

Collector & Emitter

Central Oklahoma Radio
Amateurs, Inc. Publication

February 1999
Volume 25, Number 2
Issue 288
50¢

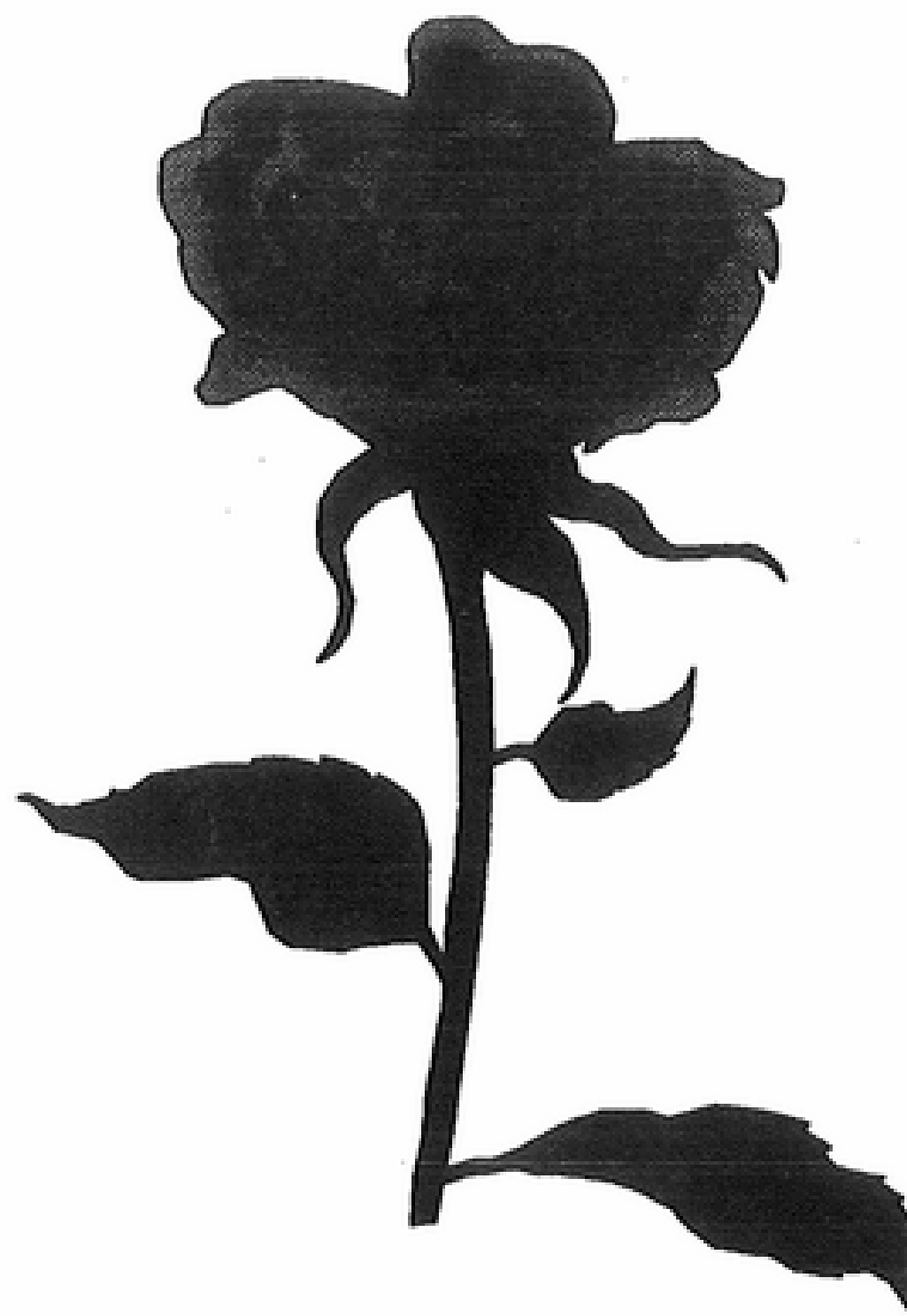
Postmaster See Page 2
For Postal Information

Periodical Mail

FCC Comes A Callin'

Computerized CW Testing

Do You Have A Real Ground?



Ice Fishing

You Might Be A Yankee If...

**Colombian Quake
Hams To Action**

Collector & Emitter**Harold C. Miller, KB1ZQ****Editor****Linda G. Miller, N1LPN****Circulation Manager****Central Oklahoma Radio****Amateurs, Inc.****President: Harold Miller, KB1ZQ****V Pres.: Tom Webb, WA9AFM****Secretary: Forrest Rush, N5VWF****Treasurer: Perry Jenkins, N5PJ****Web Page -****www.geocities.com/heartland/7332**

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:

99/12	1	2	4	6	MZ
JOHN E. DOE, KA5ABC					
1234 SW 56th STREET					
RADIOVILLE, OK 74321-9876					

The "99/12" 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.

February 1999**VOL. 25, No 2, Issue 288****Collector and Emitter****(USPS 116-150)**

is published monthly by CORA, Inc. 4216 Spiva Drive Del City, OK 73115-4424. Periodical postage paid at Oklahoma City, OK. 73125

Subscription rates:

CORA Associate \$4.80 per year

Paid subscription \$9.00 per year

Postmaster:**Send address changes to;****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.: Steve Kuper, KC5RYT 722-5789 VP: Curtis Foote, KC5GEP 359-6514 Sec: David Hartman, KC5UNO 210-5949 Treas.: Gary Carson, KD5CPL 751-0006 Editor: Curtis Foote, KC5GEP 359-6514 E-mail: kc5orp@juno.com
2. Oklahoma Central VHF ARC Meets: 1130L, 2nd Wednesday, Home Town Buffet, 3900 NW 63 rd , Oklahoma City Pres.: Bill Noland, WA5FWD 354-5018 VP: Bob Ashby, W5HXL 942-5375 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 50 th and Penn, OKC (Back Door) Pres.: Glynn Massey, N5WNL 631-2731 VP: Kieth Baker, KI5XA 392-5402 Sec: Forrest Rush, N5VWF 842-8486 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: Steve Pierce, W5BIV 329-7978 Sec/Tr.: Jeff Wyke, KE5EB 329-6762
6. Altus Area Amateur Radio Assn. Meets: 1900L 2nd Thursday, Southwest Area Vo-Tech Center, 711 W Tamarack Altus, OK Pres.: James Molledahl, AB5FS VP: George Mateyko, N1GM 580-266-3357 Sec: Ron Roman, KC5CYW 580-482-8446 Treas.: Fred Cramer, KC5SRJ Editor: Ron Roman, KC5CYW 580-482-8446	16. Broken Arrow ARC Meets: 1830L, 1st Monday, Broken Arrow Community Center, 1500 S. Main, Broken Arrow, OK Pres.: Wayne Hartsfield, KK5AT 918-357-2139 VP: Joe Horn, KC5VPO 918-451-0028 Sec: Jerry Pascal, KC5JKU 918-455-6514 Tr: Harlan Kinney, K9GDK 918-251-2672 E-mail: w5bbs@juno.com
7. Enid Amateur Radio Club Meets: 1900L 4th Thursday, Enid/Garfield County Public Library, Enid, OK Pres.: John Turner, KA7GLA 580-242-6802 VP: Dwayne Posey, KC5QVS 580-237-3218 Sec: Dave Chael, KC5GUD 580-242-3445 Treas.: Bill Wehling, KC5OKG 580-233-5022 Editor: Dick Stricker, NJ5S 580-233-9869	17. Ada Amateur Radio Club Meets: 0900L, 1st Saturday, Salvation Army Bldg 115 N. Oak St., Ada, OK Pres.: Scott Renes, KD5AJL 436-1369 VP: Charles Eiter, KC5TGA 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.: Dave Downing, WD5G VP: Don McDown, N5ENQ Sec: Jim Harper, 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.: Terry Oates, KB5IYB 580-492-5743 VP.: Mark Ewell, KC5IZN 580-536-2777 Sec/Tr.: Danita Haney, KC5YYU 580-549-6817 E-mail: w5ks@rli.net
9. Wheatstraw Amateur Radio Club Meets: 1430L, 2 nd Sunday, Location Varies Pres.: Neal Kappus, N5KCO 405-262-1151 VP: Leo Piel, WZ5H 580-886-2998 Sec/Tr.: Johnny Fish, K5GBN 580-893-2227 Editor: Jimmy Payno, N5VDY 580-496-2312	19. Tri-State Amateur Radio Group Meets: 1930L, 2nd Thursday, Woodward, OK Pres.: Jay Kruckenburg, KB5SOO 580-994-2751 VP: James Hand, W5JWH 580-994-6118 Sec/Tr.: Larry Goodwin Sr. KC5NZC 580-886-3283 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: Lu Fisher, K5YP 580-254-5641 VP: Jerry Chouninard, K5YAA 918-341-2659 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: Tom Webb, WA9AFM 737-6716 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 January, 1999 Issue of *Collector and Emitter* is Friday, February 26, 1999. Send all Articles to *Collector and Emitter*, 4216 Spiva Drive Del City, OK 73115-4424 on 3 1/2 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

Minutes of the CORA meeting for January 26th, 1999.

The President of CORA, Hal Miller, KB1ZQ, opened the meeting. There were seven directors representing four clubs (VHF Club, OCAPA, EARS, and SCARS) as well as all four officers.

Secretary's Report: The minutes for the last CORA meeting held on November 24th, 1998 was approved.

Treasurer's report: The treasurer's report was approved.

ARRL State Convention 1999: This year Tulsa has the Oklahoma State Convention.

State Convention 2000: CORA will apply to host the Oklahoma State Convention in the year 2000. That will be July 28th and 29th, 2000. Mark your calendars.

C&E Report: We are still losing about \$100.00 a month on the C&E due to postage and printing. No decision was made on raising subscription rates yet. As was reported in the December 1998 C&E, INDIVIDUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS went up to \$9.00 effective January 1st, 1999.

Ham Holiday: This is a tentative list of what the directors came up with for programs for Ham Holiday in 1999. If there is something you would like to see as a program, tell your CORA representative or e-mail Hal Miller, KB1ZQ at N1LPN@swbell.net or e-mail Forrest Rush, N5VWF at N5VWF@aol.com.

Programs

ARES Forum (Amateur Radio Emergency Service)
MARS Forum (Military Affiliate Radio Service) All branches
OG&E (an Electrical safety program)

TELEPATH (Internet)
ANTENNAS,
National Weather Service
Crime Prevention,
Fire Prevention,
Phase 3D

Electronic Posting of the C&E: It was suggested that we also post the C&E on a web page for those who would like to get it that way. There are a lot of questions that need answers before CORA can consider doing that; if you would like CORA to pursue this, talk to your CORA representative.

Next Meeting. The next CORA meeting will be on February 23rd, 1999, at 7:30 PM. The meeting will be held at Salvation Army Divisional Headquarters at NW 50 and North Pennsylvania.

Dinner Meeting: The next DINNER meeting is scheduled for March 27th, 1999 at 12:00 noon. It will be held at the Skyline Café just off I-35 & SE 15th street.

Meeting was adjourned at 9PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Forrest Rush, N5VWF
CORA Secretary

CORA VE Testing

The January session of VE testing was held on Monday night, January 18th at the Salvation Army site. Location is Penn Ave and Northwest Expressway. Each monthly session is held on the third Monday of each month at 6:00 PM-come rain or shine but on rare occasion, not ice! You may recall the December session was cancelled due to Siberian type weather not suited for man or beast. No such problems for the January session with a nice evening of comfortable temperatures just right for a successful VE session. And successful it was, with results as below:

Applicants: 4
Elements Given: 9
Elements Passed: 8
Upgrades: 1
New Licenses: 3

Individual Results:

David Simpson-Passed Novice and Technician Theory
Raymond Watkins-Passed 13 wpm code
Glen Grossman-KD5GDG-Passed Novice and Technician
Sara Grossman- -KD5GDF-Passed Novice and Technician Theory exams and 5 wpm code.

Congratulations to these very successful participants in the Amateur Radio process and the CORA VE test session. Your preparation and willingness to enter and/or upgrade your license is to be commended. We wish you the very best in enjoyment of Amateur Radio and feel you have chosen a super environment to place your energy and interest in public service. Often the best teachers and resources in Amateur Radio are the recent upgrades and new license holders. So to each of the above, your support in teaching and mentoring is sorely needed. Fresh faces and renewed energy is of utmost importance at all levels of Amateur Radio.

The ever-reliable assistance from the CORA VE team is very much appreciated and recognized. All of the test preparation, test site protocol as well as the documentation, and mailing of test materials and needed follow-up is completed on a near continuous basis by the CORA VE team. Thanks VE team for a job quietly but reliably done.

The February session will be held on Monday the 15th at 6:00 PM. Hope to see you there!

73 de John-WB5SYT

Central Oklahoma Radio Amateurs,
Inc

Lunch Meeting will be held 12:00p.m.
March 27, 1999 at the Skyline Café on
1631 SE 15th Street in Oklahoma City.
The meeting will start after lunch has
been served.

Discussion will cover the up-coming
Ham Holiday '99 and other topics
concerning CORA.

All are welcome to attend.

Chit-Chat

By Linda, NILPN

"I want to do this, just once, if I could only do it without laughing!" I hate it when companies feel they have the right to call you whenever the mood strikes them and refuse a polite, "no thank you!" I have a hard time hanging up on people as well. Getting an unlisted phone number is no protection from these pests, they use a computer and random numbers are dialed. To be honest, I did work as one of those pests for a time, years ago. It paid the bills, I hated the pressure of quotas but stayed until I could find a better job.

At our house, we screen all incoming calls with an answering machine. We have caller ID as well for the people who refuse to leave a message on the machine. If no phone number comes up on caller ID, we just do not answer the call. It is so nice not to jump everytime the phone rings, I know I can always return the calls later when I have the time. Anyway, enjoy the little story I have for you this month and have a good laugh. Until next month...

AT&T

One thing that has always bugged me, and I'm sure it does most of you, is to sit down at the dinner table only to be interrupted by a phone call from a telemarketer. I decided, on one such occasion, to try to be as irritating as they were to me. The call was from AT&T and it went something like this:

Me: Hello

AT&T: Hello, this is AT&T...

Me: Is this AT&T?

AT&T: Yes, this is AT&T...

Me: This is AT&T?

AT&T: Yes This is AT&T...

Me: Is this AT&T?

AT&T: YES! This is AT&T, may I speak to Mr. Byron please?

Me: May I ask who is calling?

AT&T: This is AT&T.

Me: OK, hold on.

At this point I put the phone down for a solid 5 minutes thinking that, surely, this person would have hung up the phone. Much to my surprise, when I picked up the receiver, they were still waiting.

Me: Hello?

AT&T: Is this Mr. Byron?

Me: May I ask who is calling please?

AT&T: Yes this is AT&T...

Me: Is this AT&T?

AT&T: Yes this is AT&T...

Me: This is AT&T?

AT&T: Yes, is this Mr. Byron?

Me: Yes, is this AT&T?

AT&T: Yes sir.

Me: The phone company?

AT&T: Yes sir.

Me: I thought you said this was AT&T.

AT&T: Yes sir, we are a phone company.

Me: I already have a phone.

AT&T: We aren't selling phones today Mr. Byron.

Me: Well whatever it is, I'm really not interested but thanks for calling.

When you are not interested in something, I don't think you can express yourself any plainer than by saying, "I'm really not interested", but this lady was persistent.

AT&T: Mr. Byron we would like to offer you 10 cents a minute, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

Now, I am sure she meant she was offering a "rate" of 10 cents a minute but she at no time used the word rate. I could clearly see that it was time to whip out the trusty old calculator and do a little ciphering.

Me: Now, that's 10 cents a minute 24 hours a day?

AT&T: (getting a little excited at this point by my interest) Yes sir, that's right! 24 hours a day!

Me: 7 days a week?

AT&T: That's right.

Me: 365 days a year?

AT&T: Yes sir.

Me: I am definitely interested in that! Wow! That's amazing!

AT&T: We think so!

Me: That's quite a sum of money!

AT&T: Yes sir, it's amazing how it adds up.

Me: OK, so will you send me checks weekly, monthly or just one big one at the end of the year for the full \$52,560, and if you send an annual check, can I get a cash advance?

AT&T: Excuse me?

Me: You know, the 10 cents a minute.

AT&T: What are you talking about?

Me: You said you'd give me 10 cents a minute, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. That comes to \$144 per day, \$1008 per week and \$52,560 per year. I'm just interested in knowing how you will be making payment.

AT&T: Oh no sir I didn't mean we'd be paying you. You pay us 10 cents a minute.

Me: Wait a minute here!!! Didn't you say you'd give me 10 cents a minute? Are you sure this is AT&T?

AT&T: Well, yes this is AT&T sir but...

Me: But nothing, how do you figure that by saying that you'll give me 10 cents a minute that I'll give you 10 cents a minute? Is this some kind of kind of subliminal telemarketing scheme? I've read about things like this in the Enquirer you know. Don't use your alien brainwashing techniques on me.

AT&T: No sir we are offering 10 cents a minute for...

Me: THERE YOU GO AGAIN! Can I speak to a supervisor please!

AT&T: Sir I don't think that is necessary.

Me: Sure! You say that now! What happens later?

AT&T: What?

Me: I insist on speaking to a supervisor!

AT&T: Yes Mr. Byron. Please hold on.

So now AT&T has me on hold and my supper is getting cold. I begin to eat while I'm waiting for a supervisor. After a wait of a few minutes and while I have a mouth full of food:

Supervisor: Mr. Byron?

Me: Yeth?

Supervisor: I understand you are not quite understanding our 10 cents a minute program.

Me: Id thish Ath Teeth & Teeth?

Supervisor: Yes sir, it sure is.

I had to swallow before I choked on my food. It was all I could do to suppress my laughter and I had to be careful not to produce a snort.

Me: No, actually I was just waiting for someone to get back to me so that I could sign up for the plan.

Supervisor: OK, no problem, I'll transfer you back to the person who was helping you.

... Me: Thank you.

I was on hold once again and was getting really hungry. I needed to end this conversation.

Suddenly, there was an aggravated but polite voice at the other end of the phone.

AT&T: Hello Mr. Byron, I understand that you are interested in signing up for our plan?

Me: Do you have that friends and family thing because you can never have enough friends and I'm an only child and I'd really like to have a little brother...

AT&T: (click)

Smiling to myself, I reheated my dinner in the microwave, took the phone off the hook and set down to eat my long awaited meal.

