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Television Casebook
Electronic Ignition Diagnosis

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Photography Mike Taylor In this issue, Doug Haggis presents CONAR's new Signal Generator. Wayne Brandenburg asks the searching question, "Is there an i-f doctor in the house?" And Mike Taylor explains how electronic ignition diagnosis is a snap!



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RF Signal Generator

by Doug Haggis The Model 282 RF Signal Generator is the second in a series of new test instruments from the CONAR division of NRI. This new generator has many features that make it ideal for today's serious service technician.

To begin with, the Model 282 covers the range of 175 kHz to 30 kHz in five, switch-selected bands. Each band overlaps its neighbor so there is continuous coverage over the entire range. For example, the first band covers from 175 kHz to 530 kHz, while the second band covers from 525 kHz to 1610 kHz. This overlapping coverage continues with each band.

You'll never be in doubt as to the exact frequency the generator is set to, thanks to the new digital frequency counter and display built into the Model 282. The exact frequency is displayed on five large 7-segment readouts, letting you adjust the signal generator to within 1 kHz at any frequency.

This frequency counter also makes "calibration" a thing of the past. To "calibrate" the Model 282, you just set the proper coil and capacitor to the low and high band limit frequencies for each of the five bands.

In addition to providing accurate radio frequencies, the Model 282 provides a 1000 Hz audio signal. This signal can be used for testing audio equipment and modulating the rf output of the signal generator. Two types of modulation are available: AM and FM.

The amount of modulation is adjustable with a front panel control. For AM, the control will provide from 0 to 50% amplitude modulation of the rf signal. For FM, the actual amount of deviation will depend on the frequency modulated. The maximum being deviation is less at the lower frequencies and increases as the output frequency increases. At 10.7 MHz the maximum deviation will be at least ± 80 kHz, more than adequate for alignment purposes.



FIGURE 1. MAJOR PARTS OF THE MODEL 282 SIGNAL GENERATOR.

Figure 1 is a diagram showing how the major sections of the Model 282 are arranged. The 3-section, 5-position BAND switch selects one tank circuit (L and C) for each band to connect to the Hartley rf oscillator. This is a very stable circuit using a dualgate MOSFET transistor. C1 is the main tuning capacitor. C1A tunes all bands except the highest frequency band, which is tuned by C1B. D1 and D2 are varactor diodes that are also across the selected tuned circuit. These diodes provide linear, direct frequency modulation of the oscillator signal.

The output of the rf oscillator is fed to a second dual-gate MOSFET. This stage serves as a buffer or as an AM modulator, depending on the setting of the modulation switch. The 1 kHz modulating signal is applied to one gate of the MOSFET to vary the gain of the stage, thus producing an amplitudemodulated output signal.

The output of this stage goes to a bipolar transistor buffer stage and then to the rf level control. The rf output signal is adjustable from 0 to at least 200,000 microvolts (0.2 V) on the highest frequency band. On the lower frequency bands, a larger signal is available. A portion of the rf output signal is used to actuate the frequency counter.

The frequency counter and display are shown in Fig.2. The frequency counter is contained in the large integrated circuit labeled IC3. IC1 is a divider IC that divides the rf signal by a factor of 10. The signal applied to pin 12 of IC3 is then in the range of 17.5 kHz to 3000 kHz. IC2 is a time-base generator that provides a stable and accurate reference frequency to IC3. In addition, IC2 provides a multiplex clock signal and a gate signal to IC3 to provide rapid scanning (1.6 kHz) of the display digits.

The five display digits themselves each have seven LEDs arranged in such a way that by activating the various segments, the decimal digits 0 through 9 can be formed. Only one digit of the five in the display is on at any given time. Which one is on depends upon the signals at pins 5, 6, 25, 24, and 22 of IC3. Only one pin will be "low" (at



FIGURE 2. THE FREQUENCY COUNTER AND DISPLAY CIRCUIT OF THE MODEL 282.

ground potential) at any instant to activate one of the display digits. Circuitry inside IC3 scans these five pins in sequence at the 1.6 kHz rate established by IC2. This rapid scanning of all five digits causes all digits to appear to be "on" at all times.

The Model 282 has most of its circuitry on two printed circuit boards. The main board contains the audio oscillator, the rf oscillator, the buffer/modulator, the buffer, and two regulated power supplies (+5 V and +15 V). This main circuit board also has the circuitry associated with IC1, IC2, and IC3 shown in Fig.2. The second circuit board holds the five display LEDs and eight resistors that are shown in Fig.2.

The main circuit board plugs into the chassis, which holds the power transformer and the operating controls. Assembling the Model 282 is a matter of a few hours' work, made quite simple with clear, step-by-step instructions and helpful assembly drawings. The cabinet is a rugged all-metal type that matches the CONAR Model 231 Signal Tracer and the Model 312 RC Tester in appearance.

The Model 282 is a versatile test instrument designed to meet the needs of the technician in applications where a 175 kHz to 30 MHz signal is needed. It is ideal for AM, FM, CB, and cw receiver alignment. A complete section of the operating manual is devoted entirely to AM-FM receiver alignment. This will help you become proficient at receiver alignment in no time at all.

The signal delivered by the 1 kHz audio oscillator easily handles all of the requirements of audio signal injection testing. The variable output ensures the correct amplitude signal needed to properly troubleshoot preamplifiers, af amplifiers, and output circuits. The performance of the Model 282 is much more than satisfactory. It should prove to be a valuable servicing tool for the hobbyist, as well as the experienced technician.



After thinking about an NRI Journal article written by Harold Kinley, I realized that servicing problems do indeed come in batches. A recent rash of i-f amplifier troubles inspired me to select i-f repairs as the subject of this article.

A FRANTIC FRIEND

It all started with a phone call from my friend Frank at another shop. He was a little frantic about an agc problem he was having. He (and his boss!) felt that too much time had been spent on the set and he was hoping I could help. I pulled the schematic for the set and reviewed the problem with him. We got absolutely nowhere over the phone, so I told him I would stop by his shop that evening.

When I arrived, I was steered to a modular solid-state Zenith television, a portion of which is shown in Fig.1. The picture on the screen was dark and overloaded with a lot of herringbone pattern on it. It certainly did look like an agc problem to me. My first test was to adjust the agc control. I found that any setting less than maximum produced no picture at all (a completely blank white screen). Setting the control to maximum produced the overloaded picture. I used the scope to check for the necessary signals in the agc circuit (Frank had already changed the agc module). Both the horizontal pulses and video signal were present, so I turned my attention to the i-f circuitry.

The i-f amplifier in this set is nicely sealed in a metal box. Frank didn't have a replacement, so I popped the top off the box and prepared to do a little signal injection. I set the B & K TV Analyst for an i-f output signal and injected it at the base of Q104, the third video i-f transistor. There was a faint test pattern on the screen, so I moved the probe to the base of Q102. Here I was not able to get any signal through to the picture tube. Moving the probe to the collector, however, did produce the test pattern.

I assumed that the second video i-f transistor was defective and proceeded to prove it with a voltmeter. The collector voltage measured the full 24 volts



from the power supply instead of the advertised 3.3 volts. As an additional test, I soldered a 0.001 μ F capacitor from the base to the collector of Q102. This effectively bypassed the stage and a picture appeared on the screen. I left the job of transistor replacement to Frank.

DOUBLE TROUBLE

The next morning I made a service call that almost ruined my confidence. When I asked the gentleman what the problem was, he showed me an early model RCA color set with no picture.

I removed the back from the set and found a CTC38 chassis. Back when console televisions were in their heyday, this chassis was a very good seller. It's a hybrid chassis with transistors in most of the signal circuits and tubes in the higher power circuits. I have repaired hundreds of these sets, all with the same problem — an open third video i-f transistor.

Figure 2 shows the i-f arrangement in this chassis. Q3 is a rather large epoxy case transistor that hides under a little metal cover. They all go bad sooner or later. It seems as though the collector lead becomes disconnected from the chip inside. I told the customer that I could repair the set in his home.

While my soldering iron was heating, the customer told me an interesting story. "You are the second service company to look at my set," he said. "The first guy fiddled around in the back and said he would have to take it to the shop. He said it would probably cost between \$60 and \$90." Well, this made me nervous, indeed. If I repaired the set, the previous technician would look like a crook. In this age of consumer awareness, we must avoid adding fuel to the fire. If I didn't repair the set in the home as promised, I would look like a klutz. I proceeded to change the third video i-f transistor.

When I turned the set on and the screen lit up, my heart sank. There was a washed-out looking picture that was very badly smeared. I quickly used my VOM to test the transistor that I had removed and luckily found that it was bad. Then I explained to the customer, "Sir, your television appears to have two problems instead of one. This is probably why the previous technician wanted to take it to the shop. I'll see if I can repair the other problem, but I can't make any guarantees." I won't tell you what he was mumbling under his breath as I continued to work!

In my panic, I decided to measure some voltages. This way it would at least *look* like I was doing something. To measure voltages without a schematic, I look for a 0.6 volt difference between the emitter and base voltages (for silicon transistors) and a collector voltage that is somewhat less than the collector supply. (I-F amplifiers are biased class A.) The voltages around the new third video i-f transistor seemed alright. The second video i-f transistor had a collector voltage of zero. More panic!

In Fig.2, you can see that between the collector and its supply is a coil, L6. This is one of those metal cans with an adjustable coil inside. Naturally, I don't carry them with me. I started to loosen the chassis and used a screwdriver to prop the chassis up so I could work under it. The customer became very nervous. He just knew I would grab that chassis and run out the door!

I unsoldered the coil shield can and exposed the coil. I was in luck; the coil wire was broken right where it connects to the coil-form terminals. This is easy to repair – you just scrape the wire a little and add a large drop of solder to make the connection. I breathed a sign of relief when the set worked perfectly,



FIGURE 2. THE I-F AMPLIFIER FROM AN RCA CTC38 CHASSIS.

This experience made me think about one of the greatest attributes of a home service technician – acting! You must always show an air of confidence and act like you know what you are doing, even if you are grasping at straws.

A FEW BASICS

The curve shown in Fig.3 represents the gain characteristics of a typical i-f amplifier. As you can see, it is designed to amplify both the color and picture signals while rejecting signals from adjacent channels.

The sound carrier trap in Fig.3 is a little misleading, however. It looks as though the sound is not passed by the i-f amplifier. Remember this — the curve is the overall band-pass response for the complete i-f amplifier. In Fig.2, you can see that the sound is taken off at the collector of Q3 before the sound trap, L8. This is the usual arrangement. The sound is taken off before the final shaping of the curve. In this way, there is a sound signal for the audio circuitry but the trap eliminates any sound that could be passed on to the screen.

Keeping all of this in mind, let's look at some of the symptoms of i-f problems.

I-F SYMPTOMS

There are many symptoms of i-f troubles. Usually these symptoms affect both the sound and picture because they are common in this circuit. Here is a list of four common i-f symptoms and the causes:

Snow. If a part in the beginning of the i-f strip goes bad, there may be snow on the screen. The rest of the i-f amplifier strip will switch to full gain (because the agc circuit sees a low-level signal), and the amplifier noise appears on the screen as snow.

Washed-Out Picture. Sometimes a defect in the i-f amplifier causes a washedout picture. This is true when one stage goes bad (no longer amplifies) but still passes some signal. In this case the i-f amplifier does not have enough gain to give a picture with good contrast. Instead, the picture has low contrast, and the colors look like pastels instead of having good saturation.

