

Collector & Emitter

Central Oklahoma Radio
Amateurs, Inc. Publication

February 2000
Volume 26, Number 2
Issue 300
75¢

Postmaster See Page 2
For Postal Information

Periodical Mail

HAMS ONLINE

New Column

Coming Full Circle, Almost

What Do Those Numbers Mean?

Solar Indexes Explained



HE SAY: "BETTER GET NEW SIGNAL
BLANKET. YOURS FULL OF CHIRPS
AND KEY CLICKS!"

Contesting From J3A

Hedy Lamar, Actress & Inventor (SK)

She Invented Spread Spectrum

Congrats to Coy Day, N5OK

New West Gulf Division Director

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:

2000/12 1 2 4 6 MZ
JOHN E. DOE, KA5ABC
1234 SW 56th STREET
RADIOVILLE, OK 74321-9876

The "2000/12" means the year/month C&E subscription expires.

Dear Secretary / Treasurer:

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

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Postmaster:**Send address changes to;****Collector and Emitter****P. O. Box 55600****Del City, OK 73115-5600**

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.: Curtis Foote, KC5GEP 359-6514 VP: 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: 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: Ron McCubbin, KC5QCV 341-0591 Sec: Forrest Rush, N5VWF 842-8486 Treas.: Mark Watkins, KD5CXP 340-8596 E-mail: ocapa@juno.com	15. South Canadian ARS Meets: 0930L, 2nd Saturday, Red Cross Bldg North OU Campus, Norman Pres.: Tom Miller, KD5ENL 321-7889 VP: Ed Berkowitz, N3US 364-8884 Sec: Bill Baker, N5UMH 366-8641 Tr: Jeff Wyke, KT5OK 329-6762
6. Altus Area Amateur Radio Assn. Meets: 1900L 2nd Thursday, Southwest Area Vo- Tech Center, 711 W Tamarack Altus, OK Pres.: Dale Town, N5VX 580-477-4027 VP: Mike Schenkel, W5VXU 580-846-5578 Sec: Ron Roman, KD5CYW 580-482-8446 Treas.: Fred Cramer, KC5SRJ Editor: Ron Roman, KD5CYW 580-482-8446	
7. Enid Amateur Radio Club Meets: 1900L 4th Thursday, American Red Cross 400 N Grand, Enid, OK Pres.: John Turner, KA7GLA 580-242-6802 VP: Al Fox, KD5BA 580-242-4800 Sec: Dave Chael, KC5GUD 580-242-3445 Treas.: Dwayne Posey, KC5QVS 580-237-3218 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.: Steve Wilson, KD5DKZ 580-332-1473 VP: Charles Eiter, KC5TGA 580-436-4425 Sec: Darla Coffey, KC5RGU 580-436-1271 Tr: Marie Wilson, KD5EXM 580-332-1473
8. Choctaw Amateur Radio Club Meets: 1900L 3rd Monday, Eastern Oklahoma Co. Vo Tech, 4601 N. Choctaw Rd, Choctaw, OK Pres.: Dave Downing, WD5G 736-6377 VP: Don McDown, N5ENQ 732-6749 Sec: Tim Harper, KC5DSW 391-3096 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.: George Summers, KK5QY 580-355-6514 VP: Charlotte Cole, KB5OJV 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: Ray Barnes, AB5Z 580-274-3334 Sec/Tr.: Joe Garland, WA5FLT 405-893-2660 Editor: Ralph Wilder, Wa5PFFK 405-623-5421	19. Tri-State Amateur Radio Group Meets: 1930L, 2nd Thursday, Woodward, OK Pres.: James Hand, NW5OK 580-994-6118 VP: Larry Goodwin Sr. K5LHG 580-886-3283 Sec/Tr.: Gerald Bowman, W5AOK 580-994-5600 E-mail: W5OKT@unibuilt.com
10. Oklahoma DX Association Meets: Hamfests and as announced in C&E. Pres.: Larry Shima, W0PAN 405-721-8138 VP: Lu Fisher, K5YP 580-254-5641 VP: Sec/Tr.: Jerry Chouninard, K5YAA 918-341-2659 Editor: Nelson Derks, KC5QVV 918-451-1594	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 December, 1999 Issue of *Collector and Emitter* is Friday, February 25, 2000. 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 25th, 2000.

The president of CORA, Hal Miller, KB1ZQ opened the meeting at 7:50PM. There were five directors representing three clubs plus a visitor from the Oklahoma City Personal Computers Users Group.

Secretary's report - The secretary's report was accepted as printed with one correction.

Treasurer's report - The president gave the treasurer's report as the treasurer has a relative in the hospital.

C&E Report - Beginning January 1st, 2000, the C&E will now be 50 cents an issue. Instead of the letter the club treasurers will now be invoiced for the C&E.

A number of clubs elect new officers to start in January. If your club has elected new officers, have your club secretary inform the editor of the C&E.

Just a reminder; some of the material in the C&E is copyrighted. You need to obtain permission from the copyright holder before reprinting it.

Ham Holiday 2000

CORA will host the Oklahoma State Convention for Radio Amateurs this year. It is not confirmed, but we hope to have Mr. Hollingworth of the FCC come to HH 2000.

It is not confirmed, but CORA also hopes to have Jim Haynie, ARRL President, come to HH 2000.

Tri State Amateur Radio Group will be in charge of the Wouff Hong.

The Explorer post will be in charge of daytime security.

Tom Webb, WA9AFM, reported that the announcements for HH 2000 are ready to go and will be sent off in early February.

We hope to have the Hummer with radio gear from Tinker AFB.

The ICOM funmobile was asked for last autumn: we haven't heard from ICOM yet.

We are inviting the Oklahoma Highway Patrol's rollover simulator.

The next meeting will be at Salvation Army's Divisional Headquarters at NW 50th and N. Pennsylvania.

The meeting will be on February 22nd, 2000, beginning at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Forrest Rush, N5VWF
CORA Secretary

CORA VE Testing

The December session was held on Monday, the 20th. Another nice day of weather with plenty of scurrying for the Christmas season. Results of the of the December session are as follows:

Applicants: 1
Elements Administered: 1
Elements Passed: 0
Number Upgraded: 0

Now that the FCC Amateur Radio restructuring plan has been released (effective 15 April) we are hopeful of an increase in test session applicants. But, who knows? The January session will be held on January 17 at 6:00 PM at the Salvation Army Divisional Headquarters which is located at the southwest corner of Penn Ave and Northwest Expressway in Oklahoma City. The CORA VE team will be ready to administer Amateur Radio tests at the appointed time and place. Study, practice and be ready for the January session.

73 de CORA VE Team
John-WB5SYT

ORSI Meeting Announcement

The next meeting of the Oklahoma Repeater Society, Inc (ORSI) will be on February 26th, 1 PM and Lunch begins at 12 noon, at Ollies Station Restaurant in West Tulsa, 4070 Southwest blvd. Detailed driving instructions will be on the ORSI website at - <http://www.qsl.net/orsi>

We still need some board members from the NW, SW, and SE parts of the state. If you are a repeater trustee, or interested in frequency coordination for the state of Oklahoma, please plan to attend.

For more info see the website or contact KD5FX, kd5fx@poncacity.net, or via the callbook address.

Thanks, Dave Land, KD5FX
ORSI Secretary

ARES UPDATE

Hello all amateur radio operators. This is Jim K5PER. About five interested and dedicated ARES members continue to get together on the Thursday night ARES Net, 146.82 at 8: PM local. Check it out and check in!

Checkins and interest has dwindled to this low ebb the past year. The five mentioned above have took it upon ourselves to try to generate interest and participation. The present state of participation for EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION is a shame and disgrace. We need YOU. Please join us with your input and suggestions.

I am not acting as EC for Ok. County but just helping to lead in this effort. We are taking steps in this direction. One step is for me to inform you as to what will take place. This article and one more to follow, perhaps in March, in which we will announce a date, time, and place for an area wide discussion and planning meeting. All of you please engage your interest and make special plans to be a part of this.

What is really needed is for someone to assume EC duties of OK County. If you would want an official assignment where you have an opportunity to do a real service for amateur radio, this is it and the time. Let me know and I will help you. What do you say? Let's do it! Any input before the above, please call 405 634-5235.
Jim, K5PER

Chit- Chat

By Linda NILPN

Happy Valentine's Day Everyone!

In Elementary school teachers pass out a list of all the students in the class to the students for this special day. They ask that the kids exchange cards with everyone in the class and the smart ones have that statement printed in bold letters at the top of the handout so parents can see it too.

It never fails but there are always a few students in the class no one likes and no one really wants to give them a card. Again, the smart teachers will have extra cards for those students left out of the loop. These teachers will request all cards be turned in a few days before the big day.

The teacher will go through all of the cards and will add cards for any student left out. No one knows of this simple act but the teacher and her family members. The whole task is made into a family project.

The big day arrives and almost everyone is excited about the cards they are about to open. The little bags or boxes with each student's name sit on a shelf waiting. About 30 minutes before class is to end, cupcakes, cookies and milk are served to the students. The teacher passes out the bags and she takes her seat and watches her class. The true lesson is about to begin.

The students that no one wanted to give a card to open their bags last knowing there should be little in them. Instead, they find their bag full of cards and the look of wonder shines in their eyes! Some go to their classmates and thank them for the card and the look of surprise and puzzlement is clearly on their faces. They didn't send it and yet there was a card with their name on it. They have no idea what to say or do.

The teacher watches as slowly those that once were outcast in her class start to bloom before her eyes. The smart students begin to wonder where the cards came from, who sent them and it finally dawns on them, the teacher sent them! She had said that everyone was to get a card and had made it a reality in spite of their own selfishness. They have to think about this and figure out why she felt it so important.

The bell rings and the students gather up their treasures and head for home. The teacher begins to clean up and a few of her students walk back into the class and ask her why did she do it? She just smiles and says because it felt right. It cost nothing to be kind to one another and you never know, you just might find a friend in the process. The students give her a hug and leave her to finish cleaning up.

Lesson learned! Take the time to reach out beyond your circle of friends and you might just be surprised! Happy Valentine Day Everyone.

The Key to Life is Attitude

No matter how much we wish that things we love will never change, the reality is we can't stop change. I have lost count of the things in just this past year that have changed in my own personal life. Although I was not happy with some of those changes and questioned the fairness of them, it still did not stop them from being. I adjusted and moved forward.

I remember walking on a riverbank with my dad, I was maybe 10 years old at the time, and the river had changed from the last time we had been there. Sometimes the water was so high it washed out part of the road and other times it was so low, dad could walk across the riverbed. The river supplied our table with fresh catfish and frog legs. In the surrounding trees and area along the river lived squirrels, quail and rabbits. Wild mustang grapes grew in shaded areas along the bank. Everything had it's season and time of being before moving over to make room for something else to take it's place. Dad would have my brother and me just stop and listen to the sounds and smells that surround us. He taught us to cherish the moment and to always keep an open mind. The key to life is how we see and handle change, our attitude.

Today, the ham community is once again at odds with a change that some feel is unfair and unjust. Good, bad, right or wrong the changes will become reality the 15th of April 2000. We can not stop it anymore than I could have stopped the tornado May 3rd, 1999 from hitting my home. The only question remaining is where do we go from here? There is so much negativity toward these changes. Anger runs rapid like a rabid dog. Life

long friends take opposite sides and now refuse to speak to each other. Why? Why are you fighting over something that we can not stop?

Dad always said that I was to think before I spoke because once the words were said, I could not take them back. He also told me to look at all sides of any given situation, not with emotion but clearly, anger got you nowhere fast. He taught me that it was up to me on if I would be happy or not. Happiness did not come from the things you had or from a magic pill. True happiness was a state of mind, being thankful for what you did have. It all was a matter of attitude, looking for the goodness instead of what was wrong all the time. Life would never be fair and there would be times when I did everything right and I would still fail.

We live in a world that does not always balance; things are not fair. And that brings me back to attitude, the way I am able to balance life's crazy curve balls it throws my way. I had a good teacher. I was taught to respect my elders and to look up to them for wisdom and knowledge and follow the example they set.

The actions of some of our old timers lately over the recent changes in ham radio have made me question if maybe there are exceptions to the rule. How am I to look up to someone that has been a ham for over 20 years and treats me as a non-person? I am a No Code Tech and in their eyes not a real ham until I pass my code test. If this is example I am to follow once I have code mastered, I'll be setting a different one. I will set an example of tolerance and acceptance for those who come after me no matter what class of license they hold.

This is my plea, my wish for our ham community as we are given changes that some hams view as unfair. Please do not let this create a hatred and indifference toward those that will come after the changes take effect. Please try and remember why you became a ham in the first place and rediscover that love for the hobby. We come from different backgrounds, different cultures and different beliefs but we have a common thread that binds us together...we are all hams. The key is attitude and lets make it positive.

C&E Articles: Accepted or Rejected

An article was recently sent to us for the possibility of printing in the newsletter. I am sorry to say we decided due to the tone, attitude and hateful manner the subject was presented, we felt it did not promote the true spirit of Amateur Radio. When we are given an article and have doubts on if we should print it or not, we seek outside council and did so with this article. We never tell the person what we feel about the article that may be questionable, just ask them to read it and if they think we should print it or not. They said not to with this article and stated the same reasons we had already formed.

We have tried to promote a positive aspect on all the different avenues ham radio is able to go. OKDX Newsletter is the best source for information on a world beyond 2 meters. This group has an endless source of information on what is happening on the HF bands. The EARS Club sets the standard on community service and hosts Amateur Radio Classes for anyone wishing to learn. These are just two of our clubs and examples of what is offered. Each club offers something unique and together we have a newsletter as no other in the world! Our clubs will always help one other just for the asking. From all over the country I have been asked how did we get clubs to unit as we have. What was the secret?

We try to bring you information without coloring the facts. We bring you articles to make you laugh, smile and wonder if your club could do the same. Chit Chat is about life and DX Files is to let your imagination take flight. A few articles and jokes have been in the shady area but those are rare. We want to encourage hams to try new things and be supportive of one another, not bully or intimidate one group or place one group above all others.

Anyone is welcomed to send in articles and we welcome the input. I ask only that it be "G" rated, positive, informative and will enrich our love of the hobby.

Until next month....

Silent Key

Sale of a transmitter that was used by W2OCM now a Silent Key.

For Sale Kilowatt Plus Transmitter contained in a 23 x 72 rack panel.

Final Stage consisting of 1 Eimac 4-1000 transmitting tube with an E F Johnson 222-101 Vacuum Variable Tuning capacitor.

Complete unit in perfect operating condition.

Contact Rose Rizzo at 321 2413 XYL of W2OCM (SK)



Oklahoma City Autopatch Association

Minutes of the OCAPA meeting for January 16th, 2000.

The meeting was held at Coit's on Penn Ave and called to order by the Vice President of OCAPA, Ron McCubbin, KC5QCV. There were 15 members present and 2 visitors.

Secretary's Report - The secretary's report for November 16, 1999 was approved.

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

Technical Committee - The technical committee needs help. They intend to work on the .03 machine, and they will need some help. If you want to help, contact Jim Richardson, N5OHL, at (405) 524-0456.

Code Practice - There will be a 5wpm code practice net on 146.820 run by Johnnie, KM5GM who finished the last

code practice net December 15. It will start sometime in March.

Special Event - The Northern Arizona DX Association is in the planning stages of a Route 66 special event. They hope to have every city mentioned in the old route 66 song on the air. OCAPA intends to be a part of this.

FCC license restructuring - Tom Webb, WA9AFM, gave a presentation on the new license scheme.

The code tests for 13wpm and 20wpm have been dropped. While no one will lose any privileges, the licenses have been combined from 6 classes to 3 classes. After April 15th, 2000 there will be only Technician, General, and Amateur Extra.

For more details go to ARRL.org: it should answer all your questions.

OCAPA mailing - All members should receive a letter from OCAPA detailing the proposed changes in the constitution. Please come to the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Forrest Rush, N5VWF
OCAPA Secretary

Scholarship Fund

It's that time of the year that the club is thinking about giving a \$500.00 scholarship to a high school senior, so that we can help them with college expenses. Please send your contribution to:

OCAPA Scholarship Fund
21925 N Huffines Rd
Edmond, OK 73003-9348

73 de Ron, KC5QCV

HAMS ONLINE

For all intents and purposes, the Third Millennium has begun. The Internet is here to stay, and it can greatly enhance your enjoyment of the Amateur Radio hobby.

If you already have a PC in your ham shack or home, you are probably closer than you think to being online. In this column I will try to guide at least your first steps, until you can follow your own path of exploration.

I should begin each sentence with the words, "As far as I know..." since the Internet (Inet) is changing every day. I'm certainly no expert either, but I hope share what I have found out so far.

Inet includes a number of areas, each with certain hardware requirements. At the minimum, you will need a computer with a 9600-baud modem, and a telephone line. A mouse helps, too.

EMAIL -- With as little as a 386 running Windows 3.1, you can send and receive email, for free! This alone will give you a world of Amateur related info. Juno, Alta Vista, and Net Zero offer free email services. They do carry advertising -- that's why they're free.

WWW -- Access to the World Wide Web is possible with a 486 running Windows 95 or better, giving you an interactive graphic service. There are quite a number of Internet Service Providers (ISPs) at modest monthly rates, which include email. There are thousands of radio web pages, covering every aspect of Amateur Radio. Alta Vista offers free web access and searches.

ONLINE SERVICES -- Companies such as America Online, Prodigy, and CompuServe offer a variety of news, financial, and commercial services, plus email and www access, with higher monthly fees.

All of these services have local toll-free telephone numbers in the larger cities, which you can call to access Inet. Email calls take only a moment, so you will not

be tying up your phone. For longer web calls, sometimes 30 minutes to two hours or more, you should investigate SWB's inexpensive "Call Notes" service, which will take your messages while you are online, thus avoiding the cost of a separate phone line.

In today's column I would like to give you a couple of good starting places of interest to Radio Amateurs, and some tips.

HAMS ON EMAIL -- Let's say you've assembled the necessary hardware. Next you will need an email program for your PC. It's okay to borrow the Juno program from a friend -- it's freeware. Once it's running, you can start your own email account. You'll probably want to use your callsign as your email address. Now you can send a message to anyone whose email address you know. Mine is KM5GM@ARRL.NET -- the case is not important on email. Email addresses have one "at" sign, at least one period, and NO spaces.

Note: Web addresses are more complicated; they ARE case-sensitive, and they do not have an @ sign. You can not email to a web address.

You can find company email addresses in their business cards and ads, and get your friends' addresses by asking. When you send someone a message, he will automatically receive your email address. Soon you will be receiving email! **NOTE:** Email transmissions are NOT private.

What other things can you do? Suppose you need a regular mailing address for a QSL card you wish to mail. Send an email to: LOOKUP@QRZ.COM -- no "subject" needed. In the text portion, type LOOKUP KM5GM on one line, and LOOKUP (your callsign) on another line, and send the message. Soon you'll receive an email message giving you all the info on you and me. Now you're rolling!

