

Collector & Emitter

A CORA Publication

January 1998

Volume 24, Number 1

Issue 275

50¢

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Effective 1 Jan 98

CW Learning Tips

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Santa Claus

An Engineer's Perspective



The Traffic Hound

Indecent Language

Recordings Wanted

Next CORA Meeting

January 27, 1998

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, N5PJ

Dear Subscriber:

PLEASE help us keep your information up to date. What time, where, when, who are your officers, editors, and their phone numbers. Check your entry, it can be changed. If there appears to be a mistake, check with your club officials. We can't do a thing about it if you don't let us know. Below is a sample label:

97/12

JOHN E. DOE, KA5ABC

1234 SW 56th STREET

RADIOVILLE, OK 74321-9876

The "97/12" means the year/month C&E subscription expires.

Dear Secretary / Treasurer:

When you want a change of any sort to your membership, you must completely fill out a subscription slip. Watch for the date you received their funds and the date the subscription expires. Have your slips, or list of deletions submitted by the Deadline of each month. If there is anything about C&E subscriptions you need to know, please contact us.

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Collector and Emitter**P. O. Box 95942****Oklahoma City, OK 73143-5942**

1. Aeronautical Center ARC Meets: 1930L, 1st Thursday, FAA, S. MacArthur, OKC Pres.: Bob Kremer, WA9FCT 381-3182 VP: Chuck Bryant, KB5ZVZ 737-0423 Sec/Tr.: Brad Nelson, KJ0W 793-9470 Editor:	11. Edmond Amateur Radio Society Meets: Odd Months, 1400L, 3rd Sunday, St. John's the Baptist, Even Month, Dinner, 3rd Saturday Pres.: Jim Richardson, N5OHL 524-0456 VP: Steve Kuper, KC5RYT 722-5789 Sec: Sharon Thompson, KM5GV 844-6245 Treas.: Carl Shortt, KC5YKL 359-7135 Editor: Sharon Thompson, KM5GV 844-6245 E-mail: kc5orp@juno.com
2. Oklahoma Central VHF ARC Meets: 1130L, 2nd Thursday, Neighbor's Country Kitchen, 33 rd & N Classen, Oklahoma City Pres.: Jackelyn Olsen, K5ENU 842-2305 VP: Ken Eason, KP5JS 789-2200 Sec: John Dome, KB5WVE 842-3493 Treas.: Jim Speck, W5AI 842-3055 Editor:	14. Cimmaron Amateur Radio Assn. Meets: 1930L, 1st Thursday, WX5Y Playhouse 827 S. 13th, Fairview Pres.: John Medley, N5WVU 580-227-3534 VP: Kenneth Monahan, KB5SOM 580-227-3064 Sec: Dennis Painton, WK5V 580-764-3599 Treas.: Nadine Painton, N5FMH 580-764-3599 Editor: Kenneth Monahan, KB5SOM
4. Oklahoma City Autopatch Assn. Meets: 1930L, 3rd Tuesday, Salvation Army Bldg NW 50th and Penn, OKC (Back Door) Pres.: Loyd Hargrove, AB5I 391-5723 VP: Sam Binkley, KL7V 942-2600 Sec: Austin McCaskill, NE5O 755-6522 Treas.: D. C. Macdonald, K2GKK 672-4947 E-mail: ocapa@juno.com	15. South Canadian ARS Meets: 0930L, 2nd Saturday, Red Cross Bldg North OU Campus, Norman Pres.: Dennis McCarthy, KC5EVH 447-2012 VP: Don Byer, KJ5KB 321-1673 Sec: Del Ennis, KC5LKT 360-5837 Treas.: Jeff Wyke, KE5EB 329-6762
6. Altus Area Amateur Radio Assn. Meets: 1900L 2nd Thursday, Southwest Technology Center, Altus, OK Pres.: George Mayteyko, N1GM 266-3357 VP: John Mealer, AB5WQ 563-9252 Sec: Lil Town, KC5CNA 477-4027 Treas.: Travis Houska, KC5SRK 679-3816 Editor: Dave Locke, KC5SH 482-8625	17. Ada Amateur Radio Club Meets: 1000L, 1st Saturday, Salvation Army Bldg 115 N. Oak St., Ada, OK Pres.: Scott Renes, KD5AJL 436-1369 VP: Dwight Myers, N0RTW 436-4755 Sec: Danny Coffey, KM5LB 436-1271 Tr: Finis Hallmark, KC5YGB 384-5470
8. Choctaw Amateur Radio Club Meets: 1900L 3rd Monday, Eastern Oklahoma Co. Vo Tech, 4601 N. Choctaw Rd, Choctaw, OK Pres.: Duane Angles, KA5WRG 670-6163 VP: Mike McFarland, N5WNT 799-0612 Sec: Treas.: Ron Ernest, WB9DAF 769-3207 Editor:	18. Lawton Fort Sill ARC Meets: 1900L 1 st Tuesday, Great Plains Area Vo-Tech room 301, Worley Center. Pres.: Paul Wardell, N5PYD 492-5743 VP: Marl Ewell, KC5IZN 536-2777 Sec/Tr.: Paul Goulet, KC5CYY 250-4247 E-mail: w5ks@rli.net
9. Wheatstraw Amateur Radio Club Meets: 1430L, 2 nd Sunday, Location Varies Pres.: Ray Barnes, AB5Z 580-274-3334 VP: Joel Bennet, KK5XS 580-328-5213 Sec/Tr.: Joe Garland, WA5FLT 580-893-2660 Editor: Ralph Wilder, WA5PFF 580-623-5421	19. Tri-State Amateur Radio Group Meets: 1930L, 2nd Thursday, Woodward, OK Pres.: Duane Henderson, KC5NID 580-994-2223 VP: Jay Kruckenburg, KB5SOO 580-994-2751 Sec/Tr.: Larry Goodwin Sr. KC5NZC 580-886-2383 E-mail: W5OKT@unibuilt.com
10. Oklahoma DX Association Meets: Hamfests and as announced in C&E. Pres.: Bruce Burnette, K5PX 918-455-2599 VP: Dave Land, KD5FX 580-762-8616 VP: Craig Boyer, AH9B 405-771-5929 Sec/Tr.: Mark Byard, N5OGP 580-762-1966 Editor: Mark Byard, N5OGP 580-762-1966	Central Oklahoma Radio Amateurs Meets: 1930L, 4th Tuesday, Salvation Army Bldg NW 50th and Penn, OKC (BackDoor) Pres.: Harold Miller, KB1ZQ 672-7735 VP: Brad Nelson, KJ0W 793-9470 Sec: Forrest Rush, N5VWF 842-8486 Treas.: Perry Jenkins, N5PJ 354-5075 Editor: Harold Miller, KB1ZQ 672-7735 E-mail: n1lpn@swbell.net

Deadline for February 1998 Issue of *Collector and Emitter* is Friday, January 30, 1998. Send all Articles to *Collector and Emitter*, 4216 Spiva Drive Del City, OK 73115-4424 on 3 ½ inch floppy or e-mail to n1lpn@swbell.net. Articles received after the deadline may not be printed that month. Questions please do not hesitate to call - 405-672-7735 / 405-650-9963.

Central Oklahoma Radio Amateurs, Inc.

December CORA VE Session

On Monday December 15th- a mere 10 days before Christmas - the CORA VE session was conducted for the last time in 1997. A total of 14 exam sessions were held in 1997 as 12 sessions were held at the Salvation Army and 2 were conducted in Edmond at the EARS club station. As is the case each month the session was held on the third Monday of the month at 6:00 PM. A beautiful bright sunny day was followed by a comfortable evening with Christmas lights decorating the skyline of our fair city. What a beautiful sunset that evening transitioning into a breath taking full moon in the easterly sky. A good night for Volunteer Exams.

Results from the December sessions are as follows:

Elements given-3
Elements passed-1
Taking exams-2
Upgrades-1

Larry A. Whitely- Technician Theory
Upgraded to Technician

Congratulations to Mr. Whitely for his upgrade! We hope to see him and plenty others at the next CORA VE session. It will be held on Monday January 19th at 6:00 PM at the Salvation Army Divisional Headquarters which is located on the southwest corner of Penn and Northwest Expressway in OKC. Come and join the accommodating CORA VE team in January. Happy New Year!

73 de John-WB5SYT

From the President,

Well another year has gone by and I hope everyone had a Happy Holiday season. It is now time to get to work. For the past several months the CORA meetings were almost not worth having. Only 6 - 9 people showed up representing only 3 clubs max. This showing is unacceptable, folks.

We are in the process of hosting the Oklahoma ARRL Convention. We should have a full complement of people at all the meetings. "Well we don't start planning until January," is not an acceptable excuse this year. Linda and I have already started receiving e-mail and phone calls from vendors and persons wanting information on the convention. Some are asking questions that we have not decided as of yet.

We have been asked to put on a Wouff Hong this year so we need to locate 6 or more persons who have been already initiated into the ceremony, new comers are unable to perform this one. Coy Day, our ARRL Section Manager has the script and is willing to work with us, but we need volunteers to do this. I can't cause this will be my first one in the many years as a ham.

Publicity is a primary concern, where do we want to advertise and when. We need people to step forward and assist in this. Also this year we need to see about some activities for the non hams. There is a lot of planning and decisions to be made, but without people there to do it, it won't get done.

I am starting to feel burnout with amateur radio, also getting tired of asking for help and reminding people of the meetings and not having anyone show up. If the hams of Oklahoma want a hamfest here in Oklahoma City then get involved. Otherwise, we will call it even and I will put my time to better use, than getting

frustrated and upset. Its up to you, the member clubs of CORA to get involved.

I'm waiting to see what kind of turnout I get for the January 27, 1998 meeting before I decide whether to move on or not.

New FCC Form 610

The September 1997 version of the FCC Form 610 will be the only one acceptable to the FCC on or after January 1st, 1998. The new form includes the RF Safety certification also now required from every licensee. Forms can be downloaded at

<http://www.fcc.gov/formpage.html>
or
<ftp://ftp.fcc.gov/pub/Forms/Form610/>
or

FCC Fax-on-demand at (202) 418-0177.

Revised General Class Question Pool is released December 1, 1997. The question pool has been updated for content and to include the RF safety sub-element 10 (this sub-element is the source for five questions that will be added to the General examination. This new question pool will be the source for General class exam questions beginning July 1, 1998. The revised question pool can be downloaded from the ARRL website at:

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/pools.html>.

Test fee for 1998: The FCC has set \$6.39 as the maximum allowable fee for an amateur radio operators examination for 1998. The ARRL/VEC has set its 1998 test fee at \$6.35 and continues in 1998 its policy of not charging for examinations that consist only of Element 1A (5-wpm code) or Element 2 (Novice written) or both.

Jim Copeland, NW0K

Wanted

**Hams That have been to a Wouff Hong Ceremony
to Help and / or Put on a Ceremony at the
Oklahoma ARRL Convention.**

Chit-Chat

by Linda, NILPN

Are you a rock or a leaf?

I remember being asked this question on one of my college psychology finals and, at first, I thought my instructor had finally lost touch with reality. It took me a few minutes to truly see what the question was asking. I wonder how many of you can see it as well.

There are many ways to view this question and many ways of answering it as well. The key is "how do you see yourself compared to the world around you." Do you see yourself as a rock or as a leaf? More importantly, how do you wish others to see you. Actions speak louder than words ever will. The truth is always seen through our actions. Words are empty and meaningless if we do not make them a reality.

A rock is solid, stable and is used as the foundation in many building materials. Rock is a dependable material which will last a very long time if properly cared for. 'As sturdy as a rock,' is a common saying today to describe someone who is level headed and is always there for the rest of us. The only things that will wear down a rock is water and wind. A rock can be worn down until it becomes grains of sand. Those grains join other grains and become lost forever.

A leaf clings onto life by a thin lifeline connecting itself to the tree which it came from. Once the tree shuts down for the winter months, the leaf is set free. It spends it's last months on earth, floating and drifting without any control over where it will end up. You rarely hear of someone being called a leaf but I have met a few people who lived the life of a leaf. Unwilling to get involved, refusing to give of themselves freely unless there is something in it for them, uncaring excuses for human beings. They live in a very selfish world of their own making.

A new year is now before us and again we have a chance to begin fresh. Will you be a rock or a leaf in the coming year? Think about it!

Ham Holiday....

For the past few years, I stopped counting after my first year, we have been blessed with less than a dozen people who have worked hard and long to bring this ham community a yearly hamfest. Without these earthly angels, all have a very active life outside the ham community, we would never have a hamfest! This year will be the 25th Ham Holiday held in Oklahoma City Metro area. I am the all purpose grunt on the hamfest committee. Working on the hamfest is a thankless job. I do any job that needs doing or that someone else decided they did not want to do after all. I still manage to hold a Craft Class which last about 1 ½ hours on Friday evenings at the hamfest.

I handle calls from dealers, fleamarket people and hams wishing to attend our event. Last year I was woken out of a sound sleep at 5:45 am by the phone ringing. It was new ham in the area wanting to know about our hamfest, still half asleep I answered his questions. He did find me during the hamfest and gave me a hug for not hanging up on him. This year, I started receiving calls this past September about Ham Holiday, one call was from a major dealer in New England. E-Mail about our hamfest started coming in November 1997 requesting tickets. Jerry is our designer of our tickets and they are still a work in progress, should be ready sometime this spring. Between the newsletter and all that entails, CORA Meetings, ham club meetings, and Ham Holiday, I have very little time left to have a life beyond ham radio. I am so thankful our son Mike has been there behind the scenes to help with all the running around I must do for the newsletter and the hamfest. I help Hal with as much as I can because I am afraid to ask for help anymore from the ham community. I am so tired of the excuses and being turned down by those I once thought were friends and fellow hams.

I have learned the hard way that almost everyone 'wants' a hamfest and look forward to attending but are unwilling to help put it together. I have lost count of all the excuses I have been given. The most common two have been, 'I have been there and done that, let someone else do

it!' and, 'oh, I would help out and all but we are not going to be in town that weekend...' Another excuse which really hurts is, 'I have a life beyond ham radio, I got into it to have fun and enjoy it as a hobby, not to work!' The sad fact is that if we had more people willing to help, no one would be left to carry the majority of the load alone. But, I guess no one is willing to see that, it would mean they might have to get involved and maybe enjoy themselves.

I was always known as a crusader for 'lost causes' back home. I never learned to give up on a dream no matter how hopeless everyone told me it was for me to try. I am not bitter about helping with the newsletter nor with everything else we do for the ham community. I am sick of heart that no one is willing to step forward to help us. I guess, what keeps me going and giving of myself is that I truly believe in the concept of the newsletter, CORA and the hamfest.

I never dreamed back in June 1994 when Hal came home from a CORA Meeting and told me he had agreed to become temporary Editor of the C&E how much my life would change. CORA was about to fold and the newsletter had become a joke. He felt it was worth saving and so we put our hearts into breathing new life into both. Like the Phoenix, we rose from the ashes and flew toward the sun.

I have read every C&E published by CORA from cover to cover to learn about our history. Hal did research on finding the best computer programs he could find and we could afford to buy with our own money. We bought a new dot matrix printer in 1995 to print mailing labels on, again out of our own pockets, and all it was ever used for was the mailing labels for the C&E until it died in July 1997. I am saving up money once more so I can buy another dot matrix printer for mailing labels. (Labels printed on a dot matrix do not run when gotten wet and are cost effective. Ink jet labels run when exposed to moisture and the labels are too expensive.) We bought an ink jet printer about 2 years ago too using our own money. We use it for the proofs of the newsletter and to print monthly club

billing statements and letters to dealers for Ham Holiday.

We used our 1994 income tax return to have a computer custom built to meet the growing demands of CORA and the newsletter. We have attended classes at the post office to learn changes in postal regulations and continue having to attend meetings when a change is made. We have worked along with Perry, with a very understanding and fantastic accountant to bring CORA into the 90's and to receive our Federal Tax Exempt status and number. Since We have become a part of CORA, the club membership had doubled. When we started we were mailing the newsletter to about 390 persons and we are now at almost 800 a month.