Complete Loss of Picture and Sound. If the signal path is completely broken, through the i-f, all picture and sound are lost. This symptom can also be caused by influences outside the i-f amplifier. For instance, an agc circuit problem



FIGURE 3. COMPLETE I-F BAND-PASS CHARACTERISTIC CURVE.

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FIGURE 4. JUMPING THE I-F STAGES WITH A CAPACITOR TO FIND THE BAD STAGE.

could completely cut off the i-f transistors. Losing the B+ to the i-f amplifier also results in a complete loss of signals.

Interference. Many defects that can occur in the i-f amplifier cause the curve to become distorted. This can produce virtually any symptom, depending upon the new shape of the curve. Several of these symptoms are: sound in the picture, a light picture from another channel in the background, weak color, blurred color, no fine detail in the picture, and a negative-looking picture.

REPAIR TECHNIQUES

There are many ways to find out which transistors or circuits are bad in the i-f strip. One of the easiest ways is to *measure the voltage* around each transistor. There are usually no more than three or four transistors; locating the defective stage does not take that long. Usually the problem is in the transistor itself, but often a wrong or missing voltage is caused by the surrounding circuit.

If the circuits are easy to get to, the *capacitor test* works well. Hook up the television set for normal viewing, and jump each amplifier stage with a capacitor until a picture appears on the screen. When the picture appears, the stage you are jumping is bad. Figure 4 shows how this is done.

A capacitor (0.001 μ F or whatever you have near this) is connected from the input to the output of each amplifier stage. If the picture comes back, you should not expect it to be very good because one stage of amplification and band-pass shaping is missing. Try jumping from base to collector when junction transistors are used. If you suspect a transformer or other part, you can jump it with the capacitor, also. If the picture comes back, you are jumping the spot where the signal stops.

Signal injection is another fast method of troubleshooting. A tuner substitutor or television analyzer injects an i-f signal before each stage. When the picture appears, the problem is in the area right between this point and the previous injection point. Figure 5 shows this process. Starting at the beginning of the i-f strip, the signal is injected between each stage. If the injection of a signal between the first and second i-f produces no picture, but a signal injected after the second i-f does produce a picture, the problem lies between the two places (second i-f). This method makes troubleshooting very fast. Be sure to remember that the farther down the i-f strip toward the video detector you go, the less gain there is. That means that the picture you see will be low in contrast.

If you do not have a tuner substitutor or television analyzer, use the tuner in the set as an injection device. To do this, follow the plan in Fig.6. From the i-f end, disconnect the shielded cable that connects the mixer output to the



FIGURE 5. SIGNAL INJECTION USED TO LOCATE THE DEFECTIVE STAGE.

i-f input. Usually the connection is a plug, but sometimes it is soldered, so you have to unsolder it. Next, connect a 500 pF or 0.001 μ F capacitor (or any small value) to the center lead. This capacitor is the probe you will be using to make your signal injector. Finally, ground the shield of the tuner cable. Now you can use this cable to inject i-f signals. Just hold the capacitor by its body, and touch the loose end to the points shown in Fig.5.

Integrated circuits are checked more like black boxes. All you do is make sure that the voltages are as the manufacturer recommends, and check the input and output signals with an oscilloscope. Fortunately, many ICs are mounted in sockets so that they can be substituted or changed easily.

These methods may seem rather simple, but if you follow them you will be able to respond to the question: *Is there an i-f doctor in the house?*



FIGURE 6. USING A TUNER AND SHIELDED COAXIAL WIRE TO INJECT A SIGNAL.

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Troubleshooting and diagnosing electronic ignition problems is really very simple. At first, like many other shadetree mechanics, I thought these "electronic" ignition systems were much too complex for me to attempt a tuneup, much less troubleshoot some type of problem. However, after studying a few service manuals, I found that electronic ignition systems are really much simpler than I expected. After a while, it seemed easier to troubleshoot and service the electronic ignition systems than it did the old conventional ignition systems.

Any part-time mechanic, like myself, can diagnose electronic ignition problems. All you need is a basic knowledge of ignition systems, a few simple hand tools, and maybe one or two pieces of test equipment. If you don't already have a service manual for your car, this should be your first acquisition. Table I is a list of the major automobile manufacturers and where to write to obtain information on the availability and price of service manuals. A service manual is a must if you are going to do any work on your car. The manual includes all of the specifications and details for removal, inspection and repair, and reinstallation of most units. If you are going to be working on a variety of cars, a service manual for each can be quite expensive. Try a more general service manual such as Chilton's Auto Repair Manual or Motor's Auto Repair Manual. These books contain the essential specifications and general instructions for nearly all American cars.

Getting back to the electronic ignition systems – one reason they are easy to service is the standardization of parts between different engines and car models. Each manufacturer has its own ignition system, and that same basic system is probably used on all of that manufacturer's engines and models. Also, as you will soon see, all electronic ignitions operate in much the same way. So if you understand one system, you should be able to understand them all. Now, let's see how these electronic systems operate.

In the electronic ignition system, the contact points and condenser are eliminated. However, the basic setup of the distributor base, distributor cap, rotor, and vacuum and/or centrifugal advance mechanism are retained in the breakerless ignition system. The Chrysler electronic ignition system is typical of the systems used as standard

TABLE I

American Motors - Jeep

American Motors Corp. Customer Relations Dept. 14250 Plymouth Rd. Detroit MI 48232

Ford, Lincoln, Mercury, and Edsel Helm Inc. Ford Service Publications P. O. Box 07150 Detroit MI 48207

Chrysler-Imperial, Plymouth, and Dodge Chrysler Corp. P. 0. Box 857 Detroit MI 48231

Chevrolet

Helm Inc. Chevrolet Manual Distr. Dept. P. O. Box 07130 Detroit MI 48207

Pontiac

Drake Printing Co. Pontiac Repair Manuals 2000 West 8-Mile Rd. Ferndale MI 48220

Motor's Auto Repair Manual (Current Year) Motor's Book Dept. 250 West 55th St. New York NY 10010

Chilton's Auto Repair Manual (Current Year)

Chilton Book Co. Customer Service Dept. Radnor PA 19089



Courtesy Chrysler Corp.

FIGURE 1. THE CHRYSLER ELECTRONIC IGNITION SYSTEM.



FIGURE 2. THE CHRYSLER ELECTRONIC DISTRIBUTOR.

equipment on almost all passenger cars. A wiring diagram of the Chrysler electronic ignition system is shown in Fig.1. Inside the distributor, the distributor cam and breaker points are replaced by a reluctor and a pickup unit, as shown in Fig.2. The reluctor is a gear-like rotor that replaces the cam on the distributor shaft. The number of teeth on the reluctor corresponds to the number of spark plugs.

The pickup unit is stationary, and is mounted in place of the breaker arm. It consists of a permanent magnet and a small coil of wire wound around a tiny pole piece. Then, when a tooth on the reluctor approaches the pole piece, the magnetic field in the pickup unit changes and is strengthened. This causes a positive voltage to be induced in the pickup coil. As the reluctor tooth passes the pole piece and moves away, the strength of the magnetic field decreases and a negative voltage is induced in the pickup coil. Thus, without anv mechanical contact, a signal is generated by the changing magnetic field. This signal is very accurately timed and is strong enough to trigger the electronic circuitry in the electronic control unit.

The electronic control unit supplies the primary current to the ignition coil. The ignition coil generates the high voltage necessary to fire the spark plug via the distributor rotor and distributor cap terminals, just as in the conventional ignition system. When a signal is generated by the pickup coil, the electronic control unit then cuts off the flow of primary current to the ignition coil. The magnetic field built up in the ignition coil then collapses and induces the high voltage necessary to fire the spark plug.

As you can see, the electronic ignition system is very similar to the conventional ignition system. The only real difference is that the distributor cam, breaker plate, points. and condenser of the conventional ignition system have been replaced by a trigger wheel (reluctor), a pickup coil, and an electronic control module. Also, the ignition coil itself cannot be interchanged with the coil used in a conventional ignition. This is because the electronic ignition system coil has been redesigned to produce a higher secondary voltage to take advantage of the improved action of the electronic control circuitry. The length of time that primary current flows in the ignition coil is also controlled by the electronic control unit. This is "dwell," and because dwell in the electronic ignition system is not adjustable, it remains fixed.

One thing that confuses many people when servicing electronic ignition systems is the different terminology used by the various manufacturers. For example, Figs.3, 4, and 5 show exploded views of three different distributors from three different manufacturers. The three distributors are very similar in appearance and they all operate in much the same way. In the Chrysler unit, the distributor cam is replaced by a "reluctor." In the General Motors unit. the distributor cam is replaced by a timer core and pole piece referred to as a "magnetic pulse generator." In the Ford distributor, the distributor cam is replaced by an "armature." The reluctor, the timer core, and the armature all function identically. Each serves to induce a signal in the pickup assembly to activate the electronic control unit. Another difference, as you can readily see, is that in the General Motors distributor the ignition coil is built into the distributor cap. This does not mean that operation of the distributor is different, only that the lengths of the primary and secondary leads between the ignition coil and distributor are greatly reduced. This results in improved reliability. The American Motors electronic ignition system, although not shown here, operates in much the same manner.

Now that you have some idea of how electronic ignition systems work, let's go through some troubleshooting procedures. Keep in mind, however, that you should never use the conventional under-the-hood shortcuts, such as the use of jumper wires and grounding devices, except those specifically described in your service manual. The use of these conventional diagnostic methods can damage the electronics.

Faulty ignition performance will usually be evidenced by engine miss,



Courtesy Chrysler Corp.

FIGURE 3. AN EXPLODED VIEW OF A DISTRIBUTOR FROM CHRYSLER CORP.



Courtesy General Motors Corp.

FIGURE 4. AN EXPLODED VIEW OF A DISTRIBUTOR FROM GENERAL MOTORS CORP.

engine surge, or failure of the engine to run at all. The following checks will help you when troubleshooting the ignition system.

Engine Miss. If the problem is engine miss, first check to see if it could be due to carburction, improper timing, or poor spark plug condition. Check all of the wiring for brittle or cracked insulation, broken strands, and loose or corroded connections. The high-tension leads in the coil and distributor cap



BASE CASTING

Courtesy Ford Motor Co.



should be checked to make sure they are pressed all the way down in their inserts. If rubber boots are used, they should be tightly in place over the connections. Also, the outside of the distributor cap and coil cover should be inspected for carbonized paths that will conduct the high voltage to ground. Remove the distributor cap so that the rotor and the inside of the cap can also be checked for cracks and carbonized paths. A carbonized path will appear as a black powdery substance forming a path from the high-voltage source to engine ground. The pickup coil in the distributor can be checked by using an ohmmeter or an electronic ignition analyzer like the one shown in Fig.6. When checking with an ohmmeter, disconnect the wiring harness from the pickup coil and measure the resistance of the coil. For a Delco-Remy pickup coil the resistance should be 300 to 400 ohms. For the American Motors Prestolite pickup coil, the resistance is much lower — about 1.8 ohms. Check your service manual for the exact resistance measurement.

If the ohmmeter reading is infinite, the coil is open-circuited and must be replaced. Likewise, if the reading is very low, the coil is shorted and must then be replaced.

The pickup coil should also be checked for grounds by connecting the ohmmeter from either coil lead to the distributor housing. Do not use an engine ground. The reading should be very high. If there is a resistance reading, the coil may be grounded and should be replaced.

