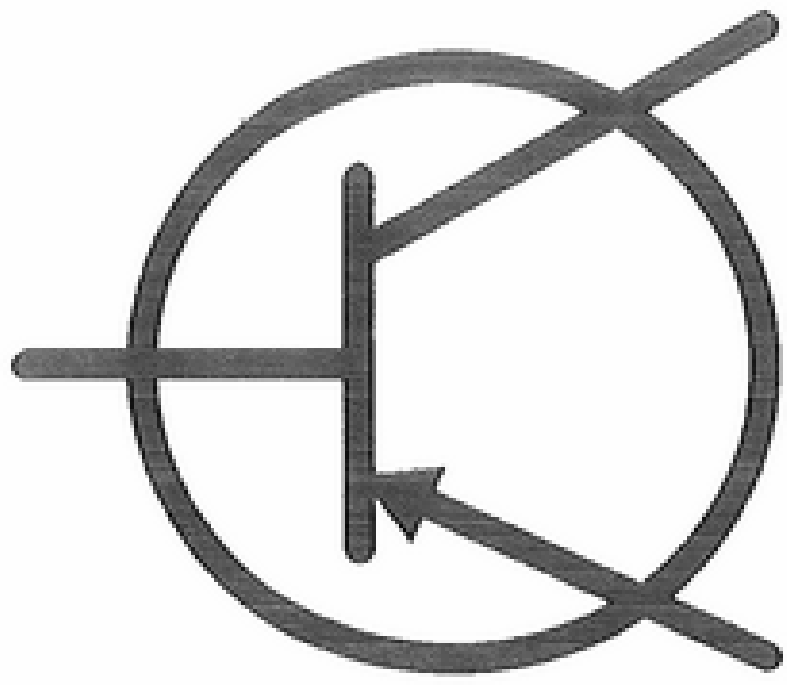




Collector & Emitter

A CORA Publication

November 1996
Volume 22, Number 11
Issue 261
50¢

Postmaster See Page 2
For Postal Information

Periodical Mail

Bones

When Giants Leave

Why learn the Morse code, anyway?



Last QSO Before Bed Time....

Say What?

FEMA to FCC
No Sharing 2m/70cm

NWS and Ham Radio

Collector & Emitter**Harold C. Miller, KB1ZQ****Editor****Linda G. Miller, N1LPN****Circulation Manager****Central Oklahoma Radio****Amateurs, Inc.****President: Harold Miller, KB1ZQ****V Pres.: Brad Nelson, KJ0W****Secretary: Forrest Rush, N5VWF****Treasurer: Perry Jenkins, KB5TOT**

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Chit - Chat

by Linda NILPN

Holidays! I am not sure about you, but I am beginning to understand why my mom dreaded this time of year. She would bake candy, breads, cookies and cakes until the wee hours of the morning. She was also short tempered and always rushing to get everything just perfect for the Holidays. I do not think she really enjoyed it, it was just something that she thought had to be done so we could enjoy ourselves.

As I got older, I was recruited into helping with all the baking, cooking and cleaning while the men of the family watched some guys on TV chase a ball around a large rectangle area. It was fun for the first few years and then became a chore. The women cooked enough goodies so the men could pig out until someone was looking for the bottle of antacids.

When Hal and I were first married, I followed the tradition set for me by my mom and grandmother. It was simple, I cleaned house, cooked enough food to feed an army and cleaned up afterwards. Hal would watch movies, he isn't into guys in tight pants chasing a ball around. I ended up with swollen feet, a sore back and tired beyond belief. Why? Was I crazy or just being a little selfish here.

With Hal being military, I was given the opportunity to spend the holidays alone and saw no reason to cook a major feast. I would cook a small feast without all the work and clean up. I discovered that the holidays were fine without all the extra work I was expected to perform. I could actually watch a movie and not feel guilty about not being in the kitchen. I could enjoy myself.

Hal still feels cheated at times because I no longer cook for an army, see he was raised the same way I was, holidays meant eating. Now they mean a time to be together and to be a family. A time to see old friends and new ones and a time to relax and enjoy. Oh, I still bake goodies but I don't push myself to overdo it. I also have the guys help clean up as well as cook, why should I have all the honors.

Hints on cutting fat and calories:

Use packaged gravy, it is fat free. Another way to cut the fat in gravy is to skim all fat off the meat drippings. Use cornstarch as your thickener instead of flour with the meat drippings.

Serve baked sweet potatoes instead of candied yams. It is easier and healthier for you.

Use skim milk when cooking, no one will notice the difference.

If you serve mashed potatoes, try cutting the fat out and salt. Most people cover them with gravy anyway so the fat will not be missed.

I take washed new potatoes, washed fresh green beans, one small chopped onion, 2 chicken bouillon cubes, place it all into a large saucepan with enough water to cover it all and cook it on a med. Heat until everything is done and serve this instead of mashed potatoes.

Dressing can be cut of some fat cooking it by itself, using broth instead of pan drippings, using seasonings egg whites and a small apple and large onion chopped. I use fat free white and wheat bread toasted and skinny cornbread for my dressing. (I make a corn/bread dressing)

I normally will roast either half of turkey, a roasting hen, or sometimes Cornish hens for our meat. Most stores will slice a turkey in half if you ask nice. It cuts down waste and having to eat turkey for a week and trying to create new ways to serve leftovers. Turkey and Dumplings anyone?

Fresh fruits, fat reduced cakes, pies and snacks are easy to buy at the store today and they taste pretty good. If you want to bake a cake or brownies, most box mixes have directions on how to make it the

skinny way. There are also mixes that are reduced fat and easy to make. You could also make gingerbread and serve it topped with a fat free whipped topping, one of my favorites.

Popcorn is the perfect snack after fresh vegetables and fruit. You control the amounts of salt and butter added to popcorn, when made from scratch or air popped. Dry cereal and crackers are two good substitutes for chips.

Point is that the holidays should not be a time to pig out, keep women slaving in the kitchen and everyone regretting they put on 10 pounds of extra weight when it could have been avoided. Eating is to give your body fuel not to make yourself sick. Holidays or not, be kind to yourself and each other. Until next time...

THRUWAY HAM ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The New York State Thruway Authority will help to promote ham radio. The agency has announced plans to place ARRL Amateur Radio recruitment brochures at rest stops along the toll highway.

UK CW TEST FEE

From England, news that its going to cost more to pass a Morse Code ham radio test in the United Kingdom. The Radio-communications Agency has agreed to a rise in the fees for Morse code tests. From the 1st of September the new rates are 20 pounds Stirling for the 12 words per minute test and 15 pounds Stirling for the 5 words per minute Morse code test, in British currency.

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The death of a club

by Linda Miller, N1LPN

We recently received news of an amateur radio club voting itself out of existence. In a few months from now, few will remember the name of the club and those who gave endlessly of themselves to try and keep a dream alive. The death of any amateur club is an event we all should take time to ponder and grieve its' passing. The news of yet another club folding forever should not be taken lightly by any of us. It is solid proof that many individuals are losing interest in amateur radio and the wonders it holds for those seeking to explore the unknowns. It gives proof that we may not be as dedicated to saving our air space allotted to us by our government as some wish to think. No wonder there are companies currently attempting to buy up the bands we have been granted, you can bet they are keeping count of the increasing numbers of clubs disbanding.

There are many reasons for a club to vote itself out of existence. Disinterest and having the same people do all the work until they reach burn-out is one of the most common reasons for a club to fold itself. Misunderstandings among members, anger and half truths will destroy any organization. Many clubs have fallen into this very human trap of refusing to see each others' viewpoint. Instead of attempting to mend fences, they find it is much easier to walk away leaving behind a mass of unresolved conflicts. These are just two of the many excuses a group uses to kill a club or organization. They see no hope, no future for something they have fought so hard to save. They feel that no one cares if the club lives or dies. Begging, threats and do or die statements have no effect on the membership. Reality dawns that there is no one willing to take up the banner, and so it goes until we hear of a club's death. It is no big deal, why should it bother you if they quite. After all, this is just a hobby, right. Why get worked up over something that is soon to become a part of history in some dusty old books, who cares?

Throughout my life I have been a member of many different organizations. Some are no more, others have changed so much they no longer are close to what they were created to be, and a few have held fast to be true to their original design. At times, I have fought for what I knew in my heart was right and have kept the dream alive. At other times, I have backed away from a fight, knowing that it would be a useless battle. I have, at times, admitted I was wrong and with a humble spirit asked forgiveness of those involved. It only takes a handful of individuals and one very simple motion followed by a second to vote a club to be no more. Once the action is taken, there is no turning back. Regrets and second thoughts can not be voiced because there is no one to listen to them, there is no longer a club.

In the past few years, I have watched the amateur community shrink and clubs die. My heart goes out to them all and for what they have lost. We all suffer when another club becomes silent. I have been told that amateur radio is dying and will be gone completely by the year 2000 or shortly after. I have been told we have lost our direction and purpose of being amateur radio operators. We have become self absorbed, lazy and want others to do the work as long as we can reap the rewards of their labors. I do not believe that. I do believe that there are many willing to learn and help, but are afraid to step forward when a club has a project and needs help. I believe that every member in any organization has something to give to the group. I have found too that people like being asked for their help. It is being recognized as a person of worth and being personally asked that is the secret to a successful organization and makes the difference between it growing or dying. I have been called a dreamer and that people just do not care about anything outside themselves. I wonder could I be wrong, that due to non interest

amateur radio will soon become history?

Is there anyone one left out there who even cares if amateur radio has a future or not? Has it outlived its' usefulness? Have we really learned all there is to the many wonders of ham radio? Have we become bored with the whole thing? Is there nothing more to explore, to discover and share with each other?

Personally, I feel that amateur radio is not dead and is worth fighting to keep alive. We need to work together, support each other by sharing ideas and resources. We can not save the clubs that are now dead but just maybe we can keep others from following the same path. Dreams are worth saving, for without dreams what is left.

Bones

The bones of any organization:

1. The wishbones: those who wish somebody (else) would do something.
2. The jawbones: those who talk about the problem, but do little else.
3. the knucklebones: those who knock everything --- especially the backbones.
4. The backbones : those who carry the load, but usually don't say much.

-- from the November '94 ARC of El Cajon (CA) "Counter poise" - Dave Manescu, W6CCM, Editor

**What type of Bone are you!
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WHEN GIANTS LEAVE

K5JB REMEMBERED . . .

My friend Joe Buswell K5JB was a part of my life for over 25 years. It is no exaggeration that he excelled in just about everything he attempted. With an educational background in mechanical engineering, Joe had a PhD in life and although a teacher and mentor to many, the most important lesson he taught was that to be successful, you had to be a student all your life. He never quenched a desire to learn, either in himself or those around him.

Unlike those who criticize others, but never follow their own advice, Joe never made a suggestion to which he was not firmly bound in his own life. You could always depend upon Joe to have no ulterior motive in his dealings with others. His friends were those with whom he shared common interests or companionship, never those whom he manipulated for his own purposes. For that matter, Joe never manipulated even those with whom he disagreed. I never saw Joe joke with anyone in an unkind fashion and those around him were never the butt of unmerciless teasing nor did he tolerate the practice in third parties. He usually had practical advice, typically nonjudgmental. There was a message of goodness in just about everything he said. He demanded absolute control only of his own existence and by uncompromising adherence to the Golden Rule, never interfered in somebody else's life unless invited.

He maintained that fierce sense of independence through the end, gratefully acknowledging the assistance of friends who helped him with transportation and care when he weakened from his illness, yet refusing to burden even those who willingly proffered help to him out of friendship or respect. I just don't think I can get

used to the thought that this Giant who walked among us is now gone.

I first became acquainted with Joe while serving as an officer of one of the original member CORA clubs, actually B.C. (Before CORA). I was still a student at the University of Oklahoma. Joe would occasionally show up at club meetings or I would see him at Club activities. It did not take long to figure out this was a guy who knew his cookies. Not only intelligent, he was interesting to boot. After graduating from school, I started working in Norman. It was about this time that Joe decided that a move from Oklahoma to keep his government civilian engineering job was an "offer he could refuse." The Air Force's loss was my gain. He found work in Norman at the Maintenance and Technical Support Center (MTSC) of the Post Office and after I discovered he had changed jobs, we soon fell in the habit of meeting for lunch just about every day. We checked out the eating establishments around town and we were occasionally joined by Roger WA5JXX, a fellow engineering classmate of mine at OU who also worked in Norman, and my law partner, Glenn WD5FVI. In fact, how Glenn got to be a ham is a tribute to Joe. Glenn's undergraduate degree was in Political Science, but he always had an interest in technical things. He quickly tired of long lunch conversations between Joe, Roger and myself about radio and electronics, but thought of getting an amateur license "when he had time."

