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"Century Club Centurion"  
c/o Tom Bowers  
Star Route 3, Box 972  
Eustis, FL 32726

VOL. IV No. 2

The 3905 Century Club, Inc.

December, 1982

# THE "CENTURION" LEAVES "INTENSIVE CARE" a Status Report by WD4CQY

It's seldom anyone enjoys being proven wrong, but that's the situation in which your Editor finds himself. I would've "made book" on the "Centurion" subscription list continuing to shrink to the point where it would be necessary for me to "put it out of its misery". INSTEAD, it seems likely that there will be a modest growth in the number of subscribers, since the Sept. issue. Renewals are up from about 10% to 27%. The most gratifying thing, however, is that the "Centurion" has AT LEAST ONE NEW SUBSCRIBER IN EACH OF THE TEN U.S. CALL-AREAS, AND DX! It appears that more than just a few of you have been "beating the bushes" and "passing the word". The entire staff of the "Centurion" - ME (and sometimes my XYL licks the stamps) - THANK EACH OF YOU WHO HAVE HELPED GIVE THE BIG "C" A LIFE-SAVING SUBSCRIPTION TRANSFUSION.

This issue of the "Centurion" will be mailed to subscribers in 46 United States (all but AZ, HI, NM & WY), two Canadian Provinces (ON & MB) and Ecuador. Subscriptions have expired, in the last six months, in each of those four "missing" states, as well as four other Canadian Provinces and four other foreign countries. Thus, it appears that the "Centurion's" brand of "fertilizer" is being distributed "far and wide".

The Annual Financial Report for the "Centurion" will appear in the next (March, '83) issue; but, it can be said that the financial status is currently adequate, and for that reason, and by virtue of the fact that several of you sent me articles of varying lengths, snippets and other goodies, WITH THIS ISSUE, THE "CENTURION" GOES TO SIX PAGES. We'll see how long the money, and the article-input will support this expansion.

## LINES LOST IN THE QRM by WD4CQY

### Definitions:

- "Optimist" - One who believes in Reagonomics;
  - "Pessimist" - One who understands Reagonomics.
- (Jim Turner, on WDEO Radio, Orlando, FL)

The 3905 Century Club, Inc. is incorporated as a "corporation not for profit" under Chapter 617, Statutes of the State of Florida. In addition, the Club is tax-exempt as determined by IRS.

THE CENTURY CLUB CENTURION  
c/o Tom Bowers  
Star Route 3, Box 972  
Eustis, FL 32726



## 3905 Century Club, Inc.

### Club Officers:

President WA4SGP, Ray Grant, 523 Glenpark Dr., Nashville, TN 37217  
Vice President WA2ZYM, Bill Herbert, 353 7th Ave., Troy, NY 12182  
Sec'y-Treas. W3LQY, Marianne Payton, 227 Bennett St., Winter Springs, FL 32708  
Awards Sec'y WB3AMC, Dave Welker, 229 Ridge Ave., Sunbury, PA 17801  
Corp. Res. Agent KF4EO, Ron Toller, P.O. Box 23482, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33307  
Imm. Past Pres. AJ8Y, Dennis Chaney, Current Address Unknown  
Editor WD4CQY, Tom Bowers, III, Star Route 3, Box 972, Eustis, FL 32726

### Board of Directors:

WA1ROI, Fred Larson, Route 1 52, Cambridge, ME 04923  
KC2RB, Frank Scromp, E-31 Yates Village, Schenectady, NY 12308  
KB3GN, George Roberts, Jr., 5906 62nd Ave., Riverdale, MD 20840  
KC4CZ, Dan McNeill, 2305 Vance Dr., Florence, SC 29501  
KA5HFB, Letha Sharp, Route 2, Box 173, Prairie Grove, AR 72753  
W6PIO, Ed Epperson, 520 W. Berkeley Ct., Ontario, CA 91762  
KB7UL, Gary Portsche, N 8111 Standard, Spokane, WA 99208  
KB8MP, Gerry Sanders, 719 Mohican Dr., Loveland, OH 45140  
KB9QP, Bob Hartenstein, 1842 Olive St., Indianapolis, IN 46203  
KB0YX, Bob Adams, Box 104, Blair, NE 68008  
VE3KFO, Jack Harper, Windy Hill Farm, Addison, ON K0E 1A0, CANADA

(CHMN)

C/A  
1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
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7  
8  
9  
10  
DX



For this column, let's see how the election process works with the Century Club.

