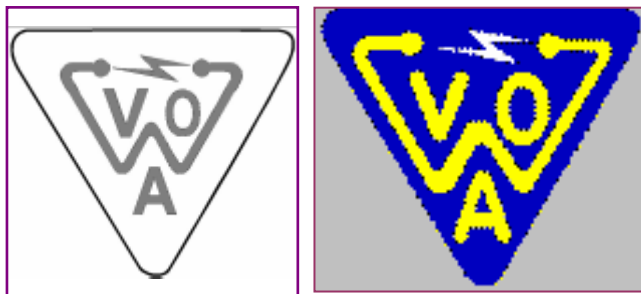


VWOA NEWSLETTER

Email Issue #33

Francis T. Cassidy Editor

2008



The **2008 VWOA AWARDS LUNCHEON** is planned for **Saturday, April 26, 2008** on the Top Deck of the Seamen's Church Institute in Manhattan.

This will be our 83rd Annual Banquet. Make sure you mark your own Appointment Calendar to put aside this date and make a Resolution and Reservation to attend.

Meet and greet some New and Old Friends at the Reception which starts at 1300 Hours.

Frederick H. "Fritz" Raab, Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering, with Call Sign W1FR and owner of consulting company Green Mountain Radio Research of Colchester, Vermont will be the main speaker at the Luncheon.

He will speak on **"The Revival of 600 meters"** in his present capacity of Experimental Project Manager for The 500 KC Experimental Group for Amateur Radio.



**Frederick H. "Fritz" Raab, PhD.
Green Mountain Radio Research**

He was appointed the project coordinator for the ARRL-sponsored 500-kHz experiment and responsible for obtaining the WD2XSH experimental license which initially allows a group of 21 amateurs to begin exploration of this unique part of the spectrum, possibly paving the way for a future amateur band. The two key objectives of the license are:

Demonstration of Non interference with other services; as well as Experimentation with regional ground-wave communications.

For those of you who have misplaced your previous invitations to join in the 83rd Annual Award Luncheon on April 26, 2008, I have attached to this Newsletter #33 copies of the Reservation Forms for the Luncheon, if you need to use them. If you can't attend, please send your 73s and/or QSL, Business cards so as to be mentioned as supporting VWOA in the 2008 Yearbook.

Rev. Mary F. Grambsch, who served as the VWOA Chaplain announces her departure from the Seamen's Church Institute after 14 Years of Service.

For those of you who have not attended our functions, here are some photos as a reminder.



Rev. Mary F. Grambsch and former VWOA Treasurer Herman Arond at 2007 Awards Luncheon.



Rev. Mary F. Grambsch with Doug Stivison and Ray Mullin at 2002 Awards Luncheon



Rev. Mary F. Grambsch with Doug Stivison and John Dziekan at 2002 Awards Luncheon

Our VWOA President Alan Ehrlich received the following letter from Rev. Mary:

February 5, 2008

Dear Alan:

It is with a sad, but, grateful heart that I tell you I will be leaving the Seamen's Church Institute at the end of February 2008. My last day is February 28th which is also the monthly meeting day of The Edwin J. O'Hara Chapter of the American Merchant Marine Veteran's. I can not think of a more fitting event to close my ministry at SCI than an O'Hara Chapter meeting.

It has been my pleasure and joy to serve you as a Chaplain and Port Missioner for almost 14 years, and you merchant mariners will always be close to my heart and in my prayers. You are my heroes and I feel so fortunate in meeting all of you. I have learned so much from you and knowing you has made me a better person, a better American and a better priest. Thank you for the gift of those lessons. I will treasure them always.

You will be hearing from SCI after February about what changes may be happening. SCI was founded, almost 175 years ago, to serve and care for you mariners and that ministry continues. If you have a need (you are ill or in hospital, don't

understand a document, are having problems with housing or need an advocate to help solve a problem, etc.), please call SCI 212-349-9090 and ask for Ms. Tami Kurtz or Rev. David Rider and they will assist you.

I wish every one of you fair winds, smooth sailing and a good harbor at journeys end. Please pray for me as I pray for you. Blessings to you.

Faithfully,
The Rev. Mary F. Grambsch

p.s. It has been wonderful getting to know you and the VWOA men. Thank you for all your help and support for me and the AMMV over the years. I will miss you.

Love,
Mary g.

Alan was able to meet up with Rev. Mary at that meeting of the O'Hara Chapter and presented her with a VWOA Membership Plaque, commemorating her many years of Service as Chaplain of the VWOA until 2008.

More pictures were promised, but as this issue of the Newsletter is delivered, none were received by the Editor.

