



\$2.00

1969

CREDITED MEMBER ACCOUNT

* NOTE: BY-LAWS REQUIRE INITIATION FEE & DUES \$5.00 FOR FIRST CALENDAR YEAR. MAKE OUT/MAIL TO WIRELESS PIONEERS.



LEAVE BLANK

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION & HISTORY SHEET

***** SOCIETY OF WIRELESS PIONEERS *****
P. O. Box 530 Santa Rosa, Cal. 95402 USA

NO	332-V
DATE	3/25/69
\$	7.00
CARD	1068
POC	3/25/69
FG	3/25/69

I hereby apply for "LIFE" membership in the SOCIETY OF WIRELESS PIONEERS and certify that I meet requirements for classification marked below, by having held a valid government radio-telegrapher's license unless employment antedates license requirements. I certify that I have earned my living during this period as a wireless or radio operator assigned to a ship or shore station open to commercial "PG" traffic. (Operators with military experience are eligible if they have served at installations handling "PG" traffic without license requirement if they can document). I agree to furnish records to substantiate if required by the Membership Committee. I agree to keep my address current on the Society records and acknowledge failure to do so as sufficient grounds to drop me from membership.

Signed [Signature] Date 13 March 1969

SPARK GAP PIONEER
(Service prior 1915)

PIONEER
(Svc. 1915 to 1925)
(Inclusive)



VETERAN
Svc. 1926-35 Incl.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATE
(Svc. AFTER 1935)

HISTORY SHEET (PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE)

Family Name SYKES Given Name NORMAN Initial G. Nickname - Sine MARGARET Wife

Street or P.O. Number [Redacted] City Cheltenham State Glos. Zip GL52 6NZ Tph: England A/C & No. [Redacted]

DATE OF FIRST LICENSE 26 Nov. 1926 DATE ASSIGNED FIRST SHIP 24 Dec. 1926 (1926)

NO. 1207 CLASS First NAME OF SHIP SS. ORCA (Royal Mail Line)

SIGNED BY J. C. Mason for P.M.G. /COS? CALL LETTERS GLTR CO. G.E. Warner RNR

Navy or military assignment where "PG" traffic handled (Attach documentation)

SHIP OR SHORE STATION/S WHERE YOU HAVE SERVED:

FROM	TO	NAME SHIP/Shore STN.	FROM	TO	NAME SHIP/Shore STN.
Dec '26	Mar '27	s.s. ORCA	Jan 28	May 28	s.s. ALBANY (EXO)
Mar 27	Apr 27	s.s. CHIRRIPO	Jun 28	Feb 29	s.s. MANCHESTER BRIGADE
Jun 27	Sep 27	s.s. MONTROSE	Mar 29	Jul 29	s.s. SAN QUIRINO
Oct 27	Oct 27	s.s. ARGUAL	Sep 29	Mar 30	s.s. LACONIA
Nov 27	Jan 28	s.s. FLAMINIAN (YLY)	(Additional - use reverse side.)		

AMATEUR ACTIVITIES

FIRST CALL G3MPH DATE Apr. 1958 PRESENT CALL G3MPH WORK FREQUENCIES 14, 21, 28

RADIO ORGANIZATION YOU BELONG TO: Radio Soc. of G.B. Inst. of Electronic & Radio Engrs

MEMBER "CQD'ers CLUB ? (Those who have sent CQD or SOS and/or abandoned ship)

NAME SHIP _____ DATE SOS _____ (Circumstances on reverse side)

WILL YOU SERVE AS OFFICER OR DIRECTOR ON BOARD OF DIRECTORS IF NOMINATED ? Yes

(Please use reverse side or additional 8 1/2 x 11" sheet/s for additional biographical data. We may use in future issues of "PORT O' CALL" et cetera).



