

This month's meeting was held at the city hall in Canton, OK. There were 27 members present. It was good to see David Rumsey out, and ready to work on upgrading again. Congratulations go to N5IXN Olive Adams for passing her 20 word code. I know it will be a thrill when she gets her extra class license.

During the meeting W5FLT Joe, our secretary and treasurer read a letter of appreciation from the Crippled Children Hospital for the money the Wheatstraw ARC sent to purchase gifts for the children. W5MGZ Perry Jones made an up to date report on the Hamfest being held at Elk City, OK on March 3rd from 8 am to 5 pm. Sponsored by West Central Oklahoma A.R.C. From I-40 exit 40 go 1 1/2 miles to Civic Center on left side of road. K5GBN Johnny Fish reported that the Great Plains A.R.C. is having their Eyeball QSO April 7th and 8th in Mooreland. Read their reporter's articles in the C&E.

On the net Wednesday night WZ5H Leo said we were not to talk about the black eye any more. I just thought I would let you know. He said nothing about printing it.

Before the meeting was over N5KFO Ernest Marten showed a film, a history of the Corps of Engineers. It was a very good film and everyone enjoyed it. After the film was over the meeting was closed and as usual the Canton ladies served us with delicious refreshments. Thanks to the Canton members for hosting the meeting.

The March 11th meeting will be held in Calumet, OK. Thoughts are at the City Hall. It is located from the stop light, 1 block south then west about 1 block, I think. Check in Wednesdays at 9 pm for exact location.

JIM & HELEN WILLIAMS

Jim was born in Ft. Smith AR. That is just over in the other side of lap land. Jim had 4 sisters and 3 brothers; after high school Jim went to an electronics school.

Helen Turnus was born at Geary OK. Helen, living in the country, spent her early years in a country school. After graduation from the country school she attended Greenfield OK. Helen still has several friends living in Blaine county from her childhood days.

Jim was working in a drug store in OKC as a soda jerk; for you youngsters benefit that is what a person working behind the soda fountain was called. Drug stores used to have confectionerys in them.

Anyway two pretty young ladies came in one evening for a coke, Helen and girl friend living together close by. Jim served them their cokes, sat down in the booth with them, introduced himself. When I was young an old black gentleman told me when the love bug bites or the lightening strikes there is nothing you can do, just make the best of it. Jim made up his mind that day, Helen was to be his. What happened? 2 months later Jim & Helen were married.

To this union 2 sons were born. Jerry and Jeffery. Jerry has a family and has a heating & air business. Jeffery is married also, and works for AT&T. Between the 2 sons Jim and Helen have 8 grandchildren, and 1 great-grandchild.

Helen attended Business college and Beauty college. After the boys grew up she had a beauty shop for 15 years.

Jim was attracted to amateur radio by his older brother John K5VCW. Jim K5VRL, John K5VCW, brother Glen K5OOX, and Glen's wife Fran K5OOY all are members of the Wheatstraw A.R.C. I always admired Jim, his wife Helen, John, Glen and wife Fran for the love they had shown their mother; when she was alive they were so kind to her. They would bring her to the Wheatstraw Christmas dinners, meetings, and just out. They all live in or near OKC. Jim joined the club in the early 1960's. I asked Jim why he joined the club, he said mainly because of the genuine friendship and it still remains today. Jim has served as vice president and president of the club. Jim worked for Sears 20 years in the electronic appliance department. Being modest he didn't tell me how many years he was the shop foreman of the repair dept. Jim and Helen have done a lot of volunteer work. In years past they both did a lot of work at Ham Holidays. Beside amateur radio Jim has another hobby, his pride and joy the model A Ford. Jim has restored his model A coupe from top to bottom. The last time I knew he was restoring a pickup. He also has some Stewart Warner south wind heater parts.

Remember, if you don't put something in, you will get nothing out.

THERE ARE JUST 155 DAYS UNTIL HAM HOLIDAY! HOW ABOUT THAT?

The South Canadian Amateur Radio Society

The February meeting of SCARS was called to order by Ken, K5EFJ at about 9:35 on the 10th at the Norman Red Cross. About 20 members were present. Treasurer Ken, N5BEW announced that there was about \$1225 in the account and \$172 in the repeater upgrade fund. Secretary Ken, N5KUK stated that the minutes of the January meeting were published in C&E.

There was not much business to discuss. N5KUK attended the ORSI meeting in Edmond and reported on the efforts to get the telephone rates reduced for repeaters now being charged the "non-residential" rate.

W5ULK asked if SCARS would be active in providing radio operators for the NWS office this year. A coordinator has not yet been appointed to work out the roster of volunteers.

Jack Bickham, KU5B was admitted to Presbyterian Hospital due to apparent diminished capacity (to circulate blood, that is) and was reported to be doing much better after having had some sort of "rotorooter" job done on his blood vessels. A potted growing thing adorned with a recognizable amateur radio artifact was smuggled into his room and presented on behalf of the club. (More on this later).

There being no call for committee reports, none were reported.

After a questionable drawing for a door prize (several VPS video tapes won by W5ULK) the meeting adjourned at 9:53.

Ken, N5KUK

NEW VE SESSION TO MEET

For those who can't wait until the CORA VE Examiners on Monday April 19 can be tested at the Hillcrest United Methodist Church, 5751 South Penn. on April 17, that's a Saturday at 9:00am. Phone 681-3299 for further details.

Central Oklahoma Radio Amateurs, inc.

23 JAN 90

MINUTES

The Meeting was called to Order at 7:05 pm with President Frank AA5GI in the Chair and the following Directors and Guest present :

ACARC - Tom Mangham K5LDI	MORI - Ellard Foster W5KE
C&E Mng Ed - Joe Harding WA5ZNF	OCAPA - Jim Bartlett KA5PSF
	Lee Allen N5KXI
EARS - Steve Hamlin KG5IP	Chuck White K5NK
Bob Long N5KUE	
	76ERS - Jim Buswell N5BEQ
Visitor - Joe Lynch N6CL, ARRL OK SM.	

On Motion by Lee N5KXI and Second by Bob N5KUE the Minutes of the Nov '89 Meeting were accepted as distributed with the addition of the word "tables" to the Flea Market Report .

On Motion by Ellard W5KE and Second by Jim KA5PSF the Report of the Treasury was accepted as distributed .

REPORTS: C&E - Joe WA5ZNF reports "nothing new ;"
VE - Joe N6CL reports "same as last month but with one new Extra ."

Old Business: Bob N5KUE reported the consensus of the Merger Committee not to merge the *NEON ARC* and the *C&E* publications .

HAM HOLIDAY #17 (1990): Publicity - Bob N5KUE will mail letters now that we are assured of ARRL State Convention Status 3-5 Aug 90 and Post Office Box 95942, Zip Code 73143-5942 ;

Facilities - Frank AA5GI has the contract in hand ;

Dealers/ Awards - Frank AA5GI listed some confirmed/waiting/refused and it was decided that the Grand Award would be an Icom IC-735 on Motion by Chuck K5NK and Second by Lee N5KXI and that the Pre-Registration Award would be an IC-2400 on Motion by Lee N5KXI and Second by Jim KA5PSF ;

Pre-Registration - Jerry N5AUH relayed thru Frank AA5GI that the tickets will stay the same this year but the design would be changed by the 1991 convention . In Jerry's absence it was discussed that the Pre-Registration deadline would likely be 24 Jul 90 ;

Registration - Steve KG5IP will attempt to locate and purify the available records of registrants from previous Ham Holidays for publicity and mailings ;

Programs - still need input ;

Scholarship - Frank AA5GI relayed word of *donation* of a device for fund-raising raffle ;

Banquet - discussed but not firm yet .

Frank AA5GI announced he would begin proceedings to apply for Division Convention Status in 1991 (2-4 Aug) .

Next Board Meeting is scheduled for 27 Feb 90 .

This meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm .

Secretary,
Jim N5BEQ

KAY KOUNTY

AMATEUR RADIO KLUB

FEB. MEETING NOTES

We had another great turnout for the Feb. meeting. Mark N5OGP, our secretary, informed us that we have 39 PAID UP members this year, that's got to be a record for this early in the year! After the usual club biz, Mike N5JJR gave us a talk on the care and feeding of ni-cad batteries. It was quite informative, thanks, Mike. We also watched a video on RDFing in China. (wait, you don't know what RDFing is? well, you shoulda been there!)

Some plans were made for Field Day this year, it will sneak up on us if we're not careful. Mike N5LPZ and Steve KB5DOR are cooking up some plans, if you have a suggestion, contact them. The autopatch codes will be changed the first of March. Everyone who is paid up will be notified before the change. Our next meeting will be held at the EOC (basement of the police station) and we'll discuss our storm watch procedures. Speaking of storm watch, there will be a training session at NOC on Apr 2nd. Also, Gene WA5MUB mentioned that there's a group of locals and ex-locals that get on 3823 +/- every week night and ragchew awhile.