Likewise, the ignition coil primary and secondary windings can be checked with an ohmmeter. To check the secondary winding, connect an ohmmeter from the high-tension center tower to either primary terminal. The resistance will be above 20,000 ohms, but should not be infinite. If the resistance is substantially less than 20,000 ohms, the secondary is probably



FIGURE 6. AN ELECTRONIC IGNITION ANALYZER.

shorted and should be replaced. The resistance of the primary winding will vary between different manufacturers. Check the manufacturer's specifications. An infinite reading indicates that the primary is open. However, if at times the engine misses, the primary circuit open may be of the intermittent type. This can be difficult to locate.

If all of the previous checks appear satisfactory, the electronic control unit is probably at fault. Replacement of the control unit will determine if the original unit is defective.

Engine Surge. An engine surge condition is sometimes caused by a lean air/fuel mixture in the carburetor. However, if the condition is due to an ignition problem, check the distributor wiring for broken or intermittent connections. An intermittent open in the pickup coil can also cause this type of problem.

The surge condition may result from the vacuum unit causing a break in the distributor pickup coil wiring to open and close intermittently. To check this, disconnect the vacuum line and observe engine behavior at idle speed.

The next step is to make an ohmmeter reading of the pickup coil. Again, if the reading is infinite the coil is open. If the resistance reading is low, the coil is shorted. In either case, the coil must be replaced.

Engine Will Not Run. If the engine will not start or will not run, first determine whether or not there is a spark. This is done by disconnecting the coil-to-distributor high-tension wire from the center terminal of the distributor cap. Turn on the ignition and hold the loose end of the wire about one-quarter inch away from a good ground. Crank the engine. A good strong spark, as judged by conventional standards, indicates satisfactory ignition operation. Reconnect the high-tension lead and test for spark at the spark



FIGURE 7. CHECKING THE PRIMARY CIRCUIT CONTINUITY WITH A VOLTMETER.

plugs. A good spark at the plugs indicates the trouble to be other than an ignition problem. If the spark is weak or nonexistent, check the distributor, wiring, and ignition coil as previously described.

If the above checks appear okay, the next step is to check circuit continuity. You can do this with a voltmeter, as shown in Fig.7. With the voltmeter connected, as shown in Step 1 of Fig.7, the reading should be slightly less (about 1 volt less) than the battery voltage. Compare this reading to the reading directly across the battery. If the reading is equal to the battery voltage, there is an open circuit between this point and ground. This means that the coil primary winding, the ballast resistor, or the wiring is open.

If the reading is zero, there is an open in the circuit between this point and the positive terminal of the battery. Here, connect the voltmeter, as shown in Step 2 of Fig.7. If the reading is again zero, the resistor, ignition switch, or the wiring to the positive terminal of the battery is probably open.

If the reading is equal to the battery voltage, there is an open in the circuit between this point and the ignition coil. The problem could be a defective electronic ignition unit or an open in the wiring. If the wiring appears okay, try replacing the control unit.

You have now covered the theory and operation of the more common electronic ignition systems. Electronic ignition systems provide the optimum ignition timing necessary to satisfy the new emission control laws, as well as providing maximum fuel economy. Servicing electronic ignition systems should not be any more difficult than servicing conventional ignition systems. Once you understand how each system operates, troubleshooting and servicing should be just a step-by-step procedure.

Honors Program Awards

For outstanding grades throughout their NRI courses, these February, March, and April graduates were given Certificates of Distinction with their NRI diplomas.

WITH HIGHEST HONORS

Sidney S. Allen, Albany GA George J. Bagnall, Springfield VA Sally A. Barton, Fort Wayne IN Harold A. Bennett, West Springfield MA Wilbur George Bliss, York PA Russell Parker Boates, Oakland CA Henry W. Butler, Mililani Town HI Larry W. Coker, Madisonville KY Leonard S. Cowles, East Granby CT Kenneth Alvin Crane, Thornton CO Lloyd D. Daugherty, Marshfield MO Steve R. DeYoung, Farmington MI Gerald M. Dison, Killen AL O. P. Dixon, Anderson IN Jeremiah James Donovan, Lackawanna NY John Dooley, Cambridge City IN Morris L. Durden, Holloman AFB NM Brad L. Ellinger, Tippecanoe IN Walter Kent Fosberg, Oakland CA Steven F. D. Genovese, Tallahassee FL James B. Gibson, Jr., Mountain Home AR Charles Delbert Hall, Killbuck OH Robert D. Harrington, Clifton Park NY Harold E. Hauge, Osage IA Wilbur A. Heath, Dunnellon FL David C. Hendel, East Stroudsburg PA Lester Hoke, Jr., Wellsville PA Ronald S. Inouye, Kaneohe HI William M. Inso, Davie FL Marsden G. Kelly, Shalimar FL Grace A. Lallave, Moca PR Frank William Larson, Niceville FL Michael David Lieber, Denver CO Tony E. Long, Barco NC Michael E. MacMartin, Keene NH Federico Marroquin, Lake Village AR Edward C. Morgan, Burlington NJ Charles M. Morrett, Huntington IN Arthur S. Myers, Boonsboro MD Gerald J. Nindorf, Brookfield CT Arthur J. Patridge, Mount Vernon WA William M. Pease, Jr., Upper Arlington OH Robert L. Perch, Charleston SC Lawrence W. Peternith, Clifton NJ Salvatore Polletta, Wolcott CT Charles Preimesberger, Glendive MT Teddy Proffer, Jr., Benton Harbor MI John W. Reeder, Neptune City NJ Jerry D. Remer, Sturgis SD Charles W. Rhoades, Claremont CA Spencer Roberts, Chesabeake VA Ruben Santini, Brooklyn NY Michael R. Schroeder, Webster City IA Louis S. Seale, Sr., Trenton NJ Ralph John Sexton, Jacksonville FL John Marshall Short, Plattsburgh NY Gary A. Shumay, Leverett MA

Ralph F. Skinner, Owaneco IL Kirby Malcolm Smith, Clearwater FL Richard B. Spencer, Monterey IN Kenneth Stidham, Viola KS Lloyd M. Stinson, Virginia Beach VA Gerard Majella Sturm, Lorton VA John Van Meerten, Miami FL Edward Allen Weaverling, Hampton VA Harold Geis Weigand, Alexandria VA Gerald R. Westhoff, Greenwood MO Thomas C. Wildrick, Waukesha WI Thomas P. Wilhelm, Flat Rock MI Chester A. Wilson, Jr., Murray NE John Edward Wolf, Colonial Heights VA Millard Wilmot Wood, Wolftown VA Charles Michael Zearfoss, Lebanon PA

WITH HIGH HONORS

John D. Adams, Yulee FL William G. Adams, Oakdale CT David W. Aldridge, New Castle DE George W. Alien, Cranbury NJ Richard M. Almberg, Tarpon Springs FL William A. Anderson, Alton NH Stanley S. Antczak, Blaine MN Alan Wayne Arrington, Aberdeen NC Aaron J. Auchmoody, Groton CT Frank G. Babos, Morris Plains NJ Joseph P. Baka, Loring AFB ME Joseph S. Balaker, Killeen TX Donald A. Bard, Harrisburg PA Harry R. Barker, Tuscaloosa AL Steven J. Barlow, North Arlington NJ Michael P. Barnes, Atwater CA Robert A. Barrett, Alma NB Canada Robert E. Barrow, Washington DC Russell E. Batten, Jr., Fort Knox KY Gary Gene Bedford, Fort Worth TX Peterson Benally, Shiprock NM Robert D. Benfer, Bellevue OH Walter Bennett, Rockville CT Clifford L. Bertoncini, Napa CA Steven Craig Bevan, FPO New York Fred E. Bierer, Morgantown WV Keith Robert Bills, Gloversville NY Robert Larry Boggess, Sandyville WV Dennis George Bohl, Mandan ND Paul Douglas Bond, Weston WV Wilbur Duane Boots, Jr., Cedar Rapids IA Clarence F. Borchardt, San Antonio TX Jerry Boschert, Cincinnati OH George J. Bouchard, APO NY Richard Lee Boyles, East Palestine OH Edward W. Bradford, Greenville NC Jacques F. Breton, West Springfield MA Donald Bridges, Midwest City OK John C. Brown III, Carlisle PA

Ronald W. Brown, St. Petersburg FL William C. Brownlee, Lockhart TX William T. Bruederlein, Yonkers NY Charles Odis Burden, Lewisville TX Raymond S. Burk, Valencia PA Ralph E. Cabeceiras, South Prairie WA David J. Campbell, West Hyattsville MD Barr M. Canario, Hilo HI Samuel C. Carpenter, Roanoke VA Gerald Chamberlain, Yakima WA John Chamness, Hacienda Heights CA James F. Chandler, Linn Creek MO Duane A. Charter, Jr., Biloxi MS Robert D. Clark, Nantucket Island MA Mark David Clement, Fort Steward GA Mylo William Cock, Jr., Lancaster CA Randall W. Coe, Golden CO Wendell L. Collins, Ames IA Victor W. Compitello, Oakland MD Marvin Cook, Minneapolis MN Lynn Owen Cozart, Enon Valley PA William D. Csincsak, Jr., Dayton OH Philip Cucinotta, Jr., Delmar DE Donald R. Cunningham, Frankfort IN Thomas Joseph Curry, East Elmhurst NY Saul A. Dauksa, Montreal PQ Canada Lester L. Deaton, La Place LA John C. DeForest, Brockport NY Ernest V. DeSantis, Staten Island NY Donald B. Diehl, Jr., Wrightstown NJ Harold D. Diehlmann, Portsmouth OH Michael J. Dixon, Seattle WA John E. Domin, West Hazleton PA William S. Dudek, West Warwick R1 Normand F. Dumas, Central Falls RI Robert James Duncan, Channahon IL Thomas Edward Duncan, Oxon Hill MD David Bruce Dycus, Biloxi MS Joseph Endre, Jr., Windsor ON Canada Steve Allen Edwards, Rushville IL Ernest V. Eurek, Elkhorn NE Stephen Robert Evanko, Anaheim CA Leonard E. Fagg, Duncanville TX Randall Adeian Fairburst, Winona TX James T. Faulkner, Easton MD John E. Fauntleroy, Hammond LA William J. Faust, Kanawha IA Robert Primo Fernandez, Grand Rapids MN Fred Fernandez-Coll, Blacksburg VA Jerome Alan Ferris, Adel IA Steven A. Fink, Bethlehem PA Alanson R. Fitchett, Stuart IA Wilson E. Fitzgerald, Chesapeake VA Kenneth C. Frederick, Altoona PA James Velmore Frion, Great Lakes IL Deimer Eugene Fry, Watseka II. Walter Clyde Garrett, Cowpens SC Michael Patrick Garrity, Albuquerque NM Raymond Joseph Gasher, Scenery Hill PA