The newsletter is a work in progress each month and it is really frustrating when a club misses a deadline and blames me for not printing their stuff. I have no control over the club reporters and would welcome the clubs in question to offer their assistance to their club reporter to make sure their club news is sent in on time. Hal spends on an average of four to five days working on putting the newsletter together. Mike or I take the finished copy to the printers and pick the C&E's up when they are ready. I will spend about 4 ½ hours at our dinning room table, labeling, counting, banding, and sorting about 800 issues of the newsletter each month. Hal does the paperwork for the post office while I'm labeling and is done in time to bag the newsletters and take them to the van. Off to the Post Office we go to mail the newsletter, with fingers crossed hoping they have not changed the rules on us again, and hoping that dear Perry made a deposit into the postal account so we will have enough money to mail.

I could continue writing and tell you what all we do for Ham Holiday. How we have attended other hamfests across the state and as far as Kansas and Texas, all to find ways to improve ours here and what not to do. We pay for all our trips as well as our tickets out of our own pockets. I have met some really nice people over the years going to different hamfests. There is one group I always look for at any hamfest we

go to, the Wheatstraw Ladies in their Shiny Red Jackets. They are special! There is also a dealer I seek out too to get a warm hug from. He is from the city and I think very highly of him, his wife and daughter plus the rest of his family.

My point is, I am not ashamed of all we have done nor what we have given up to be able to bring the newsletter and CORA were it is today. I am very concerned. Like a rock exposed too long to the elements and given no protection, it soon becomes no longer a rock. If no one steps forward and helps, cares, and is willing to shoulder some of the responsibilities we have been carrying, and actually stand by their word....This rock may become too weathered to be of use to anyone soon. I need help! I think it is time for others to share in the joys and frustrations of Ham Holiday and if I can pull it off, anyone could!

Until next month...

CW Learning Tips

The following is an excerpt from a column Joe AA1KF wrote for his local Central Maine newsletter. Hope you can find some good CW learning tips:

- 1) Go by sound - don't picture dots and dashes - react to dits and dahs.
- 2) Practice regularly - set aside at least two 15 minute practice times per day.
- 3) Don't over practice - there's a fine line here - don't cross it or you'll lose ground.
- 4) Don't anticipate characters.
- 5) Use a quiet setting in order to concentrate. Try headphones.
- 6) Sending will also help you receive.
- 7) Tapes - they all work if you use them - listen to learn.
- 8) Listen to operators on high frequency bands. A short wave rig with a BFO oscillator, even a portable, (under \$150.00) will work.
- 9) WIAW CW practice on 3.581 MHz daily schedule in QST - listen at two speeds (wpm) faster than your present copy speed.

10) After you pass the 5 wpm exam - get on the air.

11) Code tutors - size of a deck of cards fits in you pocket for practice anytime.

12) Find someone "in your boat" - send and receive using practice oscillators.

13) Record your own sending.

14) Tap Out road signs while driving.

15) If you miss a character, let it go, Eeny Meany Miney Moe!

17) As you pick up speed - let a couple characters go by - try too copy the word.

18) Stay away from CW when you are tired.

19) Set a reasonable goal -- this winter I'm going from 5 wpm to 20 wpm.

20) Barriers (10 wpm, etc.) are just plateaus. All you need is a push.

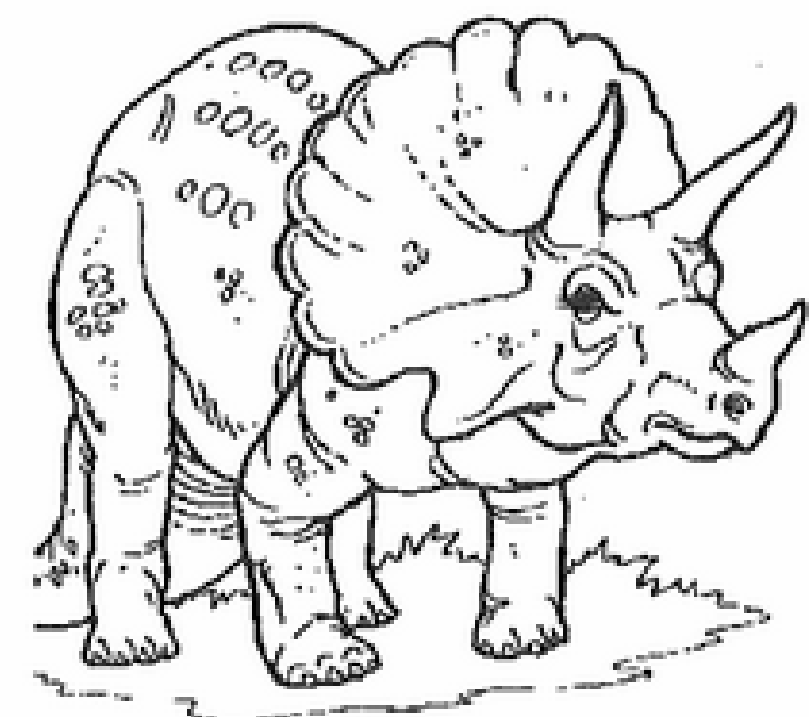
21) Spend more practice time on characters that are hard for you.

22) Don't avoid learning numbers, punctuation marks and pro-signs.

23) Copy and send characters as a single sound - not series of Dits and Dahs.

24) This is the most important one: If you need help - ASK FOR IT - CW operators have a strong bond. We've been where you are. We love the code. Ours is really the last outpost for keeping Morse code alive. We want you to join us. We need you. You are joining the brotherhood of the code. We didn't memorize some prepared answers for a tests upgrade. We invested time and effort practicing to master the art of CW. Please be a part of it.

The above was taken from the Dec issue of the FISTS Keynote.





Edmond Amateur Radio Society

Well, are you ready?? Here we go into a brand new year - 1998 - full of promise and guaranteed to bring some gladness, probably a little sadness, and a great deal of the unexpected. I'm just glad we don't know it all ahead of time, but just get it little by little with each day. I hope each of you have a wonderful 1998. May it bring all those things which are dear to your heart, and may you experience many, many joys in the coming months.

With the sunspot cycle on the upswing, the year also promises increasingly productive band openings. Time to oil that key, warm up those tubes, get that logging program operational, and work on those DX contacts. When you have all those QSL cards gathered up to qualify for one of the ARRL rewards, remember that Jim Richardson, N5OHL is the local ARRL Awards Manager and he can certify and process your award application.

I have thoroughly enjoyed visiting with you these past months and having the opportunity to bring you tidbits of news regarding the EARS Club. Beginning next month, Steve, KC5RYT our incoming Vice President will be coordinating the monthly *C&E* article. I know he will welcome any stories, articles, educational information or other items of interest you might be able to share with us. The *Collector and Emitter* is your newsletter, and your input is most welcome and appreciated. You can contact Steve by calling 722-5789 or by email at goodteam@ionet.net.

Dec. Board Meeting

The December Board meeting was held on 12/3/97 at the Club Station, with 12 Board and Club members present. The minutes of the November Board meeting were approved as presented. In the absence of Treasurer, J B, K0JF, Clara, KG5UG gave the Treasurer's report, which was approved as given.

President, Jay Lytle, KB5VDH presented the Emergency Coordinator's report, indicating that the EC Committee would hold their quarterly meeting on 12/4/97. It was reported that they had written to the Salvation Army requesting more specific detail concerning the Army's request for EARS to become a satellite station for their operations. No reply has been received as yet.

Trustee, Dee, WD5FHR reported that he and Earnie, K5YKD are conducting the annual inventory and hope to be completed this week. Equipment from the West Link has been removed, however, only an antenna is salvageable. Attempts are being made to gain access to the Club's equipment located at the previous East Link. Plans are underway to correct the problem of intermod on the new Icom 2700H located at the Club Station. The Icom dual band radio for the EOC is being repaired and will be received shortly.

Clara gave the Health and Welfare report, and Edith, KA5YPX reported that plans are moving along well for the Christmas Dinner on Dec. 13th. (As many of you know, the dinner was a great success and the food was fantabulous!).

Incoming President, Jim N5OHL indicated that he has placed the Club's By-laws on computer, to facilitate amendment and distribution. The Club has received an acknowledgment letter from the ARRL Oklahoma Coordinator indicating that he is approving and passing on to the ARRL, the EARS application for renewal of Special Service Club status.

Jay Lytle, KB5VDH outgoing President officially passed the ARRL Club President's Workbook and the engraved gavel (a gift from Buford, KC5MXE) to

the new incoming President, Jim Richardson, N5OHL.

The final meeting of the 1997 Board was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Bertha Watson Memorial Scholarship

The Club is currently accepting applications for the 1998 Scholarship Award. This is a \$1,000 scholarship and is open to any high school senior who is planning on attending the University of Central Oklahoma as a full time student for the Fall 1998 semester. The deadline for applications is February 28th. If interested, please contact Joyce Wolf at 340-7486 for additional information and an application form.

New Members

Join me in welcoming our newest members:

Jeff Wells, KD5CRP

Sherry Storey, KD5CPJ

'97 Upgrades

I was checking through the Club Roster the other day and found there were a number of Club members who have upgraded during 1997. I thought we might recognize them, and offer them our heartiest congratulations:

Technician Plus: Trish, KC5YBP; David, KC5UNO;

General: Onis, KC5RPC; Judy, KC5SMI; Gary, KC5WSR; Steve, KB5CDF; Curtis, KC5GEP; Carl, KC5YKL;

Advanced: Bob, KM5GZ; John, KM5GM; Sharon, KM5GV; Justin, KM5IA; Jeff, KM5KH

Extra: Cliff, AC5NZ; Dave, K0TYC; Charles, KM5LE

New Licenses

The following Club members have obtained brand new licenses this year:

Wesley, KC5ZBX;

Amy, KD5AVJ;

Jeff, KD5CRP;

Jesse, KD5BFB;

Sherry, KD5CPJ.

Congratulations to all of you.



Recap of New 1997 Members

During 1997, the following people joined the EARS family. A hearty welcome to:

Charles Alden, KM5LE
 Alex Caceres, KB2RUR
 Alan Clark, N5PA
 Michael Dean, N5VYE
 Michael Delaney, KB5HXT
 Bill Dove, KC5YKF
 Gail Foote, KC5YBO
 Wesley Foote, KC5ZBX
 Johnnie Ham, KA5YSK
 Jesse Jones, KD5BFB
 Jeff Krehbiel, KM5KH
 Ken Lenoir, WB5TGI
 Chris Martin, KC5YKJ
 Bruce Palmer, K0WM
 Harold Plunk, K5GBF
 John Schuncke, KE6FCQ
 Amy Shortt, KD5AVJ
 Carl Shortt, KC5YKL
 Dwight Shrum, KC5YKH
 Justin Soliday, KM5IA
 Sherry Storey, KD5CPJ
 Jeff Wells, KD5CRP
 Dirk Wilhite, KC5SFE

January Birthdays

Jan. 1 - Gary Moore, KB5UKS
 Jan. 2 - Hal Miller, KB1ZQ
 Jan. 5 - George Mastena, N5GFG
 Jan. 10 - Shondreya Hamlin, KB5YKE
 Jan. 14 - Harold Wells, WA5ZKX
 Jan. 15 - Steve Kuper, KC5RYT
 Jan. 16 - Gary Reinsch, KC5WSR
 Jan. 17 - Gail Foote, KC5YBO
 Jan. 18 - John Thomason, WB5SYT
 Jan. 23 - Tommie Guinn, KA5WAV
 Jan. 23 - Albert Jenkins, KI5CW
 Jan. 24 - Tim Bethke, KB5GXH
 Jan. 27 - Alan Clark, N5PA
 Jan. 28 - Shannon Lytle, KB5VQM
 Jan. 28 - Rick Tasetano, N5KLM
 Jan. 29 - Teresita Purpura, KC5IDB

1997 Net Totals

1997 was a busy year for the EARS Nets. We had a total of 2281 check-ins for the year, with 751 pieces of traffic passed. That's an average of 44 check-ins per week, with 14 pieces of traffic. Thanks to all of you who check in each week. We look forward to continuing to hear from you in this coming year. Also, we hope to hear new calls participating in this weekly information service. In addition to the information given on Club activities, we encourage you to share other interesting ham-related information with the group.

Bon Voyage ...

We would like to extend our very best wishes to our 1997 Treasurer, J.B. Bogner, K0JF. J.B. has been a real asset to the Club in the time he has spent in Edmond. He is now transferring with his job to the Washington, DC area where they had previously lived. The family is looking forward to the relocation, and seeing old friends. We wish you and your family all the very best, JB, and thank you so much for the services you provided to the EARS Club during your stay in Edmond, and all your help at the various events. We know you will be a real asset to some lucky Club back East. Again, thank you, and the best of everything in your new position.

Dates to Remember

January Business Meeting - Sunday, Jan. 18th, 2 PM at St. John's
February Board Meeting - Wed., Feb. 11th, 7 PM - @ Brick's Restaurant*
 (*Note change of location)

Health/Welfare

Bob Hebert, N5SAG is getting stronger every day since his surgery last November. However, tests reveal he also has a heart valve problem, which the doctor will be treating with medication. Hang in there, Bob. We are all praying for you and hope all goes well in 1998.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to Earnie Wolf, K5YKD and his wife Nancy, David Wolf, KC5KJE and Joyce, KC5NBI in the loss of their loved one, Esther Wolf (Earnie's Mother).

Our sympathy also goes out to C Weilbrenner, KD6FNY and his wife Rena in the loss of his Father, C Sr. and also to the Kiespert family, Brad, KG5UK, Barbara, KB5DGH and Brian, KB5ODR in the loss of Brad's brother, Bill.

We share your loss and know this is a difficult time for all of you. You and your families shall be remembered in our prayers.

73 de Clara, KG5UG

Kudos to a Family Member

Some of you may be aware of the ARRL Official Observer program, while others may not. This volunteer program has aided thousands of amateurs in maintaining their transmitting equipment and operating procedures in compliance with regulations. As manpower allows, Observers monitor operations on the ham bands. Occasionally they may have to warn an operator of non-compliant procedures, and on other occasions, it is their pleasure to commend an operator for exemplary amateur practice. Such was the case with our fellow EARS member, Onis Cox, KC5RPC. He recently received a post card notifying him that on December 11th of this year, he was heard calling CQ on the 40 meter band in the CW mode. The notice said "We thought you would like to know... that this Official Observer has noted your EXCELLENT radio signal quality / operating procedure as a fine example for all radio amateurs." In the Remarks section, an Observer in the state of Kentucky penned, "Asking if the frequency was in use (QRL) twice. It's good to hear good habits by new hams - sorry I couldn't answer you - my phone rang - 73." It was signed by one of the ARRL volunteers.

To any of you who know Onis, this probably doesn't come as a surprise. Onis loves the hobby and has worked diligently since first being licensed to continue to increase his proficiency and upgrade his skills. Congratulations, Onis. We're proud of your accomplishments and pleased to hear of its recognition.

Dinner Was Great !

The EARS Christmas dinner was held Saturday Dec.13th at 6:30p.m. and the final count was 56 persons.

There was turkey, dressing, turkey, gravy, turkey and much more. I tried to sample everything, but with all the choices my plate just couldn't hold it all. Everything that I tasted was great. Santa Claus even stopped by on his way back to the North Pole. His visit was a big hit with everyone.

I would like to thank everyone that helped. All the help was very much appreciated. This is what it is all about, everyone pitching in to help.

Hope you all had a Merry Christmas.
Happy New Year!