Under the Constitution, anyone may be an officer of the Century Club, provided that he: 1. be a 100 point certificate holder, 2. be nominated for the job by a 100 point certificate holder, and 3. be willing to be nominated, AND TO SERVE IF ELECTED.

At the present time, you have all heard the announcements about the upcoming elections. This year the directors from the odd-numbered call-areas will be elected (Ed. note - including the DX Director,) as well as the President and Vice-

President. When the original Constitution was drafted, it was decided by the Board of Directors, and very wisely so, I think, that to maintain continuity of leadership, the directors would be elected on a staggered basis. This would prevent the situation which has been the demise of many groups, that is, a whole new slate of officers at the same time, with no ideas or guidance from previous administrations.

The method decided upon was to elect the directors from the even-numbered call-areas in the even years and the odd-numbered call-areas and DX directors, in the odd years, with a two-year term of office. This should give steady and continuous leadership. The newly elected director has a year to, hopefully, learn the ropes under the guidance of seasoned directors.

The votes for director each year are to be mailed to the person designated by the Board, over a period of time starting in November, and ending approximately one week before the Presidential election. Of course, you can only vote for a director from your call-area (if you are one of those individuals who has a 2 call in 9-land, through the wisdom of the FCC, then make sure you note yourself as "/9", when voting for the 9th area director.)

The Presidential Election was set up to run on the air - something which is still unique to the Century Club. People are nominated by the Board, in October and November Board meetings, and also, by the individual member through his area director. If you do not get your nomination to your area director in time for the November Board meeting, then it is too late. The nominee who receives the highest number of votes shall be declared President; the nominee with the second highest number of votes shall become Vice-President. Both shall serve for one-year terms.

The Century Club has over a thousand members, at the present time. There is no reason why a majority of those cannot take a few minutes, on election night, to fire up the rig and vote. Some members have complained about the lack of a secret ballot, for President, and will not vote because of this. The open method was picked for a number of reasons, but primarily because, with this system, there is absolutely no way that anyone can claim that they were cheated! Also, votes are not only immediately counted, but are done so by upwards of 100 people!

This closing comment on elections must be in the form of what might be called an editorial. It seems to us that, while there are no service requirements for any office in the Club, that the President, especially, charged as he is by the Constitution and By-Laws to oversee the operations of the Club, should be elected from among those members with a background of service to the Club, in other capacities: Former, or current - Awards managers, Area Directors, Secretaries, NCS Coordinators, etc., would be good choices, since those positions require a person to be thoroughly familiar with the Club. It IS POSSIBLE to be elected President TWO WEEKS AFTER BECOMING A MEMBER, but if that happened, we think the common sense of many voters would have to be questioned.

That about covers it for now. The dates of the various elections and the candidates are listed elsewhere in this issue. Read them over, make a choice and, FOR PETE'S SAKE, VOTE!!!!!!

#### EDITOR'S NOTE by WD4CQY

The authors of the preceding and the following articles are the two candidates for Club President, in the 1983 elections. Fairness dictates that their articles appear on the same page, and that their order of appearance be scientifically determined. So it is, and so it was - I flipped a coin!

The "Centurion" wishes it could provide pictures and biographical sketches on these two candidates, but it is not possible. During its first year and a half of publication, the "Centurion" continually solicited pictures and bios from the Officers and Directors of the 3905 Century Club, Inc. Thus far, one photograph and zero bios have been received. MAY THE BEST PERSON WIN!

#### AN OPEN LETTER TO THE MEMBERSHIP by KB9QP

I don't quite know how to approach the subject I have in mind. I have belonged to many organizations, over the years. They all have one thing in common: 10% of the members do the work of keeping the organization running, while the rest go along for the ride. I have always prided myself as being one of the 10%.

In the nearly two years that I have served as the Ninth Call-Area Director, I have received THREE letters from members, with suggestions or complaints. I plan on running, again; and, if re-elected, I would like to get more input.

