



# FOX CITIES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

# QSO'ER



Volume 14, Issue 13

June 2000

Next club meeting will be 7:00 PM

## June 19

At the Columbus Club 2531 N. Richmond St. in Appleton.

Meeting will be a combined meeting with the VHF Association

\*\*\*\*\*

Next board meeting will be 7:00 PM

## June 26

Meeting is held at Appleton, Mr. Cinders West.

*All are welcome*

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### *Club Election Results*

*Congradulations to the following:*

**Vice President – Chad Pennings N9PRC**

**Treasurer – Dave Sprangers N9ZHZ**

### **Members At Large –**

William Vincent N9TNW

Chuck Hanson N9OEQ

Steve Pelletier KB9OAL

## **Meeting Minutes**

The May meeting was called to order on May 15, 2000 by Pat Latour K9IK at 7:05pm. The meeting was held at the Columbus Club in Appleton. All meeting minutes were approved as listed in the newsletter. Meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm and the club social took place.

## **CLUB OFFICERS**

### **President**

Patrick Latour K9IK  
k9ik@arrl.net 725-1149

### **Vice President**

Chad Pennings N9PRC  
cpennings@prodigy.net 993-0485

### **Treasurer**

Dave Sprangers N9ZHZ  
dopyro@aol.com

### **Secretary/Newsletter Editor**

Al Van Dynhoven KB9BYQ & Judy Van Dynhoven  
kb9byq@tpo.org 830-1859

### **Membership Coordinator**

Steve Lamers N9SGG  
stewel@itol.com 734-5072

### **Members At Large**

Steve Pelletier KB9OAL  
spelleti@oneidation.org 730-8524

### **Bill Vincent N9TNW**

wvincent@execpc.com 739-6827

### **Chuck Hanson N9OEQ**

crhanson@athenet.net 788-5497

### **Club Website**

<http://www.w9zl.ampr.org/>

Any suggested changes/additions for the web page need to be submitted to Steve Lamers - stewel@itol.com. Suggestions will be brought before the board pending

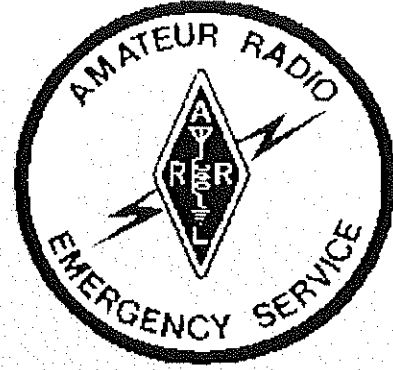
**\*\*Please note: Anything *YOU* would like published in the newsletter needs to be submitted to AL KB9BYQ by the 1<sup>st</sup> each month.**

## **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

- 1 **Club Information, Election Results**
- 2 **May Attendance, Treasurer's Report, and ARES Info.**
- 3 **Juvenile Diabetes Foundation Walk Report and Thank You!**
- 4 **Testing Results, Upcoming Testing Dates, and For Sale Items**
- **Dayton Hamfest Report**
- ✓ **Field Day Meeting Info., Club Picnic Announced, Kid's Day Info**

**May Attendance**

Greg Schneider	W9IEI
John Ensley	N9RJZ
Chad Pennings	N9PRC
William Vincent	N9TNW
Judy Schneider	N9PBM
Wayne Pennings	WD9FLJ
Gerry Radtke	WA9GON
Jon Oldenburg	KB9VFD
Al Van Dynhoven	KB9BYQ
Judy Van Dynhoven	
Steve Pelletier	KB9OAL
Jim Kleberg	N9WNU
Pat Latour	K9IK
Bob Gillette	W9EYT
Maury Mead	W9FBC
Larry Wilfer	W9WNS
Don Quinn	W9OVK
Mark Heimmermann	KF9CS
Lester Morse	KA9LAR
James Wierzba	WB9OJE
Dolores Lopas	KB9IRD
Jim Sheetz	K9OQO
Marty Crean	KB9OWA



**OUTAGAMIE COUNTY ARES**

No report for this month.

