



WEST RIVER RADIO CLUB

DIGITAL DISPATCH

January – 2007



Volume 2

Issue #1

The West River Radio Club, an ARRL affiliated club, was founded in 2004 through the efforts of KA1ZQX, Tim Bell, and N1JSG, Richard Pierce.

Our fifty members pride themselves on belonging to an active and productive organization with involvement in many aspects of this great hobby: public service, special events, Field Day, repeaters, emergency communications, contesting and chasing DX.

Current officers are:

**N1TOX, John Borichevsky; President
KD6MPY, Sean Sanderson; VP
K1KU, Darrel Daley; Secretary/Treasurer
KA1ZQX, Tim Bell; Pubic Relations**

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

January 2007

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

I want to thank everyone who attended our December meeting. There were 30 members with accompanying family and friends in attendance. This is a true demonstration that we are one great group to be a part of. With this type of enthusiasm, we will have a great future.

With this in mind, I want to welcome everyone to the beginning of the 4th exciting year of the West River Radio Club! We are glad to have you enjoying this great hobby with us! At our last meeting, the members of WRRC nominated and elected to retain the same Board of Directors that were in office in 2006. We will continue to bring the quality information, programs, and guidance to the club as we have in the past. If you have any program ideas,

interest in writing an article for the *Digital Dispatch*, now in its second great year, or do a meeting presentation, please let us know. We are looking for your help.

We have many activities planned for this year as you can see on our web site. It will be an exciting time for all of us. Look around you and bring friends and wannabees to our club meetings and activities. As these new faces join us, our club can only be richer for it. As we "grow" our club, our "work load" will be lighter and this hobby can only become more fun.

Welcome to 2007 everyone!

73

de N1TOX
John Borichevsky

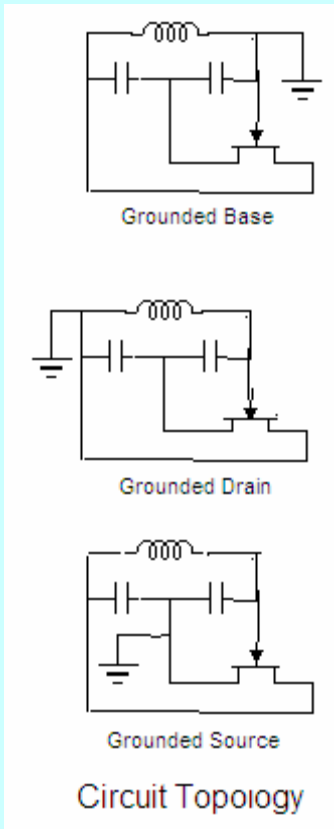


Oscillators Part II

By Grant Warner – AA1T

Oscillators can be classified in several ways. They can be classified by the active device (NPN, PNP, FET, OpAmp etc), by the common element between input and output (grounded base, emitter follower aka grounded collector, grounded emitter), by the type of feedback (inductive aka Hartley, capacitive aka Colpitts, tuned aka Pierce, RC aka phase shift) by the class of operation (class A (more on this later), AB, B, C) and several others. The most common method of classification is the type of feedback. We have all heard of the Hartley and Colpitts oscillators.

As I said in Part I of this series the most crucial characteristics of an oscillator are frequency stability and low noise. The topology of the circuit is usually of little importance.

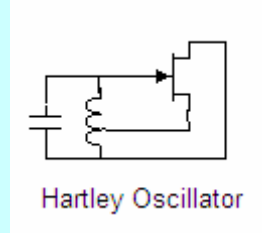


Wherever the circuit may be grounded is of relatively little importance. One topology or another may offer an advantage in some characteristic but the primary factors are not fundamentally affected. Frequency stability and low noise depend upon quality components, proper construction practice and correct biasing.

A casual perusal of the amateur literature will lead to the conclusion that the Colpitts configuration of oscillators is far and away the most common. The Colpitts oscillator derives feedback through a capacitive divider. This is usually more convenient from a constructional point of view. All the diagrams of circuit topology are Colpitts oscillators. Again this is not because its stability and noise are superior, but because it lends itself to simpler construction in that there is no need for a tapped coil. The Colpitts circuits exist in two significant modifications called the Clapp and

Seiler modifications after their inventors; more on them in a later article.

The Hartley oscillator derives its feedback through an inductive arrangement. In its most common implementation the inductance of the resonant circuit is tapped at roughly 20% from its cold end. Autotransformer action is usually invoked to explain the feedback. This is not necessary since an appropriate inductance in the emitter/drain lead will lead to oscillation.



Finally, there is the negative resistance or “one port” type of oscillators. We will talk about them later in this series.



RUNNIN' ON EMPTY

Yes, it's me again. If you were praying that I'd go away after one issue you'd better change your praying tactics.

I want to ditto all that was said by our esteemed President above, and especially, his comment on **ENTHUSIASM**. Nothing great was ever accomplished without it and we sure have our fair share of this admiral quality spread out among the officers and members of the WRRC. Keep it up!!