REFLECTORS -- An email reflector is a free, text-based bulletin board devoted to a certain topic. When you send an email to a reflector, hundreds of subscribers will see your message. If you subscribe, you will see all of the daily postings for your chosen topic(s) when you log on,

including lots of helpful info and lively discussions in progress. Note to Parents: The Amateur Radio related reflectors are relatively "clean", but they are not censored, as we are on the air.

QTH.NET -- This is the largest group of ham reflectors I have found, with over 900 topics, including every interest, club, and user-group.

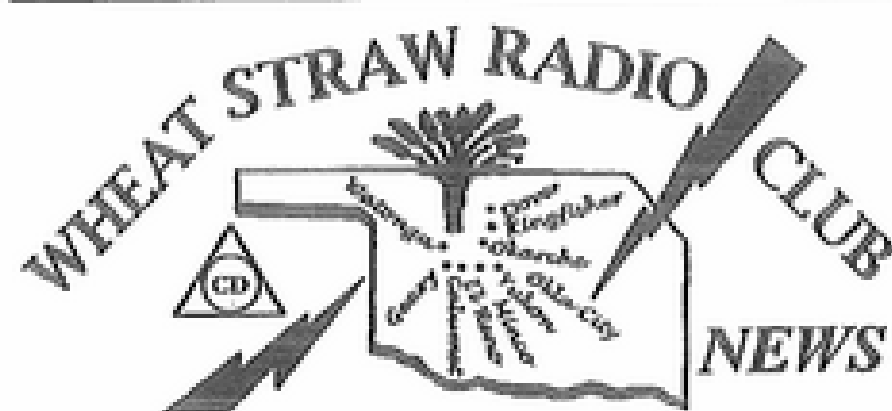
Here are just a few: Alinco, antennas, APRS, boat anchors, Collins, contest, CW, DX, Fists, for sale-swap, foxhunt, geratol, GPS, ham-books, HamSat, Handihams, Heathkit, Icom, Kenwood, MARS, MFJ-Ameritron, Morsecode, OkHam, packet, QCWA, QRP, radio-astronomy, repeaters, scanner, Skywarn, swl, TenTec, test-equipment, traffic-handling, vintage-radio, wallpaper, WARC, wefax, wxsat, Yaesu, and more.

You can subscribe to any QTH.NET topic by sending an email to: MAJORDOMO@QTH.NET -- no subject -- text: SUBSCRIBE (topic). You will be asked to verify your subscription, and then you're set! I am enjoying the reflectors and you will too.

OKC SWAP NET -- Locally, our Saturday Morning Swap & Shop Net electronic edition is available via email. Here you can shop for used ham gear gathered throughout Oklahoma and the neighboring states. For your free weekly subscription, send an email to: KM5GM@ARRL.NET -- subject: OKC SWAP -- and include in the text your first name, town, and callsign if any. To submit an item, you must include your phone-number, but your email address is optional. For each item, indicate whether for sale, trade, want, or giveaway, and give a brief description. Your item will be included in the Saturday morning net and subsequent email distribution.

GET STARTED NOW -- Here are the toll-free phone numbers to call for your free email programs and service: Juno 800/654-5866, Net Zero 877/272-9929, Alta Vista 877/584-5551. Next month we will tackle the World Wide Web.

== 73 de KM5GM ==



Wheatstraw Amateur Radio Club

The January 9th, 2000 meeting was held in Geary at the Public Housing building. It is not a large building, but it is a nice and quiet place to meet.

Our president Neal, N5KCO called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. with sixteen people present. Three of those were visitors.

After self-introductions the minutes of the December meeting were read. Which was in December. It was the clubs Christmas dinner and elections for year 2000. A get well card was passed around and signed by all for Leo, WZ5H. Leo had planned to start an Amateur radio class Thursday, but it had to be postponed for a time.

Our small problems at the repeater are being taken care of. We invite all amateurs who can reach the repeater to check in on Wednesday nights at nine o'clock the year round.

Our regular meetings have set for the second Sunday of each month. Canton will be the February meeting. A problem the building is taken for the second Sunday. Alice, WA5UEW made a motion the club meeting be moved for the February meeting only, to the first Sunday so Canton can host it. The motion was seconded and passed. The meeting will be February 6, 2000. When you stop at the red light in center of town past the laundry across the railroad track take the blacktop road just east of the mini stop. Go on north to the city community center on Garfield St. you are there.

Ernie, KC5VRF commented he heard a group of good guys on the Calumet talking some times, they seemed to be real nice fellows. You are invited to join us on the net or meetings.

Johnny, K5GBN made a motion we close the meeting, seconded by Ray, AB5Z.

Johnny had a prayer before we hit the refreshment line. There were lots of delicious goodies. Johnny, K5GBN looked a lot better than he did at the Christmas dinner. We all wish Leo WZ5H a full recovery; he's back and on the go.

Ralph, WA5PFK

Something For You To Think About

There were four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that because it was Anybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that. Somebody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done.

Wisdom comes more from living than from studying.

Some people seem to get plenty of exercise. They jump to conclusions push their luck and dodge deadlines.

Think about it

In business there is always room at the top. Unfortunately there is always more room at the bottom. He that requires much from himself and little from others will keep himself from being the object of resentment.

Y2K GLITCH:

Maine State government got its first y2k surprise in April when Owners of 2000 model cars and trucks received titles for "horseless carriages." The state's computers thought year 2000 models were year 1900 models. The horseless carriage designation is given to vintage vehicles made before 1916.

An Amish family rode their buggy into town and went to anew high-rise hotel. While the rest of the family wandered off, father and son noticed a pair of shiny walls that could slide open and closed. The boy asked his father what it was. "Son I have never seen anything like this in my life."

Just then a disheveled, sour looking woman walked up to the magic walls and punched a button. The walls glided open the woman stepped into a little room. The

metal walls closed behind her. A row of lights above lit one at a time. Then the doors opened and a glamorous, smiling blonde stepped out. The man and his son were dumbfounded. Finally, the father said to the boy, "Go get your mother."

Recently there was a article written by Lisa Hoffman. Pentagon under orders to supply honor guards. We have had so many families wanting a military service for their loved ones. I think all funeral homes will have a toll free number for this service. The Pentagon expects the death of World War II veterans will pass on at 1,500 per day. I read and hear on TV news so much about the teenage shootings. The news media tell it over and over so much, I think other teenagers will try it. Some like being in the news. Our governments National and States want to take the guns from the public. They have not stopped drugs flowing in. They have not stopped robberies, nor many life long time violations. Each person has" their own right to there own thoughts. I think the key to the problems is the like of?

Mom Taught Her How To Love, Be Happy

by Laura Rae Lehman

Mom, you are a person full of love and happiness. From that, you have taught me a lot in life.

You have taught me how to set a good and reliable example for my sister.

From your motherly example, you taught me to grow from a child to a young adult, to be an individual and express myself.

You have shown me examples of love and honor, and of peace and happiness.

Through your glittering smile. I have learned to be cheerful and kind to be cheerful, and kind to others.

From your kind heart, I have learned to take each day as it comes and make the best of it.

You have a smile like a rose, full of joy and happiness. Your heart is like gold, rich and plentiful. Your mind is full of knowledge, full of challenger. You have overcome and challenges still to come. Through your actions, seen that motherly touch and concerned expressed to all that fail. You lift up a fallen heart and wipe the tears from sad, wet eyes.

From you, I have learned to be a kindhearted and loving daughter, one who will hopefully be just like you someday. You are a person full of love and happiness for all. I love you.

overcome and challenges still to come. Through your actions, seen that motherly touch and concerned expressed to all that fail. You lift up a fallen heart and wipe the tears from sad, wet eyes.

From you, I have learned to be a kindhearted and loving daughter, one who will hopefully be just like you someday. You are a person full of love and happiness for all. I love you.

These kind of teachings will prevent lawless deeds than all the building of prisons filing on teenagers or trying to keep the guns out. Sometimes I wonder if our great leaders were taught other than greed and etc.

His Words Carried A Double Meaning

A large group of pensioners met once a week for gymnastics, and I talked my friend into joining the group. On the first evening, he was introduced to the other participants. We all wore tights or similar clothes for the exercises. Some weeks later, at a fishing contest, a woman, well bundled up, said, "hello to us." We both replied politely, but my friend didn't recognize her. The lady turned around and said, "We take gymnastics together." My friend replied, "Oh sorry I didn't recognize you with your clothes on." It wasn't quite what he meant, but we all had a good laugh.

Ralph, WASPDK

COMING FULL CIRCLE, ALMOST

By Jerome Doerrie, K5IS

k5is@hotmail.com

Tri-State Amateur Radio Group

We have six pretty days each year. It was one of those days with 75-degree temperature and no wind. It felt so good to be out basking in the sunshine while servicing the antennas at Rhombic Acres.

Trudging up the hill, came Johnny Newham. He looked like he was carrying the weight of the world on his shoulders. As he came closer, his visible facial features reflected his concerns. Johnnie is a member of the Legion of Hand-Wringers Amateur Radio Club. Before coming close enough to exchange greetings, his body language indicated that he was ready to unload his burden of imagined fears. With gritted teeth and glinting beady eyes, he started to explode; "Have you heard

about the new rules from the FCC changing our license requirements?"

Before I could answer, he continued, "Gone are the Novice, Technician Plus, and Advanced class licenses. There are only three licenses left! The Technician class has a 35 question theory test. The General class with 35 questions and 5-wpm code test and the Extra class with a 50 more questions. Doc says that it really chaps his 'you-know-where' that it is now only 5-wpm code for Extra Class. I had to really work to get my General, and I feel cheated, since it will now be so much easier to obtain Ham licenses. I don't want to QSO with any of these new 'lesser qualified' hams."

This one was suffering from a severe case of "selective perception." A visit with Graybeard, who always speaks with the wisdom of the ages, was needed!

Climbing to the top of the hill we found Graybeard out enjoying the sunshine. Johnny Newham made his preparatory groans then he recounted what he had earlier told me. This time he was a bit long-winded, a noted trait of rag-chewers. Graybeard did not immediately respond, so Johnnie started his spiel over again. Graybeard held up his hand, giving the universal symbol for silence.

After a pause, Graybeard cleared his throat and responded, "Before 1967 we hams behaved as if we were members of an international brotherhood. Another ham was a friend that shared our interest in the magic of radio. There were four classes of licenses and each required essay answers to the theory questions. The Novice, for beginners, required 5-wpm code and gave limited HF CW subbands, 75 watts with crystal controlled frequency selection, and phone or CW was permitted on 145 to 147 MHz. It was a one-year non-renewable license. The Technician license required a 5-wpm code test and the same theory as the General class. It was created for experimentation, not communications, and had privileges only above 220 MHz. The General class with 13-wpm code and theory examination gave all frequency privileges, and the Extra class license with a 20-wpm code and more theory allowed the holder to administer the Novice and Conditional examinations. The Conditional was the same as the General but was for people living more than 75

miles from a FCC examination point. The Novice had a distinctive call sign with the letter "N" added to the call sign; for example, KN5WIK was a Novice call. When upgraded to General, the "N" was dropped and the call became K5WIK. The other classes of license could not be determined from the call sign. In 1967, the FCC took away half of the frequency privileges from the General class and gave exclusive subbands to Advanced and Extra Class and issued distinctive call signs for the various license classes. The feelings of fraternity started disappearing from ham radio and a "caste system" developed. Now by coming nearly full circle, maybe the issues of being divided by social status, gender, age, and license class can be put aside and once again we can share as friends in the excitement and wonder at the magic of radio." With that, Graybeard waved us off.

"Son-of-a-gun, I had never thought of it that way!"

On the way back down to Rhombic Acres, we visited about bureaucrats and how they change things, whether change is needed or not. For a number of years every new Postmaster General would decree that the rural mailboxes had to be moved to the other side of the road. Two shovels were worn out moving the mailbox back and forth at Rhombic Acres! By the same token, about every twenty years, we get a major change in the FCC laws covering ham radio. Sometimes it is good, and other times it causes damage, as in the case of the "Incentive" program. An example of good is how the "No Code Technician" has become generically known as "the family members' license." The family that hams together has more fun! The new changes will be good, because it will be easier for our family members to up-grade and everyone can be more fully into all of the active areas of ham radio. Upon reaching Rhombic Acres, Johnny said something to the effect that if he hurried, he still had time to get by GOFARS* to purchase a study guide for his Valentine and with that, he continued on his way down the hill.

*Good Ol' Friendly Amateur Radio Store

What Do Those Numbers Mean?

By NELSON DERKS, KC5QVV

Do some of the nuances of HF propagation remain a mystery to you? Ever wonder what those Solar-Terrestrial Indexes on WWV really mean? I was recently asked to give a presentation to the Tulsa ARC on solar phenomenon and their effects on radio propagation and concluded the Solar Indexes are more than a measure of HF propagation, they are the electromagnetic weather forecasts for our solar system... The story begins below the surface of our Sun and ends at the PL-259 on the back of your transceiver...

Always think BIG when considering the effects of the Sun. Although considered a medium sized star, the Sun's radius is about 439,500 miles with a circumference of 1.5 million miles. Comprised of gasses with no solid surface (71% Hydrogen, 27% Helium and 2% of 70 other trace elements), the core of the Sun is 150 times denser than water with enough gravity to hold itself together against the internal forces of nuclear fusion. The distance from Earth varies between 91.4 and 94.5 million miles due to our elliptical orbit. But, at the speed of light, that's only eight minutes away with the next closest star 4.3 light years beyond that. Curiously, the Sun is closest to Earth during our winter months, but the Earth's tilted axis makes for short winter days and cool temperatures. With this in mind, be glad the Sun is so far away as the electromagnetic radiation is

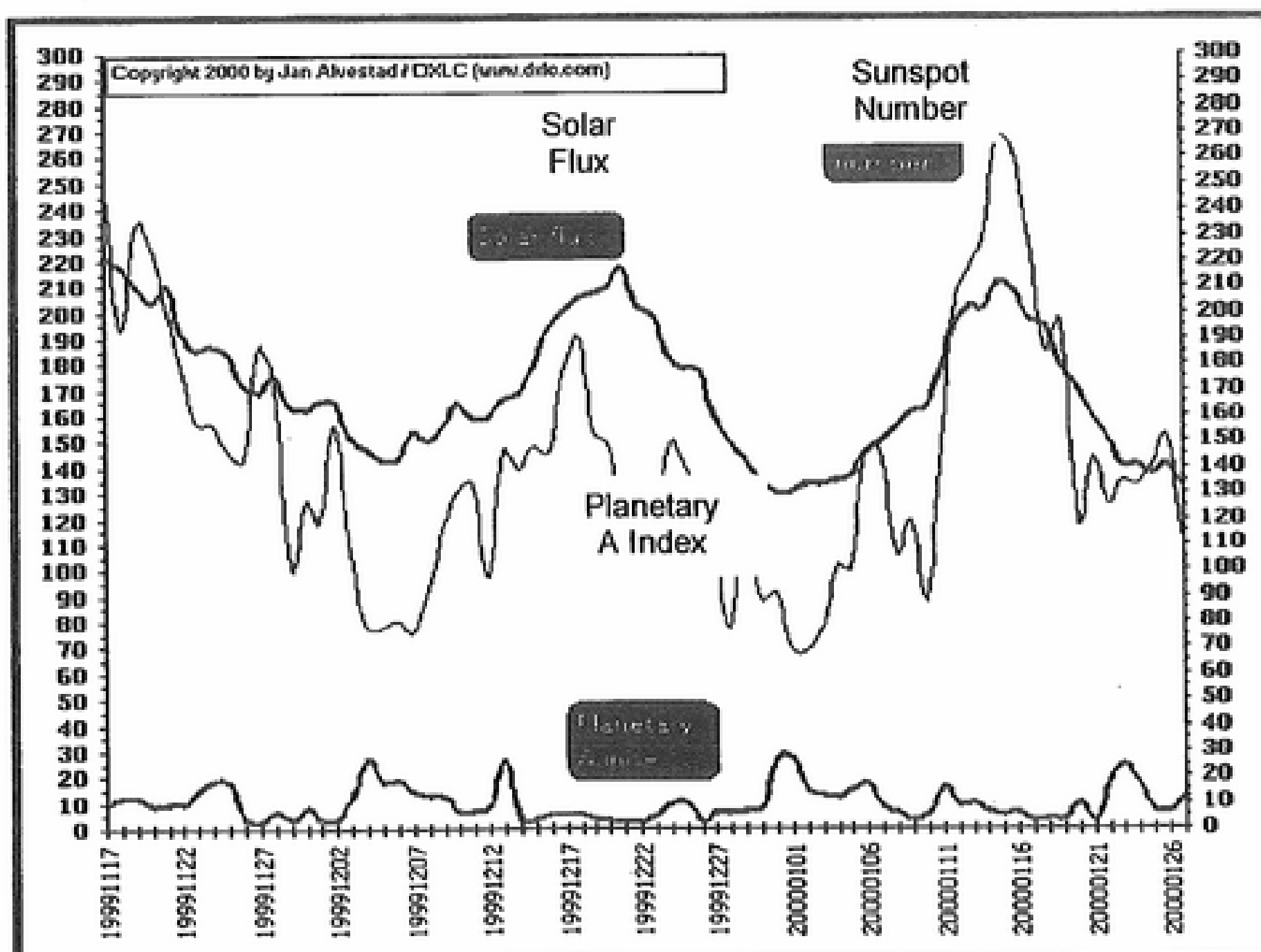
equally impressive. Radiating 3.83×10^{33} ergs per second, it's quite a powerhouse capable of sustaining present output levels for the next 6 Billion years. The nuclear fusion in the core percolates at an estimated 29,000,000 degrees F, but drops to a surface temperature of 9,300° F... Only slightly warmer than an August day in Houston, but cooler breezes of 8,100° F can be found swirling in any sunspot...

Which leads us to our first radio concept: The Sunspot... Simply stated, sunspots are huge solar storms caused by geomagnetic turbulence and usually occur in pairs. Like a hurricane on steroids that lasts for six months or more, the average sunspot is 5,000 miles in diameter and more violent than anything on earth. Weather spotters know what a temperature differential of 20° can stir up along a cold front, try to imagine the effects of a 1,200° differential. A healthy sunspot can spew plasma with a strong magnetic component thousands of miles into the corona. How strong? The Earth's magnetic field has a Gauss of less than 'One' while a sunspot has a Gauss of 2,500, and that's significant. Let's not forget RF is *electromagnetic*. By observing the Sun, you can see pairs of counter-rotating sunspots that increase and decline over 11 years, followed by a brief quiet time, then reappear as new sunspot pairs rotating in the opposite direction for 11 years. It's really a 22-year cycle with two minimums and two maximums.