Here's a few words from N5LPZ, our prez-Well, here it is the middle of February and I think I can speak for all the club members when I say "We are ready for Spring!" Of course along with the approach of warmer days comes good ole severe weather season. Thanks to KD5FX, N5LPZ and W5TXF, the emergency communications trailer is starting to get back in shape. The public service radios have been checked out and installed, antennas tuned and power supply wiring fixed. There is still alot of work to do to dress it up but at least everything is functional. Don't forget to mark on your calendar the Storm Spotter Seminar scheduled for April 2 in Tonkawa. We haven't had alot of severe weather for a few years so all of could use a refresher.

N5OGP, AA50J AND N5LPZ traveled up to Arkansas, KS.

CIMARRON

HEADLINE!!! TERRY & JERRY GETS EXTRA CLASS! ADAMS BREAKS SOUND BARRIER!

Some say that success is spelled SWEAT, and that may have been proven at Enid Mayor Walter Baker AA5LI upgrade VE exam February tenth. Two of our favorite Hams, Terry McColl N5MLT of CARA, and Jerry Greathouse KG5EV of Enid passed the final test and are looking forward to new EXTRA CLASS calls. Congratulations to you both! Equally good news is that Olive Adams N5IXN passed the 20 WPM sound barrier. It is really wonderful to see our Ladies excell in what is sometimes thought of as a mans world.

Actually the XYL's are a solid working part of every facet of Amateur Radio and generally of every Radio Club. What would CARA be without N5PMH Nadine Painton, or WX5Y Ruth Simpson or Betty KA5RTW? A lot duller...and a whole lot hungrier!!!! And now, Olive about to make Extra Class...thats just super!

CARA's February meeting was attended by nine of the faithful.

President Leo Peil WZ5H called

on Feb. 17, to enjoy an eyeball QSO with some members of the Cowley County ARC. We discussed storm-spotting communications, joint VE exam sessions and plenty of other ham stuff. We discussed the possibility of planning a joint club picnic later on this spring. Everyone enjoyed the informal meeting and we are looking forward to doing it again.

The big news this past month is Mike, N5JJR, passed his Advanced exam (finally)!! Congratulations Mike, now when is it you plan to take that 20 wpm code test?

Thanks, Mike.

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS-

The snow cancelled the Groundhog Day Run on Feb 3rd, but it was rescheduled for the first weekend in March! We need at least 5 to cover the course, if you can help out contact Mike N5LPZ.

Thats it for this month, see you at our next meeting! Dave KD5FX.

the meeting to order and the usual business of the club was discussed. Field Day seemed to be the main interest. We decided to have a work day as soon as weather permits to work on the portable tower.

Ten meters was recommended to our Novices as a busy and interesting frequency. With the advent of increased sun spot activity ten meters is good DX territory. Sun spots are beginning to be thought of as drouth harbingers also.

The acquisition of a portable generator (cheap) was also discussed. No conclusion was arrived at, but it was thought our Civil Defense Director Jack Kelly N5LEW may be able to help.

Those attending the meeting included WZ5H Leo Peil, KA5SZD Vern Brewer, AB5Z Ray Barnes, WK5V Denny Painton, WX5Y Ruth Simpson, NN5Z Jack Day, N5MLT Terry McColl, KP5SW Steve Schoonmaker, and KA5RTW Betty Day.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Reeta Martin KA5SLY. Bills Mother recently passed away.

We also need to put Helen Simpson N5HDL on our prayer list and also the sister in law of Ruth WX5Y ...Dorothy Ellis...who is fighting cancer.

Leo said that when he started collecting QSL cards with the WZ prefix...he naturally asked Ed Arnote WZ5F for his. Ed is a unique individual and when he sets his mind to do something he does it up right. Not having a commercial card he set about making a truly different card. Fifty dollars and many hours later he gave Leo his card. Leo says "You gotta see it to believe it!" Leo...Its show and tell time!

That reminds me...Ed, we havent seen you lately at club meetings. We miss you....Be there or be square!

And that goes for all of you Hams that have gotten the habit of missing CARA meetings...and/or the Thursday nite two meter net on 14545! We need you...you need us! Every body needs somebody!

73's NN5Z

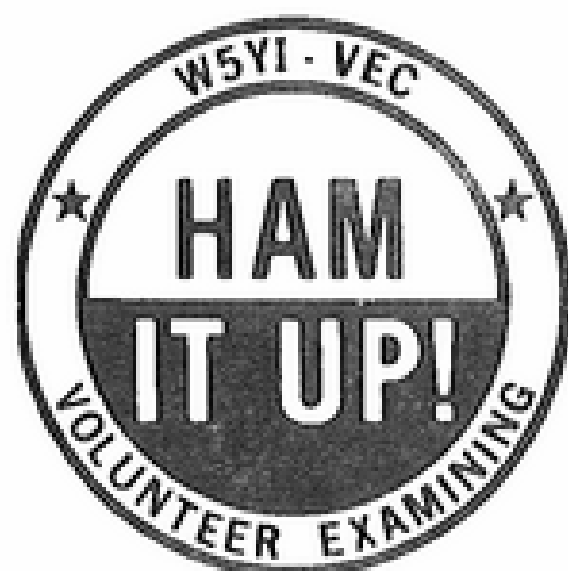
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CIRCULATION: BOB GRAHAM, WB5NSV 677-8685

***** ATTENTION ALL HAMS *****

* We are looking for a way to improve the packet network between *
 * Northern Oklahoma and the OKC/Norman area. This link will allow *
 * us to interface with the National Weather Service in Norman. In *
 * the past we've used the UHF link from POND to ENID and down to *
 * OKC/OPRA (the NWS in Norman). Due to technical problems this UHF *
 * link is gone for good. We are looking for another link and have *
 * two possibilities. *
 * We have permission to put a UHF and or VHF link on a 300 foot *
 * tower in Perry if we can find a bonded tower climber. If you are *
 * a BONDED TOWER CLIMBER and will install an antenna and feedline *
 * for us please call me collect at 405-762-8616. We'll work out *
 * a compensation plan for your troubles. *
 * If we can't find someone to do this for an affordable price, *
 * we are also looking into a 6 meter direct link between Ponca City *
 * and the OKC area. Does anyone have ROOM ON A 100+ FOOT TOWER??? *
 * We'd like to install a 3 or 4 element yagi at that level and *
 * link direct to Ponca City. We'll supply all the equipment, all *
 * we need is a place to put it, preferably close to the NWS station. *
 * If you have room, call me collect at 405-762-8616, or if you're *
 * a packeteer, send me a message on WB5RZX. *
 * Thanks, Dave KD5FX. *



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VE APPLICATION — W5YI-VEC PROGRAM

I am a currently licensed Extra Class amateur radio operator and wish to be a volunteer examiner. I have never had my station or operator license revoked or suspended. I do not own a significant interest in nor am an employee of any company or entity engaged in the amateur radio equipment or license preparation business. My age is at least 18 years old.

Date Signed _____

Signature _____

PLEASE PRINT

Name: _____ Call Sign: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Telephone Number: () _____

RETURN WITH A PHOTOCOPY OF YOUR EXTRA CLASS LICENSE OR UPGRADE CERTIFICATE TO:

W5YI-VEC, P.O. BOX #10101, DALLAS, TEXAS 75207

Your free VE credentials will be sent to you at once. (While not required, a colorful VE certificate is available for \$1.00)

The Oklahoma Comm Center will be closed on the following dates during the HAMFEST season:

APRIL 6 - CLOSED AT NOON (Mooreland)
APRIL 7 - CLOSED ALL DAY (Mooreland)

APRIL 20 - CLOSED ALL DAY (Little Rock & Lawton)
APRIL 21 - CLOSED ALL DAY (Little Rock & Lawton)

MAY 18 - CLOSED AT NOON (Green Country in Tulsa)
MAY 19 - CLOSED ALL DAY (Green Country in Tulsa)

JUNE 8 - CLOSED ALL DAY (HAMCOM in Dallas)
JUNE 9 - CLOSED ALL DAY (HAMCOM in Dallas)



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VHF Club NEWS

W5LOW
*The Elmer Goeckler Memorial
Station*

Minutes of February Meeting

Meeting was called to order by President Jack, WB5ZKZ, on February 7, at 12:00 p.m. with 34 members and guests present.

Ellard, W5KE, gave the Treasurer's report. Copies of the proposed By-Law amendment were distributed and the change was approved by secret ballot. Meeting adjourned at 12:15. Joe, K5JB, Sec'y

Packet Meeting Planned

The following notice arrived via the WB5RZX BBS:

S.W. Oklahoma/North Texas Packet Radio Association meeting is planned for Saturday - March 10 at 1:00 p.m. The location will be KA5YED's office, 1415 NW 33rd Street, Lawton, Okla. This is located behind Burger King on Cache road.

Talk-in will be on the 147.39/.99 Lawton repeater. All packet ops are welcome! KA5ZZI

Communicator License Proposal

In ARRL Bulletin #7, we were advised that the FCC was proposing a new class of license, called communicator, and would apparently be dropping the novice and technician class licenses. In the first draft of this column I used a message from Dave Sumner, K1ZZ, in response to questions about the proposal. It made several suppositions and concluded that we would just have to wait until the notice of proposed rulemaking came out. Well it is now out, with the number NPRM 90-55, released Feb. 16, and I have a copy of it. What follows are parts 1, 4 and 5 of that NPRM, the proposal, and conclusion.