I have voted on my own convictions, in all matters before the Board. This is not really just, because I was elected to represent all the members. Without any input, how could I?

I want to take this opportunity to thank the officers, QSL Bureau Managers, NCSs, and the hardy individuals who check in, night after night. They have combined to give me two years of enjoyment.

I have to thank even the QRMers and the Tuners-Up who have added a certain spice and challenge to the net.

In conclusion, let your officers hear from you. We need YOUR suggestions. And, when someone asks for a volunteer - NCS, or otherwise - don't wait for the other guy. JUMP IN! YOU'LL LIKE IT !! I KNOW!!!

#### LINES LOST IN THE QRM by WD4CQY (cont.)

"The grass is always greener in the neighbor's yard...but, his water bill is higher!" (Gene Byrnes, in an interview on why he returned from WCAU, Philadelphia, to WKIS, Orlando, as shown on WFTV-TV, Orlando, FL)





Before the next issue of our "Centurion", the 3905 Century Club, Inc. will have a new President. The presidential election will be held on the air on Saturday, January 22, 1983, local date. The election will be held on both 80 and 40 meters, on our net frequencies, and will replace the regular nets, that night. By the time you read this, the slate of candidates will be complete and should appear elsewhere in this issue. Everyone vote for the candidate of your choice; but, do vote.

Elections for area directors for DX and the odd-numbered U.S. call areas will be held between now and January 15, 1983. Area directors are elected by mail-in ballots, and all ballots must be mailed to KC4CZ in time to reach him by January 15, 1983. (Editor's note: KC4CZ's address is in the Officers/Directors Roster, on the back of the mailer face of this issue of the "Centurion".) Listen to our nets for more information on candidates.

The planning for Eyeball 6 for next summer must begin within the next couple of months. Any suggestions you have for a site, date, activities, etc. will help us have a better Eyeball 6. Discuss your suggestions with any Club officer. We need suggestions on possible sites for future Eyeballs (including #6) that satisfy these requirements:

1. Facilities for a complete amateur radio station protected from the elements.
2. Space and facilities for the hams.
3. Nearby activities for the families, such as amusement parks or other attractions to keep them occupied.
4. Motels near the Eyeball area.
5. Camping facilities at or near the Eyeball area.
6. Centrally located for the majority of our members.
7. Someone close enough to the Eyeball site that is willing, and will, coordinate the plans and arrangements at the site.

If you know of a place that satisfies these requirements please discuss it with any Club officer. We need more locations to select from.

We need net controls; our nets can't function without them. I know that many of you would be excellent net controls if you would give it a try. It is a pain in the neck, but it is also a lot of fun and provides a vital service to our Club. If you will take the challenge, let these Net Control Coordinators know, and they will give you a job: K1DUG, for 40 meter regular and late nets; WB9QEZ, for 80 meter regular nets; and KB3GN, for 80 meter late nets.

#### Silent Key

It is with deep regret that we record the passing of the following Club member:

N9BKY Denny Spurgeon, Moline, IL



#### NOTES FROM THE DESK OF THE AWARDS SECRETARY by WB3AMO

##### Call Area Award

One of the awards the Club offers, that some of you may not be aware of, is the Call Area Award. This award requires 25 contacts each from 80 and 40 meters. A total of 50 contacts, with a minimum of 5 with each state in the particular call area, is the requirement. On this award, you may use KH6s and KL7s toward the 6th and 7th call areas, respectively. No call may appear more than once. For example, N5CJA/4 NC and N5CJA/4 GA, etc., would be considered the same call. Cards from previous awards may be re-used for this one.

The award fee is \$4.00 for its initial issuance. Endorsements (20 possible) will be issued free, for each additional call area.

#### NEW CALL-SIGNS from WB3AMO

N9CYM now KC9SM  
W4MNZ now KF4EO

N8DDQ now KC8ZD  
KB6FR/W3, /VE3, etc.

WB3GDB now KC3AM

WB7QQM now KQ7Y

now VK2WU (w/ XYL VK3VHG)

#### LINES LOST IN THE QRM (Cont.) by WD4CQY

Possible U.S. Post Office motto: "We will move no mail before it's time." (USPS executive to Harry Reasoner, as quoted on "60 Minutes", CBS TV.)