I had my Advanced Class and wanted to upgrade. I checked the schedule for the FCC circuit riding exams, saw the OKC date was out, but was available to go to Tulsa. It just so happened that Roger also decided to upgrade to Advanced during that same trip. Thinking I could share a ride to Tulsa, I walked into Glenn's office, told him about the exam schedule and said that he was the odd man out among the three of us and that now was the time for him to get a

license. He agreed and I had my ride to Tulsa as well as obligating myself to help him get his license.

But now we had to do something about this pesky business of studying for the exam. I knew Joe had prepared materials for amateur radio instruction classes. These were the same materials he mentioned in his last C & E column. He gave me a copy for the occasional radio theory class I taught. I asked Joe if we could get Glenn a copy to use for study for his Technician Class. Joe said OK and even volunteered to spend a little time talking to Glenn over any rough spots. The problem was that Glenn did not get around to studying Joe's materials until just a couple of days before the test. I worked him on the code during that time and quizzed him on theory and regulations as we drove to Tulsa. We stayed with my uncle overnight so that we could get up bright and early and go down to the federal building. The miracle of miracles was that everybody passed, including Glenn. He must have set some kind of a record considering the time he studied, but I have to think that K5JB had a lot to do with it. I doubt that he could have done it in the time he had if he had not had Joe's well constructed materials.

Pretty soon, Roger and Glenn got busy on other projects, but Joe and I managed to make lunch together most days both he and I were in town. I spent a lot of my parent's money and seven years in college picking up degrees, but I have to say that some of the smartest "learning" I got was from tuition free "Buswell University." He was self-taught in just about everything. He rarely mentioned himself, but one time he told me that his parents got an Encyclopedia when he was young and he read it, twice. Just some proof he did have an "encyclopedied" knowledge.

After I got out of school in 1975, Roger and I met Joe Christian K5HMD. Joe had been stationed in Dayton and kept

raving about the Dayton Hamvention. He also knew Hossein WA5ZAI, who worked with K5JB at Tinker and had transferred to Dayton to work at Wright Patterson. K5JB was Hoss' "Elmer", got him interested in Amateur Radio and helped get him licensed. K5HMD was a pilot and in 1975, he talked Roger and I into travelling with him to Dayton for the Hamvention. It was a wonderful experience and soon became a lifetime habit. After a year or so, I got K5JB to travel with us to Dayton and he was soon hooked. Except for an occasional absence, our yearly trips got to be a much anticipated occasion.

JB's friendship with Hoss brought us into a circle of special friends at Dayton. These guys were locals and a more entertaining and hospitable group of people you could not find. Keith WA8ZWJ, his brother Jim and a whole host of others offered us a hospitality stopping place at their booth in the flea market and an opportunity to spend our evenings with them. The group would range anywhere up to 30 to 60 people. Like every great social gathering, the group eventually loosely organized into a "tongue in cheek" assembly known as the "International Order of the Krazies" (or IOOK for short). Each Friday night at Dayton one of the locals would host a "Gathering of the Faithful." This potluck supper featured wonderful food, cordial conversation and humorous presentations.

It didn't take long for JB to become friend to just about everybody in the group and many of them discovered what I had known all along, that JB was the smartest of the smart. In fact, one year, the group passed out pins to everybody that said, "Ask Joe." Everybody got one, except JB and his said, "I'm Joe."

The point of the buttons was simply a reminder of how much all of us depended upon JB when it came to questions about everything technical. Many casual conversations between

members of the IOOK contingent usually ended in the conversational trailer, "Well, I'm not sure. Ask Joe." Other times, he was the official arbiter.

Joe missed Dayton this past May. The ravages of his illness and the chemotherapy "cure" weakened him too much to travel. Independent to a fault, he rejected any and all of our offers to arrange travel and help getting around the flea market. I knew there would be a lot of questions about him, so I called him before I left for Dayton to check on how he was doing and on his general medical condition. He sounded good because the news from the doctor seemed positive. I called him again from Dayton on Thursday night and he was a little tired. I told him that we would call him Friday night from the "Gathering" so he could talk to everybody. And we did. He had a great time visiting with various members of the group.

During the time I spent my lunch hours with Joe, I worked at one of the local radio stations. Working a regular part-time shift at a radio station generally meant that you got the bottom end when it came to arranging holiday work schedules. So I usually worked either Christmas Eve, Christmas Day or the day after Christmas. I would usually work 6:00 p.m. to midnight, then wind up travelling to or from my hometown before or after the shift, then turn around and retrace my steps afterwards.

One Christmas Eve, I was at the radio station watching the tape recorders spin and Joe called me on the phone. He wanted to know what I was doing and the answer was "nothing much." Larry WB5POW, the Chief Engineer, was planning on coming down for an hour or two to visit. Joe asked if there was room for him and I said, "Sure!" He asked what he should bring and I jokingly suggested Egg Nog. Joe turned up about thirty minutes later and brought not only some Egg Nog, but a bottle of very expensive Irish Whiskey!

He said it was something he had around the house that didn't get much use. I couldn't drink much, since I was working, but a shot or two in the Egg Nog and the great conversation made the evening go fast. At midnight, we packed up and headed out full of Egg Nog and Christmas cheer!

Because I worked weekends, the one holiday that didn't come up in my work schedule was Thanksgiving. I invited JB to travel with me to my hometown a couple of times and he quickly became a real favorite in my family. Always interesting, and with a great appetite, he found himself at home at my Mother's dinner table. He even "worked" for his supper. I was always looking for gadgets to solve problems that my Mom and Dad had around the house. For example, my Dad wanted an air conditioner in the garage to come on in the middle of the morning, run long enough to cool the area, then shut off. My solution was to buy a 220 Volt BSR module and control it with a BSR controller from the central part of the house. Joe was visiting the 4th of July that I decided to install the module. I was wandering around trying to figure out the right breaker when JB said, "Just give it to me." I would not recommend this to anybody but JB, but he installed the module without turning off the power and without getting shocked. That was just like JB. He didn't seem to make mistakes.

You know, I don't drag these memories up from some hidden niche in my brain because for the most part, they and many others are permanent and continuous recollections of my friend. The lessons I learned from him form indelible impressions.

This was a remarkable person and an energetic soul, the perfect illustration of Plato's "contemplated life." We don't find many friends who make the gift of life worthy of use by such example. I can't describe how much I miss him.

Micheal Salem N5MS

Ada Amateur Radio Club

Hello to all:

It has been a quiet month around Pontotoc since our VHF rpt'r was nuked by a bolt of lightning, hopefully we should have something on the air when this hits your mailbox. Our rpt'r should be back from the repair shop around the middle of november.

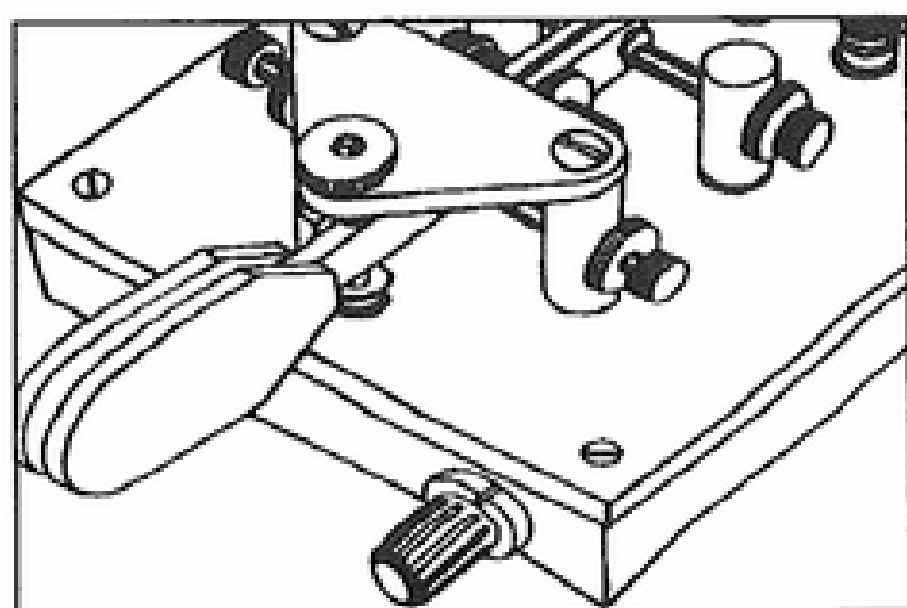
As I write this note I am preparing my treasures for the trip to Texoma hamfest, I've always been partial to this hamfest and the relaxed atmosphere it is a great time to visit with many of the faces behind the voices.

In Ada we have a Christmas Lighting Project at Wintersmith Park last year a few people asked if the Club would give them a hand with the communications. Of course I volunteered us, so I now hope that we can cover this it will only take a few hours and will be some great P. R. for the Club and amateur radio.

I would like to thank the OKC hams for keeping Charles (KC5TGA) busy during his stay at University Hospital, you see as long as he is busy he isn't getting in trouble.

If anyone is interested my e-mail address is kb5stv@juno.com. drop me a line sometime.

73 DE KB5STV



Why learn the Morse code, anyway?

by Mike Treit, KB7QOP

The greatest obstacle for some people attempting to master the art of CW, is incentive. And that's just what one should expect; it's entirely normal to cast a wary eye upon anything that requires work. The following is my philosophy on why learning Morse code is worth the bother.

First, arguments that say Morse code is out of date and no longer needed miss the point. By the same logic, you could bypass the entire hobby of ham radio. For talking to a friend in Israel, the phone and Internet are far more effective.

We didn't become Amateur Radio operators because ham radio is the most effective communications means available --- though it is certain in emergency situations --- but because we love practicing the radio arts. There is something special about sitting down at the trusty transceiver, pressing the mike button or key paddle, and greeting the world. Despite all the technical explanations, our imagination still shrouds radio mystery.

In pursuing Amateur Radio, we enjoy exploring a variety of communication methods --- some mundane, others exotic. And all of them produce a sense of accomplishment and pride. They fuel an inner fire, a drive to excel.

Communicating with Morse code is one variant of the idea, one facet of the art. Part of the appeal of CW is its simplicity. You can send it with even the most basic transmitter, and people with few English skills who can understand you in Morse may have difficulty in any voice mode, and in the typed mode --- unless both of you are CW operators, and you use CW

abbreviations.

When voice communication breaks down, Morse code can still get through. When my friend Harold, KA7MZA, was on a road trip in Kansas, I tried to contact him on 15 - meter SSB. I could hear his signal in the static, but he couldn't copy me. when I switched to CW --- he stayed on SSB --- we were able to carry on our conversation. If we hadn't been able to use Morse, our conversation would not have been possible.

Its universal standing and elegant simplicity make CW a practical tool for the Amateur. I believe everyone should learn it --- if for no other reason, then as a backup for when voice communication breaks down. But there is a catch 22; you can't appreciate how fun Morse code can be until you learn it well enough to relax when using it. and the only way to learn it that well, is to use it regularly.

I began learning Morse several years ago; now its my passion. I enjoy it more than SSB, partly because of the civility of Morse operators. On-the-air CW is all about what radio should be. In pursuing Morse, we rediscover why we became a ham in the first place.

Most beginners view improving their code proficiency as one part of their effort to upgrade. That's fine, but I urge you to take it further. Try Morse on the air. At a certain point, as you are getting the hang of it, you may be surprised (as I was) to find yourself enjoying it.

from the January 1996 Radio Club of Tacoma "The Logger's Bark" - Kathleen Nace, N0EYK, Editor

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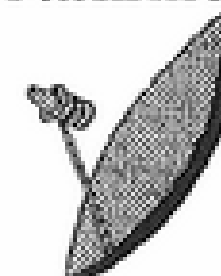
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A member of the OK DX Association

November 1996

A bright full moon, short days and imminent winter weather... 'tis just about time for Thanksgiving. Has it been a year since Thanksgiving 1995? Goodness has a lot gone under the ole bridge since this time last year. Some good & some bad.... Either instance we go mindful of the altering. We wish you a super Thanksgiving & hopeful of your opportunity to give thanks to all.