I also want to use this space to remind those who have not sent in their dues for 2007 to get with the program. I hate to think that this could be the last copy of the newsletter that you'll be receiving, but it could happen. Our by-laws state that the cut off for receiving dues in any year is January 31. February 1, 2007 would be a sad day for me if I had to go into the data base and delete your record from our roster. Therefore, don't make me a sad person.

Here are your choices for renewing for 2007:

- ♦ Bring along a check (made out to WRRC) or \$10 in cash to the January 9 meeting.
- ♦ Find an unused envelope and stamp and mail me a check for \$10 at:
Darrel Daley
POB 445
Putney, VT 05346

If you want to make us even richer throw in an extra \$5 and make someone else in your family an associate member. Make sure that you let me know their name.

There is no need to fill out another application, but please let John, NITOX (n1tox@comcast.net) or me (k1ku@arrl.net) know of any pertinent changes in your status – email address, snail mail address, phone number, how much weight you've lost on the new diet, etc.

BTW, how often do you glance at the box on the first page, the one with red text? Notice that the number of members continues to get larger. We must be doing something right!

To close this off I'll sneak in some sermonizing with some truly wise words by J. C. Watts – "Character is doing the right thing when no one is watching."

73,
Darrel – K1KU
Chief Editor: Digital Dispatch

ARES NET

The below is from the desk of our DEC for Windham County. That would be KA1ZQX, Tim.

All ARES members as well as other Amateur Radio Operators are cordially invited to join the Vermont Emergency Phone Net on Sunday morning at 0800 local on 3.976 MHz.

The net has been running for over 30 years and we can make it anything that we need it to be. As you may already know that the rally frequency for ARES HF is 3.976 MHz

The Amateur's Code

The Radio Amateur is:

CONSIDERATE...never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL...offers loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs, and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE...with knowledge abreast of science, a well-built and efficient station and operation above reproach.

FRIENDLY...slow and patient operating when requested; friendly advice and counsel to the beginner; kindly assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.

BALANCED...radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

PATRIOTIC...station and skill always ready for service to country and community.

--The original Amateur's Code was written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA, in 1928. (Ed. - His admonitions are just as valid today – maybe more so.)

Q: Who is the most dangerous person in the world?

A: A Ham with an idea, some wire...and a bow and arrow in his hand!!!!

NATURAL LAWS of the UNIVERSE

- Law of Mechanical Repair: After your hands become coated with grease, your nose will begin to itch.
- Law of the Workshop: Any tool, when dropped, will roll to the least accessible corner.
- Law of the Telephone: When you dial a wrong number, you never get a busy signal.
- Law of the Alibi: If you tell the boss you were late for work because you had a flat tire, the very next morning you will have a flat tire.
- Variation Law: If you change lines (or traffic lanes), the one you were in will start to move faster than the one you are in now. (works every time)
- Bath Theorem: When the body is fully immersed in water, the telephone rings.
- Law of Close Encounters: The probability of meeting someone you know increases when you are with someone you don't want to be seen with.
- Law of the Result: When you try to prove to someone that a machine won't work, it will.
- Law of Biomechanics: The severity of the itch is inversely proportional to the reach.
- Theater Rule: At any event, the people whose seats are furthest from the aisle arrive last.
- Law of Coffee: As soon as you sit down to a cup of hot coffee, your boss will ask you to do something which will last until the coffee is cold.
- Murphy's Law of Lockers: If there are only two people in a locker room, they will have adjacent lockers.
- Law of Dirty Rugs/Carpets: The chances of an open-faced jelly sandwich of landing face down on a floor covering are directly correlated to the newness and cost of the carpet/rug.
- Law of Location: No matter where you go, there you are.

- Law of Logical Argument: Anything is possible if you don't know what you are talking about.
- Brown's Law: If the shoe fits, it's ugly.
- Oliver's Law: A closed mouth gathers no feet.



A NOTE FROM PAUL, AA1SU:

(Ed – Our esteemed SM for the state of VT has asked us to spread the word. We're more than glad to accommodate him.)

As you may know, Adelphia is now Comcast. If Adelphia is your Internet provider, you have been asked to go to a web site to make the changes to your email address, and to notify your friends. I am writing for you (Adelphia users) to make sure that you take the next step. Go to the ARRL web site and update your forwarding email address for your ARRL emails and ARRL alias. Otherwise, you will miss out on my Section News Summaries, and other ARRL Bulletins that you may be subscribed to.

To do this:

- ◆ Go to www.arrl.org and log in.
- ◆ Click on Member Data Page.
- ◆ Click on Modify Membership Data (at the bottom).
- ◆ Change your email address.
- ◆ Click on Submit Modification.