We at VWOA wish her well in all her forth coming missions and are sure she will care for them as she cared for the VWOA.

WVOA MEMBER NEWS

We at WVOA want to thank you for your favorable responses to your WVOA Email Newsletter.

We can only continue this form of Celebrating the Past if all of our WVOA Members make known some of their personal special events that contributed to their career in Wireless.

We want to hear from YOU. Dig into your memories and share them with the rest of your WVOA Members.

WENDELL'S NEWS CORNER

----- Original Message -----

From: Jim Loback

To: Marzen Hardware, Inc

Sent: Friday, February 15, 2008 5:16 PM

Subject: STORIS MUSEUM

Bob,

We are proceeding with our efforts to obtain STORIS for a museum and are now looking for help.

Can you get the following info out to all your Coast Guard contacts. The web site will be closely tracing what is going on so that is the place to look.

"STORIS MUSEUM" - We are in the process of obtaining the former CGC STORIS for a

museum in Juneau, Alaska. This will be a museum for all Alaska's maritime history as well as Coast Guard and the Revenue Cutter Service. We are currently looking for any historical information and artifacts for the museum. Contact: storismuseum.org Jim Loback at (714) 968 8964.

What a great issue. Thank you very much.

Re SK W3DB was Old Old Timers Club member also
thank you for the SK report.

Bert. W5JNK, OOTC

From: <k2lre

To: <ftcassidy@optonline.net>

Subject: Newsletter

Date: Friday, February 22, 2008 9:34 PM

Your Issue # 32 was great. I was stationed on Adak Island in the Aleutians for almost 2 years and enjoyed Jolly's account , good story.

73?? de Mike

February 5, 2008

----- Original Message -----

From: Joe Gardner

To: wenben@nyc.rr.com

Sent: Tuesday, February 12, 2008 10:55 AM

Subject: Keystone Radio School

Hi Wendell,

Got the invoice and, as they say, "The check's in the mail !! ;-)

Here is some info on the Keystone Radio School at the Bedford Springs that we talked about on the phone.

Information is really lacking here in Bedford (of all places!); mostly just newspaper articles.

I would like to know if any of our members, besides you, attended the school and have any memories or artifacts they would like to share.

As I mentioned on the phone, my father, too old for the service, was the manager of buildings and grounds at the school. He was well-suited for the job: he was the golf pro ! ;-)
Mostly he was a boyhood chum of the school's founder.

Below is the website for information on the Radio School (Naval Training Center) at the Springs, held by the Bedford County Historical Society.

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~paphsbc/HistoryRoom.html> The Springs info is about half-way down the page. I've copied it:

VOLUME # 6

Naval Training Center:

- a) Japanese leaving Springs next week to return home - -
Bedford Gazette November 9, 1945
- b) 14 More Japs sent to Springs - -
October 19, 1945
- c) Japs at Springs include War Lords, says James Young - -
Bedford Gazette September 14, 1945
- d) Why keep Japs at luxury resort? - -
Pittsburgh Sunday
Sun-Telegraph September 9, 1945
- e) Missouri to be scene of historic Jap surrender - -
Bedford Gazette August 31, 1945 - - -
Japanese internee died at Springs of heart attack
- - Bedford Gazette August 31, 1945
- d) Japs surrender, ending history's greatest war - - Bedford Gazette August 14, 1945
- e) Luxurious resort to house Japanese Diplomats - - Bedford Gazette august 9, 1945
- f) Japs to be housed at Springs called Blue Chip of war - - Bedford Gazette July 27, 1945
- g) Japs Diplomats arrive in States for interment - - Bedford Gazette July 13, 1945
- h) Springs settles down as Japs start home - - Bedford Gazette November 21, 1945

- i) Japs arrive in states for internment - -
Bedford Gazette July 13, 1945
- j) More Japs arrive - - Bedford Gazette 1945
- k) Japs at Springs remain impassive at
surrender - - Bedford Gazette 1945
- l) 'Fitted in splendid style' for political refugees
from the capitol - - Bedford Gazette
Around Town by Ned Frear
- m) The Japanese at Bedford by Arthur E.
Barbeau - - The Western Pa. Historical
Magazine Vol 64 # 2
- n) First Jap - - Bedford Gazette August 17,
1945 - - - Second group of Japs arrive
- - Bedford Gazette August 17, 1945 - -

Powerful agencies combine to allay feeling
aroused by Plan to intern Japanese
Diplomats at Bedford Springs - - -
More Jap internees have arrived - Interned
nips unemotional when told peace seems near
- - -
Japs at Bedford bow surrender - - - 6 More
Japanese Diplomats May be sent to Bedford - -
August 22, 1945 - - - Springs settles down
as Japs start home - - Bedford Gazette
November 21, 1945
- - - Guard dies of heart attack as Japs leave

The "locals" made a bigger deal out of the
Japanese diplomats being interned there as
the war ended. None of the locals could afford
the \$30/day to stay there !

