

1968 dues - check / Has kept ex-Pg. de FG 251-5GP



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION & HISTORY SHEET

LEAVE BLANK
NO. 251-5GP
DATE 10/25/68

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF WIRELESS PIONEERS OF THE SEVEN SEAS, INC.

P. O. Box 530 Santa Rosa, Cal. 95402 USA

I hereby apply for "LIFE" membership in the Society of "WIRELESS PIONEERS" (*) and certify that I meet membership requirements for classification marked below, by having held a commercial U.S. Gov't. operator's license and having been employed as a wireless(radio) telegrapher at a ship or shore station, handling commercial traffic by C.W. code. (Military operators are eligible if they can document service at stations which have handled a sizable volume of "PG" traffic). I agree to furnish records or documents if requested by the Membership Committee. I agree to keep my address current at all times and acknowledge failure to do so will be sufficient grounds to drop my membership. (*Short title).

Signed Date 12.Oct.1968

☒ SPARK GAP PIONEER
(Service prior to 1915)

☐ PIONEER
(Service 1915 to 1925)



☐ VETERAN.
(Service 1926 to 1935 incl.)

☐ PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATE
(Service after 1935)

HISTORY SHEET

Cdr USNR (Ret)

(Please type or print)

APPLEBY Thomas (none) TOM HN Evelyn
Family Name Given Name Initial Nickname Sine Wife
Street or P.O. Number City APT #309 State Zip Tph (Area) No.
5415 Connecticut Ave., N.W. Washington, D.C. 20015 (202)WO-68917

WIRELESS OR RADIO: Prior to Licensing - Amateur 1899, Phila., Pa.
Bellevue-Stratford Hotel, Phila., Pa. UWTCo. 1908. "BS"
Before License August 2, 1909 S/S Capt. A.F. Lucas, Std Oil Co.
Date first liscense Date assigned 1st ship Name ship/stn Call
Naval Communications 1917. OK'd "POZ" 1918 for Peace Message.
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. |
|---------------------|------------------|--|------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|
| <u>June to Aug.</u> | <u>1909</u> | <u>Bellevue-Stratford Hotel, Phila. Pa. "BS"</u> | <u>4/1/1911 to 3/31/1912</u> | | <u>"PW" Phila Port Stn U.W.T.Co.</u> |
| <u>Aug to Sept</u> | <u>1909</u> | <u>S/S Capt. A.F. Lucas,</u> | <u>4/1/1912</u> | <u>"MHE"</u> | <u>Wanamaker Store, Phila.</u> |
| <u>Sept 1909 to</u> | <u>Aug. 1910</u> | <u>"AX" Atlan-</u> | <u>to Feb. 1914,</u> | | |
| | | <u>tic City, N.J. U.W.T.Co.</u> | | | |

AMATEUR ACTIVITIES

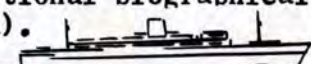
FIRST CALL HN DATE 1899 PRESENT CALL W3AX WORK FREQUENCIES All amateur
RADIO ORGANIZATION YOU BELONG TO: IRE-IEEE-VWOA-QCWA-ARRL-RCARA-OOTC.

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

NAME SHIP xxx DATE SOS xxx (Circumstances on reverse side)
Answered ships in distress while at "AX" Atlantic City and remained with
them until emergency cleared.
WILL YOU SERVE AS OFFICER OR DIRECTOR ON BOARD OF GOVERNORS IF NOMINATED No desire.
(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).

(See attached resume)

(over)



Additional.

While on duty at AX Atlantic City, N.J. station of the United Wireless Telegraph Company, had occasion to answer ships in distress and alert other ships in that vicinity of the emergency in some cases fire aboard and had them prepare to render assistance if needed in at least one case from about 9 p.m. until about 8 a.m. next day while crew fought a fire which was finally extinguished by City Fire Department at Norfolk, VA., where the ship was bound from Boston, Mass. (Name of ship and exact date now unknown), but was between Sept 1909 & Aug. 1910.

Former member Air Force MARS net, call letters AF3AX.

Former member Naval Reserve Net.

Presently member Navy MARS, call letters N0ABY.

Served in U.S.Navy during WW-1 and WW-2.

Now Retired Navy Commander with disability pay. Have 25 years pay service in U.S.Navy.

(see attached resume for additional details)

(FORMER HN 1899, HNM 1908, 3UO 1916,

EXPERIENCES OF

Thomas Appleby, Sr.

(W3AX-NØABY)
Present.

3XV 1921
AF3AX

251
54P

Born May 10th 1886 at Mickley Square-on-Tyne, Northumberland County, England.

Arrived in the U.S. when 3 years old in 1889.

Located in Scranton, Pa., later moving to Philadelphia and since about 1935 resided in Washington, D. C.

Father: George Watson Appleby, a Steam Engineer (Stationary).

At age 8 set up a small laboratory in my home in Scranton, Pa., constructed bichromate of potash and sulphuric acid batteries and lighted my room with small carbon filament lamps, installed an electric door bell and constructed small motors, electro-magnets, etc., for experimental purposes.