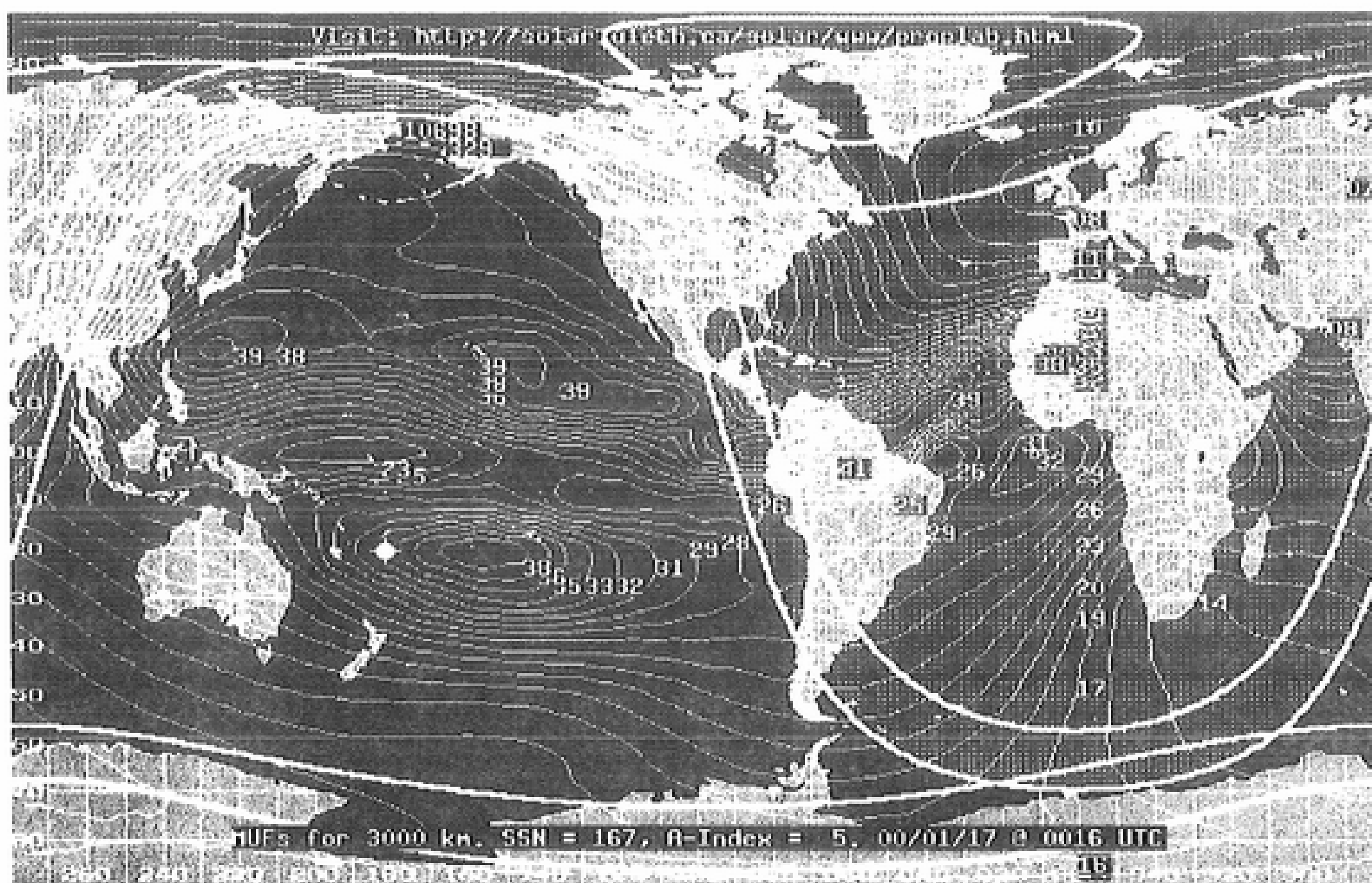
The Sun radiates many forms of energy throughout the electromagnetic spectrum: Broadband radio noise and light (both visible and beyond) as well as x-rays, free electrons, protons and helium nuclei. During intense solar activity the vortexes of these storms can propel a tremendous number of particles into our solar system. When you consider the force needed to accelerate a particle, no matter how small, to escape velocity against the strong gravitational pull of the Sun, that's incredible... But, be glad it does, as these particles keep our ionosphere charged with an abundance of reflective material to bounce our signals into distant locales.

These particles and the energy radiating from the Sun are collectively known as the "Solar Wind". Using this analogy, think of the Earth's magnetosphere... The layers of ionized particles suspended in the upper reaches of our atmosphere by the magnetic flux as they interact with this wind... The leading edge of the ionosphere compresses as the trailing edge elongates much like the tail of a comet pointing away from the Sun. However, geomagnetic turbulence caused by a strong solar flare can distort the magnetosphere severely enough to 'QRT' sky-wave propagation for minutes or hours. Even minor changes in particle and magnetic flux densities can alter the angles of refraction and reflection from Q5 to QRZ? on some bands while others are swamped by solar noise...

With all of this in mind, stable band conditions become even more remarkable when you consider the Sun rotates once every 27 days relative to the Earth, the Earth rotates relative to the Sun every 24 hours, and the Earth orbits the Sun once per year. As the Earth rotates inside the compressed and expanded areas of the ionosphere we notice a routine cycle of HF propagation that travels from East to West following the Sun. Although the dynamics change constantly, they are somewhat predictable. A sunspot cluster with a good DX yield will often return 27 days later on the next solar rotation and repeat the favorable band conditions. Now that we're aware of the mechanics, let's consider the Solar-Terrestrial indexes on WWV at 18 minutes past the hour...



THE SOLAR FLUX is measured by a radio telescope located in Ottawa, Ontario and indicates the ionospheric reflectivity at 2800 MHz (10.7 cm). At this frequency and QTH the raw number is irrelevant to a K5'er trying to work a ZL on 15, but is proportional to sunspot activity and does track both the ratio and trend of good or poor conditions. A high Solar Flux is not a guarantee of a high MUF or good DX, but a low Solar Flux is far less of a guarantee. The Solar Flux Index is an empirical scale with a theoretical minimum around 67 and the highest measured values above 300.





Edmond Amateur Radio Society

Birthdays:

The following EARS club members have January birthdays:

01/01 KB5UKS	Gary Moore
01/10 KC5YKE	Shondrea Hamlin
01/13 N5OQN	Carl Reed
01/14 WA5ZKS	Harold Wells
01/15 KC5RYT	Steve Kuper
01/17 KC5YBO	Gail Foote
01/18 WB5SYT	John Thomason
01/23 KA5WAV	Tommy Guinn
01/27 N5PA	Alan Clark
01/28 KB5VQM	Shannon Lytle
01/28 N5KLM	Rick Tasetano

The following EARS club members have February birthdays:

02/03 KC5GDC	Terry Deas
02/05 KB5DGH	Barbara Kiespert
02/08 N5ZHS	Ed Root
02/09 N5SGV	Pat Gray
02/15 N5VWF	Forrest Rush
02/22 AC5CQ	Brad Thomson
02/23 KC5OVD	Denise Thomason
02/27 KD5FDW	David Long

New Members:

Here are a few of the new members of EARS.

Bill Nolan	KD5IOV
Everett Taylor	KD5IPB
Tom Milam	KD5IPG
Tom Harris	KD5IOY
Kathryn Harris	KD5IOX
Ken Adamek	KD5IPF
John Plum	KD5IUF
Robin Streit	KD5IDO
J.P. Nolan	
Wayne Thornton	KD5IPD
Shirley Thornton	
Cathy Long	KD5IOT
Robyn Price	KD5ISC

(Ed. Note: I'm sorry I don't have all the calls yet. Curtis)

Member Information:

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

de Sharon Thompson, KM5GV

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

1999 in review.

We started the year by getting together several EARS members, some old some new, to take a good hard look at EARS, its activities, meeting schedule, etc.. The only thing that we elected to change was the odd month "Business" meetings. The older EARS members said these meetings had moved away from their intended use as a forum to present to the membership what was going on and present some type of program. I hope the new "Club" meetings are informative.

We worked several events in 1999, beginning with a St Patrick's parade in March. The weather was everything Oklahoma could throw at us: some sunshine, wind, rain, and yes, snow. The 4th of July and UCO's homecoming parades were much easier to work, weather wise!

The HF committee was very active this year. With the help of the Club Station committee, a new HF rig was purchased, antennas were moved and some new ones were installed. Our Club Station has taken on a very new look, with three HF rigs, Packet, UHF/VHF rigs, and computers for logging. If you haven't seen the station, it's worth your time.

The new rig was used at Field Day along with other rigs that were donated. Field Day was held at Hafer Park in Edmond. Two pavilions were set up with rigs and computers. It took two pavilions because those "dit dah" guys needed peace and quiet to practice their art. This day was a great success for all who participated. Thanks to all who worked so hard to make it happen.

A couple of special events stations were also set up. Some were held at the Club Station. One was set up at the State Capitol for Statehood Day in November. I

would like to thank the Club Station and HF committee folks for all their hard work.

A class was set up in the fall to bring new people to Amateur Radio. It was a great success. A great many hours were spent by EARS members teaching the 35 members in the class. They ended the class with a testing session in November. Many thanks to the VE's. There are several new calls out there. If you hear a KD5---, welcome them to Amateur Radio.

There are many active members of EARS. I would like to make special mention of three. Dee WD5FHR and Ken N5DBM were given life memberships at our November Club meeting for their many years of service to the Club. The 1999 EARS, Ham of the year is John WB5SYT. John's service to EARS and Amateur Radio in general spans several years, thanks John.

I am writing this in mid December, the Y2K problems (????) are still on the horizon. You will read this in January 2000. Was it a non-event? Probably. Ken N5DBM, our Emergency Coordinator, will organize about 35 Hams to stake out Edmond, just in case. I hope all goes well. In future columns maybe we will hear if there was a party at the Club Station.

I thank the membership for giving me the opportunity to serve as your president.

I wish all of you a prosperous and happy year 2000.

73's...Steve K...KC5RYT

PAST ACTIVITIES:

Community Service

EARS was again at service on Saturday, December 4th. On the afternoon-evening just previous to the club Christmas dinner, the crew was assisting with the downtown OKC festivities of parade and fireworks. Primarily providing perimeter control for the fireworks show, the gang kept the public at a safe distance and the fireworks workers able to concentrate on the task at hand. The day was cold, rainy and gloomy in appearance but EARS always performs the best in such conditions. Cold of toes and fingers but with warmth in the heart, our club assisted the OKC staff in on site communication and coordination of timing and pacing of the fireworks display.

Rumor has it that certain EARS members once again assisted in vehicle relocation and yes, with a smile on their face!

The major construction changes in downtown OKC required some altering in approach to the task. The gang found a coffee shop adorned with St. Nick and consumed coffee and munchies at a reduced price "cuz you guys are out helping the community". More than once during the assignment, the jolly man from up north wished the EARS workers season greetings with a mighty ho-ho-ho. But, he was noncommittal on queries regarding Amateur Radio equipment becoming in residence under EARS members' Christmas trees. Those club members helping on the first Saturday in December included:

Patrick-KD5CPQ
Steve-KG5IP
Lynnice-KB5FOH
Shondrea-KC5YKE
Justin-KM5IA
Earl-KD5IPC *
Everett-KD5IPB *
John-WB5SYT
* 1999 Licensing Class Member

On Tuesday, December 14 at an awards ceremony at Leadership Square in Oklahoma City, EARS was given a certificate and trophy of appreciation. This was for the Amateur Radio support of the Downtown Now July 4 and Christmas functions over the past several years. Check the EARS web site:

www.edmondsun.com/ears for a view of the certificate. Curtis Foote, KD5GEP, 2000 Club President represented the club. Hats off to our folk who met the demand of the event quite well.

de John-WB5SYT

EARS HF

Our club station was occupied in an active way on Saturday, December 11. No it was not just the donuts and coffee! The club participated in the ARRL 10-meter contest with CW and SSB modes. This contest is the second full weekend in December with the stated purpose: For Amateurs Worldwide to exchange QSO information with as many stations as possible on the 10 meter band. The KC5ORP equipment got a good workout (and not just the coffeepot) in operating all day while making contacts throughout the US as well

as many DX stations. Included in the contacts was W1AW-the ARRL flagship station. Club equipment used was the Icom 746, Hygain TH-3 beam and Fritzel Dipole.

Event coordinator, Jim-N5OHL, indicated that band conditions were excellent and that the club equipment performed well. EARS participated in the multi-operator (club) category.

Club members enjoying the activity were:

Jim-N5OHL
Dave-K0TYC
John-WB5SYT
Patrick-KD5CPQ
Larry-N5OL
Daniel-AC5TE
Steve-KC5RYT
Trish-KC5YBP
Everett-KD5IPB
Terry-KC5GDC
Gary-KD5CPL

EARS numbers from the ARRL 10-meter contest are as follows: 57 CW contacts, 96 SSB contacts and 153 total contacts. 24 different states, 4 Canadian provinces and 24 DX countries were on the big chief tablet log. Per contest calculations our contacts resulted in 28,560 points. Sure was a neat opportunity to operate and enjoy the fellowship of club members. Both experienced and new operators from EARS were a part of the event. Will let you know how we came out in the contest result rankings. We look forward to the next EARS HF activity.

73 and Happy New Year de EARS HF Committee

Monday Night Net

Affectionately termed "Annette", this club endeavor continues in solid fashion. The Edmond Amateur Radio Society Monday Night Net is a stout part of the club while proudly operating on the KC5ORP (147.135) repeater. For plenty beyond 12 years club members have been treated to this weekly communication tool of EARS. Many have come forth to serve club members as net control which has allowed a nice variety of approaches, voices and protocol but with enough consistency to keep Amateur Radio messages delivered in a fun way. It is quite easy to join the fun of net control just give Annette Manager

Bob Coxsey a call at 478 5715, catch him on the air or email to KM5GZ@arrl.net. He has plenty of helpful tools to assist in your net control fun. He faithfully comes to our club station to be a resource to the net controls. The list of net controls for the Monday net, siren test, and emergency service for 1999 is as follows:

Lee-KA5WIS, John-WB5SYT, Forrest-N5VWF, Steve-KC5RYT, Trish-KC5YBP, Dave-K0TYC, Sharon-KM5GV, Sam-W5CU, Judy-KM5QW, David-KC5UNO, Gary-KD5CPL, Jim-N5OHL, Edith-KA5YPX, Bob-KM5GZ, Sherry-KD5CPJ, Curtis-KC5GEP, Carl-KM5PA, Don-KD5FQS, Dan-K5ISN, Sue-KD5HKZ, Ken-N5DBM, Tom-AC5PI, David-KD5FDW, Harold-WA5ZKX and Dee-WD5FHR.

Seems to be quite number of folk who have their opportunity to be of service to the club and community. Job well done! As those of cloth report on Sunday morning: An invitation is open to come on down. Give KM5GZ a call, you will be glad you did.

Golly gee, it is so nice to hear folk check in from near and far to show support and interest in EARS and Amateur Radio. Opal, KB5BUK is as regular as an atomic clock in checking in with her weekly birthday announcements and wishes the birthday group good tidings from the King household. Sharon, KM5GV brings a potpourri of Amateur Radio activities to the net ranging from club meetings to VE sessions as well as the always desired Hamfest schedule. Recently, Sue, KD5HKZ has been thoughtful in reminding club members about the blood drive and the procedures of this project.

Numbers for EARS 1999 nets are:

Net	Sessions	Check-Ins	Traffic
Monday Night:	51	2376	854
Siren Test	6	112	n/a
Emergency Service	5	107	43
Fireworks	3	29	n/a
Parade	2	32	n/a
Storm Spotting	3	40	n/a
Total	69	2696	897

That was with 25 net controls operators.

Now you understand why you have that tired rundown feeling.....many thanks for

the multitude who gave of themselves during 1999 to assist in community service by being net active!

Happy New Year de EARS Net Staff

BOARD ACTIVITIES

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm at the Club Station by incoming President, Curtis Foote, KC5GEP. He welcomed the group which included: David, KC5KJE; Gary, KD5CPL; Steve, KC5RYT; Dee, WD5FHR; Bob, KM5GZ; Patrick, KD5CPQ; Dave, K0TYC; John, WB5SYT; Ron, KC5QCV; Lee, KA5WIS; Earnie, K5YKD; Clara, KG5UG; Sharon, KM5GV; Ed, KA8NBB; Terry, KC5GDC; Ken, N5TWC; Andrew, KD5IOZ; Robyn, KD5ISC; and Nick, KD5IPA.

The meeting began with general discussion, with Curtis distributing a tentative schedule of meetings for 2000. Gary suggested consideration of Board meetings being at 7:30 instead of 7:00. After discussion, a Motion was made to set the February Board meeting at 7:30 and see how it goes from there. The Motion was seconded and approved.

V.P. REPORT: David, KC5KJE ran down a list of items which were traditionally discussed at the January meeting. Each was addressed as follows:

Key Assignment – KC5RYT turned his key over to KC5GEP. The remaining 7 keys remain as assigned in 1999: WD5FHR, KA5WIS, WB5SYT, KM5GZ, K0TYC, KD5CPL and N5OHL.

Financial Report – Gary will finalize his records and turn them over to Curtis within a week.

Review Committee – Curtis asked for volunteers. Robyn KD5ISC volunteered. Curtis will make some calls this week.

2000 Chairpersons – Lee, KA5WIS recommended that the Club have an Activities Committee to coordinate all club activities. After discussion, a motion was made to establish an Activities Coordinator position. The motion was seconded and approved. Dave, K0TYC volunteered and was accepted. After discussion, the following committee chairpersons were established, most of whom served in 1999:

Calling – KD5CPJ, KG5UG

HF – KA8NBB

Club Station – Co-Chairpersons: WD5FHR and KD5CPQ

Health/Welfare – KG5UG

Technical – KA5WIS, with N5TWC

Membership – KM5GV

Scholarship – KC5NBI

Net Control – KM5GZ

Activities – K0TYC

CORA Reps – KC5QCV, KD5CPL, K5YKD

Emergency Coord. Curtis will call N5DBM who is expected to continue

Membership Renewals – KM5GV indicated that renewals are on track, and ahead of last year. There have been 23 new memberships since November, with 15 of them from this year's classes).

Inventory – The Club Station committee will meet on 1/17/00 to complete inventory. WD5FHR will turn inventory records over to KC5GEP in one week.

Goals – The meeting was opened for discussion concerning goals for 2000. Among the suggestions were: Informal tailgate sales; equipment sales at Club meetings; qualifying for DXCC; Jamboree with scouts; swap meet at Field Day; Technician classes as well as upgrade class; participation in Vietnam War Memorial exhibit in April; emergency training classes, including weather spotting, damage assessment, emergency communications, toxic materials, first aid, CPR; weather station equipment at Club Station; Internet accessibility; recruiting ham interest in local schools (KC5KJE and KC5GEP will investigate what would be required in schools); SAREX – station set up in a school to talk with shuttle.

SECRETARY'S REPORT – In the absence of KC5UNO, there was no report.