The entire text of the NPRM is on the K5JB BBS (145.05) in six local bulletins. In addition to what is included here, the other interesting parts would be those dealing with the background and the discussion. By the time you read this Mac, K2GKK, may have distributed it further. It is about 48k long. Numbers preceded by slashes (/) are footnote numbers.

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In this Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice), we propose to establish a new class of amateur operator license that would not require the applicant to prove that he or she can send and receive manual Morse code telegraphy messages. This proceeding was initiated by twelve petitions for rule making filed on matters generally relating to the amateur operator license class structure, requirements, and privileges./1

IV. PROPOSAL

15. We believe that the petitions have merit. Further, like the petitioners, we believe that this is a propitious time to propose the establishment of a codeless license, given the advances in electronic communications in the past few years. We propose, therefore, to establish a codeless class of amateur operator license, the Communicator Class. With respect to this proposed operator class, we have established three objectives. Our first objective is to offer an entry level license opportunity to all persons who find the telegraphy requirement a barrier to pursuing the purposes of the amateur service. Our view is best expressed by the statement of the ARRL that "the goal of the codeless amateur license is to bring such licensees into the 'mainstream' of the Amateur Radio Service, and to encourage them to upgrade their license class."/51 Our second objective is to propose a type of license that can be implemented quickly if a decision is made to proceed. Our third objective is to avoid any negative effect upon current licensees, upon the work of the volunteer examiners, or upon the Commission's workload or resources. To preclude any impact on our resources, it is imperative that our existing computer-aided application processing system be utilized "as is."/52 The proposed rule amendments are contained in the attached Appendix.

16. In proposed Sections 97.501 and 97.503(b)1), we would require that the applicant for a Communicator Class license pass a 60 question written examination, as requested by ARRL. In sum, there would be an expanded entry level examination and corresponding question pool. We concur with ARRL that the written examination for the Communicator Class license should correspond to the privileges for that class of license./53 The new question pool would be comprised of

the questions from the two pools currently used in the Novice and Technician license examinations, and new questions as requested by ARRL./54 By incorporating existing questions, over 91 percent of the question pool for a Communicator Class license would already be available and would help facilitate a smooth transition./55

17. Operator license structure. In proposed Section 97.9, we would incorporate the Communicator Class in a simplified license structure containing four ascending steps: Communicator, General, Advanced, and Amateur Extra Classes. Current Technician and Novice Class operator licenses would be grandfathered indefinitely. There would be no new licenses issued for those license classes, but existing licenses could be modified or renewed. This approach would meet the objectives we established in paragraph 15. Dennis and Linda Welch, John McCord, and SCATG suggested preserving the five-step ladder by eliminating the telegraphy examination requirement from the Novice class license. This approach deserves careful consideration by the amateur community because of its simplicity. We did not propose this approach because of its disadvantage of lowering the license qualification standards for the Novice operator class. As such, it may be unacceptable to the hundreds of thousands of amateur operators, including the 85,000 current Novice Class licensees, who qualified for the Novice license by passing a telegraphy examination. The Novice Class has operating privileges below 30 MHz, necessitating the need for a knowledge of telegraphy as described in paragraph 2.

18. For future licensees, the Communicator Class license would be the first step in the license structure instead of the Novice Class. Our premise is that most newcomers to the service, given the choice, would elect to qualify for the Communicator Class license rather than the Novice Class license. There would, therefore, no longer be a need for the Novice Class license. We particularly invite instructors, volunteer examiners (VEs), and VECs to submit comments on the validity of this premise, including factual information on the time and effort that would be required for persons to prepare for the proposed 60 question Communicator Class written examination as compared to the time and effort currently required for the Novice Class 30 question written examination and telegraphy examination.

19. Because the written examination for the Communicator Class license would be more comprehensive than that of the Technician Class license, the Communicator Class would also serve in the stead of the Technician Class for future licensees. Each step in the proposed four step structure provides recognition that the holder has significantly advanced his or her skills in both the communication and technical phases of the radio art./56 This structure could be rapidly implemented. The present license application processing system and license application form would continue to be used./57

20. Operator privileges. The proposed control operator privileges of the Communicator Class would generally be those suggested by the ARRL. The privileges would include all authorized emission types. The proposed transmitter power standard would be 200 watts peak envelope power. The licensee's station would be eligible for a Group D call sign./58 Stations with Communicator Class control operators would not be permitted to transmit on the 2 m and 6 m bands. In view of ARRL's desire to bring the codeless class into the mainstream of the amateur service,/59 however, we particularly invite comment on the effect of excluding Communicator Class licensees from these two popular bands.

21. The ARRL stated that one premise for its petition was that an accommodation should be made for codeless class licensees to upgrade their license class. It cited countries that have codeless licenses where the written examination tests the examinee's technical qualifications. The ARRL stated that amateur service societies in countries such as Australia, the Federal Republic of Germany, and Belgium report ongoing telegraphy activities among the codeless class licensees working to upgrade the license class./60 While the proposed Communicator Class privileges include telegraphy on the 1.25 meter and shorter wavelength bands, we recognize that telegraphy operation is more closely associated with the HF bands. The opportunity for newcomers to the amateur service actually to send and receive messages in the Morse code on small segments of the HF 80, 40, 15, and 10 meter bands is provided to the Novice and Technician Classes so that those operators can gain an appreciation of telegraphy and acquire the proficiency needed to pass the telegraphy examination for

the General Class operator license. We specifically request comments, therefore, concerning the desirability of including the opportunity for Communicator Class licensees also to experience on-the-air telegraphy operation on the HF bands. In view of our obligation under the provisions of the international Radio Regulations,/61 if it is desired, only domestic communications on the HF bands would be authorized.

22. Under proposed Section 97.301(g), a Communicator Class licensee who passes, or otherwise receives credit for a telegraphy examination, would be authorized the additional privileges of the Technician Class./62 To avoid a license processing burden, however, the documentation of the passing of, or credit for, a telegraphy examination would be evidenced by the Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE) issued by the administering VEs,/63 rather than by the issuance of a Technician Operator license. The indicator used by the Communicator Class for identification purposes would be AC./64 Under proposed Section 97.505(a)(1), VEs would be authorized to grant examination credit, evidenced by a CSCE, to a Communicator Class examinee for the slow speed telegraphy examination when the examinee holds a Novice Operator license./65 That combination, Communicator Class license and CSCE, would permit the Communicator Class licensee the same rights and privileges of the Technician Class operator. The VECs would provide listings, in paper or magnetic form, of the Communicator Class licensees who have been issued the CSCE.

23. Volunteer examiners. The instant proposal contains substantive changes in the amateur operator license examination procedure and the issuance of amateur operator licenses and CSCEs. All operator license examinations would be administered under the VEC system./66 The additional task of administering the Communicator Class license would be offset by the elimination of other tasks, including the discontinuance of the two examiner system for the Novice Class license./67 The coordination and oversight by the VECs provide more credible results than does the two examiner system. In the latter, examination administration errors are more common and cheating is a greater problem than in the VEC system. The task of administering new Technician Operator Class licenses would also be discontinued./68 The

Novice and Technician written examinations would no longer be prepared and administered as separate examinations. The VEs and VECs, moreover, could be reimbursed for out-of-pocket costs incurred in connection with all examinations./69

V. CONCLUSION

24. We believe that this proposal would achieve the objectives set forth in paragraph 15 above. We seek comments, therefore, on the proposed revisions to Part 97 to establish a Communicator Class Operator license for the amateur service, as set forth in the attached Appendix.

Packet Racket at K5JB

Whew! I finally am having some success in getting the TCP/IP to work the way I want with the DRSI PC Packet Adapter. This is the interface card for the MS-DOS computer that contains the modem and other hardware to connect the computer to a radio and enable it on packet without using a TNC. I had worked up some pretty nifty software to run it in plain AX.25 but the version of TCP/IP that came with it was pretty rough and kept me from using the computer the way I wanted. I started last November to back the DRSI driver out of the newer TCP/IP version, called NOS (for New Operating System), but had run into considerable difficulty working out the interrupts. A driver is a program that handles the low level details of an interface device. In this case, the serial device and a clock-timer chip have to be programmed to act like a TNC. Drivers are linked to the program that provides the higher level services (like keyboard input, screen output, file transfers, etc.) When I first tried the DRSI driver, the computer kept getting over-run with interrupts and locking up before I could figure out what was wrong. I put the project aside while I worked on some less strenuous things, heh!

Well, I saw some messages that DRSI was providing NOS now with the PC*PA cards they are shipping and since I dislike NOS so much, getting the driver to work in the old TCP/IP code became a challenge. Last weekend my version of the driver started working! The morning after I worked out the last of the known serious problems, I called Stu, N6TTO, the original author and told him of my success. He said that he had been procrastinating on making the driver work on the earlier version and was glad I had gotten it working. We are establishing an internet route

so he can send me the latest driver he is working on. In his work with the thing he was farther along than I in finding nits.