73 Edith Vaughn, KA5YPX

Ham Highlights

What was that blur rushing past?? It's a bird; it's a plane ... It's Bob! Any of you who know Bob Coxsey, KM5GZ, know what I mean. The man is always in perpetual motion. He's known by various names: *Antenna Man!* *Rotor Man!* and *Analyzer Man!* He always seems to be there when someone's needing something.

I guess that has been the story of Bob's life. He has been an Automotive Technician with the same dealership for the past 32 years, specializing in Light Mechanics (electrical, electronic, air-conditioning, etc.) He's also the one who gets to diagnose the problem when a customer brings in a vehicle with the statement, "It sometimes has this little *twanging* noise under the car."

Bob was born in Harrison, AR, raised in Rush Springs, OK and currently lives in Edmond with his son, Eric, KC5TCZ. His interest in things electronic began at an early age, when he built his first crystal radio from a Knight Kit, and hooked it up to his Dad's TV antenna. He began his DX listening career back then, tuning into the Blues stations from the deep South. He's moved beyond home-brew crystal radios, but still enjoys the original old Blues sounds of Robert Johnson. He plans next year to drive down Old Highway 51

from Memphis to New Orleans, the circuit of the great bluesmen of the past. He'll probably drive it in his '57 Chevy just for the atmosphere. He takes a lot of flack about that Chevy, since the various layers of paint are worn thin and it looks more like camouflage than anything. When asked when he's going to give it a paint job, he replies, "Paint job? It's taken me years to get it lookin' like this. Why would I want to paint it?" Most of his driving is done in his '68 Chevy Impala - a dandy old reliable set of wheels, currently working on 340,000 miles.

Bob was raised in the watermelon country of Rush Springs, and spent some of his youth tormenting the local farmers like kids will do. He has a wide variety of interests, having spent a lot of time in the past, driving through the states of AR, MO, KS, TN, MS, TX and OK on his motorcycle. He's got some hairy stories to relate about those adventures. He has always had a strong interest in Astronomy. He made his first simple telescope out of cardboard and lenses as a child, and spent hours lying on his back in the yard, just watching the stars. He is currently a member of an OKC astronomy club. Bob has always had a curious and investigative mind. He tells the story of how, at the tender age of 5, he concluded that there wasn't a Santa Claus. His Dad had given him a compass and explained that the compass always pointed North. Bob already knew that Santa Claus lived at the North Pole, so he knew the compass must be pointing to Santa Claus. But, disappointment set in that Christmas Eve, when under the covers with his flashlight and compass, he found that the needle never moved. Since he had been told that Santa roamed all over the world delivering packages that night, and the needle was not moving at all, the obvious conclusion must be that there was no Santa!! (Mighty heavy thinking for a 5 yr. old!) But, I guess his favorite pastime these days is scrounging around the flea markets in OKC and as far as Grand Prairie, TX. He has found many a treasure at these markets, and often with a little oiling and repairing has salvaged some neat tools, radio equipment and other paraphernalia. He rarely buys

anything new, and usually has two of everything.

His first involvement with radio was back in 1977 when he held CB license KSQ3073. (That was back in the days when Australia was less than 150 miles away!) He knew about ham radio back then, but just never found the opportunity to pursue it. Then in 1995, he heard Rick Tasetano, N5KLM announcing the Edmond Amateur Radio Society's licensing class. He signed up, started the classes and found that he knew most of what was required for the test from his years in electronics. He passed the licensing exams two weeks later and became a No Code Tech as KC5RBN. He then finished out the classes and passed his 5 wpm when the classes ended. He upgraded in the Winter of '97 to General and then Advanced, which he currently holds as KM5GZ (that's Green Zucchini's, or Gadzooks, or Godzilla!)

Bob's favorite bands, by far, are 10 and 15 meters. He loves the challenge of never knowing what conditions will be like, and sometimes having to fight for a contact. He'd much rather pull out that weak signal in the mess, than capture some rare DX that is booming in. It's thrills like talking to Australia on a 15 meter end-fed Zepp up 15 ft. at the bottom of the sun cycle that motivate him. He has a Kenwood TS520S and a variety of other 10 meter and 2 meter radios, but by far his favorites are his pair of Swans. He is a tube man through and through. State-of-the-art radios are fine and some day he may own one, but for now, he says there is nothing like the glow of warm tubes in a dimly lit room, the faint sound of the fans cooling them, and the distinctive aroma of a 6LQ6 - and as long as the parts are available, the first loves of his life are his Swan 500 and Swan 700. He just recently found a 20 meter Swan net which meets at 4 PM on Sundays on 14.250.

Bob also spends a great deal of time on the local 2 meter repeaters and simplex. He has made many friends around the metro area, and a group of them who catch each other before and after work, and sometimes during lunch, call themselves the OHIO group (that's Oklahoma Hams Independently

Operating). They enjoy the rag chewing, and have helped each other immensely with their frequent antenna parties and equipment testing. Listen for Bob on the local frequencies. He's likely to be anywhere!

Bob has been an active member of the EARS Club since he was first licensed in 1995. He was a Board member in 1996 and is on the incoming 1998 Board. He is also one of Net Control operators for the EARS Monday Night Information Net. When the Club members gather to handle communications for parades, and other events, you'll usually find Bob among them, enjoying the camaraderie of Club participation and net controlled operations. He said he had a wonderful time this past November when the Club handled communications for the motorcycle enduro race at Lake Stanley Draper. He almost went out and bought himself a motorcycle that afternoon. It reminded him of his days gone by, and all the enjoyment he and his buddies had scouring the countryside on 2 wheels. Maybe that will come about again some day.

So, that's a glimpse into the multi-faceted, always-active life of Bob Coxsey, KM5GZ. Sometimes it can wear you out just listening to his fast-clipped speech, or trying to keep up with him as he flies through each day. But, persevere. If you're ever able to slow him down for a minute or two, it will be well worth the effort. Thanks, Bob, for all your assistance, your Club participation, and your endless enthusiasm. We 'preciate it.

Until next month, 73 Sharon, KM5GV

CQ 10 Meters, CQ 10 Meters!

On Saturday 14 December, the EARS club station KC5ORP was on the air during the ARRL 10 Meter contest. Event coordinator Jim, N5OHL provided coffee and donuts to the early birds. Sunspots were favorable enough to provide good conditions to the US and Central and South America. We had 17 excited hams participate. For many it was their first time to operate in an HF contest. We made a total of 116 contacts to 25 US states and 12 different DX countries.

Thanks go to Sam, W5CU for loaning the club his Yaesu FT-900 rig during the contest. Normally Larry, N5OL is our main CW operator, but he could only stop by for a brief visit. Dave, K0TYC and Jim, N5OHL managed to carry the load on CW (although at a much slower pace). One of our new hams from the Fall class, Jeff, KD5CRP, was our youngest operator. I can tell you he had a great time at the SSB station working DX from South America. Stay tuned, because KC5ORP will be seeing more contests in 1998.

73, Jim N5OHL

Festival of Lights 1997

On Saturday, December 6th, EARS participated in the Festival of Lights in downtown OKC. At the request of event organizers, EARS provided on-site communication, event logistics and a variety of other duties to help with the parade and fireworks display. Using a simplex two meter frequency, participants communicated with one another regarding the sequencing, staging and event coordination. It was a cold afternoon requiring layered clothing, gloves and HT batteries in a fully-charged state. The Salvation Army provided hot chocolate that was a most welcome treat as were the retreats to the Myriad Botanical Gardens for a warm-up.

In the midst of providing this assistance to the Festival of Lights in predictable style, EARS found plenty of opportunity for a bit of fun, laughter and enjoyable fellowship. Seems like we always remember to find the fun in anything we do. Not bragging, just fact! You can begin to see the reason for using simplex. Participants included the following:

Dirk Wilhite-KC5SFE
Don Rooker-NO5M
Patrick Martin-KD5CPQ
Mike McShan-N5JKY
Gary Carson-KD5CPL
Jim Rynearson-KC5MJS
John Thomason-WB5SYT

Time on duty was from about 2:00 PM to 8:00 PM. Event organizers expressed a high level of gratitude for the effort from EARS including ".....we could not have done it without you." The tasks

completed during the course of the afternoon-evening included barricade placement, establishing and maintaining perimeters for pedestrian and vehicular control, coordinating event equipment delivery in a safe and expedient manner, assisting event staff in communication with each other: all in a respectful manner that allows Amateur Radio to be a part of these events. Additionally, we reminded Festival of Lights participants and organizers of our appreciation for being asked to help, because "to be of help" is our mission. And in doing so, we enjoy ourselves and laugh at ourselves immensely!

Many thanks to those who helped and several others including Stephen Kuper, KC5RYT- who was on the standby. A special word of praise to two of our newest licensing class graduates, Patrick and Gary, for being important components of the team for the day. EARS excellent response in similar previous events laid the foundation for our club being a part of Festival of Lights 1997. A super event for club recognition and preparation for emergency duty.

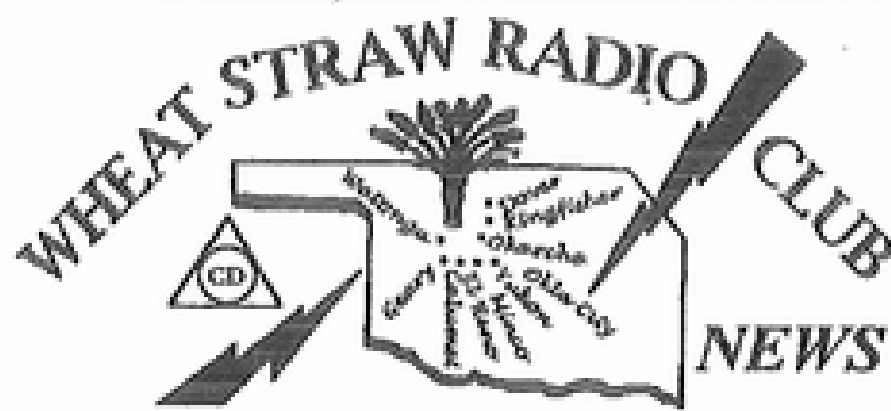
73 de John-WB5SYT

Rose Bowl Tower

If you are planning on running aero mobile at or near the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, California on New Years day, our advice is don't even consider it. This is because you will need to get special permission to enter the airspace from a temporary FAA control tower to be located at the Rose Bowl. The control zone is in effect on Jan 1, 1998 from 6:00 am to 7:00 PM Pacific Standard Time.

The FAA decided to put the tower in place because of anticipated heavy air traffic from law enforcement and news helicopters, and airships televising the Rose Parade and Rose Bowl game. Class "D"; airspace will be in effect for a 4 nautical mile radius around the Rose Bowl from the surface to 3000 feet. Communication with "Rose Bowl Tower" will be required to enter the airspace. The temporary control tower will be physically located on top of the Rose Bowl itself.

(Via KD6KDZ)



Wheat Straw Amateur Radio Club

The Christmas dinner was attended by forty-two plus. Time to prepare to start eating. Invocation by Tom, N5IKN. The buffet was prepared for a line on each side of the table, so it was not long before everyone was eating.

Everyone got all the food they wanted, and there was plenty left over. At approximately 2:30 p.m. our president, Johnny called the meeting to order. Leo, WZ5H was asked to act as Secretary / Treasurer in the absence of Joe Garland. Joe has an illness in the family, we all hope everyone is doing well.

There was very little club business. As we have done for years the hat was passed for donations to be sent to the Crippled Children's Hospital to buy gifts for the children in the hospital. The donations were a little short of what we expected, Neal, N5Kco made a motion the club send \$100.00 to the hospital's fund. Motion Seconded by Tom, N5IKN. Motion carried.

It was time to elect new officers for 1998. If I made any mistakes as to the seconds or other nominations I apologize, there was a large Christmas tree between most of the motions and seconds, making it hard for me to hear. We did appreciate the tree being there, the dinning area was well decorated for the season, Thanks to the End-O-Main.

Leo, WZ5H moved Ray, AB5Z; the 1997 Vice President to be President for 1998. Tom, N5IKN made a motion that nominations cease. Seconded by Neal, N5KCO. At the meeting in November

Johnny, K5GBN was nominated for the third term. Ray, AB5Z was elected.

For Vice President, Ray, AB5Z nominated Joel, KK5SX. Tom, N5IKN made motion nominations cease and to elect Joel by acclimation. Motion carried.

For Secretary / Treasurer, Wanda, KC5GTW made a motion to nominate Joe, WA5FLT and elected by acclimation. I think it was seconded by Alice, WA5UEW. Motion carried.

For Reporter, Wanda, KC5GTW made a motion that Ralph, WA5PFK be reelected by acclimation. Motion seconded by Alice, WA5UEW. Motion carried.

Margaret, WA5RLP made a motion the meeting adjourn, seconded by Howard, KD5AJS. Motion carried.

Ralph, WA5PFK

Johnny Fish, K5GBN

I have known Johnny, K5GBN for about forty-two years through the Wheatstraw Amateur Radio Club. At our recent Christmas dinner on December 14, 1997 I sat there feeling as tough as an old buffalo's hide while Johnny with Margaret helping him register all the dinner guests.

Very shortly after he finished that, it was time to get ready to eat. After dinner was over, it was time for the meeting. I realize being President it was he that should conduct the meeting.

Johnny has always been willing to step forward to lend a helping hand to a new ham. Always willing to step in to call a net in the event the control operator was absent for any reason.

I realized at the dinner Johnny did not have time to meet our special guest and new comer. He had no time for fellowship. My hat is off you Johnny, Goldie and I feel honored to have you for our friends.

Invitation To Join

We the members of the Wheatstraw Amateur Radio Club would like to extend

an invitation to all hams to come and join our club. If for any reason you would like to wait for a while, check in to the Wheatstraw net on Wednesday evenings at 9:00 p.m.. Visit our club meetings then decided. If you do not have a radio or an operator yet, talk to some of the older hams about locating a used radio to start with.

Mother's Oatmeal Bath

by Eileen

When my mother got older some of her body parts didn't work as well as others. Medications were often prescribed by her good doctor. Mother was a prim and proper woman at all times.

One medicine in particular gave mother an allergic reaction. The problem was an itchy rash which no lotion or ointment could relieve.

Finally, the doctor said to try the old fashioned treatment of an oatmeal bath. The oatmeal was soft and soothing to the skin and might bring some relief from the terrible rash and itch. "You simply fill the tub with warm water and pour in oatmeal a little at a time. Stir it gently as it desolves and relax in this mixture for about 15 minutes. Try to drip dry when finished so a towel won't remove the creamy oatmeal from the skin." This sounded like a good idea, so mother proceeded to take the recommended bath.

Mother's feet just slipped and slipped and she couldn't get them under her no mater what she did. She knew she couldn't spend the rest of her life in the bath tub, so she called until my sister heard her. When my sister went up to the bathroom, Mother yelled, "Don't come in, I have no clothes on, but I can't get out of the tub." "What should I do then?", my sister asked. "You will just have to let me in to help you."

Mortified, my mother allowed her into the bathroom. "Don't worry, Mom, I'll have you out in a second, I'm strong." Ho! Ho! Wrong. My sister pulled and pulled and mother slipped and slipped. Then my sister had a good idea. "I'll just put one foot in for leverage." Oh what a mistake! Now two women had an oatmeal bath. At

least my sister still had one good leg outside the tub to stand on. "That's OK, Mom. We'll let all the water and oatmeal out then it will be easier."

Now that's what you think. But it was to slippery. The only resort left was to get my sister's husband upstairs to hoist mother out of the tub. That plan created sobbing and tears, not only on my mothers part, but on my sisters husband as well

With a blanket for cover (towels wouldn't do) and a promise to do the whole thing with his eyes closed, my brother - in - law removed one itchy, red faced lady from the oatmeal bath.

That was the one and only oatmeal bath ever used in the family. Yes, the itch went away, but they all still laugh at the memory of her predicament

If you should get the itchy rash, do not take an oatmeal bath. Take into the bathroom a bowl that will hold about a pint of water, small sponge, a partial box of baking soda. Be sure someone locks the bathroom door on the outside. You lock the door on the inside. Disrobe. Put 2 teaspoons of soda in the bowl of water, mix well. Dip the sponge into the bowl and start patting on rash.