Henry Ronald Gaude, Natchez MS Malcolm A. Gilbert, Porter TX Frank Benton Gill, Jr., Huntington NY John B. Gillespie, Regina SK Canada Earl William Gipp, Great Cacapon WV John T. Gleaves, St. Charles MO Joseph M. Glodenis, Chesterland OH Antonio Mojica Gloriani, Long Beach CA Kenneth R Goins, Seffner FL Dave Gossett, McComb MS Garry Edward Grabins, Leaf River IL Glenn J. Grachis, Pittsfield MA Frederick D. Gribbin, Erie PA Laurence R. Griffiths, Warren OH Richard R. Grondahl, Lake Park MN James C. Grover, Pensacola FL John J. Grzelka, Cheektowaga NY Felix G. Gutowski, Grand Junction CO Brad E. Hall, Baxter Springs KS John R. Hall, Gretna NE Ryland L. Hall, King George VA John J. Halloran, Minneapolis MN James R. Halvorson, Haughton LA Steven B. Hamilton, Dayton OH Soren L. Hanson, Arleta CA Harry C. Harless, Jr., Goldsboro NC Richard W. Harr III, Norfolk VA Billy M. Harris, Jr., Odessa TX Donald S. Harris, Memphis TN James Ernest Harris, Cincinnati OH Harry Don Hasch, Bryan OH Dennis G. Hatcher, Ranson WV Jan J. Hattingh, Transvaal South Africa Larry R. Hayes, Gainesville FL Loren F. Hazelwood, Cuyahoga Falls OH Ralf A. Helvey, Phoenix AZ P. J. Henderson, Jr., Los Angeles CA Edward Hendrickson, Turtle Creek PA David S. Hennessee, Morganton NC Richard Lester Hensley, Warner Robins GA William A. Herring, Alexandria VA Arthur W. Hesterman, Napoleon OH Russell M. Hickey, Greer SC Melvin Hill, Boynton Beach FL Rudolph Hines, Jr., Chicago IL Scott Alan Hirschfield, Mindoro WI Kendall Hocker III, Alamogordo NM Carl Austin Hoff, Lynnwood WA Lee A. Holleway, Temple TX Terry Lee Hollingsworth, Troy TN Kenneth E. Holloway, Cadiz KY Rollen I. Holsey, Langley AFB VA Harold T. Horton, New Bern NC Dan Mason Houts, Martin Mi John Ashley Howard, Ledyard CT Robert S. Howard, Charlotte NC William R. Hronek, Eagle Rock MO Preston Huddleson, Califon NJ Curtis W. Hudspeth, Eogalusa LA Larry Frank Humes, NAS Lemoore CA Colin H. Hurst, Masset BC Canada James E. Hurst, Amarillo TX Louis Jean Hus, Wilton CT Steve Huska, Sacramento CA George Neal Iken, Midland TX Edwin Q. Inman, Cranston RI Billy Ivy, Mobile AL Donald J. Janecek, Arvada CO Geraid Newell Jenkins, Arcata CA Thomas L. Jerome, Sauk Rapids MN David C. Jockisch, Beardstown IL Lee Joe, Greenwood MS Robert Johaneman, Livingston Manor NY David Lee Johnson, Descanso CA Robert B. Johnson, Ferndale MI Danny Robert Jones, Clarksville TN Richard A. Jones, Eatontown NJ Thomas Jones, FPO San Francisco James K. Kaloustian, Detroit MI Brian Joseph Kandibo, APO New York Gerald John Kearns, Scottsville NY Joseph Kiba, Seville OH Sung S. Kim, Gardena CA D. E. Kinkel, Suisun CA Walter John Klink, Woodruff WI Keith C. Knox, Napa CA James F. Knutson, Waterville PQ Canada

Adrian M. Kozuki, Kailua HI James Irvin Krebs, Flagstaff AZ William Daniel Kresge, Auburn WA Richard F. Krumm, Brooklyn NY Steven D. Krumpe, Landover MD Charles H. Kuhlman, Sidney OH Gregory R. Kusic, Bremerton WA Edward G. Lakin, Livermore Falls ME Thomas S. Landon, Norfolk VA Robert M. Lang, San Diego CA Frank R. Lann, East Amherst NY George J. Lappan, Penfield NY Paul Elliott Lathbury, Frankford DE Michael E. Lazzaroni, Riverview FL Matt W. Leach, Correctionville IA Kevin Scott Lee, Silver Spring MD Lowell E. Leonard, Alamogordo NM Walter A. Lesniak, South Holland IL Kenneth Liesener, Joliet IL Charles M. Logston, Sacramento CA Bruce D. Luedke, Camp Springs MD John Edward Lynch, Fabens TX George P. Macatee II, Dallas TX Carl E. Mack, Coulterville CA Donald A. Mailhot, Brooklyn CT William A. Mains, McKinney TX Frank E. Malec, Wilkes Barre PA Marc Marceau, St. Jean PQ Canada John Thompson Matthews, Dallas TX Roger Ernest Maves, Boulder CO Joseph Mazzara, APO New York Jerry Lee McArtor, Jacksonville IL James L. McCarty, Concord CA H. Weldon McCormick, Levelland TX Robert W. McCullough, Parkersburg WV Patrick T. McDonnell, Hicksville NY Lawrence Roger McFaul, Norfolk VA Linnaeus R. McGee, Ozark MO Jack W. McGuire, Blackwell OK Harold G. McKelvey, Rock Island PQ Canada Fredrick W. McNeil, Wenatchee WA David S. McNeill, Skandia MI Donald Lee Medford, Bryson City NC Michael J. Meehan, Forked River NJ Roger Douglas Michael, Andrews TX Dennis E. Miller, Johnstown PA John O. Miller, Zanesville OH Allen S. Mirocha, Chicago IL Laraine G. Mitchell, Atwater CA Robert A. Molstad, APO San Francisco Amos Monroe Moore, East Millstone NJ Vernon L. Moore, Decatur AL Joseph T. Morris, Lynchburg VA Donald F. Morrison, Union Grove WI Kenneth L. Morrison, Cabot AR Timothy John Mott, Portville NY Vaughn W. Murphie, Yakima WA Dennis Michael Murray, South St. Paul MN Alec Dean Newbauer, Hibbing MN Daniel G. Newlun, Homestead FL Skyles M. Neyhard, Trucksville PA Milton Ray Nichols, Call TX Willard C. Nicolaisen, Jacksonville Beach FL Ralph Thomas Nisbet, Whittier CA Thomas George Norman, Flagstaff AZ Rodney W. Oberton, Grand Rapids MN Tony C. Ogle, Gatlinburg TN Thomas S. Olson, Burbank SD Zdenek R. Ondracek, Park Ridge NJ Pablo Ortega, Elma WA Danny Abel Oseguera, Bennion UT Giau Minh Quan, Bristow OK Weldon K. Park, Kingston OK Carroll W. Peabody, Maryville TN Don Perrier, Leaf Rapids MB Canada Ronald E. Peters, Chula Vista CA John E. Pettebone, Jr., Annapolis MD Paul J. Pitts, Jr., Macon GA David Lynn Plante, Stockton KS James F. Plowman, Chillicothe MO Bohumil Polata, Los Altos CA Nigel Stuart Price, Hamilton Bermuda John Raymond Reade, Ishpeming MI John Raudman, Twin Falls ID James Harold Ray, San Diego CA Robert J. Richie, Jr., Portland ME Paul M. Riggs, Elmer NJ

Norman A, Rindal, San Jose CA James J. Ring, Hamburg NY Benjamin Ritter, Belvidere NJ Jackie W. Robbins, Equality IL Roger Ray Robertson, Brooklyn MI Billy R. Robinson, San Antonio TX Thomas J. Rockey, Raytown MO Richard Roohan, Massapegua NY Wayne F. Rostek, Saint Charles MO William B. Rowe, Omak WA Melvin A. Roxburg, Sepulveda CA William Joel Royal, Stedman NC Leonard R. Sacco, Portland OR Calin C. Savescu, Adrian MI Philip Raymond Saxon, Abington PA Kenneth H. Schaeffer, Bellefonte PA Francis W. Schroeder, Antioch CA Donald Lee Schwanke, Burden KS Jack E. Scott, Havre De Grace MD David Marley Scroggins, Lake Havasu City AZ David Pearson Seaward, Rye NH Robert Lee Sebring, Athens OH Daniel B. Seevers, Cambridge OH Douglas D. Seuferer, APO San Francisco William U. Shaffer, Puerto Nuevo PR Richard A. Sharpe, Farmers Branch TX Steven R. Sheahan, Pocatello ID Benjamin C. Shields, Jr., Richmond VA Raymond E. Shuffitt, Georgetown IN David Frank Shulters, Palmyra NY John Robert Silva, Wheaton MD Arnold L. Smith, Battle Creek MI Foster D. Smith, Vandenberg AFB CA Michael K. Smith, Angleton TX Richard David Smith, APO San Francisco Robert S. Smith, Brunswick ME Ronald R. Smith, Pottstown PA Keith A. Snider, Lima OH George L. Snyder, Fremont NE Ignacy Sobota, APO New York Bryan R. Soscia, Coventry RI Albert E. Southard, Jr., Great Falls MT Charles J. Spangenberg, Manville NJ Sam Booth Spears, Jr., Griffin GA Robert G. Spivey, Oklahoma City OK Marc Robert Stecker, Netcong NJ L. W. Steenbakker, Jr., APO New York Norman Stenstrom, Vernon BC Canada Russell L. Stephenson, Groton CT Russell S. Sterling, San Pablo CA Donald I. Sternberg, East Meadow NY Richard Frank Stevens, Kenosha WI John Peter Stumpp, Plainview NY Roger M. Sudduth, McLean VA David Lewis Sutton, Pasadena TX Neil L. Swank, Jr., Groton CT Ken Szillat, Billings MT Larry Lynn Taylor, Honolulu HJ Herman J. Theen, Governors Island NY Gussie J. Thomas, Port Polk LA Ronald Allen Thomas, Argos IN Tommie C. Thomas, Honolulu HI Janet A. Thompson, Buffalo NY Cecil W. Tobias, Houston TX Joseph Leo Tritz, Marshfield WI Donald Hubert Tucker, Clinton MD Donovan L. Turner, Wheat Ridge CO John James Turpin, West Bridgewater MA Ronald Urban, Glendale NY Tadeusz Urbanowicz, Parthenon AR Jesse C. Villareal, Jr., APO New York Richard C. Vota, Rome NY Darrell Gary Walker, Pound WI Herbert C. Wallace, Owatonna MN Thomas A. Walter, Canton OH James M. Warrell, Boise ID Robert Richard Wassen, Russeliville AL Richard E. Watts, Alexandria VA Roger Warren Weaver, Coplay PA Wayne L. Weaver, Goldsboro NC David M. Webb, Albuquerque NM Eugene M. Weber, Jr., Staten Island NY Larry W. Weibel, Woodburn OR Richard Allen Wells, St. Joseph MO Frank A. Wennstrom, Boise ID Jack William Wentz, Westminster MD Donald E. West, Boonville MO

Raymond James White, Salem OR Robert E. Whittenburg, Walkerton IN Terence Rider Wight, North Branford CT Margaret H. Williams, Virginia Baach VA J. Vern Willis, Carson City NV Gerald Witte, Hunter AFB GA Harold R. Wolfford, San Antonio TX Charles Edwin Wood, Franklinton LA Merle W. Worman, Quincy IL William D. Zencak, Milford DE Raymond P. Zeringue, Jr., Saint James LA