Society of Wireless Pioneers - California Historical Radio Society

SHIPS I HAVE SERVED IN (Continued)

From	To	Name of Ship
March 1930	Jan. 1932	s.s. CARINTHIA
Jan. 1932	Jan 1932	s.s. BERENGARIA
July 1932	June 1933	Trawler WILLIAM HUMPHRIES
Jan. 1934	Dec. 1935	S.S. ARCWEAR

All my ships up to 1929 had spark sets only (usually rotary gap).

The s.s. San Quirino (an oiler) had a $1\frac{1}{2}$ kW Quenched Gap Tx. The main Rx. had a bright emitter valve (tube) as the RF stage followed by Xtal detector and no audio amp. I was expected to take subscription press daily from GBR with this rig - even on the run from B.A. to San Pedro, Cal. via Cape Horn. The stand-by Rx was a Magnetic Detector!

The s.s. BERENGARIA in 1932 still had her old 5 kW Quenched Gap Tx on 600 meters (sorry, 500 kHz!). This rock crusher was just the job for silencing the opposition!

Personal Details

I am a Fellow of the Institution of Radio and Electronic Engineers and a Fellow of the Institution of Production Engineers.
During World War II I was serving as Lieutenant Commander R.N.V.R. on the Staff of Vice Admiral 'Q', British Pacific Fleet, as Technical Adviser on Radio and Radar, Pacific Theatre.

I am at present Superintending Electronic Communications Engineer, Government Communications Headquarters, Cheltenham, Glos.

I would be pleased to serve as Overseas Officer (as Director or otherwise) covering British or European activities.

Oakley Road,
"Windrush"
Cheltenham, Glos.,
GL52 6NZ,

16th March 1969

England.

Mr. Frank Geisel,
Society of Wireless Pioneers,
Santa Rosa, Calif.

Dear OM Frank,

Was very pleased (at last!) to receive yours of 20th December which has taken nearly three months to get here. It must have come 'long path'!

Glad to learn that any nationalities are acceptable as members. Enclosed is my application and check for \$7.00. I will certainly QSP the info to my friends - particularly those at our Ham Club G3SSO. I get a lot of visitors to my office; what is needed is an impressive certificate on the wall to arouse their curiosity and envy. I hope the Society issues one.

I was very interested to hear about KPH. I must have worked you lots of times during 1930 - 1932 when I was serving in the Cunarder CARINTHIA which spent her whole time doing exotic pleasure cruises out of New York. She had one of the first short wave Xmitters - a Siemens $\frac{1}{2}$ kW one-tube self-oscillating job - and we were expected to maintain world^{wide} communication with the States at 21 cents a word. It was tricky in those days. I often found that the only QSO with the U.S. was around 3 a.m. - not to WCC but 'over the top' to KPH. You may remember GLKY.

As you'll see from my Application, FIERE means 'Fellow of the Institution of Radio and Electronic Engineers' - equivalent of your I.E.E.E. Yes - our zip codes are quite a mouthful. By the way, 'Glos.' is the abbreviation for the county Gloucestershire - pronounced 'Gloster'. My house is on a hill with a large garden, with pine trees for antennae masts; my long wire is a full wave on 80 meters. Your QTH on Walnut Creek sounds very nice. I get over to the States fairly frequently but usually only as far as Washington. Perhaps I can arrange to travel via San Francisco one of these days on my way to the Far East (I travel quite a bit in my job) and if so will try to fix it so that it coincides with one of your re-unions.

Hope you are enjoying your retirement. My turn comes next year when I hope to be able to give more time to the ham shack than I am able to at present.

If there is anything I can do to help things along by acting as a focal point for dealing with British/European membership I would be only too pleased - and it might cut down on the mail bill!

Looking forward to hearing from you again before very long.

Best wishes for the success of the Society -

"73"



(Norman G. Sykes)

→ Bill: Yr copy- Pls note last para of his letter- and on back of his A/H- Looks to me like a mighty fine man for UK/Europe - Maybe you too would drop him a few lines ?

