

# Collector & Emitter

Central Oklahoma Radio  
Amateurs, Inc. Publication

**August 2001**  
Volume 27, Number 9  
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**Collector & Emitter**

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<b>1. Aeronautical Center ARC</b> Meets: 7:30 p.m., 1st Thursday, FAA, S. MacArthur, OKC Pres.: Clarence Warstler, KB5IBY 632-3545 VP: Sec/Tr.: Paul Solheim, WB7QIN 381-3574 Editor:	<b>10. Oklahoma DX Association</b> Meets: Hamfests and as announced in C&E. Pres.: Larry Shima, W0PAN 405-721-8138 VP: Cliff Sikes, N5UW 405-997-3280 VP: Dick Stricker, NJ5S 580-233-9869 Sec/Tr.: Jerry Chouninard, K5YAA 918-341-2659 Editor: Nelson Derks, AC5UP 918-451-1594
<b>2. Oklahoma Central VHF ARC</b> Meets: 11:30a.m., 2nd Wednesday, Home Town Buffet, 3900 NW 63 <sup>rd</sup> , Oklahoma City Pres.: Bill Noland, WA5FWD 354-5018 VP: Gene Hawkins, KA5CTN Sec: John Dome, KB5WVE 842-3493 Treas.: Jim Speck, W5AI 842-3055 Editor:	<b>11. Edmond Amateur Radio Society</b> Meets: 2:00 p.m., 3rd Sunday, Edmond Community Building 28 E Main, Edmond OK Pres.: David Wolf, KC5KJE 340-7486 VP: Dick Stinson, KK5XO 348-6542 Sec: Robert Coxsey, KM5GZ 478-5715 Treas.: Robyn Price, KD5ISC 324-2674 Editor: Curtis Foote, KC5GEP 359-6514 <a href="http://edmondsun.com/ears">http://edmondsun.com/ears</a> e-mail: k5eok@arrl.net
<b>4. Oklahoma City Autopatch Assn.</b> Meets: 7:30 p.m., 3rd Tuesday, Salvation Army Bldg At 44 <sup>th</sup> Street & Bryant Pres.: Mark Hamblin, WL7FT 732-2087 VP: Mark Watkins, NM5W 340-8596 Sec: Clay Mayrose, WA6LBU Treas.: D.C. "Mac" Macdonald, K2GKK E-mail: <a href="mailto:ocapa@juno.com">ocapa@juno.com</a>	
<b>6. Altus Area Amateur Radio Assn.</b> Meets: 7:00 p.m. 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: Debbie Grime, KD5LMW 580-480-1252 Treas.: Fred Molledahl, AB5FS Editor: Lil Town, KC5CNA 580-477-4027	<b>15. South Canadian ARS</b> Meets: 9:30 a.m., 2nd Saturday, Red Cross Bldg North OU Campus, Norman Pres.: VP: Ed Berkowitz, N3US 364-8884 Sec: Bill Baker, N5UMH 366-8641 Tr: Jeff Wyke, KT5OK 329-6762 <a href="http://www.telepath.com/n5dkr">http://www.telepath.com/n5dkr</a>
<b>7. Enid Amateur Radio Club</b> Meets: 7:00 p.m. 4th Thursday, American Red Cross 400 N Grand, Enid, OK Pres.: Dean Feken, KL7MA 580-336-3326 VP: Sam Cotter, KD5EUS 580-233-0048 Sec: Tim McAnally, KD5KTB 580-234-0948 Treas.: Dwayne Posey, KC5QVS 580-237-3218 Editor:	<b>17. Ada Amateur Radio Club</b> Meets: 9:00 a.m., 1st Saturday, Salvation Army Bldg 115 N. Oak St., Ada, OK Pres.: Charles Eiter, KC5TGA 580-436-4425 VP: Danny Coffey, KM5LB 580-759-2670 Sec: Darla Coffey, KC5RGU 580-759-2670 Tr: Scott Renes, KD5AJL 580-436-1369
<b>8. Choctaw Amateur Radio Club</b> Meets: 7:00 p.m., 3rd Monday, Eastern Oklahoma Co. Vo Tech, 4601 N. Choctaw Rd, Choctaw, OK Pres.: Chuck Kanach, KC5EVS 390-2231 VP: Don Clark, KB5KWV 630-3006 Sec: Kay Hlozman, KB5VJR 391-3398 Treas.: Ron Ernest, WB9DAF 769-3207 Editor:	<b>19. Tri-State Amateur Radio Group</b> Meets: 7:30 p.m., 2nd Thursday, Woodward, OK Pres.: Larry Goodwin Sr. K5LHG 580-886-3283 VP: Gerald Bowman, W5AOK 580-994-5600 Sec/Tr: Robert Keith, W5ROB 580-994-5461 E-mail: <a href="mailto:w5okt@arrl.net">w5okt@arrl.net</a>
<b>9. Wheatstraw Amateur Radio Club</b> Meets: 1:30 p.m., 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday, Location Varies Pres.: Leo Piel, WZ5H 580-886-2998 VP: Ray Barnes, AB5Z 580-274-3334 Sec/Tr.: Joe Garland, WA5FLT 405-893-2660 Editor: Ralph Wilder, Wa5PFK 405-623-5421	<b>Central Oklahoma Radio Amateurs</b> Meets: 7:30p.m., 4th Tuesday, Salvation Army Center At 44 <sup>th</sup> Street & Bryant Pres.: Harold Miller, KB1ZQ 672-7735 VP: Jerry Sproul, WA5JS 354-2061 Sec: Forrest Rush, N5VWF 842-8486 Treas.: Harold Miller, KB1ZQ 672-7735 Editor: Harold Miller, KB1ZQ 672-7735 E-mail: <a href="mailto:corahams@swbell.net">corahams@swbell.net</a>

**Deadline for September 2001 Issue of *Collector and Emitter* is Friday, August 31, 2001. Send all Articles to *Collector and Emitter*, 4216 Spiva Drive Del City, OK 73115-4424 on 3 ½ inch floppy or e-mail to [corahams@swbell.net](mailto:corahams@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.

**CORA ELECTIONS:**  
to be held at the  
**SEPTEMBER MEETING!**  
**SATURDAY SEPT. 22<sup>nd</sup>, 01**  
**1:00PM**  
**SKYLINE RESTAURANT**  
**I-35 & 15<sup>TH</sup> STREET**  
**OKC, OK**  
**PLEASE COME!**

August Meeting was held at the regular time and place. Final closure on HH 2001 and reports were given on what we can do to improve for the upcoming year.

There is a lot of planning and work behind the scenes that no one ever sees. It is not really hard but does require time and a person willing to honor their word once it is given. I think that is the hardest part of hosting a hamfest, finding people willing to stand by their word and do the job without pay and many times without thanks. But sometimes when you least expect it, a very special thank you is given to you for a job well done.

OKDX at this HH honored Hal, KB1ZQ with giving him a Special Award for all he has given to this Ham Community and were nice enough to include Linda, N1LPN with one of her own. Thank You to the OKDX Group for the honor!

A surprise to both the fairgrounds as well as us was that the city showed up the week before our show and started breaking up the parking lot area by the building we were hosting HH in. They tried to find us a new building but there was no other place to put us that was not facing the same problems with parking. We had no control over what the city planned and too much money already invested to call off the show. We made the best of a bad situation.

Our Sincere Apologies to all that

were inconvenienced by the parking problem at this year's HH. We did attempt to get the word out as soon as we knew of situation.

Bottom line: Ham Holiday was a success because of those that came in at the last minute and helped us host this year's hamfest. Many helped by attending and those that sent in pre-registration money made it possible to pay for the fliers we mailed. CORA only clears enough money to cover all expenses and once all bills are paid, they have barely enough seed money for the next year's hamfest. The board goes on faith alone that we will break even each year and so far it has worked for them.

Again, a Big THANK YOU to all of you who helped make this year's HH2001 possible and now it is time to start planning for HH2002!

## **OK HAMFESTS:**

3 Nov 2001

NJSS Memorial Hamfest 2001

Enid Hamfest Group

Contact:

Tom Worth, N5LWT  
2302 Eucalyptus Avenue  
Enid, OK 73701-3706  
Phone: 405-233-8473  
Fax: 405-249-2246

Email: [enidhamfest@yahoo.com](mailto:enidhamfest@yahoo.com)

26-27 Oct 2001

Texoma Hamarama Association

Contact:

N.T. (Len) Carlson, K4IWL  
Phone: 972-519-0521  
Email: [k4iwl@arrl.net](mailto:k4iwl@arrl.net)

## From the Pres & Treasurer & Editor:

First & most important is I find myself unable to fill as many jobs as I am currently holding under CORA. To be honest with you, I don't know if I am coming or going between work & all the stuff I do for CORA. I know there must be at least a hundred hams out there right now that could step up and run for some of the Offices I currently hold as well as have more time to dedicate to it than I do!

Most of you do not know this but Linda, my wife has been editing & putting this newsletter together now for 6 months, and turns to me when she runs into a problem. She makes mistakes & is late getting it ready for the printers because she is still learning to use the computer but without her help, the C & E would not get done.

Still right now, I do not have enough time to get everything done for CORA that has to be done. There is a pile of cards sitting on my desk that need to be logged, the CORA books to be balanced for this month, HH 2002 paperwork to be filed with the ARRL, labels to run for the C&E, and work has me running all over the state and putting in an average of 50+ hour weeks. I am only one person! Ham Radio as a hobby no longer is fun for me. I need someone to take over some of the offices I currently hold before I face total burn out.

I do want to present a proposal to all the clubs of CORA. I would like to see CORA take over the hosting of the US AIR FORCE QSO PARTY! We can do this! The group that hosted this event has stopped and I would like to see it continue

on. It is held in Honor of all whom served in the USAF on the Anniversary of the Birth of the US Air Force September 17<sup>th</sup>. The QSO Party is held on the weekend in September closest to the Anniversary date. Please present this idea to your clubs and than let the CORA Board know what they decide! We can do this event!

PLEASE come to the SEPTEMBER CORA MEETING! I can no longer do it all.

73 Hal, KB1ZQ

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**Edmond, Oklahoma 73034**

**(405) 330-4053**

# Chit - Chat

By Linda NILPN

## Ring...Ring...

Where is that dang phone now? "RING" I think Mike had it last... "RING" NO! It is not in his room. "RING"... Okay I know I need to get "RING" an answering machine but keep "RING" forgetting to buy one. Found the phone hidden "RING" under yesterday's newspapers! I grab the cordless phone, out of breath answer it with, "Hello? Hello? Is anyone there? It's your dime?" Okay, they hung up on me! The very nerve of them, that was not nice! I can't help it if we have a 4 bedroom house and the cordless phone is forgotten by whoever uses it last anywhere within this house. What happened to let the phone ring 10 times rule? Most people call and after the 2<sup>nd</sup> ring, hang up. This happens a lot at our house too, getting hung up on after the second ring, which is frustrating!

Phones! We have them in our homes, on our hips, in our cars, carry them in our purses, and have them at work. We just can not get away from The Phone. Why is it that TV and Magazine Ads tell us we need to go digital and wireless anyway? I find it so rude to be somewhere eating out and all throughout the meal phones are ringing. What is even worse is to be sitting 3 tables away from a stranger who's phone rings and hearing a conversation being held on that phone that is none of my business in the first place. I go out to eat to get away from the phone!

I really thought that when Caller ID came into being, I would see freedom, but it didn't work. I still find myself jumping up from a meal I have just served, answering the phone and hearing the person on the other end say, "Hi! How are you this fine evening? My name is Nancy and I am calling you in behalf of my company. Our people are in your area this evening and I am calling to set up a time that would be convent to both you and your husband, you are married I hope and if not I apologize." I can hear her stop to take a breath and just before she can say another word, I reply, "No thank you! I don't want nor need anything right now. Thanks anyway!" and hang up. I return to my meal and a few minutes later, "RING...RING..." Guess who it is, same

person but this time asking to speak to my husband who is very happy eating his dinner and shakes his head 'no' when I try to give him the phone. I tell them he isn't there and no I do not have any idea when he will be home either. I think he ran away to parts unknown that phones can not reach and hang up. My husband looks at me with a half grin and continues with his meal. Mine is now cold.

Buying a House really brings out the Credit Card Offers over the phone. I have gotten to the point that I have asked them if the money is FREE and If I never have to pay it back I just might listen, if not, I'm not interested, and hang up. These credit card companies are crazy! They hound you as if you were some poor rabbit that they hope with time will tire and give up and say yes! Not me, Why should I pay them 21% interest on something I can pay cash with and save the 21% interest? Stupid concept, credit cards! What happened to the old fashion concept of LAY-AWAY? Now, that was a smart idea!

The other majority of calls are from long distance phone carrier companies trying to get us to change our service. They have gone as far as to send us a \$75 check in the mail plus offered us 2 months free long distance calling if we would switch over to them. If you get one of these checks, PLEASE do not cash it! Cut it up and throw it away or write "Void" with crayon in bold letters across it and send it back to them in the postage pre-paid envelope that was included with the check! If you cash the check, they become you Long Distance Phone Company! How stupid can they think I am? No company is just going to send FREE money without there being a catch somewhere.

The other calls we get, that average about only 3 per week, are those wanting donations. They are very nice people and ask if you have any unwanted items that you would like to donate. I do give when I can but if I gave every time they called, I would have nothing left in my house. It is one way to clean house!

My phone is mine, and owning a phone does not give everyone, who wants to, the right to use it to try and sell me something I don't want or need. Having a phone does not give anyone who knows how to push the buttons the right to invade my privacy at home but they do it anyway.

I have a phone so family and friends can call and keep in touch. I have the phone so I can call them in return. I have a phone so people from the Ham Community can call us ( Ham calls I like.) I have the phone so I can call the Doctor or Police if I need to. I have the phone so I can gain access to the Internet. I did not get a phone so companies could call me randomly and harass me day in and day out and continue interrupting me when I am doing something that to me is important!

That's it! Going to go get an answering machine and let it handle these calls for me. I know the perfect message to record too. Message: "Hi! It's your dime, don't waste it. Sorry but I am too busy enjoying life to stop right now. I have severed my umbilical cord to this phone and that is why you are talking to this machine instead of me. Do leave a message, time, day, and your name & phone number and I will return your call when I can. Thank You! BEEP!" (Copyright 2001 by Linda G Miller, NILPN)

## FWD: FWD: FWD: NEW CHECKING ACCOUNT

Is it just me, or has anyone else noticed that life seems a bit more complicated than in days of yesteryear?

For example, I went to a bank to open a checking account the other day. When I opened my first account, decades ago, it took about 15 minutes. I gave the lady my drivers license, signed a card and was given a small book of checks. Back then, we had our choice of check colors... as long as it was blue; but now...

I entered the bank, with my drivers license in hand and a desire for an account. I was greeted by a clipboard requiring my name, the date and time, who I wished to see, why I had come to the bank and a partridge in a pear tree.

Noting the 12 names ahead of mine, I scanned the room to try to match them with the faces. A strange urge came over me, "Gomez party of 4, your table is ready..." but I resisted and took a seat among a band of some rather unsavory toddlers.

Fortunately I did not have to wait long. Time always passes quickly when one counts the holes in overhead ceiling tiles.



A thirtyish, ex-military type, corporate executive wannabe tried to pronounce my name; poorly. As I approached, she extended her hand, quickly. I wasn't sure if she wanted to check my waistband for weapons or offer a handshake. Just to be safe, I put my hand in hers.

She asked, "What may I do for you?"

I thought to myself, "You can avoid breaking the rest of my knuckles!" but said, "Checking account, open."

She pointed to a chair, at a desk and said, "Sit," much the way I do to my dog, then added, "I'll be with you in a minute."

This gave me a chance to realign the joints in my fingers. When she returned she asked, "Now sir, which type of account?"

"First, the 'sir' isn't necessary. I'm not that old." I protested.

"It's part of our procedure; sir," she replied with the warmth of a Buffalo blizzard.

"Oh," I cleverly replied. "Well, I'd like to open a checking account."

"What TYPE, sir?"

"Uh, the type you put money into and write checks," I replied; totally unaware of the conflict I had become a party to.

"SIR, this institution offers 55 different TYPES of checking accounts!" Miss Congeniality stated.

"Well, I only need one, thank you. Maybe you could tell me something about EACH of them," I responded, fully expecting her to hand me some sort of brochure. But she actually began describing the attributes of EACH one.

After about a dozen, and her showing no signs of verbal exhaustion, I interrupted, "How about the first one?"

"Yes sir, that would be the 'Silver Eagle Plan', no interest, \$10 monthly fee with a minor charge for deposits and withdrawals, no minimum balance, over 40 but under 50 years old, head of household, ATM card, no overdraft protection, basic service," she stated without reading from a paper. Maybe they use hypnosis.

"What if I wanted interest?" I inquired.

"That would be the 'Auburn Falcon Plus Plan' if you maintain a minimum daily balance of \$5000. 2.3% adjusted quarterly," she rattled off.

"2.3% is hardly worth it," I casually stated; without saying that I've never had \$5000 in a checking account. "Oh, I'll need an ATM card for my wife. She collects plastic."

"Than you want the 'White Dove Bonus Plan'," she stated with the tone of the time and temperature recording.

"Who feeds all these birds? Maybe you have something in royal purple with lace," I asked, which was met by a stare which felt like frozen daggers.

Changing the subject quickly, "A friend told me that your ATMs were down because the LA earthquake damaged the satellite link between here and the head office."

"You have a friend who has an account with us?" she asked, "I'll make a note of that, sir." I didn't even want to know why.

"I guess I'll take that white bird thing," I said, hoping to conclude this ordeal.

"The 'WHITE DOVE BONUS PLAN', sir," Miss Proper countered, "Fine, may I have your documentation?" "Documentation?"

"Identification, sir," she stated with the efficiency of a Cuban border guard.

I laid my drivers license on the desk. She waited; apparently unsatisfied, "Sir, I will need the rest of it."

"I only have one drivers license," I said in a confused manner.

"We require state identification, drivers license or state photo ID; federal identification, Social Security Card and either a passport or Dept. of Immigration documents; county identification, birth certificate or alien waiver plus mail addressed to your residence; and commercial identification, 3 major credit cards; and your green card, sir," she stated in one breath.

"WHAT?! GREEN CARD? I'm a citizen! I just happen to live in Miami!" I protested.

"In that case, may I see your drivers license, sir?" she said in a monotone that made me want to check her for a tape player. "Who is authorized to deposit to your account, sir?"

After thinking for a moment, I said, "Anyone who wants to!"

"Would you care to establish electronic transfer deposits, sir?" Miss Ice asked.

"But I thought only money could be deposited." I remarked.

"Of course you did," she stated, starting to show signs of annoyance, "What about a CD, sir?"

"No thanks, I haven't bought a player yet," I said.

"What would you like to deposit today, sir?"

"I've got \$500 in \$50's here," I said proudly.

"Sir, I'm not sure we can accept CASH," she said, showing the first sign of not knowing something, "Don't you have a check?"

"No, that's why I'm opening a checking account." I said sarcastically. "Let me check on that," she said as she scurried off; stopping for a moment to add, "Sir."

Well, to make a short story long, I did open my account, in just under an hour and a half. Today's checking accounts are a lot like today's computer programs. They have lots of features, but I'm afraid to try them out.

Someone else actually finished opening my account. It seems Miss Congeniality went into her supervisor's office and from what I heard the paramedics say, she had a nervous breakdown.

