

SPARC GAP

ST. PETERSBURG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

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REPEATER CALL WR4ALM
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CLUB MEETING ON THE FIRST FRIDAY
REPEATER MEETING ON THE THIRD FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH

AUGUST 1978.



PRESIDENT C.E.(REX) Cottrell W4GPL
800 Bay Point Dr. Madeira Beach 33708
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EDITOR-PUBLISHER Jack Adams W4NOK
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S P A R C G A P

OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON AUGUST 4, 1978 AT THE RED CROSS HEADQUARTERS
818 - 4th Street No., St. Petersburg, FL

Mr. Fred Crosby, of the Ruskin Weather Bureau, will be with us to present a short talk and film on "How To Recognize A Storm". It promises to be an informative and useful evening.
+++++

The meeting of July 7, 1978 was called to order by Rex Cottrell W4GPL at 8:05 P.M.
Fifty-five members and guests were introduced and welcomed.

Ms. Mindy Moore, Disaster Services and Safety Services Director of the local chapter of the American Red Cross presented a talk and a slide program depicting what a disaster would do to our community and what the Red Cross is prepared to do to help. She also explained our role as Amateur Radio Operators in relation to the overall disaster plan. She told of tornado and hurricane safety rules, and presented everyone with disaster relief and preparedness leaflets.

The meeting was recessed at 8:55 P.M. for coffee and doughnuts, and was called back to order at 9:15 P.M.

The minutes of the last two meetings were read and approved, and the Treasurer's report was read and approved.

Herb Tuell W4IRA gave the Control Station report. He said that we are in good shape for operators.

Linda Saunders WA4HKP has donated a newer Call Book to the Club Station. Our old one was about ten years old.

Hank Huth WA4WKO gave the Publicity report. He said that it is still difficult to get adequate publicity for our Club or for Amateur Radio in general.

Woody Huddleston K5SCL gave the Engineering report. He said that the excessive heat at the repeater site has caused necessary tube replacements in the final stage.

Woody also reported that Herb Tuell W4IRA has resigned as Repeater Control Chairman. Thanks and appreciation was given to Herb by the membership.

Woody also gave the Disaster Committee report. He said that Pinellas County has a new emergency plan which involves all city, County and Red Cross personnel.

Woody recently attended the meeting of the Communications Committee of the Pinellas County Hospital Association. It was suggested that the area hospitals purchase and install 2 meter and 220 meter antennas in each hospital along with a desk adequate for setting up a radio station. Some of the hospitals have done this and have been very cooperative. Some haven't. It is hoped that more will take advantage of Amateur Radio during emergency drills.

Woody also reported that the new 911 emergency number is operational.

The proposed autopatch on the SPARC repeater will need further discussion before being voted on by the members. Additional input is requested by the committee.

Rex discussed the use of the term "Break" and "Break-Break" to get into a QSO. It was generally agreed that the use of your call is sufficient to break into an existing QSO, and "Break-Break" should only be used in case of emergency.

There will be another SPARC Repeater Team Dinner on July 14th. Frank Ryll W4VIP told about the plans to honor the wife of the late Ed Blatt with Lifetime Honorary Membership in SPARC. The ceremony will take place at the dinner. Martha (Sweety) Blatt is a fine woman, who did so much for her husband, and for the Club. Everyone come.

SPARK GAP

Dayle LeBeau W4MUV gave the Field Day report. Everyone had a wonderful time and collected 3,300 points which puts them way up near the top.

John Komp W4YTY is the Volunteer Chairman of the Disaster Committee - Mass Care, of the local chapter of the Red Cross. He gave a short report telling what he job is and how Amateur Radio helps cover the eighteen shelters operated by the Red Cross during emergencies.

New rosters and By-Laws will be mailed out with the next SPARC GAP.

SCM ballots have been received by most of the members. Dave Stocky K4KE urged all who received them to vote and return them immediately.

Charlotte Frazier W4PEL told about a luncheon that will be held at the Talk of the Town on July 23, 1978. This luncheon is for the YL Net that is held Sunday evenings on 37/97 at 8:00 P.M. OM's are welcome to the nets and the luncheon. Make reservations through W4PEL.

John MacDonald WD4COL has written a column in Florida Skip that includes the doings of the Metro Repeater Club and SPARC.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Faith W4WOU

SILENT KEY:-

It is with extreme regret to announce the passing of W4EEE "Bud" Roney, a very likeable fellow. The world cant help but being a little better off for his being here.