#332-V

Mr. Norman G. Sykes G3MPH/"WP"#332-V
"Windrush" Oakley Road, Battledown
Cheltenham, Glos. GL52 6NZ, England.

25 March 1969

Vis Airmail

Dear OM Norman:

Thanks so much for your interesting and welcome letter of 16th. March. And your completed "Application/History". It is a distinct personal pleasure to welcome you, especially as the first of our brethern from England.

By surface mail, dispatching today our publication "Ports O'Call" issue #3-"Winter Edition 1968-69". I believe you will agree that it is a distinctly unique compilation of material relating to the Marine Wireless/Radio Operator. The brain child of our Exec VP, Bill Breniman. ~~He~~ he does all work connected with "POC" -Editor, Author, Publisher, Distributor. He also handles all "Society" business matters.

Currently Bill is on a "Vacation" trip thru Southern California, Arizona, etc- enroute he visits with our "Pioneers". Including attendance at our first Southern California meeting on March 22 at Long Beach, Calif. Reports are that it was very successful- some 90 or more gathered at Bixby Park. Nostalgia flowed like old wine. (Same at our first annual SF areapicnic Aug 17th at Rossmoor- where we live- details in "POC")

Regret very much that "POC"#2, with many interesting stories, out of print. However, for your office reference, Bill and I will scrounge around to locate a copy for you. "POC"#3 will also soon be exhausted. We printed 500.

→ Ch-Pls-Do-
Bill is already working on a suitable wall certificate. (He also does design of all literature) Soon as they come from printers, he will mail one to you. At your convenience, please remit \$1.00 USA to cover cost, including postage.

We greatly appreciate your generous offer to serve as English center for "Wireless Pioneers" membership. Within short time, by surface mail, will dispatch supply of Information/Applications. It will greatly reduce postage cost - something of considerable concern.

"GLKY" is a ship I remember with particular interest and pleasure. At the time -KPH had no SW Xmtr & only one small TRF receiver. ~~W~~ For QSO with "GILKEY" we had RCA/SF only SW rig "KET". I do not recall what call sign used, do you? KPH, KET or W6XI -More on this later. But the nightly Sked with GIKY was something we looked forward to. Only the "Senior" Operator was permitted to handle this job.

Sorry about previous mail delay- due to long long N.Y. Dock strike- Millions of pieces of surface mail held. Pls advise when you receive this letter- also the "POC"- From us all, "73"

Frank Drexel

April 7 1969

Hon. Norman G. Sykes, Esq.,
"Windrush" Oakley Road,
Cheltenham, Glos.
G152, GNZ, ENGLAND.

Dear Mr. Sykes:

I have at hand your application and letter of March 16th 1969 which is very interesting. I have also noted reply from our Vice President in charge of Membership, Qualifications, etc.

I would like to take this occasion to add my small voice of welcome. We are gaining many members from the various nations of the world and may I congratulate you on being the first firm member from Great Britain.

I have one particularly good friend with the British Government in Civil Aviation. His name is Eric Robinson. My wife and I visited him and his lovely wife Patricia on our "round the world" trip a few years back. Just wonder if you know him? They live in Bishop's Stortford, Herts. He is a grand fellow.

Since you have volunteered to be our Overseas Officer (Director) covering Great Britain and European activities, we would be most pleased to give you this commission for the coming year to see how it will work out.

We now have membership of nearly 350 (yours is 332 but several weeks old) in the course of about a year so we feel our organization will hopefully become one of the world's largest "brass-pounders" organizations.

We pledge our directed interest to those who have earned their living at the key and I am sure that our interests transcends all boundaries. I am sure also that our common background will furnish a variety of experience in the era of wireless and radio that can not help but interest all nationals.

Our good friend, Frank Geisel has been in charge of one of the world's outstanding traffic stations for many years and his friends are legend. We welcome you to our staff of distinguished veterans and pioneers who have left their mark on the hallmark of time.

Cordially yours

William A. Breniman