Outagamie Web Page:

<http://www.execpc.com/~kb9byp/ares.htm>

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**WINNEBAGO COUNTY ARES**

In May Winnebago County ARES held a mandatory meeting for Mobile Weather Spotters.

If you plan to weather spot for Winnebago County and you missed this meeting you must contact one of the following people before you are allowed to go out spotting:

- Pat K9IK
- Dan KB9IME
- Dave N9ZHZ
- John KB9TJJ

Winnebago Web Page:

<http://www.vbe.com/~luthers/ares/>

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**AREA NETS**

**Outagamie ARES -**

Sundays 8pm 146.655/R

**Winnebago ARES -**

Sundays 7pm 147.240/R

**Waupaca Ares -**

Sundays 7:30pm 147.165/R

103.5p1

You'll be amazed at what can be heard!

**Don't forget to check into the  
HAMDINGER NET**

**Wed.'s 7:30 PM  
145.330**

\*\*\*\*\*



**TREASURER'S REPORT**

May 15, 1999

Balance General Fund 2789.65

Balance FCARC Account \$4274.71

A detailed report can be seen at any club meeting or contact the club treasurer Dave Sprangers N9ZHZ.

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## Juvenile Diabetes Foundation Walk

The Juvenile Diabetes Foundation (JDF) Walk this year was held on May 20, 2000, and once again the FCARC provided the communications, keeping the universe, and the walkers, safe from harm.

In spite of the fact that this event happens on the same weekend as the infamous Dayton Hamvention, and even though they contacted us a month before they needed us, we still had several FCARC club members who were willing to volunteer their time to help out.

We all met at Erb Park at 8:00 AM. The first volunteers on the scene were Mark Heimmermann KF9CS, and Don Quinn W9OVK. Rick Mandel KB9LRE arrived with Greg Schneider, and me W9IEI was on site shortly thereafter.

After we had some coffee and cookies, we got our t-shirts and maps of the walk. As you know, the t-shirts are a highly valued prize, that people who volunteer for these community service events collect as treasured reminders of their volunteer experiences. Most of my current wardrobe consists of these highly coveted t-shirts. I am cheap and volunteer for a lot of these things.

It was a beautiful day for the JDF walk this year, and I was told there were 3000 or more participants that day. Some were walking, others running, some pulling wagons with small children, and of course, there were roller-bladers. This year, however, the route was all on level streets, so the roller bladers didn't encounter any treacherous hills, like they did the year before.

The start/finish line was at Erb park so, as the net control operator, that's where I, N9SGG, stayed. At about 8:45 AM we announced the beginning of the net on the Red Cross 145.150 MHz repeater. Promptly at 9:00 AM the crowd took off and the net was in progress.

There were two courses the walkers could choose from. One was a 5-kilometer walk, and the other was a 10-kilometer walk. To cover the 5-kilometer walk we had Greg and Mark handle the job. Greg W9IEI was sent to cover the first rest stop at the Outagamie County Courthouse. Mark KF9CS went to City Park.

Greg made a comment, after the walk, about how fast the supplies were consumed at the first rest stop. "It was a like a feeding frenzy", he said, "The water and snacks were gone in no time."

Mark KF9CS was at the second rest stop on the walk, at City Park. The map of the event we got wasn't too clear as to where Mark should go, but he found the right place and was on sight when the walk began. Don W9OVK was sent out to handle rest stop three at Peabody Park, on the 10-kilometer course. The map wasn't too clear as to where the rest stop was, but we sent Don out anyway. Don found them, and was on sight when the walk began.

Rick KB9LRE was sent out on the sag wagon. The sag wagon had to pick up some supplies from the first rest stop and transport them to where Don was at Peabody Park. Rick provided us with information about the last walkers, so that during the event, the walk officials could keep tabs on where the end of the walk was.

No injuries, or lost children were reported during the event, and we all had a good time. After the event we were fed hot-dogs and chips for lunch. The net was closed at about noon.

The JDF foundation expressed their sincere thanks to the FCARC for providing their event with communications, and for our experienced operators who handled the massive event with ease. One of the chairpersons from the JDF foundation offered to make the FCARC a weather resistant banner, free of charge. We provide the artwork and what we want the banner to say. We could then use this banner, placed on a table perhaps, to help promote the club when we do these types of community service events in the future.