BUD RONEY W4EEE

On, have you seen the peaceful valley?
Bud, it's the one around the bend.
Your voice, always full of cheer
We'll remember with a tear.
Miss Thelma, Miss Betty, you're looking good. you'd say
Always seem to make better a lovely day.
GOD SPEED, old friend we'll miss your smile and voice
Seems the heavens, needed an engineer of their choice.
So they called you, and with your leaving
There's many friends remembering and grieving.....
.... Members of the SPARC

The Traveler

JAMES DILLET FREEMAN

He has put on invisibility.
Dear Lord, I cannot see—
But this I know, although the road ascends
And passes from my sight,
That there will be no night;
That You will take him gently by the hand
And lead him on
Along the road of life that never ends,
And he will find it is not death but dawn.
I do not doubt that You are there as here,
And You will hold him dear.

Our life did not begin with birth,
It is not of the earth;
And this that we call death, it is no more
Than the opening and closing of a door—
And in Your house how many rooms must be
Beyond this one where we rest momentarily.

Dear Lord, I thank You for the faith that frees,
The love that knows it cannot lose its own;
The love that, looking through the shadows, sees
That You and he and I are ever one!

SPARC-GAP

W4OJH

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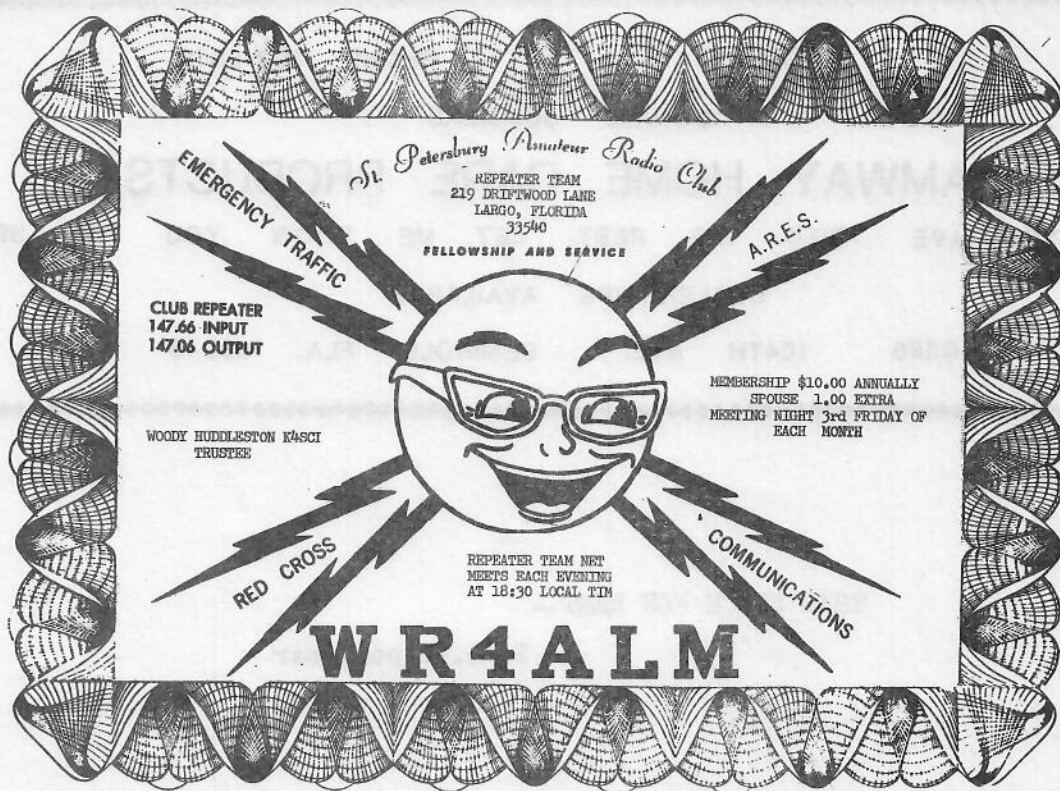
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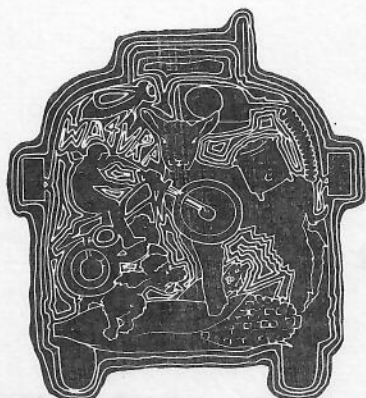
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SPARC GAP

W4GPL

C. E. "Rex" COTTRELL
800 Bay Point Drive
Madeira Beach, Fla.
33708

The Prez Sez:

Well here it is, "Good-ole-Summertime" with our vacations and all kinds of out doors activities. Field day has come and gone and the folks didn't do too bad. Understand K4SCL pitched in and probably assisted in a few points as well. As you know Metro sponcered the one nearest at the County CD site, SPARC just went along.