WITH HONORS

Robert E. Abernethy, Joshua Tree CA John Franklin Adams, Dallas TX Thomas C. Adams, Sr., Baltimore MD Rafael Alcolado, Halifax NS Canada Michael W. Aldrich, Minneapolis MN Eddie Carroll Allen, Irving TX Diana I. Althiser, Seguin TX Frank H. Altrichter, Owatonna MN Gerald E. Amick, South Bend IN David Henry Ammer, Roy UT Edwin Alfred Amundsen, San Diego CA Robert B. Anderson, West Arlington VT William J. Anderson, La Follette TN Gary Michael Anello; Floral Park NY Charles Anthony Apa, North Syracuse NY Luther J. Ash, Woodbridge VA John Lee Athey, Selinsgrove PA Larry D. Baggett, Mt. Zion IL Stephen Ball, Collegeville PA Michael B. Barnes, Sylva NC Ronnie Lewis Barron, Statesboro GA Richard D. Bartlett, Candler NC Joseph A. Basile, Lakeland FL Ralph O. Beattie, Tarzana CA Larry James Beavers, Hopewell VA James E. Behrens, Mayville WI Don W. Berryann, Cottekill NY John Albert Best, Poway CA Vernon Ray Bice, South Point OH Robert F. Bliss, Wenoriah NJ David B. Blottenberger, Baltimore MD Richard T. Bognar, Torrington CT Paul Bohannon, Jr., Chesapeake VA David P. Boland, Neenah WI Kenneth L. Bortner, Norwood PA Francis W. Bothwell, Harrisburg PA Joseph Bottai, Hampton NH James D. Bradford, Guntersville AL Ronald L Brady, Cincinnati OH William M, Brans, Jr., Sturgeon Bay WI Clifford E. Branson, St. James MO Russell S. Brashears, Virginia Beach VA Gregg Joseph Braun, Decatur IN Kenneth M. Brewer, Santa Fe NM Harold L. Breyde, FPO New York Charles Ellis Briggs, Pequannock NJ David Mason Brodeur, Blountsville AL Gregg Kenneth Brown, Eatontown NJ Harry C. Brown 111, Malden MA William Mark Brown, Beaverton OR Tony Brushett, Burin NF Canada James R. Buchanan, Zanesville OH Leon David Buckle, Ridgely MD Johnny Ross Buckman, Springdale AR Carmen Buonauro, Osseo WI James Franklin Burch, Jamestown IN Ismael Maldonado Burgos, Catano PR Charles Paul Burlage, Columbia MO David C. Burnham, Trenton MI Gregory Alan Busch, San Francisco CA Daniel V. Bush, Cleveland OH James Glenn Butzin, Grand Forks ND Stephen A. Cady, APO New York Teddy Wayne Cambron, Overbrook KS Kerry R. Campbell, Beaufort SC Edward C. Chamberlain, Forestville MD Julius J. Champagne, Houma LA Leslie M. Chaney, Shalimar FL Andrew Cheng, Vancouver BC Canada Donald Joe Clayton, Barnegat NJ Peter E. Cleland, Jr., Anacortes WA Rejean J. Clement, Cornwall ON Canada

Robert E. Clement, Spencer OH Ross Cleveland, San Francisco CA Jerry D. Coe, Mount Airy NC Robert A. Collicutt, Wolfville NS Canada Aberan R. Conrad, Steubenville OH Wayne Allen Conrad, Tucson AZ Charles R. Costello, Louisville KY Lewis A. Cotton, Scott AFB IL Richard Hollis Coulter, Macomb IL James E. Craft, Warwick RI John Milton Creamer, MacClenny FL Joseph A. Crusco, Waldwick NJ David J. Cruse, Pecatonica II. Paul Csiszer, Jr., Leland IL Linn Cunningham, North Little Rock AR. C Kevin Curry, Taylorville IL Neal Wray Curtis, Belgrade MT Richard P. Damron, Del Rio TX Charles E. Daugherty, Charleston Heights SC Billy B. Davis Seattle WA Dennis Calvin Day, Wyandotte MI Paul M. Delage, Orange Park FL. R. B. De Lange, New Brighton MN Robert R. De Lorme, Innerkip ON Canada Douglas G. Demers, APO New York Michael Edward Deremo, Sturgeon Bay WI Edward Ross De Shane, Fort Rucker AL Forrest L. Dietrich, Oxnard CA Ronald J. Di Federico, Henderson NE Arnold E. Dishman, Anderson IN John N. Dodsworth, Jr., Andrews AFB MD Rodolfo Giron Dollete, FPO New York Robert C. Dorris, Jr., Beale AFB CA Ned Eugene Downer, Atchison KS Lewis F. Dudgeon, Mililani Town HI Stephen Martin Dufalo, San Jose CA James William Duffy, Wooster OH Matthew L. Duley, Elmwood Park IL Russell L. Dunnington, Jr., Lewistown MT Stephen A. Eastman, Anaheim CA Clark B. Eckman, Avis PA Larry J. Eden, Nashua 1A Dale Benhart Egeler, Kalamazoo MI Everett J. Erwin, El Paso TX John Howard Eustis, La Salle IL Verne Fairbanks Joliet MT Thomas C. Faircloth, Reidsville NC Joseph Edward Faucher, Rutland VT Omar Clayton Fender, Mars Hill NC John J. Ferracci, Jr., Baltimore MD John C. Fields, Jackson MS Joseph Finocchio, South Plainfield NJ Charles P. Fisher, West Point CA Merle Fitzpatrick, Jr., Fairfield ME Robert Floyd, Mountain Home AR Peter Keith Fluitt, Xenia OH John E. Forbes, New Orleans LA Leo Karl Fortenbacher, Sea Girt NJ Charles E. Fortin, FPO New York Douglas N. Foster, Louisville KY Dale R. Fox, Columbia SC Donald Freeman, Bogalusa LA Donat H. Fregeoile, Cumberland RI Robert Oliver Frick, Jr., Groton CT Daniel R. Fricke, Kingsville TX Donald R. Furgerson, Alexandria VA John H. Furman, Sr., Chocowinity NC Milton Gabor, Glendale WI Joseph E. Gabriel, Glen Burnie MD William G. Gale, La Ronge SK Canada Carl Eugene Gambill, Dugger IN Maurice Eugene Garner, Jr., FPO New York Lamar Uriel Garza, FPO San Francisco Howard J. Gatton, Silvis IL Patrick Henry Geary, Philadelphia PA Frank Germano, Carbondale PA Michael Gialanella, Livingston NJ Ronald K. Gilliam, Sabina OH Kathryn E. Glenn, Ames IA Francis E. Gohringer, Rome NY David R. Goodale, Rensselaer NY Dallas R. Goodman, Jr., Cleveland OH Carlos Cruz Gonzalez, Marina CA William F. Gorton, Clifton NJ Arthur W. Goulet, Jr., Rockville MD Michael G. Green, Augusta GA John Robert Grose, Russiaville IN

Theodore G. Grossholz, Mountain Home ID Daniel E. Grunstad, Mission Vieio CA Jeddy James Gullett, Gulfport MS Donald D. Halbert, Centralia MO Robert C. Hanlon, Urbana IL Gerald J. Hargett, McComb MS Gennie C. Harrell, Jr., Bessemer AL Christie Ann Harris, Cedar Rapids IA Grady C. Harris, Jr., Birmingham AL Earle H. Hartleb, Erie PA Lester W. Hatton, Jr., Center Harbor NH James M. Hawkins, San Antonio TX Ralph R, Hayden, Jr., Kane PA Jerome Havnes, Lincoln AL Louis Edward Haynes, Napa CA Richard E. Hearn, Jr., Rome NY Alvin Herber, Shattuck OK Kevin M. Hewitt, Fort Pierce EL Charles David Hill, Kansas City KS Eldon D. Hill, Parma OH Paul I. Hill Green Bay WI Leonard L. Hix, Casper WY Rex A, Hobbs, Wabash IN Ed Hogan, Suisun CA Alan Neal Holbrook, Summerville SC Carl Denzle Holcomb, Port Clinton OH Donald R. Horak II, Alexandria VA Thomas J. Horning, Peoria IL James William Houser, Andrews AFB MD Lawrence P. Howard, Green River WY Edward F. Hubler, Akron OH Michael Byrne Hudak, Brunswick OH Gerald L. Hughey, Yermo CA Rodney E. Huil, Ferguson MO William Humphreys, Jr., Yorktown VA Marvin L. Hunter, New Bremen OH Adolfo Y. Ignacio, San Diego CA Johnny Ray Ingold, Snow Camp NC George Robert Ireland, North Somers CT Gaetano J. Irrera, Ewa HI John Wayne Isenberg, Ogden AR David N. Jenson, Port Orchard WA Peter Raymond Jessen, Camp Pendleton CA James A. Johnson, Kenesaw NE Robert Allan Johnson, APO New York Thomas C. Johnson, Sr., Middleburg FL Donald Eugene Justison, Vega Alta PR Michael Kaspar, Jr., Winter WI Michael Patrick Keane, East Meadow NY K. Stephen Kear, Vancouver BC Canada John E. Keehner, Youngstown OH Earl Edward Kelley, Jr., Asheville NC Donald Jeffrey Kennedy, Niles OH Donald Hugh Kerr, Mineola NY James E. Ketchum, Summerville SC Muhammad Sarwar Khan, Arlington VA Raymond M. Kinne, Langley AF8 VA John S. Kitzmiller, Dover DE Donald J. Kleeberger, Perrysburg OH Michael V. Knowlton, APO San Francisco Charles M. Koch, Sr., Huey IL Joe Paul Kramer, Trempealeau WI Steven Anthony Krapko, Spokane WA Ralph R. Kratovil, Pearland TX Gary Lee Kreitz, Hanover PA August Robert Kriley, Butler PA Andrew S. Kucipak, Tupper Lake NY Thomas L. La Guardia, Bellport NY Thomas A. Lajcak, Ashland WI Le Verne Lamie, Erin NY Randal S. Landry, Iowa LA Jean L. Langelier, Drummondville PQ Canada Joseph T. Larkin, Virginia Beach VA Francis H. La Roche, Cocoa Beach FL Richard Dean Larsen, Norfolk NE Ronald D Larson, Tyndall AFB FL William C. Laughlin, North Olmsted OH Larry W. Laymon, Douglasville GA Eugene H. Lebaron, Lenore ID Edward James Legrow, Merrimac MA David A. Lemke, Milwaukee Wi Richard John Leote, Piermont NY Steven A. Lett, Crothersville IN Martin G. Levens, Sarasota FL Ronald L. Lindsey, Killen AL Herman Lee Lloyd, Knoxville TN Marvin L. Lovenstein, Portsmouth NH