Question? Oh sure the reason for locking yourself in and out, when you put soda water on the rash, if there was a large tom cat in the bathroom, you would chew it up hair and all spitting it out through the key hole. But when you get covered with soda water in a few minutes it is all over. The rash will go away.

Customer Joke

"I saw a doctor today about my loss of memory."

"What did he do?"

"He made me pay in advance."

Think About It

Reflect upon your present blessings, which every man has plenty; Not of your past misfortunes, of which all people have some.

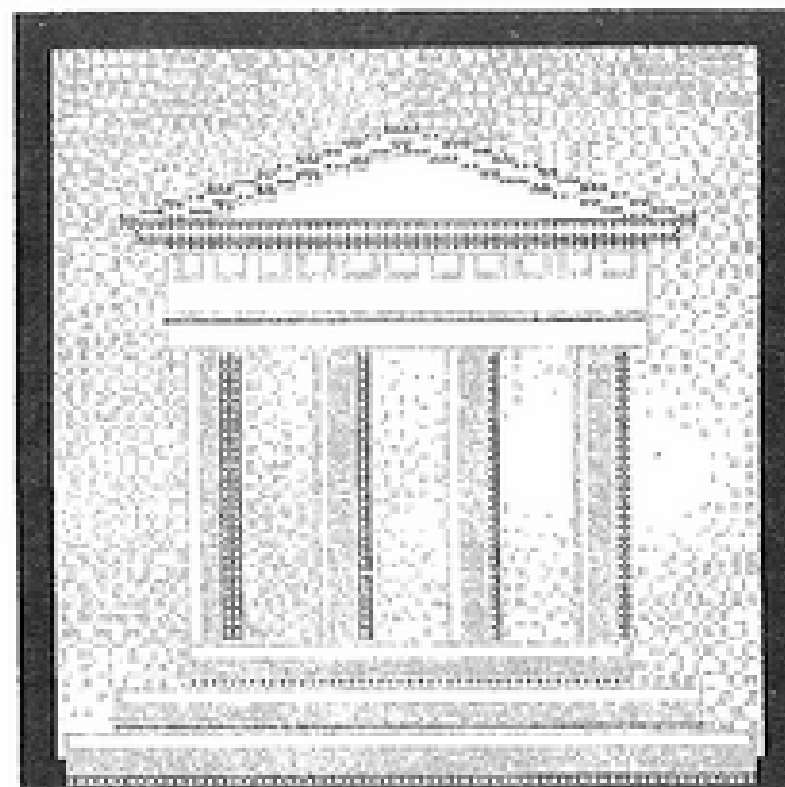
Birthdays

Sharon, KM5GV	Dec ?
Mary, KB5FOR	Dec 22
Martha Lesnett	Dec 25
Jimmie, N5VDY	Dec 29
Neal, N5KC0	Jan 4
Tom, N5IKN	Jan 4

Goldie and I were gone for Christmas, but we wish each of you the best through the Holidays and 1998.

The January 11, 1998 meeting will be in Calumet at the City Hall. One block south of the 4 way stop, turn west ½ block, White building on the north side of the street. Meeting starts at 2:30 P.M.

Ralph, WA5PFK



Congress to force FCC reorganization

The future of amateur radio could lie with a single man in Washington. He's not an FCC official, but he could have powerful influence over how the Commission operates in years to come.

In two years, the FCC could be an entirely different agency from what hams and others know it to be today. That's the vision U.S. Representative Billy Tauzen has, and as head of the powerful House Telecommunications Subcommittee, Tauzen could make it happen.

The Louisiana Republican lawmaker came to prominence earlier this year when his subcommittee proposed legislation essentially banning scanner radios. In an

interview in the broadcast trade publication Radio World, Tauzen says it's time to do away with the old and bring in new ideas at the Commission. Tauzen indicates he'll give the FCC a choice. Either reorganize on its own, or his committee will look into doing it for the agency.

As Tauzen sees it, the Commission's main problem is that it's organized around a 1930 government model promoting heavy federal regulation and monopolies to protect consumers.

But Tauzen says this is a different age. One of government opening up the marketplace to fierce competition and letting consumers be in charge. But Tauzen feels that the FCC still thinks and reacts the old way.

Tauzen's comments seem to suggest that the Commission may be in for another round of downsizing... or perhaps even more deregulation. With Tauzen leading the push, Congress could even take the FCC out of the business of regulating the airwaves, perhaps making the agency function as a spectrum landlord instead.

What effect all this could have on the amateur radio service is unclear. This is a time, though, when other services pressure the Commission for more freedom. At the same time, radio amateurs ask the FCC to hold back the hands of time. Hams ask for more rules instead of fewer. They demand stricter enforcement. And they sometimes indicate that they prefer older as opposed to newer technology. What will the next generation FCC say to all of this? Those answers will evolve only as the shape of the new FCC becomes clearer.

The first steps toward reshaping the FCC could take place soon. Tauzen says if the Commission does not take steps toward self-reorganization, his subcommittee may begin work on its own during the 1998 Congressional session.

(Via Radio World Magazine)



Choctaw Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of 17 November, 1997 Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 pm and was attended by sixteen members and two visitors.

OLD BUSINESS:

The minutes of 20 October, 1997 were approved as printed in the *C&E*. The treasurer was out of town on a business trip, but provided a report to Chuck, KC5EZZ, who in turn gave the report to the club president. The report was read to the membership and was approved as read.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Texnet - The system is running well with the Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Missouri stations on line. There are some of the Texas stations accessible from here, but not all as there is a station down some place. A group of the old timers went out and did some frequency adjustments which put everything on the right track.

YL Net - Since the repeater has been down and also operating with a lowered antenna, Kay, KB5VJR, has not been able to contact the YLs in Oklahoma City. So the YL Net is almost off the air now. On a more positive note, the Choctaw ARC YL Net is listed in the National YLRL Directory.

Nominating Committee - Larry, K5VVD, did not attend but provided the nominating committee report via landline. Duane Angles for President, Mike McFarland for Vice President, Ron Ernest for Treasurer. He reported that none has agreed to accept the post of Secretary. The members voted to accept the

committee nominations and elected the new officers. Efforts to locate a new Secretary will continue and will be addressed at the next meeting.

Repeater Committee - Ron, WD9DAF, informed the membership that the antenna mast has become bent over and reduced in height by about 5 feet. It is currently operating an angle of about 45 degrees. A lengthy discussion ensued and a motion was made to table the matter and allow the repeater committee and executive committee resolve the problem.

NEW BUSINESS:

Christmas Party - A motion was made to have the club Christmas dinner at the Choctaw Restaurant on 13 December, 1997, beginning at 6pm with dinner at 6:30. It was also suggested that we do a telephone call campaign to get members out for the December dinner/meeting. Both motions were approved. Bill, N9SQV, volunteered to accept RSVP phone calls so that we can tell the restaurant an approximate number of guests for dinner. The number to call to confirm your attendance is 390-1514.

Christmas Charity - A motion was made to donate non-perishable food stuffs and paper goods to the Mid-Del Food Pantry for distribution to needy families. After considerable discussion, it was agreed that members should bring such items to the Christmas dinner/meeting. Either Kay, KB5VJR, or Bill, N9SQV, will deliver the items to the food pantry.

Quarterly Swap Meet - The regular quarterly swap meet will be on 13 December, 1997. President Mike announced that neither he nor the Vice President would be able to attend due to work commitments. He asked for someone to take the coffee supplies and see that the coffee is provided. Chuck, KC5EZZ, volunteered to obtain the coffee pot from Mike and to ensure that coffee is available at the swap meet.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Bill, N9SQV

April 1st Earthquake drill

The state of California may hold a full blown earthquake preparedness drill next April 1st. The question is, will anyone believe the alerts when they are broadcast.

According to an advisory sent out by the California Office of Emergency Services, it has begun a series of planning meetings for next year's Earthquake Preparedness Campaign. The OES asked broadcasters to publicize the annual "Duck, Cover and Hold" drill scheduled for Wednesday, April 1, 1998. The broadcast community has already agreed, but some are wondering if the selection of April 1st is a good idea. Several question whether the public would even believe a real earthquake alert on that day unless they actually felt an earthquake.

Ham radio emergency preparedness groups routinely take part in this practice event.

(Via various sources)

ARNS Contest closing

Attention ham radio newsletter publishers. You have only a few days left to enter the Amateur Radio News Service Publication Contest. This annual competition which closes on December 31st, is to identify and recognize superior performance in Amateur Radio journalism and to evaluate club newsletters with suggestions for improvement.

To enter, clubs should submit one copy of any issue of their newsletter published between July 1996 and December 1997. Mail them to:

Lee Knirko, W9MOL
11 South LaSalle St., Suite 2100
Chicago, Illinois 60603

(Via ARNS, ARRL, others)

Editor's Note: The Collector and Emitter has been submitted for the third year to this contest.

The Editor



Lawton / Ft Sill Amateur Radio Club

In Lawton there is little doubt that the amateur radio community benefits from the close association of Lawton and the US Army Installation, Fort Sill. There is a constant exchange of new ideas, friendships made, and a fresh look and attitude towards old problems. Regrettably we know that sooner or later they must move to their next duty station. Many might someday return and some even choose to retire in our community. Several members of the LFSARC are currently serving overseas and continue to receive the C&E. We wish them and their families the very best everyday. To those that are overseas, know in your heart that you are missed. RJ, KC7ICM and Becky, KC7OPP will be retiring from the service next fall. Here is a story that should inspire each of us.

On 25 September a platoon of Army soldiers from 2nd Bn, 2nd Field Artillery were gathered in a class room for a class on field expedient wire Antennas. These soldiers had never attempted such a tasking before in their careers in the military. During the first part of the class they received classes on cutting wire antennas to frequency by SFC Savey (RJ, KC7ICM).

The second part of the classes started with cutting the WD-1 field wire to proper length for an assigned frequency. Then they had to find a way to get their inverted V into the air. After a period of time several soldiers decided that they could use the poles that they use to hold up their camouflage nets. Then another suggested that they use 5/50 cord to guy the poles in

the upright position. By now the morning is almost gone and the soldiers were gaining ground quickly with 3 of the 4 sections having their antennas in the air.

The third part of the class was to be the most enjoyable for the soldiers. They had to operate a radio using the antennas that they had constructed. The first antenna that was tried was the 2 meter, that section all utilized the W5KS repeater and made a phone call over the autopatch. They thought that was pretty cool stuff. The next section was the FDC section and they were assigned the 6 meter band. There we made a radio check with the Battalion Operations Section and requested the frequency for digital traffic. Then using Ham gear we sent digital traffic back and forth for about 10 minutes. Then came the moment that we were all waiting for, we turned on the HF gear and as suspected 20 meters was going pretty well. So I had the soldiers write some information down on 3 X 5 cards, i.e. my call. Then I instructed the first operator to call CQ and his home state. Poof from out of the quietness of HF static came a reply from Ohio. The two of them talked for about 5 to 10 minutes, and we put another member of the unit behind the mike and he did the same thing except he called California and he got a reply from there. All in all within about 2 hours that group of soldiers had worked 14 states and about 38 contacts.

The after action review provided us with the knowledge that they now know that if they had no antenna but were given a frequency and wire they could get that radio to operate. They also now understand about the Army MARS system and how they are able to send a MARSGRAM all around the world. Best of all, I no longer get asked why are there so many antennas on my truck.

73

RJ Savey, KC7ICM

The membership roster was included in this issue. With that is the knowledge that it is time to renew our memberships. Our hobby requires constant maintenance. Not just maintenance of equipment, but also membership, activities, education

(can you really figure out the new RF questions on the Novice/Technician Test). Is our community awareness program where you want it to be. Our we exposing enough school age children to the benefits of amateur radio? How many other hobbies can prepare a young mind for the technology of the future? How many other hobbies allow someone to use not just a 2 Meter Hand Held, but also, amateur radio TV (broadcasting industry), X-Ray technology, Inferred, Spread Spectrum. What about the self confidence and feeling of acceptance, and friendship that we all offer to the new amateur? Respect for others, because we must listen and wait before we key our transmitter. Do we also know and share that weather effect some RF and others it depends more on the time of day. What about those things called sun spots? Yes, even in the age of the information superhighway, high speed modems, we still have much to offer the young people of our community. An opportunity to share in a valuable hobby.

Consider what your membership dues pay for. They go along way to pay the bills, maintain the club property, pay the phone patch, provide insurance. It allows to also go into our community collectively and demonstrate that we continue to be a valuable and renewable natural resource. Please mail your dues to:

LFSARC

POB 892

Lawton OK 73502.

The club dues are \$24 for Individuals, \$35.00 for the Family, and \$6.00 for a student (under 18, and in school) and \$7.00 for a non-voting membership. If you do not see a ham on this roster, ask him or her to consider joining. You can find their information on the Internet at the www.w5ks.org homepage under AREA HAMS. The club also has the club roster on the web page too, located as W5KS members.

If there is an change or addition please email the request to paul@rli.net or catch me on the 146.91 repeater.

Paul, KC5CYY
Secretary/Treasurer

W5KS membership sorted by complete callsign:

CALL	NAME	FNAME	Spouse	PHONEHOME
AB5BW	CLINE	JAMES	(Thelma)	355-9551
AC5DH	PARKER	WILLIAM	(Tae Chong)	351-2011
AC5EB	FREDERICK	FRED	(Annie)	536-1863
AP4AW	FLORIDA	MARTY		353-8443
K5CKQ	HAGLER	DON	(Mary)	355-0685
K5OH	WARREN	TROY	(Elvelyn)	529-2386
K5YZK	PHARES	JAMES W		492-4244
K5ZFG	KRELL	ANN	(Don)	429-3431
KA3YUH	PENDRAK	GARY		
KA5CLI	MAYSE	CEBRUN		536-1746
KA5DXR	GOSSETT	JOHN	(Viola)	355-3396
KA5FWZ	ATKINS	J.R.	(Faith)	353-6910
KA5YED	MORFORD	ROBERT	(Clarissa)	353-8074
KB5GDE	GOTT	DEE RAY		875-3187
KB5HBJ	PEARSON	ROB	(Shirley)	536-1380
KB5IYB	OATES	TERRY	(Shirley)	248-3573
KB5KKJ	MORFORD	CLARISSA	(Bob)	353-8074
KB5QJV	COLE	CHARLOTTE		536-1746
KB5PPN	MAYSE	CECELIA		536-1907
KB5PPU	JENNINGS	JESSE	(Laura)	353-8910
KB5PPV	ATKINS	RICHARD	(Joy)	536-8737
KB5PPX	RODGERS	WILL		248-4270
KB5PPZ	FALLON	BO		536-7880
KB5PQC	COX JR	JOHN		353-2860
KB5QEF	MC KEAN	MERLE	(Brenda)	536-5109
KB5RCL	SIMS	CLAUDE	(Jean)	588-3868
KB5RDB	SIMS	JEAN	(Claude)	588-3868
KB5SMT	MOSS	SHARON	(Gale)	355-2766
KB5SNF	MC COMBS	RICHARD		357-4277
KB5TPX	GAMBLIN	CLIFF	(Nancy)	353-7245
KB5VKD	SCRATCHARD	CHARLES		
KB5VKF	JOHNSON	TINA	(John)	257-9179
KB5ZOG	RILEY	JAMES	(Patty)	536-6228
KB5ZWM	PEARSON	SHIRLEY	(Rob)	536-1380
KB8CTF	WALTMAN	BRIAN		355-6535
KB8VXA	MOORE	JIM		355-5579
KC5CYY	GOULET	PAUL	(Mary)	355-7746
KC5EDX	BORGES	SIDNEY		492-5540
KC5EIU	ROUNDTREE	BOB	(Lisa)	248-8510
KC5EOO	ANDERSON	HAROLD	(Kristi)	248-5528
KC5ERZ	DURANT	LUCY	(Ted)	353-8349
KC5GHH	WALLACE	ANDREW		355-9410
KC5GVE	FOGLE	MARK		353-8611
KC5HJU	SIMS	MIGNON		588-3868
KC5HJV	PRUITT	CLAYTON		353-4868
KC5HSP	COLBY	GLENN	(Belinda)	357-4454
KC5IZN	EWELL	MARK		536-2777
KC5JAU	GARRISON	CHELA		536-0976
KC5JPQ	TAHMAKERA	MORRISON		429-3725
KC5LKN	DEZELL	GARY		353-7515
KC5MNO	VAN TREESE	DEREK		529-2515
KC5NVQ	RILEY	PATTI	(Jim)	536-3577
KC5NVS	Mc ISAAC	KEITH		355-7457
KC5NVU	COLBY	BELINDA	(Glenn)	357-4454
KC5NVV	ATKINS	FAITH	(JR)	353-6910
KC5NYK	REED	JAMES		248-5040
KC5PEU	BERCHTOLD	IDA	(Philip)	536-0883
KC5PZJ	ANDERSON	KRISTI	(Harold)	248-5528
KC5SHP	MILLER	PAUL	(Doris)	588-2522
KC5SPF	DUNTZEE	BILL		
KC5SVP	STACY	EDWIN		248-9847
KC5SVR	JOHNSON	JACK		
KC5TTX	LEFOLL	FELIX		536-0329
KC5TTY	BROCKWELL	STEVEN		492-4619
KC5TZQ	BLAHA	JOHN	(Brenda)	
KC5UFV	HAMBRICK	JOHN		536-1357
KC5UFW	STRUBE	JERRY		
KC5UFY	KRELL	DON	(Ann)	429-3431
KC5UZX	STRUBE	DARRELL		
KC5UZY	SIMPSON	CHARLES		355-6473
KC5UZZ	KISH	WAYNE		(720) 588-1572
KC5VUU	RAWLINSON	JERRY		(812) 526-9340

