to those interested?

Send your ads and payment to: 73 Magazine, Barter 'n' Buy, 70 Hancock Rd., Peterborough NH 03458 and get set for the phone calls. The deadline for the June 1999 classified ad section is April 10, 1999.

President Clinton probably doesn't have a copy of *Tormet's Electronics Bench Reference* but you should. Check it out at [www.ohio.net/~rtormet/index.htm]—over 100 pages of circuits, tables, RF design information, sources, etc.

BNB530

BIOELECTRIFIER™ 5 Hz micro current supply for plant and animal research. Semi-Kit \$38.00. Assembled complete with batteries and silver electrodes \$89.50. Add \$2.50 postage. **Thomas Miller**, 314 South 9th Street, Richmond IN 47374.

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BNB6000

Cash for Collins: Buy any Collins Equipment. **Leo KJ6HI**. Tel./FAX (310) 670-6969. [radioleo@earthlink.net]

BNB425

MAHLON LOOMIS, INVENTOR OF RADIO, by Thomas Appleby (copyright 1967). Second printing available from **JOHAN K.V. SVANHOLM N3RF**, SVANHOLM RESEARCH LABORATORIES, P.O. Box 81, Washington DC 20044. Please send \$25.00 donation with \$5.00 for S&H.

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METHOD TO LEARN MORSE CODE FAST AND WITHOUT HANGUPS **Johan N3RF**. Send \$1.00 & SASE. SVANHOLM RESEARCH LABORATORIES, P.O. Box 81, Washington DC 20044 USA.

BNB421

HOBBY FACTORY, Used Ham & Military Gear on Display, Repairs, Bought, Sold, & Traded. Rick W1DEJ, 1111 North Shore Rd., Revere, MA. Tel. 781-485-1414, Fax: 781-289-1717. E-mail: [hobfact@tiac.net]. Web: [www.tiac.net/users/hobfact].

BNB199

QSL CARDS. Basic Styles; Black and White and Color Picture Cards; Custom Printed. Send 2 stamps for samples and literature. **RAUM'S**, 8617 Orchard Rd., Coopersburg PA 18036. Phone or FAX (215) 679-7238.

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BNB2630

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BNB342

Great New Reference Manual with over 100 pgs of P/S, transistor, radio, op-amp, antenna designs, coil winding tables, etc. See details at [www.ohio.net/~rtormet/index.htm] or send check or M.O. for \$19.95 + \$2.00 P&H to RMT Engineering, 6863 Buffham Rd., Seville OH 44273.

BNB202

Electricity, Magnetism, Gravity, The Big Bang. New explanation of basic forces of nature in this 91-page book covering early scientific theories and exploring latest controversial conclusions on their relationship to a unified field theory. To order, send check or money order for \$16.95 to: American Science Innovations, PO Box 155, Clarington OH 43915. Web site for other products [http://www.asi_2000.com].

BNB100

ALL HAM RV TOUR of the British Isles now forming for mid-September to mid-October, 2000. \$5150 per person double occupancy. For info, E-mail [hjzebra@aol.com]— or send SASE to Richard K. Glover W4AOP, PO Box 407, Solebury, PA 18963. See last October 73 Magazine for feature article on the fun we had last year in VK- and ZL-lands!

BNB250

HEATH COMPANY is selling photocopies of most Heathkit manuals. Only authorized source for copyright manuals. **Phone:** (616) 925-5899, 8-4 ET.

BNB964

MANUALS for Hallicrafters, Hammarlund, National, Gonset, WRL, Knight, Lafayette, Johnson, EICO, Ameco, Drake, Harvey-Wells, Morrow and most 1930 to 1970. Alvin J Bernard, PO Box 690098, Orlando, FL 32869-0098. Tel 407-351-5536.

BNB275

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ASTRON power supply, brand-new w/warranty, RS20M \$99, RS35M \$145, RS50M \$209, RS70M \$249. **AVT.** Call for other models. (626) 286-0118.

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BNB224

NEVER SAY DIE

continued from page 61

that most of them started being abducted when children.

So what did Dr. Jacobs find out? You don't want to know.

Well, I'll give you a hint. The abductions have entirely to do with creating a breed of alien-human hybrids with which they plan to repopulate our world. They've been going to lengths to keep this program secret — which obviously they have to do in order not to have the rest of us in a panic.

How can we combat aliens who can both read our minds and control us so thoroughly that we don't even know anything has happened? That's enough to scare anyone.

Anyway, Jacobs has pieced together hints that the aliens have given here and there to abductees, but the memories of which hadn't been wiped out beyond the ability of deep hypnosis to retrieve.

So when are the aliens going to replace most of us with hybrids? The target seems to be 1999! Of course there's always the chance that some of the other aliens may not let the greys get away with this scheme. One thing is for sure — we'll soon see. How reliable is Jacobs' information? A Roper survey showed that about 2% of Americans have been abducted, so a breeding program with five million donors for breeding hybrids could, after a few years, provide them with one heck of an army. Jacobs gave the most credibility to the stories of abductees who were with other abductees (whom they didn't know) during their experiences and both reported the same events.

As a known troublemaker and iconoclast, I'll probably be one of the first to be eliminated. This could make the 175 million people that we and our governments have killed so far in this century amount to nothing!

73

We would appreciate it if you would
TELL A FRIEND
about the NEW 73 and show him this copy!