E.C. REPORT: - no report

HEALTH/WELFARE: KG5UG read a Christmas card from class member, Bob Franklin, and also reported that former EARS member, Glenn Reed K7CAP who now lives in Gilbert, AZ has cancer, and requested prayers. KC5KJE indicated that KC5MXE's son recently had a heart attack.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE: KA5WIS reported that the repeater was working fine. The A/C had gone off one day in the equipment room and the controller alerted on-air that it was overheating. There was also a recent modem problem which has been replaced. Lee requested that when the repeater is malfunctioning that he be given a phone call. N5TWC indicated that

he recently did some cleaning and adjusting to improve the repeater's sensitivity.

SCHOLARSHIP: KC5KJE reported that everything is on schedule with the scholarship review process.

CLUB STATION – No report.

HF COMMITTEE: - K0TYC reported that the Club recently received two more QSL cards toward DXCC.

CALLING COMMITTEE: - No report.

CORA: No report.

NET CONTROL: - KM5GZ reported that there have been several new Net Control operators recently. Last week, Cathy KD5IOT ran her first Net, and got 70 check-ins.

PAST PRESIDENT: - KC5RYT reminded the Board that the 1999 Board appointed 3 Board Members at Large, and two additional Board members can be appointed by the 2000 Board, if desired. After discussion, Lee, KA5WIS and Earnie, K5YKD were nominated. Nominations were closed. A motion was made to appoint them by acclamation. Motion passed. Discussion followed about possibly adding additional Board members later in the year. Nomination procedures were discussed and it was suggested to poll Club members for an interest in being a future Board member.

OLD BUSINESS: K0TYC reminded everyone who contacted the Club during the Special Event Station to submit a QSL. Certificates are going out now.

NEW BUSINESS – None

ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.

de Sharon Thompson, KM5GV

Cultural Poetry Time

'Twas the night before New Years
And all through the station
Hams and their families
Were all on location

They came to be part of
The Club's preparation
A Y2K plan
For communication

But first there was revelry
And great animation
As everyone shared
In some fine recreation

With food in abundance
And much jubilation
Voices reverberated
With tuned modulation

As fifty plus folks
Stood in rapt concentration
The EC of Edmond
Gave the planned situation

He thanked all the people
For participation
And expressed his own
Personal appreciation

Then off to our spots
Without hesitation
We manned our positions
'Mid much speculation

The minutes ticked by
Across this vast nation
We were part of the watch
It was quite a sensation

Would the lights remain on
All through the duration
We felt pretty certain
With mild trepidation

At last it was midnight
Waiting verification
The announcement was made
An okay proclamation

The world would survive
With a firm foundation
Life as we know it
Received validation

The net was stood down
Time for full relaxation
We headed for home
With a sense of elation

We had stepped to the plate
At the City's recommendation
We learned; we had fun
We shared the celebration

We stepped into 2000
A New Year creation
With confidence in
Ham Radio dedication

A special thanks to the 50+ people who were part of this effort in Edmond, Oklahoma, and the countless thousands who duplicated our efforts around this nation and this world. The evening was uneventful, which is what we ultimately wanted.

This once again typifies the heart of Amateur Radio and its dedication to community service. We can all be very proud to be hams and to be part of this network of energetic, selfless and service-oriented citizens.

73 to all, Sharon Thompson, KM5GV

Y2K YES!

Hopefully, you have read Sharon's poem on this topic so we will not re-do her eloquent points but just wanted to recognized the club's effort in meeting and exceeding the call to duty. What a splendid display of Amateur Radio providing public service. It was very encouraging to see the club come through in abundant numbers in a state of readiness. And, the groceries were pretty darn good, as well!

Hopefully, we will not miss anyone but the following reflects an attempt to identify club members who helped on 12-31-99.

Daniel-AC5TE, A.C. ,KA5WGV, Terry Deas-KC5GDC, Ed-KA8NBG, Robyn-KD5ISC, David-KC5UNO, Ron-KD5IQU, Gary-KB5UKS, David-KD5FDW, Jim-KC5MJS, David-KC5KJE, Joyce-KC5NBI, Robert-N5IJX, Edith-KA5YPX, Ken-N5TWC, Ron-KC5QCV, Ray-W5TYR, Patrick-KD5CPQ, Everett-KD5IPB, Curtis-KC5GEP, Jim-N5OHL, Linda-N5OJP, Sam-W5CU, Sharon-KM5GV, Bob-KM5GZ, Harold-WA5ZKX, Pat-N5SGV, Jana-N5KMJ, Denise-KC5OVD, Don-N05M, Ken-N5DBM, John-WB5SYT, Dee-WD5FHR, Lee-KA5WIS, Judy-KM5QW, June-KD5IYJ, Phillip-KD5IPH, Bill-W5QMP, Nick-KD5IPA,

These club members were placed at major intersections, railroad crossings, hospital, repeater site, utility sites, police and fire stations, EOC & club station. One member (Judy-KM5QW) served as net liaison for link to the Oklahoma County Y2K net. Thanks for all the effort and improved readiness.

73 de EARS Emergency Services

FUTURE ACTIVITIES:

It's a new year. Here's some stuff to keep you occupied in the near future:

The February EARS Emergency Net will be at 11:00 AM Saturday the 5th of February. The March EARS Emergency Net will be on the 4th of March. Be sure to check in, catch the training, and verify your radio operation for the following events:

The February Siren Test will be Saturday the 5th of February at high noon. The March Siren Test will be Saturday the 4th of March at high noon. Baring cloudcover, the test will go on. Edith Vaughn KA5YPX always needs to hear from you if you can spend some time watching the sirens. Give Edith a call at 348-2961 to get a spot to watch and listen from.

Breakfast still happens each Saturday at 2nd and Coltrane in Edmond at the Country Kitchen some time around 8:30 to 9:00. Come by and visit about your new year's ham resolutions.

Don't forget about the Monday Night Information Net that was mentioned above! Tune up on 147.135 mc. at 8:00 PM. All kinds of info comes over the net. See the article above.

Every Thursday night is an open house at the club station starting about 7:00 PM. Dave and Jim burn quite a bit of time in opening the station for Thursdays. Come by to visit and see what's going on.

HEALTH AND WELFARE:

Buford Ford, KC5MXE, his son Bucky, had a heart attack on the 9th of January. He was in Baptist Hospital, after test and treatment he was released on the 11th of January. He is on medications wearing a heart monitoring device, and he is improving each day.

Dee Mize, WD5FHR, his father Lionel, had a heart attack on January the 12th and was in the Midwest City Hospital. In the process of testing and getting his dehydration and body chemicals back in balance they discovered he was also a diabetic. He was released from the hospital the 21st. With medications and taking it easy he is doing as well as could be expected.

Frank Tassone's, AA5GI, wife Erline, and daughters Gena and Katie were involved in an automobile accident on January 14th. Erline received minor cuts and bruises, Gena only sustained a few scratches, and Katie had a broken nose and cracked collar bone. She had surgery on her nose the 17th and all went well. They are all improving.

Glenn Reed, K7CAP, former member of the EARS club had emergency surgery on the 16th of November. He had a cancerous mass removed, his recuperation is going very slowly and he is in a lot of pain.

We hope all the families experiencing a time of illness know we are there for them and that our thoughts and prayers go out to them. We hope everyone's recovery continues and all is well for everyone else, and that the year 2000 is a good one for all. God bless you.

Will be chatting with you again next month.

73 de Clara Granger KG5UG

FUTURE EVENTS:

Board Meeting - 7:30 PM Tuesday, February 15th at Brick's in Edmond. Come on by and see how the club operates. Make your voice heard. We have most of the positions filled so you'll probably be safe!

Dinner Meeting - Coming up on Saturday the 19th of February. Catch the location on the Monday night net.

de Curtis Foote KC5GEP

FINAL THOUGHTS:

Quite a bit has been going on these past two months, as you can see from this issue. Now, here we go into the year 2000. Its time to have another great year!

That's it for this month. Please send information for next month's C&E to Curtis Foote at cfoote@theshop.net or curtis.foote@nextel.com so I won't have to take up so much space.



South Canadian Amateur Radio Society

Norman, OK

Happy New Year from SCARS. I hope you got some new toys for Christmas and the Y2K bug didn't bite. We are starting 2000 with a few officer changes as follows:

President: Tom Miller KD5ENL

Vice Pres: Ed Berkowitz N3US

Treasurer: Jeff Wyke KT5OK

Secretary: Bill Baker N5UMH

The January 2000 meeting was called to order by President Tom Miller, KD5ENL and he addressed the largest crowd we have had in a long time. There were 43 members and guests in attendance and 7 of them came to test. If this is a preview of things to come, we'll take it.

The usual round of self-introductions took a while, then our "creative bookkeeper" Jeff Wyke KT5OK was happy to report we had \$722.72 in the till. Members are urged to renew their membership soon, as after February you'll be dropped.

There was no CORA report as there was no CORA meeting. However a couple of our delegates went anyway and finding such went out and ate Mexican.

Jim Copeland, NW0K gave us a very good synopsis of the new restructuring of the Ham Licenses and our VE team's web page <http://www.telepath.com/n5dkr> should contain most of the information or point you to it. This is an excellent web page and certainly deserves your visit.

A couple of things coming up you should know about. First, the SCARS/OU class for entry level hams started on Jan 17th as you read this. It runs for 8 weeks at 7 to 9 PM each Monday and will finish just before the new regs go into effect. Second, Gayland Kitch, KC5MMU reminded us of Weather Spotter Training on Thursday, Feb 17th at 7 PM in the Seminar Center at Moore-Norman Tech Center. It's open to all and free of charge. They are also planning an advanced spotter class on Sat. Feb 26th at the Okla. Center for Continuing Education at OU. This is part of the Oklahoma Emergency Management Assn. Spring Conference. For specific information call Gayland at 793-5062.

A couple of SCARS finest, Ralph, KA5RUZ and Tim, WA5LTM volunteered to be at the Red Cross Center, New Years Eve as part of the "just in case" readiness program. They took full credit for the fact that there were no problems to be dealt with. This secretary then was told there was a full table of food made available for all those who sacrificed to man the center. I think they plan to go with Tom and Bill the NEXT time there is no CORA meeting.

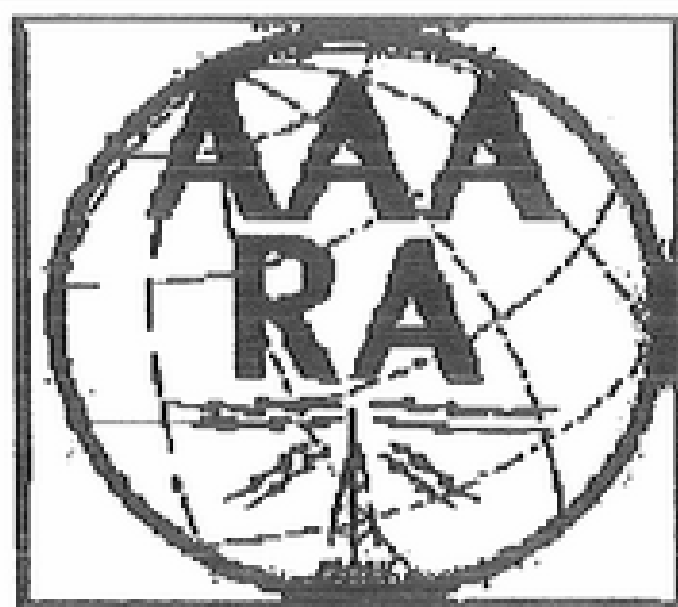
Outgoing or already-gone President Dennis, KC5EVH was given a well deserved pat on the back and recognition for his picture appearing in QST, giving credit for the super work of the Weather Service here.

New Business: The Red Cross is looking for radio operators that would like to have some additional training. This too will have come and gone by publication time but there will be an Introduction to Disaster basic class from 6 to 9 PM Wed Jan. 19th and it is a prerequisite to Damage Assessment which will also run from 6 to 9 PM on Jan 28th.

They would welcome any interest at any time, I am sure. Call 321-0591

The meeting was adjourned at 10:02

Submitted by Bill, N5UMH
Secretary



Altus Area Amateur Radio Association

Mail: AAARA, PO Box 8863, Altus, OK 73522-8863.

The Altus Area Amateur Radio Association was called to order by the President James Molledahl, AB5FS at 7:00 PM Thursday Jan 13, 2000 at the SWTC-Votech Building in Altus, OK.

Intro.'s- Done, 15 attending.

Last months Minutes- CORA, Jan 2000 issue read and approved.

Treasurers Report- Read, voted and approved.

Business -

AAARA Club Dues - They are due. With the increase of CORA rates, we will keep the same Dues this year (2000), and may have a vote during the year for a rate increase of our AAARA Dues for 2001. Rates for 2000- \$12 Regular, and \$16 Family. Please pay between now and Feb meeting so you don't miss a CORA issue. Cora is a well produced Oklahoma Ham Infozine that has news you can use. Mail dues to: AAARA, PO Box 8863, Altus, OK 73522-8863.

Postal Items - The Bulk rate increase for the mail out of flyers caused a vote among the folks attending on whether or not bulk mail service should be continued. Vote was ALL Yea - NONE Nay, bulk rate will not be renewed. (Also PO Box 8863 is Due in APR 2000)

ARES - Dale, N5VX talked about the ARES Y2K night and how we were recognized by the newspaper, and the City

of Altus. We were also given an invitation to National Weather Service Training Seminar for Severe Weather. It will be at Altus City Auditorium, on Monday, 31 Jan 2000 at 7pm. This is the not the same one we have at our regular meeting. All Hams are invited.

AAARA Comm Van - Dale, N5VX gave an update on the current status of the AAARA Communication Van. Approximately \$800 has been spent so far. Vinyl covering for the inner walls is being applied now. Windows on the van have been replaced, a donation by Gene Burk Glass in Altus. New front shocks have been installed, also new Tires and Rims have improved the ride to a point that Dale is not afraid to drive it down the road now. Formica will be installed soon on the counter tops. Ron, KD5CYW donated floor tile to cover the Plywood sub floor. The AAARA still welcomes any donation of services or products for the club van. Please contact Dale, N5VX or George, N1GM.

A Thank You Card was received, and said...

To: AAARA Club Members,
Words can't express the thanks and appreciation we feel for the Christmas dinner again this year. We have never had friends like you and want you to know we love you all. From: Gene, Jane and Millard Wynn

Christmas Party- went well. Great food and a good time was had by all who came.

Christmas Fund Donation has been terminated by Vote, ALL Yea, NONE Nay.

ELECTION for the year 2000 results.

Dale, N5VX - Pres
Mike, W5VXU - V. P.
Ron, KD5CYW - Sec
Fred, KC5SRJ - Treas
Sgt. At Arms - Unfilled

Other offices will be voted in Feb (or appointed as needed).

We Share the Loss of:

John's (AB5WQ) wife
Janice's (KD5BNO) Dad
David's (KB5SYL) Dad
Owen's (N5VM) Grandmother and Step Dad.

Recovery for...

Bertie, KC5OAG, is recovering from an Operation. Doc, KM5IO, is taking good care of her. From the last report she is doing well and improving. Jonathan, KC5HUW, had a stroke 1 Jan 00 and is returning to England to live. He left Dale, N5VX, to sell his Ham Radio gear. Get with Dale if interested.

146.790, Altus, is still down, but will hopefully be up soon. Dwight is still winding down for the Y2K stuff. 147.285, Altus, is up and running, waiting for .790 to go back up and then .285 will get a battery back up System. 146.640, Granite, is down for good. New owners of the tower made it too costly to keep it up and running. Will be looking to move it to Altus.

The meeting was adjourned 8:20 PM with everyone looking forward to the next meeting, 10 Feb 2000 7pm.

Directions to Southwest Technology Center (SWTC). At RT 283 (Main St) and Tamarack, head West at light about 0.4 Mi., SWTC is on the north side and set back with the Green Roof. If you go over the railroad tracks you went too far.

Typed by Ron, KD5CYW, SEC/ED
AAARA Email: rroman@intellisys.net

On the Air, AAARA Newswire

From the President:

I'd like to begin by thanking the membership for their confidence in me, by their vote to elect me President of the Altus Area Amateur Radio Association (AAARA). The AAARA has a long history of serving the community through the prudent application of communications in times of need and through their innovative use of radios in the support of community activities. We also sponsor a yearly Field Day event and have, for the last several years, sponsored a Hamfest, bringing many visitors the community of Altus.

This year we hope to continue our positive impact on the community and, indeed, increase our activities in several ways. We should be bringing the AAARA Communications Van on line before the spring storm season hits. This will give us the ability to set up emergency mobile communications, as required, and will also give the club a focal point when operating

in support of other activities, not associated with emergency communication.

Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) will establish itself, with the support of the AAARA and other local, non-club, amateur radio operators, as the emergency response arm of Ham radio in the Altus area and in surrounding communities. Stand by for a lot more on this later on down the road.

Don't be surprised by changes you see at the next club meeting. Our format is due for a change and it is the intention of the club officers to bring several new innovations to the way we do business. We hope to bring guest speakers to our meetings, begin discussing and planning the use of new technologies, emphasize our connection with the American Radio Relay League, read pertinent WIAW bulletins, and basically do anything else that will peak your interest in Amateur Radio. Remember that our meetings are not necessarily intended to be either a business meeting or a spectator sport. We, you, all of us need to become involved, state our interests, take charge in those areas and lead us all into the exciting world of Ham radio.

Along the lines of improving our meetings, we have decided to hold a club officer meeting prior to the regular meeting. This meeting will have two purposes. Any business that does not require a vote by the general membership will be accomplished prior to the regular meeting. We will also use the time to plan for the regular meeting that follows. As always, the meeting is open to the general membership, but those attending should be ready to do business. Please, if you have needs or concerns that you would like added to new business or if you'd just like to suggest improvements, then come to the business meeting and let us know what's on your mind. The meeting will be held at the North Main Fire Station at 1730 hours on the second Thursday of every month.

Once again, thank you for your support of the AAARA. Let's all get excited about the coming year and the opportunities it will bring.

Dale Town
President, AAARA

Our Commitment to Our Members, and Our Community...

With the big Y2K rollover event behind us, your AAARA Executive Board will do our best to fulfill our duties and responsibilities. We all need to be willing to sacrifice some time and effort for the good of Ham Radio in SW Oklahoma and make the world of Ham Radio visible to the community. Please be willing to be involved and make the club as successful as it can be. May our integrity, honesty, dedication, and involvement to other Hams and others wanting to be Hams, be the key to continue making the AAARA an outstanding group of people. Let us be a club that the community can look up to when we serve during times of hardships. We can help our community by severe weather spotting, Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES), and at other times when we are called to volunteer. May each of us have a good and safe time and be ready when the called upon to help others.

The ARES Hams for the City of Altus
New Years Y2K watch night was...

Robert Burnett, W5RRB
Johnny Mealer, AB5WQ
Ed Gabbard, KD5DPK
Bob Casey, KC5CNC
Dale Town, N5VX
Lillian Town, KC5CNA
George Mateyko, N1GM
Eugene Town, KC5PAV
Wes StClair, KC5TTE
Fred Cramer, KC5SRJ
Donnie Hanna, KC5MKZ
J.T. Ruzicka, KC5AST
Mart Dennis, W5KRG
J.R. Hardy, KC5MLA
Jackie Dickerson, KD5EDP
Dwight Dennis, WB5KRH

Nothing was reported and it was a safe night, but the Members were ready to respond.