Licensing Class Update

On Monday, October 21, 1996 several of our class members journeyed to the Salvation Army for the CORA sponsored VE testing. Results of the testing are as follows:

- 5 Passed Novice theory exams
- 3 Passed Technician theory exams
- 1 Passed 5 WPM code
- 3 Passed General theory exams
- 12 - Total Elements Passed

Individuals passing these exams:

Jeff Brown - Novice Theory
Technician Theory
General Theory
5 WPM Code

Shondreya Hamlin - Novice Theory

Thomas Kiene - Novice Theory
Technician Theory

Chris Martin - Novice Theory

Gary Reinsch - Novice Theory

Technician Theory
General Theory

Sharon Thompson - General Theory

Special recognition goes to Sharon Thompson, KC5WLS who started our classes on September 8, 1996 unlicensed and now holds a General Class ticket! That is one special accomplishment. Congrats Sharon. We all take pride in your goal attainment. Meanwhile the class continues toward more licensing success with completion set for December 15, 1996.

Nominating Committee

This group has been meeting to develop a slate of club officers for 1997. This group along with nominations from the floor, will be voted on at the November 17th business meeting at 2:00 p.m. (Site: St. John the Baptist Catholic Church)

The 1997 club officers and board members will take office January 1, 1997 with their term concluding December 31, 1997. Be present to nominate and/or cast your vote for the new officers. By being present and expressing your vote you can legitimately complain or enjoy the harvest since you have helped plow the field.

Board Meeting

The October Board meeting was held on October 2, 1996 at Curby's with the following guests present, Sharon Thompson, KC5WLS; Judy Johnson KC5SMI; Hickory, KC5HIC; David Harman, KC5UNO and Mr. Lionel Mize. All board members were present for the meeting which lasted slightly longer than two hours. Topics covered were the clubs exemplary performance at recent community functions to include the UCO Parade, Classics of Broadway and the Crop Walk. Not to mention licensing classes. Purchase of vests, hard hats and preparation for the club picnic on October 19th also were reviewed. Repeater equipment needing replacement was discussed along with encumbering funds to purchase this equipment.

Club Picnic

Saturday evening October 19th at Hafer Park, the club had an enjoyable hamburger cookout with all the trimmings. The potato salads, desserts and beans all fit into a windblown gathering of EARS friends. The selection of food was quite impressive as was the use of the club's HF rig which generated several contacts - stateside and beyond. Attempts were made to contact the OK Dxpediton to Belau N5CG and N5OK are down in that part of the world beaming to Oklahoma. Could not copy those fellers but fun was had none the less. Along the lines of furl there was an unplanned plate catching contest. Trish can advise of the result of the contest, rumor exists there were other extended efforts of game man ship chasing other picnic supplies which were windblown. Thanks to all those involved with the picnic - nice product!!

November Birthdays

The happy birthday group for this month:

- 11-1 Opal King, KB5BUK
- 11-3 Bob Herbert, N5SAG
- 11-4 Jim Richardson, N5OHL
- 11-8 Garland Holmes, KC5SMM
- 11-9 Terri Reed, N5SFM
- 11-12 Hayes Forbes, WA5ZSH
- 11-14 Linda Richardson, N5OJP
- 11-16 Mike Miller, N1XSF (#18)
- 11-17 Ron Demas, KC5PLI
- 11-21 Robert Coxsey, KC5RBN
- 11-23 Curtis Foote, KC5GEP
- 11-25 Phyllis Hand, KC5QJS

Monday Net Night

Please take time to check-in to the net on Monday nights at 8:00 p.m. The information is interesting, topics vary - just enough consistency to be comfortable with adequate changes week to week to maintain your interests. Numbers for the September MNN are as follows:

- 5 - Number of sessions
- 58 - Pieces of traffic
- 163 - Check-ins

Upcoming Events

Nov. 13th - Board Meeting 6:00 p.m.
EARS club station. Demo of weather info
accessible via computer to be conducted
after the board meeting.

Nov 17th - Club Meeting 2:00 p.m. St.
John the Baptist Catholic Church

Nov 18th - VE Test session 6:00 p.m.
Salvation Army HQ, OKC expect several
more of our licensing students to pass
exams on this night!!

Saturday morning coffee at Gamble's
Country Kitchen, 2826 East 2nd in
Edmond- about 9:00 am give or take

Club Station (KC5ORP) Open:
Thursday evenings with N5OHL

73 de John, WB5SYT

**Newsline (Con't)****MARS BANS CW**

The Department of Defense has unilaterally banned the use of Morse code on all Military Affiliate Radio System circuits. CW nets and other Morse activity in the Military Affiliate Radio System were ordered to cease operation effective October 1st.

A final CW message was transmitted simultaneously on Army, Navy and Air Force MARS frequencies at 13:00, 15:30 and 17:00 UTC on September 30th. A special certificate commemorating the demise of CW in the Military Affiliate Radio Service is available to any MARS member that correctly copied that final message.

No detailed explanation was given for by the Department of Defense for dropping the use of CW in MARS communications. Observers say that this could be the final impetus needed to get the code dropped as a mandatory testing requirement at upcoming World Radio Communications Conferences before the end of the decade.

HAMS CHARGED IN PHONY POLICE CALLS

Three ham radio operators from Mesa, Arizona, have now been officially charged in the wake of a year long spree of false distress calls and profane broadcasts on police, fire and ham radio frequencies. The trio, reportedly led by a 16 year old Mesa Police Explorer Scout, are alleged to have faked reports of bomb scares, carjackings and robberies, and officers in distress. Investigators claim that the three also played music on emergency channels and harassed police dispatchers.

Charged in the case are 20 year old Christopher R. Johnson, KC7QPJ. And in an unusual move, police also released the identity the two 16 year old minors. They are identified as Brad E. Shelley, KC7JQY, and Joshua D. Cavender, KC7JGH. Johnson and the teenagers are accused of interfering with public safety frequencies, impersonating a police officer and false reporting.

As first reported on Newsline a month ago, it was members of the Arizona Repeater Association's Local Interference Committee located the alleged offenders. The ham radio operators also aided police and FCC inspectors in gathering enough evidence to make the arrests.

KIAR LEAVES CQ MAGAZINE

Some names in the news. First is John Dorr, KIAR. John has left CQ Communications to accept a new position in product marketing for Cerulean Technologies, Inc., of Marlborough, Massachusetts. Cerulean is the result of the commercial application of DX Packet Cluster software and technology. The company recently entered into partnerships with two of the largest mobile data carriers, Bell Atlantic NYNEX Mobile and GTE Mobilnet, to

give police officers on the street wider latitude in tracking down stolen vehicles and cuffing drivers with criminal warrants. Dorr says that he left CQ only because of the opportunity this represents and because of his desire to return to the Massachusetts area. He will continue to edit the magazine's Contest Calendar.

HUDSON DIVISION DIRECTOR RETIRES

And the Leagues' Hudson Division Director Paul Vydarny, WB2VUK, resigned his seat on the ARRL Board, effective September 5th. WB2VUK cited job and church obligations as preventing him from doing what he considers a proper job of fulfilling his duties as director.

Vice Director Richard Sandell, WK6R, of Scarsdale, New York, becomes director for the remainder of Vydarny's term, which expires January 1, 1997.

RCA HONORS HAMS

The Radio Club of America has announced that Carole Perry, WB2MGP, will be the recipient of its 1996 Barry Goldwater Amateur Radio Award. Perry is a secondary school teacher from Staten Island New York. She was selected based on her dedication in introducing New York City school children to the thrilling world of ham radio.

Also receiving honors from the Radio Club of America are Frank A. Gunther, W2ALS, will get a commendation named in his honor and Fred. M. Link, W2ALU, will receive the President's Award. All three will be recognized at the Radio Club of America annual banquet on Friday, November 22nd in New York City.

HAM TEACHER FEATURED IN MAGAZINE

And past ARRL Professional Teacher of the Year Sheila Perry, N0UOP, of Bloomfield, Missouri, was featured in the August edition of Learning magazine. The article highlighted her SAREX work and cited ARRL's Educational Activities Department as the place to get more information. By the way, as far as we know Carole Perry and Sheila Perry are not related to each other.



OKlahoma DX Association

----- FROM THE PREZ -----

Hello everyone. I hope you are prepared for the DX/Contest season. It is shaping up to be an exciting one. Several of our members are involved in DXpeditions in October and November. N5OK, Coy, and N5CG, Dave, have returned to our favorite DX hangout, Belau, KC6. They are the first to be granted a license for the new Belau prefix, T8. They are using T88T.

AH9B, Craig, and V73C, Ken, are operating with a group at CY0.

K5VT, Vince, is going to Myanmar with the Central Arizona DX Association.

By the time you read this, the annual OKDXA Banquet may be history. I hope you were able to attend. Be sure to congratulate our Ham of the Year.

Also, by this time, I may be sporting a new callsign since I applied for one of the gate 2 vanity callsigns. So perhaps, WV5S a.k.a. W4HS and WVDits will be no more.

I encourage everyone to join in some of the contests this winter. It is a lot of fun even if you have a modest station or only have an hour to operate. You will be surprised what you can do. Then, submit that entry and be sure to list The Oklahoma DX Association as your club. Let me be the first to wish you a joyful holiday season. Jim, WV5S

-- TREASURER'S REPORT --

• OKDXA numbers

We have had an excellent month of renewals! At the time of this writing (21 Oct) we have 67 memberships paid for 96-97. This figure includes both re-ups and new members. Oh yes, there are two associate members included in there as well! Thanks for your continued support of the OKDXA.

----- THE CONTEST ----- CONTINUUM by Coy Day, N5OK

Coy and Dave Horn, N5CG, are in the Western Pacific operating from Belau. So in lieu of his column I'll report contest results from Jerry, K5YAA, in Claremore.

With the CQWW SSB contest just over I hope more of our members will take the time to report their scores for our newsletter and our web site. Send them to N5OK and N5OGP. Thanks.

Jerry, K5YAA, reports the following. CQWW RTTY Test - My first shot at this one. I put in approximately 20 hours for 559 QSOs. My score was 286,977.

Jerry also operated in the California QSP Party on October 5 and scored 81,070 points. Jerry says, "this score would have been around #10 last year so maybe we'll see a bottle of wine this year although I heard some pretty fine scores from Texas."

----- DX NEWS -----

• **Robert** says, "Save your greenstamps!" Assistant NCS Robert Gillespie writes the following hoping that you too won't donate to this "greenstamp collector". Read on ...

"Hey Mark, I've been trying to get a card from GI4UDI for 3 years (and please stop the violin music) anyway after \$5 in greenstamps and many routes, I received a very nice letter from the ex-Bureau Manager of Great Britain. Simply the letter reads that this guy makes a living out of American Hams and he has never seen him return a single card, he also plays a very good shell game with the publishers of DX managers. I know this is not a rare one but to some of us we could use his card. He is on the air mainly during contest time, because most of the nets have caught up with him, with the new members we are starting to get I thought it would be nice if you could mention this clown in the next newsletter.

I was stupid enough to get stuck for a few dollars and I really do not want our readers financing him, I do have the letter here signed by GI3TMT so I would be more than happy to show it to anyone who would like to see it."

• New QSL route for EM1KA & EM1U

The new QSL manager for Roman, EM1KA and EM1U, is JA2JPA: Ajiro Takashi, 2-14-18 Doubayashi, Shimizu, Shizuoka 424, Japan.

• Future significant DX operations

3Y/Bouvet - The planned trip to Bouvet, organized by the South Sandwich DX Group, will leave Cape Town, South Africa, in December 97. They will use four stations simultaneously, 24 hours a day, with SSB, CW, RTTY and satellite operations. Operators are, at the moment: WA4JQS, AH9B, HB9AHL, W6KNB, W7KNT, XE1L and ZS1FJ.