I guess the banking business can be hard on people; and definitely more complicated than the days of yesteryear!

~~~~~End FWD: Messages~~~~~

*Hi, I write most of my stories for this column a few months ahead of the deadlines. One that I do hold off on is the Christmas Special. **I NEED RECIPES sent in by you for that issue, Please help!***

Until Next Month...

# The Elmer Project Part V

*Sponsored By The Oklahoma DX Association*  
**An Ode To The Mode**

*Edited by Nelson Derks, AC5UP*

One of the advantages of being a Radio Amateur is the ability to experiment with modulation techniques and discover their strengths and weaknesses. There is no one perfect mode for every situation. In this installment we'll look at some of the more popular modes, and why we choose them.

## PHONE: FM / SSB / AM

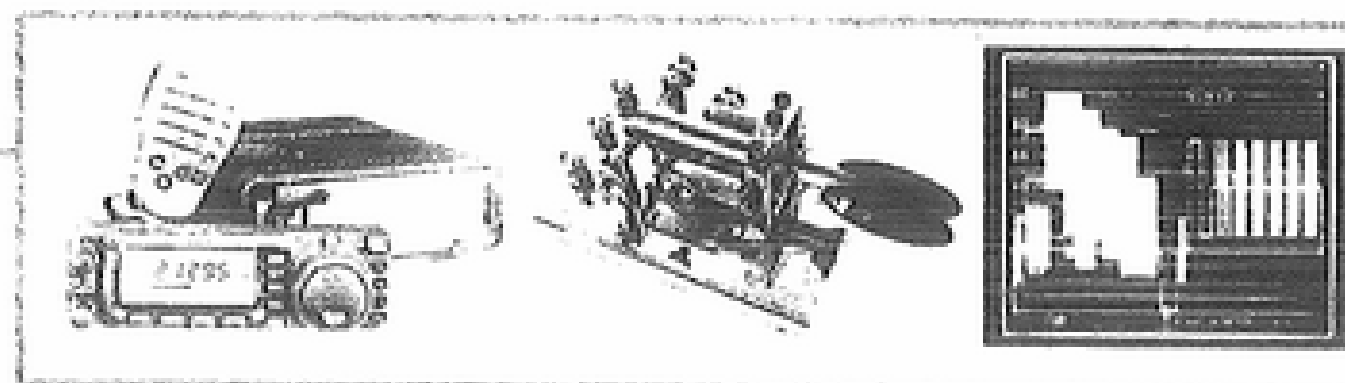
The voice modes are by far the most popular on the Amateur bands. No surprise here, if you can master the art of putting one word after another and knowing when to push the button on the mic, you're there. Phone has a fast learning curve and works well in conversational QSO's. The most popular of the voice modes is likely to be Narrow-Band FM due to the large number of Technician class licensees and the low cost of getting started. Two Meter FM rigs usually tune in 5 kHz steps with automatic repeater offsets that make setting up your station a snap. Like many of you, my first QSO was on Two Meters and the biggest challenge was a little mic fright... The rest was plug and play. FM is legal in many band segments above 29 MHz and offers good sound quality and non-critical tuning.

FM has several unique characteristics like the capture effect and noise floor limiting that make it better suited to stronger local signals than weak signal DX. FM detectors favor the stronger signal during a 'double' and those of you who travel have probably heard an FM car radio capture one of two stations between cities, then flip back & forth depending on the strongest signal at the moment. That's the capture effect, and on modern gear it takes less than a 1 dB differential for the strongest signal to cover all others. That makes for near-zero QRM and no heterodyne whistles, but it also makes it difficult to pull a weak signal out of the noise. As a signal reaches the detector threshold, the signal-to-noise ratio improves rapidly as the signal level improves. With a modest signal your FM rig will yield cleaner copy than AM or SSB, but may suffer from multi-path and phase distortion in difficult locations. The

difference in how an AM or FM detector handles weak signals can be heard by disconnecting the antennas from any AM/FM broadcast receiver with the FM muting turned off. The AM section is quiet with no signal, but the FM side is solid noise. FM is easy on the ears with a good signal, but VHF'ers who live to stretch the last mile from a milliwatt prefer CW and SSB for their ability to work down to (and often below) the noise floor.

Single Side Band is an improvement over Double Sideband AM and is definitely the preferred mode for weak signal voice work. A standard AM signal is comprised of three components: An RF carrier plus the upper and lower side bands added by the modulating audio. The carrier conveys almost nothing to the listener, while the modulation side bands are mirror images of each other. Do we need both of them? An AM transmitter can deliver about the same signal strength with approximately 40% less input power by suppressing the carrier. Eliminate one of the side bands, and you save another 30% on your power bill with almost no loss of information. That's called efficiency, and when an OM can chew rags half way around the world on a barefoot rig you understand why SSB gained the popularity it enjoys on HF.

Have you ever wondered why so many 100 Watt (Peak Envelope Power) SSB rigs are rated at 40 Watts (or less) on AM? 100 Watts PEP works out to 30 + 30 Watts in the upper & lower side bands plus 40 Watts of carrier when you flip the switch to AM. You still have 100 Watts PEP going up the coax, but only 40 Watts of carrier. This also explains why the CW, FM and RTTY ratings are usually 100 Watts. These modes use a steady carrier at 100 Watts peak to peak with no amplitude modulation. We wiggle the VFO for FM and RTTY, or pulse the carrier on and off for CW, but it's always 100 Watts peak.



Returning to the differences between SSB and AM, seasoned OM's probably cringe when they see a phrase like "no loss of information with SSB". If you've heard the AM'ers on 75, 20 and 10 Meters you know why. There are Hams running AM boat anchors that sound so good I almost wish jingle ID's were legal. No loss of information? In terms of a QSO exchange, no, but the reduced audio fidelity of SSB is hard to ignore. An SSB signal uses less bandwidth than AM and the tradeoff (like FM) is between efficiency and fidelity. An SSB receiver has to replace the missing carrier with a signal from the local BFO (Beat Frequency Oscillator) in exactly the right ratio as the transmitter must remove a side band & carrier without compromising the desired signal. Circuit tolerances and frequency stability are significantly tighter and periodic tune-ups by the Radio Doctor are not unheard of if you hope to radiate a clean SSB signal. One way to tell if your rig needs a little TLC is to find a quiet spot and switch from LSB to USB. If there's a significant change in the tone of the white noise, the alignment could use a touch-up.

## CW: More Than A Mode...

...it's a Tradition. Nothing warms up a conversation among Hams like the topic of CW as a license requirement. But, for the practical application of the mode, I'll defer to Clif, N5UW for his experience:

CW! The most despised, discussed, cursed and maligned mode of operation on the bands. Why bother? You don't spell out every word with the mic, why do it with a key? Well, there comes a time in your DX pursuits when you start hearing the same countries over and over. A change of mode can open a whole new world of DX to the operator. CW is, and always has been, one of the most efficient ways to communicate on the air. It will get through when an SSB signal is gobbled up by noise and doesn't rely on nuance (like audio does) for good

intelligibility. The transmitter is either on or off and every character element is sent at full power. It's no coincidence the first Amateur mode is the most efficient. Radio parts were expensive in the early days when receiver sensitivity was measured in millivolts, not microvolts, and you're not the first Ham to want a signal that gets out.

Before Amateur Radio I spent 25 years doing living history re-enactments. I knew how to build a fire with flint and steel. To me, high tech was a Bic lighter! You may think I was attracted to CW because of the tradition, but nothing could be further from the truth. EVERYONE HATES CW when they are trying to learn it! No one is a natural-born CW operator and I thought I would never get past 5 wpm. Learning any language takes time, practice, and a desire to become fluent enough to be understood.

I made it through the upgrades all the way to 20 wpm and an Extra Class license then vowed I was finished with CW! I spent two years chasing DX on Phone and had a ball. Got the certificates and was really full of myself. Then the Solar Cycle hit rock bottom and the DX went Buh-Bye. Oh no! What now? My buddy George, **KG5HR** started calling on the phone every night, telling me to get on 40M CW and work the rare one with a huge signal. I would listen but couldn't copy squat. After about three months I decided enough was enough and got on the Novice part of 40 to copy code. George talked me into a hot DX pileup one night that totally frustrated me. He finally did the Elmer thing and said "just copy one letter at a time till you have his call. This is not a race, you know. Take all the time you need. When you get his call sign all you do is recognize your own call when he answers you, then send 5NN back at him." Dang... It worked!

Find a friend who is willing to get on the air with you and jump in the fray. Another good hint was to find a small cassette recorder capable of two speeds. On the really fast guys, record them at high speed then play it back at the slower speed. This makes deciphering a 35 wpm call sign a snap. Remember, this is not a race. With a good attitude you will have fun, and try to remember that no one is perfect. The best of CW ops make mistakes and my biggest hang up was the fear of making a mistake on the air. Don't worry, we all learned CW as a second language and everyone messes up a few characters in a QSO.

Now, for the reward: It took two years before I worked my first 100 countries on SSB. Plenty of those Q's were spent trying to get between the big boys with their big antennas and amps. Like many of you, I got a few bruises along the way but hung tough. After becoming active on CW I had 100 countries confirmed in one year with 100 watts into wire and vertical antennas. What a difference! As a bonus, I logged some new countries that I never heard on phone. There are ops who run CW only, just as there are those who do only phone. If you really get into the DX chase full bore, it pays to be fluent in both modes. CW is the one tool in your DX Bag of Tricks that everyone can afford! —**N5UW**

#### DIGITAL: RTTY & The 'TOR' Modes

I'm going to offend a few digital purists by lumping RTTY and the other Frequency Shift Keying (FSK) data modes together, but will treat PSK-31 as a separate mode. Read on, and you'll understand why...

The granddaddy of all the text modes is TeleType (TTY) and, like any mode with a history, carries a lot of baggage. TTY gear can be traced back nearly 70 years in commercial and military applications and relies on the five bit Baudot alphabet of 96 characters. That's enough to get a message out, but without Forward Error Correction (FEC) Radio TeleType (RTTY) will drop characters and add garbage to the print on all but the cleanest signals. Until recently, frequency drift, QRN, QRM, and QSB were the persistent enemies of RTTY Ops. Modern transceivers have eliminated the VFO drift problem while Digital Signal Processing (DSP) is remarkably effective in dealing with everything but the heaviest QSB. My first experience with RTTY was copying the press feeds from Pravda and TASS on 14.990 MHz in the late 80's with a Collins R-390 and a Drake demodulator that translated Baudot to ASCII for the Diablo Hy-Type II. Pretty classy setup for an SWL, compared the more traditional Model 32 and tube demod approach. But like all boat anchors it ate paper, ribbons, and the printer could be heard anywhere in the house. The R-390 wasn't drifty after it warmed up for an hour or two, but it was SOP to baby-sit the BFO with one eye on the tuning display. I'm glad those days are gone. Now I can park the IC-756 on an ARRL bulletin and the KAM+ will see 30 minutes of solid print from a cold start without touching anything, plus the DSP

works FB. It took 60 years of technology to make RTTY a user-friendly mode and it will probably be with us for sixty more as RTTY's weakness against QRM and QRN is also a virtue. FEC modes like Amtor, Pactor and Packet will yield either perfect print or NO print. Under poor conditions, RTTY will squeeze out bits & pieces from a QSO right down to the noise floor. Just as N5UW has seen DX success with CW, I've seen the same with RTTY. If you're new to the digital modes, remember that your transmitter is running a 100% duty cycle when you're on the keys and many ops reduce output power to protect the finals and power supply from overheating. It's a good idea to 'finger test' the heat sinks to determine what your limits are.

Amtor, Pactor, G-Tor, Clover, Packet and other TOR modes are variations on the RTTY theme that add several refinements. It's still FSK keying, but they use the 8-Bit ASCII set of 256 characters with Forward Error Correction to ensure perfect copy at both ends of the circuit. The data stream is chopped into packets with a checksum value the receiver can use to test the data integrity of each packet. Whenever a bad packet fails this test a re-send is requested. The terminals will keep re-sending this packet until it's received correctly or one side drops the link for excessive re-tries. This is common practice in computer transfer protocols and you can download files over the radio using these modes. By Internet standards it's slower than a Yugo with a cracked distributor cap, but it can be done. There are Amtor, Packet and Pactor Bulletin Board Systems (BBS's) on VHF & HF that work much like a dial-up telephone BBS of the early 90's. You set the frequency and send a connect request to the BBS's call sign. If the request is received, the BBS takes over the link and sends the menus and such needed to navigate the system, check your mailbox, or send new mail. Twenty years ago this would have been unbelievable High-Tech for a Ham Radio application, but today the appeal is strictly hobbyist. Check the specs on a broadband Internet connection and you'll see there's no comparison in speed. We don't have the bandwidth to go much above 9600 baud on VHF (300 on HF) and for a simple keyboard-to-keyboard QSO that's adequate. The FEC modes demand a modern transceiver with diode switching as a relay won't survive the constant RX / TX turnovers for very long. Like RTTY, the transmitter duty cycle is greater than

CW or SSB, so reduce your power during extended QSO's. Also like RTTY, there are numerous software programs available to automate the QSO exchange and make the keyboard modes more conversational. Some logging programs (like Logger) also include a terminal emulator with call sign lookup and automated contest exchange.

### PSK31: A Mode With A Future

What gives one mode more of a future than another? The traditional method of going digital involves a box that hangs off the back of your radio to convert signals between analog RF and digital data. That's conventional thinking and the processor and firmware in the digi-box determine its capabilities. The digi-box plugs in to your Pentium-something PC running as a dumb terminal. Sound like a good idea? Pull the top cover off most TNC's and you'll find a genuine Zilog Z-80 processor (copyright 1984) running at 4 or 8 MHz. The Z-80 is perfectly capable of handling this task, but your computer can do so much more than display characters. Like CW, PSK31 uses a variable size character code at 31 baud for an equivalent speed of 50 wpm. It's not an FEC mode, so it can work at the noise floor via Quadrature Phase Shift Keying and connects to the sound card and serial port of your computer. Let's see what Bob, **K5SIT** has to say about operating PSK31:

The price of computers continues to drop as the speed and features of the machines continue to improve. This is a marvelous coincidence for Amateurs as it's now very affordable to put your computer on the air.

I have worked 43 DXCC countries, all 50 US States, 20 IOTA's, every call area in VK-Land, plus WAC since January 2001 using PSK31. That's a grand total of 443 contacts on all HF bands (except 160M) using nothing more than 50 Watts into a vertical. I've also found that PSK31 folks QSL well above the average and I have a 98% return rate on my QSL cards.

First, here's the brag file I use on PSK31: Yaesu FT-847 @ 50 Watts. Butternut Vert. or inverted vee's for 160m & 80m. Pent. III @ 650 mhz. DigiPan V1.6d w/RIGblaster. Logging-LOGic V5.3.127 Auto from DigiPan. QSL is 100% via eQSL and/or direct/or Buro.(DX).

Here's the exchange file I use: <CALL> <NAME> DE <MYCALL> HELLO <NAME> NICE TO MEET U. NAME IS

BOB BOB. UR RST IS <RST> <RST>. QTH WOODWARD, OKLAHOMA. WOODWARD, COUNTY. GRID: EM06jg. SO HOW CPY? DigiPan uses macros that automatically replace the information in the brackets with the actual QSO exchange. Just double click on the receive screen and it is done. You will also notice the exchange is sent in uppercase as caps run slower on PSK31. When you're working DX, you want the call exchange to go out correctly. Use lowercase the rest of the time or someone will tell you about it! DigiPan has space for 24 macros you can customize to reduce the routine typing effort. Just click the macro tab and the text is inserted into the transmit buffer. I have worked complete QSO's using just a set of macros and this works especially well on shorter Q's like the DX contacts.

The first thing to do is download DigiPan 1.6d. Get it installed on your computer and run a patch cord from your "speaker out" connection to the "line in" connection on the sound card. Run a sample QSO sound file and you'll see what the signal should look like. Once you have the computer working, you'll need to build or buy an interface for your rig. *QST* carries plenty of ads for these and the links at the end of this section will point you in the right direction. You can find schematics on line and there's not much to the interface box. There are other programs you can try, but DigiPan is a good choice for the beginner.

One thing to remember is that PSK31 does not like high power or too much audio drive. If you push it too hard, someone will get on your case about it. The vertical antenna I use is tuned through a MFJ 989C tuner and DigiPan has a tune macro that will key the rig. Watch the output needle and turn your output down to 0 then bring it up slow until you just see power going out. Turn your mic gain down to 0 then back up just until you see output. Bring up the Windows audio control panel and turn the audio down to 0 then back until you just see the output come up. Don't use any compression. Remember, lower is better! Read the help files in the DigiPan package and here are some links I've found useful:  
<http://www.packetradio.com/psk31.htm>  
<http://www.westmountainradio.com/>  
<http://www.aintel.bi.edu.es/psk31.html>  
<http://www.qsl.net/wm2u/> — **K5SIT**

### IMAGE MODES: FAX, SSTV, ATV

People write big, fat books about this stuff, especially Fast-Scan ATV. If you've heard the signals that sound like they need a shot of WD-40 on 14.230 and 14.233 MHz, that's FAX. There is (almost) always some one sending a picture. Like other modes, it's best done through a computer. You can store and edit received picture files, resend them and put your mug on the air. Cheap. Visit: [www.muenster.de/~welp/sb.htm](http://www.muenster.de/~welp/sb.htm) and <http://www.hffax.de/> for more.

I have very little exposure to Slow Scan TV (SSTV). It's essentially a variation of Facsimile where a string of frames are sent in a sequence that conveys a sense of time or motion. It's not fluid, but it does get the point across. The original application was for security cameras over a phone line and this was an easy adaptation to the limited bandwidth of HF. There is plenty of information and software on the Web at: [www.btinternet.com/~g7pbb/sstv.htm](http://www.btinternet.com/~g7pbb/sstv.htm) and <http://sstv.home.mindspring.com/>

Fast Scan Amateur TV is real-deal NTSC Television. Due to the 5 MHz bandwidth of the signal it's restricted to 440 MHz and up. An ATV station can be as simple as a camcorder on a plug 'n play transceiver, or as sophisticated as a Ham Shack control room complete with a sync generator, cameras, VTR's, switcher and a keyer for the character generator. Much of the RF gear is salvaged from Cable TV systems while the video stuff comes from wherever you find it. Cable channels cover the 450 MHz range and old CATV modulators can be peaked, tweaked and amplified up to the legal limit. (!) RX is as simple as a cable-ready TV with a preamp (or down converter) at the antenna. ATV is probably the most tech-intensive mode in Amateur Radio and you can drop a bundle on the gear or master the art of scrounging. For those of you who remember the days of putting a signal on the air with surplus military gear, ATV is still like that. Tulsa is home to one of the finest ATV stations I've seen (on the air) at **WA5QDZ** and we have a few ATV repeaters in town. It's not for everyone, but ATV will keep a chronic tinker occupied. *Roll Credits...* — **AC5UP**

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— 73 and Good DX!

## What Do You Mean, QSL?

Tri-State Amateur Radio Group

Jerome Doerrie, K5IS

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"Honey, I have this funny looking postcard. I know that it's from another ham, but do you have any idea of what I am supposed to do with it, or about it?"

Each year during the Central States VHF Society's annual convention, the QSL card checkers in attendance take a break from the technical sessions and hold a "how is it going - soda water consumption - and discussion session." The American Radio Relay League, through their affiliated club program has approved a few hams around the nation to be field checkers for QSL cards. I am certified for inspecting cards for the WAS (Worked All States) award and VUCC (100 grids) on VHF. During the course of our discussions, a couple of the really active six meter operators suggested that they thought that many of the newer hams do not know what to do about QSL cards or how to respond. Our discussions provided the basis for this article.