73's,

Sincerely,

The 2000 AAARA Executive Board
Dale N5VX, Mike W5VXU,
Ron KD5CYW, Fred KC5SRJ

The February meeting will have lots of ground to cover and information to get out, please make it if you can. We have made changes in the format in the way the meetings will be conducted and this will

be for the good of the Club and Ham Radio.

AAARA Club Meeting / Testing Dates - for the Year 2000.

They will be held at the SWTC (Vo-Tech) in Altus Oklahoma. The address is 711 West Tamarack Rd.

Note: All dates and places are subject to change.

General Monthly Meetings for year 2000.
(2nd Thursday of each month)

Dates and times will be at 7:00pm.

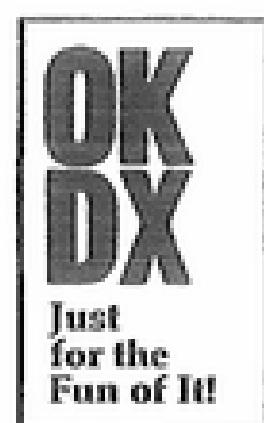
Jan 13, Feb 10, Mar 9, Apr 13, May 11,
Jun 8, Jul 13, Aug 10, Sep 14, Oct 12, Nov
9, Dec 14 will be the AAARA Christmas
Party, Place & Time - T.B.A.

Ham Radio Testing Schedule for year
2000. (4th Tuesdays of the even months)
George N1GM, VE Liaison, Altus Area
Amateur Radio Association (Was
confirmed with George N1GM, on Jan 21,
2000- Ron KD5CYW) Dates and times
will be at 6:30pm. Feb 22, Apr 11, Jun 27,
Aug 22, Oct 24, Dec 19

Please mark you calendars. Because of the new changes there will probably be a lot of people testing. The April testing date changed to an earlier date than normal. This is due to the probability of the mad rush before the cut off.

Attention All AAARA Members:

Ron, KD5CYW, needs your current home address, home phone number, and email address (if you have email) for the Club Member Roster. You may include your place of work if you like. Optional information may include the following: Birthdays (you do not have to include the year, month and date will do), anniversary, Etc. You may give it to him at the February club meeting, call him at (580) 482-8446 or email him at kd5cyw@arrl.net.



OKlahoma DX Association

From Da' Prez

By LARRY SHIMA, WØPAN

WE NEED YOU!

That's right, we need you to renew your membership or become a new member of the **OKLAHOMA DX ASSOCIATION**. Since we are a "non-meeting" club, most of our activities are 'On the Air'. Chasing DX, Contesting, or just checking in to our Monday evening 6:30PM Net on or near 3860 kHz, we do much of what we do where we enjoy it most... On HF Amateur Radio. For those who don't mind 'getting down to earth', we will have a business meeting at the Green Country HamFest on Saturday, March 25th... We hope you plan to attend Green Country 2000 and visit with us, but be aware **THE LOCATION HAS MOVED** to the Tulsa Technology Center Air Park Campus in JENKS, OK... It's a beautiful new facility, but a little tricky to find. For a map and more info, visit: <http://www.greencountryhamfest.org>

In July we'll be at Ham Holiday in OKC, and September is our annual banquet. This past September we had two outstanding DXpedition presentations at our banquet.

Membership is open to any licensed Ham interested in DX'ing and / or Contesting. Our membership includes rookies starting their DXCC pursuit and members of the DXCC Honor Roll. Most of us will also be found participating in various contests. For some reason, known only to T.O.M., DX chasing and Contesting sorta go hand and hand. Both are fun and include the "thrill of the chase" either through a massive pileup calling you in a contest or you trying to break through a huge pileup to work a rare one.

The OKDXA has a continuous project of providing financial support to DXpeditions through QSL Card assistance. Typically, we will contribute \$100-\$150 to a major DXpedition for purchase of QSL cards with our logo on them as a sponsor. While this may not seem like much at first glance, it's always well appreciated and is

one less thing for a DXpedition to worry about. It really does make a difference and we support as many as possible. We have also provided sponsorship of a West Gulf Division Plaque in the November ARRL Sweepstakes contest... The OKDXA is a high-visibility club known worldwide.

Soooo... Why not increase your visibility?
**JOIN US AS A NEW MEMBER
OF THE OKDXA !!!**

— WØPAN

Secretary / Treasurer Report

By JERRY CHOUINARD, K5YAA

There isn't much to report this month....

Please note a call sign correction for Robert Armstrong. I had him down as KC5VGX, but his actual call is KC5UGX. Several renewals have been received and we are currently sitting at 63 members. As always, new members are welcome!

— K5YAA

From Da' Editor

By NELSON DERKS, KC5QVV

Congratulations are in order to OKDXA Member **COY DAY, N5OK** for his recent promotion to ARRL West Gulf Division Director following the election of **JIM HAYNIE, W5JBP** as ARRL President!

Without a doubt, the topic of interest this month is FCC 99-412; the Report & Order on Amateur license restructuring released December 30, 1999. Starting April 15, no new licenses for the Novice, Tech Plus or Advanced classes will be issued, but Hams with these licenses retain all their current privileges and are renewable indefinitely. If you like what you have now, keep it, use it, enjoy it, renew it. Nothing changes.

Licenses issued after April 15th will be for Technician, General or Amateur Extra with only four tests: 5 WPM CW and three written. New Technicians must pass a 35 question written test; General requires the 5 WPM CW test and a second 35 question written test, while Extra adds a 50 question written test. The FCC has streamlined the licensing process by returning to the old tradition of three license classes used prior to 1951. A General or Advanced Ham who upgrades to Extra will have the modern equivalent of the old Class A license. Your faithful & obedient "Class A" Newsletter Editor recently passed the Extra written (at one of the busier VE Sessions I've seen) and will be upgrading in late April... Yay!

If you've been thinking about upgrading your Tech Plus or Advanced license, there is a window of opportunity available. Your friendly neighborhood VE's are authorized to accept a valid CSCE less than 365 days old for credit toward your next upgrade, same as always. A current Tech Plus who passes the General written before April 15th can return after the 15th to file the paperwork for upgrade to General under the new rules without taking another CW test. Likewise, an Advanced class Ham who passes the Extra written prior to April 15th can upgrade to Extra after the 15th without another CW test. Give this some thought, as the question pools could be significantly different after April 15th. Recent news reports claim the National Conference of VEC's plan to release the new Question Pools around February 1st, so the wheels are in motion. If you're a No-Code Tech concerned about the loss of the Tech Plus license, any Tech who passes the 5 WPM CW element now (or after April 15th) remains legal on the Novice and Tech Plus HF band segments.

I have a hunch the VE Sessions will be very popular this spring. For those of you with Internet access, you can download all the current Amateur question pools at: <http://www.perigee.net/~chrisw/tech.html> Substitute novice.html, or general.html, or advanced.html or extra.html in the suffix of the URL for any of the question pools. When you're ready, feel free to take a practice test on AA9PW's web page at: <http://www.biochem.mcw.edu/Postdocs/Simon/radio/exam.html> (and watch those caps, enter the URL exactly as shown!) Once you're passing the practice test with room to spare, dazzle a VE or three...

Of newsworthy note in late January, the FCC voted to end the 20 year freeze on new low-power FM Broadcast licenses in the 10 to 100 watt range. Listen for the flurry of FM micro-broadcasters expected later this year. We should also note the passing of Austrian-born film actress Hedy Lamarr at the age of 86 on January 19th. Why would I mention this in the OKDXA Newsletter? Ms. Lamarr held a 1942 US patent for a frequency-hopping technique intended as a QRM tolerant mode that was well ahead of the technology of the time... We call it 'Spread Spectrum' today.

And, let's not forget, the OKDXA Y2K Competition continues through March 31st... My first qualifying QSO was with

9AY2K in Croatia on Ten. Not a bad way to get started... Check your December C&E or the OKDXA web page for details. The entry form will be reprinted in the March C&E. For now, just work as many countries on as many bands & modes as possible and keep a good log... You won't know how well you did unless you enter!

— KC5QVV



Grenada is the most southern of the Windward 'Spice Islands' in the Caribbean and known for Nutmeg and DX!

CONTESTING FROM J3A

By JIM HOOD, K5TT

The following is a collection of thoughts after my recent trip to Grenada. I hope you find it entertaining, interesting, and informative. Every amateur should make one of these trips at some time in their life. With proper planning, it is in the grasp of anyone and the cost is comparable to a trip to one of the major theme parks in Florida.

While at Dayton last May, I was invited to join the Yankee Clipper Contest Club CQWW CW DXpedition to Grenada. Two of my friends, John, NJ1V, and Ann, WA1S, were going so I could not pass up the opportunity to be part of a "big time, off shore contest operation". John made the trip a year before along with OKDXA member Lee, N5PO (x W5UDA). Making such a commitment was not taken lightly because of the cost, the work, the Thanksgiving Holidays, and the vacation time from work, not to mention the stress of operating at a high level. I had not made a serious effort in a contest for over a year.

I managed to keep the costs down by being patient and catching a heavily discounted airline ticket in August. John and I shared a hotel room to split the cost, but the price per hour of the room was still pretty high, as we didn't spend much time there.

Don, K2KQ was the leader of the group. He made several trips previously and had

been there just a few weeks prior for the CQWW SSB Contest and made the arrangements for us to operate from the Grenada Emergency Operations Center. Antennas and amplifiers for 6 bands were stored at the EOC. Don has done a super job of clearing the political tracks as well as coordinating all the work associated with the multi-multi contest station.

In addition to John, Ann, Don, and myself, two other operators were committed. Ed, K1TE was making his first DXpedition trip as a multi-multi and is a seasoned Contester and marathon runner. Kazu, JA1GAD had operated from J3A the year before and was

returning again. He is now an investment banker in London and travels the world operating contests. He was also the youngster of the group.

The logistics for the trip were simpler than others I have been on since the antennas and amps were already there. I took my entire station (except for the amplifier) and carried my FT-990 and laptop on the plane. Everything else went in a suitcase with a few clothes, but the plane changes in Dallas and Miami were challenging.

I departed Oklahoma City the Wednesday morning before Thanksgiving and met John in Miami. We arrived in Grenada around 9:00 p.m. where Ann, Don, and Ed met us at the airport. They had arrived at various times during the week. Ann had gotten scuba certified and did some diving although a nearby hurricane was causing pretty big waves. All of our gear made it and we were quickly out of immigration and customs.

We changed clothes at the hotel as the weather was warmer than expected, then had our first team meeting where Don got us started with our first Rum Punch of the trip. I could immediately tell we had a great team and this WAS going to be fun. The Tropicana Inn is a modestly priced little hotel but its open-air restaurant has a beautiful view of the yacht harbor across the street. Food was priced about the same as the US but different with such items as Calliloo Soup made from a local plant.

The warm water lobster was great but somewhat expensive. Grenada is known for its nutmeg, so everything has nutmeg in it, even the rum punches.

Early the next morning we drove up the mountain to the EOC about 700 feet above the harbor, and the Capitol City of St. Georges is about 3 miles from the hotel. What an antenna site! There is nothing but open water toward the US and Japan with distant mountains toward Europe. RF will have no problems getting out, but every drive up and down the mountain was an adventure. They drive on the left, the roads are very narrow with major drops on the sides (part of the road had slid down the mountain) while houses and stores are right on the road. People park and walk in the streets and Grenadians are the fastest, most aggressive drivers I have seen.

I could swear they try sending CW on their horns. A beep means 'watch out, I'm coming through', and you hear plenty of beeps. Several times we had to stop and back up because two cars could not pass each other on the road. Meeting a truck was even more hair raising, as they don't like to slow down or stop. Of course there were traffic circles, that went the wrong way, in the busiest areas. I needed several rum punches after each trip.

The early arrivals had some of the antennas assembled with sunburn evidence of the hours spent the day before. We began Thanksgiving Day by surveying the antenna sites. Even at 9:00 a.m., the sun was blazing hot. Don began pointing out the antennas and towers to be erected. 5 elements on 10M at 20', 4 elements on 15M at 20', 4 elements on 20M at 50', 80M inverted V on a 20 meter tower, and Don's special 160M antenna on 50' push up poles. The 2 element 40M beam at 40' was permanently in place for hurricane net use. Fortunately, Don had recruited four Grenadians to provide the muscle for the towers. By the end of the day, all antennas were up and operating. Around sunset, I put up a little WARC band antenna I had brought, unpacked my radio and managed to work about 50 people on 30 meters. That was the only time I had for any operation outside of the contest. Then it was down the mountain for a late dinner and a little sleep.

On Friday, Don had us up early to set up the six stations. As expected, Murphy ran

rampant. Running six high power stations required 220 volts at each desk with the load balanced across the three phases. The radios also ran on 220 volts, but 110 volts had to be on each desk to power computers and accessories. Feed lines had to be run, amplifiers connected to radios, computer keying lines connected to the radios, computer to radio interfaces connected, and the network cable connecting the computers together. Of course, all this had to work. After several trips to the hardware store and considerable effort, it did.

Ann brought cold cuts for sandwiches during the operating hours and I dug out my protein and energy bars. Fortunately, the tap water in Grenada is potable, so we were able to fill containers at the hotel and put them in the fridge at the EOC.



Don loaded the latest version of CT on all computers then went to work on the network. This was impressive. Each workstation displayed the total log for all stations combined. And, since all radios were computer interfaced, the frequency of each radio was displayed so the multipliers could be passed from band to band. A band map was also shown for needed multipliers and derived from the Internet, plus we had a chat window to talk between stations. Very Nice!

— K5TT

(To Be Continued in Part II next month)

OPDX Bulletin – Internet Edition

The Ohio/Penn DX PacketCluster

Editor Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW

Provided by BARF-80 BBS Cleveland, OH

3B6, AGALEGA

A multi-national team led by HB9BXE will be active in October of this year. They expect to land on Agalega October 5th and operate between October 7-23rd. Activity will be on all bands and modes. The licenses and landing permits have been assured and should be issued in the next

few months. They are looking for sponsors and contributions. For more information contact Joe Meier, HB9AJW (via E-mail at: 100450.540@compuserve.com).

3Z, POLAND

Ed, SP1MHV reports that "each member" of the of Polish Amateur Radio Society (PZK) can use the special 3Z prefix in celebration of the 70 years of PZK and the Millennium Year 2000. Each member can use the 3Z prefix with their call area and suffix (example - SP1MHV will use the special callsign 3Z1MHV). Ed, SP1MHV will be using his special contest callsign "3Z1V" for the year 2000. Listen for 3Z1V and 3Z1MHV to be active on the digital modes (RTTY, PSK and SSTV) in addition to the usual CW and SSB.

5R, MADAGASCAR

A new resident is now active from IOTA AF-013. Listen for Michel, ex-F5LET as 5R8GL. He will be active with a 2-element beam on 3 bands and has antennas for the WARC bands. The low bands will come later. Michel is active all days mainly on CW, but can QSY to SSB if requested. QSL direct only as there is no QSL Bureau in 5R. Also, DO NOT send any mail to his old address in France because the postal box is closed indefinitely. For information or QSL requests write to: Michel Bon, BP 342, (201) Antsiranana, Madagascar.

5Z, KENYA (IOTA DXpedition Update)

Phil, G3SWH has finalized the dates and bookings for the DXpedition to Wasini Island in Kenya (IOTA AF-67). The team will consist of Jim, G3RTE; David, G3UNA; Phil, G3SWH; Rob, 5Z4RL; Ian, 5Z4IC and Graham, 5Z4GS. They plan to be active March 8-15th with two stations, one CW and the other SSB 24 hours a day using the special call 5Z4WI. They plan to operate all bands from 160 to 10 Meters, except 30 Meters which is not permitted in Kenya. QSL via G3SWH direct (QTHR) or via the RSGB bureau.

8P6, BARBADOS

"The 59(9) DX Report" reports Richard, G3RWL will be active February 14-28th as 8P6DR while on holiday. He will be on 20-10 Meters during his early mornings and late evenings. QSL via G3RWL.

8Q7, MALDIVE ISLANDS

"The 59(9) DXReport" says to listen for 8Q7CR to be active from February 10th on SSB, RTTY, Amtor and Packet. QSL

via DF5JR. The "425 DX News" reports that Bert, PA0LPE is also expected to be here and sign 8Q7PA through February 3rd. Activity will be on CW and SSB. QSL via PA0LPE.

9G, GHANA

On March 2nd, Bob, PA3DEW and Vincent, PA3FQX members of the previous 9G1AA team will activate this callsign again - as their workload permits. QSL via PA3ERA (he is also the QSL MGR for 9G100).

9Q, DEM. REP. OF CONGO

"The 59(9) DXReport" states that Pat, F6BLQ reported the PTT in Kinshasa will issue new 9Q licenses before the end of January.

ASIAN AND AFRICAN TOUR

Andy, G4ZVJ will be travelling in Asia and Africa for 8 weeks beginning January 24th with an itinerary as follows:

*January 24th through February 24th
(with G3XAQ)*

XW - Andy, G4ZVJ and Al/G3XAQ plan to visit Vientiane, Laos and hope to obtain operating permission.

XU - During the first week of February they will travel to Cambodia and will be active as XU7AAV. Their emphasis will be on 80 Meters to EU/NA.

February 24th through March 7th

ET - Andy will go to Ethiopia during this time and states that his callsign will be announced later. This will be a guest operation.

March 7th through March 20th

9G - Andy will be active as 9G5VJ from Ghana. Activity will include activity in the RSGB Commonwealth Contest (March 11 & 12th). Andy reports his activity will be CW only. QSL via G4ZVJ: Andy Chadwick, 5 Thorpe Chase, Ripon HG4 1UA U.K. For more info, visit Andy's Web site: <http://www.g4zvj.demon.co.uk>

9U, BURUNDI

Leif, SM0BFJ/SM5BFJ reports that Gus, 9U5D is back in Burundi and should be active through March. Activity will be on all bands 160 thru 6 Meters. QSL via SM0BFJ/SM5BFJ (direct only, please).

A2, BOTSWANA

A22EW will be active starting February 6th for a 3 week period on all bands, depending on conditions. A sked to work NA on 80 Meters is set between 5:30 and 7:30 EST to take advantage of gray line propagation. QSL via KB2MS.

CEØZ, JUAN FERNANDEZ

Bernd, DF3CB reports a German team will go to Robinson Crusoe Island from February 17-29th. The expected call will be **CEØZX** or **CEØZY** (not confirmed). Two stations will operate simultaneously with emphasis on CW and RTTY but also some SSB and PSK31. Special attention will be paid to the low bands. QSL via the DL bureau or direct to DK7YY at: P.O. Box 700343, 10323 Berlin, Germany. Special thanks to CEØZIS, CE3CWF and XQ3IDY for making this trip possible.