The morning after I talked to Stu, I discovered that it didn't handle multiple sessions very well. After I connected to a station on one frequency, I flipped to a second frequency to do something different. It started trying to poll the missing station and while it was doing that it refused to do anything with the second station I had connected to. The normal TCP/IP code handles multiple sessions pretty well so I surmised that something was amiss in the driver, in fact I later discovered that it missed receiving packets under several contrived conditions. It clearly wasn't working very good yet.

The reason I wanted to use the DRSI card so bad was the availability of a second serial port on the card that would be ideal for higher speed modem applications. I love to tinker with packet switch applications. (Remember the PacCom DR-200 switches?) Maybe, if this thing doesn't drive me off the deep end, next month there might be some success to report. Joe, K5JB

Coax Connector Attachment

After all the things I dredge up on amateur radio software, here is a hardware article, provided by K2GKK, as found on the WB5FWE BBS. It relates to how VE7DIE puts coax connectors onto Belden 9913. Here it is:

After many failures, I have settled on this method to attach PL-259 connectors to Belden 9913 coax cable. The main problem was keeping the dielectric from melting. I use a 40 watt soldering iron.

1. Measure back from end of coax to a length 1/8" greater than PL-259 and remove black outer jacket from coax.
2. Tin full length of exposed shield and allow to cool completely.
3. Place PL-259 alongside coax so 1/8" of connector overlaps coax black outer jacket. Mark coax exposed shield at knurled part of connector. Cut through exposed shield and dielectric with a razor knife, exposing center conductor. The idea is to have connector screw over coax shield and 1/8" of coax jacket.

4 Tin exposed center conductor.

5. Screw connector housing (don't forget coupling ring!!) on to coax and use pliers to screw it snug over coax outer jacket. Silicone lube on coax outer jacket may help.

6. Using a hot clean soldering iron, run solder into 4 connector holes so it contacts coax shield. Use enough heat to cause coax shield to bond to inside of connector. Allow to cool completely.

7. Solder center conductor to connector center pin. Solder should flow between the two. Allow to cool and trim excess center conductor.

The important point of this note is to tin a lot....VE7DIE

More on Coax Connectors

You ever tried to remove a PL-259 installed like described above? Here is the way I get the things hot enough to pull them off without any sweat. Remove the copper tip from the old trusty soldering gun and put the two electrodes right on the sleeve of the PL-259, making the connector part of the electrical path normally provided by the copper tip. Pull the trigger and watch for tell tail smoke from the connector. When you think it is hot enough, grab it with a rag, pull it off of the coax, and fling the hot solder in a safe direction (!). Running the soldering iron current directly through the connector gets it hot in a hurry.

I suppose you could use the same method to get it hot enough to solder the shield to the sleeve but I never tried that. I usually fold the braided shield back over the outer, black jacket, and screw the PL-259 over the braid. I don't solder the braid at all. On most types of coax it is necessary to shave the outer jacket down a bit with a knife or the plug won't screw on over the braid. I have never had one of the things come off when assembled this way. Of course, I solder the center conductor. To remove the plug, thus assembled, it is only necessary to heat the center pin, fling out the excess solder and start unscrewing the plug from the coax. Joe, K5JB

Missing Yer QSL Cards?

Here is a note from Steve, N5OWK:

A recent conversation from a local QSL Bureau member brought up an interesting if not sad, condition. That is; that most of the overseas QSL cards are simply thrown in the trash because the call area Ham does not have any en-

velopes on file. They usually wait 90 days to trash them, but no one ever seems to remedy their problem. With the number of cards coming in, you should not depend on the Bureau sending you a reminder slip to send more envelopes. Also envelopes are never thrown away, so some have 17 cent stamps on them.

It would be a good idea to publish a note in your next club newsletter to notify Hams that their QSL cards may be getting trashed because they have failed to keep envelopes on file. Overseas Hams QSL about 80% of the time. They don't ask you first if it's OK. If your a new Ham like me, don't get on 10 meters and start your Overseas contacts without first sending envelopes to the QSL Bureau. The Overseas Ham will send a card quicker than a blink, and for nothing. It probably wouldn't hurt to have a syllabus entry, teaching new Hams how to QSL. The overseas Hams are getting a raw deal. The current Bureau address' (by call area) are:

(1) Mt. Tom Repeater Association, Box 216, Forest Park Station, Springfield, MA, 01108

(2) North Jersey DX Association, Box 599, Morris Plains, NJ, 07950

(3) Cumberland County ARS, Box 448, New Kingstown, PA, 17072

(4) (Single letter prefix) Mecklenburg ARS, Box DX, Charlotte, NC, 28220; (Two letter prefix) Sterling Park ARC, Call Box 599, Sterling Park, VA, 22170; (Puerto Rico) P.R. ARC, Box 1061, San Juan, Puerto Rico, 00902; (Virgin Islands) Virgin Island ARC, G.P.O. Box 11360, Charlotte Amalie, Virgin Islands, 00801

(5) W5 QSL Bureau, Box 44246, Oklahoma City, OK, 73144

(6) QSL Bureau, Box 1460, Sun Valley, CA, 91352

(7) Willamette Valley DX Club Inc, Box 555, Portland, OR, 97207; (Hawaiian Islands) QSL Bureau, Box 788, Wahiawa, HI, 96786; (Alaska) Alaska QSL Bureau, 4304 Garfield St, Anchorage, AK, 99503

(8) QSL Bureau, Box 182165, Columbus, OH, 43218

(9) Northern Illinois DX Association, Box 519, Elmhurst, IL, 60126

(0) W0 QSL Bureau, Ak-Sar-Ben ARC, Box 291, Omaha, NE, 68101

(SWL Incoming Only) Mike Wilkowski, WDX9JFT, 4206 Nebel St, Stevens Point, WI, 54481. (It wouldn't hurt to send a couple envelopes here also!)

So to foster better International brotherhood, and being plain nice, get those cards printed and mail some envelopes to your QSL Bureau before hitting the airwaves. If you don't remember when you last sent envelopes (year) then it might not hurt to send some new ones. Just in case you get a hankerin to emanate RF. I know it's been an education for me. 73 and make this QSL Month. Steve N5OWK @ WB5FWE.OK

Red Cross Funding

The following bulletin was on all OKC Packet Bulletin Boards. It was written in response to another bulletin which apparently "quoted" a Paul Harvey radio broadcast claiming "mis-use" (or worse) of Red Cross disaster funds. I have removed the identity of the original "accuser" since finger-pointing would only serve to "curse the darkness" instead of "lighting a candle". Hopefully, the bulletin will help you to understand Red Cross Funding better. The message is from NI6A@WD6CMU. 73 de Mac, K2GKK

John; There was a message sent out by some one using your callsign alleging that the Red Cross has misappropriated disaster funds that it collected in the San Francisco earthquake relief.

I would suggest that if you wanted to KNOW if this were true or not, would it not be more proper to contact the American Red Cross and get their side of the picture before you repeated accusations by Paul Harvey that you heard on the radio in a bulletin to ALL @ ALLUSA? Just spreading this false rumor unfortunately directly undermines the Red Cross's ability to actually provide disaster services in our community and yours too because the Red Cross is a volunteer non-profit organization that depends on OUR donations and OUR volunteer community enthusiasm (morale). Your bulletin (if indeed it was you) would contribute negatively to both.

To answer, the allegations that you raise in your bulletin about Red Cross earthquake Funds being used for other operations it has been standard Red Cross Policy on NATIONAL DISASTERS for many many years (and is common knowledge to those who have been

active in disaster preparedness) that the funding is paid for by the NATIONAL RED CROSS after the local Red Cross Disaster funds are totally depleted. Since the National Red Cross does not have millions of dollars readily on hand to fund any disaster, they BORROW the money and go on a national campaign to pay for it.

ALL DONATIONS THAT COME IN GO TO THE NATIONAL FUND AND ARE THUS DOLED OUT TO NATIONAL DISASTER OPERATIONS. THEY DO NOT GO INTO EVERYDAY GENERAL OPERATIONS BUT ARE USED FOR DISASTERS ONLY.

This is guaranteed and is watched very closely, so let's put this to rest once and for all.

The controversy over the Red Cross Disaster Funds for the Earthquake in San Francisco is not about that, but rather (for those who are interested in the truth) about the fact that the money raised went to the NATIONAL DISASTER FUND rather than stay in the DISASTER SERVICES COMMITTEES IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA. In fact much of the money collected went to pay for Hurricane Hugo as well as the Earthquake. Anything left over is spent almost immediately on other NATIONALLY DESIGNATED DISASTERS. The Red Cross does NOT make money on disasters and never has.

USUALLY a disaster overwhelms the ability of the local area to pay for it. NATIONAL FUND RAISING IS necessary from all over the USA to actually pay for it. RARELY does a local disaster pay for itself. San Francisco was a BIG exception. Since the San Francisco Earthquake fund raising was an UNPRECEDENTED success and much California money was eventually placed into Red Cross DISASTER coffers and eventually put to use in Hurricane Hugo, there have been many COMPLAINTS.

