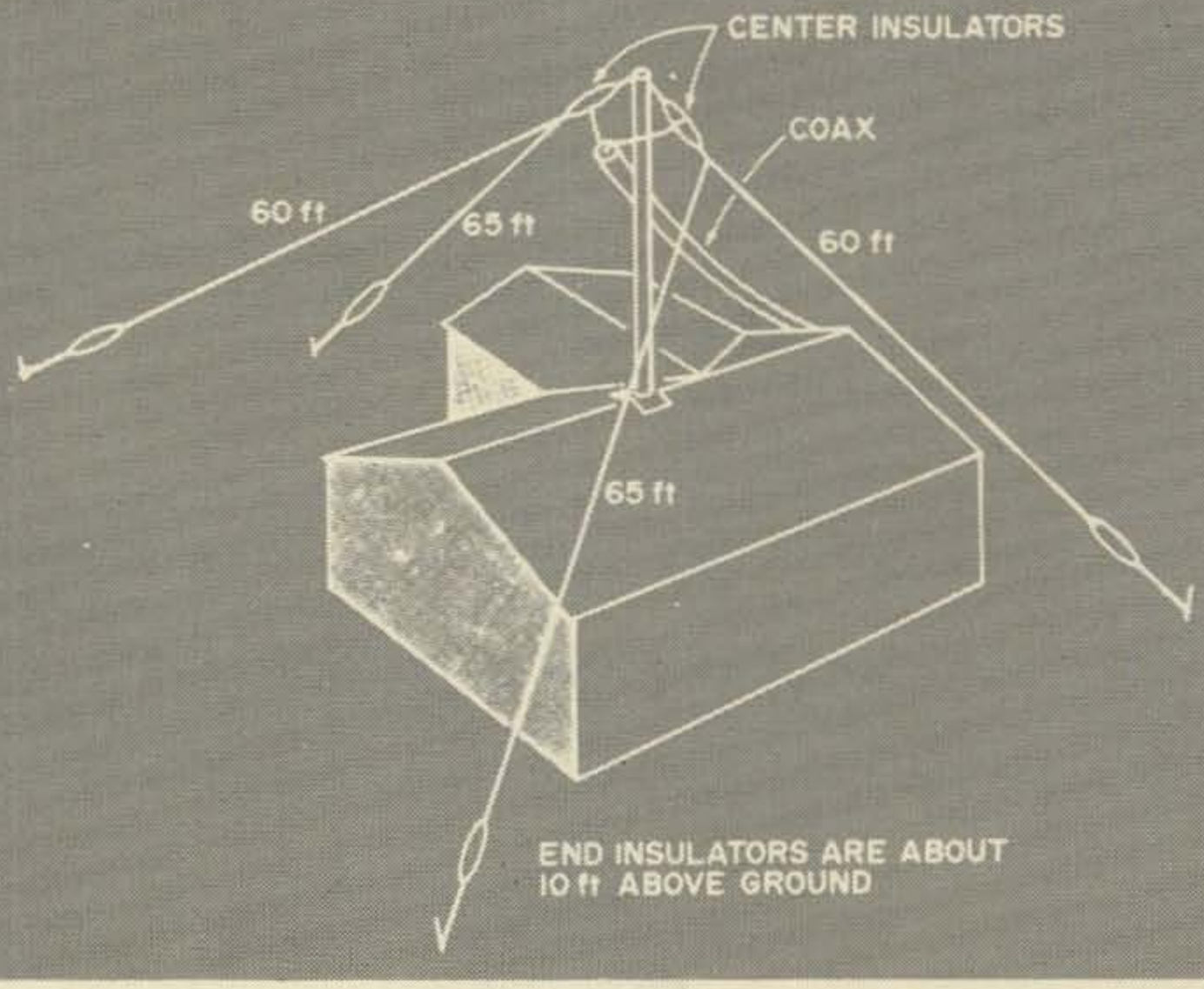
William A. Brink WA6COB
415 Conestoga Way
San Jose CA 95123

The Four-Wire Inverted Vee



In a search for a better broadband antenna for 80 meters, I have devised one that works beautifully for me. Since it is possible that some of our readers might also be interested I will attempt to describe it to you.

I call this antenna the Four-Wire Inverted Vee, as that seems to best describe it. In the past I have used the conventional inverted vee on the lower bands with good results. This one seems to work better for me. Each side of the vee consists of two wires, one 60 ft long and one 65 ft long. This gives me one conductor near resonance at the top of the band and one near resonance at the bottom of the band. The center of my antenna is about 35 ft above the roof of my house (on top of a 40 meter vertical) which gives me an overall height of about 50 ft.

The best feature of this antenna is that it is coax fed with RG-11/U and tunes the whole band with a very low vswr. If it were fed with RG-8/U, the vswr might be even lower. Any rate, the highest vswr indication was 1.5:1 at 3.8 MHz. My measurements were all made with homebrew equipment that shows a good null on a Heath antenna. While the measurements are not precise due to the fact that 75Ω coax was used (rather than 50Ω), they are close enough to prove the effectiveness of the antenna system.

I have been using this antenna for the past six months and have achieved good results on both CW and RTTY. While I don't operate SSB since the funny license plan went into effect last year, I do want to point out that the antenna loads well in that portion of the band and should give the same results as at the bottom end. While I have not attempted to guess at the radiation pattern, I have worked a good many states on RTTY since I installed the Four-Wire Inverted Vee.

Frequency, MHz	Vswr with 50Ω bridge
3.5	1:1
3.6	1:1
3.7	1.35:1
3.8	1.5:1
3.3.9	1.22:1
4.0	1.22:1

William A. Brink WA6COB ■