In the days before the no-code technician license, nearly everyone started as a Novice operating on the high frequency bands. On HF it was customary to send a post card to an operator after having a QSO (contact). If a person got on the air, then cards would arrive. This practice has not carried over on VHF FM operations. Today, many ham operators have never received or even seen a QSL card!

How the sending of cards first started is lost in the early ham radio history. I can hear a ham excitedly bragging, "I talked to John in Whatsyamacallit, Maine last night."

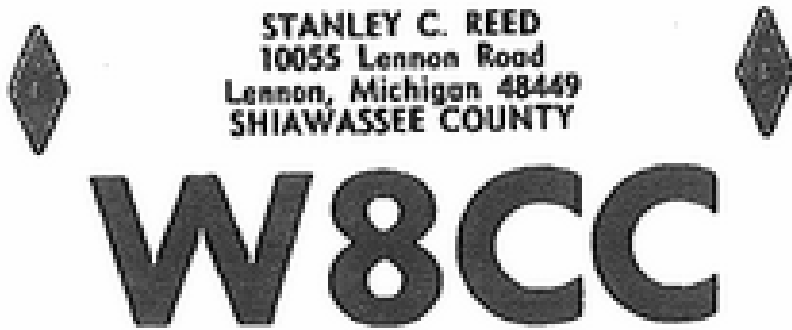
"Sure you did, and you caught a 15 pound Bass, too! Tell me another whopper."

Probably in self defense, hams started sending post cards to each other to confirm that the contacts really took place.

QSL is the "Q" symbol from the Ham telegraphers' shorthand and means "do you acknowledge." To ask as a question, a question mark is used: QSL ? For saying "yes, I acknowledge," only the letters "QSL" are sent. In short order, the QSL term was applied to the post cards and this practice continues today.

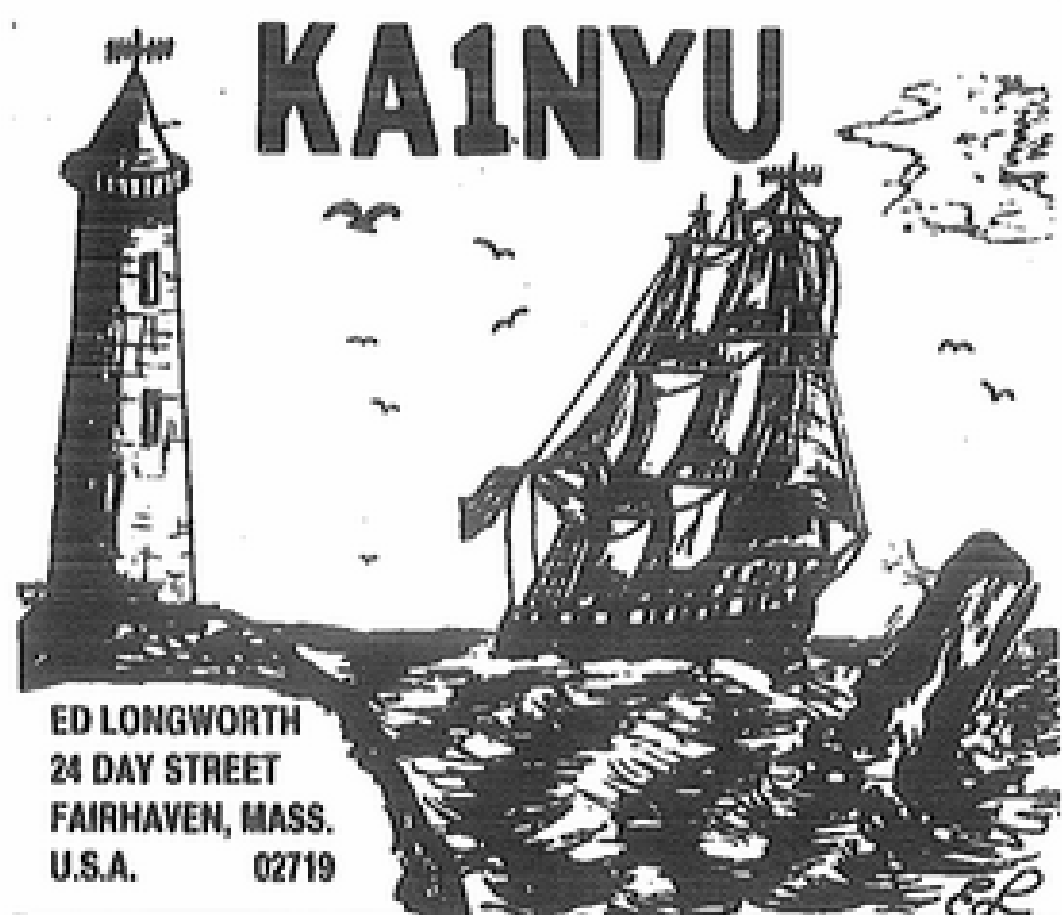
It is rather obvious that a post card would need to list the call sign of the station worked, the date, the time, the frequency, and the mode. The main cause for rejected cards comes from the applicant mixing bands on a one band award. Two meter cards can not be used for six meter awards! As long as the contacts are within the same country, it is easy to figure out the date and time zone differences. However, if I QSO Ivan in Moscow at 6:15 PM Central Daylight time on a Saturday evening, what time is it in Moscow? What day is it? Do you know what the local time zone is for Moscow? Neither do I. As for the day, it will already be Sunday for Ivan. In one of the Arab countries, the King has declared that sundown each day is midnight. Imagine the problem of trying to sort out and confirm a contact from 23,845 contacts

made on DXpedition to a rare country if all the cards use local times and dates! This problem is resolved by using Universal Time (aka GMT) and date. During Daylight time, we are 19 hours behind GMT, but this is corrected by adding 5 hours to our local time. Seven PM Central Daylight time, which is 1900 on the 24 hour scale, is midnight GMT, and today become tomorrow, and we change the calendar day, too. As an example, 7 PM local on Saturday night, September 8<sup>th</sup>, becomes 0000 GMT, Sunday September 9<sup>th</sup>. I avoid the confusion by setting a clock to GMT and let it tell me the time and date. During Central Time, we are 6 hours off GMT, thus tomorrow starts at 6 PM instead of 7. I have had several new hams that could quickly grasp the concept of the use of 1300 through 2400 for the PM times, but changing the day really confused them; after all, it wasn't dark outside and they knew that the date changes in the dark at our midnight!

|                                                                                                                 |                                                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
|                            |                                                     |
| STANLEY C. REED<br>10055 Lennon Road<br>Lennon, Michigan 48449<br>SHIAWASSEE COUNTY                             |                                                     |
| Confirming 2-way<br>QSO by indicated mode:<br>Station .....<br>Time .....<br>EST .....<br>Rtg .....<br>73 ..... | Date .....<br>Band .....<br>Mode .....<br>Ant. .... |
| Hom Since 1919<br>DXCC - WAZ<br>QCWA #2294<br>60YR. QCWA #289<br>OOTC #557<br>SOWP #1095 - SGP                  |                                                     |
| PSE QSL TNX                                                                                                     |                                                     |

I recently acquired the QSL card collection from the estate of Tom Knighton, KB5WSK. This card from Stan, W8CC, serves as an example of things done well and poorly. The first thing that really glares is that we cannot read the data. Tom had his shack in a corner of his kitchen and taped his cards to the wall. Stan failed to use permanent ink, and the information faded away. Stan has all the information on one side, so it is not necessary to turn the card over. If a person has very many cards to reply to and is checking the log to find the contact, turning cards over becomes a big, time consuming task. Stan included his county near his address which helps the county hunters determine what county he is in. Down the right side we see that he started hamming in 1919, has qualified with 100 countries for DXCC, has worked the 40 CQ Magazine zones, is a member of Quarter Century Wireless Association (licensed 25 or more years to join), Old Old Timers Club (40 years to join) and is a member of the Society of Wireless Pioneers. At the bottom of the card is PSE QSL TNX. If he is sending his card to request your card he would circle the PSE. If he received your card first, he would circle the TNX. I have received a lot of cards with both circled. This confuses the issue, and I suppose the incorrect thinking is "PLEASE, I need your card and I THANK you for sending it." Only circle one at a time, PLEASE!

Next are a couple of examples of pen and ink drawings.



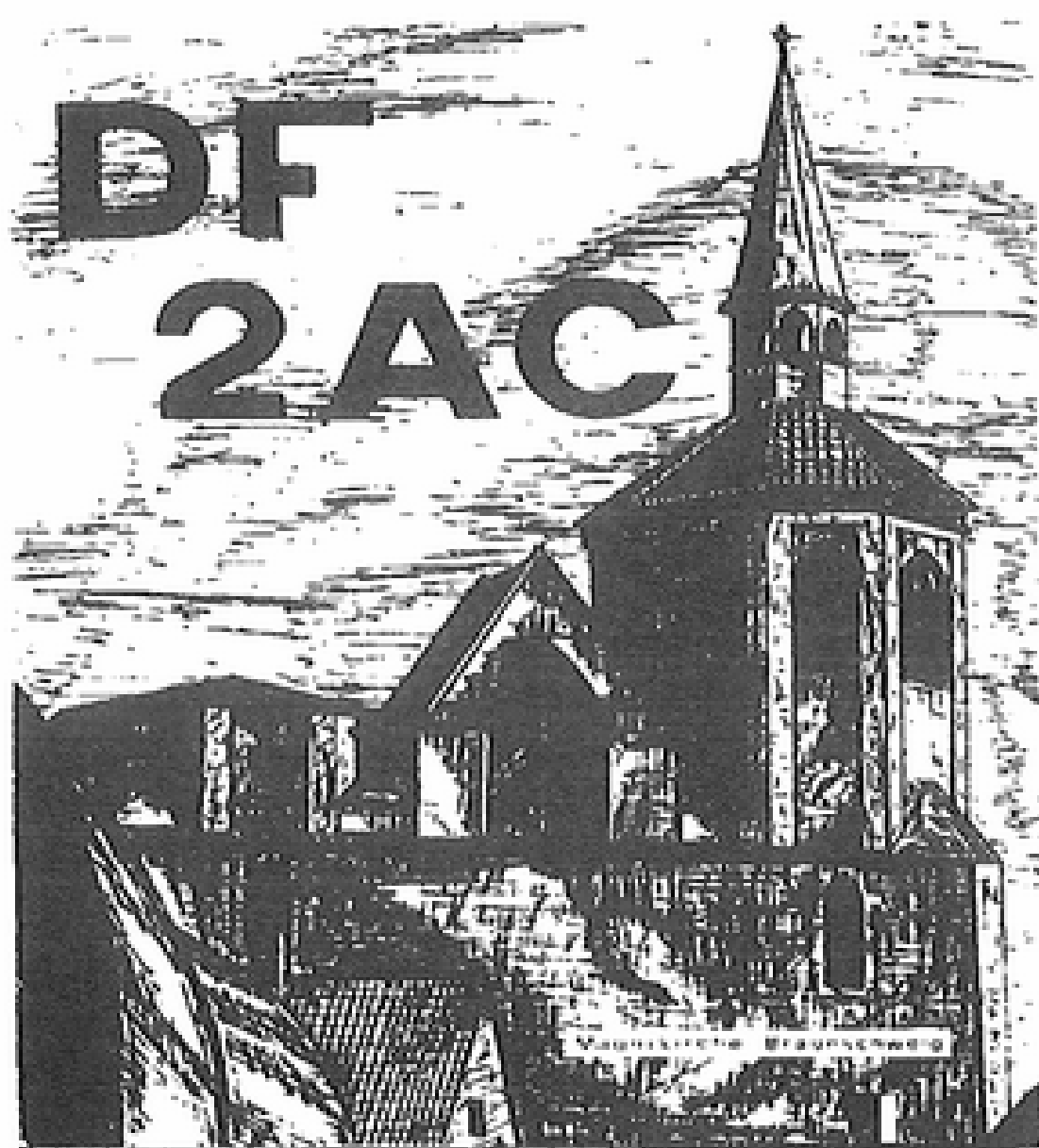
FROM A.R.S. \_\_\_\_\_ TO A.R.S. \_\_\_\_\_  
 CONF. QSO ON 1.8 ☐ 3.9 ☐ 7 ☐ 14 ☐ 21 ☐ 28 ☐ 54 ☐ 144 ☐ MHz  
 EMISSION: AM ☐ CW ☐ SSB ☐ MOBILE ☐ PORTABLE ☐ FIXED ☐  
 MARAC # \_\_\_\_\_ CLIFF CORNE # \_\_\_\_\_ CHG # \_\_\_\_\_ FHC # \_\_\_\_\_ OCWA # \_\_\_\_\_

| DATE | GMT | RST | STATE | COUNTY |
|------|-----|-----|-------|--------|
|      |     |     |       |        |
|      |     |     |       |        |
|      |     |     |       |        |
|      |     |     |       |        |
|      |     |     |       |        |

Printed by K7LTV

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

I enjoy art work as represented in the KA1NYU and the DF2AC card from Germany. Both of these cards have to be flipped in order to find the QSO data. My enjoyment and concept of beauty might change if I had to do a 1000 or more of these at a time!



Sometimes you need to send a card for the operator to sign and return to you. This card is used by county hunters for mobile stations to confirm several counties on one card and save someone some postage. When someone really needs a QSL card, it is not uncommon to send a pre-done card for the other operator to sign and drop back into the mail. Several of us have gotten confirmations that would have been otherwise impossible to obtain.

## SWEDEN

# SM5IMO

| QSO WITH | DATE   | GMT              | MHz | RST | 2-WAY     |
|----------|--------|------------------|-----|-----|-----------|
| KA5WSK   | 901103 | 16 <sup>55</sup> | 28  | 549 | CW<br>SSB |

SE TNR QSL  
 DIRECT VIA SSA  
 AEN: D

D

DAN HULTGREN  
 LINDKULLA ÖSTERÅKER  
 S-641 80 VÄNÅKER

On this card from SM5IMO can you tell if the date is November 3<sup>rd</sup> or March 11<sup>th</sup>? In the United State we tend to do month, day, year order while in Europe the order is day, month, year. To avoid possible confusion, I like to write out the month as in 8 Sept 2001.

The standard post card size is 3 ½ by 5 ½ inches. Anything larger than 4 by 6 inches won't fit into any one system. What can I say? Some people just have to be different. Under the category of strange cards, I have 5 by 8 inches, six inch diameter circles (from Mexico), and a slab of red wood from California that has the data painted on it!

Some hams use picture post cards, or photographs for their QSL cards. Today, computer programs are available for designing your own. There are QSL print shops that have samples that one can choose from. The ads in the back of the ham magazines usually list print shops. If you are on the net, check out: [www.rusprint.com](http://www.rusprint.com), [www.qslman.com](http://www.qslman.com), and [www.HamStuff.com](http://www.HamStuff.com). These are three that I found list in a recent issue of *QST* magazine. There are several others listed, but they do not have web pages.



No discussion about QSL cards is complete without reference to The BURO. No this is not a reference to small donkeys! Many of the national radio societies operate a QSL exchange for DX cards coming to their members. Our national society, ARRL, operates an incoming and an outgoing system. Membership is required to use the outgoing system. Sort your DX cards alphabetically by parent call-sign prefix -- AP, CE, D6, DL, G, JA, UN, 9Y etc. The fee is \$4 for each half pound of cards. There are approximately 75 cards in a half pound. Bundle up the cards and send the package to ARRL in Newington, CT with the payment and proof of membership.

The incoming bureau is staffed by volunteers and is free of charge so everyone can use it by providing 6 by 9 inch self addressed envelopes with our call sign in the upper left corner. One first class stamp will be good for up to 7 cards and a 55 cent stamp will bring 14 cards. Send the envelopes to W5 QSL Bureau, P.O. Box 999, Wiggins, MS 39577. You can check your status on their web page at [www.ametro.net/mdxa/buro.html](http://www.ametro.net/mdxa/buro.html). They list QSL managers for DX stations, and other useful links. Some of the DX stations collect "green stamps" which means send a dollar bill. Imagine what it would be like to be the only ham in a small country with 10,000 or more hams wanting your QSL card each year. The green stamps help keep their expenses in QSLing affordable so they can stay on the air. The card managers for the rare stations provide a valuable service by taking care of the QSL chores and giving the rare station more time to operate on the air.

One more bit of advice on making out QSL cards. If you make a mistake, you may want to scratch out and correct over the mistake. As a card checker I will have to call this an altered card and disallow it. If you make a mistake, make a new card.

Sometime operators get their jollies by impersonating DX stations. This is called "working Slim." It is possible that you will get back the dreaded "not in the log" because you worked Slim instead of the real station. This is not a big problem, but you need to know that it exists. Slim is notorious for not QSLing.

The Side Winders on Two (SWOT) sponsors the VUCA county award. On 6 and 2 meters work 100 counties on simplex or direct on sideband or CW. On 222 and 432 work 50 counties. For more information contact Len Parsons, W5AL, 11361 Tascosa RD. FM 1061, Amarillo, TX 79124. By being active during the tropo opening on two meters, this award becomes doable. All we need is more activity on 146.52 simplex and QSL cards exchanged.

Collecting cards is a hobby within the hobby. From time to time, it is fun to reminisce by looking through your card collection. Each QSL is a reminder of a QSO. However, my collection is not complete. I need your QSL card. What are we going to do about that?

*The following is late news about Amateur Radio for Radio Amateurs as prepared from Amateur Radio Newslines™,*

#### **EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: NEW SPACE PROCESSOR**

Boeing Satellite Systems and IBM recently announced they have developed what they feel is the world's most powerful satellite-based digital signal processor. According to Space Daily, the

processor is designed to make space-borne wireless communications available to a wide audience of users. (ANS)

#### **HAM RADIO IN SPACE: ISS EXPEDITION III CREW IN ORBIT**

The newly arrived I-S-S Expedition 3 crew is very busy unpacking and has little time right now for ham radio right now. The new crew of the space station consists of astronaut commander Frank Culbertson, KD5OPQ, along with Cosmonauts Vladimir Dezhurov and Mikhail Tyurin who is on his first space mission.

According to a posting by Miles Mann, WF1F, to the AMSAT BBS, he asked Moscow about this crews experience with Amateur radio activities. Mann was told that Tyurin is a very experienced amateur radio operator and we should expect to hear from him during the mission. More information is on the web at <http://spaceflight.nasa.gov/shuttle> (WF1F)

#### **HAM RADIO IN SPACE: NOV 73 DEDICATED TO SATELLITES**

The November Issue of 73 magazine will be dedicated to ham radio satellites. Feature articles will appear on AMSAT - Where to Next, Microwave Earthstation Antennas for AO-40, Working All USA Grids Via Satellite and Mode S - Tomorrow's Downlink. The issue will also include a special ham radio in space cover photo. (ANS)

#### **Clear Signal Products "The Coaxman"**

[wire@coaxman.com](mailto:wire@coaxman.com)

<http://www.coaxman.com>

405-745-3394

fax: 405-745-WIRE(9473)

**RG 213/U True MIL SPEC C-17**

**\$0.48/PF - 100' or more**

**Super Low Loss Mini 8X -  
Double Shielded tc Braid**

**\$0.32/PF**

**Super Low Loss 4X L VHF  
Coax CQ#106 Dbl. Shld. tc Braid**

**\$0.58/PF**

**Super Low Loss 4XL UHF  
Coax CQ#102 Dbl. Shld. TC Braid**

**\$0.68/PF**

**14 AWG "Silky" tees  
Propagating Antenna Wire**

**\$0.14/PF**

**450 Ohm Ladder Line  
#14 awg stranded**

**\$0.28/PF**

**1:1 Current Balun**

**\$23.00**



THE ADA ARC NEWS



## ADA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Ada Amateur Radio Club held its monthly meeting on 4th of August, at the Salvation Army Building, 115 North Oak Street Ada. The meeting was called to order at 0914 local time by club President Charles, KC5TGA. With an attendance of 11 members and 3 visitors, Buddy Neal who was an amateur radio operator in 1942, Fred Kuestersteffen, N5XPO, from Shawnee, OK. Sherry Butler; KD5PKE, from Konawa, congratulations for passing her tech test after the meeting and is a new amateur radio operator now.

Treasurer Report: Scott, KD5AJL, dropped off the report could not attend the meeting the report was present by Charles; KC5TGA, and was accepted by the members present.

Our thought and prayers are with Roy Throne, KB5STV and his family his uncle passed away from Tulsa, OK. and we are also thinking about Josh McBride; KD5LZR and his family's home was a total loss due to a fire, and hope that if the club can do anything to help him and his family out he will let us know

Saturday, August 25'2001, at Wintersmith Park, Ada, OK. the KIWANIS has asked the Ada Amateur Radio club to help work security at 14th annual car show. I hope that I don't leave anyone off the list below. Thanks to everyone for helping out.

The following names help out with the car show:

Sam Jewell N5IY, Charles Etier KC5TGA, Hal Nunn N5HBM, George Wright KB5UAF, Tom Jones KD5GTY, Scott Renes KD5AJL, Carla Foster WB5WBH, Kirby Trimble K5JLL, Chris

Faulkner KD5NQA, Jim Perry KD5OTV, Chris Stettler KC5RPR.

The club received a thank you card from the Winston Solar Challenge Race, for helping out when they was here.

Repeater Report: The club should have a new repeater around the end of August or first of September.

Mason, WT5X is back from his fishing trip to Wisconsin, he suffered the temps of 72 and caught some fish, was glad he had a safe trip.

Demonstration on CW with HT by Charles, KC5TGA, on how these work he has some more handouts if interested in building one.

Sam, N5IY called net on August 21, and several of the operators checked in using CW then giving name and call by voice.

August 21, around 8:30 p.m. several of us around Ada, got to view the space station flying over, it was pretty exciting to be able to view it as it was flying over our houses.

We are thinking about and will discuss it at the meeting September 01, about a booth at the Ada county fair September 07-08, to demonstrate amateur radios to the public and have our scrap book showing all of the events that we have attended, and see if we can get some more public awareness into the importance of amateur radio operators and the good they can do in an emergency situation and also the enjoyment.

The clubs annual picnic will be September 29, at Wintersmith Park we hope to see everyone there we will have a lot of good food and enjoy visiting with everyone, and may have a radio set up trying to make some contacts.

There will be a VE test session following the meeting September 01, if any one is interested in taking their amateur radio operator test or upgrading.

Motion was made and seconded and meeting was adjourned at 0950, VE test session followed meeting with 3 people testing, and congratulations to Sherry

Butler; KD5PKE, who passed her tech test.

Have a safe Labor Day,  
Ada Amateur Radio Club Secretary  
Darla Coffey; KC5RGU



### Super Intelligence?

When NASA first started sending up astronauts, they quickly discovered that ballpoint pens would not work in 0 gravity. To combat this problem, NASA scientists spent a decade and \$12 billion developing a pen that writes in zero gravity, upside down, underwater, on almost any surface including glass and at temperatures ranging from below freezing to over 300C.

The Russians used a pencil.

### The New CEO

A company, feeling it was time for a shake-up, hires a new CEO. This new boss is determined to rid the company of all slackers. On a tour of the facilities, the CEO notices a guy leaning on a wall. The room is full of workers and he thinks this is his chance to show everyone he means business!

The CEO, walks up the guy and loudly asks - "and how much money do you make a week?"

Undaunted, the young fellow looks at him and replies, "I make \$200.00 a week. Why?"

The CEO then hands the guy \$200 in cash and screams - "here's a week's pay, now GET OUT and don't come back!"

Feeling pretty good about his first firing, the CEO looks around the room and asks - "does anyone want to tell me what that slacker did here?"

With a sheepish grin, one of the other workers mutters - "Pizza delivery".



**South Canadian Amateur Radio  
Society**  
Norman, Oklahoma

The August meeting of SCARS was called to order by President Tom, KD5ENL. There were 25 members present at the start. This was our second meeting at the Weather Service building, as we are unable to meet at the Red Cross while some training is going on. Treasurer Jeff, KT5OK gave our financial report and all is well at this time.

We have received 3 QSL cards as the result of Field Day operations, from Texas, South Carolina and Minnesota. This has raised the issue that the club doesn't have any QSL cards but Bill, N5UMH is going to look into coming up with one that we could print on a home computer since there won't be a very big need for them for the most part.

Ken, KC5OU (aka N5BEW) was not in attendance for a Repeater report but it's working, so good enough for now. He has had to go out to the repeater site recently and if you have never enjoyed an August afternoon in that concrete block room you may not appreciate his efforts. We thank you Ken.

Jim, NW0K gave an update on the VE team testing at the new site. It seems to be going very well. The room isn't large but is adequate.

We discussed several ideas for programs after the club meetings. Our crack APRS team will put on a demonstration at the next meeting in September. If you missed their setup at Ham Holiday or if you saw them and were "teased a little" come on down and see what it's all about. Norm, N0ELS, David, N5LCL and Ken, N5KUK will be doing their thing.

Other ideas that have begun to take shape are an Extra class study group to run each Saturday during most of October. Plans

are to meet at Borders Book Store at 9:30 AM and cover a couple of sections of the question pool each time. If interested get in touch with any of us. Tim WA5LTM has volunteered to head this up.

Not really a program but an idea was put forward that if might be neat if SCARS could come up with a small, single axle trailer, possibly an older camping trailer that could be converted into a mobile "shack". This could be used for special events, field day, emergencies, parades and other functions. It would not only make us more visible but could provide an operating station when the room at the Red Cross was not available. A committee was named to investigate all aspects of this and will report next month hopefully.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned.

73 de N5UMH  
Bill

*The following is late news about Amateur Radio for Radio Amateurs as prepared from Amateur Radio Newslines™,*

**SPECIAL EVENT: HAM RADIO AT  
THE WORLD SCOUT JAMBOREE**

Ham Radio is being seen and heard by the world. This, as the Boy Scouts of America National Jamboree takes to the air from Fort A.P. Hill in Northern Virginia.

The event runs through Wednesday August 1st and even the American Radio Relay League is there. Rick Lindquist, N1RL, of the ARRL Audio News has the details.

An estimated 40,000 Scouts and leaders are expected to turn out, and some 45 Amateur Radio operators at K2BSA/4 will be among those on hand to greet them. ARRL