Jack L. Lucas, Quinault WA Alwin L. MacKintosh, Aruba Neth, Ant. Melvin O. Magnuson, Enid OK John Allen Maiani, Marblehead OH Cyril D. Mailander, Marshalltown IA Matthew J. Mangiamele, Red Hook NY Larry E. Mann, Bloomington IL Kenneth R. Markley, Winchester VA Bernard C. Marquardt, Ashland PA Ross Lynn Marshall, Columbia N.I Rudolph Marshall, APO San Francisco Donald W. Martin, Jr., Milton FL Douglas Glen Martin, Bangor ME Ronald C. Martin, Pomona NY Thomas Mastro, Elizabeth NJ Alfred H. O. Mattner, Jr., Woodbridge VA Kent Burgess Maurer, Kirtland AFB NM William Douglas Mayo, Leesville LA Eugene McArdie, Mantua OH Richard C. McCallum, Mt. Morris MI Russell F. McClung, Fort Stewart GA Paimer T. McCormac, Beaverdam VA Harvey McCullough, Jr., Rumford ME R. A. McEldowney, Aberdeen Prv. Gnd. MD John R. H. McIntosh, Oklahoma City OK Leonard A. McKain, Beecher IL Alan Richard McWha, Port Huron MI Edward Meacham, Newark NJ Danny Lyn Mellott, Goldsboro NC Raiph S. Messenger, Jr., Groton VT Mark William Meyer, Hozlet NJ Kenneth Francis Miles, East Bethel MN Julius M. Millican, Grand Prairie TX Michael E. Minott, New Orleans LA Mickey B. Montgomery, Austin TX Robert M. Montoya, Montebello CA Herschel Dean Moore, Jr., Hamilton MT Samuel F. Moorefield, Jr., Damascus VA Thomas R. Morrissey, Miami FL David Paul Mosconi, Tenafly NJ Roy A. Mosteller, Jr., Pittsburgh PA Richard John Mueller, Havelock NC William E. Mullineaux, Goldsboro NC Fred Louis Muniz, Virginia Beach VA Terrill W. Muntz, Seattle WA John Murphy, West Hartford CT Steven J. Murphy, Fort Ord CA Gailen Murray, Baldwin KS Neal A. Myren, Salem SD Dickie Milton Nash, Houston TX John Lewis Nauck, Birmingham AL Trenton Nelson, Madison WI Frank John Nemeth, Haskell NJ James Francis Netti, Herkimer NY Robert Neumann, Grand Rapids MB Canada Carlton E. Newbern, Cincinnati OH Ray E. Nix, Clarkston GA Eddie Nunn, Anderson IN Horace E. Oakley, Kennett MO Ronald E. Oldham, Villa Rica GA Daniel S. Olejownik, Toledo OH Arnold H. Olsen, Pompano Beach FL Charles Ervin Olson, North Augusta SC Dean Charles Ortner, Whittier CA Wade Outland, Miamisburg OH Daniel E. Paquette, Redstone Arsenal AL Barton Frank Pannell, Alea HI Dwight D. Paslay, Spokane WA Kenneth R. Pastotnik, South Weymouth MA James Lee Patterson, Clovis NM Bunah J. Pattillo, Romulus NY Brandon D. Paxton, Aurora IL John Forest Penrose, Edwardsburg MI James K. Peterson, Jr., Norwich CT Richard L. Peterson, Cottage Grove MN Charles Louis Picard, Voorheesville NY

Daniel Phillip Pilon, Pensacola FL Timothy H. Pinckard, Cape May NJ Glenn B. Pleiness, Port Huron MI Allen Bruce Pleva, Levittown PA Albert H. Post, Jr., Lake Orion MI Samuel David Powell, Menlo GA Lloyd G. Powers, Independence KS George T. Prickett, Windsor SC Jimmy Lee Proffer, Chester IL Bruce A. Pummill, Missoula MT Richard F. Purgahn, Alexandria VA Alfred Ernest Quick, Dixon MO James J. Rahilly, Annandale VA Felix M. Ramos, Bronx NY Donald Rawls, Chicago IL Joseph D. Reid, Salinas CA William J. Reilly, Teterboro NJ Michael W. Reynolds, Gaston IN Jerry L. Rice, Alameda CA John B. Richards, Springfield IL James Alfred Richardson, Waycross GA Kenneth L. Richmond, Sevierville TN Curtis Lee Rider, Jacksonville FL Richard R. Riley, Janesville WI Robert Ritchie, Yulee FL Leslie Rivera, Rio Piedras PR Richard Carlton Roath, Greenville CA John Roy Roberts, Kalispell MT Richard O. Robinson, Sr., St. Marys OH William E. Roeske, Carlock IL Marion G. Rogers, Westmoreland TN Richard C. Rooney, Vienna VA Samuel Rodriguez Rosa, Caguas PR Thomas Rosak, Pittsburgh PA F. N. Rosenbalm, Greenville TX Arthur C. Ross, St. Anne IL Steward Ross, Springfield OH William Raymond Ross, Lawton OK Robert Emmet Rossow, West Bend WI Robert Douglas Rowley, Biloxi MS Edward E. Ryan, Andover NY Anthony John Saban, Gloucester NJ Stephen G. Sager, Lebanon PA John Richard Salt, Poland OH Gerald N. Sandifer, Moncks Corner SC Billie Michael Sansone, Chapmanville WV Lawrence Savadkin, Annapolis MD Robert W. Savage, Hopkins MN Burton A. Sawyer, Brewer ME Samuel V. Sawyers, Fayetteville NC Thomas H. Schlager, Fredericksburg VA Charles T. Schmidt, Mandan ND William F. Schneck, Groton CT Gary R. Schultz, Hilton NY Herbert M. Schwencke, San Antonio TX Calvin Alvy Scott, Thompsonville M! Robert L. Scott, Payson IL. Leroy H. Seagroves, Raleigh NC William N. Search, Berwick PA Edwin L. Seay, Beaver Dam VA Robert Bernard Seeber, Milwaukee WI Alton Guy Shahan, Jr., Morgantown WV Kingsley M. Shaw, Antioch CA Ridley K. Shaw, Medicine Hat AB Canada Larry James Shear, Spring Lake NC Ronny Sikes, Columbia SC David Ray Sinclair, Louisville KY Jack Noel Skene, Decatur GA L. M. Smith, FMO Halifax NS Canada Stanley N. Smith, Block Island RI William D. Smith, Orange NJ Michael H. Spalding, Green Bay WI Helton Clark Spangler, FPO New York Daniel Spry, Newark DE Thomas Paul Stachowicz, Chicopee MA Paul Alan Steele, Glendive MT

Bobby L. Stephens, Warrington PA Elmer Curtis Stephens, De Soto MO James Carl Stockton, Sturgeon MO James O. Stricklen, Orange-Park FL Larry J. Stubblefield, Morristown TN William Eugene Styles, Independence MO Earl H. Summerfield, Ft. Leonard Wood MO Charles G. Swager, Fort Worth TX Gene D. Sweeney, Springfield OH Chester F. Swosinski, Jr., APO New York Raymond E. Sylvester, Hamden CT Lawrence J. Szafranski, N Tonawanda NY Larry Ray Taff, Cabool MO Loren E. Tanner, Marion OH Carroll Taylor, Yates City IL Louis P. Taylor, Long Beach MS William Tevault, Huntingburg IN Johnny A. Thacker, APO New York Mark Thistlethwaite, Mobile At Raymond G. Thomas, Sumner WA Gary Tibbit, Albuquerque NM Harry C. Timmérman, Carmel IN James K. Tinsley, Sr., Nashville TN Reymundo Tobar, San Bernardino CA Lloyd Calvin Toney, Jr., Adel 1A David A. Tonsing, Chesapeake VA Lewis M. Tourtillotte, Brewer ME Paul E. Toussaint, Latham NY Roger Arthur Trahan, New Bedford MA Frank A. Traina, Westbury NY Edward P. Tremblay, CF8.Shilo MB Canada Melville Clinton Ulery, Castle Rock CO Ellsworth H. F. Umbreit, Detroit MI Gerald T. Vachon, Alfred ME Alvey E. Vallee, Baton Rouge LA Fred Allen Vance, Raven VA Paul J. Vetter, New Orleans LA Daniel E. Vickerman, Warroad MN James F. Vincent, Jr., North Providence RI Walter W. Visco, Clifton NJ David Lee Wondra, Galena IL Richard J. Vorwald, Dubuque IA Edward L. Waclawski, Baltimore MD Arthur D. Walker, Ewing IL Raymond Eugene Wallen, Greensboro NC George A. Walley, Millington TN Gordon T Walsh, Millers Falls MA Bruce T. Ward, Bristol CT Arthur Walker Webb, Jacksonville FL Thad V. Weidmann, North Huntingdon PA J. T. Weisner, Augusta MT Gerald H. Welsted, Derby NY George Elbert White, Lilburn GA Linwood C. Whitman, Patuxent River MD John Stephen Wilcox, Millington TN Stephen K. Wilcox, Montrose PA Daniel R. Wilda, Schofield Bks HI James M. Wilhite, Kent OH Paul R. Wilkerson, Phoenix AZ Kathleen Iris Wilkes, Vienna VA Robert S. Willey, Jr., Hudson NH Oscar I. Williams, Bronx NY Mark A. Wills, Novato CA William D. Wilson, Pittsburgh PA John L. Wilt, Winchester IN John J. Wojtycka, St. Francis WI John Robert Wolfe, Marion VA Ken Wolford, Cobble Hill BC Canada Richard L. Work, Lake View NY Dennis Leroy Worley, Mobile AL A. L. Wright, Sept-Iles PQ Canada David Jessie Wurl, Lighthouse Point FL Charles W. Wynn, Malvern PA Kin Fung Yee, Beltsville MD Lawrence E. Yoder, Plaza ND Earl S. Ziegler, Indianapolis IN

Ham News





Ted Beach K4MKX

Well. first things first. With regards to the QSL card minicontest, we received in the neighborhood of 85 entries. As luck would have it, our esteemed judges have not had an opportunity to make a final selection as to the overall winner. There were several very good entries, and we're having a hard time coming up with the one we want to use. This delay will just give you something to look forward to in the next Journal.

Actually, we are planning to base the NRI QSL card on the design selected, but will probably make a few cosmetic changes to fit our requirements. What this means is that when we print the "winning" design in the next issue of the Journal, the winner will probably not recognize his entry! Not really... it's just that not too many people paid close attention to the requirements we set up some time ago, and we'll have to make some changes to suit our printing methods.

The next item is the scheduled NRI net published in the last Journal. Unfortunately, many of you did not get your copies of the Journal until after the first (or perhaps the second) scheduled date. This was due to an unfortunate mailing delay, caused by our having to mail out several hundred thousand copies of a special mailing that had priority over the Journal mailing. I apologize for this, and hope that we don't have the same thing happen again.

Unfortunately, I had my own problems on the three scheduled dates, and also missed the first two due to personal matters. When I tuned up for the 80-meter session on May 1, I heard nothing but garbage and noise in the receiver. From the sound of things, these unpleasant noises seemed to be originating in my receiver and not coming through via the antenna. Such was the case. After having had receiver trouble last year, I found a bad FET in the front end, replaced it, and was back in business. Now I've got another problem, and haven't had a chance to put the rig on the bench to look for the trouble.

At any rate, my rig was dead on the first of May, and the two people I called to see if I could come over to their place and use their rigs were not at home. So much for me.

However, I did get quite a few notes from people who were successful in making some contacts on one or more of the net nights, and they were most enthusiastic. These will be recapped later on. The thing that became obvious was that it will be virtually impossible to get *everyone* on the air at the same time and on the same frequency.

Most nets (since we don't really have any organization, let's call them "Get Togethers") will be somewhat "local," or at least regional – East Coast, Midwest, West Coast, etc. There might possibly be some DX check-ins on occasion. At any rate, no one complained seriously about the Tuesday dates or the times specified originally.

Now, I've prepared a schedule for the rest of 1979, showing every Tuesday from August 7 to December 18. (We'll skip Christmas on the 25th.) You can consult this chart to see which band to use on which Tuesday, then pick a convenient date and park on frequency calling "CQ NRI" or listening for the same call. I think these Get Togethers should prove very interesting, and we will avoid mailing conflicts of the Journal as far as timing is concerned (except perhaps for this one). If this works out all right, I'll report in the Ham News column anything I hear on the air as well as any reports from you people, and we'll set up a schedule for 1980 as well. Have a go at it, and I'll join you when I can.

Now let's see who we've heard from since last time. As usual, those listed first are students and graduates of NRI's Amateur courses, while those listed last are other NRI students and graduates.

I would like to quote a small piece from K1VKO's letter. Art writes: "I would like to say that I have only completed one third of your Complete Amateur Radio Course, and have already passed the Advanced Class Test with ease. I am going to wait to finish the course and then get my Extra and Third Class Commercial (to start). Your course made the test seem so easy that I could not believe that this was the test so many said was so tough!" Thanks very much, Art. We always like to hear good words like yours. Of course, much of the credit for your success must go to you for being diligent in your studying. Best of luck on getting the other licenses. I'm sure vou'll do fine.