• **5R/Madagascar** - Ray, 5R8FK and his wife Donie, 5R8FJ are active from Madagascar (AF-013). (425dxn)

• **6W/Senegal** - Starting from July 96, for two years, Didier, F5OGL will be active from Dakar, Senegal. Didier plans to work on all bands from 10 to 160m on CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via F6KEQ.

• **7P/Lesotho** - Martin, G4FUI, is active as 7P8/G4FUI on CW/SSB. He will be there until the beginning of December 96. QSL via home call. (opdx)

• **8P/Barbados** - From 15 to 22 November John, K4BAI will be active as 8P9HT. On 23-24 November John will participate in the CQWW CW Contest as 8P9Z. QSL via home call. (425dxn)

• **9G/Ghana** - 9G - In 1997 Steve, PA3GBQ will be again active from Ghana, from where he hopes to participate in the ARRL CW Contest (and probably in ARRL SSB too). The call will be 9G5BQ and Steve hopes to have a licence for 160m. (425dxn)

• **9J/Zambia** - Until 15 November Ely, IN3VZE (ex 7Q7CE) will be active from Lusaka as 9J2CE. QSL via home call: Ely Camin, Corso 3 Novembre 136/2, 38100 Trento-TN, Italy.

• **9M2/West Malaysia** - Tex, 9M2TO, reports to OPDX that as of October 7th, he built and installed a 80/160 dipole, so begin looking for him on those bands. QSL via JA0DMV thru the bureau or

direct to: Terutsugulzumo, Bukit Dumbar Apt. 9-4, 97 Jalan Thomas 11700 Gelugor, Penang Island, Malaysia. (opdx)

• **9M6/East Malaysia** - The DXNS reports Saty, JE1JKL, has a contest shack on Labuan Island where he is regularly active as 9M6NA. He plans to be active in the CQWW CW Contest 80 meters (November 23-24th). QSL to CBA. (opdx)

• **9N/Nepal** - Jack, W4OSN should be active (80-15m) as 9N1OSN until 28 November. (425dxn)

• **9Q/Zaire** - For about one year, starting in September 96, Fernando, EA4BB will be again QRV from Zaire (all bands SSB and CW) as 9Q5BB. QSL via EA4BB, also via the EA bureau. (425dxn)

• **A6/United Arab Emirates** - From 14 to 26 November, Dave, AA6DC will be active for 12-14 hours a day from Dubai, UAE, CW & RTTY, 10 to 160m. He plans to participate in the CQWW CW Contest. QSL via home call. (425dxn)

• **A7/Qatar** - After being off the air for a few months, Chris, A71CW is again active (including 160m). (425dxn)

• **BV9P/Pratus Is.** - Bolon, BV5AF (President of CTARL & TAMSAT) reports that if propagation improves, Pratas Island might be activated at the end of March 97. (425dxn)

• **D2/Angola** - Alex, PA3DZN has received the D25L call. He hopes to be QRV by mid-November. QSL via PA3DMH. (425dxn)

• **EK/Armenia** - Victor, RV6HKB/EK will be active for about one year from Armenia on 20, 15 and 40m CW. 100 watts and a dipole. QSL via home call. (425DXN)

• **FO/French Polynesia** - For 4 or 5 weeks starting mid-November, Eric, F5CCO will be on Tahiti (OC-046) for business. He hopes to be particularly active on 80 and 40m.

• **FR/Reunion Is.** - From 6 to 12 November Jon, EA2KL and Luis, EA3ELM will be FR/. QSL via home calls. (425dxn)

• **FT8Z/Amsterdam Is.** - Mehdi, F5PFP, is planning an expedition of about one month's duration to one of the rarest Amateur radio countries. The trip is planned between Nov 96 and Feb 97. (425dxn)

• **GD/Isle of Man** - From 15 to 29 November, Steve, G4UOL will be active as GD4UOL (all bands, CW only). Steve will participate in the CQWW CW Contest (single operator 100 watts) and he should be active for a couple of days as GT3FLH (the club station in the Isle of Man). (425dxn)

• **J3/Grenada** - J3 - From 16 to 26 November J38AA (Ann, WA1S), J38AB (Paul, K1XM), J38AC (Al, W1FJ), J38AD (Joe, KM1P) J38AE (Charlotte, KQ1F) and J38AF (Rich, K2WR) will be active from Grenada. They plan to participate in the CQWW CW Contest (using the call J38AA or a special one) in the Multi/Multi category. The QSL for contests contacts go to KQ1F. (425dxn)

• **J3/Grenada** - From 20 to 29 November Dave, WJ2O will be active (mainly in CW on WARC bands) probably as J3/WJ2O. He plans to participate in CQWW CW Contest. QSL via home call.

• **J5/Guinea-Bissau** - Dave, KC9IM, will be active for two years as J52IM. He has installed antennas for 80 and 16m. QSL via KB9XN. (425dxn)

• **JD1/Ogasawara** - From 16 December to 3 January Eiji, JQ1SUO will be active as /JD1. Freqs: CW - 1909-10, 3505, 7005, 10107 and 14025 kHz and SSB - 3795, 3800, 7050, 14240 and 14200 kHz. QSL via home call. He will look for USA stations between 2200 and 0000z on 14240 kHz. QSL to CBA. (425dxn & opdx)

• **JT/Mongolia** - The 19 Oct 425 DX News reports that Mike NI7T is active between 00 and 12 UTC as JT1FBT from Ulan Bator, 160-10m. No mention is made about duration of the stay. QSL via home call.

• **JW/Svalbard** - Ula, LA8GV will be active until Oct 97 as JW8GV. QSL via home call. (425dxn)

• **JY/Jordan** - From 20 to 28 November Uli, DL5MBY will be active on all bands using a JY8 call. He plans to participate in CQWW CW Contest. QSL via home call. (425dxn)

• **S9/Sao Tome & Principe** - Charles, S92SS is active again on 160m. Listen for him on Fridays and Saturdays between 22.30 and 03.00 UTC. (425dxn)

• **T8(KC6)/Belau** - Starting from 12 October N5CG and N5OK, members of the Oklahoma DX Association, will be

active from Koror, (OC-009), as T88T and perhaps T88M. Operations (SSB and CW) will take place from 10 to 160m, WARC bands included. They plan to participate in the CQWW SSB Contest and probably in CQWW CW Contest also. QSL via: Belau DXpedition, Box 88, Morris, OK 74445-0088, USA.

• **TL/Central Africa** - TL8MS is active again. QSL via DL6NW.

• **TZ/Mali** - Larry, TZ6VV, is now active mainly in CW, on 40, 17 and, mainly, on 30 m. Find him between 10.109-10.115 MHz, around 22 UTC during weekends. QSL via TZ6VV (BP 2786, Bamako, Mali). (425DXN)

• **V4/St. Kitts** - From 15 to 25 November Andy, G4ZVJ and Ken, G4RWD will be active (CW only on 80-10m) as V47VJ and V47WD. They will participate in the CQWW CW Contest as V47VJ. (425dxn)

• **VK0/Heard Is.** - Early 1997.

• **VP8/Falkland Is.** - Sergej, RW0LBW, is currently signing VP8CWI and is the first Russian HAM on Falklands. He started his activity in the middle of July and will be active for about 1 year. There have been no QSOs reported recently. Sergej does ask for QSLs to be sent: Box 559, Stanley, Falkland Island. (opdx)

• **VU7/Andaman Is.** - Jim, VK9NS, has received his Indian license (VU2JBS), valid for five years and he is now hoping to back to the Andamans. The rumor mill is especially quiet concerning this operation!

• **XZ/Myanmar** - Warren Hill, KF7AY reports that the XZ1N DXpedition to Myanmar remains on course. Final approvals have been received and all but last minute details remain to be worked out. The group will arrive in Yangon on November 16th and may even be QRV that evening. There will be a special event station running on November 18th. From November 19th through November 22nd, three stations will be on all bands and most modes (CW, SSB and RTTY). On November 23rd and 24th, XZ1N will be active in the 1996 CQWW CW DX Contest as a multi-multi entry from zone 26. There will be some activity on November 25, just before everything is taken down. The team departs for Bangkok on November 26th. A concentrated effort will be made on 40, 80 and 160m with special antennas and

adequate power. The operators will be OH1NYP, KA5AYR, AB6ZV, N7WTU and WY7K (SSB), N6BT, WA6CDR, AA7WP and KF7AY (CW), OH2BH (CW & SSB) K5VT and WA7LNU (CW & RTTY). QSL via Bob Myers, W1XT (P.O. Box 17108, Fountain Hills, AZ 85269 7108, USA) also through the bureau. (425dxn)

• **ZK1/South Cook Is.** - For at least five months starting from 2 November Gun, DF4DI will be active on all the bands from South Cook Islands using the ZK1DI call. Gun plans also to go for one week to Manihiki (OC-014, North Cook). QSL via DK1RV.

• **ZK3/Tokelau Is.** The "Island News" reports Yvette, F3YA, is active for the next three years as ZK3YA. With operation limited to six hours per day due to power restrictions, look for Yvette on 7003 kHz between 1000-1100z. QSL via home callsign. (425dxn)

• **ZS8/Marion Is.** - Until June-July 1997 Chris, ZS5IR/ZS6RI will be active from Marion Island as ZS8IR. Chris will join the 53th scientific expedition to Marion, as the official doctor and will work from base camp on all the bands, also on 6 and 160 meters, in SSB, CW and RTTY hoping to join major contests. The station will be equipped with an IC-735, a FL-2100Z, PK-232 and antennas will mainly be wire due to high winds. QSL via ZS6EZ (ex-ZS6BCR).

--- MONTHLY FEATURES ---

• Sources for DX info

Jan 96 - *The GOLLIST*
 Feb 96 - *QRZ DX*
 Mar 96 - *The DX Bulletin*
 Apr 96 - *The 59(9) DX Report*
 May 96 - open
 Jun 96 - *The DX Magazine*
 Jul 96 - *The 425 DX News*
 Aug 96 - open
 Sep 96 - *The OPDXB*
 Oct 96 - *The ARRL DX Bulletin*
 Nov 96 - open

----- OKDXA STUFF -----

• New call sign

Gerald Goodnight, formerly KK5JH, has acquired his former call through the vanity program. He is now (again) K5KJB.

• Welcome new members!

John Guida, NJ1V
 55 Windmill Dr.
 Hempstead, TX 77445
 409.826.8434
 nj1v@phoenix.net

Rhonda Ruggieri, N6SKI
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Associate Member-
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A. J. Ketch N5NJA
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 405.377.0393

• Current Email Directory

Be sure to peruse the list and update your address books (* indicates a new address or a change).

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 Warren, Troy KE5K
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 * Wells, Ken V73C
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 Wolf, Glenn AB5RQ
 gwolf@seark.net

If you are a member of the OKDXA and you have an email capability (and you wouldn't mind having it published in this NL) please email it to your Editor, N5OGP. Thanks!

• Kudos column

Congrats to Gerald Goodnight, K5KJB, of Newcastle on achieving his DXCC award ... all on 100 watts.

----- MISCELLANY -----

The Saga of Getting a Mexican Amateur Radio License by Claude Matchette, KD5RQ

One of the reasons that I went with the Morfords and Gotts to Mexico was to operate there as a DX station. But first, I had to get a XE license and that is where the saga begins.

Most of the first morning in Mexico was devoted to getting the eye and dental clinics set up and going. Then, about 11 o'clock Beto and I set off for Monterrey to get me a XE license and to renew Bob's XE2PED license. (Beto is a young Mexican working at the mission where we were. He has lived in the United States and worked with Americans a long time and understands our ways.)

We arrived at the Direccion General de Comunicaciones about 1130 and after asking directions from a number of offices finally found the right one.

At the licensing office we were told that I needed:

- A passport photo. I told the young lady that I did not have one and did not know where to get one. After some talk she said, "forget the photo."
- A copy of my visa. I told the lady that I had a visa but did not have a copy. She

said go get one. I asked where and was told that there was a copy machine in the building, somewhere.

- A copy of my US license. I did bring a lot of copies of that.
- Five copies of the application. I asked for five copies to fill out. The lady would only give me one and told me to make four copies. (If I could find that copy machine!!)

We went hunting the copy machine; found it and made the copies. But, there was a fee for using the machine. All I had were US dollars. After some talk it was decided that two dollars would be about the correct amount. I gave the operator two dollars.