Headquarters staff member Larry Wolfgang, WR1B, will attend this year's Jamboree.

This marks the 15th National Jamboree,

which dates back to 1937. During this year's event, K2BSA hopes to complete a ham radio contact with the crew of the International Space Station as part of the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station--or ARISS--project. Space Station Contact Audio Here If Available

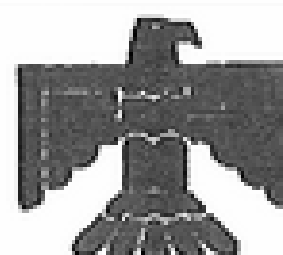
At this year's Jamboree, K2BSA will have four HF operating positions for general operation on 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters, plus a VHF station with a 2-meter multimode rig. Licensed Scouts will be encouraged to operate, with staff members standing by to help as needed, or to serve as control operators for unlicensed Scouts.

Most K2BSA operation will be on voice, but there will be some CW operation, especially in the evenings or during the night. K2BSA/4 will operate on or near the established world Scout frequencies. Operation on satellites, digital modes and SSTV also is anticipated.

A special QSL card has been designed and will be available to those who made contact with K2BSA -- including the crew on board the I-S-S. (ARRL - ISS Audio by KD4SFF)

**TECHNICAL SYMPOSIUM: WSWSS  
IN VENTURA CA**

The 7th Annual Meeting and Conference of the Western States Weak Signal Society will be held on September 21 to September 23. This will be at the Holiday Inn Hotel in Ventura, California. The Western States Weak Signal Society promotes the use of weak-signal Amateur Radio communications above 50 MHz and are dedicated to the preservation and use of these frequencies. For more information please visit [www.wswss.org](http://www.wswss.org) on the world wide web. (WSWSS)



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**BIRTHDAYS:**

Here are the September birthdays for EARS members:

|      |                    |           |
|------|--------------------|-----------|
| 9-02 | Larry Traub        | N5OL      |
| 9-06 | Glo Guinn          | KB5BGM    |
| 9-06 | Edith Vaughn       | KA5YPX    |
| 9-06 | Dick Stimson       | KK5XO     |
| 9-10 | Ron McCubbin       | KC5QCV    |
| 9-13 | Max Vowell         | KD5MCK    |
| 9-15 | Don Rooker         | N05M      |
| 9-17 | William Green      | N5YDU     |
| 9-20 | Beverly Estlinbaum | KA5WKQ    |
| 9-24 | Robin Streit       | KD5IDO    |
| 9-24 | Steve Hamlin       | KG5IP     |
| 9-24 | Pedro Castillo     | W5/HR2PAC |
| 9-25 | Squire Luttrell    | KA9KFC    |
| 9-25 | Glen Grossman      | KD5GDG    |
| 9-26 | Dean Sharber       | KC5QCT    |
| 9-27 | Alan Anderson      | KD5MCG    |
| 9-28 | Tim Dykes          | KD5MJG    |

Happy Birthday!

**MEMBER INFORMATION:**

Please forward any changes in your membership information to Regina Randall KD5MCD who is our Membership Secretary. [kd5mcd@arrl.net](mailto:kd5mcd@arrl.net) is her Email address.

**CLUB WEBSITE:**

Take a look at the URL for the club website: [www.k5eok.org](http://www.k5eok.org). Ed has the most information on what is going to happen in with the club. This really is a good website. Take a look and see what is going on.

**August Board Minutes:**

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Club President David Wolf KC5KJE.

In attendance were: Robert Coxsey KM5GZ, David Wolf KC5KJE, Dee Mize WD5FHR, Earnest Wolf K5YKD, Terry Deas W5WTD, Steve Christy N5ZQ, Ken Stepp N5DBM, Lee Vaughn KA5WIS, Ed Price KA8NBG, Robyn Price KD5ISC,

Will Williamson WASHFB, Ron McCubbin KC5QCV, Clara Granger KG5UG, Ed Wagner KC5MWY, Dick Stimson KK5XO, De Stimson KD5LSK.

**Officers Reports:**

**Vice President:** Dick KK5XO said the Club Dinner Meeting was set for 6:00 at the Firehouse BBQ Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Secretary:** Bob KM5GZ said that the minutes had been sent out by e-mail & there were copies on the table. There had been no changes sent to him after sending them out. They were read by a couple of Board Members. They were voted on & approved as presented.

**Treasurer:** Robyn KD5ISC read the Treasurers Report. It was voted on & approved to accept the Treasurers Report. There were no reimbursements to vote on for the month.

**Repeater Trustee:** Dee WD5FHR had nothing & deferred to Lee KA5WIS for report. Lee said that the phone line to the repeater had been cut by workers at the College & when reconnected incorrectly, caused a glitch in the repeater. The Auto Patch wouldn't come down & kept the repeater keyed up. He hooked the old controller back up for awhile & then reset the new controller. He said that the Club needs to purchase back up GE Master II radios for future repairs that may be needed. He said we are now using the last PA deck. It was voted on & approved for Lee to look into the price & get back with the Board.

**Emergency Coordinator:** Ken N5DBM said that Sam W5CU was back in town & was put back on the Emergency Committee member list.

**Board Members:** Terry W5WTD nothing at this time. Ed KA8NBG said he worked with the triathlon group. He said they didn't need any radio help. Steve N5ZQ nothing at this time. Tom KD5IOY nothing at this time.

**Past President:** Curtis KC5GEP not present.

**Committee Reports**

**Activity Coordinator:** Dave K0TYC not present.

**HF Coordinator:** Ed said that the State Hood Day Special Event was coming up. He asked for input for a location. The cut off date to have it published in the QST magazine is Sept 1<sup>st</sup>. Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> is State Hood Day. Steve said that Sweepstakes was that same weekend & would cut into our operating time. Some suggestions on a location were Guthrie again or an oil well somewhere.

**Club Station:** Dee said that he was having a problem tuning the 80 Meter sloper antenna. He found a loose PL259 connector & was going to replace it. He has installed a new mast on the short tower for the Fretzel Dipole. Lee said that the Fretzel & the Ringo Ranger are interacting. The Club needs a tri-band vertical purchased & installed for 6 & 2 Meters & 440. It could be installed next to the R5 vertical. He & Dee are cleaning up the Club Station. It was voted on & approved for Lee to look into the purchase of a tri-band vertical. It was voted on & approved for Lee to rent a carpet cleaner.

**CORA:** Ron KC5QCV said he didn't have the attendance report for Ham Holiday yet. There were 156 tickets sold Friday. It was about the same as last year. Ron thanked everyone for helping at the sign-in desk. Earnie K5YKD said they were still trying to find a different place to have Ham Holiday next year.

**Membership:** Robyn said there were 2 renewals & 3 new members.

**Calling Committee:** Clara asked what the Club wanted said about the Dinner Meeting coming up.

**Health & Welfare:** Clara said that Bill Palmer AA5JI had lost his mother July 26<sup>th</sup>. She had sent Bill a card from the Club. She said Lee was doing well after his neck surgery. He had a 1/2" by 3 1/2" titanium plate installed. Lee will now go in for wrist surgery. Bob said that he has a 90% blockage in one heart artery & is going in Friday Aug. 17<sup>th</sup>. to have a stint installed.

**Web Site:** Ed said the Web Site was doing okay. David asked him if he needed any help with it. He said Glenn N5RN could help him keep it updated. Ed said okay.

**Net Control:** Bob said everything was going okay. He was getting plenty of Net Controllers to help with it.

**Old Business**

Insurance Review: The insurance hasn't been reviewed yet.

Part 97 Books: The Part 97 books that had been purchased were \$1.00 each instead of the \$1.50 that had been okayed. It was agreed to sell them for \$1.00 each.

Club Station C&E: David asked why doesn't the Club Station get a C&E for being a member of OKDX. Ron said that he would check into it. He said a card needs to be filled out & sent to Hal KBIZQ.

Classes: Clara said that the class registrations were lower this year. She has 17 so far. She said she had heard the PSA on KTOK. Terry will get the "Now Your Talking" manuals from K&E.

Review Committee: David said the Financial Review was about ready to be looked at. He may ask for a special Board Meeting to get this finalized.

Club Station Computers: This discussion had been tabled last month. David asked if anyone had any prices. Ed said that he could build one. Bob said that the cheap Celerons at Sam's were all gone. It was voted on & approved to purchase parts to build a computer. Lee, Ed, & Steve are going to look into it.

**New Business**

Steve mentioned that Dee Mize WD5FHR had upgraded to Extra Class. The Club now has Extra Class privileges also.

A motion was made to adjourn. It was voted on & approved to adjourn the August Board Meeting at 8:15 PM.

Minutes written & submitted by:  
Club Secretary  
Robert Coxsey KM5GZ.

**FUTURE ACTIVITIES:**

Be sure and check the Monday Night Net, or [www.k5eok.org](http://www.k5eok.org) for updated information on these events.

The following will look familiar from last (and every) month.

The September Siren Test will be on September 1st at noon. The October Siren Test will be on October 6th at noon. The Fall storms have started. Please let Edith KA5YPX know you can watch a siren

when she asks, so she won't be short of watchers. Help her out by calling her at 348-2961.

Friday Lunch is not an official club function, but you can enjoy good food and company each Friday at the Delta Café on 33<sup>rd</sup> in Edmond at noon. Contact KM5GZ for more information.

Breakfast is an official club function each Saturday at Perkins on South Broadway around 8:15 on each Saturday morning. Maybe as late as 8:45. Someone usually has a radio on, so you can hear about ant last minute changes.

The Annual Licensing Classes are still happening on Sunday afternoons from 2:00 till 4:00 PM. Come by and visit, encourage students, and have some refreshments.

The club station is open on Thursday nights for general use. Check the repeater in case of really bad weather. Have you ever keyed up one of the club rigs? This is a good opportunity.

Don't forget the Monday Night Net. You can check in every Monday night at 8:00 PM on the 147.135 (positive Tx offset) repeater. Bob Coxsey KM5GZ is the net manager. This net is the best resource in Oklahoma for keeping up with what's going on in the area amateur community. We haven't upped the record lately for checkins. Help us set a new one!

The next Board Meeting will be at the Edmond Community Center at 7:00 PM on September 11th. Come and see how the club is governed.

The September Club Meeting will be at the Edmond Community Center, 28 East Main Street in Edmond. Be there at 2:00 PM on Sunday the 16<sup>th</sup> of September.

**HEALTH and WELFARE:**  
August 29th, 2001

Bob Coxsey, KM5GZ, was admitted to Mercy Health Center on Friday, August 17th, 2001, to undergo an angioplasty procedure. The doctor was pleased with the results and released him the following day. His recuperation has gone very well and will be reporting back to work in a week or so.

Shelby Mize, KA5YPE, wife of Dee Mize, WD5FHR, was taken to the ER at Edmond Medical Center on Saturday, August 18th, 2001, suffering from chest pains. She underwent a series of tests and was permitted to return home on Friday the 24th with medication to aid in her recuperation. She is doing okay now and getting a little stronger each day.

We wish to offer our deepest sympathy to Lewis Keeling, KA5HYJ, and all the family in the loss of their dear mother and grandmother, Mary Lou Keeling, on Saturday, August 18th, 2001. We want you to know we share in your sorrow and hope that all the fond memories of your loved one and our thoughts and prayers help you through this very difficult time.

Hope all the rest of our members are doing fine. I will be chatting with you again next month.

73 de Clara Granger KG5UG

That's it for this month. Please send information for next month's C&E to Curtis Foote at [cfoote@theshop.net](mailto:cfoote@theshop.net).

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## VHF Club

### NEWS

W5LOW

Elmer Goekler Memorial  
Station

Minutes of the Oklahoma Central VHF Club for August 8, 2001.

The meeting was called to order at 11:38 by President Bill Noland, WA5FWD at the Hometown Buffet, NW Expressway and NW 63rd Street. There were nineteen members and guests.

Congratulations were offered to Hugh Benson slightly in advance (Aug 20) of his 92nd birthday. It was good to see Charlie WA5JGU and his XYL Marie Greene after his recent spell of ill health.

Several members reported on the W5HXL Special Event Station which was cosponsored by the VHF Club and ramrodded (up to the event) by VP KA5CNT. Gene was unlucky to have caught strep throat and didn't get to attend after all his work. Pictures taken of the booth at Ham Holiday by Regina Burns, KK5FX and Pat Burns, KX5F were passed around. All comments were favorable toward repeating the event at next year's HH.

The Treasurer's report was read and accepted for this month and next. (The treasurer will be bicycle touring Europe during September, and it was feared that there would be no funds left after the trip). Jim, W5AI, will be meeting schedules from DL (Germany), OE, (Austria), OM (Slovak Republic), and HA (Hungary) with his K2 (14,058, alternate 7.038, at 11:00 PM CST) nightly as able from Sept 6 to Sept 29.

In the absence of regular secretary J. R. Dome KB5WVE (having skin surgery) there were only weak attempts at humor, so there is no "meeting's funniest joke". A good time was had by all, and the deserts were delicious!

Jim Speck W5AI

## How to sound like a LID"

*The following article is a tongue-in-cheek look the mistakes that are made using the radio. In no way are we suggesting that anyone ACTUALLY follow these steps to become a 'LID'!*

On two meters I have noticed a tendency of people making a effort to sound like a "LID". Since this appears to be the new style in Amateur Radio, I thought I would present this funny guide to radio nerd-dom.

**\*Step One:** Use as many "Q" signals as possible. Yes, I know they were invented solely for CW and are totally inappropriate for two meter FM, but they are fun and entertaining. They keep people guessing as to what you really meant. I.E. "I'm going to QSY to the phone." Can you really change frequencies to the phone? QSL used to mean, "I am acknowledging receipt", but now it appears to mean, "yes" or "OK". I guess I missed it when the ARRL changed the meaning. It is also best to use "OK" and "QSL" together. Redundancy is the better part of Lid-dom.

**\*Step Two:** Never laugh when you can say "Hi Hi". No one will ever know you aren't a long time CW rag-chewer if you don't tell them. They'll think you've been on since the days of Marconi.

**\*Step Three:** Utilize an alternative vocabulary. Use words like "destinated" and "negatory". It's OK to make up your own words here. I.E. "Yeah Tom, I "pheelbart zaphonix" occasionally myself."

**\*Step Four:** Always say "XX4XXX" (Insert your own call) "for I.D." As mentioned in Step One, anything that creates redundancy is always encouraged. That's why we have the Department of Redundancy Department. (Please note that you can follow your call with "for identification purposes" instead of "for I.D." While taking longer to say, it is worth more "LID points".

**\*Step Five:** The better the copy on two meter FM, the more you should use phonetics. Names should be especially used if they are short or common ones. I.E. "My name is Al... Alpha Lima" or "Jack. Juliet Alpha Charlie Kilo." If at all possible use the less common HF phonetics "A4SM... America, Number Four, Sugar Mexico." And for maximum "LID points", make up unintelligible

phonetics. "My name is Bob Billibong Oregano Bumperpool."

**\* Step Six:** Always give the calls of yourself and everyone who is (or has been) in the group, whether they are still there or not. While this has been unnecessary for years, it is still a great memory test. You may also use "and the group" if you are an "old timer" or just have a bad memory. Extra

points for saying everyone's call and then clearing in a silly way "K2PKK, Chow, Chow."

**\*Step Seven:** Whenever possible, use the wrong terminology. It keeps people guessing. Use "modulation" when you mean "deviation", and vice-versa.

**\*Step Eight:** If someone asks for a break, always finish your turn, taking as long as possible before turning it over. Whenever possible, pass it around a few times first. This will discourage the breaker, and if it is an emergency, encourage him to switch to another repeater and not bother you.

**\*Step Nine:** Always ask involved questions of the person who is trying to sign out. Never let him get by with just a "yes" or "no" answer. Make it a question that will take him a long time to answer.

**\*Step Ten:** The less you know on a subject, the more you should speculate about it in the roundtable. Also the amount of time you spend on the subject should be inversely proportionate to your knowledge of the subject even though you have no damn clue.

**\*Step Eleven:** Always make sure you try to communicate with only a handheld and a rubber duck antenna. Also, make sure you work through a repeater that you can hear very well, but it cannot hear you. This will put out a kind of "LID mating call": "Well, Joe, I can hear the repeater just fine here. I wonder why it can't hear me?" You will score maximum LID points if you are mobile, and with the radio lying in the passenger seat.

**\*Step Twelve:** If you hear two amateurs start a conversation, wait until they are twenty seconds into their contact, and then break in to make a call, or better yet to use the auto-patch. Make sure you keep the repeater tied up for at least three minutes. This way, once the two have re-established contact, they won't even remember what they were talking about.

**\*Step Thirteen:** You hear someone on the repeater giving directions to a visiting amateur. Even if the directions are good, make sure you break in with your own "alternate route but better way to get

there" version. This is most effective with several other "would-be LIDs", each giving a different route. By the time the visiting amateur unscrambles all the street names whizzing by in his mind, he should have moved out of the range of the repeater. This keeps you from having to stick around to help the guy get back out of town, later.

**\*Step Fourteen:** If an annoying station is bothering you, make sure your other "LID" buddies have a "coded" frequency list. Even though "CODES" are strictly forbidden on Amateur Radio, it's really neat to practice "James Bond" tactics.

**\*Step Fifteen:** Always use the National Calling Frequency for general conversations. The more uninteresting, the longer you should use it. Extra points are awarded if you have recently move from an adjacent frequency for no reason. Make sure when DX is "rolling" in on 52.525 that you hang out there and talk to your friends five miles down the road about the good old CB days!

**\*Step Sixteen:** Make sure that if you have a personal problem with someone, you should voice your opinion in a public forum, especially a net. Make sure you give their name, call, and any other identifying remarks. For maximum points, make sure the person in question is not on the repeater, or not available.

**\*Step Seventeen:** Make sure you say the first few words of each transmission twice, especially if it is the same thing each time. Like "roger, roger" or "fine business, fine business". I cannot stress enough about encouraging redundancy.

**\*Step Eighteen:** If you hear a conversation on a local repeater, break in and ask how each station is receiving you. Of course they will only see the signal of the repeater you are using, but it's that magic moment when you can find a fellow "LID", and get the report. Extra points are awarded if you are using a base station, and the repeater is less than twenty-five air miles from you.

**\*Step Nineteen:** Use the repeater for an hour or two at a time, preventing others from using it. Better yet, do it on a daily basis. Your quest is to make people so sick of hearing your voice every time they turn on their radio, they'll move to another frequency. This way you'll lighten the load on the repeater, leaving even more time for you to talk on it.

**\*Step Twenty:** See just how much flutter you can generate by operating at handheld power levels too far away from the repeater. Engage people in conversations

when you know they won't be able to copy half of what you're saying. Even when they say you're uncopyable, continue to string them along by making further transmissions. See just how frustrated you can make the other amateur before he finally signs off in disgust.