#### CURRENT 75 METER NET CONTROL STATIONS from information from WB9QEZ

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
WA1ROI	KC4CZ	KA1SR	KA9BSD	KB4CN	KC3EC	*WA4SGP

(\* Except 2nd Saturdays, then KC9DZ)

#### SUBSCRIPTIONS, NOT DUES by WD4CQY

The 3905 Century Club, Inc. charges NO DUES. There are FEES (\$4) for awards certificates; endorsements require only an SASE.

The Century Club "Centurion" - this here rag - has a subscription cost of \$3 (or \$4) (See the upper left of the masthead of this issue for details on subscription rates.)

I find it necessary to print this distinction for a couple of reasons. First, a handful of subscription/renewal checks come in with "dues" written on the "for" or "memo" line. Secondly, I have one pair of subscribers with the same surname and same address that continue to renew BOTH subscriptions.

The Century Club has no dues - only fees; the "Centurion" has no dues nor fees - only subscriptions.

#### CALIBRATE YOUR SPEEDOMETER? by WD4CQY

On the Interstate highways, where there are mile markers, you can easily calibrate your automobile speedometer using either:  $\frac{3600}{\text{secs. for 1 mi.}} = \text{MPH}$ , or:  $\frac{55}{65.5} \frac{45}{80} \frac{40}{90} \frac{30}{120} \text{ MPH}$  secs. mile



I would like to thank George, WB3IZK, for his work as the 75 meter QSL Bureau Manager for the period that he operated it. George did a great job. I just hope I can do as well, during the time I operate it.

Now, I would like to mention some, hopefully, helpful hints and suggestions that I think will help me to operate the bureau in the most efficient and expeditious manner, and at the same time keep all of the users of the bureau happy.

First, let's talk about SASEs and postage. I see a lot of waste due to the amount of postage on the SASEs, and the make and sizes of the envelopes. First class postage is 20¢, 37¢ and 54¢ for one, two and three ounces, respectively. Envelopes range in size from 3½" X 6½" to 6½" X 9½", and most of the odd-size envelopes are made of a heavy substance, which adds weight. Instead of getting 6 to 8 cards in the envelope for 20¢, I can only get maybe 5 cards in them. I realize that most stations do not like to receive folded cards, so they use these odd-size envelopes, however 99% of the cards going through the bureau will fit in a normal 4" X 9½" business size envelope without being folded, and these envelopes are about as light in weight as you can use. Based on these findings, I suggest that everyone use the 4" X 9½" envelopes, with 20¢ or 37¢ postage on them. I would suggest 20¢ postage if you wish to receive cards quickly. If you are in no hurry, put 37¢ on your SASEs. This will take care of about fifteen cards.

Secondly, please keep at least 3 SASEs on file in the bureau, with all the calls you have held in the last three years, in the upper lefthand corner, to include your YL's/OM's calls. There are some cases where we do not know what calls are combos. Please insure you have put postage on your SASE. Don't send loose stamps, money, money orders or checks. The reasons for this is twofold. Number one, these items can be lost, and number two, it is easier for the user to get the stamps and put them on his own envelopes, than for me to have to do it for a dozen or so different people. It takes time to do this, and at present, I average one to three hours a day sorting cards, stuffing envelopes and getting envelopes ready for mailing. All I am asking for is a little help, please.

Thirdly, please make sure your cards are legible. For example, I have had some cases where I could not tell whether the call on the card had a U or a V in it. I also would like to ask that if you work a station and that station says "QSL through the bureau via -----", please note this somewhere on the card. Also, if QSLing a combo, write "in combo with ---", please.

Fourth, I would like to ask the QSL bureau users, who feel we should take care of the postage for mailing cards to the DX stations, to just send me an extra stamp, from time to time, so I can build up a small postage fund for DX cards. The DX stations are pretty good about mailing their cards to us, but it is difficult for them to furnish SASEs to the bureau. Some of the Century Club members have done this already, and have also sent donations, which we have put toward this fund. I want to thank these people very much for their thoughtfulness.