I can understand why some people who thought they were donating to Earthquake Relief in Northern California feel badly that the money (SURPLUS) was taken out of Northern California and helped the badly stricken victims of Hurricane Hugo. As a long-time disaster volunteer of the Bay Area, I would of course would have liked to seen the money stay locally for disaster preparation, but as a human being, I am glad that adequate moneys were raised to help those who were devastated by Hurricane Hugo as well.

Perhaps what is correctly objectionable is the fact that the Red Cross does not make it clear that surplus moneys will be put in the NATIONAL DISASTER FUND TO PAY OFF ANY ON-GOING DISASTERS AFTER THE SPECIFIC LOCAL DISASTER IS PAID OFF. This should be made more clear. I agree that advertising and fund raising for Red Cross Disaster relief for the Northern California Earthquake should have been curtailed more quickly, but one must understand also that the Red Cross having Hugo and Northern California disaster operations going concurrently was strapped more so than any other time previously for trained and experienced (and fresh) leadership as well as resources.

The point of all this is not to defend the Red Cross but to help solve the problem. The fact that the American Red Cross is the only organization who will seriously approach the task of feeding, housing, clothing, and aiding disaster victims during these times, means that if we care about the victims, then we either create a better organization or HELP the Red Cross do the job. One does not help by repeating false rumors about Red Cross operations, however it is CONSTRUCTIVE (if we are to get the job done for the victims), to investigate the actual situation and suggest ways for its improvement both in national policy and especially in terms of LOCAL VOLUNTEERISM AND FUNDING. The quality of the job that the Red Cross (it's a volunteer organization) is directly proportional to the ability of its community to support it. Although donations made out to the American Red Cross, can be used for just about anything, checks made out to local chapters EARMARKED for disaster services only, can only be spent for disaster services locally. It is true that checks made out to Earthquake Relief Fund may be spent on Hugo or other disasters but NOT for general operations. Checks made out to local Red Cross Chapters for Disaster Communications only or to Ham Radio Disaster Communications also can be earmarked but I would check with your local Chapter manager.

In conclusion, the Red Cross, in my opinion, is just you and me, just as good as its volunteers and its community. National policy CAN be improved to make this community volunteerism realize a better job, and the job can be better accomplished in an environment of facts, open discussion, constructive criticism, and dedication to the task. If we made an effort to evaluate our

actions on how best they may help victims, regardless of what agency is involved (or commands our respect) then we would be more successful, in my opinion. Disaster preparedness communications as well feeding, housing, nursing, etc., is a field that requires much improvement almost everywhere. Not enough people get involved locally, not enough are prepared or concerned. Let us encourage people to get involved either with agencies that are dedicated to the task (and have been for many years) like the Red Cross, or start a new and better one.

73, Don, N6AU, Disaster Volunteer, ARC, East Bay Chapter.

Ham Satellite Frequencies

The following is provided by W5VBO @ N7GLL:

In the day to day operation of the great new amateur birds that have been placed into orbit in the last few weeks, I found it difficult to keep track of all of the various uplink and downlink relationships. I got all of my various manuals, magazine articles, and other printed materials together and typed out the following guide. I thought that some of you just might be able to use it as well.

Amateur Satellite Passbands and Beacon Frequencies:

RS-10

Uplink USB	Downlink USB	Beacon 29.357
145.860	29.360	
145.870	29.370	
145.880	29.380	
145.890	29.390	
145.900	29.400	

AO-10

Uplink LSB	Downlink USB	Beacon 145.810
435.032	145.972	
435.042	145.962	
435.047	145.960	
435.047	145.957	
435.050	145.955	
435.055	145.950	
435.060	145.945	
435.065	145.940	
435.070	145.935	
435.075	145.930	
435.080	145.925	

435.085	145.920
435.090	145.915
435.095	145.910
435.100	145.905
435.105	145.900
435.110	145.895
435.115	145.890
435.120	145.885
435.125	145.880
435.130	145.875
435.135	145.870
435.140	145.865
435.145	145.860
435.150	145.855
435.155	145.850
435.160	145.845

JAS-1b Oscar 20

Uplink LSB	Downlink USB	Beacon 435.785
145.900	435.900	
145.905	435.895	
145.910	435.890	
145.915	435.885	
145.920	435.880	
145.925	435.875	
145.930	435.870	
145.935	435.865	
145.940	435.860	
145.945	435.855	
145.950	435.850	
145.955	435.845	
145.960	435.840	
145.965	435.835	
145.970	435.830	
145.975	435.825	
145.980	435.820	
145.985	435.815	
145.990	435.810	
145.995	435.805	
145.600	435.800	

Pacsat (AO-16)

Uplink	Downlink	Beacon
145.900	437.050	
145.920	437.050	
	437.025 Secondary	
145.940	437.050	
145.960	435.050	

DOVE (DO-17)

Uplink	Downlink	Beacon
N/A	145.825	

LuSAT (LO-19)

Uplink	Downlink	Beacon 437.125
145.840	437.150	

145.860	437.150
	437.125 Secondary
145.880	437.150
145.900	437.150

WeberSAT (WO-18)

Uplink	Downlink	Beacon
N/A	437.100	
	437.100 Secondary	

UoSAT (UO-14)

Uplink	Downlink	Beacon
N/A	437.070	
	435.070 Secondary	

UoSAT (UO-15)

Uplink	Downlink	Beacon
N/A	435.120	
	435.120 Secondary	

AO-13

Uplink LSB	Downlink USB	Beacon 145.812 Mode B
435.420	145.975	
435.430	145.965	
435.440	145.955	
435.450	145.945	
435.460	145.935	
435.475	145.925	
435.480	145.915	
435.490	145.905	
435.500	145.895	
435.505	145.890	
435.510	145.885	
435.520	145.875	
435.530	145.865	
435.540	145.855	
435.550	145.845	
435.560	145.835	
435.570	145.825	

From W5VBO @ N7GLL, Via WB5FWE
Packet BBS, Edited by K2GKK

Quotes of the Month:

From Jack Smith's column in L.A. Times, Jan. 23, 1990:

Winston Churchill:
"I like pigs. Dogs look up to us. Cats look down on us.
Pigs treat us as equals."

Harry Bender: "Imagine the appeals, dissents, and remandments,
If lawyers had written the Ten Commandments."

Q. R. Zedd

ZEDD OUT OF THIS WORLD?

As everyone knows, the QRM was terrific on all bands, all modes, for most of the past month.

Everyone was wondering aloud whether the greatest of them all, our own beloved Q. R. Zedd, A5A, will solve the mystery of the planet Neptune's strange magnetic field. And the speculation was not just idle chitchat, for Zedd shocked the world last month when he announced that he would solve the mystery here on earth, or fly off to Neptune personally to get things straightened out.

Unbeknownst to any of us, it all began several months ago when the Voyager spacecraft flew by Neptune and recorded signals indicating a multi-pole magnetic field, something that knocked most theory about the origination of planetary fields into the proverbial cocked hat. The boys at NASA and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in California tried to solve the problem themselves, but after they burned out two Cray supercomputers on the project they knew they had no recourse but to call on Q. R. Zedd.

The holder of our only 1x1 callsign left Honor Roll Ranch, just a hoot and a holler south of town, right after the president called him and begged for help. Zedd went to Houston and conferred with the boys, where he made his momentous announcement about going out there himself if all else failed. Then he jetted off to JPL.

It has been almost a month now, and the world is still in the dark. As is so often the case, however, readers of Collector & Emitter have an inside track on the latest poop. At considerable expense, we have secured brief interviews not only with Zedd but with members of his family and entourage who are most concerned about his future plans.

"It is a hard problem," the great man himself told us during a break out at JPL. Hiking his yellow corduroy cowboy boots up on the keyboard of his supercomputer, he explained.

"If Neptune has multiple magnetic poles," he told us, a frown creasing his handsome forehead, "then the old ideas about fields being generated by planetary rotation around the core ain't no longer valid. And that means a planet don't act like a dipole. Which means if a planet don't, necessarily, then neither does a

radio dipole, necessarily. Which means if I can get this worked out, I can design me a dipole that has a gain of about 66 db in a directional pattern, *only the direction goes every direction.*

"Our government and the scientists of the world naturally have other reasons for wanting this mystery solved. So I would want to help even if it didn't mean maybe getting to design the greatest aerial since W5OU last strung wire. Unfortunately, so far all we've done is burn up a couple more computers and figure out that the New York Mets are going to have the strongest bullpen in baseball next season."

We asked Zedd if he was still contemplating a personal trip to Neptune if all else fails.

"If necessary," he said solemnly, "I will go out there."

We pointed out that the round trip would take something like twenty-two years, minimum.

"Well," he told us, "that ought to be about right. It would get me back for the start-up of a solar cycle. Of course I would miss the best of this one and all of the next one, but I could make up for lost time when I returned. Of course my bride Tondelayo will be pretty old then, over 40. I will have to make sure she lays in a lot of Momma's Lard to put on her face to keep the wrinkles down if I decide to go."