**\*Step Twenty One:** Use lots of radio jargon. After all, it makes you feel important using words ordinary people don't say. Who cares if it makes you sound like you just fell off Channel 19 on the citizen's Band? Use phrases such as "Roger on that", "10-4", "I'm on the side", "Your making the trip" and "Negatory on that".

**\*Step Twenty Two:** Use excessive microphone gain. See just how loud you can make your audio. Make sure the audio-gain is so high that other amateurs can hear any bugs crawling on your floor. If mobile, make sure the wind noise is loud enough that others have to strain to pick your words out from all the racket.

**\*Step Twenty Three:** Start every transmission with the word "Roger" or "QSL". Sure, you don't need to acknowledge that you received the other transmission in full. After all, you would simply ask for a repeat if you missed something. But consider it your gift to the other amateur to give him solace every few seconds that his transmissions are being received.

**\*Step Twenty Four:** When looking for a contact on a repeater, always say your "listening" or "monitoring" multiple times. I've always found that at least a half dozen times or so is good. Repeating your multiple "listening" ID's every 10 to 15 seconds is even better. Those people who didn't want to talk to you will eventually call you, hoping you'll go away after you have finally made a contact.

**\*Step Twenty Five:** Always use a repeater, even if you can work the other station easily on simplex ... especially if you can make the contact on simplex. The coverage of the repeater you use should be inversely proportional to your distance from the other station.

**\*Step Twenty Six:** When on repeaters using courtesy tones, you should always say "over". Courtesy tones are designed to let everyone know when you have unkeyed but don't let that stop you. Say "over", "back to you" or "go ahead". It serves no useful purpose but don't worry, it's still fun!

**\*Step Twenty Seven:** Use the repeater's autopatch for frivolous routine calls... especially during morning or evening commute times. While pulling into the neighborhood, call home to let them know you'll be there in two minutes.... or, call your spouse to complain about the bad day you had at work. After all, the club has "measured rate" service on their phone line so they get charged for each autopatch call. Your endeavor is to make so many patches in a year that you cost the club at least \$20 in phone bills. That way you'll feel you got your money's worth for your dues!

**\*Step Twenty Eight:** Never say "My name is ....." It makes you sound human. If at all possible, use one of the following phrases:  
a) "The personal here is ..."  
b) "The handle here is..."

**\*Step Twenty Nine:** Use "73" and "88" incorrectly. Both are already considered plural, but add a "s" to the end anyway. Say "73's" or "88's". Who cares if it means "best regards" and "love and kisses." Better yet, say "seventy thirds"! (By the way, seventy thirds equals about 23.3).

**\*Step Thirty:** If the repeater is off the air for service, complain about the fact that it was off the air as soon as it's turned back on. Act as though your entire day has been ruined because the repeater wasn't available when you wanted to use it. Even thought you have never paid a penny to help out with the upkeep of it.

These easy steps should put you well on your way to "LID-Hood". I hope these helpful hints will save you some time in your quest to sound like the perfect "LID". I should also note that these steps need not apply to simplex operation, as nobody really gives a crap because that HTX-202 isn't going to get out too far with just a rubber duck.

In doing a search, it has come to my attention that there are several versions of the "How to sound like a lid" floating around. I have no idea who the original writer of this is but I got most of this from KD4DLU. I did not make this up and I am not taking credit for it! Its just a big joke and for those of you who get offended by it.... sorry!

(via Internet)





Choctaw Amateur Radio Club (CARC) Regular Monthly Meeting was held on August 20, 2001 at the Eastern Oklahoma county Vo-Tech. A quorum was met and business conducted as follows.

The Choctaw Amateur Radio Club meeting was called to order by President Chuck Kanach, KC5EZZ at 7pm. Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Members and guests introduced themselves, 16 members, 2 guests. We welcomed our guests Jackie Hazelwood, and Charles O'Dell, KD5NWS.

Net control for this meeting was Dave Downing, WD5G. We had one member check in.

#### Reports:

Secretary's report- The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as read in the Collector/Emitter.

Treasurer's report was given and accepted. He reported 2 new memberships.

YL report- A map was shown with the YL's who normally check in.

Web report- Work is in progress.

Cora Meeting- The meeting was entirely about Ham Holiday.

Sick Report- Norm W5FLO report given on his condition by Don N5ENQ, Toby KC5DZJ reported on Bill KC5DZL, and everyone could see that Toby KC5DZJ had a cast on his leg. We were glad to see Les KB5RV back after a long illness.

#### Presidents Message:

A QSL card was received from Field Day, and since there is none made up, should some be made up? Discussion followed, with Duane Angles, KA5WRG agreeing to make one up and send it.

Also, the Eastern Oklahoma County Technology Center, Fall 2001 Class Schedule was shown, on page 18 there is a little box telling that Ham Radio Operators meet in the Oak Room on the third Monday of each month.

A schedule of days that the Vo-Tech will be closed was shown. There are two days that will have to have other arrangements made. For January meeting,

Spencers was mentioned as a luncheon meeting, and all agreed to leave that up to the next years' President.

The Swap meet was also brought up, but decided it was too late to reserve the room.

The monthly coffee was held and enjoyed by the ones who showed up.

#### Old Business:

Tower- In progress

VE Testing- Need more VE's for testing. A couple of members will fill out the form and send it in.

Rt. 66- Don, N5ENQ reported that the National Cowboy Hall of Fame and Western Heritage Center is happy to have us back again. It will operate from 9 to 5. Members from other clubs are welcome to participate. Coordination for this event will be done on the 82 machine. More volunteers are needed, please contact Don N5ENQ to let him know when you are available.

#### New Business:

Club Meeting Net- Someone was needed to be in charge of getting net controls for the meeting nights. It was agreed that this falls under the Vice Presidents duties.

Tech Meeting- Chuck KC5EZZ suggested that a second club meeting, which would have some programs, discussions about radios and computers, or even a show and tell time, or work night. No business to be brought up at that time. The meeting will be at the Vo-Tech at 7 pm on the

second Thursday of the month. The first one on September 13th.

The members were unable to come up with a date for the September luncheon and coffee. So it was cancelled.

Christmas Dinner- A committee to find a place for the Christmas dinner was formed. The members are: Mike N5WNT, Duane KA5WRG, Chuck KC5EZZ, and Walt KA3AMK.

CORA meeting- Members to try to attend- Bill N9SQV, Don N5ENQ, Kevin KD5NRQ, and Chuck KC5EZZ as alternate.

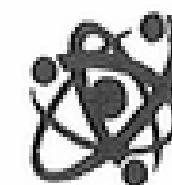
Fox Hunt- Dave WD5G was asked to plan another GPS hunt and he will either report at the next meeting, or send Chuck an email if it is sooner. Dave also suggested going to [www.findu.com](http://www.findu.com)

Meeting adjourned 8:13 pm

Omission from previous minutes: Choctaw Amateur Radio Club started a net for the purpose of homebound members to be able to check in and find out what is going on at the meeting, and to be able to vote also. Because this was so new, I omitted the net controls. Bill N9SQV was our first net control, and Norm W5FLO was next. Thanks to the net control people, our homebound members can still remain active in our club.

Respectfully submitted  
Kay Holzman KB5VJR  
CARC Secretary

(405) 524-3770  
PCS 410-4005



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# Enid Amateur Radio Club

Enid Amateur Radio Club (EARC)  
Minutes – Thursday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2001  
**President:** Dean Feken-KL7MA  
**Vice President:** Sam Cotter-KD5EUS  
**Treasurer:** Dwayne Posey-KC5QVS  
**Secretary:** Tim McAnally-KD5KTB

## Notes From the Secretary:

There are several exciting things happening with the HAM's in Enid and the surrounding area. We have significant interest in APRS and Packet. We have several members to begin class for their extra ticket. We are consistently having over 20 members present at our meetings and some really good discussions. If you have an opportunity to visit Enid, please put a call out on the 444.4 or 145.29 repeaters and visit with some of us. We plan on having the 145.15 repeater back up soon also. Tim KD5KTB

## Minutes of Meeting:

President Dean (KL7MA) called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm Thursday, August 16<sup>th</sup> at the American Red Cross building. Everyone was welcomed and there was one guest, Caitlin McAnally, Ten year old daughter of Tim-KD5KTB. There were 21 members and guests present including: Bill Wehling-KC5OKG, Theresa Locke-KC5TTD, David Locke-KC5SII, John Turner-KA7GLA, David Nichols-KD5KOM, Tim McAnally-KD5KTB, Dean Feken-KL7MA, Sam Cotter-KD5EUS, Al Fox-KD5BA, Clint Clay-KB5OEQ, Dan Voth-KM5DH, Ralph Gandy-N0NOU, Frank Penner-KC5PCI, Ron Clinton-WD5HUT, Charlee Locke-KD5KKD, Greg Veit-KD5MFY, Mike James-KC5TFA, Darren Durham-KM5BQ, Mike Cofer-KD5OFF, Fred Selfridge-WA5OU and Dale Dalrymple-WD5GUG.

Al made motion to accept the July minutes as published in the C&E. Ralph seconded the motion and the motion was passed by the members.

## Treasurer Report:

There was no treasurer report available. Ralph provided a review of the Insurance policy and an update on the claim status.

## Repeater Status Report:

Greg reported on the status of interference to the 145.29 repeater. More research will be needed to locate the cause of the interference. The 145.15 repeater for St. Mary's is on hold until the insurance claim monies is resolved.

## Training Report:

Sam provided an update on the code class being held each Monday and Tuesday evenings. Fred reported there had been no testing sessions recently. Dean will begin an Extra class on Saturday September 1<sup>st</sup> at the Red Cross 9 to 11 am. The class is expected to take about 6 to 8 weeks to complete.

## ARES & Red Cross:

Darren informed us that the ARES group will begin meeting the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month at a selected restaurant. The first meeting will be at the McDonalds by the Mall at 8:00am. There was also discussion on how ARES will be activated. An antenna at the EOC also needs replaced and is being researched. The EOC may purchase one. John provided an update on the State ARES net which is now being held on Sunday at 4:30pm on 3900. The Oklahoma State ARES organization has a very good organization going now and is also filing for a new IRS status. There is some interest in building a state wide link system. Some very good systems already exist. Dean provided an update on the ARRL. During recent meetings it was pointed out that we all need to put on our Emergency Hats from time to time and that is also part of our responsibility as members.

## Other Old Business:

Al reported there were 16 members who participated in the YMCA Triathlon. The YMCA could not provide T-Shirts but as a member pointed out, that's not why we do these events. Ron updated us on the Ice Cream and Tail Gator Party. Apparently the PEACH Ice Cream was REALLY REALLY GOOOOOD! Just ask Ron! There were a few items traded also.

It was reported that the CORA web site be reviewed and any incorrect Enid ARC information be corrected. Tim will take care of this.

## New Business:

A proposal to support Packet Radio by the EARC was discussed and a team was created to research the issues and concerns and report back to the club at the September meeting. The committee consists of Dan, David, Darren, John, Mike and Dean. Existing equipment and cost of equipment like TNC's was also discussed. Many new members and new HAM's were not quite aware of what packet was. APRS was also discussed. There was also some concern on being able to get the APRS and Packet systems connected to OKC where most of the activity is currently.

A nominating committee was selected; John, Ron and Bill who will be responsible for submitting nominees for the next years officers. Expired terms include the Treasurer and Vice President.

The Enid Hamfest is coming up in November. Contact Fred for any information regarding the hamfest. There was discussion on the club table and the need for flyers and handouts from the club.

Bill made a motion to adjourn and Ron 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. We adjourned at 8:20pm

## Enid EARC 2001 Calendar of Events:

**09/15/2001, Saturday, Cherokee  
Strip Parade & possible 5K run**

**11/23/2001, Friday, YMCA Run  
4:00pm**

**11/23/2001, Friday, Enid Lights  
UP the Plains Fireworks 6:00 pm**

Respectively submitted by Tim McAnally-  
KD5KTB EARC Secretary/Editor



### *Minutes of the 21 Aug 01 OCAPA meeting*

The meeting was opened at 1930, Ron McCubbins, OCAPA Vice President presiding. 19 members and 1 guest were present. Meeting was held at the Salvation Army Community Center at 44<sup>th</sup> & Bryant

Treasurer's report was read and approved.

Technical Committee: Repairs and modifications to the repeater site were discussed. More work is necessary. Thanks go out to AB5I, WL7FT, N5YZA, WA9AFM, and KE6RKT for there work at the repeater site.

CORA: Hal KB1ZQ Discussed Ham Holiday 2001 and plans for next year.

Salvation Army Technical Committee: Alton Gardner, KD5KVQ discussed the status of the Salvation Army Station

Club Trailer: Clay discussed the location and status of club trailer and the need for a permanent storage location. A club member has volunteered to store the trailer at his home.

#### New Business

Elections – Elections were held for the offices of Vice President and Treasure. The following were nominated and unanimously elected;

Mark Watkins, NM5W, to the Office of Vice President  
D. C. "Mac" MacDonald, K2GKK, to the Office of Treasurer

No other members were nominated.

The OCAPA Board of Directors now stand as follows:

Mark Hamblin, WL7FT, President  
Mark Watkins, NM5W, Vice President  
D. C. "Mac" MacDonald, K2GKK, Treasurer  
Clay Mayrose, WA6LBU, Secretary

Program: Lucien Jones gave an outstanding presentation on the 800 Mhz trunking system proposed for Oklahoma City.

#### Other OCAPA information of interest.

OCAPA has established a news reflector on the QTH web-server. This reflector was established to pass information to all club members and other interested parties. Once subscribed you can send messages to all members (who are subscribed) with one email address. To subscribe send me an email (Clay WA6LBU@aol.com) from the address you want the group messages to go to, I will load you on the server. You will get a couple of emails from the server, just follow the instructions and you will be subscribed. If you have any questions feel free to email them to me.

Clay Mayrose, WA6LBU/5  
OCAPA Secretary

8. You shall be a good listener, for only when you listen do you hear ideas different from your own.

9. You shall not become "bogged down" by frustration, for 90% of it is rooted in self-pity and will only interfere with positive action.

10. You shall count your blessings, never overlooking the small ones, for a lot of small blessings add up to a big one.

*(Author unknown)*

P.S. "I can forgive, but I cannot forget," is only another way of saying, "I will not forgive." Forgiveness ought to be like a canceled note -- torn in two, and burned up, so that it never can be shown against one. --

Henry Ward Beecher,  
American Clergyman  
(1813 - 1887),

### **The Woman and The Stone**

A wise woman who was traveling in the mountains found a precious stone in a stream. The next day she met another traveler who was hungry, and the wise woman opened her bag to share her food. The hungry traveler saw the precious stone and asked the woman to give it to him. She did so without hesitation. The traveler left, rejoicing in his good fortune. He knew the stone was worth enough to give him security for a lifetime. But a few days later he came back to return the stone to the wise woman.

"I've been thinking," he said, "I know how valuable the stone is, but I give it back in the hope that you can give me something even more precious. Give me what you have within you that enabled you to give me the stone." .....*(Via the Internet)*

### **TEN OTHER COMMANDMENTS**

1. You shall not worry, for worry is the most unproductive of all human activities.

2. You shall not be fearful, for most of the things you fear will never come to pass.

3. You shall not carry grudges, for they are the heaviest of all life's burdens.

4. You shall face each problem as it comes. You can only handle one at a time anyway.

5. You shall not take problems to bed with you, for they make very poor bedfellows.

6. You shall not borrow other people's problems. They can better care for them than you.

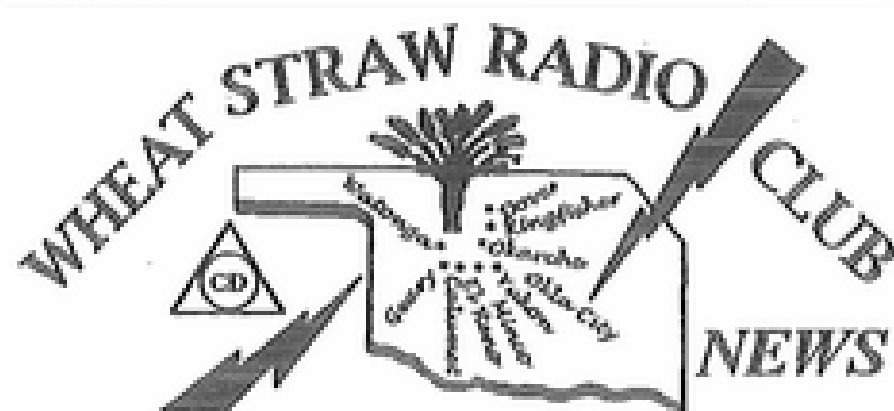
7. You shall not try to relive yesterday for good or ill, it is forever gone. Concentrate on what is happening in your life and be happy now!

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### August 12, 01 Meeting

Amateurs in the Canton area hosted the August 12 meeting. Location was in the Canadian shelter near the waterfront, north of the engineer's headquarters.

The covered dish dinner began at 1:30 with a prayer by Ron WDSHUT. We had a lot of food left. The Wheat Straw group always has plenty of good food.

At 2:30 President Leo WZ5H called the meeting to order. We had self-introductions. Juanita Rauh is not licensed person, but she is a regular. I do not consider her a visitor; she enjoys being with the group. We welcome you. Visitors are always welcome to be with us. There were 18 present.

Joe WA5FLT read the minutes of July seventh meeting with no additions or corrections. We had an extensive conversation about our new repeater and members made contributions to finish paying it off.

Features of the repeater were explained including how long you can talk without timing it out. It is set for three minutes. I have timed it out myself. I am not complaining I just need to watch getting wound up too tight. Maybe I talk too much. It is ready for the link-up with another repeater.

I understand it has all the capabilities.

I try to keep all of my copies of the C&E. I went back and picked up the December 1998 issue and on page four, first column, our president of CORA had an article. We discussed that. Mainly, myself made the discussion. KC5GTW made a motion that we adjourn, Ray AB5Z seconded it. Motion carried, meeting adjourned.

The September meeting will be held in Geary at the Geary Housing Authority office 329 Troxel Dr. The easiest way for me to find it is going into Geary from the north there is a sign reading Welcome to

Geary. Another blue sign directs traffic to the Jesse Chisolm gravesite. At those signs turn to your right. You are headed west. Drive west until you see a street marked SW Boulevard turn left. Watch carefully, Troxel is on your left before you get to the next cross street. The office is first building on your left. The sign is on the front of building. You can park on either side of the street.

If you come into Geary from the South, as you drive through town you will pass a large service station and mini stop all in one. As you pass it on your right you will see a grove of trees with a house back in the trees. Those trees are pecan trees. You will see a same blue sign, turn to your left. Follow the directions as the people from the north. See you there.

The October meeting will be here in Watonga. If you come from the north or South and end up at the four ways

Stop lights at the southwest corner of Watonga, turn east to Sam's Heat and Air building. Turn north on the east side of his business go one and a half blocks north. Turn to the west and a sharp right into the parking lot. Come in the south door. There is some parking place on the south side but save some of them for a handicap.

The November meeting will be in Dover. If you come to the meeting it is simple to locate the Christian Church. The post office is on the east side of Main Street. The church is just across the street north. Turn there and the meeting will be in the hall just east of the church. Remember refreshments start at 1:30 PM.

### DECIDE YOUR PRIORITIES

When my son John was a young boy he read about Amateur radio operators. He decided he would like to get his license. He was too young to drive, and was a Boy Scout. He had some friends who wanted the same privilege. So we set up evenings to go to Harold (Bus) Blums radio school.

As the time went by we took our test; I think five of us got our licenses. Anyway, four of us still have a license. Later John had a son named John Ralph III. My son John Ralph Jr., and I was named John Ralph when I was born. Starting with John Ralph III his call is WA5PFI, John Ralph Jr's call is WA5PFJ, and my call is WA5PFK.