My last item is the following list of stations that have QSL cards at the bureau without SASEs. I wish all readers of this article would let these people know about their cards if you know them or if you run into them on the air. This list was correct as of October 4, 1982:

KB1AE	WB1AEK	N1AFD	N1AGX	W1AHM	N1ALM	KB1AQ	W1AUW	N1BED	N1BJP	N1BNC	N1BOF
N1BPD	KA1BSZ	N1BWU	KA1BY	N1BYH	K1BYL	KF1C	KA1CIE	WB1CII	KA1CNG	W1CUI	KA1CXP
WB1DXI	WB1DXZ	KA1EDS	KA1FDN	KA1FYI	KB1G	WA1GCT	KA1GQR	AE1H	KA1HAY	KA1HGN	WB1HHG
K1IEQ	K1IVJ	KA1IQR	KA1IVY	KA1JC	WA1JCN	W1KFC	N1KK	KA1LN	W1MTN	WA1NDW	W1NFE
K1NLQ	KA1NY	WA1ONT	KG1OT	WA1ROI	KA1SU	KC1T	WA1TCA	WA1TMZ	KA1UE	KA1UM	N1VTJ
W1WHL	WA1WRI	WA1YAZ	WA1YIO	KA1Z	KJ1Z	N2AFS	WA2AIB	N2AKC	WA2BGE	N2BGU	WB2BIN
KA2CNG	K2CTJ	KA2DIJ	KB2DK	KA2ECV	WA2EOO	WA2EUG	WA2FUM	WA2INP	K2IYQ	NP4AI	WA2JDP
K2JIY	WB2JGL	WB2JGN	KA2JUR	KA2KCF	W2KRH	W2LGE	WB2MMN	WB2NPE	WB2OPC	KA2PEF	WB2QCR
KC2RB	N2SS	KK2T	WB2TDE	WB2TKU	WA2TRZ	WA2TXM	KR2U	WA2UEG	W2VVB	WA2VZG	K2WE
KB2XL	KB2ZY	WA2ZYS	N3ADI	N3AHA	KC3AJ	N3ATU	WB3BBG	N3BNA	WB3BPG	WB3CEJ	N3CGH
N3CQR	KA3CWA	KA3DDB	KC3DF	KA3EDX	KA3EPX	KA3IEW	WB3FFE	KB3GB	KA3GEO	KA3GGH	WB3GXD
KI3H	WA3HDS	K3HJH	K3HPG	WB3IVX	KB3IY	WB3JIU	KA3JMP	WB3JRU	WB3JUC	WA3KMK	WB3KUH
AK3L	KB3PY	WA3QQW	KB3RY	WA3HDS	KB3YK	K3ZCY	N4ACS	N4AEA	KA4ACB	N4ARG	N4BAQ
W4BKP	N4BQY	K4CRP	KK4D	N4DAG	K4EVB	WB4FFE	W4FJV	K4GKO	WB4GNS	KE4HI	KA4HNV
NR4I	KC4IF	WA4JCC	K4JJ	KA4JMD	KA4JMZ	WA4JWX	WA4KFS	AA4KY	W4LIE	KA4LPM	KA4LR
KA4LRM	KA4LRN	WD4LVQ	WD4LZQ	K4LZS	WB4M	KA4MVN	WA4MWY	K4NLN	KD4NZ	WA4OIB	WD4OJF
KE4OO	K4OXC	KA4PKB	KM4Q	WD4RCO	WD4RDW	WA4SCF	KD4TN	WA4TQE	KE4TR	NI4U	AA4US
KA4VIP	KD4WN	KQ4X	NW4X	K4YMQ	WB4YXD	W4YZX	KC4ZD	WA4ZIZ	WD5AFR	W5CGA	N5DFC
KA5DGZ	N5DHP	K5DKG	KB5DM	KA5EHP	KC5ET	N5EZN	KT5F	KV5F	WB5GMK	KA5HFB	K5HKG
W5HMW	KA5IAT	KC5IG	KC5JM	WB5LRS	KA5LZD	WB5MDK	WB5MDR	WA5MTI	WB5MYR	WA5NTI	KA5NYT
WB5OCB	KI5P	K5QHU	WB5RVJ	WB5SVF	WB5SVM	W5SXL	WB5TFX	WB5TFY	KC5WM	K5WSC	N6AFD
W6EOL	KA6HSS	KK6K	W6LKT	WA6CFD	KA6VLX	KA7ABL	KC7BU	N7BWU	WB7CJE	N7CKT	N7DBU
KC7EG	K7ERR	KU7F	WN7GUE	W7HAH	KD7JU	KB7LK	KB7LX	WA7NTH	KB7QI	WA7QNA	WA7UBC
KB7UL	W7UWU	KC7YC	KB7WU	N8AZS	KA8BAC	W8BXZ	N8CBA	N8CNT	N8CVQ	WB8DAR	N8DCJ
N8DEQ	N8DFW	N8DGZ	N8DOL	N8DSJ	KA8DTD	KA8DYO	N8EEN	N8ERA	KA8FEL	KC8FM	KA8GCV
WA8GMT	WA8HNK	KW8I	WD8IIA	KA8KAJ	WD8KKN	KA8LDS	WD8LDY	WD8LYX	KA8MDG	W8MFB	KB8MN
W8NCF	KC8ND	KA8NZZ	WN8ODT	WD8OFP	WB8PKF	KC8QQ	KB8UN	WB8UZS	W8VCF	K8VFW	WA8WAI
WB8WDD	K8WFW	WA8WFX	WA8YTM	N8ZS	N9AXN	N9BAN	N9BBM	N9CXA	N9CYA	WA9FET	KA9JOT
KC9JT	W9JVE	WB9LPH	KC9NT	W9NUF	WB9QEX	W9QK	WB9RVN	KB9UG	W9YXV	WA9ZBZ	KC9AF
N9AFW	KC9AM	WA9AUF	N9AZF	N9AZK	K9BKL	WB9BLX	N9CIH	N9CUX	KA9CYB	KA9DML	KU9E
KE9F	KA9GCV	KA9GMG	KA9GTA	WD9HBM	KA9JAN	KA9JVD	W9KXZ	KA9LQC	WB9RSC	W9RSK	KC9RZ
WA9SLJ	K9UBK	W9UBT	KC9W	WA9WNV	WA9ZEQ	VE1RY	VE3FCM	VE3HVH	VE3HX	VE3PNM	VE3KQF
VE3NQG	VE4AGT	VE5DB	VE7AVN								