Someone pointed out that Zedd would be into his sixties by the time he got back.

"No prob," he smiled. "Time is of little consequence for us immortals."

When would Zedd know if he has to make the interplanetary trip?

"In a matter of days, now," he confided.

Back at Honor Roll Ranch, we sought out Tondelayo, Zedd's blond, nubile bride. She was crying pretty hard all the time we tried to have an interview, but we got some of it.

"I don't know how I can live without my sugar bear!" she wailed. "Doncha know he is the finest, grandest, most wonderful man that ever lived in the whole wide world? Oh woe is me! Oh woe is everybody! How can all of us live for more than twenty-two years without basking in the radiance of Q.'s wonderfulness!"

We established contact with Zedd's momma, Momma Zedd, on CW, her preferred mode of contact except when she is out for a night on the town at one of the classier places like Red's in Norman. We couldn't copy her, of course, but the computer got some of it, and that went like this:

"OK OM UR 599 599 MENA
ARK ES NAME HR MOMMA BT
MOMMA ES ON SONNY GO
NEPTUNE CAN ONLY SAY WILL

More STARS

As mentioned in the SCARS column, KU5B, a close friend and chronicler of the exploits of Q. R. Zedd, was hospitalized. The following letter was received by SCARS and read to the gathered group at the Saturday coffee on February 17th:

"Dear SCARS bunch,

Thanks a million for the flowers, and also for the 'model Yagi' standing over the cactus in the pot."

"I put 'model' in quotes because Zedd came by and tuned it right up on 13 cm. He worked Crete, the heart monitor station down the hall, and W5MCN on consecutive calls, but Leland didn't count because my Presbyterian Hospital room window faced south."

"I'm home now and starting to recuperate. It's going to take a while, but I've been luckier than most. Hope to see you soon."

"And again--thanks a million."

"Jack, KU5B"

This is just a reminder that the pre-registration form will be in the next issue of the C&E. Oh yeah, that will be for HAM HOLIDAY XVII

MISS IF GOES BT STAY OR GO
HE IS GREATEST BT SRI MUST
QRT BT HEAR MANY CHINA
STAS CALLING 73 88 SK."

Homer Klott, Zedd's protege, issued a written statement about the situation. Unfortunately, his crayon broke before he had many letters written down and no one could figure out what he was trying to say.

As presstime neared, all of us prayed that we could get definitive word on Zedd's plans. For this is *serious*: if the great one flies off into outer space, it will not only put him in grave personal danger and plunge the ham world into mourning; it could also mean that Tondelayo would never stop crying. Homer would never get his ham ticket, and KU5B would not have any more columns.

For all these reasons (pro or con) we can only pray. For alas, the mighty Goss presses have begun to roar, ready to pump out another issue of C&E for Gotham City, and we cannot hold this page back any longer for late-breaking bulletins. The faithful will just have to wait until next month to learn how this cliffhanger turns out.

-- KU5B

Dawg X-ray



To me, the pursuit of DX has always been a romantic, mysterious, and somewhat noble undertaking. It conjure up images of a lone operator using a straight key, headphones mashing his ears flat, pounding out a signal report to an unknown person in some far away exotic locale. As the snowstorm swirls outside, he throws another log on the fire and settles into his chair. As the night passes, time and again he strains to hear the warbling signals coming from over the pole half a world away.

Unfortunately, the recent DXpedition to Bouvet Is. (3Y5X) provided very little mystery and romance. For most of us, frustration and disgust were the common feelings. It reminded me of a 1500 watt Chanel 19 free-for-all. If you missed out on the excitement, let me describe it for you. Some amateurs, apparently frustrated by poor conditions started jamming, cat-calling and even yelling obscenities on 14145 kHz.

Careless operators who inadvertently transmitted on the wrong VFO prompted the usual collection of self-appointed "DX Policemen", who actually made a bad situation horrible. I was fortunate enough to work the guys on two bands but, on more than one occasion, had to pull the big switch and walk away from the radio. The temptation to get my two cents worth in there (with everyone else) was almost unbearable. It is simply amazing to me to see how quickly rational people can go bonkers when provoked by irrational morons.

Maybe the desire to say what's on our mind is more than just a simple human characteristic.....I'm wondering if it's some kind of hidden primal instinct that so far has only shown up in serious chasers of DX. I don't know But it is most certainly a characteristic that shows up on 20 meters from time to time.

So what's the point of my little story? I guess if I really had my way, I'd like to

handcuff and gag some of these jokers and shout the 3 basic rules of DXing to them over and over.....LISTEN, LISTEN, AND LISTEN SOME MORE. Then again, maybe all I wanted to do was throw in my two cents worth.

!! NEWS FLASH !!

Darrell, KF5DA, and some of the Lawton guys have recently formed a new Oklahoma DX Association. This organization will be collecting dues, issuing certificates and membership cards, and just generally promoting DXing. I'm personally excited by the prospect of the OKDXA making a good showing in some of the HF contests coming up. It seems that, historically speaking, Texas always produces the big signals and big scores. We've needed a well organized DX club here in the state for some time and I've got high hopes for this one. They will also be providing a certificate to DX stations that work a specified number of OKDXA members. If anyone is interested in joining this new group, please contact Darrell or myself and we'll provide you with the necessary paper work.

Also, Craig (nice name), KB5BOB, brought to my attention an interesting message that came across his bulletin board the other day. It was basically just a reminder to some of us of our responsibility to: 1) keep SASE's on file with our ARRL QSL bureau, and 2) answer cards sent to us. Remember, the final courtesy of a QSO is a QSL. If you have no intention of QSLing, you should make that clear during the QSO. DX stations initiate the QSLing process about 80 per cent of the time. Also, it would be a great help to the guys that sort the cards and run the bureau. These gentlemen donate a lot of their time to provide a free service and they deserve all the assistance we can give them. If you don't know the address of your particular bureau, ask your local DXer or check QST.

See you in the pileups. 73
Craig Boyer, WE5I

Okla. Ind. Amateur Radio Club

Ron Campbell, the Disaster Chairman of the Western Kay Co. Chapter of the American Red Cross, visited the meeting. He came to get the Club interested in helping with disaster preparedness in Blackwell. He had many good ideas and wanted input from the club members. A committee was established to research the possibilities with Ron. The committee is also charged with formulating recommendations and plans for outfitting and organizing a com center in Blackwell. The two most likely sites are the Red Cross Bldg. and the basement of the city offices building, where a command post is currently being set up. Ron brought out the interesting fact that the types of emergencies we are most likely to have to respond to are from chemical and weather related problems than from nuclear attack. I sure hope so!

There was some talk of moving the 145.23 repeater site to a tower N.W. of Blackwell. It is currently at Tony Congram's, WD5EAA, parents house. This would really increase the coverage of Vern's machine.

Linking the 145.31 machine with OKC, Enid, and Tulsa was discussed. Dave White, WN5LUI has researched the subject thoroughly and thinks we can make a respectable test link with a reasonable \$ investment. A motion was made and passed to buy the necessary equipment. He will get the testing done as soon as the preparations are completed. A report is expected at the March or April meeting.

Cowley Co. ARC is conducting testing on March 3rd. It is expected that the session will start at 9 am. It will be in the Senior Citizen's Center in Arkansas City. I am sure that talk in will be on the 147.00 machine. Lowell Rogers, AA5OJ, and WN5LUI are planning to help with the testing.

The Kay Co. ARC approached Vern, N5ANV, about helping with a project. The plan is to purchase a complete set of ARRL publications to donate to the Ponca City Public Library. After a bit of discussion, it was moved and passed to contribute to the effort. It was also mentioned that we might purchase a few books at a later date for the libraries in the other Kay Co. cities.

The program for this meeting was given by yours truly. I had some information about the care and feeding of NiCad batteries and was glad to share it with my fellow HAMs.

I had an interesting experience a few weeks ago. I was planning to visit the Houston area on business a few weeks ago and have been trying to make connections with a testing session for some time. It seems that either business or family matters have kept me from making the connection for the past few months. I called Grady Skillern,

CONT. ON BACK PAGE

THE BIG SIGNAL

OKLAHOMA CITY AUTOPATCH
ASSOCIATION, INC.

WHY NOT JOIN THE AUTO-PATCH CLUB????

As one listens to the 22-82 repeater he or she will have to agree that we have one of the most interesting and knowledgeable group of members in the area. Most users of the repeater are indeed members of the club, however, many are not, and we would like to have your 25 bucks too. I suppose many of the new users are newly upgraded individuals who are still trying to decide on which club they want to support and are trying out all the repeaters before joining a particular club.

To be a member of the Oklahoma City Autopatch Association is truly a privilege. I could list many reasons for joining, however, at this time I would like to dwell on only one, and that is the close association you would have with some very elite people. We have all types in the club, old ones, some young ones, fat ones, skinny ones, rich ones, some pretty poor, c.w. lovers, packet lovers and just about all types. I would like to describe some of them.