We had a fine groupe at the club meeting on the seventh and a nice attendance of visitors and new members. Am quite sure that we all enjoyed the presentation of storm and emergency planning by the Amer.Red Cross as delivered by the very pretty gal Miss Mindy Moore, Emerg.Coordinator of the South Pin. County Chapter of the Red Cross. Thanks Mindy for a job well done.

John Komp, W4YTY, has volintered his services to the Local Chapter of the Red Cross, as Assistant to Mindy Moore and in charge of Emergency Radio Communications. John you can be sure that SPARC and the Local EC systems will work with you.

We are looking for 4 Hams with Advanced or higher licenses to act as Chief Operators at W4GAC, the Club Sta. at the Red Cross, during an emergency. As-you-know during a real emergency W4GAC may well need maned 24 hours. These four will work with as many others as conditions may require for any given situation. SOOOoooo if any of you are interested please contact the writer and we can go into it a little further; this will, in no way, commit any of us to anything and only indicates availibility should a situation arrise.

Don't forget your SCM Ballot must be in to ARRL prior to 8/18/78. So lets vote and git it there!!!!

Thanks to the very able assistance and willingness of a lot of folks, we will soon be receiving our new copies of the By-Laws, New Roster and the SPARC Gap. WA4TJG cut assorted and pasted names and addresses in order, WA4WOU worked her fingers past the bone and frayed her typing ribbon to string typing it, then W4NOR worked night after night getting it all printed. Then W4VIP and WB4OIG went to work getting it all stuffed into envelopes, addressed and mailed. IF I left anyone out PLEASE Excuse me!!!! We do appreciate the effort and time required and can only say "GEE Thanks, for makeing it all possible.

Very 73 to all,

W4GPL

SPARC GAP

HISTORY OF ST. PETERSBURG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Tracing back amateur radio in St. Petersburg, we find only three or four hams in 1925; the 1927 Callbook lists twelve in St. Petersburg, out of 650 in the 4th District. In 1928, amateurs gained some recognition when W4APY-Don Geegan & other locals set up a radio link to Okeechobee for Florida Power. Local ham population here continued to grow with a total of 30 listed in 1930.

During 1933, John Fill, William Grogan, Garvin Combs-W4LF, George Slagle, Bob Cain-W4BQW, Don Geegan-W4APY & Phil McMaster-W4BCZ started meeting regularly in the radio shop of R. Preece, Jr., until W4BCZ purchased the radio shop & moved it to 9th St. & Burlington Ave. (across from Sears). W4DJI was issued as a shop call & code practice transmissions were made on the 160 meter band.

SPARC was finally organized in 1934, with W4BCZ-Phil, President; W4DBG-James Tippey, Vice-President; & W4CQZ-Harry Fishel, Secretary-Treasurer. Added to the membership was: W4CSJ-Bill Mangold; W4DWU-Bruce Blackburn; W4COW-Wesley Randles; W4DAP-Casey Ingram; W4DBP-Lowell White; W4LF-Garvin Combs; W4CZF-Ed Wallis; W4DBO-Howard Rees & many others as Club activity progressed. The Club affiliated with the ARRL & was instrumental in the appointment of W4BCZ-Phil as SCM, which office he held in 1934 & 1935. He was among those who attended the first Florida S. E. Division ARRL Convention, in Miami, with an invitation for the convention to be held next in St. Petersburg.

1935 marked the end of the "man's world" in the local amateur group, when the first local YL, Edith White received the call of W4DOM. SPARC sponsored a 160-meter phone net with the ringing title of "Meters of the Morning".

1936

SPARC was host to the S.E. Division ARRL Convention. President, Ed Wallis-W4CZF; General Chairman, Phil McMaster-W4BCZ & Entertainment Chairman, Wes Randles-W4COW were responsible for a capacity crowd enjoying a Beach Party at Treasure Island; a tour of WSUN & the Roebling Estates in Clearwater; Wouff Hong ceremonies & a banquet at the Suwannee Hotel.

1937

W4BCZ-Phil closed his radio shop so SPARC meetings were held at the homes of various members, with the XYLS furnishing refreshments after the meetings.