In closing, I would like to thank everyone for their assistance, and hope to be able to run a successful and efficient QSL bureau for each and every one of you who elect to use the bureau. Furthermore, if you have any suggestions on operating the bureau, please feel free to send them to me in your next mailing to the bureau, and it will be appraised and maybe implemented.

FROM THE BOARD ROOM by WD4CQY

There was no quorum of Directors present at "Eye-Ball FIVE", at Dogpatch, AR, hence the August Board meeting was cancelled.

At the September Board meeting, the Chairman of the Awards Committee made a preliminary report. Also, it was decided that, for awards purposes, "QRP" means "10 w. or less output".



"EYE-BALL FIVE" extracts from the letter-report of KA5HFB

Dec., 1982 5.

(Ed. note: Letha's 10-page letter reporting on the Dogpatch get-together arrived after the Sept. "Centurion" already had been printed. But, since now it's time to start thinking about "Eye-Ball SIX", much of it is still applicable.)

"There were 39 members from 16 states plus Canada, in attendance. For a 3-day Eye-ball, it really lasted from the Saturday of the week before till the Monday the week after - (Aug.) 7th - 16th!... I guarantee you, if it had been any more enjoyable, I couldn't've stood it! We had a pre-Eyeball station on the air from the 7th on; and on Friday and Saturday nights, (we) had two stations on the air. So, for the first time (I think!), (we) had an opportunity to run BOTH nets, from the Eyeball site.

"After warning everyone all year that Boone and Newton Counties were 'dry' - and since it never, ever rains, in Arkansas, in August; would you believe we had rains from light showers, on the 7th, to a veritable flood on the 13th - everyday! And, since the large tent we borrowed was more "holey" than "righteous", I was practically in tears. But, fortunately, after Friday morning's downpour, it cleared up and was beautiful. Believe me, on Thursday night, we were a very 'close' group!