One of our most dedicated members is an old retired school teacher. Not only has he taught school, he has done everything else under the sun. He claims to be a true sportsman, having caught some of the largest fish in the world, killed more quail than he can count, taken pictures of all the early historical events which happened in Oklahoma and has at one time or another taught every kid that went through the Oklahoma City school system. He can cram a rack full of pool balls in his mouth at one time and his wife feels they have a pregnancy in their home.

Another of our well known members lives on a small farm located west of the Edmond area. Now and then his radio will gurgle at him when he is expounding on his love for Packet Radio. He enjoys talking about all the hf work he has done in the past and how long it will be before he does it again. He is a renowned breeder of fancy dawgs. He is never at a loss of words when expressing his opinion about someone, especially about non-paying users of the repeaters. His wife is also a member of the club, although not too active and is seldom heard.

Although "Yankees" are not often well thought of in Oklahoma, one Yankee is well liked by one and all and is very active on the repeater. He has a cute little laugh when he is talking, uses a lot of "and uh's" and usually omits the first two letters of his call. Most of his operation is done while traveling back and forth to his plush office downtown or to and from an institution of lower learning located south of Oklahoma City.

One of the newer members of the club recently moved here from another state. He is well versed on almost every subject, doesn't consider himself normal, and now and then will run his son down. Bad luck seems to follow him and he can even get a good lick from fellow drivers while sitting still. He has been known to sell a screwdriver or two and carries a boat anchor around in his mobile for h.f. work which seems to always be on the blink.

Another new member of the club is really enjoying his new hobby. At one time he did have a novice ticket but was unable to master the 13 wpm and never upgraded. After leading some sort of Donald Trump life for several years, he got interested in amateur radio again in the prime of his life and has recently gone from nothing to Extra Class. His goal is to become the number one cw operator in Oklahoma City. One day he hopes to be the proud owner of two new Kenwood rigs and burning up the airways. He seldom sleeps at night and can be heard going out for coffee and donuts at all hours. He drives a fancy convertible automobile about a block long and does a lot of traveling to exotic islands to buy radio gear. He might not ever get it, but he buys it.

Some of us wouldn't have anything but a "K" brand radio while others wouldn't own anything but an "I", and then there are some, God bless them, who are still using the "Y" brand. Some of us even own both an "I" and a "K" and like both. However, one member of the club wouldn't have anything but a Kenwood. It is hard for him to even use the word Icom. I don't know how much power he runs on two meters, but, now and then he is able to blow the fuses on the repeater while talking. Although he still owns a home in the heart of Texas, he is now a good Okie. He is a champion dart thrower and has been known to chug-a-lug a Bud or two.

One of my favorite members has been a ham for many years, however, has only been active in the club for the

past year or so. To me, he closely resembles one of the greatest golfers of all time, Arnold Palmer. At times he has a hard time expressing exactly what he wants to say and never completes a sentence. It might go something like this: "yea, what I mean, you know, uh". He enjoys riding his bike, eating bagels and cutting up pots and pans to use for antennas. He has more computers than he knows what to do with and even works a little mobile packet now and then.

Not only do we have vhf nuts in the club, we can proudly boast that we also have one of the top dx'ers in the world as a member. He has made several dxpeditions throughout the Pacific. Sporting a salt and pepper beard, he shows that he is old enough to be a grandpappy. He possesses a strong baritone voice and enjoys singing. His primary job is delivering checks to the needy and with all the traveling he does, must put new brakes on his vehicles due to all the stops he makes. He isn't afraid to operate in electrical storms for he has one of the few life-time guarantees of radios in existence. He just happens to be another Yankee.

Perhaps at some point in time, other members will be described, however, it is felt that just by knowing the above members, it would be worth anyone's 25 bucks to be a member of this fine organization.

CODE PRACTICE NET

With the increasing popularity of cw operation in the Oklahoma City area, one of our fine members has started a net for those desiring to build up their code speed. Lee, N5KXI, is the one responsible for this endeavor and usually serves as the net control.

The net normally opens at 8:00 p.m. each night on 3585 khz. That's on the 80 meter band as most know. I have personally listened in a time or two and am amazed at the quality of some of the local fists. For anyone interested in increasing their code speed and upgrading at one of the testing sessions, this is definitely the place to be. If one can copy these guys, they should have no problems at all in passing the 20 w.p.m. examination.

Some of the locals who are assisting with the practice include Hank, WA5JRH, Ken, WA5DTL and Lee, N5KXI. There are some good Texas operators who normally show up such as Ron, N5LOX, Bill, WB5IUG and John, NV5P.

CONTINUED-----

WE TOLD YOU IT WOULD BE
CONTINUED ! ! OKCAP

Now and then, Dub, WA5YFY will join in. Dub is having a hard time getting past the 75 w.p.m. hurdle.

This has been written with some levity, however, to be serious, which is hard for me to do at times, I would personally like to commend these fellows for what they are doing. Being a cw operator, I have always advocated that the best way to increase one's ability to copy code is to get on the air and do some actual operating. It is hard for me to swallow the statements that some make that they just can't increase their speed. Most of these statements are made from those who never do any operating.

I'm sure that these guys would enjoy others joining the group. Sure, they make a few mistakes and I will admit that I have gotten a chuckle or two out of some of their sending, but at least they have the guts to get on the air and not be ashamed of it. It doesn't matter if one of them keeps trying to send a letter such as an "L" and it comes out as an "R" and "E", or "A" and "I".

Nice going Lee, Hank, and Ken, and I commend you for your efforts.

K5NK

GETTING SERIOUS ABOUT OPERATING C.W.

I am not so dumb to realize that everyone doesn't have the love for c.w. that I do. Some folks love to operate sideband, which I do very little of, but have been known to use a mike now and then. Some operate mostly rtty, which is fine. And then, some think Packet is the only way to go, and that's fine, even though I have no use for it at all and will probably never own a packet station. However, until some idiotic measure is passed to come out with a so called "No Code" license, one of the requirements for an amateur license is the ability to copy and transmit Samuel B. Morse's method of communication.

I recently heard a gentleman making a statement on one of the local repeaters encouraging the newly licensed novices and technicians to go out and buy a new h.f. radio so they could get on 10 meters and enjoy their new sideband privileges. If a person is satisfied with never upgrading to a higher class license, this is fine, however, if one is interested in obtaining a higher class license, this is definitely the wrong place to be.

Being one of the V.E.'s in the local C.O.R.A. V.E. program, I normally help give the code tests. This is a very interesting place to be on the third Monday night of every month.

I know that this can be a very nerve racking experience for most and causes the blood pressure to rise immensely. A small percentage of those taking the exam pass at each sitting. One thing I notice is that month after month, some of the same ones show up, plunk down their \$4.95 to take the test and usually do no better than they did the last time they took it.

One of my stock questions to these people is "Are you doing any practicing and do you ever get on the air and work someone?" The stock answer is "I listen to a tape now and then, or no, I don't get on the air because I don't have a radio or I can't make heads or tails out of what they are saying." "Baloney", is about all I can say for that. What I can say is either put that two meter radio in a place under lock and key where you can't get to it or throw that mike away for the h.f. rig and get out the key and get on the c.w. band and work someone. As much as Mac hates c.w., he will admit that the best way to build up your code speed is to get on the air and make some contacts. So what if you screw up now and then and can't copy everything the other guy is saying? You might be surprised to know that the other fellow isn't getting everything you are saying either, but at least he is on the air trying. Plus the fact, he is probably copying more than you do when you come down and pay \$4.95 to listen to a 5 minute tape month after month.

K5NK

Oklahoma Nite Owl

Welcomes you to listen every night at 10:30 pm on 07-67 repeater. A lot of good information is heard and updates on current meetings, swap shops, nets and anything else of interest. All are welcome to participate.

Toy KB5KVX

sponsored by the Lions Club. It will be on April 16th and is an all day event. This one is a lot of fun. More information on this will be on future nets.

That's about it for this month. Sharpen your operating skills for Field Day and I'll see you on the air. TU & 73

KB5FCF, Joel



Hi... KB5FCF, Joel here at the rig...er, computer putting this together from notes that I can barely read. First lets thank everyone who helped with the February dinner meeting, the stew was great. Also congratulations to those who received a certificate for completing the Amateur Radio classes. If you could not be there to receive your certificate, let me know and I will chase it down for you.

Next, if you have not paid your 1990 membership dues they are \$25.00 for adults, \$35.00 for family membership, and \$12.50 for students.

Mike Mize, KB5BIX, is in need of some help at the EOC during severe weather nets. Please call him if you can help. Also if you need to be checked out on the club station let me know.

The club has started a project to save some of the money from club fund raisers to go towards the purchase of a service monitor with spectrum analyzer. This monitor can be used to help service anything from the repeater system to your HT. It will be property of EARS, and with the help of some of the more technically oriented members of the club, will be a big help when your gear goes south. The money will not show overnight but I think this project is well worth the time.

The reapplication for Special Service Club status has been sent off. I am sure that we will retain this status.