(Author unknown)

Colombian Quake Springs Hams To Action

Amateur Radio nets activated in short order on 20 and 40 meters following an earthquake January 25 in West Central Colombia. The quake, measuring 6 on the Richter scale, killed more than 1000 people, injured thousands of others, and caused major structural damage. The Salvation Army reports more than 150,000 people missing in Colombia's mountainous coffee-growing region. The initial tremor and some aftershocks were felt in the capital city of Bogota. News media in Colombia were reporting "chaos" in the city of Armenia, where some residents stormed and looted stores and supermarkets when relief supplies failed to materialize. Martial law was declared there.

"In most cases, the problem is in the distribution," said Dallas Carter, W3PP, in Laurel, Delaware. Carter monitored some of the first reports of the quake via Amateur Radio on a 20-meter relief net run by HK3SA and HK3RQA and has been assisting as a US net control--sometimes for as long as 12 hours a day. Amateur activities were taking place on 14.347 MHz and locally on 7.085 and 7.090 MHz.

Ham radio was a major source of information out of the affected area in the

hours immediately following the disaster. "They are requesting blood, water, medical assistance, rescue equipment," Carter said this week. He said HK3SA was flown into the city of Armenia and has set up an HF operation to maintain contact via 40 and 20 meters to directly handle international health-and-welfare requests as well as keep in touch with the capital. He said 2-meter repeaters were being used for local emergency coordination.

The Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN) has established contact with hams in Colombia and a net on 14.265 MHz and was helping with inquiries about victims. At this point, most of the health-and-welfare traffic was coming into the US from the stricken regions, while not much was going into the area. The Salvation Army's Michael Koenemund, KB1CKF, reported that the Salvation Army had dispatched a 10-member assessment and first response team from Bogota to the affected cities of Pereira and Ibaque. "The team will render primary services, including food, water and shelter," he said.

The International Red Cross in Colombia has dispatched a team of 80, plus relief equipment and supplies. "There's an extreme shortage of doctors," Carter said. "They're still digging people out."

The ARRL has offered its assistance to the Liga Colombiana de Radioaficionados (LCRA), the League's IARU sister society in Colombia.

Media in Bogota have set up Web sites with information from the affected areas including lists of individual names and status. See <http://www.rcntv.com.co> <http://www.eureka.com.co/terremoto/> (Spanish) or <http://www.eureka.com.co/terremoto/indexEn.html> (English).

(The ARRL Letter)

Solar Update

Solar sage Tad Cook, K7VVV, Seattle, Washington, reports: Solar activity was down slightly this week when compared to last. Average sunspot values were 35 points, lower, but solar flux was off by less than 6 points. Average solar flux for the previous 90 days was 140.1, and daily solar flux values were below this level on

the last three days of the reporting week. Expect solar flux to continue lower at 112, 110 and 110 for January 29-31. Planetary A index for the same three days is projected to be 8, 5 and 8, which is not too bad for the CQ WW 160-Meter contest.

The projected solar flux for January 30-31 of 110 is quite low, all of 30 points lower than the average for the 90 days previous to the reporting week. Flux values also dipped down to this level on January 10, but prior to that had not been this low since late October. Solar flux is expected to rise next week, to above 130 around February 8, above 140 three days later, and around 155 by mid-month. Look for unsettled geomagnetic conditions around February 9-11 and February 19.

During the same week last year average sunspot numbers were 17 points lower, and average solar flux was about 55 points lower.

Sunspot numbers for January 21 through 27 were 134, 141, 117, 107, 81, 47, and 64, with a mean of 98.7. The 10.7-cm flux was 175.3, 177.9, 165.9, 161.8, 138.1, 133.2, and 125.4, with a mean of 153.9. The estimated planetary A indices were 5, 10, 16, 13, 9, 4 and 9, with a mean of 9.4.

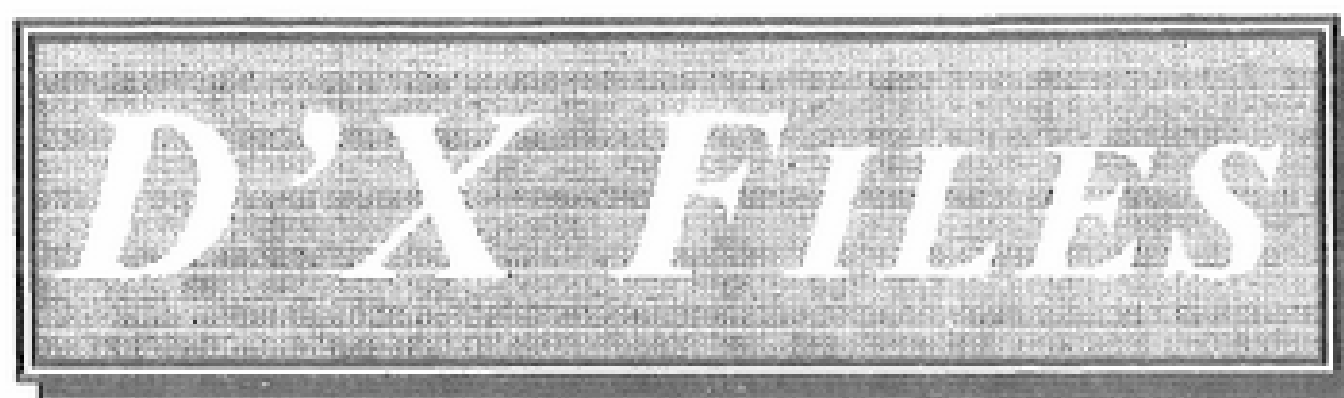
(The ARRL Letter)

ARRL E-Mail Forwarding Service

Starting February 1, ARRL members will be able to sign up via the Members Only Web Site <http://www.arrl.org/members-only/> for the League's new E-Mail Forwarding Service. The forwarding--or alias--service is available at no additional charge for ARRL members. It will provide members with a uniform "callsign@arrl.net"; e-mail address that remains the same even if the user changes e-mail service providers. Details are available on the Members Only Web Site at <http://www.arrl.org/members-only/emailfwd.html>. The service does not affect usability of your original e-mail address, which will continue to be the one reflected in outgoing messages.

(The ARRL Letter)

Covertly employed by a government agency with no name, issued an international license with no restrictions, and sworn to achieve one goal: The exploration and understanding of the most extreme fringes of communications technology. You can join the adventures of Doug Xander, perhaps the most technically adept Radio Amateur in the world, by reading:



Episode Five: To You, It's A Contest... To Xander, It's A QRM Festival...

Subject: ARLP004 Propagation de K7VVV
Date: Fri, 22 Jan 1999 08:15:11 EST

ZCZC AP04

QST de W1AW

Propagation Forecast Bulletin 4 ARLP004
From Tad Cook, K7VVV Seattle, WA
January 22, 1999 To all radio amateurs

Solar activity was up over the past week, with an astonishing jump in solar flux on Wednesday to 238.8. Since this noon reading and the afternoon reading of 210.7 were both solar flare enhanced, we will use the morning measurement of 171.8 for our record book instead...

...Last week in VHF news ZL3TIC in Christchurch reported hearing a number of North American stations on 6 meters, as well as low channel commercial television signals. This was on January 14, and the next day WA5IYX in Texas heard a number of 6 meter beacons around North America...

Sunspot Numbers for January 14 through 20 were 86, 106, 106, 131, 169, 182 and 156 with a mean of 133.7. 10.7 cm flux was 136.9, 142.6, 158.5, 161.4, 170.9, 175.9 and 171.8, with a mean of 159.7, and estimated planetary A indices were 26, 17, 7, 5, 5, 5 and 7, with a mean of 10.3.

NNNN

Many Radio Amateurs were surprised to see this ARRL Bulletin. A sharp jump in the Solar Flux Index for a few hours and incredible 6 Meter DX reception reports are both rare phenomena. But none read this bulletin with more interest than Doug Xander... Were the band openings and rising flux levels caused by a solar flare, or could it have been something closer to home? This episode of D'X Files may tell the rest of the story...

Xander was quite pleased with his efforts in developing the SHAFT (Stealth High

Altitude Field Terminated) antenna... An infinite length field of highly charged ions that can operate as a virtual isotropic radiator or four-square array high above his QTH. Although not a maximum gain design, the extreme radiation height yields superior results far beyond expectations. As many OM's are well aware: "There is no compensation for a lack of elevation", and the advantages of a SHAFT operating several miles above ground yield a manly signal that's impossible to ignore...

Then again, if the field alignment could be accurately maintained at even greater heights, perhaps this antenna could be useful in other ways. Xander theorized a single column of RF-Charged ions could reach the 100+ miles needed to penetrate the D and E Layers of the ionosphere, but pushing this column through the denser F Layers could prove more of a challenge. Why would Xander be interested in this? If he could thrust his SHAFT into the F Layer, would it be possible to affect the density of the ionosphere and create HF propagation as needed without regard to solar conditions? Surely no Radio Amateur has given this serious thought, much less considered it possible...

"...Xander put out a call and 300+ stations responded simultaneously..."

After a night of fitful sleep filled with dreams of sleek passenger trains passing through tunnels, Xander had another of his now famous Blinding Flashes of Inspiration...

The strength of the ionized column should be directly proportional to the ionizing agent(s) charging the plasma field... In the original SHAFT, a fine mist of WD-40 was adequate to generate a radiating column capable of carrying more than 20 amps of RF current... Would a heavier

agent produce a more rigid column? Like Thomas Alva Edison's methodical testing of various materials through trial and error at Menlo Park, Xander tried a variety of ionizing agents, starting with Valvoline SAE 50W racing oil... No Change. He experimented with Karo Syrup (this is radio station KARO... the sticky spot on your dial...) which showed an improvement but proved impractical in colder weather. He tried PAM cooking spray, Pine-Sol (which gave a very clean pattern), STP, GM Dexron III ATF and Marvel Mystery Oil (which did a nice job of freeing the plasma generator's valves and injectors following the Karo experiment). Each showed slightly different characteristics, but none achieved the goal of penetrating the calibrated target, a weather balloon pressurized with high-altitude gases...

Within a few days, Xander had tried most of the household products at hand and began to wonder if there was no solution strong enough to achieve his goal.

Then, while watching an interview on C-SPAN with retired US Senator and Presidential Candidate Bob Dole about his future plans, Xander wondered if a powdered material might prove more effective... Borrowing a Viagra pill from K5PX, he ground it into a fine powder and injected a few specks of Viagra dust into the plasma generator. The RF field not only burst the weather balloon like a cheap condom at a Kennedy family reunion, but it cut a hole through the outside wall of the lab and startled livestock grazing nine miles away. Xander found the magic powder he was looking for, Bob and Liddy Dole agree it really is magic, and the veterinarian says there was no permanent damage to the bull... The loss of self-esteem should be temporary.

On the morning of January 13th, Xander began several days of experimenting with ion injection directly into the F Layer while observing the flux levels and HF propagation. Although the results were not immediately verifiable, the ARRL propagation bulletin quoted earlier might be more than coincidental. Notice the steep rise in solar flux values from the 14th onward. They're identical to Xander's testing schedule that ended on the 19th.

With evidence he may have been the first to achieve F Layer seeding by direct ion injection, Xander considered his options...

"...If there was ever an opportunity for Six Meter DXCC in less than half an hour... This was it..."

What if he had a pair of charged columns acting as a parallel feed line coupled into and loading the entire ionosphere as one gigantic spherical loop antenna? If the elements of a conventional antenna can reflect and radiate a signal, why couldn't a reflective ionosphere radiate as well? The concept was ingenious in simplicity and mind-boggling in potential... Instead of bouncing a signal off the ionosphere and dealing with skip zones and the vagaries of path loss and elevation angles, Xander believed he could surround the Earth with a radiating element operating much like a theoretical infinite loop. At 150 miles above the Earth, it would be a unique variation of the general purpose HF loop antenna.

Calculating the anticipated RF power loss of the ion feed and ionospheric coupling at typical flux densities, Xander realized the high impedance characteristics of the system made the technique practical for power levels as low as 100 watts. The only concern was the potential of the Jet Steam distorting the parallel feed alignment. An active controller at the antenna base could dynamically adjust for SWR variations caused by slewing of the feeders, but the mechanical construction would require great precision to be effective.

A few days later the home-brew controller was ready for testing. As luck would have it, the ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes were scheduled for the weekend. Although

this super-loop should be most effective below 30 MHz, Xander decided a few hours of 50 MHz contesting might be useful as a performance evaluation.

Xander fired up the plasma generators and watched the HDTV video monitors as the twin ionized columns, with their faint purple glow reminiscent of the 0A2's in an R-390/URR power supply, stretched upward toward the outer reaches of the atmosphere. As the lower layers of the ionosphere were penetrated, a receiver monitoring 50.200 MHz clearly sounded the noise level peaks as each successive layer was passed. When the F Layer was approached, the noise level reached a maximum higher than any other and a pair of VE6's in QSO were heard Q-5.

Xander tuned a few kHz up and peaked the feeders for maximum noise which, unfortunately, was near 30dB over S-9. It was then he realized that he would not only hear every Six Meter QSO in the world, but also every bad neon sign, cracked power line insulator and TV sync birdie worldwide. This was about as welcome as a copy of *Hustler Magazine* in a Congressional mailbox... Xander turned off the receiver preamp and dialed in 18 dB of attenuation to get the noise level below S-7 on the meter.

The antenna loaded without complaint in the SSB portion of the band and a fine adjustment of the feed spacing gave a perfect 1:1 Delta Match. The noise level dropped slightly to an S-5 at resonance, but very few Amateur signals were heard. If the feeders were absorbing most of the signal, Xander may have built the most elaborate dummy load in the history of Ham Radio. Would this contest weekend be spent listening to global QRN... ?

As WWV signaled the starting minute of the contest, Xander's receiver burst into a cacophony of signals from across the country. Tuning the band revealed there were absolutely no quiet spots for Xander to use, but worse than that, multiple signals were heard on every frequency. Xander copied almost nothing through the QRM, apparently the ionospheric loop was working too well for a crowded band. Normally we share frequencies by region

with minimal QRM, but even the weak signals were a solid Ten Over Nine with no QSB. Working an HT in Kazakhstan was certainly within the realm of the possible, but only on a clear frequency which was non-existent at the moment...

This was a great disappointment. After so many successes, could this brilliant design be too effective to be useful? As Xander considered his options, the QRM on 50.170 MHz quieted for a moment... Xander put out a call and 300+ stations responded simultaneously. He called for "AH6 only, please come now..." which thinned it down to less than 20, but it was still difficult copy. By selectively calling prefixes or grid squares he slipped into his Legendary Contest Rhythm with a QSO rate better than five per minute. Aided by his custom voice recognition logging software, he knew this was too good to last. His typical signal report was Infinity over Nine, plus or minus 3 dB...

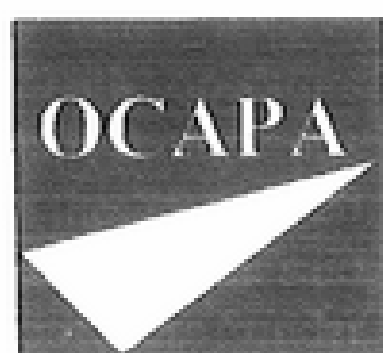
As you might have guessed, Xander made the DX packet cluster. Within a few minutes he was inundated by an alphabet soup of call signs from AB1's to ZL9's with everything in between. Although Xander is a world-class contester capable of holding his own among the best-of-the-best, he remembered the purpose of this session was to evaluate the antenna, not another global demonstration of superior operating skills. But... If there was ever an opportunity for Six Meter DXCC in less than half an hour... This was it.

As lesser Hams scratched out their meager pittance of grid squares by calling "CQ Contest" against poor to mediocre band conditions, Xander leaned back in his chair and began his own calls...

C3 prefixes...	Please come now...
D6 prefixes...	Please come now...
HV prefixes...	Please come now...
T3 prefixes...	Please come now...
YJ prefixes...	Please come now...

The QSO is out there.

Contents Copyright 1998-1999
by Nelson Derks - KC5QVV.
" Illegitimus Non Carborundum
Ipso Facto "



Oklahoma City Autopatch Assn

Minutes of the OCAPA meeting for January 19th, 1999.

Secretary's Report: Secretary's report was accepted as printed in the C&E.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report was approved.

Technical Committee: Loyd, AB5I reported that OCAPA cannot get on the KWTW tower until KWTW has finished its work on the tower. That means we cannot get up there until March or April.

It was decided to conduct an antenna survey to discover how the present antenna covers our local area and where the nulls are. If you are interested in helping to conduct the survey, contact Hal, KB1ZQ or Glenn, N5WNL.

CORA Report: There was no December CORA meeting. The next CORA meeting will be on January 26, 1999 at 7:30 PM. It will be held at NW 50th and N. Penn. at Salvation Army Divisional Headquarters.

Storm Spotters: John, N5SAM, will check with KWTW on scheduling a storm spotter meeting.

Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Forrest Rush, N5VWF

NSA bans the Furby

And finally, here's one that you may find it hard to believe. Word from the National Security Agency that it has banned the Furby from its Fort Meade premises in Maryland and other sites under its control. This is because the super spy agency says that Furbys can pose the latest threat to national security interests.

According to the Washington Post, an internal NSA message to workers warns about the toy, which can speak 200 words in two languages. The memo reportedly says that the popular toy falls under the NSA ban against personally owned photographic, video and audio recording equipment -- all of which is prohibited from its premises. This is because Furbys are equipped with built-in recorders that repeat the audio with synthesized sound to mimic the original signal.

The Washington Post says that because of its ability to repeat some of what it hears, NSA officials were worried that people would take the Furbys home and that they would start talking classified secrets.

(Published news reports)

FCC Comes A Callin' In The Carolinas

FCC engineering and legal staff conducted unannounced Amateur Radio station inspections January 21 and 22 in North and South Carolina, reports FCC amateur enforcement honcho Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH.

"Commission personnel inspected the stations of John A. Abernethy, K4OKA, an Extra Class licensee in Hickory, North Carolina, and Richard Whiten, WB2OTK, a General Class licensee in Easley, South Carolina,"

Hollingsworth said.

In both visits, FCC officials were accompanied by local law enforcement personnel.

Hollingsworth said both amateurs cooperated with the inspections, which

lasted approximately two hours apiece. FCC officials said that both operators "were the subjects of many complaints about their operations on the 75 and 20 meter Amateur bands." The officials said the results of the inspections were "under review" and declined further comment.