"Marianne, W3LQY, was presented (with) the Annual Service Award - and I say no one deserves it more.

"Bill, VE3HR, had Bob, KB9QP, hold the "Gourdhead Award" while Bill made some presentations, and after a most delightful speech and presentation, decided to let Bob keep it - for a year, anyway.

"The people at Dogpatch were really super nice and helpful - everything from making us welcome, making local phone calls for me and donating some prizes for the Bingo game.

"Especially super were the owners of Rock Candy Mountain Campgrounds, Norris and Joey Nation. They just went out of their way for all of us, all week, in every way; and, to top it all off, they threw a watermelon feed, after the cookout, on Saturday night... both they, and the Dogpatch people, were very, very impressed with the friendliness, courteousness, neatness - everything about our whole bunch - moreso than any other group that had visited with them. We should be very proud.

"If anyone enjoyed it even half as much as I did, I don't know how I could've stood it!"

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PUBLICATION NOTICE: Articles for the March issue should be in my mail box no later than Feb. 19.

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LETTERS - extracts by WD4CQY

This column will appear, in the "Centurion", from time to time, when enough letters, with passages of general interest to its subscribers, are received. The bits and pieces quoted will be attributed to the letter writer, unless I'm asked not to so identify the writer.

From Mel, W5AWT: "To those who work me as a 'mobile' and who have worked me before, do NOT send me a second or third QSL - I will send a 'mobile reply card' to you for all (mobile) contacts made. If it is our first contact, I will send my personal QSL. This will save some of you a bunch of cards that I cannot use." (Ed. note: But, also see the "Where Does It Say That..." column in the Sept., '82 "Centurion".)

From Bob, K4KWN: "I can sympathize with you (because) I write a newsletter for (a) service club... and have been for the past seven years... every week, fifty times a year. I feel for your frustration in the lack of articles being supplied from the membership... I, too, have experienced that. The only consolation I can offer is that I enjoy the chance to editorialize periodically... If I step on anyone's toes, that's the breaks... If they don't like it, they can get a new Editor.

"... and, as I read in a Matt Helm book 'Illigetimi Non Carborundum' which means 'don't let the bastards grind you down'." (Ed. note: My sincere thanks for these remarks, your other supportive comments, and your confirmation that my editorship was not unique. Also, FYI Bob, your Latin quotation from Matt Helm is, I believe, now the official motto of more than one division of the U.S. Navy's Construction Battalions (CBs). Hi.)

(Explanatory note: The following subscriber mailed me his "change of address" on the same post as he mailed a cancellation notice of his TEMPORARY change of address to his home post office. Two weeks later his "Centurion" was mailed to his current ("rat-now", today, home, etc.) address. It was returned to the "Centurion" with virtually every square centimeter covered with stamped ink - "return to sender", "not known this address", "no such address", etc., etc. ... Everything except "post no bills"! I put his "Centurion" in an envelope addressed to his former address, with a note: "Postmaster, please forward as necessary." In that context, here are his letter extracts.)

From Bill, WB5MDR: "Chalk up another one to the 'box-crushers'.

"Have you heard of the latest gift? It's called 'Post Office Wine'. Take fresh grapes and put them in a waterproof container. Wrap in brown paper and mark 'fragile'. Mail it to a friend.

"Really, though, the post office doesn't do too terrible a job, (with) reasonable rates, too. Only a penny a day for delivering a letter."

(Ed. note: Bill also sent in a copy of his computer-printer net log sheet. Space permitting, it will be printed, with an explanation of his use of it, in the March, '83 "Centurion".)

There were several responses to my request for phrases describing eccentrics - some appear elsewhere in this issue. They are still solicited, and, for the best one submitted each issue, in the opinion of the "Centurion's" Board of Judges (ME - and my XYL breaks ties), you get \$1 off your next renewal. For this issue, however, the winner is Bob, K4KWN for his: "He's toting water with a leaky bucket." Tnx, Bob, your renewal only costs \$2.

There were two writers who submitted fillers based on Murphy's Law. We'll tackle Murphy, in the March issue.