The March business meeting will be at St. Johns Church, 9th and Littler, Sunday the 18th of March at 2:00 pm.

The St. Patrick's Day Parade this year will be on Saturday March 17th. Once again EARS will be helping with staging and other fun things for this parade. Listen to the Monday Night Nets for more information on this or call Phil, N5HIP. Working a parade is a lot of fun so don't miss out.

Another event that we have been asked to help with again this year is the Bike-A-Lion

BICENTENNIAL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

"To Promote Radio Communications"

"NEW MEETING LOCATION"
OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF
WILDLIFE

AT
1801 NORTH LINCOLN BLVD.
PARK AT REAR OF BUILDING
7:30 P.M., SECOND TUESDAY'S

76er MACHINE OPERATES ON
146.760 Mhz NEG. OFFSET

The 76ers meeting was called to order at 7:40 pm by President Bill Skipper, KB5BS.

SECRETARY-by KB5GGY-The minutes were read and seconded as read and printed in the C&E.

TREASURER-by N5AUH- None.

REPEATER REPORT-by KB5BS-The repeater system is still having problems with the control board. The need of the control board is still a concern and is being looked into. A mention was brought up to check into the FAA Center controller and the capabilities of the board.

OLD NEWS-by KB5BS-The following are submitted changes of the BY-LAWS and CONSTITUTION.

Proposed changes for the 76ers By-Laws:

1. All sexist statements replaced with appropriate non-sexist statements.
2. By-Law 1 SECRETARY: Second sentence, change the word "thereon" to read "therein".
3. By-Law 2 MEMBERSHIP: First sentence, delete the words "in writing".
4. By-Law 3 MEETING: Change the first sentence to read "Regular meetings shall be held on the Second Tuesday of each month or at any other time and place, as decided by the membership, to avoid conflicts or for special activities".
5. By-Law 6 SPONSORSHIP: Deleted in its entirety.

Proposed changes to the 76ers Constitution

1. PREAMBLE: Delete the word "of" between the words "exchange" and "information".
2. ARTICLE I - Membership: Delete the sentence :Membership shall be by application and election as directed in the By-Laws".
3. ARTICLE II - OFFICERS, Sec. 1: Change to read :The offic-

ers of this club shall be: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer."

4. ARTICLE II - OFFICERS, Sec. 3: Change the word "must" to the word "shall".

5. ARTICLE III - DUTIES OF OFFICERS, Sec 2: Change the sec. to read "The Vice-President shall assume all the duties of the president in the absence of the latter. In addition they shall organize club member activities, plan and recommend contests for operating benefit, and advance club interest and activity as approved by the club. They shall encourage new stations in reporting activities to the club. Their main objective is to keep the reputation of the club and radio activities in the community as outstanding as possible. They may appoint committees or assistants to aid them in specific branches of activity".

A motion was made to have these changes submitted to the club members for consideration and to be voted on at the meeting in March (via C & E). Motion was seconded.

An amendment was made to have just the Articles and Paragraphs that are to be changed to be submitted for publication. Seconded.

CORA REPORT:-by N5BEO-Questions arose on the wording of the price of a table at Ham Holiday. The pre-registration is \$6.00 and \$8.00 at the door. The Grand Awards will be an Icom 735 and an Icom 2400.

The Pre-Registration deadline will be July 24, 1990.

The merger with the Neon Ark was voted down due to the lack of Ham Radio Clubs support and financial condition the Ark was in. The C&E will continue to be the Ham Radio news information for this area.

NEW NEWS: KB5GGY brought up that the FAA Center Club was starting up a training class from Novice to Technician. The FAA Club was interested if the 76ers would be interested in helping teach some of the classes. The 76ers wish to say thank you for the interest in inviting us. The availability of assistance at this time is not possible. In the near future the clubs condition might allow such a training program.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35pm

GREAT PLAINS A.R.C.

WSHGH Repeater 146.13/73

Greetings from Northwest Oklahoma! Interest in Ham Radio seems to be on the rise up here--good attendance at club meetings and several members planning to upgrade. Just received word last nite on the net that we have a brand new Technician: KB5LPE Phillip from Shattuck. Congratulations, welcome aboard! We will have an update on upgrades soon.

The high point for this issue was the fish fry club meeting in the home of N5EOX-Frieda and W5KFK-Lewis Feb. 4th. They have the art of cooking native lake fish down pat. Trimmings and stuff was brought by other members. No one went away hungry-in fact, I think that some of us may have trashed our diet! Observation of the day was by N5LRR-Andy: "There seems to be a positive correlation between the incidence of food at club meetings and the number of members present!" He may have something there. Those in attendance were: WA5OUV-O.C. and Nellie, KA5AAE-Jim, W5KFK-Lewis, N5EOX-Frieda, WA5PLW-Windle, N5LEP-Lorene, NC5C-Gerry, WBOGAX-Bob and Marcia, K5MUT-W.B. and Opal, N5LLR-Andy, N5OKF-Saundra, WB5NTH-Esther, WB5OVT-Rod, N5JGQ-Lois, WG5Z-Gerald, KB5CZU-Tammy, W5ZUS-(Reverend)Cal, K5OJ-Quito, N5OKE-Leon and Joan, KB5CZS-Clayton, N5HID-Kent, N5OO-Willis.

Net Manager N5LRR-Andy reports 13 sessions, 151 checkins and 6 pieces of traffic on the N.W. Oklahoma Service Net, 146.13/73, for the month of January 1990.

I have before me the final draft of the Mooreland Hamfest flyer. Sponsored by the Great Plains Amateur Radio Club, the Hamfest will be in Mooreland Oklahoma April 7 & 8, 1990; Sat. from 12 noon till ???, and Sun. from 9 am till ???. VE Testing will be offered Sat. the 7th at 2 pm. There will be a hamburger fry for all Sat. eve at 6:30 pm, and a covered dish dinner Sun. at 12:30 pm. Bring your family, covered dish, place settings and goodies to swap!! There is

CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
FEBRUARY S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	APRIL S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30			1 AERONAUTICAL	2	3
4 GREAT PLAINS <small>First Quarter</small>	5	6 MORI	7	8 ALTUS AREA	9	10 SCARS C O C O
11 WHEATSTRAW ARC <small>Full Moon</small>	12 EDMOND CLUB	13 CIMARRON O U 76'ERS OIAR	14	15 KAY COUNTY	16	17 VHF CLUB VE EXAMS See Story <small>Saint Patrick's Day</small>
18 EDMOND SOCIETY	19 VE EXAM 6 PM RFD CROSS BLDG 10TH & HUDSON <small>Last Quarter</small>	20 OK CITY AUTOPATCH <small>1st Day of Spring</small>	21	22	23	24
25	26 <small>*Sea Moon</small>	27 CORA CORA CORA CORA	28 EDIT NIGHT FOR C & E	29	30	31



The meeting began at 7:30 PM with 21 members and guests present. Tom, K5LDI, gave the CORA report. The merger with NEON is off. Ham Holiday will be a state convention at the Lincoln Plaza. We Need to start looking now for some good Bingo prizes. Doug, W0-DXA, gave the treasurers report. Our club now has 111 paid up members.

Ted, NY5W, found a place to hold novice classes in north OKC. Volunteers are needed to teach. Jack, WB5SVN, was looking for some help to put up the beam antenna this Sat. The program was given by Arney, W2OB. He talked about his club in Atlantic City, and their projects. A very interesting program about the Miss America Pageant and etc.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00PM for coffee.

GPARC Continued

no charge for tables, no prizes and admission is \$3.00 for both days. There are six local churches, two motels and self-contained camper parking--no hookups. We expect even more gear to eyeball this year with the advent of the new OKC Ham Store added to the list of dealers present. We have been fortunate in the past to have a really good display of new gear and also surplus electronic items. We have been assured that the latest study guides will be available.

Shuttle service from the Mooreland Airport will be provided.

Directions to Hamfest: From Hiway 412 take Main or Elm St. North across railroad tracks, then three blocks West to the City Park. Talk-in will be on 146.13/73 and 146.52.

Further information may be obtained from WG5Z-Gerald at 944-5453, NZ5T-Bart at 994-5940 or NC5C-Gerry at 256-5342.

GPARC will provide lodging for the following ARRL officials: West Gulf Director and Section and Asst. Section Manager, that is if they attend the Mooreland Hamfest. CU next month-- N500-Willis

OIAR CONT.

WB5SAG, who used to be a Kay Co. Ham but now lives in a houseboat which is anchored near Clear Lake, TX. Clear Lake is just S.E. of Houston. I asked Grady to find out if there was going to be any testing while I was going to be there. He called back the next day and said that there were no tests scheduled for that period but he had talked to a V.E. who was willing to get two more V.E.'s together to give me a test! I was amazed! When I got to Houston, I made contact with Grady. I got together with the guys from the Clear Lake ARC and passed my written for advanced! They had gotten three other HAMs scheduled for testing that evening but two of them didn't make the session. The other candidate did pass his General written. Those guys really have Southern hospitality! I really appreciated their efforts! That's a great example of the spirit of Amateur radio! N5JR Mike