Earlier this month, the FCC issued a stern warning to an Indian River County, Florida ham who, the FCC said, had been using the amateur airwaves to transmit information on, among other things, the credit reports, criminal records, and mortgage foreclosures of other hams and their families. "You have apparently made these disclosures and broadcasts for the purpose of deliberately and maliciously interfering with licensed Amateurs operating on those bands, and for harassment or perceived retaliation," said the letter, signed by Hollingsworth.

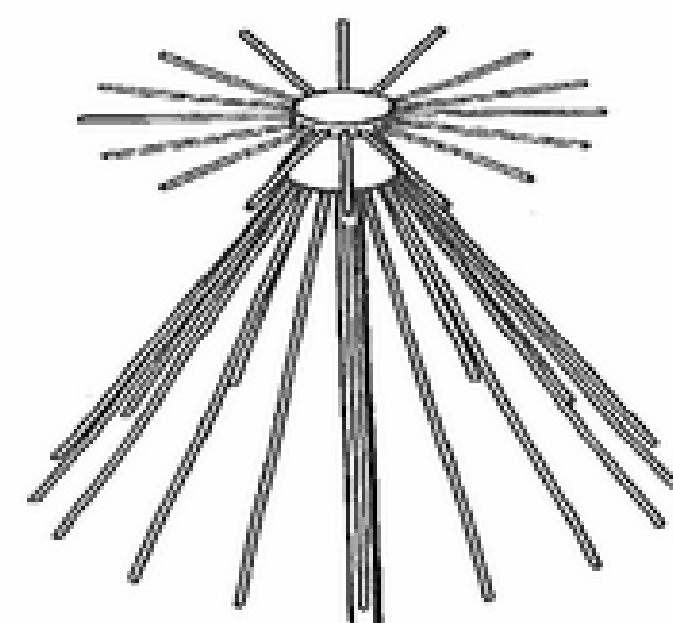
"We view this matter as extremely serious," he told the ARRL. Hollingsworth called the alleged operation "contrary to the purpose of Amateur Radio" and said that it "endangers the entire Amateur Radio frequency allocation internationally."

(The ARRL Letter)

5 MHz experiment--no additional help needed

In response to inquiries about the ARRL's recently granted WA2XSY Experimental Radio Service license for investigations on 5 MHz, the League has been requested by FCC staff to advise that no additional participants are being sought at this time. Additionally, operating schedules have not been established but will be announced if monitoring reports are solicited as part of the experiment.

(The ARRL Letter)



1631 SE 15th

677-9001

Skyline Restaurant
"country cooking"

Bryan, Cindy, Jennifer and Jessica

Amateur Radio Newsline

Computerized CW Testing

A well-known New Zealand ham says that it may be perfectly legal to have your computer take a Morse code exam anywhere in the world. Bob Vernall, ZL2CA, of Oracle says that he may have found a loophole in international law that can take the ham out of CW testing. Sound impossible? Graham Kemp, VK4BB, of Q-News tries to sort it all out:

Since the New Zealand government made proposals for a change at WRC '95 the momentum to get rid of Morse code regulations has grown internationally.

A recent example of progress is the Australian government discussion paper for the review of the Radio Communications Act.

Footnote .56 states, while the ITU regulations require Morse code skills of Amateurs. It does not specify whether the Morse sending and receiving should be at a certain rate. Or indeed whether it should be done by the operators' memory, only that the skill is by hand.

Now here is where Bob, ZL2CA draws a long bow when he says "This interpretation suggests that a candidate could use the likes of a suitably equipped PC with keyboard and Morse encoding software. This complies with sending by hand. And a PC Morse decoder and speech synthesizer complies with receiving by ear. And then go on and pass a Morse code test, even up to very high speeds with a good PC.

The Australian interpretation under discussion suggests that technology has basically overtaken in past years when it was assumed that Morse code could only be conducted manually by personal memory.

It will be interesting to see how that one develops. Bob promises further bulletins will be made during out the year on the general topic of the future of Amateur Radio.

While totally plausible and possibly legal, don't look for any government to jump to

inviting computers to take the place of their owners at CW tests, at least not anytime in the near future.
(Q-News)

SAREX vs. "The End Run"

SAREX is taking on those it says are endangering the future of manned ham radio in space. I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, in Los Angeles.

In a strongly worded white paper released on January 19th. The Space Amateur Radio Experiment, SAREX Working Group Chairman, Roy Neal, K6DUE, says that he is distressed by the recent actions taken by some individuals whom the Amateur Radio International Space station, groups accuse of waging a war on international cooperation. While not naming names, Neal says that these people have sought to destroy the international effort and discredit members of the ARISS team. He also accuses them of trying to fragment the amateur radio community and to circumvent the rules of conduct by which all hams are supposed to operate.

The object of the SAREX ire appears to be a small group of hams who did an end run around the international space community to get a slow scan television system on the Russian MIR space station. Not only did they violate international convention but they also brought the station on the air on two meters and continue to keep it there in direct violation of a standing international agreement that assigned all MIR SSTV activity to the 70 cm band.

SAREX freely admits that the recent MIR slow scan operation has enjoyed success within the ham community. But says SAREX, that these actions are also endangering the future of ham radio in manned space flight. This is because their recent projects disregard the tremendous efforts put forth by well-respected explorers in the amateur space community and prey upon the situation of some of the ARISS partners.

Neal notes that society can function only if it has some general rules to govern the conduct of the humans on our world. Otherwise says K6DUE, there would be chaos as a few people take over, insistent on doing anything they want, whenever they want to do it. He adds that anyone is

welcome to be a part of the future of ham radio in space, but adds that everyone has to play by the established set of international rules.

The complete text of the SAREX white paper is available at the Newsline website. It's well worth reading. That URL is:

<http://www.arnewline.org>

Look for the new topic titled "Ham Radio in Space"

(Newsline from information provided by the SAREX Working Group)

Smithtown, New York Ham wins tower variance

Thanks to a group of area hams that testified in his behalf a Smithtown, New York ham has been granted a permit for a new tower and antenna.

The group spoke at the tower variance hearing for Anthony Bombardiere, AB2CJ, on Tuesday, January 12th. Bombardiere had applied to install a fifty-five foot tower and the town decided to hold a public forum before making any decision to approve or deny. Speaking on behalf of Bombardiere were five hams that are experts in the field of Amateur Radio. As a result of their testimony the application was approved and AB2CJ has been notified that his installation may begin. Its worth noting that this is the same team of ham radio expert witnesses that appeared before this same board last year. This, on behalf of Jeff Singer, K2KV. At that time they won a variance for a Singers' ninety-two foot tower and antenna structure.

(Hudson Loop)

Texas Pro Amateur tower bills

Two pro amateur tower and antenna bills are on their way to the Texas State legislature. According to N0WWK, one bill is the generic amateurs have the right to put up towers while the other is the specific population density versus antenna height bill.

State Representative Patricia Gray will present the two measures.

(VHF Reflector)



Edmond Amateur Radio Society

Well, here we are in February already. Let's start our with HAPPY BIRTHDAYS to the following:

03 KC5GDC Terry Deas
05 KB5DGH Barbara Kiespert
08 N5ZHS Ed Root
09 N5SGV Pat Gray
13 N5VWF Forrest Rush
22 AC5CQ Brad Thomson
23 KC5OVD Denise Thomason
27 KD5FDW David Long

Congratulations and many happy returns!

Edmond Amateur Radio Society Board Meeting

CALL TO ORDER: Steve, KC5RYT opened the meeting, at the club station at 7 p.m.

MINUTES: The minutes were presented by David, KC5UNO and were accepted as given.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Because of the large turnout at the Tuesday meeting, Steve, KC5RYT suggested moving board meetings from Friday to Tuesday, and consensus of the board was to do so.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: None.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Gary, KD5CPL gave the report. Gary also read a letter from our insurance carrier stating they would not cover repeater problems caused by Y2K.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Curtis, KC5GEP requested the club generate a request letter to Nextel for a surplus MacIntosh computer for the club to use at the Emergency Operations Center. Sharon, KM5GV, agreed to write that letter and send it to Curtis.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT: Dave, K0TYC, reporting for Dee, WD5FHR, said he checked FCC regulations regarding licensing restrictions for those operating at the club station, KC5ORP. Said frequency privileges would be limited to those of the control operator at the station, and that operators should continue to ID as they do now.

EMERGENCY COORDINATOR: Steve, KC5RYT, appointed Ken, N5DBM to continue in that position.

HF COMMITTEE: Dave, K0TYC reported that the club received three more QSL cards from states (Delaware, Kansas, North Dakota) needed for the WAS award. Said the club could do something for 89ers Day.

CORA: Ron, KC5QCV reported that the dates for Ham Holiday would be July 23-24. Other club representatives to CORA are Jay Lytle, KB5VDH and Dave Wolf, KC5KJE.

MEMBERSHIP: Sharon, KM5GV reported that 55 membership renewals had been received so far. Suggested a club-wide mailout in October reminding members about elections and membership renewal. Also suggested board consider buying the large patches that go on the back of jackets for those who want them, rather than trying to buy more jackets. No action was taken on either suggestion.

CALLING COMMITTEE: Sherry, KD5CPJ said the calling committee would remind club members about the business meeting on 1/17.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE: Steve, KC5RYT said Joyce Wolf has been appointed to continue as chairman of the committee.

NEW BUSINESS: Discussion continued about appointing additional board members. Board voted unanimously to add two new at-large members (total of 5), and nominations and vote would occur at the business meeting on 1/17. Steve, KC5RYT appointed a review committee to look at the club's constitution and by-laws. The issue of turning in and re-distributing keys to the club station also was discussed.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned when it was over, about 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
David Hartman, KC5UNO

HEALTH AND WELFARE

Clara, KG5UG, requested continued prayers for Glenda Watson, wife of member Joe Watson, W5WBR. Bob Coxey appreciates the prayer and concern for his mother. Let's continue to remember them, also.



Looking back over 1998, we have been very fortunate indeed to have many new members to the EARS Club. In fact, two of our new members have jumped in with both feet and are a part of our 1999 Board of Directors: Gary Carson, KD5CPL - Treasurer, and Patrick Martin, KD5CPQ - Board Member. Welcome to all of you who have joined the ranks in 1998. (If we have forgotten anyone on this list, our sincere apologies).

Charles Alden, AC5RH
Dustin Bennett, KC5HGZ
Joel Bennett, KK5XS
Tony Bissell, WR5T
Gary Carson, KD5CPL
Ken Dunn, N5WKV
Raymond Ellis, N5WKW
Charles Gawron, KA8VKR
Tom Heffron, AC5PI
Ken Lenoir, now sk WB5TGI
David Long, KD5FDW
Squire Luttrell, KA9KFC
Patrick Martin, KD5CPQ
Charles Newcomb, KD5DBF
Richard Olsen, KD5CPK
Derek Olsen
Dan Osborne, KC5YTK
Jim Payne, N5VDY
Don Sherry, KD5FQS
Sherry Storey, KD5CPJ
Mark Tyler, W3GFJ
Joe Watson, W5WBR
Jeff Wells, KD5CRP
Dirk Wilhite, KC5SFE
Phil Wolfenbarger, N5HIP

1999 New Members

Starting the year off in good fashion, say hello to new members for 1999. We look forward to getting to know you all in the months to come.

Kent Bourland, KJ5UI
Phyllis Bourland, KC5ICV
Carl Reed, N5OQN
Donna Reed, KB5KFW
Tony Reed, N5QIP
Jeff Wells KD5CRP
Daniel Simpson KD5GDE

Have you renewed YOUR membership for 1999? Be sure to get your renewals in soon to make sure you don't miss any of your club benefits.

E-mail Information

If you have not already advised the Club of your E-mail address and would like to do so, please E-mail Sharon, KM5GV at Sharon_Thompson@Capitalland.com

To notify the Club of a change in your Call, Address, Phone number or E-mail address, please also contact Sharon by E-mail. Thank you.

Things to think about!

Lots of things are coming up this year. As our Arkansas neighbors can attest, storm season is coming soon! Ken Stepp, our Emergency Coordinator, is already getting going for the year. How would you like to have a safe place to stay during a storm, opportunities to meet fellow citizens, and do a great public service all at the same time? We need more folks to be volunteer shelter monitors when the storms threaten. It would be nice to have enough help to have backups. Emergency Net drills will happen again this year starting soon. Those will happen an hour before siren test, so you can get in on two opportunities at the same time. Speaking of siren test, there will be lots of opportunities this year to help with this public service project. It doesn't take much time on the first Saturday of the month so we can help the city be ready when storms do come our way again.

Not necessarily amateur thoughts:

Lessons from the Geese

Sometimes animals instinctively know more about teamwork than we humans. Consider the following:

As each bird flaps its wings, it creates an uplift for the bird following. By flying in V formation, the whole flock adds a 71% longer flying range than if each bird flew alone.

LESSON: People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going a lot quicker and easier when they travel on the thrust of each other.

Whenever a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to fly alone, and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird immediately in front.

LESSON: If we have as much sense as a goose, we will stay in formation with those who are headed where we want to go.

When the lead goose is tired, it rotates back into the formation and another goose takes over at the point position.

LESSON: It pays to take turns doing the hard tasks and sharing leadership—because people, like geese, are interdependent on each other.

The geese in formation honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

LESSON: We need to make sure our honking from behind is encouraging—not something less helpful.

When a goose gets sick or wounded or shot down, two geese drop out of the formation and follow him down to help and protect him. They stay with him until he is either able to fly again or dies. Then they launch out on their own, either with another formation or to catch up with the original flock.

LESSON: We should stand by each other in crises, as geese.

See you in February!

Downtown NOW

On Saturday, December 5th, EARS was on location in the center of downtown OKC for another public service event. This was the Festival of Lights Christmas

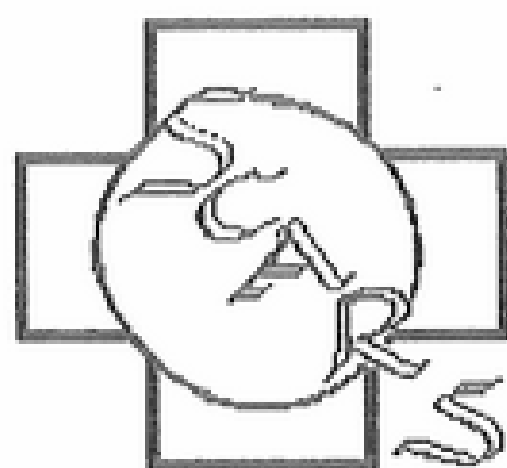
celebration centered around the Myriad Gardens. A Christmas parade and a fireworks show with all the glitter, pomp and Santa Claus that an event can tolerate. And, the weather cooperated with a very pleasant shirtsleeve afternoon that hardly felt like the Christmas holidays. From noon on that day till around 6:00 PM, EARS was helping with perimeter control over the fireworks preparation keeping vehicles and pedestrians at a safe distance before, during and after. Speaking of vehicles, you might ask one of our participants about him helping with a vehicle "relocation project." Quite a sight to enjoy and one Amateur Radio operators seem to participate in with only minor arm-twisting.

The EARS crew was punctual and helpful while meeting the needs of the event organizers. In addition, we always attempt and generally succeed in enjoying ourselves at such events. We did remember to do the task as requested but be prompt in our departure in that the EARS dinner was underway that evening. An afternoon of such public service activities does tend to activate one's appetite. Thanks to the following participants for giving of themselves, energy and time away from family:

Jim Rynearson-KC5MJS
Mike McShan-N5JKY
Dirk Wilhite-KC5SFE
Pat Martin-KD5CPL
Gary Carson-KD5CPQ
Steve Hamlin-KG5IP
John Thomason-WB5SYT

For several years running this crew has helped with this and similar events in OKC. It does help to plan our effort to fulfill our commitment to the event staff when we have experienced hands. Many times at these events one can get in some challenging situations which take coordination with other participants to maintain our role without venturing beyond our limits. In these situations it is nice to know you have back up and help who "know the ropes." We did our duty and thank Downtown Now for requesting our participation. Without public service would there be Amateur Radio?

73 de John-WB5SYT



South Canadian Amateur Radio Society

Minutes – SCARS Regular meeting -
Saturday, Jan. 9, 1999

09:30 - Meeting called to order by Club
President Dennis, KC5EVH.

Repeater Report - Ken, N5BEW, reported
there has been some interference on the
system, especially during icy conditions.
He is not sure what is causing it, but the
bulk of the interference seems to be
coming from the Norman Fire Department.

Treasurer's Report - Jeff, KE5EB, reported
the account balance. All is well. Just a
reminder that notices have been sent to all
who have not renewed Club membership.
Please have all renewals to Jeff by the end
of February, or you will not be included in
the new Club roster. Nothing personal, we
are just trying to get the roster as current
and accurate as possible. No further
reminders will be made.

WIAW Receiver Kits - A motion was
made and passed to allocate up to \$300.00
for the purchase of these kits. If you need
further information, please contact Ed,
N3US. He is interested to hear from you if
you are willing to help build the kits.

Station Equipment - Dennis, KC5EVH,
proposed that the Club either repair its
Kenwood PS-30 Power Supply, or
purchase another power supply. A motion
was made and passed to allocate a
maximum of \$150.00 for the repair or
replacement of the supply. (LATE
BREAKING NEWS - As of 1/24/99, the
Kenwood Power Supply has been repaired
by Jeff, KE5EB. \$55.00 was the price to
replace some resistors and the pass
transistors. The supply works fine, now,

and there will be no need to replace the
supply at this time.)

Red Cross - Dennis, KC5EVH announced
that Gayland, KC5MMU, is the new
Disaster Chairman for the Cleveland
County Red Cross. Congratulations,
Gayland! You are obviously very
dedicated to the skills needed for that
position, and we will certainly support
your efforts. Volunteers are needed to
assist with radio communications during
Red Cross Disaster drills and (heaven
forbid) any actual disasters. Please contact
Gayland if you want to offer your
assistance. His email address is
gkitch@ci.moore.ok.us

10:05 - Meeting adjourned.

S.C.A.R.S. - The South Canadian Amateur
Radio Society - holds regular monthly
meetings at the Red Cross Building in
Norman. The meetings are conducted on
the second Saturday of each month, and
begin at 9:30 am. The building is open at
9:00 am for the purpose of raising blood,
caffeine, and sugar levels (while, of
course, sharing the latest war-stories!!).
We welcome you to our meetings. If you
have questions, please feel free to call Jeff,
KE5EB, at 329-7871. Leave a message,
and he will return your call. You may also
ask your questions on the air by accessing
the Club Repeater on 147.060 (+) (PL
141.3). We will be glad to have you with
us!