KC5VUW	PETTIGREW	TIM		
KC5WGG	SHILLING	DOUGLAS		536-8446
KC5WOY	HANEY	RAYMOND	(Danita)	
KC5YYU	HANEY	DANITA	(Raymond)	
KC5ZYZ	SCHULTZ	MARC	(Jerrie)	588-3055
KC7ICM	SAVEY	R.J.	(Becky)	536-0423
KC7OPP	SAVEY	BECKY	(R.J.)	536-0423
KD5BTL	CAMPAIN	BRYCE		355-8968
KD5RQ	MATCHETTE	CLAUDE	(Bobbi)	357-5870
KD6PNY	WEIRLBRENNER	C.		
KE5MK	KING	JOE		536-0823
KG0AC	CARL	DAVID	(Rachel)	353-8860
KJ5AA	JOHNSON JR	JOHN	(Tina)	357-9179
KJ5RT	ADAMS	DERYL		355-6378
KK5QY	SUMMERS	GEORGE		355-6514
KK5WV	JOHNSON	JOHN	(Carol)	355-9069
KP4YY	SEDA	ROBERT SR.		581-1316
N0TUA	CARL	RACHEL	(David)	353-8860
N3QZS	WOOF	JAMES		
N5AUK	HIGGANBOTHAM	ED	(Mable)	536-4528
N5BLE	PETERS	JOHN		355-0951
N5ECB	MEANS	ROBERT	(Lois)	529-2461
N5EZM	BERCHTOLD	PHILIP	(Ida)	536-0883
N5IZ	BROMLEY	RAY	(Bobbie)	355-9274
N5PYD	WARDELL	PAUL	(Sandra)	492-5743
N5RFX	DACCI	MAYO	(Nancy)	353-4713
N5SAO	WARDELL	SANDRA	(Paul)	492-5743
N5UJB	ARTERBERRY	JIM	(Sue)	353-5722
N5WTS	JOHNSON	KEVIN	(Becky)	357-2203
N5WTV	MOSS	GALE	(Sharon)	355-2766
N5YHE	PEET	MIKE		335-2777
NH6CJ	MINOR	MICHAEL		355-9203
NL7CO	ROSS	DON		355-8124
W5KCB	SIMS	BOB	(Virginia)	529-2289
W5OJO	DUGGAR	WILLIAM		536-2113
W5PML	CASH	CECIL	(Laura)	355-6337
W5SZ	BURNS	BILL	(Viola)	353-8021
WB4FEX	CHAPMAN	JOHN	(Barbara)	536-5985
WB5EQR	GREEN	D.B.		658-5143
WB5GVZ	BROWN	GLEN		248-3031
WB5NDN	HARROP	PAUL	(Carolyn)	
WB5OTD	CAGLE	ASHLEY	(Kathy)	355-5371
WB5YZD	SIMPSON	MILTON		UNLISTED
WD4ESA	CHAPMAN	BARBARA	(John)	536-5985
WJ5Y	MINTON	RONALD		875-2397



W5KS membership roster sorted by Last Name:

CALL	NAME	FNAME	Spouse	PHONEHOME	CALL	NAME	FNAME	Spouse	PHONEHOME	CALL	NAME	FNAME	Spouse	PHONEHOME
KJ5RT	ADAMS	DERYL		355-6378	KB5KKJ	MORFORD	CLARISSA	(Bob)	353-8074	KB5SMT	MOSS	SHARON	(Gale)	355-2766
KC5EOO	ANDERSON	HAROLD	(Kristi)	248-5528	N5WTV	MOSS	GALE	(Sharon)	355-2766	N5IYB	OATES	TERRY	(Shirley)	248-3573
KC5PZJ	ANDERSON	KRISTI	(Harold)	248-5528	AC5DH	PARKER	WILLIAM	(Tae Chong)	351-2011	KB5HBJ	PEARSON	ROB	(Shirley)	536-1380
N5UJB	ARTERBERRY	JIM	(Sue)	353-5722	KB5ZWM	PEARSON	SHIRLEY	(Rob)	536-1380	N5YHE	PEET	MIKE		335-2777
KA5FWZ	ATKINS	J.R.	(Faith)	353-6910	KA3YUH	PENDRAK	GARY			N5BLE	PETERS	JOHN		355-0951
KB5PPV	ATKINS	RICHARD	(Joy)	536-8737	KC5VUV	PETTIGREW	TIM			K5YZK	PHARES	JAMES W		492-4244
KC5NVV	ATKINS	FAITH	(JR)	353-6910	KC5HJV	PRUITT	CLAYTON			KC5VUU	RAWLINSON	JERRY	(812)	526-9340
N5EZM	BERCHTOLD	PHILIP	(Ida)	536-0883	KC5NYK	REED	JAMES			KB5ZOG	RILEY	JAMES	(Patty)	536-6228
KC5PEU	BERCHTOLD	IDA	(Philip)	536-0883	KB5ZVQ	RILEY	PATTI	(Jim)	536-3577	KB5PPX	RODGERS	WILL		248-4270
KC5TZQ	BLAHA	JOHN	(Brenda)		NL7CO	ROSS	DON		355-8124	KC5EIU	ROUNDTREE	BOB	(Lisa)	248-8510
	BLAHA	BRENDA	(John)		KC7OPP	SAVEY	BECKY	(R.J.)	536-0423	KC7ICM	SAVEY	R.J.	(Becky)	536-0423
KC5EDX	BORGES	SIDNEY		492-5540	KC5ZYZ	SCHULTZ	MARC	(Jerrie)	588-3055	KB5VKD	SCRATCHARD	CHARLES		
KC5TTY	BROCKWELL	STEVEN		492-4619	KB5VVD	SEDA	ROBERT SR.		581-1316	KP4YY	SHILLING	DOUGLAS		536-8446
N5IZ	BROMLEY	RAY	(Bobbie)	355-9274	KC5WGG	SIMPSON	MILTON		UNLISTED	WB5YZD	SIMPSON	CHARLES		355-6473
WB5GVZ	BROWN	GLEN		248-3031	KC5UZY	SIMPSON	BOB	(Virginia)	529-2289	W5KCB	SIMS	CLAUDE	(Jean)	588-3868
W5SZ	BURNS	BILL	(Viola)	353-8021	KB5RCL	SIMS	JEAN	(Claude)	588-3868	KB5RDB	SIMS	MIGNON		588-3868
WB5OTD	CAGLE	ASHLEY	(Kathy)	355-5371	KC5HJU	SIMS	EDWIN		248-9847	KC5SVP	STACY	DARRELL		
KD5BTL	CAMPAIN	BRYCE		355-8968	KC5UZX	STRUBE	JERRY			KC5UFW	STRUBE	GEORGE		355-6514
KG0AC	CARL	DAVID	(Rachel)	353-8860	KK5QY	SUMMERS	MORRISON		429-3725	KB5JPQ	TAHMAHKERA	DEREK		529-2515
N0TUA	CARL	RACHEL	(David)	353-8860	KC5MNO	VAN TREESE	ANDREW		355-9410	KC5GHH	WALLACE	BRIAN		355-6535
W5PML	CASH	CECIL	(Laura)	355-6337	KB8CTP	WALTMAN	PAUL	(Sandra)	492-5743	N5PYD	WARDELL	SANDRA	(Paul)	492-5743
WB4FEX	CHAPMAN	JOHN	(Barbara)	536-5985	N5SAO	WARDELL	TROY	(Elvelyn)	529-2386	K5OH	WARREN	C.		
WD4ESA	CHAPMAN	BARBARA	(John)	536-5985	KD6FNY	WEIRLBRENNER	JAMES			N3QZS	WOOF			
AB5BW	CLINE	JAMES	(Thelma)	355-9551										
KC5HSP	COLBY	GLENN	(Belinda)	357-4454										
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KB5OJV	COLE	CHARLOTTE		536-1746										
KB5PQC	COX JR	JOHN		353-2860										
N5RXF	DACCI	MAYO	(Nancy)	353-4713										
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W5OJO	DUGGAR	WILLIAM		536-2113										
KC5SPF	DUNTZEE	BILL												
KC5ERZ	DURANT	LUCY	(Ted)	353-8349										
KC5IZN	EWELL	MARK		536-2777										
KB5PPZ	FALLON	BO		536-7880										
AF4AW	FLORIDA	MARTY		353-8443										
KC5GVE	FOGLE	MARK		353-8611										
AC5EB	FREDERICK	FRED	(Annie)	536-1863										
KB5TPX	GAMBLIN	CLIFF	(Nancy)	353-7245										
KC5JAU	GARRISON	CHELA		536-0976										
KA5DXR	GOSSETT	JOHN	(Viola)	355-3396										
KB5GDE	GOTT	DEE RAY		875-3187										
KC5CYV	GOULET	PAUL	(Mary)	355-7746										
WB5EQR	GREEN	D.B.		658-5143										
K5CKQ	HAGLER	DON	(Mary)	355-0685										
KC5UPV	HAMBRICK	JOHN		536-1357										
KC5YYU	HANEY	DANITA	(Raymond)											
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WB5NDN	HARROP	PAUL	(Carolyn)											
N5AUK	HIGGANBOTHAM	ED	(Mable)	536-4528										
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KB5VKF	JOHNSON	TINA	(John)	257-9179										
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N5WTS	JOHNSON	KEVIN	(Becky)	357-2203										
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KJ5AA	JOHNSON JR	JOHN	(Tina)	357-9179										
KE5MK	KING	JOE		536-0823										
KC5UZZ	KISH	WAYNE	(720)	588-1572										
K5ZFG	KRELL	ANN	(Don)	429-3431										
KC5UFY	KRELL	DON	(Ann)	429-3431										
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KB5SNF	MC COMBS	RICHARD		357-4277										
KC5NVS	Mc ISAAC	KEITH		355-7457										
KB5QEF	MC KEAN	MERLE	(Brenda)	536-5109										
N5ECB	MEANS	ROBERT	(Lois)	529-2461										
KC5SHP	MILLER	PAUL	(Doris)	588-2522										
NH6CJ	MINOR	MICHAEL		355-9203										
WJ5Y	MINTON	RONALD		875-2397										
KB8VXA	MOORE	JIM		355-5579										
KA5YED	MORFORD	ROBERT	(Clarissa)	353-8074										



ADA Amateur Radio Club

The monthly meeting of the Ada Amateur Radio Club convened at 10:30 a.m., December 6, 1997, at the Salvation Army Center. Fifteen members were in attendance, with vice president Dwight Myers, N0RIW as chairperson.

The treasurer's report was accepted as given and passed without objection.

The Annual election of officers for the 1998 year was held, the following members were elected to club offices.

President: Scott Renes, KD5AJL

Vice President: Dwight, Myers N0RIW

Secretary: Danny Coffey, KM5LB

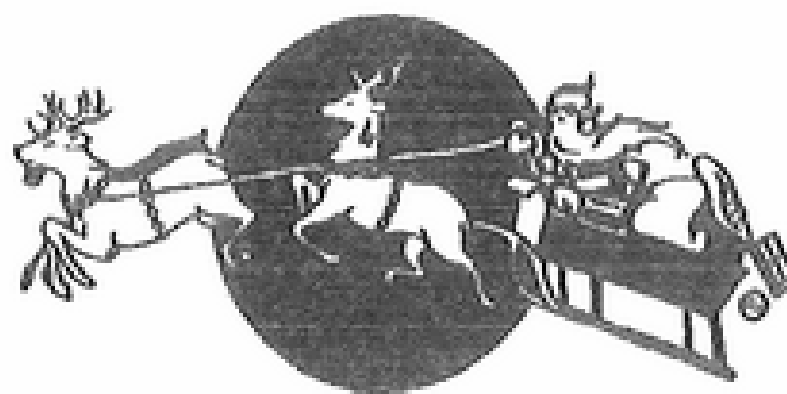
Treasurer: Finis Hallmark, KC5YGB

Work is still progressing at the Salvation Army Center on the cabinet to secure the radio equipment at the facility. Due to some problems that came up at work I missed this meeting that is why this months letter is so short, I hope things will improve in the coming months. We would like to say THANK YOU to all of the officers that have held office in the past years and to all of our members. I hope we can do as good a job getting the news letter written as Sam Jewell KM5IY he did a great job. We would like to wish everyone a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Danny Coffey, KM5LB
Ada ARC Secretary

January Lao DX Operation

And finally, this late breaking story just in. A special invitation has been extended to JH1AJT to attend the 30th anniversary celebration of the Lao News Agency slated for early January. In conjunction with the event, the nation's Anniversary Commission has granted permission to a team of ham operators to conduct a DXpedition to Lao from January 5th to the 13th. The operation will be all bands including 6 meters and RTTY. The calls to listen for will be XW30 on CW and XW30A for SSB, FM and radioteletype. QSL via SM0AGD. (Via AH0W)



SANTA CLAUS: An Engineer's Perspective

I. There are approximately two billion children (persons under 18) in the world. However, since Santa does not visit children of Muslim, Hindu, Jewish or Buddhist religions, this reduces the workload for Christmas night to 15% of the total, or 378 million (according to the Population Reference Bureau). At an average (census) rate of 3.5 children per house hold, that comes to 108 million homes, presuming that there is at least one good child in each.

II. Santa has about 31 hours of Christmas to work with, thanks to the different time zones and the rotation of the earth, assuming he travels east to west (which seems logical). This works out to 967.7 visits per second. This is to say that for each Christian household with a good child, Santa has around 1/1000th of a second to park the sleigh, hop out, jump down the chimney, fill the stockings, distribute the remaining presents under the tree, eat whatever snacks have been left for him, get back up the chimney, jump into the sleigh and get on to the next house.

