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QST Issue: Mar 1970

Title: WX3MAS

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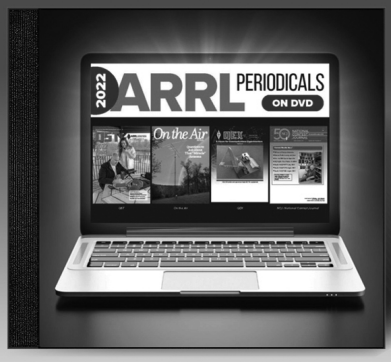

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Correspondence From Members-

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ANNIVERSARY PREFIX

Your League Lines in the January 1970 issue comments on a distinctive prefix for 1976 for the 200th anniversary of American Independence. Why not say it as it is and use AI for the world to hear! — *H. C. Keil, WA9AIH, La Grange, IL 60525.*

Nix to the whole idea. The potential of 300,000 U. S. hams changing their prefixes for a year could be very confusing to all concerned. Other countries' experience is not valid in this case because of the relatively small number of hams in the rest of the world. - *Thomas F. Carten, WA1DJC, Gloucester, MA 01930.*

Yes, lets have a 200th anniversary prefix. Try to keep all call holders happy! - *Richard W. Rundall, K6ARE, Livermore, CA 94550.*

Suggestions for and actual uses of special calls have been known in the recent past when some nation was in a great year. However, the world knows the United States and the world knows our W and K calls very well. We don't need a special red, white and blue paint-job to let anyone know we are Americans. In fact, it would be confusion to do anything but go by no alias, only by our "right names." We are not children who must act like pompous primitives. — *Temple Nieter, W9YLD, Evanston, IL 60202.*

I wish to go on record as being vehemently opposed to the idea on the grounds that it would cause untold confusion. I am all for commemorating the event but not in this manner. — *James E. Thayer, W1FZ, Farmington, NH 03835.*

WEAK GRIPE

Of all the gripes and groans in ham radio, I believe that mine is the weakest of them all.

Many old timers can tell that my age falls in the high school category by the way I speak. They then start sermonizing on why ham radio is good for you and you'll never regret having a ticket and how it can help you in college and the rest of your life thereafter. When you're my age your parents or guardians tell you what's best and good for you. The same goes for guidance counselors and teachers in school. Both are fine in my book; but when I turn on the rig I like to talk to people and have a good time and escape the daily rat race of people telling me what's best. — *Gordon Belle, WA1JWQ, Brookline, MA 02146.*

WX3MAS

On behalf of the officers and members of The Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club (W3OK) located in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, I would like to express our thanks for your help in promoting our recent club project WX3MAS Christmas City U. S. A.

The official bulletin sent out from W1AW really played a big part in our tremendous success. Literally hundreds of the stations worked during the project commented that they heard the bulletin about our project and were there waiting for us to put WX3MAS on the air. A total of 7,186 contacts in all 50 states and 102 DX countries were made. We felt it was a tremendous success and also a heart-warming and rewarding experience which will long be remembered. — *Norman Zoltack, WA3FGS, Bethlehem, PA 18017.*

IT SEEMS TO US

An editorial column like "It Seems to Us..." does NOT belong in a magazine like *QST*, and should be removed.

Why do magazines print editorials? Most publications are privately-owned, and their editorials express the ownerships' opinions. But *QST* is owned by tens of thousands of League members. John Huntoon may be the editor, but beyond that, he is a League member, just like the 90,000 or so others of us. So why does he get a page and a half of prime editorial space each issue, while the rest of us are confined to a few column inches in the correspondence column?

It should be fairly obvious, then, that a column like Mr. Huntoon's represents an imbalance, as well as a threat to the democratic spirit of the ARRL. In view of this, the column should be deleted immediately. Do any other League members agree? — *Frank O'Donnell, La Habra, CA 90631.*

FIVE-BANDERS

Congratulations! For the first time I feel compelled to write you to commend you on one of your actions, which I believe has done an outstanding service to amateur radio — the institution of the 5BDXCC and 5BWAS awards. I am a college student, and while home for Xmas I was so shocked to see the activity on ten and fifteen meters — never have I heard the bands so populated! Although the awards do not encourage long QSOs, at least people are operating and showing FCC there is significant activity to warrant that the "seldom used" amateur bands be kept for amateurs. I also hope that those operating on these bands for the 5B awards will also discover that they are good for the longer, friendly QSOs that hams are noted for. — *Timothy G. Juhl, WA8QWR, Almont, MI 48003.*

JANUARY'S OUCH

I know it is in the interest of fairness that you publish criticism as well as plaudits in the "Correspondence from Members" column of *QST*. This practice is laudable when the criticism is thoughtful and constructive. I am disgusted, however, with the occasional "rabid ravings" of angry, ill-informed people which you see fit to print. It is distressing to see their bitter invective given the attention of being published.