Being a licensed amateur is one of the great privileges I have. I joined the Wheat Straw Radio Club back in the 1960's. Later they voted to let our unlicensed spouses join the club with the privilege wearing the club jackets and caps. No voting, or radio operations. The spouses went with us caravanning to all functions.

I want all readers to know this whole article is my idea, and mine alone. The Wheat Straw club does not know about this until they read it in the C&E. The freedom of getting a license through learning and taking the tests is one of the greatest privileges I have had.

My wife Goldie went to all the meetings and places I went with the club. She loved cooking and making candy for the club at Christmas time. The two of us have been close friends with all the members like a large family. They are the most agreeable and kindest group of people we ever have been associated with.

Goldie passed away January 6, 1999. Since that time, I really don't know what I would have done without my Wheat Straw friends. My son and daughter-in-law are wonderful to me, but they live in Midland Texas and have their own family to be concerned with. One of the club friends calls me every day to see if I am all right.

The reason of spilling my guts, if you wish to call it that is, the C&E is operating in the red again. In 1998 the price of the C&E was \$4.80 per year. For associate CORA members. We need only one C&E per family.

Due to a couple raises in the postage. When the C&E is operating in the red, some money has to be transferred from the HAM Holiday fund to cover costs and the prices have gone up where the HAM Holiday is held.

Lets take a look where we can save a little money to raise the C&E so it will operate in the black. When we borrow from Peter to pay Paul, we gradually loose. Therefore, our interest and activity goes down. I do not want that to happen to the C&E or HAM Holiday.

Now, where can we save a little money to raise our C&E and maintain HAM Holiday. I checked on some prices here in Watonga. The cheapest beer at a tavern is

\$1.75 per bottle. Some of our workers when they get off work go by the tavern and drink from one to three bottles of beer. There is a cost of \$1.75 to \$5.25 just for three bottles. How many bottles can you beer drinkers cut down on? Remember a bottle cost \$1.75 or more. The tavern told me the \$1.75 is the cheap beer.

The generic cheapest cigarettes were \$3.23. The standard brands were \$3.53. Most smokers smoke from one to three packs per day. That is from \$3.53 to \$10.59 per day. In some homes the husband and wife both smoke.

Quiet often school students passing by my house with those large cups of drink look like a quart of drink morning and noon.

The students that drive cars at noon, a lot of them come from high school drive down Noble to Highway 33 turn right go to Wheelen elevators turn around in the driveway of the elevator. Then, they go east on Hwy 33 to Noble to the north end of town. Making the same route until it is time to go back to class.

I think the parents have to give the students money to drive that much. Gas here in Watonga regular is \$1.49.9 per gallon for regular.

From what I am looking here to items that are not I necessarily I personally suggest for CORA to raise the associate club members C&E from \$6.00 to \$8.00 The non-club members from \$9.00 to \$10.00. Then the associate clubs can take care of the extra cost as they see fit.

I think in the Wheat Straws families to raise the first licensed amateur to two more dollars per year and leave the rest like it is now.

Ralph WA5PFK

*The following is late news about Amateur Radio for Radio Amateurs as prepared from Amateur Radio Newslines™,*

#### **VE TESTING: THE ARRL VEC ON THE MFJ CODE READER**

The new and very popular MFJ Enterprises Morse Code reader that we described in last weeks newscast was also a topic of conversation at the recent VEC

Conference in Gettysburg Pennsylvania. Some are concerned that it could be used to cheat on Morse exams and at least one VEC is not waiting for a test case. Amateur Radio Newslines's David Black, KB4KCH, reports from our South East bureau in Birmingham Alabama:

If one ham radio equipment manufacturer seems to have a sense of humor, the American Radio Relay League does not appear to share it. At issue is an advertisement MFJ Enterprises placed in the League's QST magazine. The ad promotes one of MFJ's hottest selling products--a pocket sized Morse Code reader. You simply place the reader next to a ham rig's speaker...and the reader spells out the code it hears on a 32-character screen.

The ad says quote--please, please don't use it on CW exams -- or at least, don't get caught--end quote. That last part may have just been a joke. But it has triggered a message from League's top Volunteer Examiner Coordinator, Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, to ARRL VE Teams in the field.

Jahnke's message says quote--"Several of you have contacted the ARRL and MFJ regarding your concern over the recent M-F-J Code Reader advertisements in Q-S-T and other media. A statement in the ad text - that while clearly in jest - has peaked concerns by Volunteer Examiners and others in suggesting that if one were to consider cheating by using this new pocket sized device, to "at least not get caught."

Jahnke's note goes on to say that one of the primary tasks of the League's VE Teams is to insure that no cheating happens during Exams...and that if cheating is discovered, it should be dealt with swiftly

As for how a League VE Team should handle the appearance of a code reader at a test session, Jahnke says the device should be treated as if it were a calculator with formulas or answers stored in its memory. Jahnke says to--quote--notify the examinee that using such a device allows an advantage in taking the exam, and that such an advantage is prohibited. Advise the person that the exam is considered failed and direct the person to leave, end quote. The note goes on to direct VE teams to tell the test taker not to bring any such device to future exams.

Finally, Jahnke advises teams to include in public and in-person test sessions a statement about non-permitted use of any code reading devices.

Not many applicants are expected to show up for a code test with one of MFJ's portable code readers. But if they do, the League's examiners are sending a message that they're ready to deal with it.

The MFJ portable code reader - which is about the size of a pager -- is an amazing device for its size. But its not easy to conceal from an inquiring V-E team. But with the trend toward miniaturization continuing, some fear that a Morse reading wrist watch or ring could be next. (W5YI Report)

#### **RADIO LAW: COURT TO FCC - LICENSES MUST REMAIN**

A Federal Appeals Court says FCC violated bankruptcy law by revoking licenses wireless licenses. This, from a company that won them in 1996 but later went bankrupt.

The Commission had revoked the licenses from NextWave Personal Communications, and re-auctioned them earlier this year. But the court's decision casts doubt on whether wireless firms that bid \$17 billion on the contested licenses will get to keep them.

NextWave which bid \$4.7 billion for the frequencies, missed its installment payments to the government and later filed for bankruptcy. The FCC said federal communications law automatically required that the licenses be returned to the government when a company cannot meet its payment deadlines. But the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia ruled that the FCC violated bankruptcy laws when it took back the licenses. NextWave, which is in the process of reorganizing, says it can repay its debts to the FCC. (Published news reports)

**OK  
DX**Just  
for the  
Fun of It!**OKlahoma  
DX Association**

September, 2001

**From Da' Prez**

By LARRY SHIMA, WØPAN

**THE OKDXA ANNUAL BANQUET  
WILL BE HELD 5:00 PM SATURDAY,  
OCTOBER 6TH AT THE BRISTOW  
PUBLIC LIBRARY!**

The plans have been set for the Annual OKDXA Banquet and it promises to be an exciting event for all! The festivities will start at 5:00 PM with entertainment from "Side By Side", a Sweet Adeline's Quartet at 5:30 PM (If you've ever wanted to hear someone sing for their supper, this is your chance). The catered buffet-style BBQ dinner will begin serving at 6:00 PM. At approximately 7:00 PM our 'recently re-elected to a second two year term' West Gulf Division Director Coy Day, N5OK will conduct a "Mini ARRL Forum". Following Coy's remarks our special guest will begin the feature presentation. Wayne Mills, N7NG and ARRL HQ Membership Services Department Manager, will detail the "Logbook Of The World Project" as assigned by the ARRL Board of Directors. Wayne is in the thick of putting this project together and is very knowledgeable about all the aspects. Like the rest of us, Wayne is a DX enthusiast and plans to include plenty of DX News. Our thanks go to Coy for making the arrangements for a guest speaker involved in a significant project that will definitely affect the future of our hobby! (for more info about The Logbook Of The World, see the article in the 'Miscellaneous News' section)

**SPACE IS LIMITED TO  
THE FIRST 60 PAID RESERVATIONS  
AT \$10.00 PER PERSON.**

We will be publicizing the banquet across the state and invite everyone interested in the future of the DX Arts to attend this major event. The Bristow location should be convenient for both the OKC and Tulsa Hams. Everyone is invited! The directions are about as easy as they could be:

TAKE I-44 TO THE BRISTOW EXIT. GO WEST ON ROUTE 66 TO 7th STREET, THEN TURN RIGHT AT THE LIGHT AND

GO ONE BLOCK. THE LIBRARY IS ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE STREET ACROSS FROM THE POLICE STATION. IF YOU GET LOST, JUST LOOK FOR THE 150 FOOT POLICE RADIO TOWER AND YOU WILL FIND IT!

**DON'T MISS THE OKDXA BANQUET!**

Send your check or money order payable to OKDXA to: Jerry Chouinard, K5YAA at 7477 E. Heather Drive, Claremore, OK 74017. Jerry will be receiving membership renewals this month, so please note if your check is for the banquet, your membership renewal, or both. Make sure your payment is in the mail by FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28th to reserve your banquet seat!

This will be my final article as president of the OKDXA. I have enjoyed the opportunity to serve the members of the premiere Amateur Radio Organization in the state of Oklahoma. I encourage all of you to give Jim Hood, K5TT your 110% support as he takes over as the new OKDXA President on October 1st. Jim has many great ideas for the OKDXA and will be sharing them with you very soon. As a top notch DX'er, he has the experience and credentials to take the OKDXA to a new level of activity and interest.

I will be on the air from Mesa, Arizona sometime after the first of the year and will be listening for you in the pileups! 73, and good DX'ing! —WØPAN

**BRISTOW BOUND DX'ERS**

Renew Their OKDXA Membership!

**Secretary / Treasurer Report**

By JERRY CHOUINARD, K5YAA

Our membership keeps growing with the addition of two new members this month:

**K5YKD**

Earnest G. Wolf Oklahoma City, OK

**KC5KJE**

David C. Wolf Edmond, OK

Welcome Earnest and Dave. Renewing for two years is WA5YOM, Tim Vandagriff of Ardmore, OK

The OKDXA continues to receive thanks for our DX'pedition contributions this past year. We recently received a certificate and letter of thanks from the D68C crew operating from the Comoros Islands back in February. If you worked them, look for the OKDX logo on their QSL. Otherwise,

see the pictures in this newsletter. The OKDXA "gets out" in plenty of ways and the world really is our playground.

This month begins Membership Renewal Season for 2002... Your timely renewals are appreciated and AC5UP won't stop the reminders until your renewal comes in, so do us both a favor and renew this month. Doing the bookwork is kind of like answering QSL's... Once you have the program and labels rolling it's as easy to do 100 as it is to do 10. I hope to see all of you in Bristow on Saturday, October 6th at the OKDXA banquet. —K5YAA

**WORLD RENOWNED DX'ERS**

Renew Their OKDXA Membership!

**Who Are These Guys?**

(For the next few months we'll introduce our new OKDXA Officers. Let's start with President-Elect Jim Hood, K5TT

—AC5UP)

I've recently learned that a person needs to attend the club elections to protect himself from being elected... HA!

Seriously, I gave it a lot of thought before deciding to throw my name in the hat for President of the OKDXA. As most of you know, I have held this position before and I remember how frustrated I was at the time. Trying to pull together a statewide organization was almost impossible, and because of the large geographic area, we struggled with poor communications that resulted in a low level of activity and enthusiasm for the club. We rarely got members together in any respect because we were scattered around the state. At that time Mark, N5OG was hosting the net on Saturday mornings and giving last minute DX information. This pulled a handful of members together, but too many did not participate. We had a couple of banquets while I was president but it still seemed that most members did not participate. I was extremely frustrated that I could not seem to find the key to build enthusiasm and activity within the OKDXA despite the relatively high membership much like we have today. I really had to do some soul searching before taking this job again.

What has changed since then? Very little. I am now retired so I have a little more time to give to the OKDXA, but I don't see that much change within the OKDXA. I think the current officers are just as mystified and frustrated as I was. What is it that we

must do to shake some life and enthusiasm into this club? I made a decision to try some new approaches and new ideas to see if there is a way to get people involved and have some fun within the club. I decided to give it a shot. But, I need everyone's involvement and support. One thing is for sure, if you are not involved you are not going to see all the enjoyment, fun and rewards this hobby has to offer.

I have given myself two challenges for this year: The first is to develop a plan for where we want to take the OKDXA over the next five years. What do we want this club to be? This is a big question with all kinds of answers, and the club can be anything we want it to be. Certainly it will become (or remain) the sum total of our individual contributions. If we continue at the level of activity we have now, then the club will remain as it has been. There's an old cliché that says: "If you continue to think as you've always thought, you'll continue to get what you've always got". What do you think the future of the OKDXA should be? I am dedicated to building this club toward whatever goals the members, directors and officers decide they want to achieve. Our first mission must be to define where we want to go.

Secondly, I have challenged myself to get out to each area of the state at least once this year and have some type of event in that area. I will be working on this through the directors. It may be a breakfast or it may be a DX event with slides and video tape. It will be what ever you want it to be.

In closing, I want to thank Larry, Clif, and the current officers and directors for the fine effort they have given. The items that come to my mind are maintaining the net EVERY Monday night, writing columns for the C&E, and planning the Banquet for this coming October. I know that Larry and the fellows had many more ideas and tried several activities that died due to a lack of support. Larry has indicated that he will be moving out of state, but I hope he will continue to share his ideas with us as we try to move forward... And I look forward to seeing each of you at the OKDXA Banquet as well as talking with you or visiting you personally in your area.

—K5TT

**WELL TRAVELED DX'ERS**  
Renew Their OKDXA Membership!

### *From Da'Editor*

By NELSON DERKS, ACSUP

In mid-August we got a little break from the heat of July and in a moment of RF optimism I parked the rig on 1020 kHz as the sun was dipping below the horizon... After a bit, the Ponca City station was overtaken by a Pirates game on KDKA in Pittsburgh. I haven't done that since last April. This could be wishful thinking, but I think we're starting to hear the transition to Fall & Winter band conditions and it can't come too soon for me. The Autumnal Equinox arrives September 22nd. On Saturday morning, August 25th I scanned the HF bands and heard nothing (no kidding!). Not one signal on the air except the harmonics from the local AM stations on 75 M. The previous Thursday evening a station in Jiddah, Saudi Arabia was 5/9+ on 17 M phone and I worked VE3KZ near Toronto on Six. The bands started to pick up by the afternoon and evening, then a nasty little thunderboomer took out my lights around 9pm. When the power came back on around 1:40 Sunday morning I checked the rigs for damage and heard a few 5/9+ Europeans on 20 Meters. It's either feast or famine. After too many months of fair-to-poor HF propagation I've been trying to get back in the habit of checking the bands more often. It has to get better. Compared to a Q-Zero Saturday morning, it can't get any worse. Last year the casual DX was easy pickins'; and what a difference a year can make. I just hope we'll see at least one good winter before this solar cycle ends.

For those of you who like to tinker, plug <http://www.eetasia.com/HOME.HTM> into your internet appliance whenever you have a little time to browse. Note the Designer's Corner... Nice assortment of application notes and sample circuits plus more news than you can use about recent advances in electronic design. If you're still playing with the 2N404 circuits you found in '73 about 30 years ago, it may be time to try something new. And speaking of things Amateurs do, I was scrounging for some .1 ohm emitter-balancing resistors but came across a bag of one watt 470 ohm carbon resistors instead. I wound one with some 24 gauge Teflon covered solid copper wire from a scrap of Category 5 cable and the HP 3466A tells me it's very close to what I need. Yeah, it seems a little odd to run current through that skinny little wire, but what do you think is inside a 'real' low-ohm resistor? (if you try this, be sure to

use flameproof materials) While you're surfing the web, stop by [www.nteinc.com](http://www.nteinc.com) for a free download of their NTE cross-reference software. They have spec sheets on line, too. Another good source for application notes and project ideas is at <http://www.semiconductors.philips.com>. If you take a little time to get handy with the search feature, you'll be amazed by the variety of devices and free design info.

Last month I thought I made a steal of a deal on an Ampex A122 tape recorder for only ten bucks on eBay. It's an absolutely beautiful early 60's machine in near-mint condition and built like a brick doghouse, but at 36 pounds the freight added another \$30.00 to the cost. Then I saw an original owners manual come up that some Non-Ham Heathen bid up to \$9.50... Why am I telling you all this? It just seems very odd to spend \$40.00 on a \$10.00 tape machine, then see the owner's manual sell for almost as much with no mention if it includes the schematics. To cap it off, I've seen the same model and its variants (often in worse condition) sell for \$50.00 and up. Yeah, I could have done worse, but it takes an Ampex aficionado (that's pronounced 'tape head') to fully appreciate these and I have a hunch the same borderline fiscal insanity of the vintage Collins guys started among the 'tubular audio' Hi-Fi guys. For all I know, they're the same guys. (?) As an example, a late 50's monaural Ampex studio monitor amplifier recently sold for \$260.00 on eBay. The buyer must have a different outlook, as it looked well used to me and with only a pair of 6V6's in the output section I failed to see the value. For less money, I'd rather snap up a late 60's Tandberg or Marantz receiver with those cool blue dial lights and the big brushed aluminum knobs... (as if I need another project)... or a Fisher, or a Scott, or a...

And, don't forget... The TARC Second Annual Ice Cream Social and Tail Gate Swap Meet will be held on Tuesday the 18th of September at Chandler Park located 3 miles west of downtown Tulsa at 6:00 pm. Lots of free ice cream and be sure to bring all your excess gear and set up for the swap meet. (I'll bring a spoon!)

—AC5UP

**WELL FED DX'ERS**  
Renew Their OKDXA Membership!





Wesley Lamboley  
690 Hunterhill Way  
Roswell, GA 30075

August 8, 2001

To: Oklahoma DX Association

DXpedition to the Comoros

Many thanks for your support of our recent DXpedition to the Comoro Islands where we operated as D68C. I enclose a Certificate of Appreciation that was signed by every member of the team while we were on the island. I also enclose two sample QSL cards.

Yours sincerely

*Wee*