"QRZ DX" reports three Finnish operators (OH2MXS, OH2NSM and OH3JF) have been planning an operation scheduled for March 17th through April 8th and will be signing "**homecall/CEØZ**". They will have three complete HF stations with amps. Activity will be on 160-10 Meters with operations on CW / SSB and RTTY. QSL Manager will be OH2BOZ. The team is looking for financial support to fund their expedition which will cost approximately \$12,000 (US) without QSL card printing. For more info, contact: Keijo Loisti, OH2BOZ, Jaalankatu 11, FIN-04430 Jarvenpaa, FINLAND (or via E-Mail - keijo.loisti@novogroup.com)

FO, CLIPPERTON ISLAND

A press release by John, N7CQQ says the "Clipperton 2000 Expedition" is scheduled to operate / begin on March 1st with four (4) HF stations, one (1) 6 Meter station and one (1) satellite station. They also plan to operate RTTY and the WARC bands from Clipperton. The DXpedition will shutdown late on March 8th with the team departing Clipperton on March 9th. The N7CQQ Amateur Radio Club, Inc., sponsor of "Clipperton 2000 Expedition", announced ICOM America will provide the team with new IC-756 PRO's. Visit: <http://www.qsl.net/clipperton2000>

FT/T, TROMELIN

"QRZ DX" reports that the Lyon DX Gang will be active from here sometime in the summer of 2000. No exact dates are known, but operation will probably take place in July or August. There will be four operators active for two weeks. The group originally wanted to go to Glorioso but ran into some administrative problems. The trip to Tromelin will be more expensive, so the group is looking for funds/sponsors. For up-to-date information, check the Web page at: <http://perso.easynet.fr/~f5nod/>

HVØ, VATICAN (Special Callsign)

Francesco, IKØFVC has received a special callsign, **HVØA**, to celebrate the Giubileo 2000 special holy year. Activity will be from HV4NAC's shack. He was heard on 21021, 24958 and 28014 kHz between 1530-1630z. QSL via IKØFVC.

J3, GRENADA

Harry, W8KKF will be active as **J37K** from March 4-7th. He plans to be an active station in the ARRL DX Contest on that weekend. There will be activity before and after the contest, and the operator will favor non-US / Canada locations. Activity on the air will end around 2400z on March 7th. QSL's go the CBA of W8KKF.

R1, ANTARCTICA

Nick, RK1PWA the QSL manager for **R1ANF**, reports he has a weekly schedule with Oleg every Sunday at 2000z on 14010 kHz. Nick also reports Oleg will be returning home in March or April and plans to stop in Germany where he will have color QSL's printed for his recent **R1ANF/A** operation. Oleg will be replaced by Alex who will be active as **R1ANF** and **R1ANF/A** until 2002.

Meanwhile, Yuri, UA9OBA and Valery, RW3GW are members of the international Antarctic "Millennium Expedition" and plan to operate as **CE8/R3CA** and **CE9/R3CA** from the Antarctic Base "Patriot Hills" or possibly from other bases as **R3CA/ANT**. They have regular skeds on 14135 kHz between 0500 and 0600z.

TXØ, CHESTERFIELD ISLANDS

(The next new DXCC entity?)

A press release from Tim Totten, N4GN on the upcoming DXpedition to the Chesterfield Islands (IOTA OC-176, 158 deg 19 min East, 19 deg 52 min South) should create great interest among DX'ers. The Association des Radio Amateurs de Nouvelle Calédonie (ARANC) Amateur Radio Society of New Caledonia, is pleased to report the Chesterfield Islands DXpedition remains on target for the window of March 15th through April 1st. The New Caledonian telecommunication authorities have issued the distinctive call **TXØDX** for the multi-national expedition. The **TXØDX** team will operate two sites far enough apart to allow simultaneous CW and SSB operation on the same band. Four HF stations equipped with Yaesu FT1000MP transceivers will provide all band activity as well as RTTY operation.

A separate station equipped with a Yaesu FT655 will be dedicated to Six Meters. Because the Coral Sea typhoon season is very active during March, weather is likely to play a major role in this expedition. **TXØDX** will have two QSL Managers: Jarmo Jaakola, OH2BN - for HF QSO's ONLY; Kan Mizoguchi, JA1BK - for Six-Meter QSO's ONLY. The **TXØDX** Web site is at: <http://www.n4gn.com/tx0dx/>

V4, ST. KITTS

Joe, VE3BW reports that Julio, WD4JR; Bruce, W4OV plus himself (and possibly one or two other operators) will be active between February 14-24th. They will be active as a Multi/Single in the ARRL DX CW Contest. Listen for them before the contest on all bands CW/SSB and on 6 Meters. Joe states his call will be **V47CA** (QSL via VE3BW), the other calls will be issued on arrival.

IOTA NEWS

AS-032 Takeshi, JI3DST will be active from Oosumi Archipelago (Tanega-Shima) in Nishinoomote City, Kagoshima, February 26-28th. He will use the call signs **JI3DST/6** and **7N3UXO/6**. Activity will be on 40/17/15/12/10 Meters SSB. QSL via the JARL Bureau (Bureau is best) or direct to: Takeshi Funaki, 2-18-26 Hannan-cho Abeno-ku Osaka-city, OSAKA 545-0021 JAPAN (1 IRC is best, Please don't send USD.)

AS-037 Takeshi, JI3DST will be active from Koshiki Archipelago (Kami-Koshiki-Shima) in the cities of Kamikoshiki-Mura, Satuma-Gun, and Kagoshima) from March 17-20th. He will once again sign as **JI3DST/6** and **7N3UXO/6**. Activity will be on 40/17/15/12/10 Meters (40M ONLY for Japan). QSL via the JARL Bureau (the BEST way) or direct (1 IRC is best, Please don't send 1 USD) to: Takeshi Funaki, 2-18-26 Hannan-cho Abeno-ku Osaka-city, OSAKA 545-0021 JAPAN

SA-047 PA3DES will activate Ilha do Mel. using the call **PY5CDA/A** between February 14th and March 13th. They will concentrate on the 'traditional' ham-bands, 160/80/40/20/15/10 Meters using wire antennas at 100 Watts. QSL **PY5CDA/A** to Erik, PA3DES. Note: This route is only valid for QSOs from Ilha do Mel in the mentioned period, normal **PY5CDA** QSL's should NOT be sent to Erik.

SA-NEW Pedro, HK3JJH will activate a new IOTA in Februaury and sign as

HK3JJH/4. We think he will be going to Pelon de Napu Island, which could not be found on the IOTA list. It must be in the Antioquia/Choco North Division Group. He also states that he will be going to Isla Palma (SA-078).

JW, SVALBARD ISLAND

Operators LA5UF, LA6YEA, LA9VDA and LA9IAA will be active from February 12-21st. Trond, LA9VDA says that due to some needed low band antenna work the startup might be delayed. However, they will have two stations active as much as possible. Activity will be on all HF bands, CW, SSB and RTTY although their RTTY operation will be minor and on request. They will use their own call signs (only one call sign mentioned so far - JW5UF). Operators plan to be active in the ARRL CW Contest during the last weekend of February. QSL's for all call signs go to LA9VDA.

The "Les Nouvelles DX" reports that LA9FJA will be active from Svalbard as JW9FJA for the next 8 months.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

ANOTHER MAJOR DX'PEDITION: CHESTERFIELD ISLANDS (OC-176)

Association des Radio Amateurs de Nouvelle Calédonie (ARANC), Amateur Radio Society of New Caledonia, has announced an IOTA-based DXpedition that may activate a new DXCC entity. This DXpedition is headed by Eric Esposito, FK8GM and will become active on the 15th of March. Pending action regarding ARANC's application to the IARU for membership, the second phase of the operation may become the initial operation from a new DXCC entity, starting on the 23rd of March. The expedition has secured a landing permit and transportation from Koumac in New Caledonia. The radio operating team consists of FK8GM, FK8HC, JA1BK, N4GN, N7NG, OH1RY, OH2BC, OH2BH, OH2RF (team doctor) and another ARANC representative to be named later. This DXpedition is sponsored by Yaesu Musen Co. and supported by the RSGB IOTA management.

2000 SWODXA DX DINNER

BANQUET, DAYTON HAMVENTION

The Southwest Ohio DX Association is pleased to announce their Fifteenth Annual DX Dinner to be held Friday, May 19th at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Dayton, Ohio. There will be a cash bar open at 6:30 PM

with dinner at 7:15 PM. Tickets are \$31.00 (US\$) and must be purchased in advance. Groups wishing to sit together must order as a group; there are eight seats per table. Please make your check or money order payable to SWODXA and send a SASE for ticket return. Seats will be assigned in the order received on March 12th. Please order tickets from Steve Bolia, N8BJQ, 7354 Thackery Rd, Springfield, OH 45502. Visit the banquet web page for info: <http://members.aol.com/SteveB4622/> or by e-mail to n8bjq@erinet.com

DX AWARDS WEB SITE

Ted, K1BV hosts a DX Awards web site: <http://www.dxawards.com/> which lists award hunting information, mostly for short term (during the current year) awards. He has added a few Millennium awards with links to club & association awards pages around the world. Ted plans to increase the coverage this winter.

MILLENNIUM ACTIVITY

Amateurs living in Rome may substitute the prefix **IIØ** for their regular prefix (**IØ**, **IKØ**, **IWØ** & **IZØ**) for the "Jubilee Year" until December 24, 2000. QSL via regular Italian callsign.

"The Daily DX" reports that members of the KARL Branch office of Pohang (HLØFDU) have special permission to use the callsign **D9ØTKY** (Two Kilo Year) to celebrate the Millennium. Listen for this station to be active throughout 2000. QSL direct to DS5UCP or bureau to HLØFDU.

Nick, HB9DDZ and USKA HF Manager, reports all Swiss amateurs can use **HB2** and **HB9** prefixes during the year 2000.

Juan Carlos, CX7CC reports the Radio Grupo Sur (RGS) is offering an Award to celebrate Year 2000 by working the two special call signs **CX2ØØØ** (on SSB) and **CW2ØØØ** (on CW and digital modes). To qualify, work the special stations on two bands and / or modes. The Award is also open for SWL's. All QSLs will be confirmed. To claim the RGS Award send a log list and 5 IRC or 5 USD to: RGS Award Manager, P.O. Box 2, CP 11000, Montevideo-Uruguay-South America.

Also available is the **BC2ØØØ** Award for working the Official RGS Station **CVC2ØØØ** three times on three different days. To claim the Award, send a log list with the contacts and 5 IRC or 5 USD to: **BC2ØØØ** Award Manager, P.O. BOX 2,

CP 11000, Montevideo-Uruguay-South America. This Award is open to SWL's.

4UIUN ACTIVE AGAIN

Fritz, DL4TT and Masa Miura, AJ3M have been active from the United Nations in New York. Hopefully, it is a good sign to hear the station active on a regular basis again. IMPORTANT! QSL ONLY to: UN Amateur Radio Club, P.O.Box 3873, NY, NY 10017. Remember: If your signal can make it there, it can make it... anywhere.

QSL INFO AVAILABLE

Pathfinder is a free program that makes it easy to find QSL information from web-accessible sources. Visit their web page at <http://www.qsl.net/pathfinder/> for more information and download instructions.

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ARRL CONTEST CALENDAR

*Reprinted with permission from QST
Contest Calendar — K5TR, Editor*

WEEKEND OF FEBRUARY 12-14

NOVICE ROUND-UP

Sponsored by FISTS CW Club. CW only, 0000Z Feb 12 to 2400Z Feb 13. All contacts must be made in the Novice bands. Exchange call sign, name, RST, license class and QTH. Count 2 points for each CW contact. Work stations once per band/mode. Multipliers count once overall regardless of band or mode. Multipliers are states (50) and Canadian provinces (13). Score is total QSO points × multipliers. Awards. Send logs by March 15th to: Novice Round-Up, c/o Dennis Franklin, K6DF, 4658 Capitan Dr, Fremont, CA, 94536-5448

<http://www.fists.org/~fists/novice.html>

NORTH AMERICAN SPRINT, CW

Sponsored by the *National Contest Journal*, 0000-0400Z Feb 13. Sprints are separate. 80, 40, 20 only. North American stations work everyone; others work NA only. Exchange other station's call, your call, serial number, name and state / province / DXCC country. Work stations once per band. QSY rule: Stations calling CQ, QRZ, etc, may only work one station in response to that call; then must move at least 1 kHz before working another station or 5 kHz before soliciting another call. Once you are required to QSY, you may not make a new QSO on the previous frequency until you have made a contact at

least 1 or 5 kHz (as required) away. Team competition. Awards. Electronic entries accepted. Send CW logs to Mark Obermann, AG9A, 6713 Forestview Ln, Niles, IL 60714 cwsprint@contesting.com no later than 30 days after end of contest. Web site at <http://www.vramp.net/~ncj/>.

YL-OM CONTEST, CW

Sponsored by YLRL, 1400Z, Feb 12 to 0200Z, Feb 14.) All licensed male and female operators throughout the world are invited to participate. Men call "CQ-YL" and women call "CQ-OM." Participants may work only 24 hours of the 36 hours. Operating breaks must be indicated in the log. Exchange call signs, QSO number, RS(T), ARRL section, VE province or country. Entries in log must show time, band, and date. Scoring: Score each band separately. One point is earned for each different station worked on each band; women count only men and men count only women. Add together the QSO points earned for each band and multiply the number of QSO's by the total number of different ARRL sections, VE provinces, and countries worked. Contestants using 100 W or less at all times may multiply the results by 1.5 (low power multiplier). The maximum power output at any time during the contest is 750 W on CW. All logs must show your ARRL section, province, or country to qualify for awards. Logs must also state the power output used and the operating breaks taken. If you have 200 or more QSO's, submit separate log for each band and submit a dupe sheet. Logs must show claimed score, send to Cleo Bracket, KØJFO, 810 Towne Square Dr, Fremont, NE 68025; cleob@mitec.net <http://www.qsl.net/~ylrl/ylcontst.html>.

WINTER FIRESIDE SSB SPRINT

Sponsored by QRP ARCI, 2000Z to 2400Z Feb 13, SSB, 160 80 40 20 15 10 Meters. Entry categories: All band, High band (40, 20, 15, 10) or Low band (160, 80, 40). Work stations once per band. Exchange RST, state / province / country and ARCI number if member. Count 5 pts / QSO with ARCI members, 4 pts / QSO with nonmembers on a different continent, 2 pts / QSO with nonmember on the same continent. Final score is total QSO points (all bands) multiplied by total of states / provinces / countries (add the total from each band together) multiplied by the power multiplier (> 5 W out = 1; < 5 W out = 7; < 1 W out = 10; < 250 mW out = 15. SSB power is considered to be twice

the dc output power. Include a description of equipment and antennas used. Mail entry within 30 days to: SSB Sprint, Randy Foltz, K7TQ, 809 Leith St, Moscow, ID 83843; rfoltz@turbonet.com.

WORLDWIDE RTTY WPX Contest

Sponsored by *CQ Magazine* and *The New RTTY Journal*, 0000Z Feb 12 to 2400Z Feb 13. Single op one signal, high / low (<150 W) power, all band; single op single band; multi-single (10 min rule); multi-multi. Single ops operate 30 hours max; multi operate full 48 hours. 80 40 20 15 10 Meters. Use of spotting nets or Packet Cluster is allowed for all classes. Exchange RST and serial number starting with 001. Score one point per QSO with your own country, two points per QSO with your own continent, and three points per QSO with different continents. QSOs on 3.5 and 7 MHz are worth double. Multipliers are prefixes; final score is QSO points x multipliers. Awards. Send logs postmarked within 30 days to Eddie Schneider, W6/GØAZT, 1826 Van Ness, San Pablo, CA 94806. Logs can be e-mailed to edlyn@global.california.com.

PACC CONTEST

Sponsored by the Vereniging voor Experimenteel Radio-Onderzoek in the Netherlands, 1200Z Feb 12 until 1200Z Feb 13. 160 80 40 20 15 10 Meters, CW and SSB (no SSB QSO's on 160 Meters). Single op or multi op. Send RS(T) and serial number, PA/PB/PI stations also send province. Score one point per QSO. Work PA/PB/PI stations only once per band regardless of mode. Final score is QSO's x provinces worked (max 12 per band). Awards. Send log by Mar 31 to Hans P. Timmerman, PA7BT, Nieuweweg 21, 4031 MN Ingen, Netherlands

pa7bt@amsat.org.

Complete contest rules on the Web at <http://home.wxs.nl/~pa3ebt/pacc/foreign.htm>

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 14-19

SCHOOL CLUB ROUNDUP (SCR)

The School Club Roundup is sponsored by the Council for the Advancement of Amateur Radio in the New York City Schools (CAAR/NYCS), the ARRL and its Hudson Division Education Task Force to foster contacts with and among school radio clubs. The Roundup isn't just for schools or school students, though. A Ham of 27 years, WO8L, who operated SCR while mobile, wrote: "Love this 'contest.'

Hams were most friendly, taking time to chat with the kids instead of just saying 5 by 9, good-bye." The SCR has its most powerful impact on students. Charlie, WD9ITM, at the Memorial Park Middle School, said, "We concentrated on getting as many students as possible to make QSO's. We heard more schools on the air last year than ever before." Schoolteacher James, AAØXJ, wrote: "I think I had more fun than the students as I could see the magic of radio light up in their eyes." Operators are encouraged to take time to chat beyond the contest exchange.

WEEKEND OF FEBRUARY 19-21

ARRL INT'L DX CONTEST, CW

W/VE amateurs work as many amateur stations in as many DXCC countries of the world as possible on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 Meter bands. Foreign amateurs (including KH6, KL7, CY9, and CYØ) work as many W/VE stations in as many of the 48 contiguous states and provinces as possible. Starts 0000 UTC Saturday; ends 2400 UTC Sunday. Single Operator, All Band, QRP, Low Power, High Power, Single Band (one only). W/VE stations in the 48 contiguous United States and Canada (except in the islands of St Paul and Sable) send signal report and state or province, DX stations send signal report and output power. W/VE stations count three points per DX QSO. DX stations count three points per W/VE QSO. Multiplier-W/VE stations: Sum of DXCC entities (except US and Canada) worked per band. DX stations: Sum of US states (except KH6/KL7), District of Columbia (DC), and Canadian provinces/territories NB (VE1, 9), NS (VE1), QC (VE2), ON (VE3), MB (VE4), SK (VE5), AB (VE6), BC (VE7), NT (VE8), NF (VO1), LB (VO2), YT (VY1), Nunavut (VYØ), PE (VY2) worked per band. Maximum of 63 per band. Final Score: QSO points x multipliers = Final score. Entries for the CW competition must be e-mailed or postmarked by March 21, 2000. Electronic entries e-mail to DXCW@arrl.org. Any submission created electronically must include a summary sheet and log file in acceptable ARRL file format. Paper copies of electronic logs are *not* acceptable.

See "General Rules for All ARRL Contests" page 101, and "General Rules for ARRL Contests on bands below 30 MHz" page 103, in the November 1999 QST. For contest info contact N1ND@arrl.org, or call 860-594-0232.