Assuming that each of these 108 million stops is evenly distributed around the earth (which, of course, we know to be false, but will accept for the purposes of our calculations), we are now talking about 0.78 miles per household; a total trip of 75.5 million miles, not counting bathroom stops or breaks. This means Santa's sleigh is moving at 650 miles per second --- 3,000 times the speed of sound. For purposes of comparison, the fastest man-made vehicle, the Ulysses space probe, moves at a poky 27.4 miles per second, and a conventional reindeer can run (at best) 15 miles per hour.

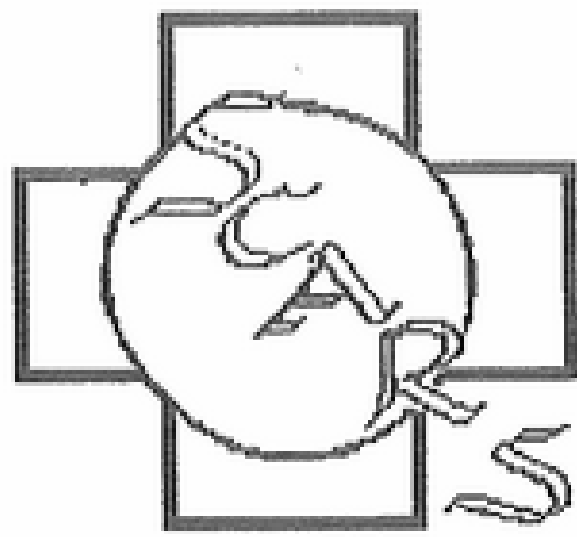
III. The payload of the sleigh adds another interesting element. Assuming that each child gets nothing more than a medium sized Lego set (two pounds), the sleigh is carrying over 500 thousand tons, not counting Santa himself. On land, a conventional reindeer can pull no more than 300 pounds. Even granting that the "flying" reindeer could pull ten times the normal amount, the job can't be done with eight or even nine of them --- Santa would need 360,000 of them. This increases the payload, not counting the weight of the sleigh, another 54,000 tons, or roughly seven times the weight of the Queen Elizabeth (the ship, not the monarch).

IV. 600,000 tons traveling at 650 miles per second creates enormous air resistance --- this would heat up the reindeer in the same fashion as a spacecraft re-entering the earth's atmosphere. The lead pair of reindeer would absorb 14.3 quintillion joules of energy per second each. In short, they would burst into flames almost instantaneously, exposing the reindeer behind them and creating deafening sonic booms in their wake. The entire reindeer team would be vaporized within 4.26 thousandths of a second, or right about the time Santa reached the fifth house on his trip. Not that it matters, however, since Santa, as a result of accelerating from a dead stop to 650 m.p.s. in 0.001 seconds, would be subjected to centrifugal forces of 17,500 g's. A 250 pound Santa (which seems ludicrously slim) would be pinned to the back of the sleigh by 4,315,015 pounds of force, instantly crushing his bones and organs and reducing him to a quivering blob of pink goo.

V. Therefore, if Santa did exist, he's dead now.

The Editorial Staff present this article for those of you Grinches needing a scientific excuse to deny Santa Claus. We of the faith know that it is all magic and with magic anything can happen!! Just ask your children.

The Editor



South Canadian Amateur Radio Society

The December meeting of the South Canadian Amateur Radio Society was held on Saturday the 13th day of December. The meeting was called to order by the outgoing President, Mike, KC5GRZ. Thank you Mike for a great year! A job well done.

Repeater report: Ken, well, we had to wake Ken up to get the report but it was worth it. Ha Ha. Anyway, he reported the crunch monster is still going to be present off and on for the time being. The FCC came, looked, found nothing, but will hopefully return with some better equipment to get the job done. So for now, we'll just have to put up with the problem. Thanks Ken for all you do.

Skywarn report: Report of approx 75 days left before severe weather hits the area. So we should start getting prepared for that. If you would like to keep updated on line:

<http://www.wildstar.net/~plaws/skywarn/> (what an address). Thanks for your report.

Upcoming event: Training classes for No Code Tech start January 12th 1998 thru March 1998 at the Red Cross building. So lets get the ones wanting to be hams there. Mike (KC5GRZ) get that daughter going. Thanks, Don!

On a brighter note, Jeff Wyke (outgoing secretary) wanted to make an apology to Sara (KC5ABA) the outgoing treasurer, for not thanking her in the last minutes. It was an honest mistake, honestly.

The Christmas party was great. We, the members, want to give Mike, N5SOF and his wife a special thank you for getting, wrapping and delivery of the prizes. Also, thanks to everyone involved.

"I", KC5LKT, would like to thank the members for the help you have offered and advice I receive. For without you, I surely would be lost in my projects. It's great being able to ask one of you about advice on my antennas, and getting answers. So from me to you, THANKS for the help.

Finally: Anyone interested in a fox hunt? Bring it up at the next meeting.

Don't forget club dues are now due, please. Let's get those paid. If you need to send in your payment, here is the address:

SCARS
PO Box 720993
Norman OK 73072

Well, 1997 is closing fast and 1998 is near. I wish you all a very merry and the best of 1998. May it bring you happiness in you heart. God Bless.

Del Ennis, KC5LKT
Secretary

Low level EMF can diminish cancer drug ability

Low level electromagnetic fields found in some homes and offices can diminish or wipe out the cancer fighting ability of a drug called Tamoxifen. This is a medication which is used to prevent the recurrence of breast cancer. This surprising report is the result of continuing research conducted by Robert Liburdy. Liburdy is a cell biologist at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

The report in November 29th edition of Science News says

that when the test tube samples under study were exposed to magnetic fields of 12 milligauss, Tamoxifen simply failed to fight cancer cells.

The story says that small areas of 12 milligauss are common in homes and offices. But even fields of 1,000 milligauss exist in these environments. However, magnetic fields of around 2 milligauss are not believed to be a problem to humans although there is no consensus on the affects that higher magnetic fields have on healthy individuals.

(Via published news reports)

RAC commissions VE9VAR to review internal electoral issues

On the international front, the Board of Directors of the Radio Amateurs of Canada have commissioned Robert Kirkpatrick, VE9VAR, to recommend ways of ensuring the national society's autonomy.

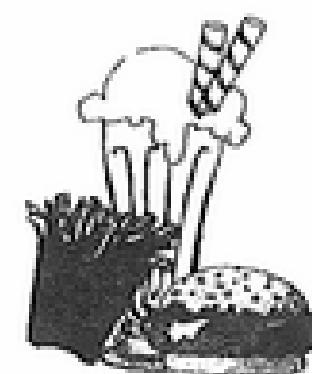
Kirkpatrick, who retired from Transport Canada will consult with Canadian Amateurs and others to focus the roles of its officials during society elections and in its relations with affiliated organizations.

The RAC Boards decision to bring in a consultant appears to be the result of problems involving the endorsement of political candidates during 1997.

(Via RAC Bulletin)

NSWNL
GLYNN MASSEY

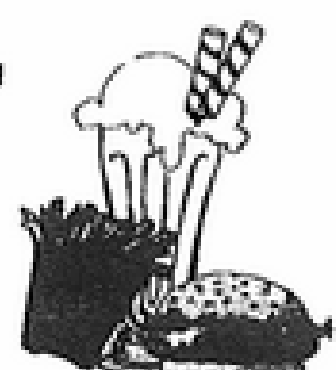
KC5VZN
JAN MASSEY



Datry Karl Drive Inn

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VHF Club NEWS

W5LOW

*Elmer Goekler Memorial
Station*

Oklahoma Central VHF Amateur Radio Club

Club minutes of the November 13, 1997 meeting.

The Oklahoma Central VHF ARC held the regular meeting at Neighbors Country Kitchen, Classen Blvd. at N 33rd St. President Jackolyn, K5ENU, called the meeting to order at 12:00 noon, with ten members present. Fred, W5NL, was unable to attend so no 'sign-in sheet' was passed around. We missed Fred.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as they appeared in the *C&E*.

The treasurer's report was given and approved. A discussion was held about annual dues being imminently due, and the treasurer announced that dues paid in January would still keep ones subscription to *C&E* in force.

There was no subject brought up under Old Business. For New Business, a discussion was held on instituting the awarding of a "door" prize by a drawing to encourage attendance at club meetings. Value of the prize was pegged at around \$6.00, like club annual dues or a repeater directory. Discussion revealed a vote was not required since the club previously had awarded such prizes.

MFJ. Only one entry for Meetings Funniest Joke.

A 60 year old housewife has a physical exam. Dr. says she is in fine health and it's a good thing because she is pregnant. She says, "WHAT!", and he says yes, pregnant. She goes home, calls husband on phone and says, "You old goat, you have gotten me pregnant!". He says, "WHAT!", and she says yes, pregnant. Husband says, "Who IS this?"

Club minutes of the December 11, 1997 meeting.

The Oklahoma Central VHF ARC held the regular meeting at Neighbors Country Kitchen, Classen Blvd. at N 33rd St. President Jackolyn, K5ENU, called the meeting to order at 12:00 noon, with 18 members present. Fred, W5NL, came with a sign-in sheet but another sheet had been prepared and started around so it was used.

The minutes of the November meeting were read aloud, including the MFJ, and were approved.

The treasurer's report was given by Jim, W5AI, and approved. Jim had club membership renewal cards and was busy renewing memberships.

There was no subject brought up under Old Business. For New Business, a discussion was held concerning a proper way to note the passing of Jack Muse. He had been a long time member and club supporter and had held various club offices. General consensus was that a monetary contribution from the club treasury to the ARRL in his name would be fitting. The ARRL has a program wherein a memorial certificate is mailed to the family.

There were two new faces present. James Hancy, N5XEZ, and spouse Janet made an attractive addition to the crowd and became new members. There was no entry for MFJ, and no lottery was held for a door prize. Maybe next time. It was discussed that the meeting place for today, at least, was crowded and noisy, but we will meet there in January. We need input from interested members on where THEY would like for meetings to be held.

So be sure and show up for the January meeting: that's when a new slate of officers will be elected.

Food was extra good. Meeting adjourned at 12:34

VHF Club members can renew memberships by mailing \$6.00 check or money order to 3117 NW 62nd Street OKC, OK 73112.

Paris EME Meeting

And the 1998 Paris EME Conference has announced a January 1st deadline for pre-registration. According to Rein A. Smit, PA0ZN/6, the latest news and information on the event is at its website. That web address is:

http://www.nitehawk.com/rasmit/paris_98.html

(Via press release)

New propagation service available for amateurs

CAROS an acronym for the Coordinated Amateur Radio Observation System is a new web-based propagation service now available to the ham radio community. It functions as a co-op and is based on the principle of amateurs contributing radio propagation information for others to use. CAROS can be found on the World-Wide-Web at:

<http://solar.uleth.ca/solar/www/caros.html>

(Via CAROS press release)

DX

In DX, The Daily DX newsletter reports that DF2SS will operate from the Caribbean Island of St. Vincent through January 9th. He will be signing J8/DF2SS and plans to be active on RTTY and CW. QSL via DL2MDZ.

(Via Daily DX)

W6CAP says via the VHF Reflector that he would like to make some 2 Meter Meteor Skeds. He is located in Grid is DM 14 running a full kilowatt. Contact him by e-mail at: w6cap@primenet.com

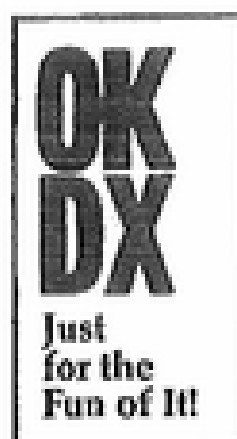
(Via Internet)

VE9AA reports that the artwork and pictures for the CY9AA QSL cards have been completed and sent to the group's QSL-card sponsor, WJ2O. VE9AA says that as soon as he has the completed cards in hand, he will begin filling them out.

(Via DXNS)

Be sure listen for the special prefix DU100 to be used during all of 1998. This, to celebrate the Philippines' 100th year of independence.

(Via press release)



Oklahoma DX Association

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

by Bruce Burnette, K5PX

Greetings from Broken Arrow! I hope that the Radio Elves brought everyone all of the "Radio Stuff" that you wanted. I received way more than I deserved, but I usually do.

The 10m contest has come and gone. It was not too bad. The band Friday night was in good shape, not too bad on Saturday and down right awful on Sunday. But, it was fun to hear signals up there. Be sure and list OKDXA as your club affiliation when you send in your scores!

What next? This is the time of the year when we all reflect on the past year and then turn our attention toward the future. So "What is next?" I look at amateur radio, in general and I don't like what I see! Don't get me wrong, I love this "hobby," but I am thinking of our (Amateur radio's) future. Everyone knows that our hobby is in a "graying" stage (much like all of America). We have to figure out some way to get the "X" generation enthused about our hobby. With "little Leos," the government wanting to auction off spectrum, and industry screaming at the government for more and more space, and telling people that we are, after all "just a hobby," the deck seems to be stacked against us. I feel, the Internet, while it is a great tool that I use daily, could be Amateur Radio's downfall. The younger generation, that we need in our ranks desperately, is moving toward the Internet at an alarming rate. The net now holds the fascination that Amateur Radio once held! No longer do you have to learn the code, rules & regulations, and operating procedures. Just get Mom & Dad buy a computer and you are "chatting" with people on the other side of the world. It seems that it is a

lot easier to justify a "learning tool" (computer), than a amateur radio (that only one member of the family can use). I remember sitting in my 8th grade science teachers shack listening to strange and wonderful noises coming from a wall of electronic gadgets. Now kids amaze their friends by talking to some other kid in Japan on the computer. Help! Our potential recruits are being decimated by progress.

Let's look at some figures. There are 9628 amateurs in the state of Oklahoma. We even have 303 hams in the city of Broken Arrow! The OKDXA has 90 members. This equates to the OKDXA having not quite 1% of the amateurs in the state as members, (this figure is actually lower than 1% due to the fact that several of our members live outside of Oklahoma). Now I understand that we have people in Amateur radio that have a lot of other interests other than DXing and contest, but we need to "recruit" these guys/gals.

So, the bottom line is HOW? I am asking for your input. I wish I had a magical answer, but I don't. We need your ideas and thoughts. We need to focus on the people that already have a ticket and then onto recruiting new blood into the Amateur ranks. What will it take? We had a influx of new hams with the inception of the "No Code" license, but these people are not upgrading. Now the growth has grown stagnant. Do we need to sponsor upgrade classes, have more local interaction, or whatever? The floor is now open for suggestions. Contact me or any of the club officers/directors with your input. I can be reached via e-mail at K5PX@Contesting.com, or you can use that primitive device know as the phone, (918)455-2599. Remember what happened to our 11-meter band. It is up to us! Catch you down the log.

--- OKDXA CONTESTING ---

by Jim Hood, K5TT

Wow! What a flurry of contest activities this fall. As a Club, we have had very impressive participation. We are entered in the CQWW's, the Sweepstakes, the ARRL 160 meter, and the ARRL 10 meter contests.

Some people have asked that I summarize the scores of the individual Club members. I agree this is interesting information and would love to do it. However, presently I do have the time to compile the information and massage it into a suitable format. If someone would like to setup an email list for distribution, compile the information, and distribute it, I will be glad to pass it on as I receive it.

Well, it's time to take a little breather before the next round of ARRL DX and WPX Contests take place. I hope everyone has had a wonderful Holiday Season and has a most Happy New Year.

• QSL Routes

I recently received a copy of a new CD-ROM that has an extensive list of QSL Managers. It is prepared by a team in Germany headed by DG0ZB. Volume 2 will be available in January and will contain 92,000 managers and 7000 images. A user can browse or search the data base in several different ways. The CD-ROM is available from QSL-ROUTES, P. O. Box 73, D-10122 Berlin, Germany. You can also find them on the internet at

www.funkamateurl.de/qsl_routes.