Wes W3WL  
(blamboley@aol.com)

**OPDX Bulletin - Internet Edition**

The Ohio/Penn DX PacketCluster  
Editor Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW  
Provided by BARF-80 BBS Cleveland, OH

**3D2, CONWAY REEF**

Raymundo, YS1RR received a phone call from Hrane, YT1AD who told him they can't get landing authorization for KH1 this time (see KH1 below) so he will be going to Conway Reef in October. The team will leave from Fiji on September 30th on the ship "MV Princess 2" and arrive on Conway Reef by October 1st. They should be active for the next 10 days and call signs will be announced on the first day of operation with one call for CW and another for SSB/RTTY. Their license is valid until December 31, 2002 and they estimate the cost of the operation will be approximately \$45,000 US. All donations are welcome via YS1RR. Two stations will be active on 160 thru 6 Meters (and the WARC bands) near the DX windows. Pilot stations will be YU1AA and VEJEXY. QSL CW QSO's via YT1AD: Dr. Hrane Milosevic, 36206 Vitanovac, YUGOSLAVIA. QSL SSB/RTTY QSO's via Z32AU: Dragan Kostevski, P.O. Box

35, 6000 OHRID, MACEDONIA, Europe. A Web site will be available by September 10th for the "Conway Reef 2" operation at: <http://www.kragujevac.co.yu/3d2>

**3V, TUNISIA**

Until September 15th all Tunisian stations will use the special call sign 3V8MED. MED signifies the "MEDiterranean Games 2001" in Tunis. For more details, visit: <http://www.tunis2001.tn/en/indexen.html>

**4W, EAST TIMOR**

Jose, CT1EEB (VK8CS, 4W6EB, CU3/CT1EEB) says Amateur Radio won't be forgotten in East Timor after the DX'ers leave. Carlos Poinho, CU3FT and an active DX'er from the Azores Archipelago and Telecom Tech for the Portuguese Air Force is on a Tour-of-Duty for UNTAET in Dili, the Capital of East-Timor. He will try to be as active as possible with the call 4W/CU3FT. The license was issued from the United Nations and the accreditation process is underway at DXCC. Special attention will be given to the WARC bands and 6 Meters for the upcoming F2 openings in October/November. Also, he will work with the ETARA (East-Timor Amateur Radio Association) and local

authorities to set up a licensing authority after East Timor is fully independent. Jose will also help in introducing Amateur radio to the East-Timor nationals. QSL manager is CT1EEB: Jose Emanuel Ribeiro de Sa, P. O. Box 79, P-3860 Estarreja, Portugal.

**5R, MADAGASCAR (IOTA activity)**

Phil, G3SWH will be active from Ile Ste Marie (IOTA AF-090) from September 14-20th and has been issued the call sign 5R8HA. This will be a CW (only) holiday operation on all bands 40-10 Meters using his IC-706 and wire antennas. QSL via the bureau or direct to CBA.

**9N, NEPAL**

Yuu, JA3IG (a member of the A52A operation) is going to Nepal for vacation in September. Listen for Yuu to operate 20 and 15 Meter SSB/CW from September 7-9th as 9N7IG. QSL via home call.

**A2, BOTSWANA**

Harry, W6DXO will be active from two safari camps in Botswana from September 19-29th with the call A25/KG6GPA. His location will demand battery power QRP with a Yaesu FT 817, multiple hi-capacity gel cells and a portable 20 Meter dipole. Operations will be 20 Meter SSB and QRP stations are encouraged to listen for A25/KG6GPA as an effort will be made to work as many other QRP stations as possible. QSL direct (only) to W6DXO.

**C6, BAHAMAS**

Al, K3TKJ plans to operate from Andros Island (NA-001) August 13th through September 27th. He has requested the call C6TKJ and there was no mention of bands or modes of activity.

Several Magnolia DXA members (and at least one OKDXA member) are planning to operate in the CQWW SSB Contest (October 27 - 28th) from C6A. They will be active the week before the contest (October 20th) with individual call signs operating SSB, CW and possibly RTTY. They have rented the villa offered by Ken Helton, KC4SZE / C6AHN on Treasure Cay, Abaco Island (NA-080). This is the same QTH used by the C6AJX group for the 1999 CQWW CW Contest. Confirmed operators as of now are Ernie, W5OXA/C6AKO; Randy, W5UE/C6ARB; Alan, N5PA; Stan, K5NY and Bernie, KK5EW. Details are still being worked on, so watch their site: <http://mdxa.org/c6a-2001.html>





**V7, MARSHALL ISLAND**

Jeff, KA1GJ will be on Kwajalein Island, RMI (V73) for a three-year assignment and will be active as V73GJ very soon. QSL direct PO Box 1050, APO AP 96555.

**W5, OKLAHOMA****TULSA COUNTY DX'ERS**

Renew Their OKDXA Membership!

**XP, GREENLAND**

The call sign XP1AB will again be heard from Sondrestrom on the west coast of Greenland during the CQWW SSB Contest, October 27-28th. XP1AB was last used in the 1960's. Sondrestrom is in CQ zone 40, ITU Zone 5 and IOTA reference NA-018. A large group of OZ Hams expect to arrive on October 24th and plan to work all HF bands plus 6 Meters with their home calls/OX and might be active on CW before or after the contest. QSL direct (only) to OZ1ACB. For more info, visit: <http://www.qsl.net/xplab>

usually on the air between 0400-1000z, and can be found on 14180 and 18120 kHz. QSL to home call sign.

**AS-NEW** Alan, BA1DU and BI4F team leader, reports the BI4F team has postponed their IOTA DX'pedition to Furong Island (Shandong Province Northwest Group) until September. The exact date was not available at press time.

**EU-048** Didier, F5BJW will be active from Ile de Groix, September 15-24th. Activity will be on 80-10 Meters on SSB (100 watts) with dipole and GP antennas. Call sign will be TM2A. QSL via F5BJW. Info and photos after the expedition will be at: <http://castres.dx.gang.free.fr/>

**OC-196** A team of 3 Australian Hams are going to Gabo Island from September 26-30th. This is a rare IOTA and lighthouse location. Visit <http://vk2ce.com/vk3dk>

**SA-052** The Peruvian Navy has finally granted authorization for a DX'pedition to

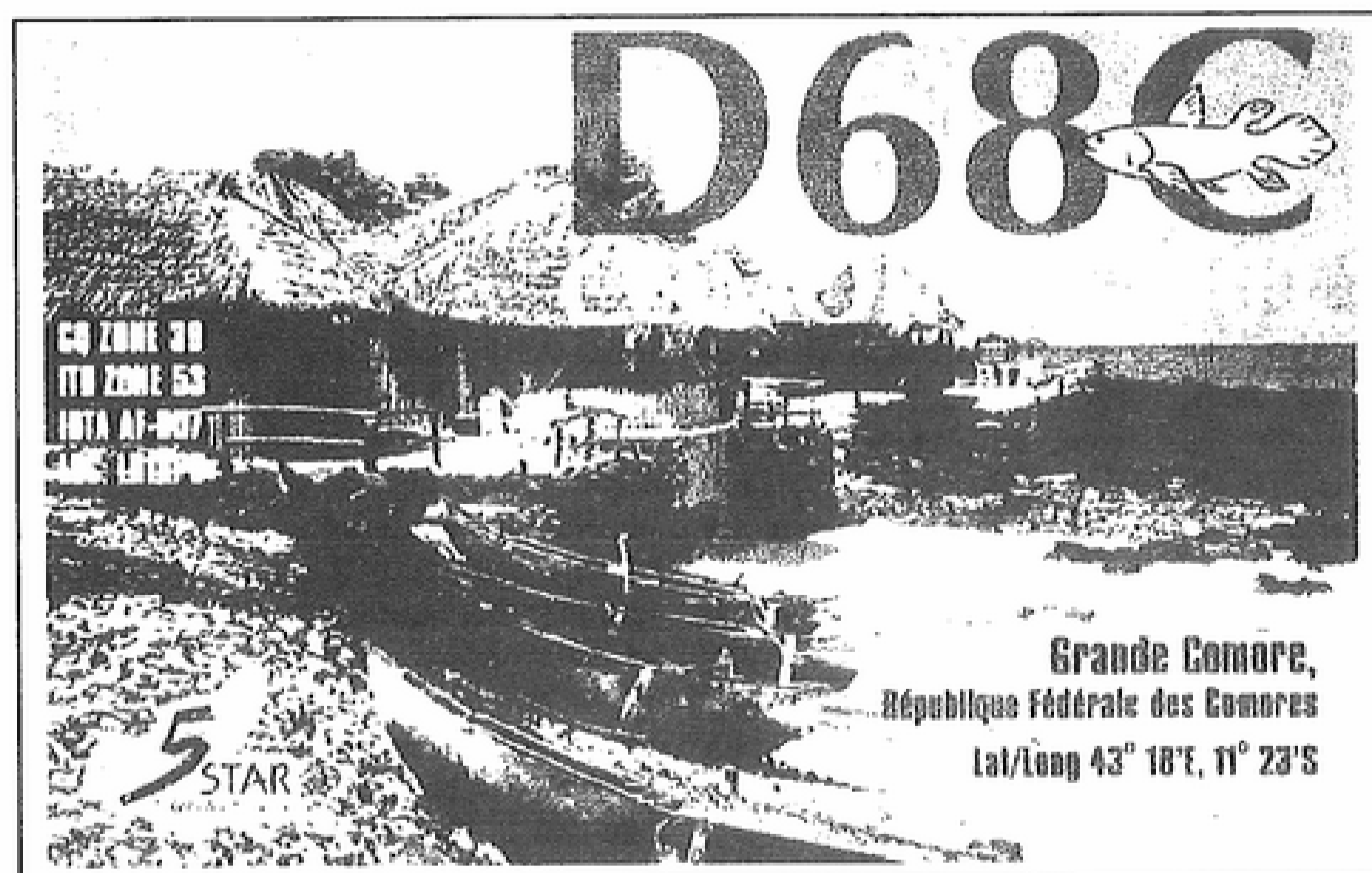
**LOGBOOK OF THE WORLD**

Fast on the heels of approval of the "Logbook of the World" by the ARRL Board of Directors, software design to support the electronic contact-verification program is continuing apace. ARRL Membership Services Manager and LOTW Project Manager, Wayne Mills, N7NG, said the ARRL hopes to soon make LOTW software modules available to vendors for incorporation into their logging programs. These modules are being developed as part of the Trusted QSL open-source project headed by Darryl Wagoner, WA1GON. (More information about the QSL project can be found at [sourceforge.net/projects/trustedqsl](http://sourceforge.net/projects/trustedqsl)) "We are in touch with 15 or so developers of popular logging software," Mills said. "We're also looking at providing a basic, do-it-yourself program to get contact data to the ARRL."

At the heart of the Logbook of the World concept is a huge repository of log data provided by operators - from individual DX'ers and Contesters to major DX'peditions - and maintained by the ARRL. Mills says the system will benefit big and little guns alike by providing quick QSO credit for awards offered by the ARRL, and, it's hoped, for awards offered by other organizations as well. Once it becomes available - which could be as early as the middle of next year - Logbook of the World will accept authenticated data directly from computerized logs via the Internet. "This is an e-mail based system that uses easy-to-obtain digital signatures for authentication," Mills said. "Once you get your digital certificate installed, a few keystrokes will do the trick."

Mills said the program envisions user access to the LOTW "confirmed database" so an operator can see what "matches" turn up, such as confirmation of new DXCC entities, states or grid squares. "We'll also publish a list of logs that have been submitted," he said, adding that operators may access the LOTW database once they've uploaded their own log data.

Heading up software development is ARRL Electronic Publications Manager Jon Bloom, KE3Z along with Web Applications Developer Mark Simcik, WA1VVB. Software specifications have already been established. Advising the project are Darryl Wagoner, WA1GON, Dick Green, WC1M and Ted

**Z2, ZIMBABWE (QRP Safari)**

Harry, W6DXO announces that with help from the Zimbabwean Amateur Radio Society, he will be operating Z2/W6DXO September 27th through October 5th from the Linkwasha Wilderness Camp and the Victoria Falls Hotel in Zimbabwe. Local conditions mandate a QRP Op, mainly on 20 Meters. QSL via W6DXO direct only.

**IOTA News**

**AN-016** Mark, VK4KMT is active during his free time as VKØKMT from the Australian Antarctic Base Davis. He is

San Lorenzo Island on September 14th to 16th. The possible call sign will be 4TØI (subject to availability) on 80-10 Meters, mostly SSB and CW, but they do plan to work some RTTY and PSK31 on 15 and 20 Meters. The QSL Route will be via OA4DJW. More details can be found at: <http://www.qsl.net/4t0i>

**Miscellaneous News**

ARRL NEWS RELEASE August 2, 2001  
For Further Information Contact:  
Wayne Mills, N7NG

Demopoulos, KR1G. ARRL staffer and well-known Contester and DX'er Dave Patton, NT1N who conducted the original electronic QSL project study, is also assisting. Mills said that he hopes to be able to announce a specific inauguration date for Logbook of the World within a few months as the design progresses.

### **LEFT HANDED DX'ERS**

Renew Their OKDXA Membership!

### **CONTEST CALENDER AVAILBLE**

Mike, VK4DX has redesigned and updated his site at: <http://www.vk4dx.net/>. The web site includes an "International HF Radio Contest Calendar" with contest rules and a new software links page with pricing information.

### **DXCC NEWS**

Bill Moore, NC1L and ARRL DXCC Manager, reminds everyone: "Once again, the cutoff date for the 2001 yearbook is rapidly approaching. In order to be shown you must have your submission between October 1, 2000 and September 30, 2001. If you have not submitted and you are not current on the DXCC Honor Roll, you will need to make your submission on or by September 30, 2001. Note: the submission must be in our hands by this date, not just postmarked. September 30th is a Sunday, so applications received by October 1, only, will be credited for September 30. In order to receive the free copy you must: Be an ARRL member - and - be current on the DXCC Honor Roll (there are now 325 entities). If you are not on the Honor Roll, you must submit an application by September 30, 2001. The yearbook will be out in the spring of 2002. If you do not qualify for a free copy, yearbooks can be purchased for \$5.00 each (USD). Previous editions are available starting from 1993 for \$5.00 each (includes shipping)."

### **ORDER MY HAMFEST WELL DONE**

The 49th Annual W9DXCC Convention will be held September 14 and 15th at the Holiday Inn in Rolling Meadows, IL. Activities begin Friday evening at 7:30 with the N4AA DX Publications Welcome Reception, followed by the traditional Northern Illinois DXA Hospitality Suite. There will be a full day of programs on Saturday including prizes, a CW pile-up contest and the grand banquet featuring CQ DX Hall of Famer Bob Allphin, K4UEE. Bob is putting together a special program for W9DXCC highlighting his

five "DX'pedition of the Year" awards. The Greater Milwaukee DX Association hospitality suite will follow the banquet.

Saturday Programs include: 4W/K7BV East Timor, by K7BV - A professional video covering not only Dennis' operation from a new DXCC country but vividly conveys the tragedy that the people of that area have suffered. Dennis is also going to review the 2000 World Radiosport Team Championship and the upcoming 2002 WRTC in Finland. YK9A Syria with Carl, K9LA and Vicki, AE9YL Luetzelschwab. Carl is going to switch to his propagation guru hat and provide an update on sunspot Cycle 23. PWØS St Peter and St Paul Rocks - Master QSL Manager Steve Wheatly, KU9C covers the DX'pedition as well as providing general tips on QSL'ing through managers. YJØPD Vanuatu - Todd Benson W9YK and the Prairie DX Group will cover this DX'pedition and their innovative approach to real-time on-line logging. 9MØM Spratly - with Jerry Rosalius WB9Z. The New Digital Mode, PSK31 with Mark May K9TP. Cubical Quad Antennas, with Norm Alexander W4QN, of Cubex Antennas. RF Safety and Your Linear with ARRL RF Safety chairman Greg Lapin, N9GL. IOTA update with Gordon Bazsali, WB9EEE and information about the Island Radio Expedition Foundation from Mike McGirr, K9AJ. ARRL Central Division Director Dick Isely, W9GIG and Vice-Director Howie Huntington, K9KM will be on hand to lead the ARRL Forum, which includes Dave Patton, NT1N who is heading up the ARRL eQSL project. The ARRL DX Advisory Committee will be represented by Jim O'Connell, W9WU. DXCC Card Checking - Dave NT1N will be available for DXCC Card Checking, the easy way to update your country totals!

CW Pile-Up contest - Another challenging contest run by Mike McGirr, K9AJ - How many calls can YOU pick out of the pile-up? More details and On-Line Registration is available at [www.qth.com/w9dxcc](http://www.qth.com/w9dxcc).

C U There! 73 Bill W9VA

### **THE PYØT STORY**

Vieira, PY1LVF provides the following story on his recent Trindade operation. This press release has been edited for publication. He writes: "We (operators Vieira, PY1LVF and Ricardo, PY1VOY) arrived in Rio after a short stop in Vitoria where we decided to get off the ship and

take a plane. The ship is still scheduled to arrive in Rio with the entire crew next Saturday. Equipment and antennas remain on the ship. I realize that some information should be spread out to avoid any misunderstanding or confusion as follows: The ship arrived at the island on schedule August 7th at 1900z, but we could not disembark because of strong winds and heavy rain. We stayed on the ship until August 8th when we took a helicopter for a five minute trip to the island. Equipment arrived after us, trip by trip.

### **RIGHT HANDED DX'ERS**

Renew Their OKDXA Membership!

The first day was tough, windy, cold and it rained most of the day. We saw some weather improvement on the next day but not in terms of wind intensity. At least the rain stopped and it was warmer than the previous day. Unfortunately, we had to close down the station operation 5 hours before departure. All the equipment was scheduled to go back to the ship in the morning. A break from the Island was celebrated with cocktails, and we departed during the afternoon. We actually had to use the boat to get back to the ship, which was a very dangerous experience but we got back safely to the ship. The actual dates of the operation were: August 8th, 2001 (first QSO at 1401z) through August 10th, 2001 (Last QSO at 1130z). The PTØT and ZXØZ calls were authorized by ANATEL while we were already on the island despite our use of homecall/PYØT. We did not want to lose time while waiting for the special call sign authorization. 4,000 QSO's were made with 80 countries on 40-10 Meters. Our antenna tuner did not work well on 12m and this was the only band left blank. For QSL's, PY1LVF (Vieira) will be handling this task. It will take two or three weeks to have the cards printed and he expects to be mailing out cards by mid September. Cards sent via the bureau will be accepted, but since the PY1 Bureau is very slow in sending and receiving cards, we recommend you QSL direct if you need the country for DXCC. Cards via the Bureau usually take more than a year to receive. We may have more information to provide to whoever is interested in knowing about the trip, the operation and the island. I understand that many Hams were not able to make a QSO since the operation was only active for two days. We hope we can keep the door open with the Brazilian Navy so that, not only

us, but other groups can make many two day operations and give an opportunity to the Hams who need the country."

QSL Manager: PY1LVF Jose Luiz Vieira Fernandes, P.O.Box 18009, Rio de Janeiro - RJ - Brazil - South America 20722-970

### T3ØES LONG TERM DX'PEDITION

Date: Sun, 05 Aug 2001 13:33:30 -0400

From: Pete Kemp {kz1z@arrl.net}

Subject: T3ØES DX Operation

Kiribati (pronounced Kiribas) is comprised of 33 low lying coral atolls sub-divided into three main groups known as the Gilbert, Phoenix and Line Islands. Kiribati is located in the Central Pacific between 173 and 177 East Longitude and 4 North and 3 South Latitude. From north to south, the distance is only 800 km. However, the distance east to west is more than 3218 km. Kiribati is 12 hours a head of GMT, two hours a head of Tokyo and 22 hours ahead of Honolulu on the other side of the international dateline. Self-government was attained in two stages and it became the fully independent Republic of Kiribati on 12 July, 1979. The Peace Corps has been active on Kiribati for over 25 years.

### CLUB CONNECTIONS

The Bethel Educational Amateur Radio Society (BEARS) has started over 675 Hams on their radio path. Eric Griffin, N1JSY was one of those students. After graduating from Penn State he spent two years with the Peace Corps before entering Medical School. During the summer of 2000 he upgraded to a General class license hoping that when he received his assignment, amateur radio could become a link to the outside world.

CARA is The Candlewood Amateur Radio Association of Connecticut. In support of CARA's mission as a general-purpose club, a group was formed to provide equipment support for the little activated island of Butaritari. This project would not only benefit a local Ham in one of the poorest countries on earth, but the amateur community worldwide. Eric has made contact with the local authorities and will be assigned T3ØES for a call sign. Power is limited, with the primary source being solar collectors. Eric has a car battery in his hut that can be charged during the day. Being new to HF and DX'ing, CARA members will help with Net Control in the beginning of this operation and act as the QSL Manager.

### OPERATING CONDITIONS

All T3ØES operations will be conducted during non-work hours. Eric works during the day on a variety of local projects such as developing the country's infrastructure and providing assistance to the people in a number of areas: Rain water collection, women's medical issues and being an advisor to the school's gardening club. He will be using two G5RV antennas, positioned separately on HF 10 through 80 Meters with a maximum of 100 watts. He will operate for only a few hours a day due to limited power resources.

CARA expects the T3ØES adventure to begin by the first week of September 2001 and last approximately 18 months. We are investigating methods of transferring log information back to the US in a timely fashion. Please be patient with your QSL requests. All cards with an S.A.S.E. will be answered, QSL to: W1QI c/o C.A.R.A. PO Box 3441, Danbury, CT 06813 U.S.A. Please check our web page at <http://people.mags.net/boem/kiribati1.htm> for operation information and updates.

### VU NEWS (India)

Jose Jacob, VU2JOS says their permission to use 3790 to 3800 kHz, 10100 to 10150 kHz; and 50.35 and 50.55 MHz has been extended until January 31, 2002. (It was originally set to expire on July 31st, 2001)

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

### ALBINO DX'ERS

Renew Their OKDXA Membership!

### ARRL CONTEST CALENDAR

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

#### WEEKEND OF SEPTEMBER 15-16

**ARRL 10 GHz+Up Cumulative Contest**  
See July QST, p 120.

#### North American Sprint, Phone

Sponsored by NCJ, 0000-0400Z Sept 16 (local time, Sept 15). 80, 40 & 20 Meters only. North American stations work everyone; others work NA stations only. Exchange other station's call, your call, serial no., name, and state / province / DXCC entity. 3.540 3.850 7.040 7.225 14.040 14.275. Work stations once per

band. QSY rule: Stations calling CQ, QRZ, etc, may only work one station in response to that call; they must then 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 logs go to Rick Niswander, Box 2701, Greenville, NC 27836; [ssbsprint@ncjweb.com](mailto:ssbsprint@ncjweb.com), within 30 days of the end of the contest. [www.ncjweb.com/](http://www.ncjweb.com/)

### Washington State Salmon Run

Sponsored by the Western Washington DX Club. 1600Z Sep 15 to 0700Z Sep 16 and 1600-2400Z Sep 16. 160 80 40 20 15 10 6 Meters; classes CW, SSB or mixed mode; QRP, low power (less than 200 W) and high power, Single or multi-op single transmitter, Washington Club Station, Mobile, Washington County DX'pedition, SWL RS(T) and county for WA stations; RS(T) and state, province, or DXCC entity for stations outside WA. 2 pts/SSB QSO, 4/CW QSO. Work stations on each band and mode. Portables and mobiles may be worked for QSO's and multiplier credits in different counties. Multipliers for WA stations is States, Provinces, DX entities and WA counties; for others it is Washington Counties. Count multipliers once regardless of band or mode. Special bonus station a QSO with W7DX will add a 500 point bonus for each mode—total 1000 points. Scoring: QSO points from all bands x total multipliers plus bonus points. Awards. Send logs by Oct 31 to Western Washington DX Club, PO Box 395, Mercer Island, WA 98040. E-mail to: [salmonrun@wwdxc.org](mailto:salmonrun@wwdxc.org); web page at: [www.wwdxc.org/salmonrun](http://www.wwdxc.org/salmonrun).