1938

Meetings continued & W4GAC-Lex Herron, of Marysville, Tenn. moved to St. Petersburg area & became interested in SPARC, becoming an active member.

1939

W4GAC-Lex's offer was accepted to use his home in Seminole for regular meetings. Activity picked up in the meetings & the XYLS' interest increased, as Bette (XYL of Lex) entertained them until the meeting was over & the boys joined the group for a social get-together.

1940

Lex purchased a large home at Sunset Beach, so the Club meetings moved over there, where they had a building complete with ham rig, furnished by Lex. The XYLS met in the house with Bette.

Compiled By Cathy Soehl
W4BAV

YOU'RE POOR-

If you only have one piece of bread.



YOU'RE POOR

If you only have one suit of clothes.



YOU'RE POOR-

If you only have one car.



YOU'RE POOR-

If you only have one house.



YOU'RE POOR-

If you only have one yacht.



YOU'RE POOR-

If you only have one million dollars.



YOU'RE POOR-

There is no person more poor than he who has only the things of this world

Woe unto you that are full! for ye shall hunger. Woe unto you that laugh now! for ye shall mourn and weep. (Luke 6:25)
Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich... (Rev 3:17,18)
For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? (Matthew 16:26)

And I will say to my soul, Soul thou hast much goods, laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry. But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided. (Luke 12:19,20)

HERE'S REAL WEALTH-

For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, though he was rich, yet for your

sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might BE RICH. (II Corinthians 8:9)

In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the RICHES OF HIS GRACE. (Ephesians 1:7)

But as many as received him, to them gave he power, to become the SONS OF GOD, even to them that believe on his name. (John 1:12)

And if children, then HEIRS; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ...(Romans 8:17)

He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us ALL THINGS? (Romans 8:32)

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but if you meet JESUS
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you have lost everything.*



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HISTORY OF ST. PETERSBURG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Continued

1941

SPARC had grown, but Sunday, December 7th, with the attack on Pearl Harbor, ended all ham activities. Many of the boys went into the service, others were employed in defense plants. Some monitored the ether waves for the Government & at least one, W4EYI-Spence, later received a Navy Citation for his work in this field. On Sept. 13, 1942, W4GAC-Lex turned his equipment: a Hallicrafter HT4, 600 watt transmitter & an SX-28 Hallicrafter Communication Receiver, over to the Army for use in World War II.

1942-1945

Club inactive, as hams off the air due to the War & working in defense plants, in service, etc.

On July 31st, 1945, W4GAC-Lex joined the Silent Keys. Lex at that time was manager of Radio Station WTSP & was recovering from an operation when he passed away suddenly. In tribute to Lex's great work for the Club & community, the Club applied for & received his call W4GAC.

1946

The amateur bands started to become active, with local round tables on 10-meters, which finally resulted in the boys & XYLs meeting at the Municipal Pier to reorganize SPARC. W4HUY-Smitty was elected President & W4TYO-Bing Crosby as Vice-President.

1947-1948

Not too many records on these years; however it is known SPARC continued to grow & held their meetings at the N. Worth Gable Armory. The XYLs would meet at the various houses & provide refreshments after the Club meetings.

1949

SPARC continued to meet regularly, but changed their meeting place to the Mirror Lake High School.

1950

Needing more-room, the meetings were held at the Recreational Center, located on Beach Drive South. The XYLs still continued to meet as an auxiliary of SPARC, meeting at the various houses & serving refreshments to the fellows after their meetings.

1951

SPARC activity really started picking up. W4RUR-Ed Blatt started a 10-meter code class. During July the Club & City of St. Petersburg set up an emergency station on three bands, in the basement of the City Hall. The members then donated many hours of their time & parts to build a portable generator, which consisted of a 1930 Plymouth motor & chassis, an axle from a model A Ford, gas tank from an airplane, governor from a concrete mixer, a 110-volt 60-cycle generator, wheels & muffler from a V-8. It was also this year that really started the XYLs getting their license, as Naomi, XYL of W4EYI-Spence, succeeded in passing her General Class license, receiving the call of W4TDK.

1952

To ease the "growing pains" situation, SPARC moved their meeting headquarters to the main building of the Arts & Crafts Group. In August of this year, W4TDK-Naomi passed the Class A license, along with W4TZW-Thor. Naomi was enjoying hamming so much, other XYLs started showing interest with the result that W4TDK started a code class in November at her home.