Swimming pool event

And special event station GB0RWS will
be active on the 30th and 31st of January
to help raise funds to repair a school
swimming pool. Richard Evans, G0VCW,
will primarily operate the station. Money
raised from the event will go towards
renovation of the pool at Raunds Windmill

Primary School, also in the UK.
(RSGB)

Championship event

Also, the third IARU Region 3 Amateur
Radio Direction Finding Championships
will be in Nonsan, Korea from June 21st to
June 26th. English will be the official
language during the championships. For
any further inquiries and information,
please contact:

The Korean Amateur Radio League, Inc.
C.P.O. BOX 162, Seoul, 100-601 Korea

(KARL)

DX

In DX, The French DX Bulletin reports
that F5JDG and F6BDS will be active
from Uganda as 5X1MA and 5X1LG.
They are there for business, but they will
try to be active on 40 through 10 meters
with 100 watts and dipoles.

(DXNS)

And the Wireless Institute of Australia
says that the Australian Communications
authority has agreed to let that nations
hams the use of AX prefix on January
26th. This to celebrate for Australia Day.
The permit for the usage is for the 24
hours only. That's from midnight to
midnight local time.

(WIA)

Much higher in frequency, Erick Dean,
N16G, reports that California's San
Joaquin Valley -- grid square DM06 is
now QRV on 902.100 MHZ on SSB and
CW. He says that there are three stations
operational on the band -- N6AJ, K6MI,
and N16G. All three are using M Square
902-18 yagis and are looking for others to
join them on the band.

(N16G)

Nolen's Accounting & Tax Service, Inc.

"Professional Service With A Personal Touch"

James H. Nolen, EA, ATA, ATP

DEL CITY
4700 E. Reno
Del City, OK 73117
(405) 677-6028
FAX (405) 677-7023

SOUTHWEST
2717 SW 44th
Okla. City, OK 73119
(405) 682-0461
Fax (405) 682-0461

MUSTANG
400 W. Highway 152
Mustang, OK 73064
(405) 376-2848
Fax (405) 376-2848

**OK
DX**Just
for the
Fun of It!**OKlahoma
DX Association****From Da' Editor...**

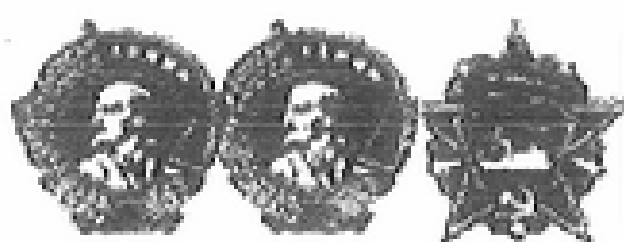
By Nelson Derks, KC5QVV

If the old cliché saying "No News is Good News" is correct, January was a great month for the OKDXA... No club news to report. In fact, activity has been so non-existent, I've decided to change the name of the OKDXA Newsletter to "Pravda" just to see if anyone notices. Got the artwork and everything. Check out the Star of Lenin, that's a Genuine DX Graphic...

Now, I know there are a few of you who still get a little nervous about the old Evil Empire thing... But, Not To Worry... The Soviet Union is history and we should define our political terms before deciding if this is a bad idea. Taken to the logical extreme, the people's government owns everything in a Communist society. In a Socialist society, everybody owns a little bit of everything but no one owns all of anything. In a Capitalist society, Bill Gates owns everything... I hope this puts the situation in perspective for you.

And speaking of Capitalists, for those of you on the OKDXA Net who have been asking about the Green Country HamFest, remember the weekend of March 19th & 20th at the Maxwell Convention Center, 7th & Houston in Downtown Tulsa. Although it's too early for details about the OKDXA Club Meeting, it will likely be Saturday afternoon after the swapmeet bargains are picked clean. The Convention Center is well marked and fairly easy to find, just look for the cars with too many antennas or the stray geezer with an ARC-5 under his arm... Talk-In on 145.110 & 443.850. At the moment both machines are PL toned at 88.5 Hz. And remember, it's not a legal HamFest unless there's at least one ARC-5 or a box of ceramic tube sockets for sale... There should be an ad in the March *C&E*. The web page address is: <http://www.greencountryhamfest.org>

ПОДПИСНОЙ
ИНДЕКС:
50226

**ПРАВДА**

Газета основана 5 мая 1912 года по инициативе В. И. ЛЕНИНА

Although you won't hear KC5QVV on the OKDXA Net due to a lack of a 75 Meter wire... (and I know you've been wanting to QSO with someone who knows Doctor DX and Doug Xander...) I do listen every Saturday morning at 9:00 am on 3860 kHz (plus QRM). How's that for a smooth mention of the OKDXA Net Sked...?

I hope I'm not the only one doing this, but in mid-to-late January I've been making plenty of Q's into Europe with a Ringo vertical and < 100 watts on 10 Meter SSB 'fone... The band has been open almost every morning for about two weeks. Tres Bon and Sehr Gut signal reports with little competition from the big signal ops in 1, 2 & 3 Land. Check it out starting an hour after sunrise until 10 or 11 am. While this isn't exotic DX, I'm impressed by the consistently good propagation. Must be Xander's ion seeding experiment or something... We've been waiting for this stage of the solar cycle since '95 so don't be shy about putting it to good use...

OPDX Bulletin - Internet Edition

The Ohio/Penn Dx PacketCluster DX
Bulletin No. 393 January 25, 1999 Editor
Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW Provided by
BARF-80 BBS Cleveland, Ohio

4S7, SRI LANKA

ZL1RS, is currently in Sri Lanka for the next nine months. He hopes to be able to have his radio sent to him and obtain a license. Usually the licensing procedures in Sri Lanka can take up to three months. QSL direct only via ZL1RS.

5Z, LAMU ISLAND UPDATE

G3RTE, Phil/G3SWH, John/G3WGV and Rob/5Z4RL, will activate Lamu Island on the northern African coast of Kenya between February 17-24th. Their call will be 5Z4LI with thanks to 5Z4NU and 5Z4RL of the ARSK for their assistance. QSLs will be handled by G3SWH, Phil Whitchurch, 21 Dickensons Grove, Congresbury, Bristol, BS49 5HQ, United Kingdom or via the RSGB bureau.

**SIX METER OPERATIONS
PLANNED FROM 3B9**

OPDX has learned that avid VHF DXer & Contester Ned Stearns, AA7A of Arizona has joined the major multi-national DXpedition group that is heading out to Rodrigues Island, 3B9. The plan is to be active on April 1st and be on the air for as many as 10 days. Ned is reportedly in charge of assembling the Six Meter station. He states, "That time of year and this part of the solar cycle looks promising for six meter propagation to EU and JA and possibly the U.S. over the long path." Ned will bring a modest station in the 100 W class with 5 elements on a 5 meter boom plus a 6 Meter attended beacon. He is willing to work with DX enthusiasts in EU, JA and the US in order to plan his 6 Meter operating schedules for this once-in-a-lifetime DXpedition. Ned can be reached via E-mail at: stearns@goodnet.com

C5, THE GAMBIA

Steve, G3VMW, informs OPDX that he will operate from Banjul as C56/G3VMW

or possibly C56SW from March 4-18th. There will be activity on all bands 160-10 meters CW only and in the RSGB Commonwealth Contest March 13-14th. The C5 log with an Internet log search facility will be available immediately after the operation at:

<http://www.bramham.demon.co.uk> QSL via G3VMW: Steve Wilson, G3VMW, Bramham, Wetherby, West Yorks, U.K.

DU, PHILIPPINES

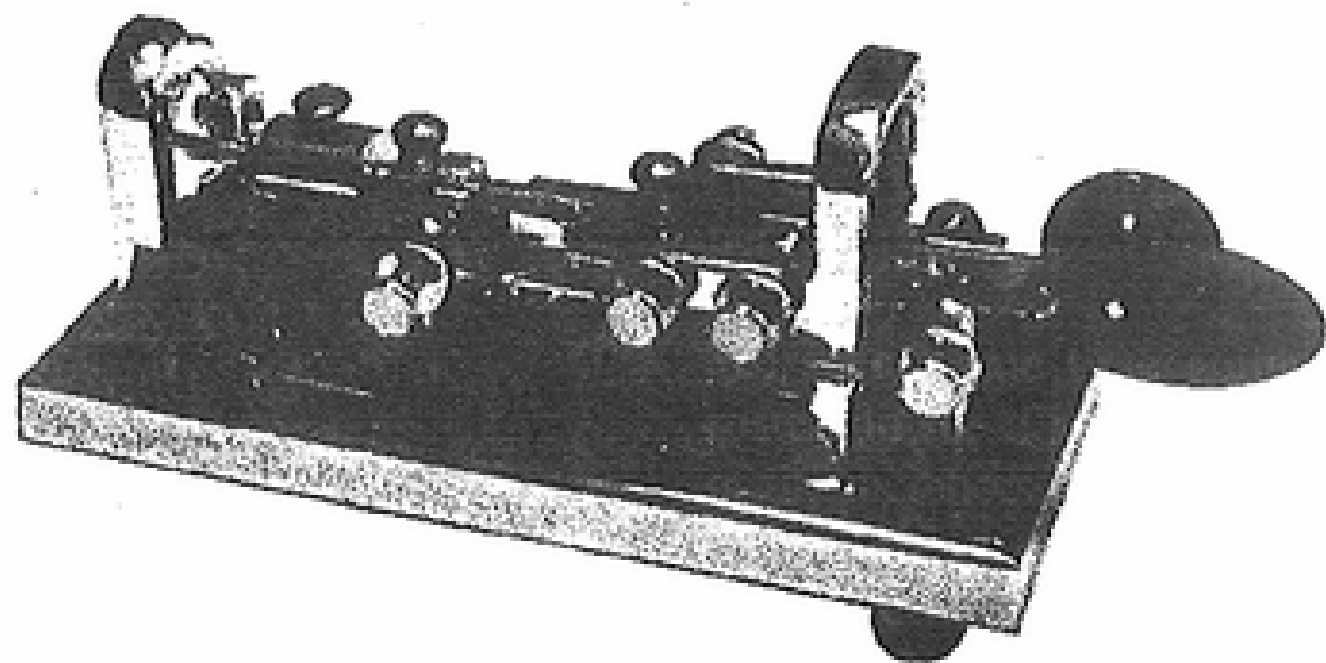
"The 59(9) DXReport" states that Andy, G4ZVJ, will be active sometime between now and February 24th as DU3/AH8F. Activity will be CW on all bands.

FR/T, TROMELIN

Henri, FR5ZQ will be active as FR5ZQ/T sometime between February 3rd and March 3rd. His activity will be limited due to his meteorological work on the island. Operation will be CW/SSB on 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters. His suggested schedule is:

0900-1300z	21010 kHz
1300-1400z	14272 kHz (a JA net)
1100-1200z	21190 to 21300 kHz
1600-1800z	28450-28505 kHz
1200-1400z	28450-28505 kHz
1600-1800z	14133-14200 kHz

QSL via Henri's home callsign: Henri Namtameco, Rampe de Saint-Francois, 5052 Tour de la Chaumiere, 97400 Saint-Denis, Reunion Island via France



KH0, MARIANA ISLAND

Look for Kazu, JA1RJU, to be active in February as KH2K/KH0. Activity will be on CW, all bands including 160 meters. QSL via JA1RJU.

The members of Oita DX Club (Kazu/JA6BTO, Kim/AF4LX, Take/JA6PBO and Aki/AF4KH) will be on the air from Saipan Island, Northern Marianas, between February 11-14th. Activity will

be on 160-6 Meters with operation on CW/SSB/SSTV. Their call signs were not mentioned. QSL via JA6VQA via bureau or direct to JA6VQA: Akio Tagami, 6-kumi tomioka Oita 870-0947 Japan.

DXCC NEWS

The ARRL has announced that Wayne Mills, N7NG will be the DXAC Chairman and John Kanode, N4MM will be the ARRL Board DXCC Liaison for 1999.

QSL INFO AND NEWS

Alex, RV1AC, informs OPDX that he has the printed QSLs for his IOTA activity from EU-066 (as RV1AC/1 and RU1AS/1 in June, 1996) and EU-147, EU-162 (as RK1B/1 in July, 1997). All bureau and direct requests have been answered, but if somebody still needs a QSL please send direct to Alex's home address at: Alex Pastchenko, P.O. Box 104, St.Petersburg, 192241 Russia (Please SASE).

OPDX received a message from Dave, 5H3US (K8MN), indicating that his QSL Manager Ken, WA8JOC, will respond to bureau cards! Dave states, "We've always done so. Bureau cards are not handled very expeditiously since the sender would certainly QSL direct if the card was very important to him." By the way, Ken, WA8JOC, has announced this week that he ONLY handles the QSL chores for 5H3US and no other 5H station.

8Q7IO, 8Q7IQ & 8Q7VK QSLs. Fritz, DL7VRO, reports that all USA inquiries for the 8Q7 stations, direct and E-mails, have been answered. However, QSL cards for 8Q7VK have not yet been answered since the logbook has not

been received. If you have any questions, they can be answered via Fritz's E-mail address at: dl7vro@ibm.net

QSLs for 3D2TC should be QSLed to Craig Thompson, 50 Beach Road, Suva Point, Suva, Fiji Islands.

OPDX has been informed that Jackie Calvo, F2CW/ZL3CW is back in New Zealand. He has a huge laundry basket full

of E31AA QSL requests, but is currently awaiting his E31AA cards from the printer. He hopes to have the cards in hand by the end of this month. He made 25,000 QSOs, with a defective (improperly modified) TS-50, running 10 watts! He is receiving about 20-30 E-mails a day, most asking for his postal address, but some are already asking, "Where's my card?!" Have patience people - E-mail and other queries just slow things down. NO SECOND REQUESTS NEEDED. QSL via ZL3CW.

Well-known QSL Manager Joe, W3HMK, wants it to be known that he is NOT the QSL Manager for JD1AMA.

The W1AA/CC 96th Anniversary operation from the 1903 Marconi Station site on Cape Cod was active for 6 hours making about 600 QSOs. QSL via W1AA.

The FT5WH Log is now available on the Web. They currently do not contain all contacts, but they will be added shortly. Check the Web site for contacts: <http://perso.easynet.fr/~f5nod/ft5whlog.html> QSLs for FT5WH will be printed soon. They are waiting for some pictures of Crozet. The QSL manager is F6KDF: Radio club de la Gendarmerie, 292 route de Genas, 69677 BRON CEDEX, FRANCE

SN0, POLAND

Look for several stations to be active using this special prefix in celebration of the 35th anniversary of the Amateur Radio Club SP2PMK in Torun. The following stations will be using the special prefix SN0 until the end of January:

SN0BBD	(QSL via SP2BBD)
SN0BMX	(QSL via SP2BMX)
SN0EFU	(QSL via SP2EFU)
SN0BNM	(QSL via SQ2BNM)
SN0SWT	(QSL via SP2SWT)
SN0UKB	(QSL via SP2UKB)
SN0PI	(QSL via SP2PI)
SN0PMK	(QSL via SP2PI)

SPECIAL EVENTS:

ARRL HQ STAFF TO SUPPORT SCHOOL CLUB ROUNDUP

The ARRL HQ staff will support this year's School Club Roundup (SCR) operating on HF from Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station W1AW. The SCR takes place February 8-13th. "Special emphasis will be put on contacting youth groups, especially school clubs," said ARRL Field

and Educational Services Correspondent Dan Miller, K3UFG. Depending on propagation and the availability of volunteers, watch for WIAW between 1600 and 1700 UTC on the suggested SCR frequencies. Details for suggested exchanges and frequencies can be found in January's, 1999 QST, page 92, or at the Web site:

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/99/scr.html>

Each day of the event, HQ staff volunteers will spend their lunch hours at WIAW making contact with as many youngsters as possible.

SPECIAL EVENT

An era in the History of Communications will come to an end when the Global Maritime Distress Safety System (GMDSS) becomes fully operational on February 1st. The International listening watch on 500 kHz will cease as a result. Operators from Greenland, Iceland, Faroe Island and Denmark will be active February 1-28th and in the Special Event Weekend April 10-11th. Look for the following stations to be active:

Greenland

OX3OXF from Qaqortoq Radio/OXF

OX3OXI from Nuuk Radio/OXI

OX3OYR from Aasiaat Radio/OYR

Iceland

F3TFA from Reykjavik Radio/TFA

Faroe Island

OY3OXJ from Torshavn Radio/OXJ

Denmark

OZ1OXZ (opr OZ8AE) from Lyngby Radio/OXZ

OZ5OXZ (opr OZ5DL) from Lyngby Radio/OXZ

OZ1OXB (opr OZ6TL ex-opr on Blaavand Radio/OXB) from Lyngby Radio/OXZ

Stations will be active on the following suggested frequencies, plus/minus 5 kHz: 1830, 3535, 7025, 10125, 14035, 18075, 21035, 24905 and 28035 kHz. You can expect RTTY activity from OZ1OXB. There will be a special QSL card with a Historical background for the worked "Coast radio station" for February QSO's. All QSOs will be confirmed via the Bureau. Those who want a direct QSL card can obtain it via the operator worked. Awards are available and will be issued for Amateur and SWL stations confirming

QSOs with: 3 of 4 countries (Category 3); QSOs with all 4 countries (Category 2); and QSO's with all 8 Amateur Calls (Category 1).

SPECIAL EVENT

The West Jackson County Amateur Radio Club will activate the special calls N5D to celebrate the 300th anniversary of "D'Iberville's landing in Ocean Springs, MS". Activity will be from 2200z, April 23rd to 2200z, April 25th. Suggested frequencies are: 7255, 14255, 21355 and 28455 kHz. QSL to: West Jackson County ARC, P.O. Box 1822, Ocean Springs, MS 39564



T9 AND ZA OPERATION UPDATE

Daniel, YO2LDE, informs OPDX that his activity from Bosnia-Herzegovina and Albania may now be limited to 10 days of operation, as 5 days in each country, but may be cut due to limited funds. The NCDXF has sponsored \$ 200 USD for his expedition, but Daniel states more funds are needed for a three week operation. For more details, check the web address:

<http://www.qsl.net/yo2lde/dxpedition.html>

VK4XN PIRATE ACTIVE

A pirate station signing VK4XN has been active on 80 meters and other bands. VK4XN is an active call held by Eric who states he is 92 years old and blind. VK4XN has NOT been active for many years but does maintain his license and only listens. Eric states he gets QSL cards from people around the world and that someone has been using his callsign for several years. He has asked for help in putting the word out that ANYONE who

works VK4XN has worked a pirate station! Eric says he writes to every QSL for help in getting the word out.