I got two nice notes from Jack, WA1YYK. One was back in February, the other in May. Jack had said earlier that he expected to have his General license by age 62, but the old "13 per" seems very elusive. In the May letter, he indicated he finally made it on April 26, only 18 days after hitting 63! Not too bad, I'd say - close enough. Jack participated in the May 1 NRI net and some success in contacting had WD4GAT on cw. He heard WB9NWR and WB8VGS discussing NRI on SSB, but couldn't make his way into the OSO. Seems like an unhealthy SWR of 2.5:1 is keeping the rf in the shack instead putting it into the antenna. Don't give up, Jack. Please try and check out some of the new dates this vear.

AF3J is the new call of Gene (ex K3JFV) who was wondering some time ago whether to get one of the "new" calls when he got his Extra or keep his old call. My advice to Gene was to hang on to the old call, because the K3 type will soon be "valuable." Unfortunately, Gene had already applied for a new call, and now everyone thinks that he's some

type of DX! I'm sure that will pass in time, Gene. And most hearty congratulations on making Extra.

KA3CCK writes that he is finally on the air after a lavoff of about 25 years. John was a radioman in the Navy. He enjoys rag-chewing the most and is disappointed that more people are not interested in the same. He says he particularly likes to find out things about the people with whom he is chatting. So far he has contacted doctors, secretaries, lawyers, students, and many others in various fields. I know what you mean, John. It makes things lots more interesting to have a the nice "fat" OSO rather than Name-QTH-Rig-Weather nonsense.

Here's another quotable quote: "I took my Novice exam and passed. My call letters are KA4HHD, and without your course and the valuable attention paid to me, I would never have passed at all." Thanks, Joel. We're glad you are pleased and we're sure you will do fine now that you have your first ticket. Joel had a bit of trouble with the CONAR 500 transmitter at first, but apparently everything is working now, and he should soon be on the air. Try to join us some Tuesday on the NRI Get Together, Joel!

WD4KOK got his last Journal the day after the last scheduled net – May 2. Sorry, Ed, we'll try to do better this time.

Lew, WD4LOK, writes that he made WAS in December 1978 and got his General ticket in March of this year.

Special Notice

Tom Nolan, immediate past executive secretary of the NRI Alumni Association, now has his amateur license. In May, Tom was awarded Novice call KA3DFN. Congratulations, Tom. Lew also missed the NRI nets due to late delivery of the Journal, but he was willing and able to get in there with his Kenwood TS520 and Hustler vertical. The antenna is run without radials although he does use 4 foot ground rods in salted ground. Seems to work fine, especially when tuned up with his Dentron Super Tuner and Bird wattmeter. Sounds like a real neat station, Lew.

We got a nice note from Jim, WA4ZAU, telling us that as a result of his plea in the Journal to locate a used transmitter, he was able to locate a nice DX60B. John, WB3IMU, (in Jerome PA) wrote Jim, and in short order, Jim had received his new rig. Thanks, John, we are glad there are people out there like you to lend a helping hand when it's needed.

Harold, KA5DVF, writes that he got his Novice license through study of the Heath course, but that he chose NRI to help him on through General, Advanced, and Extra. His shack is equipped with a Kenwood TS820 that he uses with an 80-meter dipole and a Mosley TA33 Jr. Later on, he hopes to put the beam on a 48 foot Rohn tower and twirl it with a Ham III rotator.

WA6HJL does a lot of cartooning, as a hobby, and set us a very well done QSL design for the minicontest. Les has been in amateur radio since 1925 and says he doesn't want you to let that WA call fool you, having spent 30 years as a sea-going brass pounder. He is taking the



NRI "GET TOGETHER	" SCHEDULE FOR 1979
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		75/80	15	40	75/80	15	40
AUGUS	Г		7	14	21	28	
SEPTEM	BER			4	11	18	25
остове	R	2	9	16	23	30	
NOVEM	BER			6	13	20	27
DECEM	BER	4	11	18			
TIMES:		FR	EQUENCIES:	CW*	SSB*		
	CW	8:30 - 9:00 PM EST		15	Meters	21.150	21.400
	SSB	9:00 - 9:3	0 PM EST	40	Meters	7.130	7.280
* +5 kHz	in case	e of QRM o	r QRN	75/	'80 Meters	3.730	3.980

NRI Amateur course because he says it's never too late to learn more.

WBØOPI writes that he was a Novice from 1975 to 1977, when he got his Technician license. Lloyd has been studying the code very hard and hopes tο soon upgrade to General or Advanced, then on to Extra. At the present time, Lloyd's shack has a Heath DX60 transmitter and SB300 receiver. along with a Wilson 2-meter transceiver. He also has an Ameco TX62 that he plans to use on 2 and 6 meters later on. primarily to work OSCAR on 2. Antennas consist of a 40-meter dipole and a Hustler 4BTV vertical. This summer a 40 foot tower and Hornet TB500 tribander will join them.

K1AV writes that he tried to work the April 24 nets, but with little success. He heard KA8BXA calling me and gave him a shout with no results. Later, on SSB, Al heard WB8RZE in QSO with KA2DID and WB3FNJ who did call "CQ NRI" once or twice but didn't leave much room to break in.

KA1BNO, Dan, enrolled in Basic Electronics late last year and plans to transfer to one of the communications courses in order to get an FCC Commercial license. Dan has had his Novice ticket since September, and loves to use the Heath DX60B and keyer he built. He was planning to try for General sometime this spring, and we sure hope he made it. We'll be looking for you on some Tuesday, Dan.

WBIENK has had her ticket for three years and is planning to upgrade to Advanced or Extra in the very near future. Joline teaches biology in high school and is also into microcomputers. I couldn't tell from the photo she sent just what her low-band rig was, but she also has a Tempo 2020 2-meter transceiver. For antennas she uses 80-and 40-meter dipoles and a Cushcraft ATB-34 beam.

KA2DID (mentioned earlier) wrote us before the first nets, and informed that he was planning to join in. Mike has a Swan 500C transceiver that he uses with either a home brew four-band dipole (80, 40, 20, and 15) or a two-element beam on 10 meters. This combination seems to do well for Mike, as he has no trouble at all working the West Coast and European stations.

N3AJV recently completed our Communications course and says he was more than pleased with eveything he learned from taking the course. Randy particularly likes the 452 transceiver and has married the new Heath Micoder to it quite successfully.

We got KA4EMW's call wrong the first time we put it here in these pages, calling him KA4EMU. Sorry about that,

			the second	the same second s	and the second se		1
Bill	KA1BLT	N	South Windham ME	Jim	KAØCQW	N	St. Louis MO
Art	K1VK0	A	East Norwalk CT	Lloyd	WBØQPI	Т	Denver CO
lack	WAIYYK	G*	Agawam MA	AI	K1AV	-	Portland ME
Donald	KA2DSA	Ň	Olean NY	Dan	KA1BNO	N	Cranston RI
Gene	AF31	E+	Media PA	Joline	WB1ENK	G	Lewiston ME
lohn	KARCCK	N	Avonmore PA	Rick	WN1WPR	N	Berwick ME
WR	KA4EIG	N	Tavernier FL	Mike	KA2DID	G٠	Saratoga Spgs. NY
loel	KAAHHD	N	Decatur GA	Bandy	VLAEN		Derry PA
Ed	WD4KOK	N	Einner TN	Bon	KA4EMW	T*	Galax VA
Law	WD4LOK	G*	Auburn Al	tim	KA5EMA	N	Portland TX
Mercorot	KIAM	E+	Virginia Beach VA	Dave	WSTYL	G	Taos NM
Harald	KAADVE	N	Columbus MI	Dick	WD6ENI	Ğ٠	Oceanside CA
Harold	NAGEDY	Ň	San Jose CA	Bill	WB7NYL	A	Montesano WA
Ken	WAGEBA		San Erangico CA	Stu	NBAGV		Bethel OH
Les	WAGHJL	C.	Tueson AZ	108	WR9NWR		Bloomington 1L
BOD		1N		Balph	KA9CTD	N	Galesburg II
Harry	WB/VVH			Ken	KAGDIB	T.	Bluffton IN
Jonn	NBATK	C	Cincinnati Desive W/I	Trov		N	
Peter	N9APB	G	Hacine Wi	Dave	KHEIST	_	Laie HI
				Dave	KI10301		
			*Just Upgraded -	Congratulat	ions!		
		-					

Ron. Anyway, he now has upgraded to Technician and perhaps to Advanced, since he said he was going to make the try in March. He writes, ". . . we're going to get the code for sure and come back a General anyway. But with my NRI course behind me, the theory is the least of my worries." Thanks Ron, and we hope you made it.

WD4L00 says that he has discovered the fun of QRPp operation since he last wrote. Ed built a Heath HW8 that he uses barefoot into an inverted vee on 40 meters, and into a longwire-tuner on 80 and 20. He loves the reactions he gets when he tells the guy on the other end of the QSO that he is running 4 watts. Ed has made a couple of home brew QRPp rigs as well, but does not have them working just right yet.

It looks as if KA5EMA is another dedicated home brewer. Jim got his Novice ticket recently and hasn't been idle since. First came a commercial kit (Heath 1680 receiver), then a 40/20 meter cw rig (15 watts) from a QST article, a Morse keyboard (also from QST), and a 4 ampere power supply. Next in line is a doubler for the transmitter for operation on 10 meters. Then Jim is going to design and build an SSB transmitter for 20 and 15 meters. He also is interested in radio astronomy and would like very much to hear from any of you out there who share his interests in this and home brewing. Drop him a line at:

Jim Caldwell KA5EMA 217 Llano St. Portland TX 78374

W5TYL writes that he has been licensed for 21 years but recently started to study communications seriously. Dave plans to get the Advanced or Extra real soon and is looking forward to getting on 2-meter FM with the Model 452 transceiver.

WD6ENL has also been an amateur for quite some time and is looking forward to building the Model 452 transceiver. Dick currently uses a Yaesu FT301D into a Hy-Gain 18AVT, pumping out a good solid 100 watts.

In addition to his Advanced Amateur license, WB7NYL holds a First Phone with Radar endorsement. Code is the only thing holding Bill back from the Extra ticket. His rig is a Heath HW101 and a Hustler 4BTV roof-mounted vertical.

N8AGV dropped us a line to say that he had a bit of success on the NRI net April 24. He was one of the ones K1AV heard, and carried on a round-table from about 9:15 to 9:50 with WB8RZE, WB3FNJ, WA4GOQ, and KA2DID. Stu says QRM was rough but that it looked as if it might work out in the future.

WB9NWR also had some luck on the May 1 net attempt. Joe got into a QSO with WB9ROE, WB9SGK, and N9ASM on 3.983 MHz. Again, QRN and QRM were pretty rough, but all thought it was a good idea.

Ken, KA9DIB, has found out what so many others have – a newly acquired amateur license can be hazardous to one's lesson study habits! Ken got his Novice license in January and study time went downhill from then. He says he will certainly complete the course, but it just might take a bit more time.

Well, that just about wraps it up for this time. Next time for sure we'll have the winner of the OSL minicontest and a reproduction of the winning design in the column. Also, we will continue to publish the Get Together schedule for the remainder of the year along with the FCC rule changes. Speaking of which, we just received our new (January 1979) edition of Part 97 from the Government Printing Office. Even it does not have all the current regulations in it! I understand that the latest ARRI License Manual (now \$4.00) is completely different from previous editions and makes a real nice reference for amateurs. I plan to get a copy and will give you a report next time.