THE CONTEST CONTINUUM

Building a Contest Station, cont.

by Coy Day, N5OK

My experience with the Log Periodic Dipole Array

After getting the 40 meter beam in place, it was time to examine what to do about 80 meters. At the time, all I had was an inverted vee with the apex at about 60 ft and a G5RV at about 70. I cut the inverted vee for the phone segment and use it to check into the state nets. I didn't want to use the G5RV because of the vertical component. I had been using it on 40 meters and now that I had the beam up, I decided to get it out of the way. I was debating quad loops, delta loops, phased verticals, a dipole at 90 ft, etc.

Nothing looked right. I bought a copy of the ARRL Antenna Book and began my research. When I ran across the Log Periodic Dipole Array (LPDA), I thought

I had found the dream antenna. It really looked good. It was broad banded and it covered 3.5 through 4 MHz with an overall gain of 3.8 dBd. It also had a broad beam width. This was important in that I only wanted to put up two antennas, one on Europe that would also cover Africa and one on JA that would also cover the Pacific, with South America and Caribbean off the back. This seemed to be the answer. However, it was a monster antenna. The back element was 149 ft long and there were four elements. It was also very complex and took many hours to assemble and required buying a lot of material. I thought that it would be worth it for the performance that I would get. I bought first class materials, GE Lexan, insulated Flex Weave from Davis RF, porcelain insulators, 5/16 and 1/4 inch Dacron, a 4:1 balun, and copper clad steel for the open wire feed system. I bought enough materials to build two of these. I took hours measuring, cutting and drilling holes in the Lexan, measure, cutting and soldering the wires and building the feed system. It wasn't easy laying the big monster out on the ground with the correct spacing. I remeasured everything at least twice; checked all connections; it was a beauty. I built it exactly by the book. I stretched it tight between the towers with the back end at 90 ft and the front at about 75. I couldn't wait to try it.

The first thing I did was check the VSWR. It was less than 1.4: 1 from 3.5 to 4 MHz. Wow! This looked promising. It pointed at Australia because of the way the towers are oriented. I compared signals heard on it to the Inverted vee. However, it was a few days before I was able to listen for the VK's in the morning, so I listened to stations here in the states. I could hear stations in every direction equally well but, worst of all, I could hear them better on the inverted vee. I suspected that it was because they were not far enough away. Then the big disappointment! I was off work the next Friday and was able to get up early enough to catch the VK's. Ouch! They were louder on the Inverted vee. I couldn't believe it. I double checked the measurements. I varied the angle that the elements dropped from 120 to 90 degrees. I changed the angle of the elements to a

fish bone pattern. I varied its height and direction. I spent weeks examining it, tweaking it, all of which was to no avail. It just didn't work. I reread the book to make sure I wasn't overlooking something. I couldn't figure out why it didn't work. It all looked great on paper and I know that LPDA's are good antennas. After all, I spent years in the military engineering, installing, building and repairing LP's. I should understand them very well. The fact remained that it didn't work the way it should have and I took little comfort from Thomas Edison. "People are not remembered by how few times they failed, but by how often they succeed." I got out my camera and took a picture of this spider web in the sky, to prove that I had built such a monster. I lower it, gathered it into a huge ball, threw the whole mess on the back deck and walked away!

After about a week of cooling off and having purchased the Low-Band Dxing book from the ARRL, I began again on my search for the ultimate 80 meter antenna. This book was a good choice since I haven't built an antenna for 160 either. This is when I rekindled my interest in the quad loop. I decided to initially try just a single quad loop cut for the CW section of 80 meters. I had plenty of room between the towers, which would make the installation fairly simple. The question of whether to feed it vertically or horizontally answered itself when I looked at the radiation patterns. Vertical it was. I salvaged the wire from the LPDA and began laying out this monster. I had plenty of Dacron, so I put a pulley at the top of each tower to hoist the loop into place. This also made it easy to adjust. I used the standard loop formula for the length and made sure that it had equal sides.

I divided the side in half that was closest to the tower at the house and fed it with the 4:1 balun that I salvaged from the LPDA. Since the impedance of a loop is around 100 ohms, I needed a 2:1 balun but I had a 4:1, so that's what I used. When I checked it with the noise bridge, it checked out to be 25 ohms. Suspicions confirmed. I ordered a 2:1 balun. I also found that it was resonant just below the

band. By checking where it was resonant and where I really wanted it to be, I did some quick calculating and found that I needed to take out about 16 ft of wire. Now the question came up, where do I cut out this 16 ft? I decided to take it out of the vertical legs as this would raise the bottom of the loop from about 25 ft to 33 ft. I also found an example in the antennas books of a vertically fed horizontally rectangular antenna. I removed 4 ft from each side of the balun and 8 ft from the opposite leg. This brought it into resonance at about 3550 KHz and it was less than 1.5:1 from 3500 to about 3650 KHz.

So, now the question, how did it work? I checked it out over the next few days and worked a few new countries on 80. If I could hear them, I would work them on the first call with 100 watts. The signals from Europe would be S9 plus a little but the noise level was S9. I cranked in all the filters that the FT-1000MP has and could pull out most of them. One evening, I heard 3DA0CA with a booming signal. He was calling CQ. I gave him a quick call and he came right back. Barefoot! Wow! I worked 5A2A on the first call as well but I couldn't pull the 5B4 out of the noise. I knew I could work him if I could only hear him. I heard Jerry, K5YAA, contact him with his inverted vee. (Maybe I should be developing inverted vees) That's when I decided that I needed a different antenna for receive. I had talked with Jim, K5TT, earlier about Beverage antennas. He has them working great on 160. I tried running one for 80 but with my limited space I had to run it under the quad loop. That's usually a "no no" since the loop could couple the noise into the Beverage. I was right; it did just that. The Beverage was directional toward Europe but the noise level was just high enough that it was no better than the loop. I noticed in the Low-Band DXing book that some low band enthusiasts used their 40 meter beams for receiving antennas on 80, so I gave it a try. It worked fairly well. The noise went away but then so did the signals. I could hear them slightly better than I could on the loop but not enough to really matter. It was more pleasant to

listen to without all that noise, however. The jury is still out on the loop.

Where do I go from here? I'm looking into phasing a pair of delta loops, something that worked well for Myron, K4YA. If I can get some directivity, it might eliminate some of the noise off the back and give a little gain in the direction of the signal. I have a lot of issues to address, such as, phasing, switching directions, switching from CW to phone segments, whether to direct feed both loops or have a parasitic reflector, etc. I'm reading up on the phasing now. If I can figure out how to feed both loops with the proper phasing while maintaining the feed impedance within reasonable bounds, that will be my first choice. The worst part is that I still haven't considered what I'm going to do on 160!

----- SEC/TRES REPORT -----
by Mark Byard, N5OGP

We start 1998 with 90 members! This is a great start; perhaps up about 15 from last year's start. On the down side there were 29 on last year's roster who have not yet re-upped for the new year. Hopefully some of these will.

I have sent out the 1996-97 treasury spreadsheet to all the officers and directors (except for W5UDA who uses Juno which limits file sizes! Sorry Lee! ha) Even though we don't discuss money details in this forum I want you to know that I am regularly making the "OKDXA books" available to your elected and appointed leaders.

The 1997 Banquet expenses spreadsheet is near completion. President Burnette is still awaiting his AMEX bill for November so we can reimburse him for our speaker's hotel bills. When all the banquet expense and income is accounted for I'll report that to the officer/directors as well.

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

• *Welcome new members ...*

We welcome Bill Clark, W5VW, and spouse Juanita Clark, N5VIK, to the

OKDXA. The Clarks reside in Burns Flat, OK.

• *OKDXA DXpeditioners asked to contact The GOLIST ...*

John Shelton, K1XN, publisher of The GOLIST, recently contacted me and asked for routing updates for past OKDXA expeditions that used the POB 88, Wellston, OK address for their QSL routing. As many know, Mr. George Adkins, ADIS, served as the OKDXA's QSL drop for many years. The POB 88 in Wellston, OK, became quite famous!

John would like to update current routes for past OKDXA operations. This will not only help The GOLIST and DXers in general, but it will help the OKDXA! Please coordinate with your DXpedition partners and send your updates via e-mail or snail mail to ...

golist@iswt.com

or

John Shelton, K1XN
The GOLIST
POB 3071
Paris, TN 38242

• *Club contesting!*

Jim Hood, K5TTT will be coordinating a new activity for OKDXA ... Club Contesting! We will be competing against other clubs/associations throughout the USA and even the world. This competition makes your participation and your score in the major contests very important. Even if you only have a little time to participate or are only able to make a few contacts, we need you points.

In general, all members scores are added together to arrive at the club score. If you are interested and did not get on my participation list at Ham Holiday, please send me your call by e-mail

k5ttt@contesting.com

or by phone at 405/732-6131,

or by mail at
11623 Smoking Oaks Drive
OKC, OK 73150.

If you do so, I will place you on the information distribution list. I think this will be a fun activity and hope that you will participate. Jim, K5TTT

• *E-mail update/changes*

Here are this month's changes and/or additions to the OKDXA e-mail list.

Baggett, Randy KG5NE
kg5ne@cei.net
Macdonald, Judy KA5BJS
judymac88@juno.com
Macdonald, Mac K2GKK/5
k2gkk@juno.com
Smith, Frank AH0W
oh2lvg@primenet.com

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

----- MISCELLANEOUS -----

• *RF Safety Calculation web site ...*

The University of Texas ARC has a web site calculation for the new FCC RF Safety requirements. If you read the article in the Jan QST (p. 50) or if you play around with this calculator you'll soon see that normally the only band you'll have to worry much about is 10m ... unless you have your antennas under your pillow! ha
Here is the URL ...

<http://www.cs.utexas.edu/users/kharker/rfsafety/>

• *Virtual Hamfest web site ...*

Your Sec/Treasurer has been directed to a pretty neat site ... it is an on-line hamfest fleamarket. It is called The Virtual Hamfest. You can place For Sale or Wanted ads. There is no charge unless you make a sale. The commission is 2%. Here is the URL ...

<http://www.vhamfest.com/>

• *Discounts on KK6EK books ...*

The OKDXA has received coupons for \$10 off two books by noted DXpeditioner Bob Schmieder, KK6EK. The titles are *DX-Aku: Messages from the Easter Island*

Expedition and VK0IR - Heard Island 1997.

This is a while-they-last offer so if you are interested please contact N5OGP. Videos for both operations are also available for \$10 off.

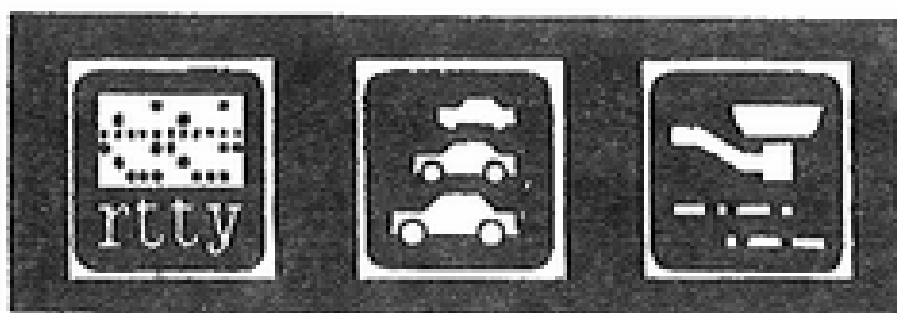
** More good web sites ...*

Here are two more good web sites supplying DX callbooks, US callbooks, and QSL Managers/Routes ...

<http://users.southeast.net/~kd4ujk1/dxqsl.htm>

<http://perso.infonie.fr/on6dp/page4.htm>

That's all this month. Until the November issue ... 73 de N5OGP sk



The Traffic Hound

by Pete, K8OUA

Christmas is a big time for traffic handlers. What a great way to receive Christmas greetings! The phone rings, the recipient picks it up, a strange voice tells them that he or she is an amateur radio operator and has a message for them from someone they know. Then, to receive those words of Christmas greeting! What a great thrill it is, especially if it's from someone they haven't heard from for awhile. It's more personal because it's a real live human voice on the other end of the phone. Not a computer, not a typed email message, not machine-made card, but a real human voice! Maybe I'm just old fashioned, but I believe that receiving a greeting from a friend relayed by a real person is a bit more special than reading about it on my computer. What's my point? Well, why not check into a traffic net and send some of your Christmas greetings via ham radio traffic nets. You'll like it, the hams handling the traffic nets. You'll like it,

the hams handling the traffic will like it, and so will the person you're sending it to. If you've never done it, try it and see what the response is. Then, let me know!

I read World Radio every month, and Geri Sweeney's (N4GHI) column, "Traffic", is one of the first things I turn to. Geri's column includes lots of interesting traffic related stuff.

Geri estimates that there are about 5000 traffic handling amateurs in the US and Canada. If her figure is accurate, that means that only 2.5% of all active amateurs ever handle traffic. I wonder why? I suspect that some amateurs don't even know that there is such a thing as a traffic handling system. Others don't want to be tied down by a schedule of having to be on the air at a certain time on a certain day to handle traffic. I have relatives who consider that the only TRUE activity of an amateur radio operator is to work DX. Whatever the reason, the majority of US and Canadian hams have never experienced the thrill of receiving, sending or delivering their first message.

How do we get more people interested in handling traffic, whether it's by Morse, SSB, RTTY, or by packet? If you're looking for an answer here, you'll be disappointed. I have no answers, except to keep suggesting to the 97.5% of amateurs who don't handle traffic that they really are missing something neat and special. If you're too nervous to just get on any net and try it out, why not try it out with your friends? Tune the rig to 3.682 Mhz (+ or - for QRM) every Tuesday and Thursday evening at 9:00 PM Eastern time, and QNI (check in) the FISTS Slow Net. You will be sincerely welcomed, treated gently and with patience, and, if you do it often enough, you'll learn to handle traffic. We expect you to make mistakes, and make every effort to help you through them.

Now, for info, try a CW net. support them, without you and your traffic, they will not succeed, but with you and your traffic they can go on forever. Get a life, enjoy yourself, do something that you'll not only enjoy, but that is actually GOOD for the world ---- become a traffic hound!

Finally, thanks to all of you who have sent me radiograms about these articles. It's great to know that someone actually reads them, and that many of you actually like them! Makes my hat size increase, HI. May your Lord bless you in the way that helps you the most.

Luk fer u on the nets, ARF, es 73, Pete K8OUA

The above article was taken from the Dec, 1997 issue of the FISTS KEYNOTE.

Indecent language ham recordings wanted

A new ARRL Director who has vowed take hams who use indecent language off of the amateur bands says that he wants tape recordings of alleged offenders sent directly to him. Joe Falcone, N8TI says that he will use the recordings as proof to the FCC that the problem is nationwide in scope.

Specifically, N8TI is looking for good quality off-air cassette tape recordings that clearly demonstrate that a violation has taken place. The audio quality must be good enough so that anyone hearing the tape will recognize the language being used without the need to replay it a second or third time. This means using a direct connection to your transceiver or receiver.

Also, make certain to label the tape with the alleged offender's name. Include the location the transmission was recorded, the operating frequency of the station, the date, time of day and the name of the person who recorded it. Send these tapes to:

Joe Falcone, N8TI
9614 Arden Ave.
Livonia, Michigan 48150

(Via Newsline)

Interested In Ham Holiday 1998

Come to the C. O. R. A. Meetings to Help out. It wont Happen without your Support.



A. R. R. L. Bulletins

From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT
To all radio amateurs

ARRL Bulletin 77
December 19, 1997

In the aftermath of Typhoon Paka

In the aftermath of Typhoon Paka on Tuesday, December 16, the Red Cross now has a contingent on Guam to assist in storm recovery efforts and has terminated its activation of Virginia ARES.

After the storm struck, the Red Cross National Headquarters had activated Virginia ARES to coordinate damage assessment and recovery information from ham radio sources in the Pacific--primarily Hawaii and Guam. Red Cross National Headquarters is located in Fairfax County, Virginia, and relies heavily on ARES support during disaster responses when normal lines of communications are not available. Information summaries were posted on the Virginia ARES Web site,

<http://www.aresva.org>

The Red Cross terminated the ARES activation as of 4 PM on December 18 and expressed its appreciation to everyone who participated in the response.