Back to the licensing office. The lady told us that we had to take the applications to a bank, pay our fees, get the applications stamped, and come back with the stamped copies. That sounded easy....

We went to a bank across the street. They told us they could not handle amateur radio applications. We had to go to a National Bank "Where is a National Bank?" "Down the street and cross the bridge."

We found the National Bank. After waiting in a long line, the teller told me to give him 187 pesos. I only had dollars and he would not take them. He told Beto to go to window 6 and change the dollars into pesos. The teller told me to stand aside and he would wait on other people. Beto waited in line for about 10 minutes but it did not move. Beto told me that he was going outside and find a money changer and get pesos, it would be quicker then waiting in line. He left the bank and I was left standing beside the teller's window as he waited on people.

Many minutes later Beto returned with pesos. We went to the head of the line and six people gave us dirty looks. The teller took the pesos and then stamped, stamped, stamped the applications.

Back to the Direccion General de Comunicaciones. The man in charge of the licensing office, the Chief, told us that

we would have to come back Monday (today was Thursday and we were leaving on Sunday) and they would renew Bob's license. Since I did not have a license it would take longer.

I told the Chief that I needed a license today. He said that would not be possible as there was much paper work to do.

After talking to him a few minutes I could see that we were not getting anywhere. I decided I would have to play my "I don't understand act". I would just sit there and keep talking and asking questions until he got tired of me. So, I told him how I had to talk to Lawton to coordinate the travels of the doctors and medical supplies. I told him about the Lawton/Fort Sill Amateur Club and about my novice classes. Could I get a license today? Did he have a license, what was his callsign, what kind of equipment did he have, and what were the local repeater frequencies? Could I get a license today? Would he just give me a callsign and we could take care of the paper work later? Etc, etc, etc.

IT WORKED!

The Chief told Beto to write a letter requesting temporary permission to operate in Mexico. Beto did and even signed Bob's name to his letter, it looked just like Bob's signature. The Chief stamped the letters and added them to the pile of papers with our applications. I told the Chief that I needed a callsign so that I could operate today. After looking in his files, he wrote XE2PCN on a scrap of paper and told me to use that. After much hand shaking and a lots of thank yous, we left.

Now I could operate legally even if I did not have a single piece of paper with written authorization!!! The next day Beto returned and got our licenses and then we were really legal. So Beto and I did in a couple of hours what normally takes several mananas. But, it was only done because Beto knew where to go and because both of us were slick talkers. By myself I would never have been able to get a license in one day.

All in all it was a wonderful trip. Everyone of you should go and operate as a DX station. Next spring listen for me from Durango, Mexico and I will tell you more tales about having high adventures!
73 de Claude KD5RQ/XE2PCN

• **Another ham radio business bought out!**

Ham Radio Outlet, the world's largest Ham Radio Equipment dealer, announced today (Oct 16, 1996) it had agreed to purchase substantially all the Ham Radio Equipment assets of Tucker Electronics and the Ham Radio assests of Oklahoma Comm Center which was aquired in July by Tucker.

Ham Radio Outlet will not be occupying the current Tucker store location as all Ham Radio sales activity at Tucker will cease on October 16th. Ham Radio Outlet plans to consolidate Tucker's retail and mail order operation with Ham Radio Outlet's New Hampshire store location. Tucker's 1-800-559-7388 telephone number will be answered by Ham Radio Outlet's New Hampshire store at this time. Ham Radio Outlet will continue to market the "Tucker" Brand of accessories. Ham Radio Outlet will be aquiring new locations and will announce plans shortly. For further information contact: Bob Ferrero, W6RJ, President HRO, (510) 831-1771

Overseas Plug Configs and Voltages

by Dave Hollander, N7RK

I have added a resource to the CADXA home page which may be useful to those going on DXpeditions or just plan to operate overseas. It is a table of the the AC mains voltages for well over 100 countries plus a diagram showing what the pin configurations of the plugs look like.

This can be found on the CADXA home page at:

<http://www.getnet.com/~davidh/cadxa.html>

• **Arkansas DX Association Web page**
Check out the ADXA World Wide Web page at ...<http://www.seark.net/adxa>

----- The End -----
73 de N5OGP sk

BITBUCKET

BitBucket is a newly created mailing list reflector devoted to specialized amateur radio communication techniques. This includes SSTV, ATV, FAX, Packet, Pactor, G-TOR, Clover and much more. To subscribe, send e-mail with body of message "subscribe bitbucket" to majordomo@primenet.com

NEW UK BEACON

A new 50 MHZ propagation beacon is now operational. As part of an experiment by the RSGB Propagation Studies Committee, Chris Deacon, G4IFX, of Darlington in County Durham, has been granted permission to use the callsign GB3IFX for his 50 MHZ tropospheric tests. The beacon transmits on 50.275MHz, on the hour, every hour, in 30 second bursts during which the callsign and time are sent twice.

NOEL EATON, VE3CJ, SK

Noel Eaton, VE3CJ the former ARRL Canadian Division Director and President Emeritus of the International Amateur Radio Union has died. According to IARU Region 2 President Tom Atkins, VE3CDM, Eaton passed away in the early hours of Saturday, September 28th. A memorial service is planned for Toronto on October 11th.

DX

Brett Graham, VR96BG, reports that hams in Hong Kong will be allowed to use several prefixes to commemorate the transfer of sovereignty over the territory from the United Kingdom to the People's Republic of China on July 1, 1997. At the request of the Hong Kong Amateur Radio Transmitting Society, Hong Kong amateurs will be allowed to change the numeral in their call sign to 96 during 1996, to 97 during 1997, and to 98 during 1998.

Graham says that Hong King Amateurs began to use these new prefixes on September 10th with a contact

between VS96BG and VR96GO. The Hong Kong club says it will announce later the details of a new award to be offered to amateurs for contacting stations using these special prefixes.

All Hong Kong amateurs have held licenses with call signs using the prefix VR2 for several years. Those previously holding VS6 calls are allowed to continue to use the VS prefix through July 1st of 1997. The VRA to VRZ block allocated by the ITU to the United Kingdom will be transferred to the Peoples Republic of China at that time. The only other use of that block at present by amateurs is on Pitcairn Island, where VR6 calls are still in use.

NEWSLINE CELEBRATES 1000 ON HRM

Finally, part of Newsline's worldwide celebration of its 1000th newscast will take place on shortwave radio. This thanks to Len Winkler, KB7LPW of Phoenix, Arizona. Winkler has invited Newsline to be on his October 13th edition of Ham Radio and More that airs on broadcast station nationwide and on shortwave worldwide. Joining Len will be Newsline Producer Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF and several other Newsline regulars. Bill will also have some vintage audio clips from the early days of Newsline when it was still known as the Westlink Radio Network.

Ham Radio and More airs tape delayed on radio station WCCR every Sunday at 22:00 UTC on 7.435 MHZ. WCCR is located in Nashville, Tennessee and has an effective radiated power of 100,000 watts. The show is also simulcast in Real Audio format on the World Wide Web.

Jim Nolen
Enrolled Agent

Jimmie Nolen
Steve Moore

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A. R. R. L. Bulletins

From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT

To all radio amateurs

ARRL Bulletin 74

October 16, 1996

Congress directs FCC to put 2.3 GHz spectrum up for bid

Possibly for the first time ever, Congress has directed the reallocation of specific frequencies, including 5 MHz that Amateur Radio shares with government services between 2305 and 2310 MHz. During its final hours before adjournment, the 104th Congress approved a provision as part of a much larger appropriations bill that directs the FCC to put 30 MHz of spectrum in the 2.3-GHz region up for competitive auction to help balance the budget.

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) had identified for reallocation the amateur segments 2300-2310 MHz and 2390-2400 in May 1994, so reallocation of part of that subband came as no surprise (see QST, Jul 94, p 85 and Aug 94, p 72). Last year, hams scored a major victory by getting a primary allocation on the subbands 2390-2400 MHz and 2402-2417 MHz.

The recent congressional action will reallocate 2305 to 2320 MHz and 2345 to 2360 MHz--30 MHz in all--to "wireless services that are consistent with international agreement concerning spectrum allocations." The action was included in the massive, 2000-page Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act, which was passed by Congress and signed by the President. The act now is Public Law 104-208.

Shortly after the measure was introduced in the Congress, ARRL sent messages to House and Senate Commerce Committee and Appropriations staff members to alert them to the League's concerns and the possible impact the bill would have on the amateur allocation at 2300-2310 MHz. The measure also was opposed by the Senate Commerce Committee leadership, which stated that auctions ought to be used only for assignment purposes, not as a means of raising Federal revenues. The newly reallocated spectrum is to be put up for bid no later than next April.

ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, said: "Congressional action directing the reallocation of specific frequency bands is very unusual, and may even be unprecedented. Setting that issue aside, it is too early to know the implications for Amateur Radio. We have been waiting for the other shoe to drop on 2300-2310 MHz ever since 1994, and to some extent we are still waiting. Perhaps we will at least have the opportunity to strengthen our claim to 2300-2305 MHz."

ARRL Bulletin 73

October 16, 1996

ARRL Election Ballots

Attention ARRL members in the Central, Hudson, New England, Northwestern, Roanoke, Rocky Mountain, and Southwestern Divisions. Ballots have been mailed to all ARRL full members in these divisions who were members as of September 10. If you are eligible to receive a ballot but have not received one by October 26, you may request a replacement from the Secretary, ARRL, 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111. Completed ballots must be received by the independent auditor overseeing the balloting no later than noon Friday, November 15.

Candidates are:
Central Vice
Director, Mike
Hoshiko, W9CJW,
and Howard S.
Huntington,

K9KM; Hudson Director, Frank Fallon, N2FF, and Richard Sandell, WK6R; Hudson Vice Director, J. P. Kleinhaus, AA2DU, and Peter J. Malvasi, WB2BYQ; New England Director, Bill Burden, WB1BRE, and Tom Frenaye, K1KI; New England Vice Director, Don Haney, KA1T, and Hal Offutt, K8HVT; Northwestern Director, Mary Lou Brown, NM7N, and Mary Elizabeth Lewis, W7QGP; Roanoke Director, John Kanode, N4MM, and Reed Whitten, AB4W; Rocky Mountain Director, Gunnar Carlson, AE4W, and Marshall Quiat, AG0X; and Southwestern Director, Fried Heyn, WA6WZO, and Glenn T. Webb, W6FP.

ARRL Bulletin 72

October 9, 1996

Amateur Radio Week

President Bill Clinton has declared this week, October 7 to October 13, as an Amateur Radio Week. The White House today faxed a copy of the president's message to ARRL member Darlana Mayo, KB2EPU, of Mt. Vernon, New York, who's been working with the White House for several months to get the declaration. Mayo said she wanted the president to "be aware of our value to the community—particularly in emergencies." Mayo--a ham for 10 years--is a member of ARES and RACES, and serves as an assistant director and an assistant emergency coordinator in the Hudson Division.

Here's the text of the White House declaration, which was signed by President Clinton:

Warm greetings to everyone observing October 7 through 13, 1996, as Amateur Radio Week.

NETS
Sunday 0800L
3.855MHz USB
&
Thursday 1900L
145.41 Repeater



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63

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In the past century, the medium of radio has changed the way we live and the way we view our world, and Amateur Radio operators have played a vital role in this communications phenomenon. Sharing knowledge and technological expertise, connecting computers via radio equipment, and linking people all across the globe, ham radio operators have helped to make our world a true global village. But even more important, they have provided a crucial lifeline of relief in times of disaster and hardship, ensuring that hope and help are on the way to those in need.

Amateur Radio Week offers us a welcome opportunity to thank our nation's amateur radio operators for their commitment to excellence and their willingness to work for the well-being of others.

Best wishes for a wonderful week.

Mayo is hoping to get the White House to schedule a formal presentation of the declaration, sometime after the elections.

ARRL Bulletin 71

October 9, 1996

IARU meeting Part 2

(Continued from Part 1)

8. The council received a report from the Future of the Amateur Service Committee (FASC). The Committee has completed a review of comments on its initial discussion document and is preparing a further paper on the subject of possible revisions to Article S25 of the international radio regulations, which is expected to be considered at WRC-99.