VK9X & VK9Y, CHRISTMAS AND COCOS-KEELING ISLANDS

A final press release from Charlie, WØYG, states that the team will leave on February 1st for these islands. Look for WØYG, W8UVZ and WB9Z to become active from Christmas Island as VK9XX from February 6-13th and from Cocos-Keeling from February 13-20th as VK9YY. Their activity will be mainly on 160 & 80 meter CW, the WARC bands both CW and SSB, and RTTY on 15 & 20 meters. QSL via WØYG. Charlie asks "Please do not include VK9XX and VK9YY cards in the same envelope."

VP8CRB NOW QRT

Jan, K4QD (VP8CRB), is now QRT from the Falkland Islands. He states that he has made over 10,000 QSO's with 140 Q's on 160 meters. If anyone has a question about their 160 Meter contact, they can contact him via E-mail at: k4qd@juno.com He also mentions that the logs are online at: <http://no4j.com/nfdxa/logs/vp8crb.htm> His RTTY logs are also online at: <http://no4j.com/nfdxa/logs/vp8tty.htm> Jan's next trip may be a return to South Georgia or some other location.

YVØ, AVES ISLAND

The "DX News Sheet" reports that the Venezuela DX Club (YVDXC) and the Association de Radio aficionados de Venezuela (ARV) met on December 18th and agreed on a joint DXpedition in 2000.

ZL9CI DXPEDITION NOW QRT

According to Don, N1DG, the ZL9CI Campbell Island DXpedition went QRT at 2359z January 24th. Congratulations to the ZL9CI team for setting a new DXpedition record of 95000+ QSOS (possibly more, maybe 100k).

Excerpts and distribution of The OPDX Bulletin are granted as long as KB8NW/OPDX/BARF80 receive credit.

Photo Credits for this month

PRAVDA Internet Edition www.pravda.ru
The Vibroplex Co. www.vibroplex.com
Shure Brothers, Inc. www.shure.com
Church of the SubGenius Foundation
www.subgenius.com

Doctor DX...

Doctor DX in the early 1960's...
Notice the remarkable resemblance to
J.R. "Bob" Dobbs.

Dear Doctor DX:

What happened to the Solar Flux activity chart this month?

Signed: Molar Eclipse

Dear Overbite:

It's still at <http://www.dxl.com/solar> for your viewing pleasure. It's a big .BMP graphic that gets clumsy in a document and doesn't reproduce very well on a laser printer. Besides, by the time it hits your

mailbox in the C&E it's almost two weeks old. Yes, it was good for watching the trends, but better you should listen to WWV at 18 minutes past the hour or WWVH at 45 minutes past the hour for the current geomagnetic conditions...

Dear Doctor DX:

Just read the story about the pirate using VK4XN's call... How often do you think that happens?

Signed: Wanna Be Like Thee

Dear WannaBee:

To VK4XN, all the time... Most pirates are CB'ers on 10 Meters and tend to be active when the band is open. You can usually tell they're not exactly licensed by the way the QSO goes and the CB Slang. Reading VK4XN's story, it sounds like he got lucky with his pirate... QSL cards from all over the world, multiband operator, sounds like a bootlegger who knows what he's doing... I almost wonder if it's a legit Ham who likes CW but has a sloppy fist or a call like VK4PN or XA. I know I'm not the only one who swaps A's and N's or P's and X's occasionally... If I ever get bootlegged, I hope it's by a real DX Hound with a better setup than mine... It saves a lot of work.

Dear Doctor DX:

What can I do to make my radio get out better?

Signed: Delusions of DX

Dear Deluded:

The trick is not to get a strong signal OUT into the ether... The trick is to get a strong signal IN to the receiver... If it's an old boat anchor, you could load it up in a little Red Wagon and take it for a walk. I have no idea where I'm going with the rest of this thought, but there's a joke in here somewhere and you're on your own to fill in the setup and punch line... Think of it as a kit. (Rim Shot)

Dear Doctor DX:

Are you filling out page space right now?

Signed: Astute Observer

Dear Stute:

Are you crazy? I'm dying here... I'm like *Krusty the Clown* on *The Simpsons* with 25 minutes to fill and nothing for a script. I'm a week old fish that's anything but weak. Even the cat hates me... Open a window to let the stink out... The white space is more entertaining... This bit is dying, dying, I tell you... Somebody, get a hook... Tie my hands before I type anything else... Please...

* Our monthly C&E Special from your friends at FUBAR ShaZamaHamaTronics of Broken Arrow *

You've tried the REST... Now try the BEST Contest Accessory!
ShaZamaHamaTronics Exclusive CONTEST CUSHION
Year 2000 Compliant - Y2K OK !!!

You spend HOURS, perhaps DAYS working your favorite contests... And what's the first thing to cause you pain ???

It's not your fist... It's not your voice... It's not the QRM... It's YOUR BUTT !!!

You've heard DEAD BUTT SYNDROME on the air... DON'T LET IT HAPPEN TO YOU !!!

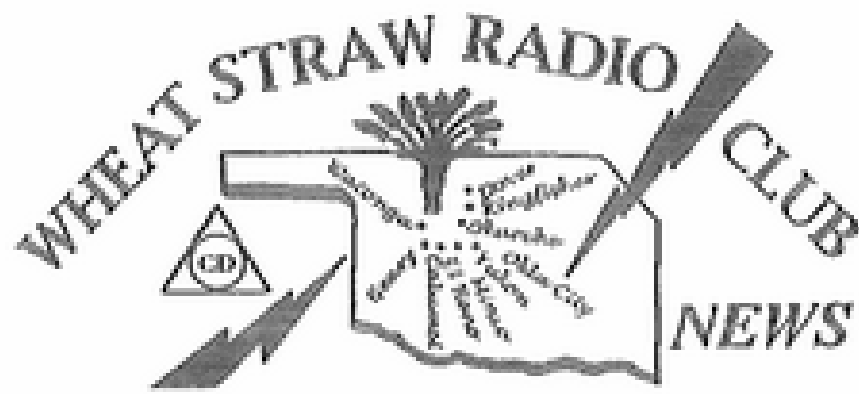
Experienced OM's around the world know that ShaZamaHamaTronics CONTEST CUSHION can help you boost your contest scores to their HIGHEST LEVELS by ELIMINATING the major cause of CONTEST OPERATOR FATIGUE - Limited Blood Flow To The Brain !!!

As Cletus B. Liddley, A5LID of Bochita, Oklahoma says: "I use a Contest Cushion all the time, it takes a load off my mind..."

CALL 1-900-I-AM-A-LID TO ORDER YOURS TODAY !

Be Sure to mention you saw it in the Collector & Emitter - Visit us on the Web at <http://www.subgenius.com>

Want to become a member of the OKDXA? Contact Mark Byard, N5OG, 504 Foster Ave. Ponca City, OK 74601-2519
Have some DX News to share? Contact Nelson Derks, KC5QVV, 13410 South 128th East Ave. Broken Arrow, OK 74011
E-Mail to: n5og@poncacity.net or kc5qvv@gte.net - Visit the OKDXA Web Page <http://www.poncacity.net/n5og/okdxa>
OKDXA Net - Every Saturday Morning at 9AM - (except major HamFest & Contest weekends) on 3860 kHz +QRM



Wheatstraw Amateur Radio Club

The January meeting was called off due to the untimely death of Goldie Wilder. Goldie was the wife of Ralph, WA5PFK of Watonga, Oklahoma. They became members of Wheatstraw ARC in the 1960's. Ralph was the club's former reporter for several years and recently retired. Services were held on Saturday January 9, 1999 at the First Church of the Nazarene in Watonga, OK. Goldie always had a smile on her face, which brightened many a gloomy winter day, she will be truly missed by all who knew and loved her. She and Ralph seldom missed a club meeting. Our hearts and prayers go out to Ralph and his family.

Another one of our members also had a death in his family. Joe Garland's mother passed away. May our prayers bring him and his family comfort.

Jimmie, N5VDY, with the help of Wanda, KC5GTW will attempt to fill Ralph's shoes as club reporter. This won't be easy to do but we will give it our best. Please be patient with us for the next few months.

The February club meeting will be in Dover, Oklahoma on Sunday February 14th in the Dover Christian Church Fellowship Hall. We are hoping for good weather and for everyone to try and attend the meeting.

Jimmie, N5VDY

Tips on how to handle a "Sticky Situation"...

If you can't sleep because a cricket's come calling, here is a sure cure. Put a wet washcloth in your kitchen or bathroom sink at night, and you'll find your noisy "neighbor" hiding there in the morning.

Patent leather handbags and shoes can be quickly brightened with a polish of milk. Apply with a soft cloth and rub into a shiny new finish.

Newspapers repel moths, which is quite helpful when storing woolen rugs.

If you're stung by a bee, apply a slice of onion to the spot and hold it there for a minute or two. It does the trick.

Place some non-slip strips, normally used in bathtubs, on painted porch steps to give your family and visitors non-slip safety in wet weather.

To make your own cleaning solution for windows, that's easy and less expensive than commercial solutions, add ½ cup of rubbing alcohol to one-quart water. Either use it from a pail with a cloth or pour it into a spray bottle for use.

To keep shower doors shiny and clear, use a soft cloth moistened with baby oil. It prevents scum build-up from dirt and soap. Hard water spots won't appear for several months.

Prepare your snow shovel for winter with a coat of floor wax. The wax helps prevent the scoop from rusting and also makes the snow slide off without sticking.

"Dry clean" your dog during the winter months by rubbing baking soda into the fur. Brush out with an old hairbrush and the added bonus is the baking soda will also kill any fleas on your dog.

It is easy to read a rain gauge if you put a few drops of food coloring in the tube. Even if the colored water dries up, there is enough residue to help read the next rainfall.

When hanging a picture, heat the nail with a flame before driving it into the wall. You will not chip or crack the plaster.

Use the caps from plastic liter soda bottles as coasters on your porch furniture. The caps fit nicely and can be replaced whenever you finish another bottle of pop. The caps help protect both furniture and the porch.

Corners cut from used envelopes make great bookmarks. They just slip over the page you wish to mark.

This clean-up trick works while you sleep! Lay a Barbecue grill rack on the lawn

overnight. The dew will combine with the enzymes in the grass to loosen any burned-on grease. Try this trick on messy oven racks as well.

Next time a plastic bread wrapper melts onto the toaster or coffeepot, try this trick. Rub some petroleum jelly on the spot, reheat the appliance and use a paper towel to rub off the plastic and the printing.

To reduce cat hair around your house, gently run a damp paper towel over your cat. It will collect both loose hair and dirt.

To remove candle wax from carpeting, place a brown paper bag over the wax and gently run a warm iron over the bag.

If you find the tops are sticking to your tubes of glue, try rubbing a little petroleum jelly around the rim. It works on paint can lids too.

Sent in by Ralph, WA5PFK

A letter from Ralph, WA5PFK

I wish to take the opportunity to thank all the people who sent cards, letters, food, and memorials in memory of Goldie. Several helped out here at the house and worked most of the days around the services as well. For everyone who came and asked me if there was any thing at all they could do for my family, and me, your concern and words were a comfort to me and a blessing. Goldie and I use to talk a lot about the many friends we had made through the years and our life in Watonga.

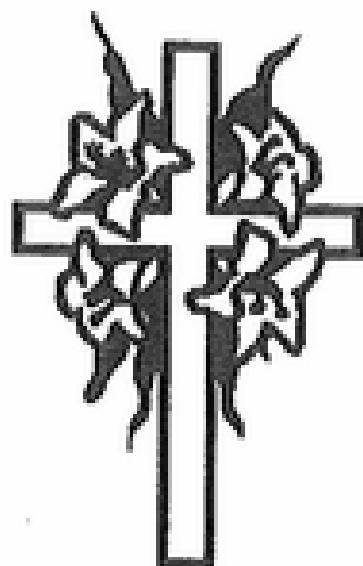
Words of Sympathy came in from so many friends. I heard from friends in Maryland, Missouri, Arkansas, Texas, California and our home state Oklahoma. Goldie's death was so sudden and unexpected. Many came to attend the funeral services. I would like to thank everyone whom participated in the beautiful service for our loved one and made it special.

Over the years as the club reporter for Wheatstraw ARC, I have at times written about my wife Goldie and shared a few things now and again with you. I also would go through her recipes and add one or two to my articles but always tried to put them back where I had found them. She always knew when I had been in her stuff.

Goldie was not interested in amateur radio, she became involved through me. She enjoyed the Wheatstraw ARC and the people she met. Goldie always liked to cook and loved to take refreshments for our meetings and dishes for our covered dinner meetings.

Goldie used her talents to help others in our community. She would make five to six pans of Cinnamon Rolls for the kids with cancer program, the Fire Angels sponsored each summer. She would also bake and decorate cakes for them. She was never one to sit on her hands when someone needed help with a project.

When we were first married, we went through some pretty hard times. Things were tight, but when it came time to fix a meal, she would walk into the kitchen and always created something good to eat. She also made nearly all of her own clothes.



Most of all, Goldie was a wonderful wife and mother. In most of the 53 years of our marriage, she always treated me with respect. She was a true lady in every sense of the word in her actions and deeds. Goldie would, many times a day, say I love you. She showed it in so many ways. I would always tell her I loved her and show her as well. We were blessed with two beautiful, wonderful children. She had a sense of humor and always liked to joke with me.

Goldie would go on many of our hikes with the Boy Scouts. She always had time to have a talk with a Scout or any other person who had a problem. When a group of kids came to our home, she always had refreshments for them. She would mix a soft drink with fruit juices and they called it, "Goldies' Woozie Punch."

Goldie was a compassionate person. Most of the items we canned went to the poor,

the needy, and the elderly who could not have a garden themselves. She would give food to a young divorcee with young children. The young divorcee would be without funds until the divorce settlement was finalized and Goldie was there to help.

Goldie loved to garden. She would always work beside me in the garden, we both loved vegetables and there is just something about growing your own. Most of the years, we, mostly Goldie, canned over 500 jars of veggies and different fruits. She sure could make pickles and made a lot of them. In recent years, due to our health, we have not been able to garden as we once did.

I wanted to share with you a little about this wonderful lady who saw something in me and decided to spend the rest of her life with me. In so doing, she made my life complete and gave me a lifetime of memories. She will always be in my heart, all I need is to close my eyes and see her face and I know she is still with me.

God bless you all and again thank you for everything.

Ralph Wilder family

You Might Be a Yankee If.....

1. You think barbecue is a verb meaning "to cook outside."
2. You think Heinz Ketchup is SPICY!
3. You don't have any problems pronouncing "Worcestershire sauce" correctly.
4. For breakfast, you would prefer potatoes au gratin to grits.
5. You don't know what a moon pie is.
6. You've never had grain alcohol.
7. You've never, ever, eaten okra.
8. You eat fried chicken with a knife and fork.
9. You've never seen a live chicken, and the only cows you've seen are on road trips.
10. You have no idea what a polecat is.
11. You don't see anything wrong with putting a sweater on a poodle.
12. You don't have bangs.
13. You would rather vacation at Martha's Vineyard than Six Flags.
14. More than two generations of your family have been kicked out of the same prep school in Connecticut.
15. You would rather have your son become a lawyer than grow up to get his own TV fishing show.
16. Instead of referring to two or more people as "y'all," you call them "you guys," even if both of them are women.
17. You have never planned your summer vacation around a gun-and-knife show.

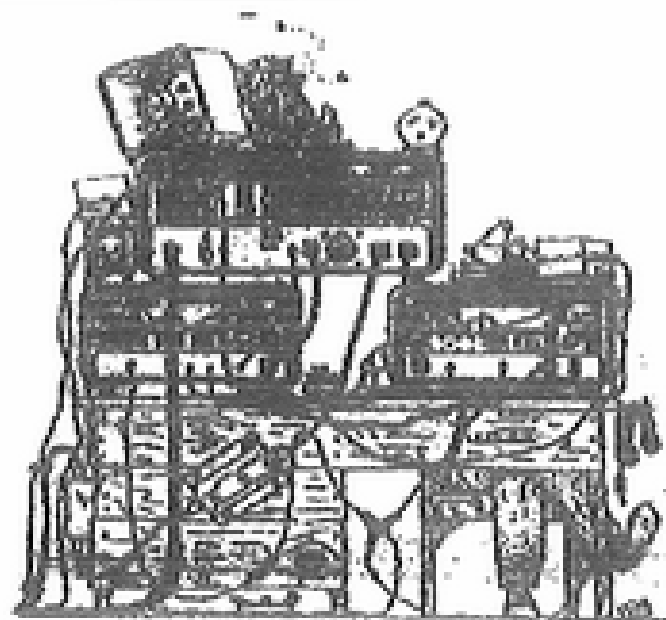
10% OFF CATALOGUE PRICES ON PURCHASES OF \$100 OR MORE ON ALL MFJ PRODUCTS!!!

MAHA RL-115 2M W/ EXTRA NiMH BATT.
MAHA CHARGERS, BATTERIES & DOCKING BOOSTERS
ADI 600-HP DUAL BAND HIGH POWER
PRYME PR-52 6M HAND HELD
VECTRONICS KITS (ALSO 10% OFF CATALOGUE PRICE)
LARSEN, HUSTLER, TRAM & MFJ ANTENNAS
VALOR ANTENNAS AND ACCESSORIES

EXTRA SPECIAL SPECIALS!!!!

2 METER ANT. - NMO MNT. - NO GROUND PLANE REQ'D. - \$29.95!!!
NEW-MFJ SWITCHING POWER SUPPLIES - 25A \$124.95, 45A \$169.95

K & E ELECTRONICS
3540 N. W. 23rd ST.
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK
73107
STORE HOURS: TUES.-FRI. 10AM-6PM SAT. 10AM-4PM CLOSED SUN & MON.
VISA/MASTER CARD ACCEPTED
LOCAL (405) 947-2891
ORDERS (800)-545-4089
FAX (405) 949-0524



ADA AMATUER RADIO CLUB

The regular monthly meeting of the ADA ARC was called to order at 09:15 local time January 9, 1999 in the Salvation Army Headquarters building. The financial report was read by the members and approved as presented.

In old business we were once again reminded about bringing dues up to date so we can renew your *Collector & Emitter* subscription and we can get the club roster updated also this will give us a chance to correct and add to the phone list. Also if you have changed your callsign or address please mail any changes to P.O. Box 1181 ADA OK 74821-1181.

In new business we are still having problems with Saturday morning check-ins on the 146.820 machine for the Salvation Army net, we will have to check into this problem as some of the others checked in for our organization on the HF net.