At age 13 was employed in the electric novelty store and shop of J. Elliott Shaw & Co., 632 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pa., where later became head of the manufacturing and repair shop repairing toy electric trains, medical batteries, electrically ignited gas light burners and manufactured batteries, electric bells, get-up alarms, etc., and also repaired and adjusted fractional horsepower steam and gas engines.

Said to be the first amateur in the United States having set up and operated a complete wireless transmitting station and a separate receiving station in Philadelphia, Pa., in 1899. Call letters HN.

In August 1899 went to sea as wireless operator aboard the Standard Oil Tanker, the Captain A. F. Lucas call letters "GB" running between Bayonne, N.J., and New Orleans. Had one of the few 2 k.w. United Wireless sets with plain spark and 3 slide type "D" tuner. Most all of the other ships were equipped with 1 k.w. sets. August 1909 placed in charge of "AX" Atlantic City, N.J. U.W.Co. shore station. Founded the first all wireless school, The Philadelphia School of Wireless Telegraphy, call letters "PW", in April 1911.

Took the examination and received the first Operator's Certificate of Skill in Radiocommunication, issued at the Philadelphia Navy Yard for the Department of Commerce, Navigation Service, in May 1911. Mr. Ed Raser, W2ZI, who has been making a search for the name of the first wireless operator to receive this government Certificate of Skill, states that Tom is the earliest living survivor of these examinations and certificate.

April 1, 1912 employed by Marconi Company as manager-operator of WHE - the Wanamaker-Marconi Wireless Station atop the Philadelphia Wanamaker Store. At the New York Wanamaker Store David Sarnoff held a similar position and they worked together for some time. The two stations were equipped with Marconi 5 k.w. synchronous rotary spark with wavelength of 1800 meters, antenna at Philadelphia 500 feet long, flat top inverted L supported by two towers each 125 feet above the roof.

Organized the Radio Apparatus Co., in July 1914, Penna corporation. Commissioned in the USNR April 9th 1917 as a line officer Lieut. (j.g.) for Communication purposes, was soon assigned to the Office of the Director of Naval Communications, Navy Department, Washington, D. C., where

he wrote the Wartime Radio Instructions for all U.S. and Allied ships and shore stations in World War 1. While in the D.N.C. inaugurated the 33 Naval Shore Radio Direction Finding system of stations along the Atlantic coast from Machiesport, Maine, to Charleston, S.C. and later selected the sites for a similar system on the Pacific Coast. 251-54P

1919 released from active duty in the Navy to take a civil service examination and appointment as Radio Engineering Aide to the Director of Naval Communications, in charge of all Radio Direction Finding Stations ashore.

1921 employed by Horace A. Beale owner of the Parkesburg Iron Company at Parkesburg, Pa., as radio engineer for his privately owned radio station, 3ZO - 3XW - WQAA, and mobile station built on a truck chassis 3OI. WQAA was one of the first broadcasting stations in the U.S., it was equipped with an AM transmitter employing 4 - 250 watt tubes and all of the equipment, other than the G.E. tubes, was designed by Tom Appleby and constructed in the electrical shop of the Iron company. This station began operations in 1921 and employed 19 complete transmitters and 21 receiving sets.

In June 1921 Tom Appleby was admitted to practice before the U. S. Patent Office as a registered Patent Attorney, which assignment he still holds.

On April 1, 1924 organized the Appleby Radio Company, incorporated in the State of Pennsylvania, located in Philadelphia, and designed and placed on the market the first single tuning-knob broadcast receiver in the United States.

Located in Washington, D. C. about 1935 having an office in the Munsey Building as Patent Attorney and Consulting Radio Engineer representing broadcast stations before the Federal Communications Commission, making field strength measurements, designing directive antenna arrays, obtaining clear channels for high power stations; and representing radio manufacturers in the Patent Office.

1941 recalled to active duty in the Navy and served throughout World War 2 in operations at Harbor Entrance Control Stations at Cape Charles, Va., San Juan, P.R., and Cape Henlopen, Delaware, until ordered to the Branch Patent Section of the Office of Naval Research in New York City thence to Los Angeles, California, to open a new branch office for the Patent Division.

Released from active duty December 1946 and received an appointment under Civil Service as Patent Attorney in charge of the Navy Department Patent Section located in the Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, D. C.

Retired by the Navy Department in September 1947 with the rank of Commander, due to physical disability, service acquired.

1950 commenced a college course in music and received a bachelor and masters degree.

Returned to amateur radio in December 1960 operating on 2, 6, 10, 20, 40, and 80 meters wavelength. Equipment consisted of Gonset 76 transmitter 120 watts and transceiver, and a 2 meter Gonset Communitor IV transceiver, with limited apartment house antenna.

Was a member of Air Force MARS with call letters AF3AX, and Naval Reserve nets. Later transferred to Navy MARS with call N00ABY. *251-594*
 Member IRE in 1913, IEEE 1968, ^{D.C. Chapter} VWOA, QCWA, OOTC, RCARA, ARRL to present. Was vice-chairman VWOA for two years. Elected Director of OOTC for 3rd Radio District Jan. 1st 1968.

Have written "Hither & Thither" page for Auto-Call since October 1962.