WEEKEND OF FEBRUARY 25-27

CQ WW 160-MTR DX CONTEST, CW
Sponsored by *CQ Magazine* 2200Z Feb 25 until 1600Z Feb 27. Single op and multi-single. Single ops can be QRP (<5 W), low power (<150 W), or high power (>150 W). Use of spotting nets or PacketCluster makes you a Multi-Op. Exchange RS(T) and state/province/DXCC country. Score 2 pts / QSO w/own country; 5 pts / QSO w / countries on same continent; and 10 pts / QSO w/different continents. Maritime mobiles count 5 pts / QSO, but do not count as multipliers. Multipliers are US states (48), Canadian call areas (13), and DXCC countries. KH6 and KL7 are considered DX. US and VE do not count as countries. Final score is QSO points x multipliers. Awards. Electronic entries accepted. Club competition. Send logs by Feb 28 (Mar 31 for phone) to: David L. Thompson, K4JRB, 4166 Mill Stone Court, Norcross, GA 30092
cq160@contesting.com <http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/160rules99.html>

REF FRENCH CONTEST, CW

Sponsored by Réseau des Emetteurs Français. 0600Z Feb 26 until 1800Z Feb 27. Work French, French military, French overseas territorial and department stations. Single op all band/single band, and multi-single. 80 40 20 15 10 Meters. Exchange RS(T) and serial number; French stations give RS(T) and department number or prefix (for territories and overseas department stations). Score 1 pt/QSO w/stations in the same continent, 3 pts/QSO w/stations in different continents. Multipliers are French departments, French territory and overseas stations and F6REF worked per band. Final score is QSO pts x multipliers. Awards. Send logs by Mar 15 (Apr 15 for CW) to: Réseau des Emetteurs Français, REF Contest, BP 7429, 37074 Tours Cedex, France.

UBA CONTEST, PHONE

Sponsored by Unie van de Belgische Amateurzenders and the EC Commission for Communication, Information and Culture. 1300Z Feb 26 until 1300Z Feb 27. 80 40 20 15 10 Meters only. Single op single band, all-band QRP or multi-single. PacketCluster use by single ops allowed. All stations must remain on a band for 10 minutes. Exchange RS(T) and serial number. Score 10 pts/QSO with Belgian stations, 3 pts/QSO with other EC member stations, and 1 pt/QSO with stations outside the EC. Multipliers are Belgian

provinces, Belgian prefixes, and EC-member DXCC countries. Final score is QSO pts x multipliers worked per band. Awards. Electronic entries accepted. Send logs postmarked within 30 days to: UBA HF Manager, Carine Ramon, ON7LX, Bruggesteeweg 77, B-8755 Ruiselede, Belgium; <http://www.uba.be/>.

YL INT'L QSO PARTY, PHONE

Sponsored by YL International SSB'ers Inc. 0000Z Feb 26 to 2359Z Feb 27 in General band segments. Open to all with emphasis on member-to-member contacts. Exchange report, state, country, name and YLISB number. Logs must be received by March 31, 1999. Send SASE for entry and summary forms and address questions, comments, entries to N4ZGH / N4KNF, The Livingstons, 2160 Ivy St, Port Charlotte, FL 33952 hamsrus@afcon.net

RSGB 7 MHZ CONTEST

Sponsored by the RSGB, from 1500Z Feb 26 until 0900Z Feb 27. CW only. 7.000-7.030. Single op and multi-op-operator. Exchange RST and serial number. UK stations also exchange three-letter county code. Non UK stations work only UK stations and vice versa. North American stations score 15 points / QSO. Multipliers are UK counties. Final score is QSO points x multipliers. Awards. Logs postmarked within 16 days of contest end to: RSGB HF Contest Committee, c/o S V Knowles, G3UFY, 77 Bensham Manor Rd, Thornton Heath, Surrey, CR7 7AF, England.

CQC WINTER QRP QSO PARTY

Sponsored by the Colorado QRP Club, from 2200Z Feb 27 until 0359Z Feb 28. Single band, multiband, and homebrew. QRP, single operator only. Exchange RS(T), state/province/DXCC country, first name and CQC number or power output. CW 1.825 3.560 3.710 7.040 7.110 14.060 21.060 21.110 28.060 28.110; phone 1.910 3.985 7.285 14.285 21.385 28.385. Score 6pts per CW QSO with members, 4 pts per CW QSO with nonmembers. Score 3 pts per phone QSO with members, 2 pts per phone QSO with nonmembers. Final score is QSO pts x states / provinces / DXCC countries x number of first names worked. One thousand bonus points for working W0CQC. Awards. Send logs to Colorado QRP Club, PO Box 371883, Denver, CO 80237-1883; contest@cqc.org. See the Colorado QRP Club site on the Web at <http://www.mtechnologies.com/cqc/>.

NORTH CAROLINA QSO PARTY

Sponsored by the Alamance ARC, from 1200-2359 Feb 26 and 1200-2359 Feb 27. NC stations work everyone, others work NC stations only. Work stations once per band and mode. Work mobiles again as they change county lines. Exchange call sign, serial number, and NC county, state, province, or DXCC country. CW: 3.540, 3.740, 7.040, 7.140, 14.040, 21.040, 21.140, 28.040, 28.140; phone: 3.860, 7.260, 14.260, 21.360, 28.360; All VHF / UHF frequencies. No repeater or cross-band / mode QSOs. Score one point per phone QSO, two points per CW QSO, three points per NC mobile QSO (either mode). NC stations multiply QSO points x NC counties, states, provinces and DXCC countries; others x NC counties worked (max 100). Add 100 bonus points for working both Cherokee and Dare counties, and 100 points for working K4EG, after all other score calculations. NC mobiles add 100 bonus points for each county from at least 1 QSO worked. Awards. Send logs (SASE for results) by April 1 to NC QSO Party, c/o K4EG, Box 3064, Burlington, NC 27215. E-mail logs to k4eg@arrl.net. See the Alamance Web site at <http://www.netpath.net/~n4mio/qsoparty.htm>

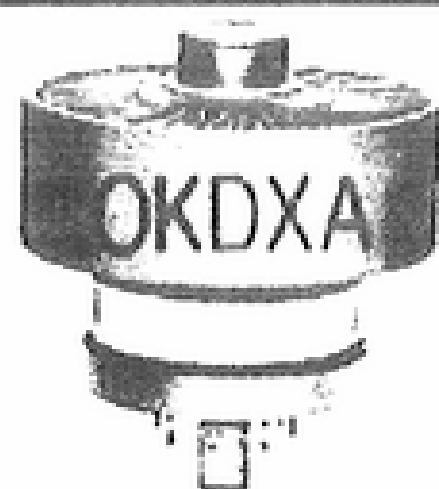
MARCH CONTEST PREVIEW

(Courtesy of Bruce Horn, WA7BNM)

05-07 1600-2359	CW
CZEBRIS Contest	
06-07 0000-2400	SSB
ARRL DX Contest	
06-07 2200-0159	RTTY
Open Ukraine RTTY Championship	
09-10 1700-1700	CW/SSB
CLARA & Family HF Contest	
13-14 0000-2400	CW/SSB
World Wide Locator Contest	
13-14 1200-1200	CW
Commonwealth Contest	
13-15 1400-0600	SSB
QCWA QSO Party	
13-14 Periods	SSB
DIG QSO Party	
14 0700-1100	SSB
UBA Spring Contest	
14 1800-2200	RTTY
High Speed Sprint	
14-15 1800-0100	CW/SSB
Wisconsin QSO Party	
20-21 0000-2400	SSB
YL-ISSB QSO Party	
20-21 0001-2400	CW/SSB
Bermuda WorldWide Contest	
20-22 2 periods	CW/SSB
Virginia QSO Party	
20-22 0200-0200	RTTY
BARTG Spring RTTY Contest	

20-21 1200-1200 CW/SSB
Russian DX Contest
20-21 1200-1200 SSTV
DARC HF SSTV Contest
20-21 0000-2400 CW/SSB
Alaska QSO Party
20 4 hours CW/SSB
Somerset Homebrew Contest
27-28 0000-2400 SSB
SSB CQ WW WPX Contest

Doctor DX



Dear Doctor DX:

Well... What's your sage and insightful opinion on the license restructure?

Signed: Gonna Upgrade

Dear Gonorrhea:

By the time you read this everything that needed to be said has been said, and then some. But that never stopped me before, and it won't stop me now... I was inspired by KB9UEZ on the cham.net web site and I'm going to share his thoughts with you...

"Well, by golly, this is one fine mess we got here. I remember when I got my first license. We didn't have them fancy-pants VE examiners 'cause we didn't need 'em! No Sir! Back then, we had to take the test outside. In the winter snow. In bare feet. Down where the old thumbtack factory used to be. We had Marine Corps gunnery sergeants give us the CW test. Every time you missed a character, the gunny'd whack you upside the head with a sock full of buffalo nickels. My little brother took the test 6 times before he passed. Or passed out. Hell, I can't remember now. He ain't never been quite right since, but you'll never hear any of us whine about it. Nope. We ain't like that. We didn't have us no radio neither in those days. Had to work us up pretend QSO's. Ever try to get a QSL from a pretend QSO for your WAS? Huh? have 'ya? Speak up, boy! Well, I'm here to tell ya' no way it ain't easy, but we didn't complain. No Sir. I ain't never complained about nothin'. When we finally did get us a radio, we was too poor to get no wire for no antenna. We had to load up body parts. That's all we had back then. I remember when my little brother climbed up on the barn roof and we loaded him up on 175 cubits (what you no-account young-uns call "80 Meters" -- whatever the hell that is -- pfooeey!) for some innerstate DX. He

didn't complain. Didn't even scream when we turned on the lin-yer 'cuz he knew we might miss a character or two and ask for a repeat. He was a smart kid. Used to stretch out his arms so's we could work Kansas. He knew there was a price to be paid if you wanted to be a Ham and he's still a Ham to this day, but I don't let him in my shack. He drools a lot and spits his tobacco in a way that sounds like 'CQ' and that's kind of dangerous around the spark. But he's still sharp -- modified his sounder the other day with a new tobacco can. Used one of those fancy 'Red Man' jobs. That's all you need for that there Dee Es Pee, by golly! You lazy young whipper-snappers don't have no idea what it's like to be a real Ham. And, as far as I'm concerned, you ain't! I ought'a get up on my horse & ride over there & whup you upside the head just like the gunny did to my little brother, but the damn critter threw a shoe."

LXXIII (that's 73 for all you young fancy pants no-it-all radio wizards)

— KB 'IX' UEZ

It still brings a tear to my eye every time I read it... <sniff!> — Doctor DX.

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Have some DX News? Contact Nelson Derks, KC5QVV, 13410 South 128th East Ave. Broken Arrow, OK 74011

E-Mail to: k5yaa@aol.com or kc5qvv@gte.net – Visit the OKDXA Web Page <http://www.poncacity.net/n5og/okdx>

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A. R. R. L. Bulletins

From: ARRL Headquarters
Newington, CT
To: All radio Amateurs

Special Bulletin 1
January 24, 2000

Hedy Lamarr, actress and inventor, SK.

Hedy Lamarr, the sultry, sexy screen star of the 1930s and 1940s who also conceived the frequency-hopping technique now known as spread spectrum, has died. Lamarr was found dead in her suburban Orlando, Florida, home January 19. She was believed to be 86.

Born Hedwig Kiesler in Austria, Lamarr came to the US in 1937 after being signed by MGM. Among her most successful films was the 1949, directed Cecil B. DeMille classic, *Samson and Delilah*.

In her 1992 book *Feminine Ingenuity*, Lamarr described how she came up with the idea of a signaling device for radio-controlled torpedoes that would minimize the danger of detection or jamming by randomly shifting the frequency. She and composer George Antheil developed the concept and received a patent for it in 1942.

The concept was not developed during World War II, but when the patent expired, Sylvania put the idea to use in satellites. Spread spectrum also has found applications in wireless telephones, military radios, wireless computer links, and Amateur Radio experimentation.

A more-detailed version of Lamarr's role in spread spectrum is described in the IEEE book *Spread Spectrum Communications*, published in 1983.

ARRL Bulletin 96
December 30, 1999

FCC restructures: Three license classes, one code speed

The FCC has issued its long-awaited Report and Order on amateur licensing restructuring. The bottom line is that

starting April 15, 2000, there will be three license classes--Technician, General, and Amateur Extra--and a single Morse code requirement--5 WPM.

"We believe that an individual's ability to demonstrate increased Morse code proficiency is not necessarily indicative of that individual's ability to contribute to the advancement of the radio art," the FCC said.

Besides drastically streamlining the Amateur Radio licensing process, the FCC said its actions would "eliminate unnecessary requirements that may discourage or limit individuals from becoming trained operators, technicians, and electronic experts."

Although no new Novice and Advanced licenses will be issued after the effective date of the Report and Order, the FCC does not plan to automatically upgrade any existing license privileges. The ARRL had proposed a one-time, across-the-board upgrading of current Novice and Tech Plus licensees to General class, but the FCC declined to adopt the idea. This means that current licensees will retain their current operating privileges, including access to various modes and subbands, and will be able to renew their licenses indefinitely.

Starting April 15, 2000, individuals who qualified for the Technician class license prior to March 21, 1987, will be able to upgrade to General class by providing documentary proof to a Volunteer Examiner Coordinator, paying an application fee, and completing FCC Form 605.

The FCC's decision not to automatically upgrade Novice and Tech Plus licensees means the current Novice/Tech Plus HF subbands will remain and not be "refarmed" to higher class licensees as the ARRL had proposed. The FCC said it did not refarm these subbands because there was "no consensus" within the amateur community as to what to do with them.

The FCC decided to lump Technician and Tech Plus licensees into a single licensee database, all designated as "Technician" licensees. Those who can document having passed the 5 WPM Morse code examination will continue to have the current Tech Plus HF privileges. The FCC said it may request documentation from a licensee or VEC to verify whether a

licensee has passed a telegraphy examination.

The FCC action also authorizes Advanced Class hams to prepare and administer General class examinations, and eliminates Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) station licenses. RACES will remain, however.

Under the new licensing scheme, there will be four examination elements. Element 1 will be the 5 WPM Morse code exam. Element 2 will be a 35-question Technician exam; Element 3 will be a 35-question General exam; and Element 4 will be a 50-question Amateur Extra exam. The FCC has left it in the hands of the National Conference of VECs Question Pool Committee to determine the specific mix and makeup of written examination questions.

Elimination of the 13 and 20 WPM Morse requirements means an end to physician certification waivers for applicants claiming an inability to pass the Morse code examination due to physical handicap.

The FCC disagreed with the League's suggestion that it undertake a restructuring of operating privileges along with licensing restructuring. The Commission said it wanted to give the amateur community a chance to "reach a consensus" regarding new technologies before it tried to restructure amateur operating privileges and frequencies.

A copy of the entire Report and Order (FCC 99-412) is available at <http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/wt98-143ro.pdf> or at http://www.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/1999/db991230/fcc99412.txt

ARRL Bulletin 1
January 11, 2000

Work begun to revise Amateur Radio examinations

The nation's Volunteer Examiner Coordinators, including the ARRL-VEC, now are under the gun to meet the April 15 implementation date of the FCC's recently announced Amateur Radio restructuring plan.

The FCC's momentous action on December 30, 1999, reduced the number of license classes to three and established 5 WPM as the sole Morse code

examination element. More than half of those responding to an informal poll on the ARRL Web site indicate they plan to upgrade during 2000. Brisk demand for study materials suggests that many amateurs will be hitting the books in the coming weeks.

After April 15, 2000, the FCC will only issue Technician, General, and Amateur Extra class licenses. Novice and Advanced licensees will retain current operating privileges and may renew indefinitely. The FCC's new licensing scheme simplifies and shortens the upgrade path from the ground floor through Amateur Extra. There are fewer written examinations and total questions. Those wishing HF privileges also would need to pass the single 5 WPM code test.

The FCC has left it in the hands of VECs to determine the specific mix and makeup of written examination questions. Current Amateur Radio study materials remain valid at least until the new rules become effective in April.

ARRL-VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, says the NCVEC Question Pool Committee has been meeting by telephone and e-mail to get the updating process under way. Jahnke said the revised question pools will be out "well in advance" of April 15.

The ARRL Board of Directors is expected to review the FCC Report and Order and discuss its implications when it meets January 21-22 in Memphis.

Details of the restructuring plan and a list of frequently asked questions are available on the ARRL Web site, <http://www.arrl.org>.

ARRL Bulletin 2 January 11, 2000

ARRL Seeks Reconsideration of PRB-1 Petition Denial

The ARRL wants the FCC to declare that its limited federal preemption policy known as PRB-1 applies to amateurs who live in areas governed by deed restrictions, covenants, CC&Rs, or condominium regulations just as it does to hams regulated solely by local zoning laws.

In a Petition for Reconsideration filed in late December, the League formally asked the FCC to rethink its November decision

to dismiss a 1996 ARRL Petition for Rule Making. That petition called on the Commission to expand and clarify the limited federal preemption known as PRB-1.

In November, the FCC said PRB-1 excludes restrictive covenants in private contracts as "outside the reach of our limited preemption," although it strongly encouraged associations of homeowners and private contracting parties to "follow the principle of reasonable accommodation" with respect to Amateur Radio.

In asking the FCC to rethink its November Order, the League said the FCC's disclaimer "is no longer a valid premise" and no longer accurately reflects FCC jurisdiction over private land use regulations.

Since PRB-1 came out in 1985, the ARRL pointed out, the FCC has made it clear that it has Congressional authority to prohibit restrictive covenants that could keep property owners and even renters from installing antennas to receive TV, satellite and similar signals. The League asserts the same principle applies to Amateur Radio, in which the FCC has said it has a "strong federal interest."

The League called on the FCC to clarify that it intends PRB-1 to apply to private land use regulations "to the extent that it has the jurisdiction to do so." Such an approach, the League said, would leave hams free to negotiate reasonable accommodation provisions with local homeowners' associations just as they do now with governmental land use regulators.

The League also asked the FCC to provide some relief via PRB-1 to protect amateurs from "prohibitive and excessive fees" that localities might impose for permits and fees. "Excessive costs associated with burdensome screening requirements are also often imposed by municipalities seeking a mechanism to preclude amateur antennas notwithstanding the PRB-1 policy," the League said.

The ARRL asked the FCC to at least provide a statement that "excessive costs associated with land use approvals fail the 'reasonable accommodation' and 'minimum practicable restriction' tests of PRB-1."

The League urged the FCC to revise and restate its preemption policy and issue a Notice of Proposed Rule Making "without delay" to amend Part 97 of the rules or to issue an Order clarifying its PRB-1 preemption policy.

A copy of the ARRL's Petition for Reconsideration is available on the ARRL Web site, <http://www.arrl.org>.