9. An extensive report on the utility of beacon stations in the Amateur Service was received from an ad hoc committee, and recommendations adopted.

10. The Ad Hoc Communications Planning Committee submitted a detailed report, which recommended increased emphasis on explaining the work of the IARU. A Public Relations Committee will be appointed to carry out this work.

11. The council reappointed to new terms the international coordinators and advisers who report to it on specialized areas of interest. They are: Robert E. Knowles, ZLIBAD, IARU Monitoring System, John G. Troster, W6ISQ, IARU Beacon Project, Hans van de Groenendaal, ZS5AKV, IARU Satellite Adviser, and Christian M. Verholt, OZ8CY, IARU EMC Adviser.

12. The council reversed its previous decision to decouple its meetings from regional conferences, and decided that its next regular meeting would be held in Beijing, China, September 13-15, 1997, following the Region 3 conference.

13. The council confirmed that the theme for World Amateur Radio Day, September 20, 1997, will be "35 Years of Amateur Radio in Space."

14. The International Secretariat reported on the status of the IARU Web site, <http://www.iaru.org>, which is now functionally independent of the ARRLWeb site. The three regional organizations announced plans to establish Web sites of their own, linked to that of the IARU and of those member societies in the respective regions that have established a Web presence.

The members of the Administrative Council are IARU President W1RU, Vice President VK3KI, Secretary W4RA, and regional representatives PA0LOU, SP5FM, VE3CDM, YV5BPG, 9M2SS, and HL1IFM. Additional regional observers invited to be present were 6W1KI, ZS5AKV, VP9IM and JJ1OEY.

ARRL Bulletin 70

October 9, 1996

IARU meeting Part 1

The Administrative Council of the International Amateur Radio Union met in Tel Aviv, Israel, October 6-8, after the IARU Region 1 conference there. The council took the following actions:

1. After consultation with the International Secretariat, the council identified the ITU meetings during the coming year that require IARU

representation, and the president announced the appointment of representatives.

2. The council agreed on instructions to be given to the IARU 1997 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-97) delegation. The International Secretariat will update this material as new information becomes available. The delegation will consist of IARU Vice President Michael Owen, VK3KI, Wojciech Nietyksza, SP5FM, and Larry Price, W4RA.

3. The council adopted a budget for 1997-1999, as submitted by the International Secretariat. The budget provides for financial contributions from the three regional organizations to defray a portion of the expenses that are assumed by the International Secretariat beyond its constitutional obligation.

4. The council received a comprehensive report from the 7 MHz Strategy Committee, and updated the strategies guiding IARU preparations for the possible consideration of related allocations issues at WRC-99. The approved action plan will be distributed to member societies.

5. The council updated the IARU Strategic Plan for the Development of Amateur Radio. In recognition of the special circumstances in Africa, the council created a special committee under the chairmanship of Hans van de Groenendaal, ZS5AKV, to develop a plan to marshal global resources to enhance the position of Amateur Radio in Africa.

6. The council reviewed and updated present and anticipated future requirements for radio spectrum allocations to the Amateur and Amateur Satellite Services, particularly with regard to the low-frequency (LF) range, the 7-MHz band, the lower VHF range, and the microwave allocations.

7. The council began planning for IARU participation in the next world TELECOM (Geneva, 1999). The council also received reports from Regions 1 and 3 on their preparations for Amateur Radio

participation in Asia TELECOM 97 in Singapore and Africa TELECOM 98 in South Africa, which is being organized by the respective regions in accordance with IARU policy.

(Continued in Part 2)

ARRL Bulletin 67 September 27, 1996

MARS to drop all CW nets

All CW nets and other CW activity in the Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) have been ordered to cease operation effective October 1, 1996. After that time, no CW nets or other CW activity will be allowed on any DOD MARS frequencies. A final MARS CW message will be transmitted simultaneously on Army, Navy and Air Force MARS frequencies at 1300, 1530 and 1700 UTC on September 30. MARS members may earn a certificate for correct copy of the final message.

ARRL Bulletin 66 September 26, 1996

International ops news

The FCC has proposed amending the Amateur Radio rules to make it easier for hams holding a European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) radio-amateur license or an International Amateur Radio Permit (IARP) from certain countries in Europe and the Americas to operate during short visits to the US. If finally approved, hams would be able to operate for short periods in participating countries without first obtaining another license or permit from the host country.

The FCC says the arrangement is intended to make it easier for US hams to operate stations temporarily in several countries in Europe and Central and South America. Likewise, hams from those countries would be allowed to operate in stations in places where the FCC regulates ham radio. "We believe that US participation in both the CEPT agreement and the CITEL/Amateur Convention would benefit US amateur operators who travel to Europe and to the Americas," the FCC said in its discussion of WT Docket 96-188.

Operating authority by CEPT or IARP holders in the US would be for "up to 180 days within the preceding five years." The two classes of CEPT licenses would correspond either to Amateur Extra or Technician class. Resident aliens or US citizens could not operate in the US under a CEPT license or IARP.

Last year, ARRL petitioned the FCC to implement the CITEL/Amateur Convention. The League also asked the Commission to acknowledge arrangements to be made between the ARRL and the Department of State to issue IARP documents to US citizens for use in other CITEL countries. The FCC has asked the State Department to apply for participation in the CEPT Agreement as a non-CEPT country and expects the agreement to be concluded this year.

Comments on the proposal are due December 13, 1996 and reply comments by January 13, 1997. E-mail comments should mention "WT Docket No 96-188" on the subject line and should be addressed to mdepoint at fcc.gov. Include your full name and Postal Service mailing address in the message text. Mail written comments to: Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, Washington, DC 20554.

ARRL Bulletin 65 September 26, 1996

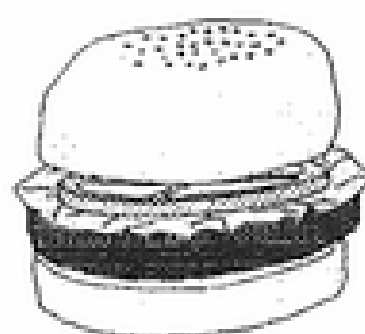
Gate 2 like a lottery

September 23, 1996, was a momentous day for the thousands of FCC Extra Class licensees who decided to enter what amounts to a call sign lottery--otherwise known as Gate 2 of the FCC's vanity call sign program. To paraphrase the old saw, you pay your 30 dollars and takes your chances. But, patience. Don't be surprised if that license bearing the new call sign doesn't show up for two to three weeks or longer, even if your Form 610V was among the first to arrive at the FCC

bank contractor's doorstep.

Some applicants--perhaps many--labored under the misconception that the earlier they got their Form 610V in to the Pittsburgh drop box (for Mellon Bank, the FCC's fiscal agent), the better their chances of getting their first choice. Tain't so. According to ARRL/VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, KB9NM, the FCC says it won't grant any applications until all applications (electronic or hard-copy) have been received. "What this means is all applications first will be entered into one big queue in no particular order in the FCC's computer," he said. Electronic filers using the system that the FCC inaugurated on September 23 stand the same chances as paper filers in the call sign assignment process, Jahnke emphasized. The FCC's on-line filing system does not yet permit on-line payment, so electronic filers still had to physically send their payments to the FCC's drop box in Pittsburgh, although the box was a different one than for paper applications with payment attached.

Jahnke explains that no application will carry a time of receipt, and everything that showed up in the correct Post Office box between 12:01 AM on Saturday, September 21, and 12:59 PM on Monday, September 23, will be considered day-one receipts and will go into the computer as such. The FCC says it won't start to grant new call signs until all applications for a given day are entered--whether they were filed on paper or electronically. When the FCC starts granting new call sign requests, they will be done in random order, so it could be a few weeks before your application is granted.



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"Think of it as a lottery drawing," Jahnke said. "The (FCC computer) 'arm' will reach in and grab applications until the queue is empty."

Just how many Gate 2 applications the FCC ultimately will receive is a matter of speculation. Original FCC plans called for running off 25,000 Form 610V copies for the entire vanity program. Later, the Commission upped the tally by nearly a factor of 10. Jahnke said the ARRL alone has distributed up to 20,000 vanity call sign application packages, including direct replies to SASEs, electronic requests and distributions at hamfests and conventions.

ARRL Bulletin 64
September 19, 1996

On-line vanity call sign

An electronic version of the Amateur Station Vanity Call Sign Request Form 610V will be available September 23, 1996, on the Internet at the Federal Communications Commission Wireless Telecommunications Bureau home page, <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb>, under Amateur Radio-Interactive Vanity Call Sign. Detailed filing instructions are available by clicking on the item number on the Internet form.

Electronic payment is not yet available. Applicants must mail a completed FCC Form 159, FCC Remittance Advice, with payment to Federal Communications Commission, Box 358994, Pittsburgh, PA 15259-5994. Note that this is a different Post Office box and ZIP code than for vanity requests and payments using hard-copy forms.

For technical assistance, call the FCC Technical Support Group at 202-414-1250. For general application assistance, call the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Consumer Assistance staff at 800-322-1117.

ARRL Bulletin 63
September 17, 1996

WA2LQQ, SK

Former AMSAT-NA president and QST columnist and author Vern "Rip" Riportella, WA2LQQ, of Warwick, New York, died September 13, 1996, of an apparent heart attack. He was 52. A former US Air Force officer, Riportella was the third president of AMSAT-NA and served from 1984 until 1987, and he's credited with being a prime mover behind OSCARs 10 and 13. "Rip" served for a time as QST's Amateur Satellite Communications column editor and wrote several articles for QST on satellites. He also founded the AMSAT Satellite Report (now the OSCAR Satellite Report).

In more recent years, he was involved in the installation and upgrading of packet radio equipment aboard the Russian space station, Mir. Services will be private. His wife, Ellen, survives. Condolences may be sent in care of the Strong-Basile Memorial Chapel, 75 Main St., Warwick, NY 10990 or to the family's mailing address, Box 177, Warwick, NY 10990.

Say what?

By David Barton, AF6S

When you travel, you may worry about having difficulty with a foreign language. But many inhabitants of foreign places have at least as much difficulty saying what they mean to English - speaking tourists. The resulting levity on your part can enliven your vacation experience. Consider these gems:

- Mayorcan hotel sign advertising its cleaning service: "Drop your trousers here for best results."
- On a breakfast menu in Argentina: "Revolting eggs."
- Detour sign in Kyushi, Japan: "Stop, Drive sideways."
- Rome laundry: "Ladies, leave your clothes here and spend the afternoon having a good time."
- Dentist in Hong Kong: "Teeth extracted by latest Methodists."
- Vienna hotel: "In case of fire, do your utmost to alarm the hotel porter."
- An Austrian ski resort: "Not to perambulate the corridors in the hours of repose in the boots of ascension." (Rather poetic, don't you agree? -- AF6S)
- A hotel elevator in Paris: "Please leave your values at the front desk."
- In a Belgrade hotel elevator: "To move the cabin, push button for wishing floor. If the cabin should enter more persons, each one should press a number of wishing floor. Driving is then going alphabetically by national order."
- Hotel menu in Warsaw: "Salad a firm's own make; limpid red beet soup with cheesy dumplings in the form of finger; roasted duck let loose; beef rashers beaten up in the country people's fashion."

Collected from various Internet sources

from October 1996 ARNS Bulletin David Barton, AF6S, Editor

1631 SE 15th
677-9001



Skyline Restaurant
"country cooking"

Bryan, Cindy, Jennifer and Jessica

Amateur Radio Newsline

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FEMA TO FCC: NO SHARING OF 2 METERS AND 70 CM

The Federal Emergency Management Agency better known as FEMA is saying no to sharing or reallocating the 2 meters and 70 centimeter ham bands to Low Earth Orbiting Satellites. In a letter to the FCC task force currently evaluating new spectrum for use by LEO satellites, FEMA Manager Paul Reed, tells the committee that his agency opposes any such change.

Reed says that Amateur Radio operators have a history of supporting state and local government emergency operations by providing needed communications. He says that many local communities served by ham radio have extremely limited resources and would be without any form of back-up communications without Amateur Radio.

Reed says that FEMA has been in contact with its state and local emergency management partners across the nation. That it is their belief that authorizing access to the mobile satellite service in the 2 meter and 70 centimeter bands will seriously degrade the ability of these groups to support their public service requirements.