Best to you and yours,
-Joe Gardner

Word from Joe Gardner New Paris PA that he
received my navy radio school diploma ok
Wendell

----- Original Message -----

From: Joe Gardner

To: <wenben@nyc.rr.com>

Sent: Monday, February 25, 2008 9:59 PM

Subject: Diploma Arrived Safely !!

Wendell,

The diploma arrived here safely; no tears,
bends or dirt ! How ever does our postal
service do it? :-D

The document is quite impressive. I see it was
signed by Stanley Stroup, the founder and
president of the schools. He was my fathers
very good friend (gave him the job at the
school) and got me into the Coast Guard
when they had a waiting list of over two years
in the late 50s-early 60s. He was a Lt. Cmdr in
the Naval Reserve but on the phone, of
course, he was a typical "telephone
Commander," just like a "telephone Colonel,"
or like we had at the university, "telephone
professors." If you taught there,
whether an instructor or full professor, on the
phone one was "Professor," just like Lt. Cols.,
etc. :-D

Thank you very much for sending this historic
document; I doubt if there's another one in the
entire county. I will protect it and cherish it.

>

Vy 73, -joe K7CI

----- Original Message -----

From: Joe Gardner

To: [Wendell R Benson](#)

Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2008 2:25 PM

Subject: Re: Diploma

Hi Wendell,

Y'know, I've forgotten to mention this in several e-mails and on the phone, but it would greatly enhance our display of your Keystone Radio School Diploma if it could be accompanied by some "documentation" concerning "what happened next." All too often in museum displays, an artifact is given an accession number and merely displayed, (or worse yet, filed away) with no "history" of the "what, when, where, why, what then, and so-what" of the object for the public.

Would you be so kind as to let us know some facts about your personal and professional history that we may include w/ the document? Doesn't need to be long or extremely detailed - just some things about " your early life, how you came to be in the Navy, at this school, any impressions about the school, the area, etc. while you were here; what happened next re the Navy, your professional life after the war and any personal details re family, etc. you'd like to include, all the way up to retirement.

This will bring the document to life and make it much more meaningful and interesting to our

public, don't you think? Any other photos or anything you'd like to contribute that would enhance the story would be appreciated.

I hope you don't think I'm imposing too awfully much, but I think it would make a great story for our Heritage Center (you're too young to be a "museum piece" !! ;-))

73,

-Joe Gardner, Ph.D.

VP Bedford County Historical Society
Bedford, PA

Frank:

Looks like I will have to come up with a history for him.

Wendell

----- Original Message -----

From: Joe Gardner

To: [Wendell R Benson](#)

Sent: Tuesday, March 04, 2008 2:45 PM

Subject: Re: CAMS drops AMVER-via-HF

Holy cow !!

Well, can the hams have those freqs??? ;-)

I was a coastie op when AMVERS got started: Atlantic Merchant Vessel Reporting System. It's come a long way. We took AMVERS and WX OBS from the merchant ships and relayed it to CG stations (NMH, NMY, NMC, usually, depending on where we were) via cw or to the coastal stations, WCC, WSF, WSL, WMH, WNY, etc.

When NMC (what they called by then, CAMSLANT) "went out of the CW business, the CG tracked me down and asked that I deliver the Keynote Address. Then, after a final cw bcst, they collected up the keys from each op position, put them in a box and the Chief, accompanied by an honor guard, carried them away....wasn't a dry eye in the house....

I have a certificate for copying the last transmission (from the dias), and a key (permanently locked down) and medallion mounted on a piece of oak hanging on the wall in my shack. Also got a limited edition ZUT card and number (ZUT - coastie radio oprs group - ZUT = CW Forever !)......

So, Wendell, another era has come to a close, eh?

Joe - K7CI

Our VWOA President Alan Ehrlich called our attention to the following Web Site as the 100th Anniversary of the Ambrose Lightship approaches.

Visit the following URL which is provided by the Lightship Sailors Association:

http://www.uscglightsailsailors.org/ambrose_channel_lightship_sunk.htm

We at the VWOA Newsletter would like to hear from you and try to pass along to the rest of the VWOA stories of events that you have experienced and that you feel the rest of the membership would enjoy hearing about. Send us a picture or two and we will try to include it in one of our Email Newsletters.