Mariana Islands DX Association President Jim Kehler, KH2D, has been the most prominent ham radio point of contact from Guam. He has been communicating with the mainland via e-mail using his notebook computer powered by an emergency generator. His ham radio station was not damaged in the storm, but he reports conditions have not been favorable for reliable communication with the mainland with his modest setup. Kehler says several other hams on Guam were not as fortunate and suffered heavy

wind and water damage from Typhoon Paka.

Kehler reports the storm wiped out commercial power and water as well as most of the trees on the island. He estimated that it could be "two or three months" before commercial power is fully restored on Guam. Typhoons are not uncommon in the Pacific, but Kehler said Paka marked the first storm where he was "really scared."

Damage on Guam has been estimated in the \$200 million range in the wake of Typhoon Paka, which is said to have packed record-shattering winds in excess of 200 mph.

ARRL Bulletin 76
December 18, 1997

Hams help in wake of Guam typhoon

Ham radio is helping to keep open lines of communication between Guam and the Pacific islands of Saipan and Tinian in the Marianas in the wake of Typhoon Paka. The storm Tuesday caused heavy damage on Guam, but telephone service remains intact, according to Jim Kehler, KH2D, president of the Mariana Islands DX Association. Kehler says the islanders are taking the situation in stride for the most part. "Typhoons in this part of the Pacific are something that everyone knows about and has a respect for, since we have all seen the results previously."

While damage estimates are in the \$200 million range, no one was killed or seriously injured when the storm passed over Guam, "Everybody is just happy to be alive, and nobody is sitting on the curb crying cuz the house got flooded and the car got crushed," Kehler relates. "That's Guam." Kehler says there's a great sense of community on the island, with everyone pitching in to help others get their lives and homes back together in the disaster's wake.

Kehler said 7.085 MHz is being used for inter-island communication, but HF conditions have not permitted reliable communication with the mainland. He said that during the storm's approach, hams on Guam also used 7.085 while

tracking its path. During the storm, Kehler's and five other MIDXA stations were operational on 40 meters. The others included WH0AAV on Saipan, KH0CE, on Tinian, and N4UQM/KH2, KH2JU, and K9AW/KH2 on Guam. Kehler says he has not heard other club members on the air since the storm passed, but notes that power is down and several suffered equipment damage in the storm. The only VHF repeater on Guam survived the storm, but Kehler says it's not being used for emergency communication at this point.

Kehler said the MIDXA was formed in November after Typhoon Keith struck the Northern Marianas. "One of the reasons was that Rota lost all commercial communications in that storm, and the ham community here was totally unprepared to help," he explained.

MIDXA members continue to monitor 7.085, "at least those with a radio, antenna, and a house left," Kehler said. With commercial power and water out of commission, "Guam is a mess," Kehler says, and some hams on Guam suffered "lots of damage." Kehler says his station is OK, but considers his 100 W and a vertical too modest for regular communication with the mainland, so he's just been listening. He's been using a notebook computer powered from a generator to keep in touch.

In the storm's wake, Red Cross National Headquarters activated Virginia ARES to coordinate recovery information from ham radio sources, including Kehler, in the Pacific--primarily Hawaii and Guam. Virginia ARES says propagation from the East Coast to the Marianas is "too poor for direct monitoring," so it's relying primarily on Internet links. Information summaries and updates are being posted on the Virginia ARES Web site,

<http://www.aresva.org>

The American Red Cross National Headquarters is requesting frequency searches and/or monitoring to identify any Amateur Radio stations that might be attempting contact from the affected area. The Red Cross is attempting to determine food and shelter conditions, power status

and transportation status. No health-and-welfare traffic is being accepted at this point. Hams wishing to participate in the activation should e-mail name, call sign, e-mail address and home telephone to; <mailto:aresva@aresva.org>. The ARRL has a memorandum of understanding with the Red Cross to provide disaster-relief assistance.

ARRL Bulletin 75 December 12, 1997

New Section Managers appointed

Alabama, Kansas, and Northern New York have new Section Managers. In Alabama, the new SM, effective December 15, is Scott Johnston, N4YYQ, of Vincent. He replaces Tom Moore, KL7Q, who resigned. In Kansas, Orlan Q. Cook, W0OYH, of Shawnee, replaced Mike Brungardt, K0TQ, effective December 1. Brungardt has moved to Indiana. In Northern New York, Leslie "Les" Schmarder, WA2AEA, succeeded Charles Orem, KD2AJ, on December 2. Orem resigned for personal reasons.

Contact Scott Johnston, N4YYQ, at 1810 Macedonia Loop, Vincent, AL 35178; tel 205-960-6516; e-mail <mailto:n4yyq@arrl.org>. Contact Orlan Cook, W0OYH, at 12110 W. 71st St, Shawnee, KS 66216; tel 913-631-9663; e-mail <mailto:w0oyh@arrl.org>. Contact Les Schmarder, WA2AEA, at RR1 Box 236, Elizabethtown, NY 12932; tel 518-873-2189; e-mail <mailto:wa2aea@arrl.org>.

ARRL Bulletin 74 December 12, 1997

Gate 4 attracts hundreds

The FCC does not expect to begin processing Gate 4 applications until after the first of the year. A spokesperson at the FCC's Gettysburg office said the current plan is to run the first-day applications on or about January 7, 1997, but emphasized that this is not a firm date.

The FCC has processed earlier vanity receipts through mid-November, including all work in process (WIPs) applications. In November, the FCC

reports it got 517 electronic applications and 149 paper applications.

The FCC reports it got more than 800 electronic applications on December 2, the first day of Gate 4. Another 120 electronic applications showed up on December 3. A count of paper applications is not yet available.

Deceased Vanity club apps

And club station trustees requesting the callsign of a deceased member as the club's station vanity callsign, should be sure to check 'Box 7D' on FCC Form 610-V. Make certain that you have a letter of consent from a close relative of the silent key. Then fill in the deceaseds callsign and the relationship of the close relative who wrote the letter of consent.

(Via ARRL)

North Pole Network

Saturday, December 13th, saw sixteen members of Nebraska's Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club called into action by Santa Claus to activate the North Pole Network. As a result, 24 children at 3 area hospitals had a chance to visit with Santa and discuss their Christmas lists.

This is the 4th consecutive year that net coordinator Pat Joseph, N0HPP has organized the event. The North Pole Network uses an Amateur television system that permits the children to see and hear Santa in their hospital rooms. They talk to him via amateur radio.

The hams used the K0USA 2 meter repeater and the WB0CMC Amateur TV repeaters to make Santa's live video visit possible.

(Via N0HPP)

Mir crossband experiment a bust

Dave Larsen, N6CO, reports that a planed crossband Mir-to-ground experiment has been abandoned for now because of interference on 145.800 and 145.550 MHZ. A space walk to include a check and, if necessary repair the dual band antenna that might have been damaged, may be scheduled in the future.

Meanwhile, the Kenwood TM-733 transceiver on Mir has been connected to the spacecraft's SAFEX repeater antenna. U.S. astronaut Dave Wolf, KC5VPF, aboard Mir has been occasionally heard on 145.985 MHZ FM, operating simplex.

(Via AMSAT-NA BBS)

P3D Team Member recovering from surgery

Dick Jansson, WD4FAB, well-known former AMSAT North America Vice President of Engineering, is reported to be doing well after undergoing back surgery three weeks ago. Of late, Jansson has been involved in preparing the Phase 3D ham satellite ready for launch. Get well cards and letters go to Dick Jansson, WD4FAB, 1130 Willow Brook Trail, Maitland, Florida 32751

(Via AMSAT, others)

Guy Liebmann

for

Mayor



March 17, 1998

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By Edith, KAS

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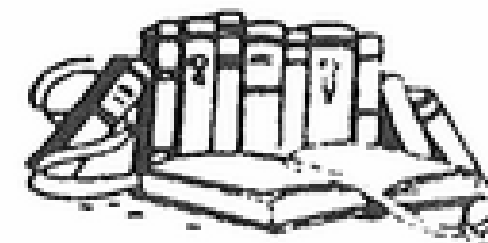
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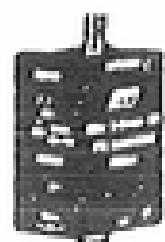
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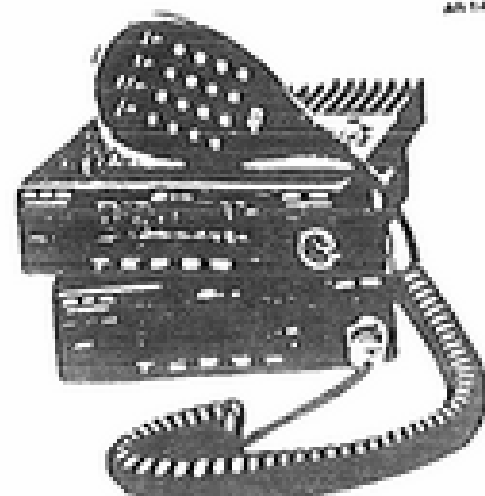


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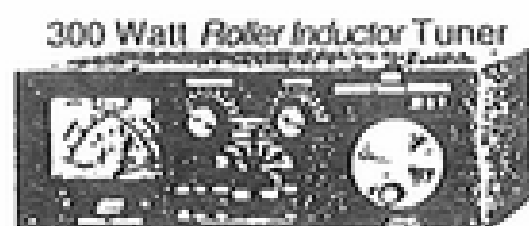
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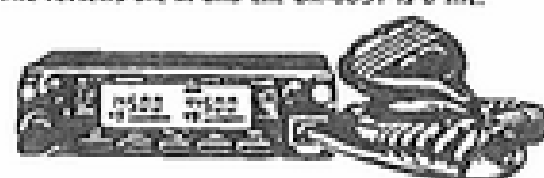
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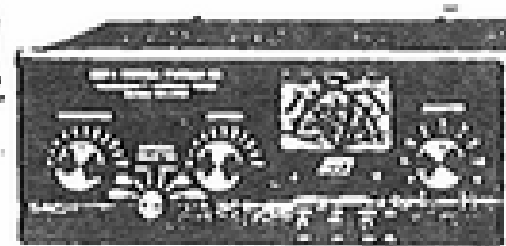


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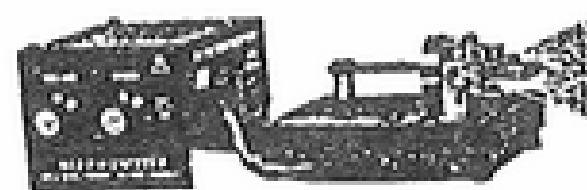
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 at Southern Temple Baptist Church, 1821 S High, OKC. Talk in on 146.76 MHz. For more information contact Audie, AA5GB @ 799-9916.

VE exams by appointment only on 4th Tuesday of each month at 1800 in the Shawnee Public Library, 101 N. Philadelphia. Call J. W. Drummond at 275-3935 for more information.

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 Tuesday of even months are held at 1830 at the Altus Vo-Tech in Altus, OK. Contact George Mateyo, N1GM 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, N5BEQ at 232-2299.

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

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 3855.0kHz USB.

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

Negative numbers for ham radio

The number of applicants being administered Amateur Radio examinations has dropped dramatically. This according to FCC figures supplied to Fred Maia of the W5YI VEC and published in the January 1st edition of his W5YI Report.

The statistics provided to Maia by the Licensing Facility in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania show that there are fewer

Advanced, General, Technician Plus and Novice Class operators than there was a year ago. These four classes show a total decline of 2.7 percent in the past twelve months.

And, for the first time, there are less Tech Plus amateurs than in the prior year. This says Maia is proof that the majority of No-Code Technicians are not bothering to learn the More code and are not upgrading. At least not in significant enough numbers to overcome the attrition found among Tech Plus license holders.

Also, the statistics show that the combination of No-Code Technician and Technician Plus hams now account for over 45 percent of all license holders. The percentage of General, Advanced and Extra class is down to 43.5 percent of all licensees. A decade ago in 1987, close to 60 percent of all hams held these higher class licenses.

The only good news comes in the area of code free Technician and Extra class. There are now 18,636 more no-code Tech's than there were a year ago. This says that the entry level license is still quite popular with 1553 newcomers entering the hobby this route every month. The other optimistic news is a slightly higher number of upgrades to Extra in 1997 than in 1996.

But the bottom line is this. Amateur Radio growth in 1998 and beyond does not look encouraging. The FCC statistics show that there are 38.4 percent fewer persons taking Amateur Radio operator license exams now, than just five years ago. The trend Says Fred Maia is clear. The trend is down.

(Via W5YI)

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Notice To OCAPA Members

The repeater access codes for OCAPA's three repeaters will change at the close of business January 1998 meeting. Cards with the new repeater access codes will be available at this meeting to persons wanting to use the autopatch features.

It has yet to be determined when cards may be mailed to club members not attending the meeting.

January 11 to February 14, 1998 Schedule of Events:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
11 2:30 p.m. Wheatstraw	12	13	14	15	16	17 9:00 a.m. VE Exams SBC
18 2:00 p.m. EARS	19 6:00 p.m. CORA VE Exams 7:00 p.m. CARC	20 7:30 p.m. OCAPA	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 7:00 p.m. Shawnee VE Exams 7:30 p.m. CORA	28	29	30 C&E Deadline 	31
1 2:00 p.m. VE Exams ARC	2	3 6:30 p.m. LFSARC	4	5 7:00 p.m. Aeronautical Center 7:30 p.m. CARA	6	7 10:00 a.m. Ada ARC
8 2:30 p.m. Wheatstraw	9	10	11	12 11:30 a.m. VHF Club 7:00 p.m. Altus Area ARC 7:30 p.m. TSARG	13	14 09:30 a.m. SCARS 10:00 SCARS VE Exams

New Years 6 meter DX

The gods of DX smiled on 6 meters around the world on New Years Eve and New Years Day. This, with what's believed to have been the first ever New Zealand to Texas contacts as ZL2TPY works K5LLL.

But that's not all. ZL3TIC reports via the VHF Reflector working a number of far west W5's and W7's while ZL3NW confirms holding a QSO with K6SIX.

And if that were not enough, DXers in Cuba worked the United States west coast, the mid-west and into the north eastern states while U. S. mainland stations had contact to numerous Europeans, Honduran, Brazilian and Argentine stations. And hams almost anywhere in the United States seem to have been able to work almost everyone they heard.

While most of this activity was found between 50.110 and 50.130 MHz on sideband, the DX was not limited to the lower portion of the band. In Santa Clarita, California, Dave Booth, KC6WFS says that he turned on an old Gonset G-50 AM transceiver to demonstrate ham radio to some visitors. He called CQ on 50.4 MHz and was answered by a station in Oklahoma.

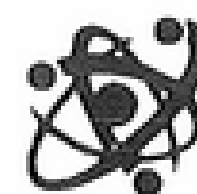
"I couldn't really stay out there a lot of time, but Brent, N5TML was in Echo Mike 84 in Oklahoma. And we talked for about 15 minutes. And needless to say my friends were very impressed."; KC6WFS

Several other AM DX contacts followed for Dave.

Even higher in frequency, on the national FM calling frequency of 52.525 MHz, west coast stations report hearing and contacting their counterparts in Georgia, Louisiana, Florida and the Caribbean.

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The bottom line is this. If you have any sort of 6 meter rig, CW, SSB, AM or FM, get it out, hook it to an antenna and start listening. Six meters appears to be ready for a DX season that will rival that of 1959 and maybe a lot more. This is because there are many new nations now permitting their hams access to the band and giving 6 meter DX enthusiasts a lot more of the world to work. Even a casual listener with a forty year old Heathkit Sixer AM lunch box has a good chance at working some very rare and exotic DX in the months and years to come.