The FEMA Manager ends his letter by strongly urging the FCC task force to remove both of these ham bands from any further consideration as a new home for Low Earth Orbiting Satellites. He says to leave them for use by ham radio and its emergency service partners, nationwide.

MITNICK PLEADS NOT GUILTY

An update on convicted computer hacker Kevin David Mitnick, N6NHG. In a court appearance a few days after he was indicted, Mitnick entered a not guilty plea to new charges that he illegally gained entry to computer systems, pilfered

millions of dollars worth of software and caused damage to the systems.

Mitnick appeared before Judge Marianna Pfaelzer and entered a not guilty plea on all twenty five counts of computer and wire fraud, possessing unlawful access devices and intercepting electronic messages. According to court documents, the companies affected by Mitnick's alleged activities included Novell, Nokia, NEC, Motorola, Fujitsu and the University of Southern California.

The thirty three year old ham is being held without bail at a federal detention facility in Los Angeles. He also has a new lawyer.

According to news reports, Mitnick is now represented by Donald C. Randolph. Randolph represented one of Charles Keating's top aides in the Lincoln Savings and Loan rip-off several years ago. Ironically, Marianna Pfaelzer is the same judge that sentenced Keating to twelve and a half years in federal prison after he was convicted.

WINDTRACKS 10

Another in a series of ham radio high altitude balloon flights is taking place as we go to air and this one will be on 6 meters.

Windtracks 10 is set and ready for launch on Saturday, October 12th. The balloon will be launched about 7:00 AM EST from the New Augusta Public Academy northwest of downtown Indianapolis.

Students from the middle school will handle the radio communications and tracking of the balloon as it ascends into suborbit before it parachutes back to earth.

The project will carry a crossband repeater with output on 444.85 MHz and also on 6m on 52.525 MHz. Amateur TV cameras will send live pictures back to earth while an onboard GPS packet unit transmits APRS data.

The launch scheduled for September was scrubbed due to rain.

We will let you know the results of Windtracks 10 in a future Newsline report.

GATE 2 VANITY UPDATE

Just how many Gate 2 Vanity Call Sign applications the FCC ultimately will receive is still a matter of speculation. Original FCC plans called for running off 25,000 Form 610V copies for the entire vanity program. Later, the Commission upped the tally by nearly a factor of 10.

The ARRL says that it alone has distributed up to 20,000 vanity callsign application packages. This includes direct replies to SASEs, electronic requests and distributions at hamfests and conventions.

HAM RADIO AND MORE vs WWCR

Ham Radio and More -- the weekly ham radio talk show out of Phoenix, Arizona is no longer live on WWCR shortwave. According to show producer Len Winkler, KB7LPW, he has received a letter from Adam Locke, the operations manager of WWCR. In it, Locke says that the time formerly allotted to Ham Radio and More has been taken over by the religious broadcaster.

Lock tells Winkler that WWCR will continue to carry Ham Radio and More on tape delay on Mondays, at 09:00 UTC on 3.210 MHz and on Sundays, at 03:00 UTC on 3.215 mhz. Locke also says that if other time frees up, he will return Ham Radio and More to live broadcast. Meantime, you can hear the program live over broadcast radio stations across the United States and in Real Audio on the World Wide Web.

ARRL MEMBERSHIP GROWS

The ARRL says that its membership hit an all time record of 173,491 members in August. The previous all time high of 172,752 was reached in March 1995, just before a small dues increase took effect that caused a slight decline.

NEW INFO BRANCH MANAGER

The new ARRL Regulatory Information Branch supervisor is Tom Hogarty, KC1J. Hogarty was formerly the assistant contest manager. He replaces Norman Bliss, WA1CCQ, who recently completed his masters degree and accepted a position as a school librarian. Al Gordienko, KF2FB, has been named as the new assistant contest manager. He'd worked previously in the ARRL-VEC.

NWS AND HAM RADIO

If you're a ham interested in using your skills and equipment during emergencies, you may get a request for help from the federal government. The National Weather Service wants to make more use of hams.

Amateur radio communications was one of the topics at a mid-September Weather Service Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah. Among those invited to speak was Newsline's David Black, KB4KCH.

These are times of big changes for the National Weather Service. The agency is undergoing what's called modernization. Some offices are closing, while others assume more responsibility. Offices which used to issue weather warnings for roughly a dozen counties may have to cover more than twice that number under the new plans.

At Salt Lake City, meteorologists from eight western states discuss establishing and strengthening amateur radio communications networks. Paul Flatt, KC7OVO, is a Weather Service warning coordination meteorologist.

"In Tucson, Arizona, we started the year with about 40 ham radio operators as Skywarn spotters. I think we are up to 75 or 80 at this point in time. I would like to see that grow higher, to put an upper number on it, I couldn't really do that. To cover the area so the entire portion of where I'm at, southeastern Arizona, has some ham radio operators somewhere nearby." KC7OVO

The Conference addresses issues including how to establish spotter groups, frequencies and resources available, and the various types of emergency communications groups including RACES and the Amateur Radio Emergency Service. Rich Douglas is the Conference organizer.

"We could do a lot more and hope to do a lot more and are trying to plan to do a lot more with amateur radio. I would say three or four years ago we did not take advantage of this wonderful opportunity. Now we are trying to organize ham radio

networks. Working with our offices, each of the 24 offices, for about two or three years most of our offices have installed radio equipment. Our Regional Director, Dr Tom Byer supports this program. And he not only says he does, he does with his budget. He makes sacrifices in his budget to make sure we start gettin' some equipment." Douglas

Concern is expressed over the ability of hams to provide emergency communications services if their frequencies are invaded by commercial users. Several meteorologists say they will write letters opposing possible allocations to a commercial satellite service said to be considering the 2 meter and 440 MHZ amateur bands.

Conference attendees learn about amateur equipment and radio systems, packet and amateur television. Even with Doppler radar and other high tech equipment, hams are needed to help confirm conditions forecasters often suspect but have no proof exist. Again, Rich Douglas:

"First of all, they're very dedicated people. We have found they are among the most reliable group that we can count on. And of course the advantage of instant communications by way of a radio." Douglas

The Weather Service continues to install amateur radio equipment in various offices, as the agency moves ahead with plans to make more use of ham radio in serving the public.

Skywarn storm spotting isn't the only amateur service that forecasters learned about during the Conference. Attention also focused on using ham radio for backup communications when normal circuits fail. That's exactly what happened in early September when Hurricane Fran knocked out phone lines to Weather Service offices in North Carolina.

HAM-ASTRONOMER HONORED

Some names in the news. First is Dr James M. Moran, K1AKE, who has been awarded the 1996 Karl G. Jansky

Lectureship by Associated Universities Inc. and the National Radio Astronomy Observatory. The Jansky Lectureship is awarded for outstanding contributions to the advancement of astronomy. Moran, a professor of astronomy at Harvard University, is best known for his application of the techniques of very long baseline interferometry to the study of astronomical masers.

KD4WUJ WINS COUNTRY MUSIC AWARD

And congratulations to entertainer Patty Loveless, KD4WUJ on her first Country Music Association Female Vocalist of the Year award. According to news reports, Patty received a standing ovation at last week's 30th Annual Country Music Awards presentation held at the famed Grand Ole Opry in Nashville, Tennessee.

Last year, Patty Loveless made history when she became only the second woman to win the Country Music Association's prestigious Album of the Year award for her album When Fallen Angels Fly.

Both Patty and her husband / manager Emory Gordy, W4WRO, are active hams.

HUDSON DIVISION CONVENTION

On the convention scene, the semi-annual ARRL Hudson Division Convention takes place on Sunday October 20th at the Huntington Hilton Convention Center in Melville, New York. Melville is out on Long Island and the convention will feature commercial exhibits, seminar sessions, VE testing and guest speakers including ARRL First Vice President Steve Mendelsohn, WA2DHF.

This one day convention happens only every other year. With Vice President Mendelsohn serving on the League's WRC 99 committee, this is not a show to miss.

For more information please contact the Radio Central Amateur Radio Club in care of Neil Heft, KC2KY at his callbook address.

DXCC UPDATE

In DX, the ARRL's DXCC Desk reports the number of unprocessed applications at

the end of August was down to 464 representing 27,814 QSL cards. The desk received 376 applications for endorsements and new awards during July, and 655 applications during August.

Also in August, DXCC Manager Bill Kennamer, K5FUV, traveled to Tokyo, Japan. There he checked DXCC cards at Ham Fair. Kennamer returned with over 200 DXCC applications, representing over 14,000 QSLs.

AMATEUR RADIO LO-JACK

And finally, most people are familiar with the Lo-Jack system for recovering stolen vehicles. Amateur radio operators have been experimenting with a similar system called APRS which really isn't designed to recover stolen cars, but certainly could be used in that mode.

Now, the San Diego California Responder newsletter reports that recently, as Scotty Leikett, W8KXX, was going to bed, he looked out his window and noticed that his APRS-equipped car was missing. One glance at his computer terminal showed that the vehicle was across town and moving! He notified the San Diego Police Department, but the dispatcher would not believe that an owner had the ability to track his stolen car by radio.

When the policeman arrived, Scotty explained the ARPS system and showed him the car's symbol with the unique amateur call on an APRS city map. The officer relayed the precise location to the police cruisers.

As it happened, the stolen car and a police cruiser were stopped at the same red light with the thieves were still in the car.

Surprised at the officers' sudden attention, the culprits made an illegal left turn and the chase was on. Soon after the crooks abandoned the car and escaped, leaving a hand gun behind.

The car was recovered without major damage thanks to ARPS and ham radio.

THANK YOU ALL

Before we go we want to pause for a moment to thank the worldwide ham radio community for its support of Newsline for the past nineteen and a quarter years. For almost two decades we have had the honor of bringing you news and information that we hope has helped you to understand the service a bit better and to enjoy it even more.

No, not every story we report is good news. Sometimes what we detail brings the same tears to our eyes as it does to yours.

Unfortunately, not all news is good news and as the messenger it is our job to present it in as objective a way as we can. We do not succeed every time, but we can assure you that we do try.

So as we close Newscast number 1000 and head to number 1001, we again say thank you -- thank you for supporting us and giving us the drive to continue. Your messages and letters and ongoing financial support tell us that what we do is appreciated.

And for this week, and for the first 1000 weeks, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline. You can write to us at:

NEWSLINE
P. O. Box 660937
Arcadia, California 91066

FCC FINE AGAINST COFFIELD REAFFIRMED

The FCC is holding then line on a fine that it issued against a Californian for operating without a license. The FCC has denied an application for review of a \$2,000 fine against Danny Lee Coffield of Lakewood, California. This, for unlicensed operation in spectrum adjacent to the 11 meter Class D Citizens Band.

The FCC Compliance and Information Bureau had leveled the fine last year and affirmed it earlier this year. Coffield was cited for operating an unlicensed transmitter on 27.7744 MHz back in 1993. Since that time, he obtained an Amateur Radio license.

The FCC says that it had warned Coffield of the potential penalties for unlicensed operation prior to citing him on September 29, 1993. The FCC has not indicated whether Coffield's ham license, issued in 1995, would be in jeopardy.

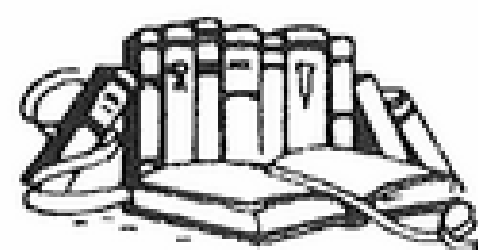
The Commission acted on the review application on September 19th.

LIKE A LOTTERY

The FCC is handling Gate 2 of the vanity call sign program almost as if it was a lottery. Gate 2 opened on September 23rd and within days the agency was deluged with requests for new calls. As of August 26th, the FCC had received 339 applications filed electronically and 4148 Paper.

The FCC says it won't start to grant new call signs until all applications for a given day are entered, whether they were filed on paper or electronically. When the agency finally starts granting new call sign requests, they will be done in random order. A lottery of sorts.

The agency also says to be patient. It could be a few weeks before your application is granted.



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For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF at our editors desk, and reporters worldwide, we at Newsline say 73 and we thank you for listening.