We would prefer to hear from you by Email at:

ftcassidy@optonline.net

Or

wenben@nyc.rr.com

but if you must, send mail to:

VWOA

PO Box 1003 Peck Slip
New York NY 10272-1003

VETERAN WIRELESS OPERATORS ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

F. T. Cassidy
Secretary



Wendell R. Benson
Assistant Secretary

83rd ANNUAL AWARDS LUNCHEON - 2008

The 83rd Annual Awards Luncheon will take place on Saturday, April 26, 2008 at the Top Deck of the Seamen's Church Institute, 241 Water Street, New York.

The Reception and Cocktail Hour will start at 1 PM followed by the Luncheon at 2 PM. You will have a choice of grilled salmon, ½ roast of chicken, or filet mignon for the main course. The cost will be \$45 per person.

The Speakers for the Luncheon will be Fritz Raab, W1FR, Experimental Project Manager for The 500 KC Experimental Group for Amateur Radio who will speak on "The Revival of 600 meters"

Please use the coupon below to make your Luncheon Reservations, which must be sent to the **VWOA Treasurer, J. Michael Shaw**, to arrive no later than **March 28th**.

_____ Detach Coupon Here _____

2008 VWOA AWARDS LUNCHEON RESERVATION COUPON

Name

Main Course Desired

Number of tickets _____ at \$45 each for a total of \$ _____

Transfer this total to the TALLY SHEET on TALLY PAGE.

VETERAN WIRELESS OPERATORS ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

F. T. Cassidy
Secretary



Wendell R. Benson
Assistant Secretary

83rd ANNUAL AWARDS YEARBOOK - 2008 BUSINESS CARD & QSL CARD ENTRY

The 83rd Annual 2008 Yearbook will once again include business cards and QSL cards as illustrated on the next attachment sheet from the 82nd Annual 2007 Yearbook.

This is an excellent opportunity for you to present yourself to all your fellow Veteran Wireless Operators Association members by including your own personal business card or amateur radio operator's eyeball card in the yearbook. Every member of the organization will receive the yearbook, which is a traditional keepsake.

In addition to the inclusion of business and eyeball cards, you may choose to include your amateur radio QSL card for publication in the yearbook. The QSL card can be your own, or a QSL card from your collection that has special meaning for you or others, or a QSL card in memory of a Silent Key. You may choose to include either a business card, or eyeball card, or QSL card, or any combination of these items.

Please use the coupon below to make your Business/QSL card selections, which must be SENT to the VWOA Treasurer, J. Michael Shaw, to arrive no later than March 28th 2008.

Detach Coupon Here

2008 VWOA YEARBOOK BUSINESS/QSL CARD ENTRY

Name Call Sign

Business or QSL Card

Mail your **BUSINESS/QSL CARD ENTRIES** to the **VWOA Treasurer, J. Michael Shaw, 11 Caton Ter, Caldwell, NJ 07006-4808** to arrive no later than **March 28, 2008**.

Number of cards _____ at \$20 each for a total of \$ _____

Transfer this total to the TALLY SHEET on TALLY PAGE.



TALLY PAGE

For a listing on the 73 Page in the 2008 VWOA Yearbook, send your name(s) to the Treasurer by listing them on the coupon below. See rates listed on the coupon itself. Don't miss this opportunity to greet your friends. It is also another way to let your fellow members know that you appreciate the work that goes into the production of the Yearbook. Remember that the cutoff date for your listing is March 28, 2008.

73 PAGE IN YEARBOOK

Rates are: One name \$3.50 Two names (Mr. & Mrs., etc.) \$5.00

_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____

Total \$ _____

Transfer this total to the TALLY SHEET below

TALLY SHEET

Any emergency changes call VWOA Treasurer, Mike Shaw at (973) 228-5722.

Your total cost for Luncheons	\$ _____
Your total cost for Business & QSL Card	\$ _____
Your total cost for 73 Page	\$ _____
Check Total	\$ _____

Please make check totaling above payable to **VWOA, Inc.** and mail to the **VWOA Treasurer, J. Michael Shaw, 11 Caton Ter, Caldwell, NJ 07006-4808** to arrive no later than **March 28, 2008**.
Include the Luncheon Reservation Coupon with this TALLY PAGE.
Include the Business Card & QSL Card Coupon with this TALLY PAGE.



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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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E-mail: n3zpo@aol.com

Greetings from the California Mother Lode Gold Country and Radio Station

Ron Schwab
3582 Bell Road
Auburn, CA 95603

K6TTY

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Frequency of: MHz RST:

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