Until then, keep writing and we'll see you on the air.

Very 73-Ted K4MKX



1	Conditional Class License eliminated. Novice power limit upped to 250 W.	June 25, 1976
2	Technicians given Novice privileges.	July 23, 1976
3	No new distinctive Novice call signs, although Novice may sign $^{\prime\prime}/N.^{\prime\prime}$	October 1, 1976
4	No requirement to sign "portable" or "mobile" except foreign operators using reciprocal licenses.	November 26, 1976
.5	First "comprehensive" CW exam given in Washington, D.C. office. No solid copy for one minute requirement.	January 1, 1977
6	Court case "temporarily" suspends all license fees.	January 1, 1977
7	New interim licenses issued upon upgrade of license class at an FCC office.	March 1, 1977
8	Secondary station license eliminated.	March 3, 1977
9	97.95(a)(2) deleted. No notification of new address required.	March 9, 1977
10	New emission purity standards. All spurious emissions down 40 dB for trans- mitters operating below 30 MHz, down 60 dB for transmitters of 25 watts or more operating between 30 MHz and 235 MHz (97.73).	April 15, 1977
11	Code sending test deleted from Commission-administrated examination.	August 26, 1977
12	97.95(b)(2) rescinded. Maritime Mobil in Region 2 may use all amateur frequencies. In foreign waters, Maritime Mobil may use only frequencies authorized by regional government.	September 12, 1977
13	Call sign restructured, making special calls available to various class license holders.	March 24, 1978
14	Ban on commercial 10-meter linear amplifiers.	April 28, 1978
15	Novice license term extended to five years, renewable. Technicians given full privileges above 50 MHz.	May 15, 1978



Alumi News Harry Taylor

PITTSBURGH CHAPTER

The chapter held its annual dinner at the Mr. Steak restaurant on May 3. Harry Taylor, the Executive Secretary, was there. The food was good, the conversation was lively, and we all had a good time,

After dinner, we had our monthly meeting. Harry Taylor showed slides of NRI, some of which brought back memories of the early days of radio. He followed this with a demonstration of new NRI test equipment and a discussion of the new courses currently offered by NRI. The members expressed a lot of interest in the computerized 25 inch color TV set that is included in the new Master Color TV course.

After dinner, we went to work on a color TV assembled by a local NRI student. This gave us an opportunity to share our troubleshooting knowledge.

NORTH JERSEY CHAPTER

Chairman Al Mould demonstrated the new Zenith "SYSTEM 3" modules. The sets these modules are used in are described as "chassis-less," since all interconnecting wiring is in the form of wiring harnesses with edge connectors for the boards. The circuitry incorporates a master oscillator system, which is divided down to the appropriate frequencies for the vertical and horizontal output stages, and an integral flyback high-voltage multiplier unit. The boards are designed so that individual components are generally accessible for troubleshooting if replacement modules aren't available. Component designations are printed on both sides of the boards to aid in servicing.

We had a good turnout again at this meeting, and four sets to troubleshoot. Sam Britt reported on the Philco G3050B we had been working on at the last two meetings. In addition to replacing a 120k, 1 watt resister in the boost voltage supply, he had a new electron gun put in the black-and-white crt. He also reported a very happy customer.

Ben Nemeckay and Harry Ala worked on a Zenith black-and-white portable, which would get a very snowy picture, and then start to lose vertical sync. This was an intermittent problem, which proved to be caused by a shorted rf tube in the set's tuner. Replacement of the tube was all the set needed.

Bob Morello brought in a Zenith black-and-white portable, a 16F25, which could not be made to lock-in vertically. The trouble proved to be the vertical hold control, a 750k pot used as a rheostat. The wiper was shorted to ground, and so had no effect on the circuit at all.

Bob Schadewald brought in his CONAR Model 315 25 inch color TV. He said he had power supply trouble with his set. We were able to give him a MJ411 from our parts stock. This is Q701, the pass transistor in the 125 volt regulator circuit. Bob also had to replace the 7824, IC402, 24 volt regulator, and the IC503, 746PC chroma demodulator. Al Mould once again demonstrated how quickly an expert can converge a color set on Bob's TV.

DIRECTORY OF ALUMNI CHAPTERS

DETROIT CHAPTER meets at 8 p.m. on the second Friday of each month at St. Andrews Hall, 431 E. Congress Street, Detroit. Chairman: James Kelly, 1140 Livernois, Detroit. Telephone 841-4972. FLINT/SAGINAW VALLEY CHAPTER meets 7:30 p.m. the second Wednesday of each month at Andy's Radio and TV Shop, G-5507 S. Saginaw Road, Flint. Chairman: Dale Keys. Telephone (313) 639-6688. Shop phone (313) 694-6773.

NEW YORK CITY CHAPTER meets at 8:30 p.m. the first Thursday of each month at 1669 45th Street, Brooklyn. Chairman: Sam Antman, 1669 45th Street, Brooklyn.

NORTH JERSEY CHAPTER meets at 8 p.m. on the second Friday of each month at the Players Club, located on Washington Square in Kearney, N.J. For information, contact Paul Howard, 950 Carteret Avenue, Union, N.J. 07083. Telephone (201) 964-8492.

PHILADELPHIA-CAMDEN CHAPTER meets on the fourth Monday of each month at 8 p.m. at the home of Chairman Boyd A. Bingaman, 426 Crotzer Avenue, Folcroft, Pa. Telephone 583-7165.

PITTSBURGH CHAPTER meets at 8 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month at the home of Jim Wheeler, 1436 Riverview Drive, Verona, Pa. 15147. Chairman: George McElwain, 100 Glenfield Drive, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15235.

SAN ANTONIO CHAPTER meets at 7 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Alamo Heights Christian Church Scout House, 350 Primrose St., 6500 block of N. New Braunfels Street, (three blocks north of Austin Hwy.), San Antonio. All San Antonio area NRI students are always welcome. A free annual chapter membership will be given to all NRI graduates attending within three months of their graduation.

SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER meets at 8 p.m. on the last Wednesday of each month at the home of Chairman Daniel DeJesus, 12 Brookview Street, Fairhaven, Mass. 02719.

SPRINGFIELD (MASS.) CHAPTER meets at 7:30 p.m. on the second Saturday of each month at the shop of Norman Charest, 74 Redfern Drive, Springfield, Mass. 01109. Telephone (413) 734-2609. TORONTO CHAPTER meets at McGraw-Hill CEC, 330 Progress Ave., Scarborough, Ontario. For information, contact Stewart J. Kenmuir at (416) 293-1911. This resulted in a fairly good picture, but the color reception was still very touchy. After interchanging i-f boards with another set, Al diagnosed the need for an i-f alignment.

FLINT/SAGINAW VALLEY CHAPTER

We spent one recent meeting working on a Zenith console TV with color problems. First, it was impossible to converge. We could not adjust the color fringing out of the picture. Doug Graham suggested that we check the automatic degaussing circuitry. We found and replaced a bad thermistor, which took care of that problem. With the picture converged, we found a loss of color sync. This was traced to an open bandpass coil in the chroma section.

At the following meeting, we discussed microwave ovens once again. This is a lucrative field for TV technicians because of the electronics involved. In addition to troubleshooting, servicing, or replacing electronic parts, you have to be able to properly care for the cabinet parts. Andy Jobbagy, who is always on the lookout for new service aids, showed us a new fast, effective cabinet cleaner called Wipe Out[®]. It does a good job without damage to the finish, glass, or oven liner.

Chet Mazure, a current NRI student, brought in a radio with a hum problem. Chet and Andy traced the problem to a bad filter capacitor.

NEW YORK CITY CHAPTER

We were pleased to welcome two vistors, Mr. Furetti and Mr. Donaldson, to our March meeting.

Dick Sheftman submitted a report by

Consumer Reports on comb filters used by Magnavox. Although the report stated that the comb filter improves picture resolution, the viewers could not see much improvement.

Chairman Sam Antman then followed up on a hum problem in a radio. After replacing a transistor that checked good out of the set, he noted the set played well for a minute or two and then become very distorted. He noted that this happens primarily in cold weather, which led him to believe that the problem was temperature dependent. By using a cooling spray, we determined that it was an intermittent in one of the leads of the audio driver transformer. For a temporary repair, we twisted the transformer in a way that caused the set to play well.

We then turned to a 9 inch blackand-white TV that had a raster but no picture or sound. We substituted a signal from the tuner of another set, thereby obtaining both picture and sound. This helped localize the trouble to the tuner. After replacing an open rf transistor in the tuner, the set worked, but only on an outside antenna. Sam accidentally shorted the new transistor. We replaced it again — with a cheap universal replacement type. This time, the set worked much better, producing an excellent picture on "rabbit ears."

SPRINGFIELD CHAPTER

Chairman Norman Charest began our April meeting with an interesting talk about TV sets with polarized linecords. On TV receivers without power transformers, the power cord must be properly polarized so that the chassis or circuit ground is at earth ground. If in doubt, check for voltage between the chassis and earth ground.

Preston Atwood and John Park then gave a talk on the repair of Zenith remote control units. They went through the circuitry of inoperative remote control units S-69876/S-72346. These units are used on Zenith chassis models 23XC36, -38, and -39Z. The defect in this case was electrical rather than electronic. Specifically, it was a broken wire in the field circuit of the TV set's tuning motor.

At the May meeting, Preston Atwood demonstrated various ways of increasing the width of a TV picture. He explained the use of a brass sleeve on the neck of the picture tube and he showed the effect of connecting a high-voltage ceramic capacitor across the deflection yoke winding. He cautioned that discretion must be used in determining which winding can be safely used and in selecting the capacitor. He also stated that any width control should be set to the middle of its range before trying either of the above procedures.

We were very pleased to have Frank Mills, who is an NRI graduate, join our chapter.

The following officers were elected at our May meeting: Chairman - C. M. Vaidya, Secretary - George Lewonchuk, and Treasurer - William Planzo.

DETROIT CHAPTER

At our most recent meeting, Chairman Jim Kelley, Ray Berus, and John Nagy reported on the Society of Automotive Engineers Convention at Cobo Hall in Detroit. As usual, there were many interesting developments in the automotive field.

After the report, John Nagy went through the checkout procedure for locating a mechanical defect in a Sony cassette recorder. It was a stretched drive belt that failed to transmit power to the capstan.

Ray Berus and Jim Kelley worked on an RCA portable TV that had sound, but no raster. We did not locate the trouble, but we gave it a good try. We'll solve that mystery at the next meeting.

SAN ANTONIO (ALAMO) CHAPTER

We had a most enjoyable meeting during Fiesta Week. Fiesta Week in San Antonio is one of the nation's oldest and most festive citywide celebrations. It is described by some as a citywide block party. The meeting was combined with dinner, with our spouses in attendance. Harry Taylor, the executive secretary, was there to join us. Everyone agreed that the food was delicious.

In the meeting that followed dinner, we were shown the modular construction used in the basic electronic kits supplied with the NRI Microcomputer Course. Many of us had taken NRI courses back in the days when all connections were soldered. This new modular construction, with plug-in components, certainly takes the work out of the practical training. We were also shown some of the newer NRI TV test equipment.

Later, Harry showed slides of NRI. Few of us had either visited Washington or NRI. For most of us, this was our first glimpse of what goes on behind the scenes at NRI. We enjoyed the slide show very much.

There were three door prizes given away. The most interesting prize was a whistle switch, which is a remote control switch operated by pressing a squeeze bulb.

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