VHF Club
NEWS
W5LOW
Elmer Goekler Memorial Station

Club minutes of the October 1996 meeting

The Oklahoma Central VHF ARC held it's regular meeting at "Ashley's Country Cookin", S. E. 15th at I-40 on 19 October 1996. Those attending were the members, spouses, and friends who usually show up see, their friends and have lunch.

The meeting was called to order by Ken, KF5JS vice - president, because president Jackolyn, KA5ENU had a prior commitment. The club treasurer, Ellard, W5KE gave the treasurer's report which was accepted and approved as presented.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as printed in the Collector and Emitter. It was agreed that for the sign off a plain 73 would suffice.

There was no new business presented. Under old business it was mentioned that at the last meeting there had been some comment about the Club's station memorial call sign. It was moved and seconded that the current call be retained, and the motion carried.

C. O. R. A. report was given by Jim, N5BEQ. Part of the info was that Brad, KJ0W was elected CORA vice - president. Jim also handed out some printed goodies, including some perpetual calendars. The meeting adjourned with about half of those present talking to the Texoma hamfest.

73,

J. R.

Up - Coming Hamfest / Swapmeets

November 2, 1996 - Enid Ham Fest sponsored by Enid Amateur Radio Club. Dealers, VE testing,, Free Coffee and

Doughnuts. For more information contact Fred, N5QJX (405) 242-3551

December 14, 1996 - Midwest City Swap Meet sponsored by Choctaw Amateur Radio Club. From 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon. Location Midwest City Community Center. For more information contact Bill, N9SQV at 390-1514.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

VE exams on 3rd Monday of each month sponsored by C.O.R.A. 1800 @ Salvation Army HQ at NW 50th and N. Penn, Oklahoma City.

VE exams on 3rd Saturday of each month are held at 0900 in Math Science building at Rose State College in Midwest City.

VE exams on 4th Tuesday of each month are held at 1800 in the Shawnee Public Library, 101 N. Philadelphia.

VE exams on 2nd Saturday of each month sponsored by SCARS are held at 1000 at the American Red Cross in on Westheimer Airport in Norman. Contact Jim Copeland, NW0K at 329-1681 for more information.

VE exams on 4th Saturday of each month are held at 1830 at the Altus Vo-Tech in Altus, OK. Contact Rick Alderete, AA5UU for details.

VE exams on the 2nd Sunday of odd numbered months sponsored by the Stillwater ARC at 1500 in the OSU Engineering North Building, Room 316. Contact Ken, K5KC (405) 377-7586 for details.

VE exams on the 1st Saturday of each month at 1430 in the Vinita City Hall sponsored by Northeast Oklahoma Radio Assn.

VE exams on the 1st Sunday of each month at the American Red Cross 6th and Lincoln for more information call Jim at 232-2299.

Hams from around the central Oklahoma area meet Fridays at 7:00 for supper,

coffee, friendship and overall story telling at the Skyline Restaurant on 15th and Eastern in Oklahoma City.

On the Air

Listings of Nets on local repeaters or sponsored by CORA members:

ARES - Oklahoma County Thursdays @ 8:00 p.m. on 146.22/82.

6 meter check in 52.525 Mhz simplex

Packet check-in on 145.07

Salvation Army - Second Saturday of the month @ 8:00 a.m. on 146.22/82.

HF 3900kHz; Packet 145.07

AMTOR @ 8:30 a.m. 14.064mHz

Night Owl - Daily @ 10:30 p.m. on 146.07/67 with alternate 146.325/925.

OKC Swap-n-Shop - Saturdays @ 10:00 a.m. on 146.22/82.

Geritol - Daily @ 8:00 a.m. on 145.41 minus input.

Edmond Info - Mondays @ 8:00 p.m. on 147.135/735.

QCWA Chp 63 VHF - Thursdays @ 7:00 p.m. on 145.41 minus input.

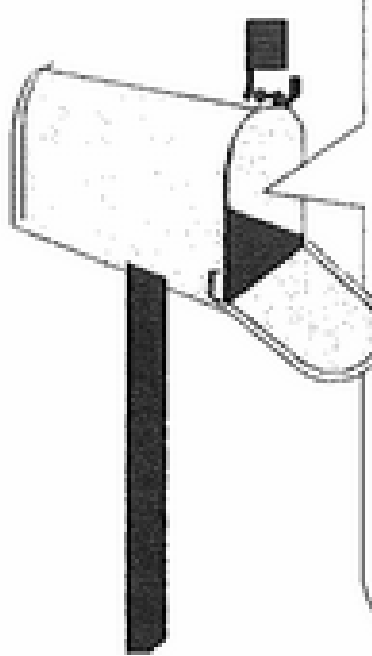
QCWA Chp 63 HF - Sundays @ 8:00 on 3856.5kHz.

Wheatstraw - Wednesdays @ 9:00 p.m. on 146.01/61.

Purcell - Mondays @ 8:00 on 145.19 minus input.

Cimmaron - Tuesdays @ 9:00 p.m. on 145.45 minus input.

YL Net - Tuesdays @ 8:00 p.m. on 147.09 plus input.



Send Articles and stories to C&E at the following:

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packet:

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Please fill out all the information on the slip. Zip +4 zip codes are needed.

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Signatures are not required but requested to verify that you are aware of you subscribing to the C&E.

Thank you for your assistance

VE TESTING AT HAM HOLIDAY '96

Eleven new hams, and five upgrades set the tone for VE testing at this year's Ham Holiday. Although this was the first session for this particular ARRL VE Team, the 15 volunteers did a fine job of getting people in and out of the session with little lost motion.

Seven candidates took their code tests with five passing. Sixteen candidates took the Novice written with 9 passing. The rate was a little better for Technician with 16 testing and 11 passing. The numbers were smaller, but the passing rates better for General with 3 testing and passing; 2 testing and passing Advanced; and 2 trying Extra where there was a 50% passing rate. Congratulations to all who attempted either a new license or an upgrade! For those who missed, don't give up!

New license breakdown: Novice 1;
Tech 7; Tech Plus 3; General 3;
Advanced 2; Extra 0.

Jim, NWOK, who headed up the testing effort, expressed his appreciation to all the VE's who came out to help. "If you've studied hard to get a new license or upgrade, waiting around really adds to frustrations. I think most of the candidates were impressed with the way our team did its job. I agonized about it, but finally decided to make critique sheets

available to the folks taking a test. I'm especially pleased that there was only had one negative comment which attests to the professionalism of our volunteers! Thanks guys!".

Sorry, found this report hidden on the hard drive. Was in the process of house cleaning when I found it.

The Editor

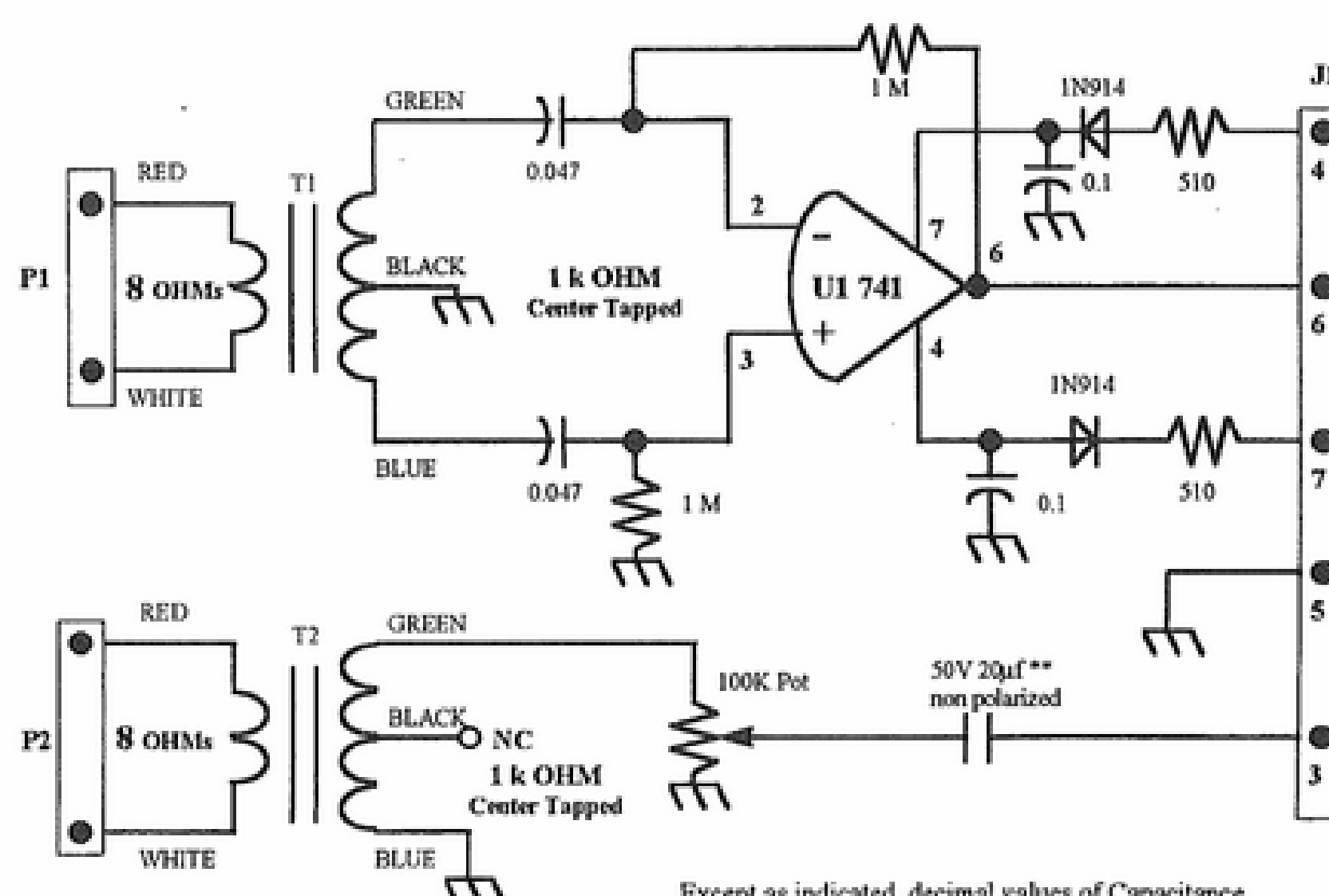
Slow Scan TV Decoder

Earlier this spring at an OCAPA meeting a hand drawn schematic of a slow scan TV decoder was being passed around. I have cleaned up the drawing and now

have it on disk and so can reproduce it. If someone has the specifics on using this circuit, we would love to print the particulars here in the C&E for all to see.

I do know it uses common parts from any supplier and does work quite well according to my sources. I have not have artwork worked up to make your own printed circuit boards and would be interested in that also.

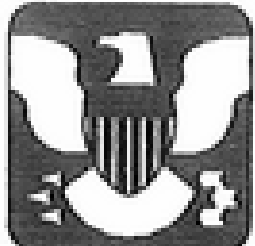
Hope to see you on the air exploring another facet of a fantastic hobby. Get involved and learn the possibilities that are present in amateur radio.



P1= From Speaker output
P2= To Mic input
J1= Comm port on Computer (9 pin shown)

Except as indicated, decimal values of Capacitance are in microfarads (μf); others in pf.
Resistance values are in ohms; k=1,000 ; M=1,000,000
** 2 10 μf capacitors in parallel

October 27 to November 30, 1996 Schedule of Events:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	31 	1	2 10:00 a.m. Ada ARC
3	4	5 Voting Day 	6	7 7:00p.m. Aeronautical Center 7:30 p.m. CARA	8	9 9:30 a.m. SCARS 10:00 a.m. SCARS VE Exams
10 2:30 p.m. Wheatstraw	11 Veteran's 	12	13	14 7:00 p.m. Altus Area ARC	15	16 9:00 a.m. VE Exams (RSC) 11:00 a.m. VHF Club
17 2:00 p.m. EARS	18 6:00 p.m. CORA VE Exams 7:00 p.m. Choctaw ARC	19 7:30 p.m. OCAPA	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 7:00 p.m. Shawnee VE Exams 7:30 p.m. CORA	27	28 THANKSGIVING DAY	29 C&E Deadline 	30



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