I would like to thank those that volunteered for the JDF walk and would encourage other club members to volunteer their time and experience to other community events that the FCARC is asked to help. It really is fun, and those people that we do this for, really appreciate us being there.

Thanks to, Mark Heimmermann KF9CS, Rick Mandel KB9LRE, Greg Schneider W9IEI, and Don Quinn W9OVK, for helping to make the JDF Walk 2000 a major success.

Written by: Steven G Lamers - N9SGG

## Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club

Volunteer Exam Session May 13, 2000 @  
Mancorad Amateur Radio Club Swapfest

The FCARC volunteer team assisted the Mancorad Amateur Radio Club at their swapfest on May 13, 2000. The Storm on Friday, May 12 damaged Silver Lake College (the test site) and the team was notified of this at 9:10 PM on Friday evening. The team decided to have the exam session and ended up using a small room at the actual swapfest site to test candidates. 21 candidates were tested and seventeen earned licenses or upgrades. This makes a total of one hundred and seven amateur radio candidates served since the start of the new year.

### Those examiners present and assisting:

George Croy – W9MDP (FCARC)  
Jerry Clusen – K9USN (FCARC)  
Chuck Hanson – N9OEQ (FCARC)  
William Vincent – N9TNW (FCARC)  
Tom Prust – N9WI (Green Bay)

Dan Scherer – KA9EAZ (Manitowoc)  
John Meyer – NZ9Z (Manitowoc)  
Eric Rugowski – AF9J (Manitowoc)  
Carl Olson - KA9ZTF (Manitowoc)

### License or Upgrade Earned at the Session:

Technician – 3  
Extra – 3

General - 9  
Not earning license or upgrade – 4

**NOTE: Candidates earning licenses may not see results from the FCC for several weeks after the session. April 15 results may not be out until late May. May 13 results will not be out until into June. Continue to check the Internet! They (ARRL/FCC) are behind in issuing licenses because of the volume of new licenses.**

### Upcoming Testing Sessions:

Testing sessions open at 8 am and close for walk ins at 9am. Bring copies of license, CSCE's and correct fee (presently \$6.65).

Sept. 9, 2000 Red Cross Building – Appleton

November 5, 2000 FCARC Hamfest – Kaukauna

January 27, 2001 Red Cross Building-Appleton

Lo-band ground plane to give away. Still on pole. Cut to 42 Mhz.

135-144 Mhz scanner converter was \$100 new, asking \$5.

Contact Steve Schmidt, Kaukauna, 766-1774

# \$ FOR SALE ITEMS \$

Ken Vanderdenberg, WA9TOZ, passed away a while ago and his daughter Linda Suprize has decided to give away his 100' guyed tower to anyone who will take it down. I believe there is also a tribander of some sort that would be included. The tower is in Little Chute. For those further away that is near Appleton. Contact her at 920-788-4274

## Dayton or Bust

It was a dark and stormy night. I always wanted to start a story like that, and what the heck, it was a dark and stormy night when N9PRC and I left for Dayton. N9PRC (Chad), N8MDY (Willie), and I had been planning our trip to Dayton for several months. Chad and I were going to drive to Willie's in Ann Arbor Thursday night and ride with Willie in his motor home the rest of the way to Dayton. The trip was a bit of an adventure. We left Appleton at about 8:00 PM Thursday night. This would put us in Ann Arbor at about 3:00 AM. It started to rain as we pulled out of town. It was windy and rainy the entire trip to Willie's. Around Michigan City in Indiana, we ran into about 6 inches of standing water on the highway. I was sleeping in the passenger seat when this happened, so I woke up while we appeared to be under water. There are better ways to wake up at 2:00 in the morning. But we were on our way to Dayton so it didn't matter. We were getting close to Ann Arbor and were all set with directions to Willie's, courtesy of an Internet mapping site. The problem was the exit we were supposed to take from US94 was closed. I knew Willie was into APRS so I typed out a message to him on the APRS system I have in my vehicle. Sure enough he was watching us as we drove over. I asked for a local repeater frequency so he could talk us in. He talked us in as he watched us driving around (usually in the right direction). We made it to Willie's as predicted at 3:00 AM.