You can also check what Bulletins you are subscribed to here and adjust, as you feel needed. I recommend not checking the Publication Announcements and Special Offers box: but that's just me. There is a new box to check this year, that I just noticed. It is the IARU E-Letter. I'm adding that to my list for sure.

These steps need to be taken any time you change your email provider. We have all done that over the years, and it is likely to happen again. So always remember to go to the ARRL web site and update your new email address whenever this happens; not just this time.

73 for now, and take care.

Paul N. Gayet
AA1SU
ARRL Vermont Section Manager

ORIGIN OF OUR NICKNAME

(The ARRL VERSION)

Ham: a poor operator. A 'plug.'
That's the definition of the word given in G. M. Dodge's *The Telegraph Instructor* even before radio. The definition has never changed in wire telegraphy. The first wireless operators were landline telegraphers who left their offices to go to sea or to man the coastal stations. They brought with them their language and much of the tradition of their older profession.

In those early days, spark was king and every station occupied the same wavelength--or, more accurately perhaps, every station occupied the whole spectrum with its broad spark signal. Government stations, ships, coastal stations and the increasingly numerous amateur operators all competed for time and signal supremacy in each other's receivers. Many of the amateur stations were very powerful. Two amateurs, working across town, could effectively jam all the other operators in the area. When this happened, frustrated commercial operators would call the ship whose weaker signals had been blotted out by the amateurs and say "SRI OM THOSE #&\$!@ HAMS ARE JAMMING YOU."

Amateurs, possibly unfamiliar with the real meaning of the term, picked it up and applied it to themselves in true "Yankee Doodle" fashion and wore it with pride. As the years advanced, the original meaning has completely disappeared.

FOR SALE

WWII TCS-14, matching xmtr/rcvr pair. 12vdc input dynamotor and cables included. Contact David at dndlaval@comcast.net

ACTHUNG!!

(Ed – Boy, did the spell checker have fun with this one. At any rate, I have the below printed out on small cardboard stock and posted at the operating position. I never fail to let shack guests read it over.)

Das machine is nicht fer gerfingerpoken und mittengrabben. Ist easy schnappen der springenwerk, blownen fusen und poppencorken mit spitzensparken.

Ist nicht fur geweken by das dumkopfen, das rubberneckken, sightseeren.

Keepen hands in der pockets, relaxen und watch der blinken lights.

Chief Engineeren in der Charge

JANUARY DOINGS

(Es looking ahead)

- ♦ **January 07** – dine out. Stand by for details! It was fun last year – It will be even better this year!
- ♦ **January 9** – Regular scheduled club meeting at 7 PM in the EMT room of Grace Cottage Hospital. Come here Grant, AA1T tell us all about Smith Charts.
- ♦ **January 27** – Board of Directors meeting at the PanAsian Restaurant. 11:30 AM. All are welcome.

NEED HELP?

We can't solve any personal problems, but for Ham and club related matters we'll try our darndest.

General club related matters: contact our President, John Borichevsky, N1TOX – n1tox@adelphia.net or 802-257-5526

Membership, ARRL renewals or joining the League, and financial information: contact Darrel Daley, K1KU, k1ku@arrl.net or 802-387-5822

VE tests, club programs, or Ham classes:
contact Sean Sanderson, KD6MPY,
kd6mpy@arrl.net or 413-695-5133

PR or ARES ideas? Contact
Tim Bell, KA1ZQX at
ka1zqx@arrl.net or 802-365-
7046



PHOTO GALLERY

Some selected pictures taken at our annual meeting.



KB1HCG, Mark (Mr "Evil Eye") - KB1KSR, Ed - KB1J, Richard



KA1ZQX, Tim - WB1CZA - Wil Chuck Underhill



Joy Wallens-Perford & her Dad, W1ECO, Paul



AA1T, Grant - N1PBX, Conrad - Ben Osborne



Officers for 2007. N1TOX, John - KD6MPY, Sean - K1KU, Darrel - KA1ZQX, Tim



W2NH, Gordon, receiving tutelage from
KB1HCG, Mark

Photos on this page are courtesy of N1ESK, David



Chow Hounds

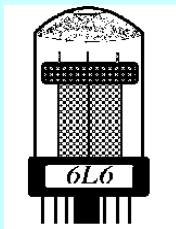


KA1CYZ, Jenifer & Kate



W2NH, Gordon

Shielding himself from the “evil eye”
(Ed: Would someone please advise me as to the call/name of the bearded sage on Mark’s left.)



COMMERCIAL TIME OUT

For Sale: Yaesu FT-990AC mint condition
Excellent condition FT-990AC looking for a good home. Includes SP-6 external speaker and MD-1 desktop microphone. N1REB (my XYL) won’t let me get the new Kenwood TS-440 until I sell the 990, so I’m a motivated seller. Asking \$850 O.B.O. Contact David Andrews, N1ESK@sover.net for additional details.



N1TOX, John – KD6MPY, Sean



KB1J, Richard – KD6MPY, Sean

CUL es 73 de K1KU SK