ARRL Bulletin 3 January 14, 2000

Question Pool Committee Eyes February 1 Release Date

A revised Amateur Radio question pool that reflects the April 15, 2000, restructuring rules could be out by February 1. Chairman Ray Adams, W4CPA, of the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators' Question Pool Committee says workable question pools for the new Technician, General and Amateur Extra written exams will be made public by February 1 or "very shortly thereafter."

Adams says that a Technician class syllabus already has been drafted and approved. The various QPC members have been keeping in touch by telephone and e-mail since the FCC announced the restructuring rules December 30.

Adams says that the QPC plans to further refine and update the newly configured pools in the future, after it has an opportunity to meet and formulate a plan. He said the revised question pools will follow the established format.

After April 15, 2000, the FCC will only issue Technician, General, and Amateur Extra class licenses. Novice and Advanced licensees will retain current operating privileges and may renew indefinitely. Applicants desiring HF privileges will only have to pass a 5 WPM Morse code test. Current Amateur Radio study materials remain valid at least until the new rules become effective in April.

There are four examination elements in the new licensing system. Element 1 is the 5 WPM Morse code test; Element 2 is a 35-question Technician test; Element 3 is a 35-question General test, and Element 4 is a 50-question Amateur Extra test.

Frequently Asked Questions and other information on restructuring is available on the ARRL Web site.

ARRL Bulletin 4
January 14, 2000

West Central Florida Sets Inauguration, Special Event

West Central Florida, the newest section in the ARRL fold, formally launches operations with an inauguration ceremony Saturday, January 15. A ribbon-cutting is set for 10 AM in the Robart's Arena Down's Building during the Sarasota Hamfest. ARRL First Vice President Steve Mendelsohn, W2ML, will preside over the ceremony and turn over the reins to new Section Manager Dave Armbrust, AE4MR, of Sarasota and his cabinet.

The new section--the 71st--includes Charlotte, DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pinellas, Polk and Sarasota counties. A proposal to create the West Central Florida Section won overwhelming approval from the nearly 1900 ARRL members late last year.

To celebrate the inauguration of the latest ARRL section, the West Central Florida section will sponsor "WCF-First Contact" starting Saturday, January 15, and continuing daily 8 AM until midnight Eastern on Sunday, January 23, from each of the nine WCF counties. The special event will use the call sign W4C.

Details are posted on the section's Web site, <http://www.wcfarrl.org>. All hams participating in the special event will be eligible to receive a WCF-First Contact certificate.

ARRL Bulletin 6
January 28, 2000

ARRL Officer Elections Set Musical Chairs in Motion

Officer elections at the January ARRL Board of Directors meeting generated a ripple effect of vacancies within the ARRL hierarchy. The elevation of West Gulf Director Jim Haynie, W5JBP, to the League presidency set off a game of musical chairs that saw Vice Director Coy Day, N5OK, accede to the director's slot, creating a vacancy in the West Gulf Vice Director's chair. Haynie has appointed Dr David A. Woolweaver, K5RAV, of Harlingen, Texas, to be the new Vice

Director. Dr Woolweaver is a periodontist in private practice.

Haynie filled vice directors' openings in the Atlantic and Roanoke divisions from within the section manager ranks. In the Atlantic Division, Director Kay Craigie, WT3P, was elected a Vice President, and Vice Director Bernie Fuller, N3EN, moved up to Director. Western Pennsylvania SM Bill Edgar, N3LLR, has been appointed as the new Atlantic Vice Director. In the Roanoke Division, Director John Kanode, N4MM, was elected a Vice President, and his second-in-command, Dennis Bodson, W4PWF, moved into the top slot. South Carolina SM Leslie Shattuck Sr., K4NK, has been tapped to replace Bodson as Roanoke Vice Director.

Replacing Edgar as Western Pennsylvania SM will be John V. Rodgers, N3MSE, of Butler. In South Carolina, Patricia Hensley, N4ROS, of Richburg will succeed Shattuck.

Bill Edgar, N3LLR, a Tech Plus licensee, recently passed all of the written elements he'll need to upgrade to Amateur Extra when the new FCC licensing rules go into effect April 15.

Meanwhile, Puerto Rico will get a new section manager as a result of a resignation. ARRL Field and Educational Services Manager Rosalie White, WA1STO, has appointed Victor Madera, KP4PQ, to replace Raul Escobar, KP4ZZ, as Puerto Rico's SM. Escobar stepped down for personal reasons.

ARRL Bulletin 7
January 28, 2000

ARRL Seeks Partial Reconsideration of Restructuring R&O

The ARRL will seek partial reconsideration on two points in the Amateur Radio license restructuring plan announced by the FCC December 30. Both points involve the way the plan deals with Technician-class licensees. The new FCC rules go into effect April 15.

The League will ask the FCC to continue to maintain records that indicate whether a Technician licensee has passed a Morse code exam to earn Novice/Tech Plus HF privileges. Under the current system, the license class of Technicians is designated

by a "T" in the FCC's amateur database, and of Tech Plus licensees by a "P." Under the FCC's restructuring plan, Technician and Tech Plus licensees will all be known simply as "Technician." The ARRL asserts the change will eliminate any easy way to tell which licensees have passed the Morse code exam and which have not.

"We're going to try to persuade the FCC that it made a drastic error in deciding to change all those Ps back to Ts in the database," said ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ.

The FCC has said that it would be up to Technician licensees, if asked, to prove that they have successfully passed the 5 WPM code test. The ARRL plans to ask the FCC to stipulate that any amateur who provides proof of having passed an FCC-recognized Morse code exam prior to April 15 would be entitled to receive credit for the Morse code exam element when applying for future upgrades. The FCC has indicated to the ARRL that after April 15, code credit for Technician applicants passing the 5 WPM test would not survive beyond the 365-day term of a Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination--or CSCE.

Under both the present and new rules, anyone who held a Technician license before February 14, 1991, has permanent credit for the Morse code element, but others do not.

The ARRL Board of Directors approved a motion to file the Petition for Partial Reconsideration at its January 22 meeting in Memphis.



**VHF Club****NEWS****W5LOW***Elmer Goekler Memorial
Station*

Central Oklahoma VHF ARC

The Central Oklahoma VHF ARC held the Dec 8th meeting at Hometown Buffet, 3900 NW 63rd. Meeting was called to order by Bill, WA5FWD, at 1130 with 16 present. Treasurer's report was given and approved. There was discussion about increasing the annual dues for the coming year but consensus was to make no changes at this time. Minutes of the last meet- were approved.

Under Old Business & New Business discussions were held concerning the election of new officers which will be held during the January 12 meeting. We were reminded that the word millennium has two els & two ens. Also discussed was the FCC requirement for "all hams" to mail FCC Form 606 with licensee's (TIN) Taxpayer Identification Number. (No TIN? Use SSN.) Address is: FCC 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245...

All were quite pleased to see at the meeting Jackolyn Olsen, K5ENU; Marie and Charlie Greene, WA5JGU; and Meg and Hugh Bensen, KA5DGY; as well as Al Prince, AD5U; Ellard Foster, W5KE and others. Treasurer Jim Speck, W5AI, handed out copies of the latest member roster which all were glad to get. Meeting adjourned @ 1245 and all headed for the desert counter.

73, de J.R. KB5WVE

The Central Okla. VHF ARC held the Jan 12, 2000 meeting at Hometown Buffet, 3900 NW 63rd. Meeting was called to order by Bill, WA5FWD, at 1145 with 10 present. Treasurers' report was given and approved. Minutes of the last meeting held were approved. Under Old Business and New Business discussions were held concerning the election of club officers. Since it was agreed unanimously that the current slate of club officers, by dint of

ingeniousness, inspiration, and plain old hard work, successfully navigated the clubs' interests through the perils and pitfalls of the Y2K phenomena, all were re-elected. After an uninspired attempt to elicit a good MFJ, (Meetings' Funniest Joke) we were informed that "She got the goldmine and I got the shaft" has been shortened to "She got the ring and I got the finger." With that, we adjourned, all got up to get another dessert w/ lots of chocolate.

73, de J.R. KB5WVE

Ada Amateur Radio Club

The Ada Amateur Radio Club met for its first meeting in 2000 on January 8, in the Salvation Army building. The meeting was called to order by new President Steve, KD5DKZ. Seventeen people were present.

The President named several big events that had taken place since he had been elected, such as the Y2K preparedness drills on December 31st and licensing changes. Then the new President thanked Scott, KD5AJL the outgoing President, for his hard work during his term of leadership.

The first item of Old Business was the continued discussion about raising the annual dues for the club. The Treasurer, Marie, KD5EXM mentioned that the C&E had been raised to \$.50 per issue. Mason, WT5X mentioned that the Ada repeater is about 10 years old and will need to be replaced sometime. John, KC5EZC asked how much it would cost to replace it; Mason answered that the present one cost about \$5000 when it was purchased. He also said that when lightning hit the

repeater it cost about \$600 to repair it. Charles, KC5TGA stated that we should get a calendar started to get events in mind that we might want to use to raise money. The President stated that we need to build up a cushion to have ready when we need to replace old equipment or make repairs to the repeater.

Charles mentioned that the donation jar at the annual picnic raised enough money to reimburse the club expenses for the picnic.

Plans were made for the 1st Ada Hamfest. A building at the AgriPlex (on the North side of Ada at the junction of Highway 1 North and 3W) has been reserved for Saturday February 19. Set-up will begin at 6am, with the doors opening to the public at 8am. Table rental will be \$5.00. There will be a concession stand. **MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND!**

The Y2K 'watch parties' went well. There were radios and computers in use at the Salvation Army and the EOC, all 'manned' (or XYL-ed in some cases) by ham operators. All involved were pleased with the readiness of the equipment and the people involved.

Under New Business Mason discussed the changes in the FCC licensing regulations. There were many questions, and Mason patiently answered everyone's inquiries. Also, some discussion was held about 'net' procedures and repeater usage. These discussions will be continued in more detail at next month's meeting.

The meeting was adjourned. A VE session followed.

Marie Wilson, KC5EXM
Ada Amateur Radio Club Treasurer

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Mike LaPuzza – K5ZZA

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<http://www.digitalcupboard.com/w5okt/>
 Feel free to browse and drop us a note....
w5okt@arrl.net

Elections: The Group elected officers for the year 2000. They are as follows:

President: Jim Hand, NW5OK

Vice President: Larry Goodwin Sr., K5LHG

Sec-Treas.: Gerald Bowman, W5AOK

Wouff Hong: Tri-State will present a ceremony at Ham Holidays. More information to follow.

Year 2000 Plans: The February Collector and Emitter will carry our monthly activities for 2000.

New Callsigns: Jay Kruckenberg, K5GUD, Larry Goodwin, K5LHG, Jim Hand, NW5OK

Birthdays: Happy Birthday T-SARG members,

Delmar Bish
 Jerome Doerrie
 Robert Keith
 David White

Year in Review: 1999

January:

Robert Keith passed the elements 2, 3A & 1B for Tech-Plus.

February:

Fox Hunt: Sat. 27th, 2:00pm. Meet in Mooreland, OK. Duane Henderson, KC5NID was the FOX!

Jay Kruckenberg (K5GUD) passed element 1A for Tech-Plus.

Robert Keith (W5ROB) passed element 1C.

March:

National Weather Service Spotter Training: 7:00 PM at the High Plains Vo-Tech.

Robert Keith (W5ROB) passed element 3B for General.

April:

Hamfest '99 & Eyeball QSO:

Bob Armstrong (KC5UGX) passed element 3B for General.

Justin Covalt (KD5GVO) passed elements 2 & 3A for Technician.

Jerry Foland (WA4TTL) passed element 4A for Advanced

May:

Darrell Smith passed element 2.

Eric Wilkerson (KD5HED) passed elements 2 & 3A for Technician.

June:

Relay For Life: June 18th at 7pm through June 19th 7am at the Woodward High School football field. Coordinator: Gerald Bowman W5AOK

Jimmy Ginrich (KA5QGV) passed

element 3A for Tech-Plus.

Eric Wilkinson (WA0NTX) passed elements 3B & 4A.

ARRL FIELD DAY: T-SARG

July:

Ham Holidays: OKC

Roscoe Price (KD5HRB) passed element 3A for Technician.

August:

Balloon Launch: Flight coordinator: Jerome Doerrie K5IS

September:

St. Jude Bike-a-Thon: Event coordinator Gerald Bowman W5AOK

Fox Hunt: coordinator: Jim Hand NW5OK

October:

QRP: by Bart Lawson N5WL and Bill Wyatt N5WO

November:

Election of new officers for the year 2000.

December:

Christmas party December 9, 1999: Event Coordinator Jay Kruckenberg K5GUD

Paul Turner (KC5VIO) passed element 1A to upgrade to Tech-Plus.

73's Jim NW5OK

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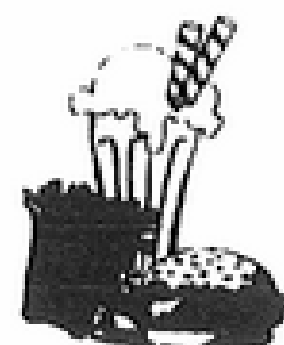
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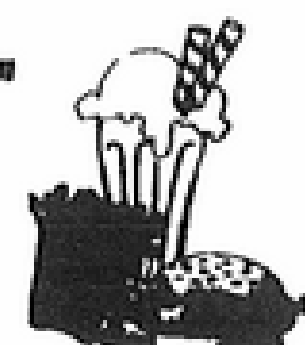


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Up Coming Events

February 19, 2000 – Ada, OK Our swap meet will be Sat, Feb 19 at the Agri-Plex (old fair grounds). Set up will be inside a heated building starting at 6:00 AM. Tables will be \$5 and admission will be \$1. There will, of course, be no charge for setting up in the large parking area. If you need any further info please feel free to e-mail Steve Wilson, President

Tulsa, OK ARRL West Gulf Division Convention **NEW LOCATION** - Riverside Airport Campus Tulsa Tech 801 E 91st St, Tulsa OK Talk-in on 145.11 - 600 or 443.850 + 5MHz PL tone: 88.5 Pre-registration CUT-OFF date is March 17th 24 hour HOTLINE (918) 622-2277 - e-mail: megriffin@ionet.net General Info: n5wx@qsl.net

ANNOUNCEMENTS

VE exams on 3rd Monday of each month sponsored by C.O.R.A. @ Salvation Army HQ at NW 50th and N. Penn, Oklahoma City at 6 PM local time. Doors will be locked at 6:30.

VE exams on 3rd Saturday of each month are held at 9:00 a.m. at Southern Temple Baptist Church, 1821 S High, OKC. Talk in on 146.76 MHz. For more information you can contact Clarence Warstler, KB5IBY @ 632-3545.

VE Exams are held 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 10:00 A.M. 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 6:30 p.m. 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 3:00 P.M. in the OSU Engineering North Building, Room 316. Contact Ken, K5KC (405) 377-7586 for details.

VE exams in Enid are 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 2:30 P.M. 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.

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 - Thursday @ 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 3941kHz - AMTOR @ 8:30 a.m. 14.064mHz

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

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

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

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

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

QCWA Chp 63 HF - Sunday @ 8:00 on 3855.0kHz USB.

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

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

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

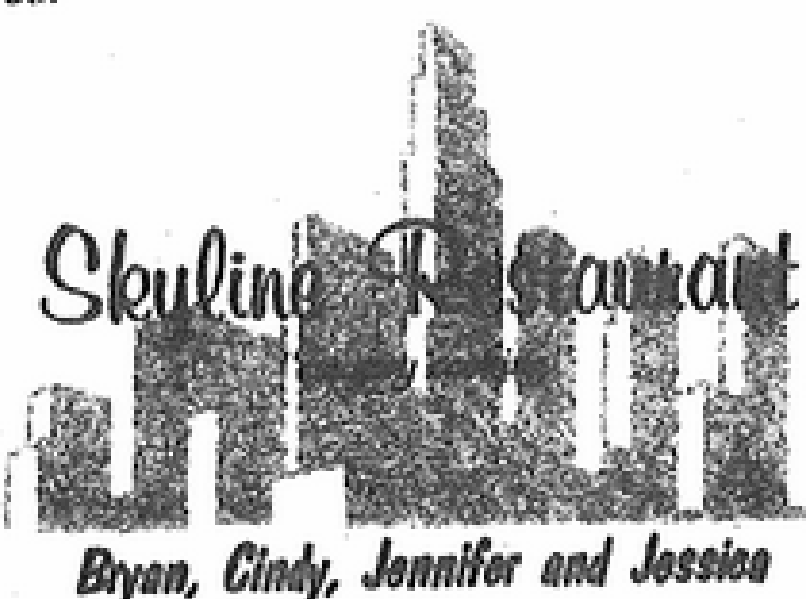
YL Net - Tuesday @ 8:00 p.m. on 147.09 plus

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

Oklahoma Section Net - Daily @ 0030Z on 3692.5 kHz

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February 06 - March 18, 2000

CORA Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>February 6</i> 2:00 PM Red Cross Ve Exams	<i>February 7</i>	<i>February 8</i>	<i>February 9</i> 11:00 AM OK VHF ARC	<i>February 10</i> 7:00 PM Albus Area ARA 7:00 PM Tri-State ARG	<i>February 11</i>	<i>February 12</i> 9:30 AM S. Canadian ARS 10:00 AM EARC Ve Exams 10:00 AM SCARS VE Exams 3:00 PM Stillwater VE Exams
<i>February 13</i>	<i>February 14</i> 7:30 PM Oklahoma City APA	<i>February 15</i>	<i>February 16</i>	<i>February 17</i>	<i>February 18</i>	<i>February 19</i> 9:00 AM SBC VE Exams
<i>February 20</i>	<i>February 21</i> 6:00 PM CORA VE Exams 7:00 PM Choctaw ARC	<i>February 22</i> 7:30 PM CORA Meeting	<i>February 23</i>	<i>February 24</i> 7:00 PM Enid ARC	<i>February 25</i> 5:00 PM Collector and Emitter Deadline	<i>February 26</i>
<i>February 27</i>	<i>February 28</i> 6:00 PM Shawnee VE Exams	<i>February 29</i>	<i>March 1</i>	<i>March 2</i> 7:00 PM Aeronautical Center ARC 7:30 PM Cinnaron ARA	<i>March 3</i>	<i>March 4</i> 9:30 AM BAARC Ve Exams 10:00 AM Ada ARC 2:30 PM Vinita VE Exams
<i>March 5</i> 2:00 PM Red Cross Ve Exams	<i>March 6</i>	<i>March 7</i>	<i>March 8</i> 11:00 AM OK VHF ARC	<i>March 9</i> 7:00 PM Albus Area ARA 7:00 PM Tri-State ARG	<i>March 10</i>	<i>March 11</i> 9:30 AM S. Canadian ARS 10:00 AM EARC Ve Exams 10:00 AM SCARS VE Exams 3:00 PM Stillwater VE Exams
<i>March 12</i> 2:30 PM Wheelstraw ARC	<i>March 13</i>	<i>March 14</i>	<i>March 15</i>	<i>March 16</i>	<i>March 17</i>	<i>March 18</i> 9:00 AM SBC VE Exams

January						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

February						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29				

March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						