Now on to the good stuff. We pulled into our campsite at about 9:00AM and made it to Hara Arena at about noon on Friday. All three of us had our list of must find equipment. Chad's big ticket item was an HF rig, Willie was looking for a screwdriver antenna (they had both recently upgraded to General and needed the equipment to work HF), and I was primarily looking for more things for APRS and fox hunting (GPS units, TNCs, radios, and mini transmitters). We split up and agreed to meet at Tower Electronics at 2:00. Chad made his tour of Hara looking for deals on new HF rigs, while Willie and I started through the outside flea market looking for deals.

I immediately found a GE Phoenix SX rig already tuned to the APRS frequency for a bargain price. Not wanting to lose a good deal I bought it. Well, as I soon found out this type of rig is quite heavy for its size. As we were looking through the flea market for a vendor we were told was a regular selling mini transmitters, we ran into Gerry, WA9GON. Gerry, being a Dayton vet, told us where the vendor typically set up. So off we went. On the way we found a vendor selling carts to carry your heavy purchases on. The GE rig made the sale for him (my arms were pretty tired from carrying the thing). The carts were \$15 each or 2 for \$25. Another person was looking at a cart, so I made a friend by buying two and selling here one for \$12. Willie haggled and got a third for \$11. Somehow I think I got the short end of the deal, but my arms were much happier.

We never did find the guy selling the mini transmitters, but we found a lot of other good deals. We ran into one vendor from Canada selling Kenwood VC-H1s for less than \$200. This is a neat little device for slow scan TV. I had never seen one for less than \$300 before. I was not looking for one, but Willie said if I bought one, he'd buy one. Needless to say on Saturday Willie and I were walking around sending slow scan pictures to each other on our new VC-H1s. We ran into WA9GON again on Saturday, and before we knew it both he and Chad had new slow scan rigs as well.

Most of our money was spent on Friday. Chad found a great deal on a used HF rig, I found my TNCs, GPS units, and the GE rig. We were bound and determined to make it to the fox hunting seminar on Saturday morning, but sleep prevailed. We got back to Hara at about 11:30 on Saturday. Chad covered the outside flea market as Willie and I covered the inside of Hara on Saturday. Once again we agreed to meet at Tower Electronics in the afternoon so we could make it to the fox hunt that afternoon. While waiting at Tower Electronics I ran into a few other friends from Appleton, KA9VMI and KB9VMI Dan and Patty Hoyer.

We made it to the foxhunt just as it started. Boy was it a different type of hunt. They had 16 transmitters all using 300mW or less. We were not prepared for this type of hunt. We thought we could body beam, but this proved almost useless with all of the QRM from Hara only a mile or two away. Never the less, Willie and I each found two transmitters, while Chad found I believe four of them. After a short while we gave up and started to talk to an individual who was wondering around the fox hunting area taking pictures. He was quite a character, and we later found out he was carrying one of the smelly foxes in his camera case.

We made it back to Hara on Sunday for the main door prizes. They had over \$86,000 in prizes left to give away, and there were over 28,000 people who had attended this year. All of us who had stuck around were drooling and hoping to win the big prizes. When they said what the values of the prizes were, I immediately told Chad he had to stop slacking off on the door prizes for our hamfest. He was quick to do some math and point out that we spend more per attendee on door prizes than they do at Dayton. Well, none of us won, but we could never have forgiven ourselves if we didn't stick around.

We pulled out of Dayton at about 3:00PM on Sunday, much poorer, flat footed, tired, and planning our next trip to Dayton. We got back to Appleton at about 1:30AM on Monday. It had been 84 hours since we left, 24 were spent on the road, about 40 were spent on our feet, and lord knows how we spent the rest, but it was well worth it. If you haven't been to Dayton plan a trip. You'll be amazed at what you see. It is hard to sum it up in only a few paragraphs. Dayton is truly something every Ham should experience.