We spent some time going over the old rosters to see if anyone could identify any of the members who might be silent keys, life members, or if they had moved away and were no longer active in our club to try and finish with the corrections to the roster. While we were on the subject of membership, it was brought up as a change to the club rules and voted in, to make the January *C&E* your last one if your dues are not paid by the end of January. As this month is already a grace period, you are carried over until June as member just no *C&E* simply pay your dues and you will be back on track. We were also discussing the autopatch numbers and the way they will be setup

for the members, it was also suggested and approved to setup our autopatch for direct 911 access by dialing 911 instead of having to remember the different numbers we are now using, also other improvements are in the works.

We will also try to schedule a workday in the warmer weather of spring so we can repair antennas and replace coax on top of city hall to be ready for the coming storm season. There was some further discussion of the new repeater at Pittstown but so far it has not moved. We adjourned at 10:00 local so a test session could be held in the building.

It was brought to my attention a few days later that Audrey Myers had received the call KD5GAX congratulations to her and lets make her feel welcome.

So long, for now from the crew at ADA ARC.

D. E. Coffey, KM5LB
Secretary

Ohio remote base QRM

An Ohio repeater has solved a rather strange case of strange automatic interference to its operation. You have never heard of unintentional strange automatic interference? We will let Phil Thomas, W8RMJ explain:

Members of the Kettering Medical Center Amateur Radio Association located south of Dayton, Ohio have tracked down and silenced a mysterious signal that plagued the associations main repeater output frequency. Members began to hear a secondary double courtesy beep after their 145.11 repeater transmitter carrier dropped.

Members brought out the DF equipment and

went to work. After some DFing the mysterious signal was tracked to a location in northwest Dayton. The source of the mysterious beep turned out to be a Remote Base system. Although the system was not active to its 440 primary frequency, the 2-meter side of the Remote Base system was answering the drop of the carrier on the 145.11 system.

The operators were totaling unaware of the Remote Base operation and quickly turned the system off.

So far there has been no return of the problem from the wayward Remote Base.

No on microbroadcasting

The FCC has denied a petition for rulemaking filed by Joel Lawrence Efrein to reserve FM Channel 300 for unlicensed, Part 15; very low power FM broadcast service. The year-end action took place on December 21st by Action of Chief, Policy and Rules Division of the FCC.

(CGC Communicator)

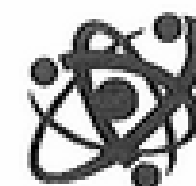
Vanity Apps

The FCC says that it processed 415 vanity callsign applications from December 11th thru the 18th. Of these, 210 applications were granted while 205 hit the work in progress pile.

(FCC)

50 Watt UHF Transmitter w/ 4CX250B Tube
Rack mount, complete with power supply
Surplus FAA Model FA - 8712 Made by Collins

(405) 524-3770
PCS 410-4005



BLACK'S RADIO COMPANY
RENTAL HANDIE-TALKIES - FREQUENCY MEASUREMENTS
RADIO TOWERS - AMATEUR RADIO W5JCB

ELMO BLACK

413 N.E. 38TH TERRACE
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73105

Enid Amateur Radio Club

Well here we are in the middle of winter - time sure flies by when you are having fun! I hope everyone had a great holiday season and you're ready for a great New Year!

To start things off in 1999, the EARC Board held a meeting on January 21, 1999 at the Enid-Garfield County Public Library. Those board members in attendance were: Dave, KC5GUD; Dan, KM5DH; Jeff, N5UBY; Sam, KD5EUS; Eldon, KC5RRS; Club Members in attendance were: John, KA7GLA, Club president.

Annual Board of Directors Meeting Minutes:

The Audit Report was reviewed by all of the board members. Dave moved to accept the report as presented, Dan seconded, Motion passed. John spoke about ARES and the Club's involvement. Mentioned that we need to look into getting 501c3 status with the IRS which would enable us able to solicit donations and would help protect us with the "Volunteer Protection Act" which protects volunteer clubs against lawsuits. Also suggested amending the Club constitution to include ARES as part of Enid Amateur Radio Club. John discussed liability of the Club for in example, in directing traffic, and what kind of training, if any is needed.

Eldon, KC5RRS, is a new Trustee for the Midgley Museum on Van Buren. He graciously offered a room for our use in future meetings. As a result we've scheduled our next Board meeting for May 20th at 7:00 p.m. at the Midgley Museum. The museum is located at 1001 Sequoyah Drive

Field Day 1999 will be held on June 24. The board discussed possible changes to our normal setup at Crosslin Park.

Board of Directors Officers were nominated and installed as follows:

Chairman - Dave, KC5GUD
Vice Chairman - Dan, KM5DH
Corporate Secretary - Jeff, N5UBY

The meeting adjourned 8:34 p.m.

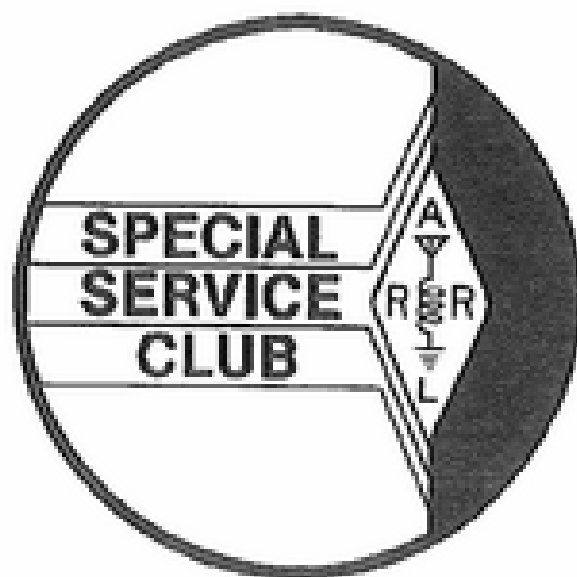
Other Club News:

The new Club Officers for the EARC are as follows:

President: John Turner KA7GLA
Vice President: Dwayne Posey KC5QVS
Secretary: Dave Chael KC5GUD
Treasurer: Bill Wehling, KC5OKG
(and Jerry Mathers as "the Beaver" ed).

Also remember that the EARC offers W5YI testing every other month starting with the month of January. It is on the 2nd Saturday at 10:00a.m. at the ONG building at the corner of Highway 412 & Garland Rd. PREREGISTER ONLY! Contact any club member for details.

Well storm season is just around the corner and the local ARES group is getting ready, with meetings in the works with local emergency agencies and seminars on tap. The local EOC has been installing new equipment and upgrading their radar system. Hams in the Enid and surrounding area are encouraged to participate. For more information on ARES contact John, KA7GLA Garfield Co. EC.



Minutes of the Enid Amateur Radio Club Meeting January 28, 1999 at the Red Cross Building, Enid, Oklahoma
The meeting was called to order by the president John, KA7GLA at 7:00 p.m.

Members in attendance were: John, KA7GLA; Dwayne, KC5QVS; Mike, KC5TFA; Sam, KD5EUS; Al, KD5BA; Dave, KC5GUD; Walter, AA5LI; Fred, N5QJX; Ike, KC5ZBV; and Jeff, N5UBY. Ike, KC5ZBV introduced a guest, Bill, K5ALM. Welcome Bill!

The treasurer's report was presented by Bill, KC5OKG and approved. Dwayne, KC5QVS discussed several financial follow-up actions to the Enid 1998 Hamfest. Dave, KC5GUD distributed the

newly formatted Constitution and Bylaws, featuring changes ratified in October 1998 (enabling the Club to affiliate with CORA).

New business:

John discussed plans to relocate the Red Cross to the old Midwest Typewriter building on North Grand. The facility will have a room that can be secured specifically for Enid Amateur Radio Club equipment. The Club will also have access to the boardroom for Club meetings. The facility features a rooftop tower mounting location. Plans are underway to remove and relocate the Rohn tower from the existing Red Cross facility on West Cherokee. Lots of work remains to be done at the new facility, and they expect to be in around the March timeframe.

John announced he upcoming disaster exercise slated for this May. It's ostensibly "Top Secret" and promises to be a full-blown affair! Stay tuned for more news as we get it!

John then discussed the *Volunteer Protection Act of 1997*, wherein volunteers of legitimate non-profit organizations can be protected from lawsuits when performing duties in conjunction with their organization. The group **MUST** be incorporated, with a valid **IRS 501c** status to take advantage of this new law. John visited the Enid IRS office, and obtained the form required to apply for the status. The bad news is that a fee of \$150 is required to apply for the status. The good news is that this will enable corporations and other entities to make deductible donations to our club. We can additionally solicit material and cash donations for use in maintaining our emergency equipment, etc. Dave, KC5GUD moved, and Sam, KD5EUS seconded a motion to appropriate \$150 to apply for the status. The motion passed unanimously. Further discussion centered on special training requirements for volunteers performing some jobs. The question centered on our need for traffic control training in support of local parade events. Action was tabled.

John then announced the **President's Chili Supper!** It's scheduled for Thursday, 25 February, and will be held at

"Union Hall", 1901 North Washington. The Club will provide chips and drinks. Everyone is encouraged to find your best "road kill" chili recipe and get to cookin'! We'll see you there!

John notified the membership of the responsibilities for maintaining lights and painting on the TCI tower located north of Enid (the Club repeater is located there). TCI Cable conducts a vigilant daily inspection of the lights, and problems are not foreseen for the Club in this area. Bottom line: If the FCC were to find a violation, everyone on the tower (in addition to the tower owner) would share responsibility for the violation. Additional information on this will follow in the next issue.

Al, KD5BA announced dates for upcoming parade events. Tri-State will be held on Saturday, 1 May 1999 (it will rain for sure), and the Cherokee Strip Parade will be held on Saturday, 18 September 1999. A 5K run is planned for this event, and volunteers will be needed. Mark your calendars now!

Bill, KC5OKG made a motion to allocate funds to share tower rent at American Standard Life North (as was done by the Club last year. The motion was approved.

John then discussed a need for funds for ARES funding to cover expenses for emblems and miscellaneous supplies. The motion was seconded by Sam, KD5EUS and approved. John addressed the need to hold several Saturday morning meeting to prepare for the upcoming disaster preparedness exercise coming in May.

Al, KD5BA, in a stroke of Genius, made a desperate motion to adjourn. It was expeditiously seconded, and approved without dissent. Next meeting will be conducted at the President's Chili Supper on the 25th of February. Bring your appetite!

73's

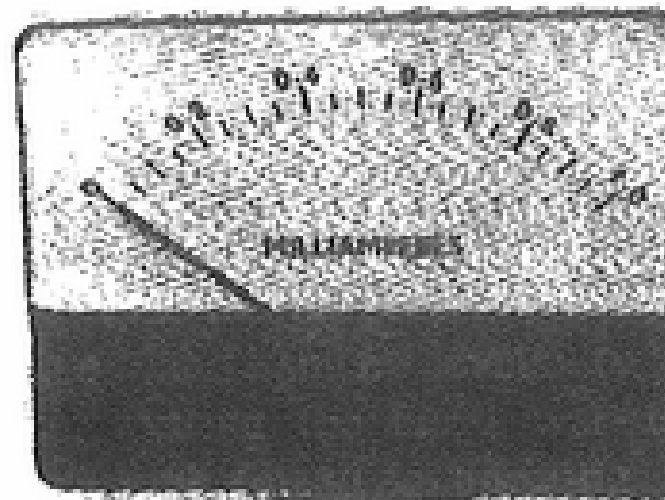
Dave, KC5GUD

Do You Have A REAL Ground?

Testing grounding conductors and grounding electrodes. Testing grounds is a tricky and somewhat dangerous process.

Testing for continuity is not enough. Nor is simple resistance testing. We will outline some possible approaches, but if you're the slightest bit uncomfortable, don't even think of trying these procedures.

For a ground conductor to be good, the resistance must be "Low". It must also be robust enough to withstand an overload long enough to allow the fuse or breaker to trip. The electrical code states, as a general principle, that the resistance of the grounding conductor be such that 4-5 times the current of the breaker rating will flow. For example, if your breaker is 15A, the grounding conductor's resistance should be low enough to permit 60-75A to flow - around 2 ohms maximum at 120V. For comparative purposes, 1000' of 14ga wire is 2.5 ohms?



The difficulty in older homes is that the grounding conductor's condition may be that even though the resistance is < 2 ohms, a ground connection may blow out before the fuse/breaker goes, leaving the case of the appliance that just shorted out live. Therefore, you have to measure both the resistance and its ability to stand up to load.

One simple way to perform a "real" test is dead short the hot to ground and see if the fuse or breaker trips. This is, unfortunately, extremely dangerous. The fuse might explode! The breaker may malfunction. You may get sprayed with molten copper. You may start a fire. You may get electrocuted or blinded. So don't even think of trying this!

One moderately safe approach is to connect a 100W light bulb between hot and the ground you wish to test. The lamp should light fully. If you have a voltmeter, test the voltage between the ground and the neutral. You should see less than 2 volts. If the voltage is much higher, or the lamp dims, disconnect it quickly - the

ground may be overheating somewhere. The ground should be checked for poor connections.

Testing a grounding electrode is a somewhat different matter. The codes aim for a dirt-to-electrode resistance of 25 ohms or better. One moderately safe way is:

- Turn off the main panel
- Turn off all of the breakers
- Disconnect the grounding electrode from the rest of the system. (Often just a bolt in the panel) Connect a 5A fuse between the output of one 15A breaker and the grounding electrode. (Use a 5A automotive fuse in a pigtail holder). Turn on the main breaker and the single breaker connected to the 5A fuse. If the 5A fuse blows, your ground is good.

I haven't checked mine yet. Well my project of re-doing some Collins stuff is going along fine. Just finished the 30L1 in good shape that was a learning experience for sure. I had 5 holes to fill and re-drill in the perforated case. You sure can end up with a lot of time in one of these jobs but it has been fun. The KWM-2A was not so bad but still will take some time for the finishing touch.

The annual President's Chile supper held in February is just around the corner, hope you all have the Roloids ready! Be sure to mark the date, it is February 25th at 6:30pm in the International Association of Machinists & Aerospace Workers Hall at 1901 N. Washington.

Last Minute Bargains:

Yaesu FT-727R Dual Band HT w/rapid charger, speaker-mike, new battery, soft case, & manual. This unit is a very clean radio. Kenwood TS-120S w/mike & manual very clean works great. Contact Dwayne Posey KC5QVS at 580-237-3218 in Enid.

CORA Editors Note: There were several references to dollar amounts being spent, these amounts were changed to read funds. Please see your club officers for these amounts or attend the meetings to support your club.

The Editor



Lawton / Ft Sill Amateur Radio Club

Hi to all,

□

We had a great time at the Christmas Party in Dec. Milton, WB5YZD and Kerry Haney won the two hand helds that were given away. Congrats to both we hope you both will get many years of enjoyment with them. February will be a very busy month for the Lawton Ft. Sill Amateur Radio Club.

We will start the month off with our Weather Spotters Seminar with the folks from The National Weather Service out of Norman. Those guys put on a really good program you will learn something new that they didn't tell us last year. I hope everyone will come on out to The Great Plains Area Vo-Tech, Building 300, Room 301 Tuesday night Feb. 2nd this meeting will start at 7:00pm. Come early to get a good seat.

February 13 and 14 is the 12 Miles of Hell bike race. Bob Sims needs hand held and mobile operators. If you can not make it on Saturday morning that's ok but we really need you on Sunday the 14th. If you have any questions please give Bob Sims, W5KCB or Danita Haney, KC5YYU a call and we will answer your questions. Tune in to the Thursday SW OK ARES Net at 7:00pm on 146.910- for more details.

On February 20th its Colder than Snot Mt. Scott. If you need more details call Claude, KD5RQ. Then on the 27th of Feb. Ham classes will start. They will be held at The Commanche County Memorial Hospital Room D. Cost \$20.00 for your book. Please remember that if you know

someone that would like to take the class and does not have the money tell them not to let that stop them. The fee will be taken care of. We want everyone that wants to become a Ham operator to have the chance to take the class. I hope to see you there.

At the March meeting we will have the guys from KSWO TV 7, Andy, Dave and Mike, to do our local Weather Spotters Seminar. You don't want to miss it.

We would like to thank Harold Anderson, K5VHF and Bob Sims, W5KCB for all the hard work they have put into the .36 machine. It is up and sounding great. Thanks guys.

I would like to remind everyone that it is time to renew your club membership. You can see me at the club meeting or send your check to LFSARC PO Box 892, Lawton Ok. 73502 or LFSARC C/O Danita Haney PO Box 517, Fletcher Ok. 73541.

We all so have W5KS Hamfest Information at <http://www.w5ks.org/hamfest/> I hope you will check it out Kiven, N5WTS and Paul, KC5CYY have worked really hard on it. Thanks guys.

73's

Danita Haney KC5YYU
Sec / Tres.

King Hussein, JY1, back in US

Jordan's King Hussein, JY1, headed back to the US January 27 for what press reports are calling "urgent medical treatment" after he suffered a relapse in his recuperation from non-Hodgkins lymphoma, a form of cancer. Before leaving Jordan, the king named his eldest

son, Abdullah, as his future successor and as regent in his absence. Hussein, 63, had returned to Jordan January 17 after six months of chemotherapy at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. He'll return to the clinic for further treatment. During his earlier stay in the US, Hussein had occasionally taken to the amateur airwaves, much to the surprise and delight of those who encountered him--usually on 20 meters.--from press reports.

(The ARRL Letter)

SUNSAT launch delayed

At first frustrated by numerous weather-related delays, the Boeing team that's attempting to launch a Delta II rocket carrying the SUNSAT amateur satellite and other payloads aloft ran into a technical snag during the January 28 launch attempt. Eric Lemmon, WB6FLY, reports: "At 1044 UTC on Thursday, January 28th, the Delta-II rocket experienced an engine cutoff immediately after the engine start command was issued. The shutoff is sent automatically when an anomaly in the engine sequence is detected. The cause is currently under investigation. No damage occurred to the rocket or to the three satellites that comprise its payload. The delay will probably be a few days, and no further information is available at this time."

WB6FLY

(The ARRL Letter)

Congressional ham

Greg Walden, WB7OCE, elected to Congress from Oregon's second Congressional district of Oregon, was sworn in earlier this month. He replaces Rep Bob Smith, who retired last year. No stranger to the Capitol, Walden served as Smith's chief of staff from 1981 until 1987, during which time he got to know Perry Williams, W1UED, the League's

Washington Area Coordinator.

Walden is a League member and broadcaster who owns several radio stations in Oregon. Previously, he served in the Oregon legislature.

(The ARRL Letter)

Amateur Accessories

"Our Name Says It All!"