Founded Loomis Scientific Research Foundation in September 1964 and elected President.

Listed in "Who's Who in the South and Southwest, U.S. 1961" to date; and Dictionary of International Biography, Vol. 1 to date; and Who's Who in Music, Burke's Peerage Limited, London.

After 5 years of active research authored the book "Mahlon Loomis, Inventor of Radio" published in 1967 by Loomis Publications, P.O. Box 6225, Washington, D. C. 20015.

During past 4 years conducted research in gravitation, experimentally, under auspices of the Loomis Scientific Research Foundation and designed many types of gravity sensors and an effective electronic ^{system} associated therewith for automatically recording the hourly variations in gravity with the object of learning exactly what gravity is, where it comes from, and how to control it for power purposes. Some new facts have been unearthed about this interesting and intriguing force.

With all of the foregoing have had but little time to devote to amateur radio operations.

APPLEBY INVENTIONS and PATENTS.

Invented the first shielded radio direction finder, U.S. Patent No. 1,365,579 filed June 14, 1919, issued January 11, 1921.

Invented the first single source of B and C current for radio receivers, U. S. Patent 1,491,330 filed February 23, 1924, issued April 22, 1924.

Invented the first variable graphite grid-leak and variable resistance coupling for radio receivers and amplifiers, U.S. Patent 1,583,105 filed March 23, 1920, issued May 4, 1926.

Invented another form of variable grid leak, U.S. Patent 1,587,136 filed March 23, 1920, issued June 1, 1926.

Invented first system using oscillator grid current to bias amplifiers and provide automatic volume control and feed-back stabilization for both radio receivers and transmitters, U.S. Patent 1,619,911 filed July 6th 1921, issued March 8, 1927.

Invented first polyphase current driven radio transmitting system for telegraphy and telephony employing self-rectifying oscillators, U. S. Patent 1,651,012 filed May 4, 1921, issued Nov. 29, 1927.

Invented first vacuum tube grid-leak and system of modulation, for radio transmitters, U. S. Patent 1,683,012 filed Dec. 11, 1921, issued September 4, 1928.

Invented first polyphase current driven radio transmitting circuit for telegraphy and telephony employing separate rectifiers, U.S. Patent 1,719,956 filed March 21, 1921, issued July 9, 1926.

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In 1918 organized and directed the first U.S.Navy system of coastal Radio Direction Finding (Radio Compass) stations.

In 1919 directed the navigation of the U.S. Cruiser Chicago over the first complete radio course ever sailed, from Boston, Mass., to Charleston, S. C., by bearings obtained from the U.S.Naval Shore Radio Compass stations.

In Feb. 1922, on a challenge, independently invented, but did not patent, the cathode ray television system as presently in use. Description and sketches dated and witnessed in his note book.

Compiled October 1968.

Thomas Appleby, Sr.

*Recd by RJ
on October 24 a/c
vacation RJ 10/24 251-56P*

THOMAS APPLEBY

CDR. USNR, RETIRED

WOODLEY 6-8917

5415 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N. W.
WASHINGTON 15, D. C.

CDR. Richard Johnstone, USNR, Retired,
67 Heather Way, Larkspur, California.
94939.

October 12, 1968.

Dear Dick:

Got my mill back ok and wish to acknowledge your letters and the copy of Ports O' Call that you so kindly sent to me. Naturally delayed this reply due to your note attached which stated "hold Application".

I certainly appreciate your kind endeavors on my behalf, but please do not go to too much trouble. I am enclosing application form and my check for first years dues in the Society of Wireless Pioneers.

Guess I made a mess of the application, but there was little room on which to fully answer the questions. Too late I found that the opposite side could be used.

Anyway I am attaching the full resume of my experiences, etc.

In Spark Gap Times, Fred C. Crowell, Jr., the national publisher, who edits and prints SGT, made a couple of errors in his write-up on me. The first concerns the room in which I made my experiments when around 8 years of age. Fred said we lived in a one room house, this is wrong, the house had at least 7 rooms, one of which was turned over to me as a sort of laboratory.

Another error in that same article on page 7, upper portion of the right hand column, the name of the Iron Company should be Parksburg not Parksville as he has it.

The third error refers to the picture near the right bottom of page 8 where the caption refers to Eliot Sivowitch of the Smithsonian Institution, this is wrong, it should have been Ben Ruhe of the D.C. Star newspaper. Elwood Baker, also of the Star, is correct. They took me out to "Bears Den" where Loomis made his original experiment in the Blue Ridge mountains west of D.C. and Baker Made the picture, Ben Ruhe held the damaged kite as the strong wind almost destroyed it before we could get it up.

I am sorry that I cannot take part in your CW scheduled contacts as I am a cliff dweller and cannot have a suitable aerial on this large apartment building. I use a 6 ft. vertical and a 2 meter clover leaf for a little local use. Under very favorable conditions I have been able to work considerable distances such as Seattle, Wash.; Quito, Equidor; the North of England; Puerto Rico; San Francisco and Los Angeles; as well as thru Canada, but normally can do nothing of the kind and interference blots me out completely. Best wishes,

Encl 2.

Tom.