1953

Meetings were well attended, with the girls playing cards, while the fellows conducted their meeting in another room. A social time always followed, with the XYLs taking turns as hostess & serving coffee & doughnuts. W4TDK-Naomi's first

Compiled By Cathy Soehl
W4BAV

Continued Next Month

SPARC - GAP

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OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 715 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS NEWINGTON CT JULY 6, 1978 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

The twenty-third ARRL National Convention will be held this year at the Town and Country Convention Center in San Diego, California, from September 22 through 24. Programs of interest to all radio amateurs and their families, as well as special ARRL symposiums will be featured. Full details will appear in the August issue of QST. Final details may be obtained by writing the sponsoring group's general Chairman, Sam Dear, K6BWT, 13031 Papago Drive, Poway, California 92064 or by telephone area code 714 566 7893. AR

ROSTER UPDATE

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OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 714 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS NEWINGTON CT JUNE 29, 1978 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

FCC denied the petitions for reconsideration of the 10 meter amplifier ban in voting yesterday. Petitions for reconsideration before the commission were from the ARRL, several equipment manufacturers and a few individuals. Therefore, Dockets 21116 and 21117 in this matter stand as outlined in May QST. See August QST for further details. AR

OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 712 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS NEWINGTON CT JUNE 15, 1978 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

The Senate Subcommittee on Communications held hearings yesterday on S-864, Senator Barry Goldwater's RFI Bill. It would allow FCC to set minimum standards for the susceptibility of audio and visual equipment to interception of radio signals. The ARRL crew present for the hearing were President Harry J. Dannels, W2HD, Atlantic Division Director Harry A. McConaghy, W3SW, General Counsel Robert M. Booth, W3PS, Assistant General Manager Dave Sumner, K1ZZ and Washington Coordinator Hal Steinman, K1FHN. Watch QST for more complete information on the progress of this legislation. Late news on the subject, of course, may also be transmitted from this station. AR

OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 713 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS
NEWINGTON CT JUNE 22, 1978 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT
FCC recently reminded United States Amateurs that third party traffic is permitted only with amateurs in the following countries Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Israel, Jamaica, Jordan, Liberia, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela. In addition U.S. Amateurs can handle traffic for U.S. amateurs operating 4U1ITU, stations in Greenland bearing the XP prefix, United States stations operating portable from Barbados identified as portable 8P6, and only with WD5AJE/SU in the Sinai. Note that third party traffic is no longer permitted with HZ1AB in Saudi Arabia. AR

DEAR JACK:

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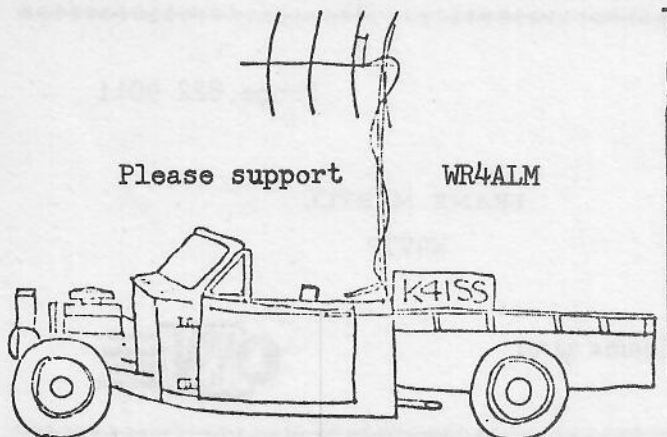
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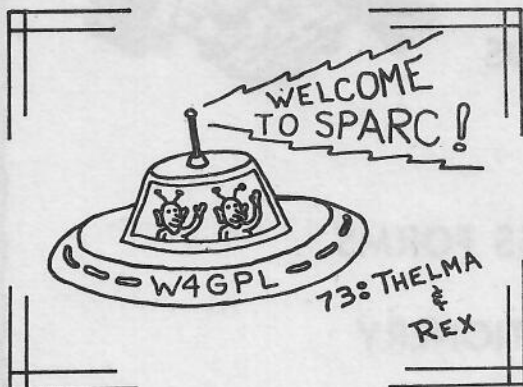
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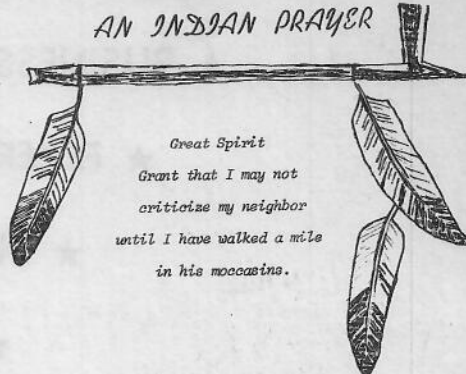
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