Well, enough of my babbling (Al told me we needed about a page of babbling so I'll stop here),



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Mark Heimmermann - KF9CS  
749-9924  
or  
Jeff Schwaebel - KB0EYF  
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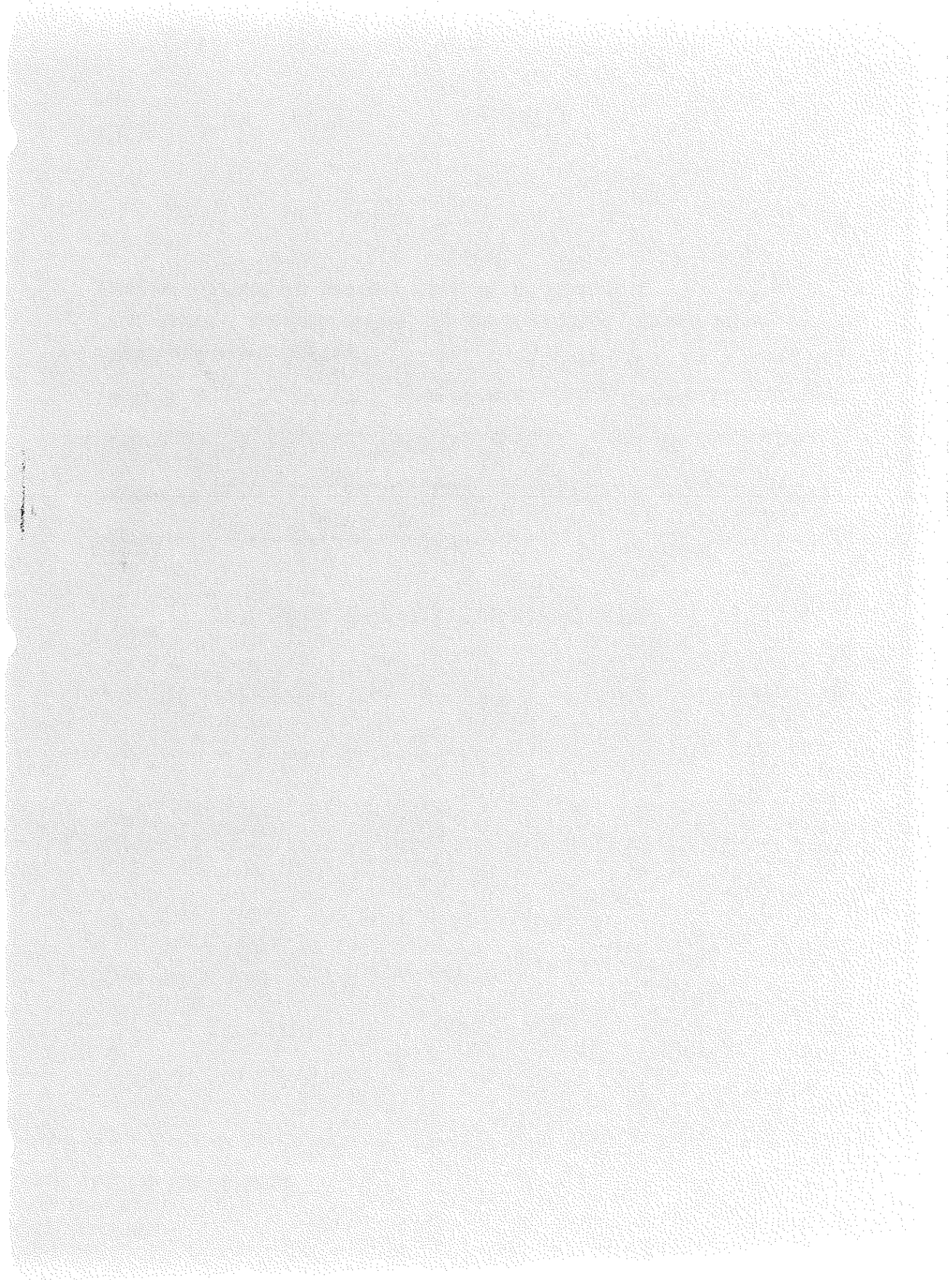
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