STEVE ZAHOS KR4S

• Hamfests

• Mail Order

P.O. Box 29201
Kansas City, MO 64152

(816) 891-6790
(816) 891-0036 Fax
E-Mail: szahos@tfs.net



Choctaw Amateur Radio Club

January Meeting Minutes

Club Dues Now Due

Dues may be mailed to Ron Earnest at 1125 N. Anderson Rd. Choctaw, Ok, 73020

The December meeting was a dinner meeting at the Choctaw restaurant. New club officers; President Dave Downing WD5G, Vice President Don McDown N5ENQ, Treasurer Ron Earnest WB9DAF, Secretary Jim Harper

Due to the lack of a quorum no official business was performed. We need to look at some ways to increase meeting attendance. Due to health and other considerations, some of the club members aren't able to attend the actual meetings.

One idea put forth was to hold a net during the meeting. This would allow those people to be able to participate from home and be better informed on what's going on. We will try this experiment for a while to see how well it works. However those who are able should attend in person. We are also asking for some ideas for programs and people to put them on. If you have an idea or can put a program on please call Don McDown, at 732-6749.

We also discussed the possibility of dinner meetings 3 or 4 times a year. In good weather a picnic might also be considered. Its you club so be sure and let the club officers know your interests. We would like to know of other activities other than regular meetings that any one would like to participate in.

The January Swap meet was canceled due to the ice storm. The next swap meet will be April 10th.

The TexNet node has for some years been located at the home of Ken Fields, now silent key. The property is now up for sale and the tower and equipment will have to be moved. We are now looking for assistance to take the tower down. We may have one volunteer but we will need more if you can help or know someone else please let one of the officers know.

Dutch lowfer experiment flies

A serious effort by several Dutch radio amateurs to work as many other ultra Low Frequency stations as possible has resulted in QSO's between PA2NJJ and several stations in the United Kingdom and Europe. This on a frequency of 136 kHz is using a kite antenna.

The original test was scheduled for November 14th. Plans called for using a kite borne 900-foot long wire antenna, but that day produced no wind. However, the following Saturday, November 21st, provided enough wind to loft the wire to about 80 degrees, nearly vertical.

The group used a loop antenna and an "active antenna" for receiving, but Nico Nienhuis, PA2NJJ, reports that once the transmitting antenna was in the air, they were unable to receive. The transmitter output power was 150 watts. Stations worked included G3KEV, G3YXM, G4GVC, ON6ND and ON6UX. PA2NJJ also got reception reports from several European listeners, including France,

Germany, Sweden, Scotland, and Italy. The best DX was a listener report from IK5ZPV in Italy, a distance of 1095 km away.

(Q-News)

The VK LF Band

Meanwhile, Australia's radio regulatory agency says that it is more receptive to a request from the Wireless Institute of Australia that a low frequency band is allocated to radio amateurs. Up until now, radio amateurs wanting to experiment on that part of the spectrum needed to take out a Scientific License. The agency says that it is aware of that Low Frequency allocations are being made overseas, and it will be looking at the CEPT European allocation of 135.7 to 137.8 kHz. The FCC is also considering Low Frequency access by hams here in the USA.

(Q-News)

Marconi Day 1999

Some upcoming events to mark on your calendar. International Marconi Day will be on the 24th of April. This event celebrates the birth of inventor Guglielmo Marconi and is again being organized by the Cornish Radio Amateurs Club in the UK.

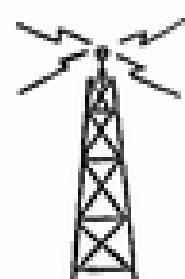
(RSGB)

CLEAR SIGNAL PRODUCTS, INC.

Featuring the WIREMAN™ line as listed in QST

Serving the Amateur Radio Community

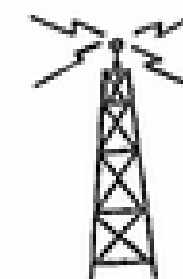
Coax . Rotor Cable . Antenna Wire . Magnet Wire

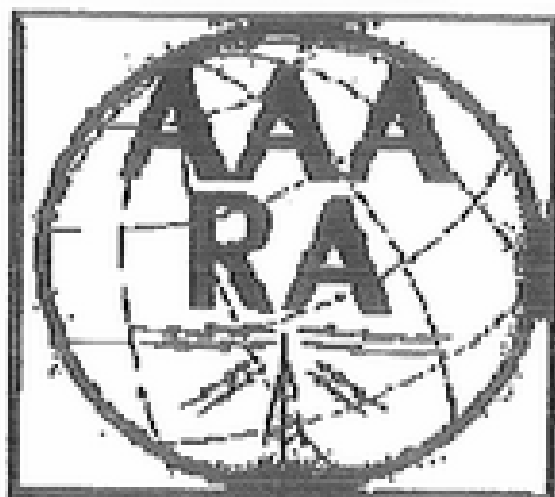


2015 E. Willow Creek Terr.

Mustang, OK 73064-6146

(405) 745-WIRE (9473)





Altus Area Amateur Radio Assn.

December Minutes

Meeting held at Western Sizzlin Steakhouse Rt. 283 Altus, OK on December 17, 1998

Party called to order at 7:00 PM. by Ron, KB5UVC, who had a huge plateful in front of him.

Intro's - Done as needed, that's if you didn't know.

Events of the evening,

The Club Christmas Party was the 3rd Thursday and did replace the normal meeting on the 2nd Thursday of Dec. Cost is what you got from the menu. Chair for this event was Fred, KC5SRJ and Janice, KD5BNO along with her children Theresa and Jeanette did a nice job again getting this started and going. (Any Volunteers for next year?)

The Party went very well, we had folks from all over come by, the room that we had was a small one, but then we moved to the bigger back room, and we all had a good time. We welcomed Johnny, KI5WW from Sarye, OK into our family of AAARA membership, and nice to see Mike, KK5ZB from Wichita Falls, TX come up and visit with us. Along with all the other fine folks (about 35 - 40 total) that came to eat with, share with, and be friends that of a special breed that enjoy that face-to-face time, Thank You all who came, and hope you all have a Happy Holiday Season.

The Club came up with a vote, to get Gene, our only honorary member in the Snyder / Tipton Area, a Christmas gift from the club members. The vote carried unanimously. Along with this we all pitched in so that Gene, and his Mom,

Jane, would have Christmas Diner made for them. Gene, Keep on Smiling, your part of this club, and we are glad you are. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to Gene and Jane from all of us here at AAARA Club.

The Bunny Rabbit Award was given to Dale, N5VX from John, KC5HUW. James, AB5FS gave the award in place of John, good choice John.

Christmas fund donation - for the Short-wave Kits, - James, AB5FS; Dale, N5VX; Ron, KD5CYW and Bob, KC5CNC. Remember next month we start all over again.

Party adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Next Meeting on: 14 Jan 1999 at 7:00 PM. at SWTC, 711 W Tamarack Rd. Altus, OK.

The BIG NOTE: Jan Meeting will be also Renewal time for the AAARA Club Dues, and Elections of Club Officers, so Please be there. (You may find yourself voted in if your not there, at least some folks will try to get you in)

January Minutes

Meeting held at 711 W Tamarack Rd. Altus, OK 14 Jan 1999

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM. by Ron, KB5UVC.

Intro.'s- Done

Last months Minutes- Read, voted and approved

Treasurers Report- Read, voted and approved

ELECTION RESULTS for the 1999 AAARA club officers.

President - James, AB5FS - Replaces Ron, KB5UVC

Vice Pres. - George, N1GM - Replaces Bob, KC5CNC

Secretary - Ron, KD5CYW - Stays

Treasurer - Fred, KC5SRJ - Replaces Doc, KM5IO

Editor - Ron, KD5CYW - Replaces Alan, KD5COH

SGT at Arms - Owen, N5VM - Replaces Mike, KC5ZCL

A turn over meeting for all Officers will be Tues., Jan 26th, 7pm at Friendship Inn, Main St., Altus.

Old Business -

Gene and Jane were very surprised and delighted with the Christmas meal that the club members pitched in to help out with the cost and / or prepared it. Gene enjoyed the shirts that we gave him as a gift from the club. Remember to say hello to Gene and Jane on 146.790 when you're in the area hitting on the repeater.

New Business -

Dave Wallace from CH 7 (KSWO - TV) in Lawton will be at the next meeting in February with the yearly Pre-Storm Season training program. Will be well attended, so get there early.

February 25th will be the 5th Season Storm presentation at the City Auditorium at 7:00 P.M. This is done by CH 7 (KWSO - TV) as a live broadcast.

Dwight, made it known that the Altus area NOAA Weather Radio Station should be up and running soon. They are waiting on the crystal module for the Freq. to arrive and be installed in the X-miter.

Doc, KM5IO gave a good little speech for our 2 members, Fred, KC5SRJ and Janice, KD5BNO, who have gone above and beyond the call, volunteering to head up the Mangum Rattle Snake Derby, Club Picnic, and Club Christmas Party. Thank you for your hard work.

The Bunny Rabbit Award was kept by Dale, N5VX since he did not show up to give it away to the next lucky contender.

Christmas fund donation - Johnny, KI5WW

New Member- Bobby, N3OQT, Iowa Park, TX. Welcome aboard.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Next Meeting on 11 Feb 1999 at 7:00 PM.
at South West Technology Center 711 W
Tamarack Rd. Altus, OK

Ron, KD5CYW
AAARA Secretary
Email: rroman@intellisys.net

Note: If any AAARA member has an
Email Address, please let me know. We're
trying to get club member listing together.
Thanks,
Ron.



To All M.A.R.S. Members in the area
(Altus, Lawton, and Wichita Falls (TX))
should attend the February meeting to talk
about the M.A.R.S. Repeater going up at
Altus AFB. Contact- Ed, KD5DPK or
email Ed at, kd5dpk@juno.com.

Thanks to all at the club for recognizing
me as a new member.

Bobby - N3OQT, Remote Base / Iowa
Park, TX

A Thank You Card and Note

Dear AAARA Club Members,
Thank you so much for the good
Christmas dinner, and the shirts for Gene.
Your kindness and thoughtfulness means
so much, and made for a very nice Holiday
by bringing us the true meaning of
Christmas. Thank you, each one, may you
have a Blessed and Happy New Year.

Gene, Millard, and Jane Wynn

League Seeks Uls Changes

The ARRL has asked the FCC to make
some minor alterations to its impending
Universal Licensing System rules. The
ULS, being phased in by the FCC
throughout 1999, will consolidate
application forms and procedures for
several FCC services. Among other things,
it will replace the venerable FCC Form
610 series with a new Form 605 and will
provide for electronic filing, modification,
and renewal for amateurs.

The ULS *Report and Order* was issued
last October by the FCC, which also took
the occasion to amend the rules to make it
easier for foreign hams to operate
temporarily in the US.

In a petition for partial reconsideration, the
League said it wants the FCC to continue
to issue paper license documents; to come
up with a way for applicants not having a
Taxpayer Identification Number--typically
a Social Security Number--to meet ULS
requirements to provide one; and to
include on Form 605 a section for
Volunteer Examiners to certify that an
applicant has met the requirements for a
new or upgraded ham ticket. In addition,
the League plans to ask the FCC to restore
wording in Section 97.15(e) that
references the limited federal preemption,
PRB-1. The section was inadvertently
deleted during the Commission's
redrafting of the rules to accommodate the
ULS changes.

The ARRL already has expressed concerns
over FCC suggestions that the agency
might do away with paper license
documents altogether and rely instead on
the "license grant"--the virtual document
that resides within the FCC's computerized
amateur database. In its latest filing,

January 12, the
League said that in
some states that
regulate possession
of scanning
receivers but
exempt amateurs,
inability to produce
a license document
could result in
"arrest and criminal
prosecution as well
as seizure of
equipment by local
law enforcement."

The League said hams operating overseas
also often must produce a paper document.
The ARRL noted that the CEPT agreement
requires US hams traveling in CEPT
countries to possess a US government-
issued license document and that ITU
regulations "appear to require" a
government-issued license document.

The League also called on the FCC to
devise a means for those not holding a
TIN--such as foreigners who hold US ham
tickets--to comply with the ULS rules
which require an applicant to provide one.
"One possibility for these persons would
be for the Commission to issue them some
substitute TIN or some other type of
registration number," the League
proposed.

Finally, the ARRL pointed out to the FCC
that neither the main Form 605 nor the
Amateur Radio Schedule D contains a
section for VE certifications and called on
the Commission to modify the form to
include the section as it now appears on
Form 610.

(The ARRL Letter)

K6STI goes out of software business

Ham radio software developer Brian
Beezley, K6STI, has gone out of business.
Beezley says he's dropping distribution
and further software development as a
result of the piracy of his *RITTY*
radioteletype program. He says an
overseas ham broke the copy protection on
a demo version of his program and posted
the pirated version on the Internet. That
prompted him to discontinue selling
software altogether, he said. "I've just had
enough of it. I'm really quite disgusted and
bitter", Beezley remarked. "I hate being
stolen from." He said his software
business was his main source of income,
and he's not sure what he'll do next. Dick
Stevens, N1RCT, who runs the "All
Things RTTY" Web site
<http://www.megalink.net/~n1rct/> called it
"a sad day" He has pulled all versions of
RITTY from his site. Beezley said he'll sell
RITTY "if somebody wants it"; but he has
no plans to offer support or further
program enhancements. He also had
developed five antenna programs,
including the Yagi-optimizing program
YO. Beezley remains available only via the
USPS at 3532 Linda Vista Dr, San
Marcos, CA 92069. He no longer has e-
mail service.

(The ARRL Letter)

405-737-3781

www.bookrack.com

THE BOOK RACK

Books & Comics

1717 S. Air Depot
Midwest City, Okla. 73110

Terry L. Smith
Owner



A. R. R. L. Bulletins

ARRL Bulletin 9
January 26, 1999

Ham Nets Activate in Wake of Colombian Quake

Amateur Radio nets have been activated on 20 and 40 meters following an earthquake in West Central Colombia. Ham radio reports indicate the quake may have left an estimated 200 people dead and injured thousands more. The quake is said to have measured 5.9 on the Richter scale and caused major structural damage. It occurred just before 1:30 PM Eastern Time. The fire station in the city of Armenia was destroyed, the airport there has been closed, and the hospital is said to be filled to capacity with injured people.

"It has caused major structural damage," said Dallas Carter, W3PP, in Laurel, Delaware, who has been monitoring the 20-meter net being run by HK3SA and HK3RQA. He reports that as many as 2000 people hurt, but press reports put the figure much higher. Ham radio appears to be a major source of information out of the affected area.

"They are requesting blood, water, medical assistance, rescue equipment," Carter said. "They have indicated a number of landslides on the roads in and out of Obando and Pereira" two of the cities most severely affected. Carter said his information indicated that a curfew would be imposed.

Carter reports the quake's epicenter was in the vicinity of Obando. Damage has occurred in the Colombian states of Riseralda, Quindio, Tolima, and Huila in the country's coffee-growing region. The initial tremor and some aftershocks were felt in the capital city of Bogota, but there was no damage there.

Amateur activity is taking place on 14.347 MHz and locally on 7.085 and 7.090 MHz.

At this point, Carter said, most of the traffic is logistical. Little health and welfare traffic has been handled so far. "The traffic I'm hearing is just the basic dissemination of information," he said. "All of the coordinating activity is taking place on 40 meters."

The Colombian Red Cross has dispatched a team of 80. "There's an extreme shortage of doctors," Carter said. "They're still digging people out."

An earthquake January 14 struck Colombia's northeastern mountains but caused no injuries or serious damage. That quake registered 5.5 on the Richter scale.

The ARRL has offered its assistance to the Liga Colombiana de Radioaficionados (LCRA), the League's IARU sister society in Colombia.

ARRL Bulletin 8
January 23, 1999

Hams Respond As Killer Tornadoes Rake South

Hams in Tennessee and Arkansas responded as unusual tornadoes threatened, then struck, this week. A call went out January 22 for additional ham radio volunteers to assist emergency operations in Tennessee in the storms' wake.

Tornadoes in the Jackson, Tennessee, area January 17 killed eight people. Another eight died when tornadoes struck in the vicinity of Little Rock and White County, Arkansas, January 21. The National Weather Service called it "an unprecedented outbreak of tornadoes for January."

Arkansas Section Manager Roger Gray, N5QS, in Searcy, reports he was up all night and observed four or five funnel clouds, but he estimated that at least 30 tornadoes swept through the area. Gray has been actively managing the ARES operation. "We have had an incredible response from the amateur community," he said. He estimated that up to 60 hams were active on VHF and HF nets. "We have been running nets almost continuously since 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon and no end in sight," he added.

Amateur Radio was filling the gap as long-distance telephone circuits have become overloaded. "That's why we're handling as much traffic as we are." Damage was primarily confined to four areas, and he expected ham radio involvement to conclude within 24 hours.

"Another wild night in Arkansas," said ARRL Vice President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, in Judsonia, who reported "lots of damage" in his area. "I have to tell you, in my 41 years of living here, I have never seen storms like we had last night," he said. Harrison said the first line came through around 5 PM, "then another, and another, and another for what seemed like every half hour till about 10:30 PM."

"The damage in a 10 mile radius around my home is horrible," Harrison said. Arkansas State University in Beebe--where his son, Mark, attends school--had extensive damage. "There is considerable damage in Little Rock, even to the Governor's Mansion," he added.

Mark Harrison, KC5YNE, said most of the town of Beebe was damaged or destroyed, and eight tornadoes hit White County alone. He reports the family spent an anxious night. "It was a relief when the storms finally quit, and everything was fine here," he said.

Meanwhile, Delta Division Vice Director Henry Leggette, WD4Q, in Memphis, Tennessee, reports considerable ham radio activity in the Jackson area, where tornadoes hit last weekend, as well as in Clarksville, where twisters struck early on the morning of January 21. Leggette said he planned to visit the Jackson area over the weekend to assist.

Tennessee SEC Jim Jarvis, WD4JJ, in Bristol, relayed a request for amateurs with mobile units to assist at the Clarksville/Montgomery County Emergency Operations Center. Hams willing to volunteer may contact the EOC directly on the 147.39 MHz repeater, he said. "The police department and city hall have been completely demolished, and the downtown area is a complete wreck." Jarvis also reports damage in Humphreys County, as well as in McEwen, Waverly, and Camden counties. He estimated that up to three dozen hams active in providing

emergency communication in the Clarksville/Montgomery County area.