Finally, to all the other letter writers, look elsewhere in this issue for the gist of your letters. If I missed yours, I'll swear to God I'll blame it on the "Box-Crushers"! And, thanks all!

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THE "CENTURION" WISHES ALL ITS SUBSCRIBERS A MERRY CHRISTMAS\* A HAPPY HANNAKAH\* SAFE HOLIDAYS\* PEACE



If such there breathes, go mark him well,  
For he nor she shall ever dwell,  
In the hearts and log-books of this club,  
(And that'll have to do it, Bub;  
'Cause now I'm QRL!)

COMPLIMENTARY COPY OF THE CENTURION by WD4CQX

For several months, now, your Editor has been receiving a complimentary copy of the Raleigh (NC) Amateur Radio Society, Inc.'s Club Bulletin.

Effective with this issue, RARC will receive a complimentary copy of the "Centurion".  
(Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, Frank, Ann and, especially you, "Doc".)

"BREAK-BREAK" an Editorial by WD4CQY

On Friday, November 5th, my minister died of a massive heart attack. He and his wife were entering the church office. She immediately phoned the fire department paramedics, who responded quickly. Unfortunately, this small Florida city had decided to put the fire department on the same commercial radio channel as was assigned to the city's several other utilities services (rather than the police department)(See below.)

The paramedic with his HH tried several times to break a conversation between the utility people and their workers the latter of whom were trying to find a sewer leak! There is no evidence that he ever transmitted "break-break", or "emergency", etc. - or for that matter, whether the utility department people would've even RECOGNIZED such a transmission. For this reason, the paramedic was unable to get through to his dispatcher to request an ambulance and higher level medical assistance.

It seems to me that our emergency services - police, fire, ambulance and, where applicable, marine patrol - should have AT LEAST ONE COMMON CHANNEL, but, I'm given to understand that there is an FCC regulation PROHIBITING ANYONE (PRESUMABLY INCLUDING THE PRESIDENT OF THE U.S.) FROM TRANSMITTING ON ANY POLICE-ASSIGNED FREQUENCY. I've tried to "wring this out", locally, without too much success; so, if any "Centurion" reader has any further information, please let me know.

Alternatively, it seems to me that, with the taxes all of us are paying, it's not too much to ask for our emergency services to instal mobile CB radios with a Channel 9 capability, as a back-up.

Further, it seems that we should instruct our emergency services personnel on how to DEMAND THE ONLY FREQUENCY THEY MAY HAVE AVAILABLE.

This brings me to the point of this diatribe. As most of you well know, whether I'm QNC or just QNI, on our nets, when I hear a MULTIPLE BREAK ("break-break", or the more common "break-break-break-break-break"), you're gonna hear me stop the net AND ASK THE NATURE OF YOUR EMERGENCY.

It turns out that most "break-breaks" are "crying wolf"; but, for heaven's sake, PLEASE CONTINUE TO TREAT EVERY DOUBLE BREAK AS AN EMERGENCY! (AND, DON'T SAY "BREAK-BREAK", UNLESS YOU REALLY MEAN IT.)

Having flown airplanes, off and on, for some 34 years, I've never found it necessary to say "MAYDAY"; but, by God, if I have to say "MAYDAY", tomorrow, YOU'D DAMN WELL BETTER RESPOND, or I'll make sure that Saint Peter takes you off his list!



LOVE STORY by WD4CQY

This big hairy fellow stood on the shore gazing southward. Finally, he could stand it no longer and he plunged into the sound, swam a mile across the frigid waters from mainland Nova Scotia to the little island to his lady love.

The object of the moose's affection was ... A FOG HORN.  
(The Nova Scotia Conservationists, after much thought, gave up on trying to transport the moose back to the mainland. Perhaps next spring, he'll swim back by himself.)  
(From a story read by Jeff Kamen, WPIX, laughing to kill himself, on Independent Network News - TV.)

ODD CALL-AREA DIRECTORS' ELECTIONS by WD4CQY

The call-signs of those members running for director were not available at press time.

EYEBALL SIX BOOKLETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR \$6 FROM:  
KB9QP, Bob Hartenstein, RR 1, Box 104-AA, Springport, IN 47386.