In the aftermath of the earlier storms, Jarvis reports that EC Kenny Johns, AB4EG, in Jackson was rounding up volunteers to assist the Red Cross with damage assessment in the seven counties hit last weekend. Johns said a SKYWARN net was activated last Sunday afternoon, but the tornadoes were unexpected. After the storms struck, more than two dozen ARES members handled health-and-welfare traffic at the EOC for 22 hours.

SKYWARN nets remain on the alert for additional severe weather this weekend in the Tennessee-Arkansas-Louisiana region.

ARRL Bulletin 7 January 23, 1999

FCC issues 5-MHz Experimental License to ARRL

The FCC has issued an Experimental Radio Service license to the ARRL to permit two-way tests in the vicinity of 5 MHz, the most likely site of the next amateur HF band. The license, bearing the call sign WA2XSY, was issued January 8. A group of 15 current amateurs in various parts of the US and the Caribbean will conduct experimental, two-way RTTY and SSB transmissions within the band 5.100 to 5.450 MHz. To avoid interfering with existing services, the participants will confine their operations to the least-populated 50-kHz segment.

"The idea is to show that an amateur allocation there will improve our emergency communication capabilities by filling the gap between the 3.5 and 7.0 MHz bands," said ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ. Sumner pointed out that several of the participants are phone net members in the Caribbean and Gulf area who frequently handle hurricane-related traffic and now must alternate between 75 meters and 40 meters. Other participants are members of a nationwide digital data-forwarding network.

The Experimental license is good for two years. Two studies by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) include an allocation at 5 MHz among the future

spectrum needs for the Amateur Service. The subject is not likely to show up on the agenda of a World Radiocommunication Conference for several years, however.

Participants in the WA2XSY experiment may run up to 200 W effective radiated power. Similar multiband trap dipoles capable of operation on 80 and 40 meters as well as at 5 MHz will be employed at each station location. Operation by participants will consist of short transmissions to determine propagation characteristics.

Participating stations are located in New Hampshire, Tennessee, Ohio, Florida, Mississippi, Wisconsin, Indiana, California, Utah, New York, Texas, the US Virgin Islands, and Maryland.

ARRL Bulletin 6 January 18, 1999

ARRL Board meets in Houston

The League's Board of Directors met at Houston, Texas, Friday, January 15, and Saturday, January 16, 1999, with President Rod Stafford, W6ROD, in the Chair.

Opening the meeting was a tribute to former Northwestern Division Director Mary Lou Brown, NM7N, who passed away December 3 of last year, while in office. The assembly observed a special moment of silence in her memory.

The Board adopted an initiative proposed by President Stafford to promote new technology in Amateur Radio. The League's policymakers created the "Amateur Radio Technology Task Force" to develop a strategy and plan for exploring new technologies, assessing their applicability and possible incorporation into Amateur Radio. Stafford will appoint members to the task force who have been actively involved in experimenting with or developing new technology. An initial report is due next January.

In a collateral move, the Board reconstituted the Future Systems Committee as the "Amateur Radio Technology Working Group" to serve as a resource for the Technology Task Force.

ARRL legislative positions for the 106th Congress were adopted.

The Board reviewed a draft petition for rule making for possible joint submission with the National Frequency Coordinators' Council (NFCC), to seek rules requiring that all repeater and auxiliary facilities must be frequency coordinated. A majority of the Board did not find that there was compelling evidence warranting a move beyond the existing rules at this time, but the NFCC was invited to revisit the matter.

The International Humanitarian Award was given to Radio Amateur du Quebec, Inc. (RAQI) for its service to the citizenry of Quebec during the 1998 ice storm, which devastated the region.

Following a study of the Y2K computer issue by its Volunteer Resources Committee, the Board recommended that Section Managers, Section Emergency Coordinators, and ARES groups enter into MOUs, and conduct drills, with public utilities and public safety agencies for emergency communications necessitated by possible Y2K problems.

Directors Kay Craigie, WT3P, Frank Fallon, N2FF, Fried Heyn, WA6WZO, and Tod Olson, K0TO, were elected to the Executive Committee for the 1999 term. The Executive Committee was tasked with developing a proposal for changing the name of the ARRL to one that more clearly reflects the focus and purpose of the organization to both insiders and outsiders. The Board felt that the year 2000 is a natural point for such a change.

Responding to an offer by the founding sponsor of "Kid's Day," ARRL will assume sponsorship of this operating event that introduces Amateur Radio to hundreds of kids in a creative format. See page 46, January 1999 QST for more on this innovative program.

ARRL votes to ratify the elections of ARRL and IARU leader Larry E. Price, W4RA, as IARU President and David A. Wardlaw, VK3ADW, as IARU Vice President for the 1999-2004 term were enthusiastically authorized by the Board.

Following the recommendations of its Administration and Finance Committee,

the Board approved operating and capital spending plans for 1999.

Eugene Hastings, W1VRK, and ARRL Directors John Kanode, N4MM, and Greg Milnes, W7AGQ, were elected to three-year terms as directors of the ARRL Foundation.

The full story and minutes of the meeting will appear in March QST.

ARRL Bulletin 5
January 14, 1999

ARRL Board meets in Houston

The ARRL Board of Directors gathers Friday and Saturday, January 15-16, in Houston, Texas, for its 1999 annual meeting. Expected to be discussed are issues dealing with the future of Amateur Radio, FCC amateur enforcement, and repeater frequency coordination.

The Board also will elect members to the Executive Committee and directors for The ARRL Foundation. Additionally, Board members will hear reports from committees, HQ management, and individual Board members.

New Radio Amateurs of Canada President Patrick Doherty, VE3PD, also is scheduled to address the ARRL Board.

Details on the ARRL Board meeting will be transmitted in an ARRL bulletin and posted on the ARRL Web page, <http://www.arrl.org/>.

ARRL Bulletin 4
January 14, 1999

FCC official meets hams on their own turf

The FCC's Amateur Radio enforcer, Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, turned up in an unexpected place January 13--75 meters. In what could be an unprecedented move, Hollingsworth, legal advisor for amateur enforcement within the FCC's Compliance and Information Bureau, showed up at around 3894 kHz to discuss enforcement and encourage compliance.

"A couple of them were pretty shocked," he said. "This has never been tried before," Hollingsworth said the next morning. He said he broke in on an argument that was growing increasingly nasty in an effort to

settle things down, then stayed to discuss enforcement with the hams on frequency.

Hollingsworth says he thinks one key to compliance is just getting people to listen to what he has to say. "Most people, if you can just get to them on a one-to-one basis, they'll listen," he said, reflecting his overall enforcement approach to attempt to reason violators into voluntary compliance rather than writing them up. During his time on the air, Hollingsworth confronted one individual he'd already been in touch with about alleged on-air misbehavior.

Among other things, he told those on hand that noncompliance and inappropriate on-air behavior could even threaten the hobby's HF allocations. Hollingsworth advised hams to be more tolerant and patient and to avoid confrontation or retaliation.

"We all have to realize we're on a mission here: to save Amateur Radio," he said the day after his 75-meter appearance. "There are going to be licenses lost and fines owed." The jammers already are well on their way to "hanging themselves" right now, he said.

Even as he preached better behavior, Hollingsworth says he understood from the others on frequency that someone was attempting to jam his signal. "I hope the monitoring folks were on the frequency too," he said.

Hollingsworth advised the hams on 75 to contact him with enforcement problems, and he gave out his e-mail address and telephone number, rholling@fcc.gov, 717-338-2502. "I don't know what effect it will have," he said of his on-air foray. Hollingsworth says he'll "do what it takes" to improve amateur compliance, and that could include future on-air visits with amateurs.

"I've gotten a lot of feedback this morning by phone and e-mail asking me to do it more often," he said. "We'll be listening more and asking to be allowed in QSOs more."

Hollingsworth, who's based in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, took over the FCC's most recent Amateur Radio enforcement initiative last September.

ARRL Bulletin 3
January 14, 1999

FCC warns alleged major amateur offenders

The FCC has issued strong warnings to two amateurs in Indiana and a third in New York who are on the Commission's top ten list of alleged major amateur offenders. The FCC's amateur enforcement point man, Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, says the warning letters sent earlier this month are the last step before the FCC initiates formal enforcement proceedings. One case primarily involved malicious interference on VHF repeaters, while the other two involved interference to an HF net.

"We have been cutting bait a while, now it's time for us to fish," said Hollingsworth, the legal advisor for enforcement within the FCC's Compliance and Information Bureau.

The FCC did not make the names or call signs public, but Hollingsworth said all those who received the letters were put on the FCC's Alert List with FCC field offices. "The Alert List is the FCC equivalent of an all-points bulletin," Hollingsworth explained. He said Field Office monitors would be making a special effort to listen for further violations by stations on the Alert List.

Since taking over Amateur Radio enforcement within the CIB last fall, Hollingsworth says he's sent out dozens of warning letters of a much milder nature. "Now, we're distilling that activity to the worst offenders," he said, adding that similar actions were imminent in other major cases.

The letters sent out January 7 and 8 spell out the agency's expectations in no uncertain terms. In the case of the alleged HF offenders, Hollingsworth's letters state that the Commission "has additional evidence that you have been deliberately and maliciously interfering with the operations of other licensed amateurs," primarily a 75-meter net. Both hams--whose cases are related--already had received official Notices of Violation last fall for similar conduct, and the FCC had imposed restricted operating hours on one

of them. But the FCC says that the troublesome behavior has continued.

Hollingsworth said the alleged illegal activities not only put the hams' licenses in jeopardy but open them up to possible fines and even put transmitting equipment at risk of seizure. He said he also has cautioned the controllers of the net involved to not engage hecklers or those attempting to harass or interfere, nor to call up the net on a busy frequency. "One thing these nets have to understand is that the nets don't own the frequency," he said.

The case of the alleged VHF offender had a similar pattern. The amateur license of the ham in question already had been suspended at one point, but violations are said to have continued, even during the suspension period. Beyond amateur violations, Hollingsworth said that the FCC's evidence indicated the amateur had threatened FCC employees and others. He told the ARRL that additional warning letters went out to eight other individuals whom he described as "cohorts" to the alleged prime VHF offender.

Hollingsworth requested that all of the amateurs involved contact him immediately to discuss the allegations.

ARRL Bulletin 2

January 6, 1999

K9JF appointed Northwestern Division Vice Director

James E. Fenstermaker, K9JF, of Vancouver, Washington, is the new Northwestern Division Vice Director. ARRL President Rod Stafford, W6ROD, announced the appointment January 6, following the recommendation of Northwestern Division Director Greg Milnes, W7AGQ, and certification of eligibility by the Election Committee.

Fenstermaker, 53, fills the position left vacant when Milnes, the former vice director, succeeded Mary Lou Brown, NM7N, as director. Brown died suddenly December 3. Fenstermaker's term expires January 1, 2001.

A ham since 1959, Fenstermaker was first licensed as KN9TZH. A DX enthusiast, he's also operated as DL5JF, OJ0SUF, and VP2V/K9JF. He's on the DXCC Honor

Roll with 354 countries, 5BWAZ, 5BDXCC, and 160 Meter DXCC, as well as numerous contest honors. He's past president of the Clark County Amateur Radio Club and the Willamette Valley DX Club.

On the professional side, Fenstermaker is director of business services for the Parkrose School District in Portland, Oregon. He's a graduate of Anderson University and Indiana University and holds an accounting certificate from Portland State University.

Fenstermaker hopes to attend his first ARRL Board meeting in Houston, Texas, January 15-16. Members may contact him via e-mail at jfenster@pacifier.com.

ARRL Bulletin 1

January 6, 1999

Field Services, Educational Activities join forces

The sound of moving furniture, books, and equipment punctuated the holiday season at League headquarters as two ARRL departments prepared to merge into one entity. Effective January 4, the Field Services and Educational Activities departments consolidated to become the Field and Educational Services Department.

ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, explained that the new department brings together staff members with similar missions and functions—primarily supporting ARRL volunteers who, in turn, support ARRL objectives and promote ham radio on a local and regional level. Working within a single department, Sumner said, HQ staffers could more easily share expertise, ideas, and resources. The move also was designed to reduce expenses in the face of a decline in both ARRL membership and overall Amateur Radio licensing and activity over the past year or so.

"The primary reason is efficiency," Field Services Manager Rick Palm, K1CE, explained in a letter to ARRL section managers. Palm will continue as the main contact person for section managers. He will focus on representing the League to the outside agencies it serves and on

promoting and supporting the field organization.

Former Educational Activities Department Manager Rosalie White, WA1STO, has assumed the title of Educational Services Manager. She will oversee day-to-day operation of the combined department and will continue as the primary staff contact for Amateur Radio in space issues. "We expect the greater efficiency of the combined departments to benefit our members by putting related resources in the same place," White said of the move.

To accommodate the change, employees from the former Educational Activities Department moved into quarters adjacent to the former Field Services Department, trading places with the ARRL Book Team headed by Joel Kleinman, N1BKE. Now that the two departments are in the same location, staff members have begun to settle in and work as a team. Telephone and e-mail addresses for individual staff members remain the same.

Ice Fishing

The blonde really wanted to go ice fishing. She'd read many books on the subject, and finally, after getting all the necessary tools together, she made for the nearest frozen lake.

After positioning her comfy footstool, she started to make a circular cut in the ice. Suddenly—from the sky—a voice boomed, "THERE ARE NO FISH UNDER THE ICE!"

Startled, the blonde moved further down the ice, poured a Thermos of cappuccino, and began to cut yet another hole. Again, from the heavens, the voice bellowed, "THERE ARE NO FISH UNDER THE ICE!"

The Blonde, now quite worried, moved way down to the opposite end of the ice, set up her stool, and tried again to cut her hole. The voice came once more, even louder: "THERE ARE NO FISH UNDER THE ICE!"

She stopped, looked skyward, and said, "Is that you, Lord?"

The voice replied, "NO, THIS IS THE RINK MANAGER!"

Tri-State Amateur Radio Group

Hamfest '99 & Eyeball QSO

Friday April 2
from
5pm to 10pm

and

Saturday April 3
from 8am to 3pm

Tri-State Amateur Radio Group

For More Information Contact:

Duane Henderson (KC5NID)
at 580-994-2223 or
kc5nid@pldi.net

Jay Kruckenberg (KB5SOO)
at 580-994-2751 or
kb5soo@pldi.net

This years event will be held at the Mooreland Fairbarns in Mooreland, OK located 7 blocks north of the jct.. of US412 and SH50 then 2 blocks back west.

On Friday, April 2 there will be a tailgate party and vender setup from 5pm to 10pm. Also a hamburger feed will begin around 6:30pm for those in attendance.

On Saturday, April 3 will be the main event. Dealers at this time include Rad-Comm Radio from Lubbock, TX featuring Alinco, ICOM, Standard & ADI Radios and DW Sales from Oklahoma City, OK featuring one of the largest selection of electronic parts around.

Admission is \$4.00 at the door.

There will be plenty of free swap tables on a first come first served basis.

There will be several forums during the day. Planned at this time is one on antenna hints and tips and one on project construction. These are subject to change if events warrant.

The National Weather Service of Norman, OK will conduct a weather spotting school starting at 4pm at the Mooreland High School Auditorium located at the intersection of US412 and Elm Streets (7 blocks north of the fairbarns).

Up Coming Events

February 20 1999 - Russellville, AR
Arkansas River Valley AR Foundation,
Margaret Alexander, KC5MCS 1511
North Jackson, Russellville, AR 72801
501-968-7270 E-mail:
ealexand@cswnet.com

March 13 1999 - Kansas City, MO -
Ararat AR Shrine Club, Kansas City, MO
Steve Dowdy, WJ0I 12411 Olive St.,
Kansas City, MO 64146 816-941-3392 E-
mail: sdowdy@qni.com

March 13 1999 Fort Smith, Arkansas
Location - Fort Smith Civic Center
(More information later) or call Kelsey
Mikel, KK5KU 8604 Urban View Dr.
Fort Smith, AR. 72903 Phone:
5016517003 e-mail: kk5ku@amsat.org

April 10, 1999 - Midwest City Swap Meet
sponsored by Choctaw Amateur Radio
Club. Starts at 8:00 am done by noon.

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 the first Saturday of each

month, at the Church of Christ, 811 N.
4th St., Broken Arrow. Starts at 9:30 AM
and lasts until everyone is finished. New
hams and upgrades are welcome.

VE exams on 2nd Saturday of each month
are held at 1000 after the SCARS meeting
at the American Red Cross in on
Westheimer Airport in Norman. Contact
Jim Copeland, NW0K at 329-1681 or e-
mail jimhelps@juno.com 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 in Enid is done on odd months
starting with the month of January. On
the 2nd Saturday at 10:00 AM at the
Oklahoma Natural Gas Co located at the
corner of HY412 & Garland Rd., across
east from Atwoods store. The testing is
PREREGISTER ONLY. Contact Dick
NJ5S 580-233-9869

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

SW Oklahoma - Thursdays @ 7:00 p.m.
on 146.31/91.

North Central Oklahoma meets on the
first and third Monday of the month at
7:30pm on the 147.150 rep

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.

**Enid Amateur Radio Club Monday
Night Net** Mondays @ 8:00pm on
147.150MHZ.

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

Oklahoma Training Net - Daily @
0000Z on 3692.5 kHz (CW Net)

Oklahoma Section Net - Daily @ 0030Z
on 3692.5 kHz

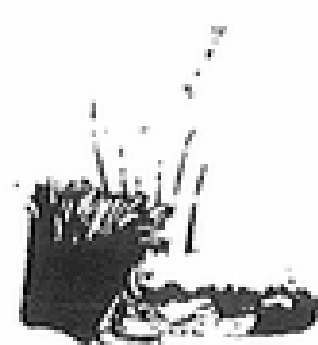
First Sunday VE Exams are Scheduled for 2 p.m.
Through Calendar Year 1999 at the Oklahoma City
Red Cross, 601 NE 6th Street OKC, OK

March 7	September 5
May 2	October 3
June 6	November 7
August 1	December 5

Enrolls call Jim, N5BEQ at 405-232-2299

NSWNL
GLYNN MASSEY

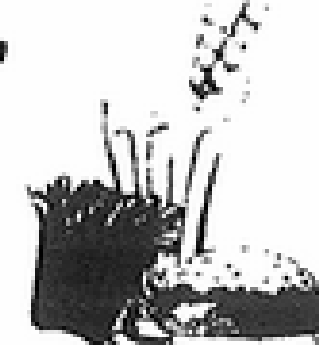
KCSVZN
JAN MASSEY



Dairy Kurl Drive Inn

(405) 634-7760

Hours: Mon-Fri: 8-4
Closed Sat & Sun



Family Owned & Operated for 20 Years
2201 S. Central, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73109