### Scandinavian Activity Contest, CW

Sponsored by SSA, 1200Z Sep 15 to 1200Z Sep 16 (Phone, 1200Z Sep 22 to 1200Z Sep 23). Single op all bands; single op low power (100 watts or less) single op QRP; multi-single; SWL. 80, 40, 20, 15, & 10. Send RS(T) and serial no. No cross-mode contacts. European stations score 1 pt/QSO with Scandinavian stations on all bands. Non-European stations score 1 pt/QSO with Scandinavian stations on 20, 15 & 10 Meters and 3 pts/QSO on 80 & 40 Meters. Multipliers are Scandinavian call areas (eg, SM3, OJØ, OX3, TF2) per band. Final score is QSO pts x multipliers. Awards. Send logs by Oct 31 to NRRL HF

Contest Manager, Jan Almedal, LA9HW, Tunet, NO-1825 Tomter, Norway. E-mail to [sac@contesting.com](mailto:sac@contesting.com); web page at: [www.sk3bg.se/contest/text/sacnsc.txt](http://www.sk3bg.se/contest/text/sacnsc.txt).

#### Tennessee QSO Party

Sponsored by the Tennessee Contest Group, 1800Z Sep 16 to 0100Z Sep 17. All bands excluding 30, 17 and 12 Meters. Send RS(T) and state / province / DXCC entity (TN stations send county). TN stations work anyone; others work only TN stations. No repeater or packet robot contacts. Score 2 pts HF phone, 3 pts HF CW or digital, 4 pts VHF/UHF phone, 6 pts VHF/UHF CW QSO. Multipliers are TN counties (95 max); TN stations, total of states / provinces / DXCC entities. You may claim an additional multiplier for each 5 QSO's you make with the same TN county. 100/pts for working K4TCG on each band / mode. TN mobile stations get 500 pts for each TN county from which 15 or more QSO's are made. CW, 3.540 7.040 14.040 21.040 28.040; Phone, 3.900 7.240 14.280 21.390 28.390; Novice/Tech, 3.700 7.130 21.140 228.140 28.390 50.195 144.195 146.550 223.50 446.000. Awards. Send logs postmarked by Nov 12 to Tennessee QSO Party, c/o Douglas Smith, W9WI, 1385 Old Clarksville Pike, Pleasant View, TN 37146-8098. E-mail to [w9wi@bellsouth.net](mailto:w9wi@bellsouth.net); web page at: [www.k4ro.net/tcg.htm/](http://www.k4ro.net/tcg.htm/).

#### WEEKEND OF SEPTEMBER 22-23

##### Scandinavian Activity Contest, SSB

See September 15-16 listing on this page.

#### CQ WW RTTY Contest

Sponsored by CQ magazine, 0000Z Sep 22 to 2400Z Sep 23. 80, 40, 20 15, 10 Meters. Single op all band high or low power; single op single band; single op assisted; multi-single high or low power; multi-multi. W/VE stations send RST, state/province, and CQ Zone number; others send RST and CQ Zone number. Work stations once per band. Score 1 pt/QSO with own country, 2 pts/QSO same continent, 3 pts/QSO different continent. Multipliers are states (48), provinces (13), DXCC/WAE entities and CQ Zones per band. Final score is QSO points x multipliers. Awards. All entries must be postmarked no later than Dec 1. CQ RTTY DX Contest, 25 Newbridge Rd, Hicksville, NY 11801 USA [cqwwrtty@kkn.net](mailto:cqwwrtty@kkn.net).

**Radio Club Panama XXX Anniversary Contest** Sponsored by Radio Club Panama, 1200-2359Z Sep 23. Phone, PSK31 and CW, Single op only, 40 20 Meters. Send RS and serial no. Score 2 pts/QSO with HP stations who are RCP members and 1 pt/QSO with other stations. Multiply by DXCC entities worked. Send logs to Radio Club Panama, Box 10745, Panama 4, Panama. E-mail to [hp1rcp@qsl.net](mailto:hp1rcp@qsl.net); web page at: [www.radioclubdepanama.org](http://www.radioclubdepanama.org).

#### RED HAired DX'ERS

Renew Their OKDXA Membership!

#### WEEKEND OF SEPTEMBER 29-30

##### Louisiana QSO Party

Sponsored by the Twin City Hams ARC, 1400Z Sep 29 to 0200Z Sep 30 and from 1400-2000Z Sep 30. 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, and 2 Meters. LA stations work anyone; others work only LA stations. Single Operator (9 categories): QRP Mixed (Phone and CW), QRP Phone, QRP CW; Low Power Mixed, LP Phone, LP CW; High Power Mixed, HP Phone, and HP CW. Multi-operator, Single Transmitter (3 categories): QRP Mixed, LP Mixed, and HP Mixed. Exchange RST and state / province / Maritime region / DX entity (LA stations send parish). 2 pts/phone QSO, 3 pts/CW QSO. Multipliers (Count per band): Louisiana parishes (64 max / band); LA stations, US states / Canadian provinces / Maritime regions (63 max / band). No repeater contacts allowed. Awards to high score in each category. LA QSO Party Participation Certificates will be awarded to entries with 75 HF QSO's or 10 VHF QSO's. Send summary sheet and log sheet by Oct 31 to TCHC Contest Committee, PO Box 1871, West Monroe, LA 70291. E-mail to [laqp@tchams.org](mailto:laqp@tchams.org); [www.tchams.org/users/contest/laqp](http://www.tchams.org/users/contest/laqp).

##### Texas QSO Party

Sponsored by the Northwest Amateur Radio Society, 1400Z Sep 29 to 0200Z Sep 30, and 1400Z-2000Z Sep 30. All modes and all bands except 30 17 12 Meters. Categories: Single Op, Multi-Single, Multi-Multi, QRP-SO, QRP-MM, CW Only QSO, CW Only MM, Texas Mobile SO, Texas Mobile MM, and Club Aggregate. Stations may be worked once per band / mode. Texas mobiles may be worked once per band / mode from each county. Exchange RST and state / province / country / maritime region (Texas stations send RST and county).

Multipliers: TX Stations--states, TX counties, Canadian provinces and DXCC entities (excluding USA, Canada, Alaska and Hawaii); Non-TX stations--TX counties worked (max 254). Count 2 pts/phone QSO and 3 pts/CW or digital QSO. Bonus points: Add 500 points for each Texas Mobile worked in 5 different counties. Texas mobiles add 5000 points for every five counties covered with at least five contacts per county. Final score is QSO points x multipliers + bonus points. Send logs (and dupe sheets if over 200 QSO's) by Oct 31, to TQP Committee, 17007 Hillview Lane, Spring, TX 77379. E-mail to [k5vuu@arrl.net](mailto:k5vuu@arrl.net); web page at: [www.k5vuu.com/tqp/](http://www.k5vuu.com/tqp/).

##### Alabama QSO Party

Sponsored by the Central Alabama HF / VHF Contesting Club, 1800-0000Z Sep 29, All bands except 30 17 12 Meters. Categories Single Op, Multi-op and Rover, QRP (< 5 watts PEP), Low power (< 200 watts PEP) and High power (> 200 watts PEP). Exchange RST & QTH, no repeater contacts; repeaters may not be used to solicit contacts. Use of non-amateur means to solicit contacts during the contest period is not allowed. Requesting packet/cluster spotting violates the spirit of the contest. No cross-band contacts are allowed. Scoring: Alabama stations add up the total number of (states + counties + DXCC entities) worked on each band. The final score is this total number (states + counties + entities) multiplied times the total number of contacts. SSB, CW, and FM contacts count separately. Rover stations can be worked for additional credit once they change counties. Rovers can earn a bonus of 500 points for each county in which a minimum of 10 QSO's are made; non-Alabama Stations add up the total number of AL counties worked on each band. The final score is this total number of counties multiplied times the total number of AL stations contacted. A special award will be offered to anyone who manages to work all 67 counties. Send logs to The Alabama QSO Party, 4525 Eastern Hills Lane, Cottondale, AL 35453. E-mail to [dxcc@dbtech.net](mailto:dxcc@dbtech.net); web page at: [web.dbtech.net/~dxcc/rules1.htm](http://web.dbtech.net/~dxcc/rules1.htm)

**W1AW Qualifying Runs** are 10 PM EDT, Tuesday, September 4, and 7 PM EDT, Wednesday, September 19. The K6YR West Coast Qualifying Run will be at 9 PM PDT on Wednesday, September 5. Check the W1AW schedule for details.



**BALD DX'ERS**

Renew Their OKDXA Membership!

**SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER SUMMARY**

(Courtesy Of Bruce Horn, WA7BNM)

**September, 2001**

|                      |        |             |
|----------------------|--------|-------------|
| All Asian            | 0000Z, | 2400Z,      |
| DX Contest, SSB      | Sep 1  | Sep 2       |
| CCCC Contest         | 0000Z  | 2359Z,      |
| (23 Hz RTTY)         |        | Sep 1       |
| IARU Region 1        | 1300Z, | 1300Z,      |
| Field Day, SSB       | Sep 1  | Sep 2       |
| MI QRP Labor Day     | 2300Z, | 0300Z,      |
| CW Sprint            | Sep 3  | Sep 4       |
| WAE DX Contest       | 0000Z, | 2359Z,      |
| SSB                  | Sep 8  | Sep 9       |
| SLP Competition      | 0000Z, | 2400Z,      |
| (SWL)                | Sep 8  | Sep 9       |
| ARRL September       | 1800Z, | 0300Z,      |
| VHF QSO Party        | Sep 8  | Sep 10      |
| North American       | 0000Z  | 0400Z,      |
| Sprint, CW           |        | Sep 9       |
| ARCI End of          |        |             |
| Summer               | 2000Z  | 2400Z,      |
| PSK31 Sprint         |        | Sep 9       |
| YLRL Howdy Days      | 1400Z, | 0200Z,      |
|                      | Sep 14 | Sep 16      |
| AGB NEMIGA           | 2100Z  | 2300Z,      |
| Contest              |        | Sep 14      |
| Air Force            |        |             |
| Anniversary          | 0001Z, | 2359Z,      |
| QSO Party            | Sep 15 | Sep 16      |
| ARRL 10 GHz          | 0800   | 2000 local, |
| Cumulative Contest   | local  | Sep 15 and  |
|                      | 0800   | 2000 local, |
|                      | local  | Sep 16      |
| Scandinavian         | 1200Z, | 1200Z,      |
| Activity Contest, CW | Sep 15 | Sep 16      |
| Washington State     | 1600Z, | 0700Z,      |
| Salmon Run           | Sep 15 | Sep 16 and  |
|                      | 1600Z  | 2400Z,      |
|                      |        | Sep 16      |
| North American       | 0000Z  | 0400Z,      |
| Sprint, SSB          |        | Sep 16      |
| Tennessee            | 1800Z, | 0100Z,      |
| QSO Party            | Sep 16 | Sep 17      |
| SLP Competition      | 0000Z, | 2400Z,      |
| (SWL)                | Sep 22 | Sep 23      |
| Scandinavian         | 1200Z, | 1200Z,      |
| Activity Contest SSB | Sep 22 | Sep 23      |
| Panama Anniversary   | 1200Z  | 2359Z,      |
| Contest              |        | Sep 23      |
| CQ/RJ Worldwide      | 0000Z, | 2400Z,      |
| DX Contest, RTTY     | Sep 29 | Sep 30      |
| ARCI Fall QSO        | 1200Z, | 2400Z,      |
| Party                | Sep 29 | Sep 30      |
| Texas QSO Party      | 1400Z, | 0200Z,      |
|                      | Sep 29 | Sep 30 and  |
|                      | 1400Z  | 2000Z,      |
|                      |        | Sep 30      |
| Louisiana QSO        | 1400Z, | 0200Z,      |
| Party                | Sep 29 | Sep 30 and  |
|                      | 1400Z  | 2000Z,      |
|                      |        | Sep 30      |

**Anatolian DX  
Contest**1600Z,  
Sep 292400Z,  
Sep 30**October, 2001**

|                      |        |            |
|----------------------|--------|------------|
| TARA                 | 0000Z  | 2400Z,     |
| PSK31 Rumble         |        | Oct 6      |
| Oceania DX           | 0800Z, | 0800Z,     |
| Contest, Phone       | Oct 6  | Oct 7      |
| EU Autumn Sprint,    | 1500Z  | 1859Z,     |
| SSB                  |        | Oct 6      |
| California QSO Party | 1600Z, | 2200Z,     |
|                      | Oct 6  | Oct 7      |
| QCWA QSO Party       | 1900Z, | 1900Z,     |
|                      | Oct 6  | Oct 7      |
| Iberoamericano       | 2000Z, | 2000Z,     |
| Contest              | Oct 6  | Oct 7      |
| RSGB 21/28 MHz       | 0700Z  | 1900Z,     |
| Contest, SSB         |        | Oct 7      |
| 10-10 Day Sprint     | 0001Z  | 2400Z,     |
|                      |        | Oct 10     |
| YLRL Anniversary     | 1400Z, | 0200Z,     |
| Party, CW            | Oct 10 | Oct 12     |
| ARRL International   | 0000Z, | 2359Z,     |
| EME Competition      | Oct 13 | Oct 14     |
| Oceania DX           | 0800Z, | 0800Z,     |
| Contest, CW          | Oct 13 | Oct 14     |
| EU Autumn Sprint,    | 1500Z  | 1859Z,     |
| CW                   |        | Oct 13     |
| Pennsylvania         | 1600Z, | 0500Z,     |
| QSO Party            | Oct 13 | Oct 14 and |
|                      | 1300Z  | 2200Z,     |
|                      |        | Oct 14     |
| FISTS Fall Sprint    | 1700Z  | 2100Z,     |
|                      |        | Oct 13     |
| North American       | 0000Z  | 0400Z,     |
| Sprint, RTTY         |        | Oct 14     |
| JARTS WW RTTY        | 0000Z, | 2400Z,     |
| Contest              | Oct 20 | Oct 21     |
| Worked All Germany   | 1500Z, | 1459Z,     |
| Contest              | Oct 20 | Oct 21     |
| Asia-Pacific Sprint, | 0000Z  | 0200Z,     |
| CW                   |        | Oct 21     |
| RSGB 21/28 MHz       | 0700Z  | 1900Z,     |
| Contest, CW          |        | Oct 21     |
| Illinois QSO Party   | 1800Z, | 0200Z,     |
|                      | Oct 21 | Oct 22     |
| YLRL Anniversary     | 1400Z, | 0200Z,     |
| Party, SSB           | Oct 24 | Oct 26     |
| CQ Worldwide DX      | 0000Z, | 2400Z,     |
| Contest, SSB         | Oct 27 | Oct 28     |
| SLP Competition      | 0000Z, | 2400Z,     |
| (SWL)                | Oct 27 | Oct 28     |
| 10-10 International  | 0001Z, | 2400Z,     |
| Fall Contest, CW     | Oct 27 | Oct 28     |

**SEXY SENIOR DX'ERS**

Renew Their OKDXA Membership!

**Doctor DX**

Dear Doctor DX:

Amaze me in your own unique way...

Signed: Ke Bord

Dear Qwerty:

From the NY Times, August 27, 2001

The Amazing Dr. DX

**I.B.M. Creates a Tiny Circuit Out of Carbon  
By KENNETH CHANG**

In another step toward post-silicon computers, I.B.M. scientists have built a computer circuit out of a single strand of carbon. The I.B.M. circuit performs only a single, simple operation - flipping a "true" to "false" and vice versa - but it marks the first time that a device made of carbon strands known as nanotubes has been able to carry out any sort of logic. It is also the first logic circuit made from a single molecule. At least another year or two of research is needed before I.B.M. can even evaluate whether a practical computer chip can be manufactured from nanotubes, said Dr. Phaeton Avouris, manager of nanoscale science at IBM Research and the lead scientist on the project.

But the fact that the researchers were able to build the circuit raises hopes that nanotubes could be used for processors that pack up to 10,000 times more transistors in the same amount of space. Dr. Avouris declined to speculate when a chip with nanotube circuitry might appear commercially, but he described nanotubes as "the best candidate from what we've seen" in the emerging field of molecular electronics.

A nanotube, which resembles a rolled-up tube of chicken wire, is about one hundred-thousandth the thickness of a human hair. Its thinness, only about 10 atoms wide, makes it a promising candidate for faster and smaller computer chips. It takes its name from nanometer, a unit of measurement one-billionth of a meter long, which is a convenient length for specifying molecular dimensions.

In the latest research, the scientists succeeded in hooking up two of these devices to perform the true-false flipping operation. Even more remarkably, the two devices exist along sections of the same nanotube. This function - a "not" operator - is one of three fundamental logic operations that underlie all computer calculations.

To build the circuit, the researchers draped a single nanotube on a silicon wafer over three parallel gold electrodes, added a layer of polymer between two of the electrodes and then sprinkled some potassium atoms on top. All of the carbon nanotube transistors built previously were positive-type transistors, meaning that they

carried current via empty spaces, or "holes," in the sea of electrons that act like positive charges. The sprinkled potassium atoms added enough electrons to the nanotube that its behavior changed to that of a negative-type transistor, where the current is carried by electrons. The piece of nanotube sprinkled with potassium atoms acted like a negative-type transistor; the section protected under the polymer layer remained a positive-type transistor. The combination of the two transistors formed a "not" operator, flipping an

incoming voltage signal to an opposite output signal.

The ability to change positive-type transistors to negative-type is "a very neat trick" said Dr. Uzi Landman, a professor of physics at the Georgia Institute of Technology. The logic circuit is about one-15,000th of an inch wide - larger than the equivalent silicon structure - but Dr. Avouris said that it could eventually be shrunk so that 10,000 nanotube transistors fit in the space taken up by one current-

day silicon transistor. "In principle, it can be that small," he said. "It's a matter of just making the connections."

The I.B.M. researchers are now trying to build the more complicated "and" and "or" operators and tie them together into more complex circuits.

### NANO DX'ERS

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Or the thrill of a classic *Henny Youngman* routine when he says: "Take my N5UW, \*- -\* \*-\* \* \*- ... \* " !!!

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## A. R. R. L. Bulletins

To all radio amateurs

From ARRL Headquarters  
Newington CT

### ARLB031 Hurricane Watch Net Stands Down; Ham Radio Praised

August 7, 2001

The Hurricane Watch Net has secured operation in response to Tropical Storm Barry. The storm reached shore on the Florida Panhandle. It's been downgraded to a tropical depression and now is over Alabama. Manager Jerry Herman, N3BDW, says the net stood down at 0300z August 7. There are no plans to resume operation. The activation for Tropical Storm Barry at the request of the National Hurricane Center in Miami marked the Net's first for the 2001 hurricane season.

While the Net was in operation, the National Hurricane Center reported receiving many valuable reports via Amateur Radio to the Center's W4EHW and called ham radio "a vital link" in its tracking and forecasting efforts.

"Barry came ashore as a tropical storm after exhibiting explosive growth early in the day on Sunday," Herman said. "Normally the net would only go into operation if the storm was a hurricane," Herman said, "but forecasters expected Barry to make hurricane strength before landfall." The storm caused relatively minor damage but did spawn heavy rain.

ARRL Northern Florida Section Emergency Coordinator Nils Millergren, WA4NDA, reported over the weekend that emergency operations centers and some shelters opened in five counties, and Amateur Radio Emergency Service members stood by to assist.

### ARLB032 FCC Action Puts Amateur Allocation in Peril

August 9, 2001

The FCC has included a primary Amateur Service allocation among bands it plans to examine to support the introduction of

advanced wireless systems, including third-generation (3G) mobile systems. Meeting August 9, the FCC said it will seek comments on reallocating some spectrum in the 2390 to 2400 MHz amateur segment as well as in the non-amateur 1.9 and 2.1 GHz bands for unspecified mobile and fixed services.

The FCC adopted a Memorandum Opinion and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking that explores additional bands to support advanced wireless and 3G services. The FCC said the further proceeding supplements the record of its January 2000 advanced wireless spectrum proposals by providing "new allocation options," adding that it would "seek comment on the benefits and costs of each."

The Commission said it "intends to explore spectrum options that would complement, rather than substitute for" alternatives identified in the January 2000 NPRM. Besides 2390 to 2400 MHz, the additional bands are 1910-1930 MHz, 1990-2025 MHz, 2150-2160 MHz, and 2165-2200 MHz. The 2390-2400 MHz band is also available for certain unlicensed uses under FCC Part 15 rules.

ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, cautioned the Amateur Radio community to hold off any comments to the FCC until the Commission actually issues its Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and requests comments.

In addition to 2390 to 2400 MHz, the Amateur Service has primary allocations in this part of the spectrum at 2402 to 2417 MHz. The ARRL has asked the FCC to grant the Amateur Service primary status at 2400 to 2402 MHz. Earlier this year, the ARRL re-petitioned the FCC for primary status at 2300 to 2305 MHz.

### ARLB033 FCC Invites Comments on ARRL's 60-Meter Petition

August 14, 2001

The FCC has begun accepting comments on the ARRL's petition seeking the allocation of 5.250 to 5.400 MHz to the Amateur Service on a domestic (US-only), secondary basis. The Commission put the proposal on public notice this week and assigned a rulemaking number, RM-10209, to the proceeding.

Interested parties may comment on the proposal via the Internet or e-mail using the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS), information on which can be found at <http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html>. Those commenting should reference "RM-10209" in their postings. Even if the FCC eventually okays the petition, it's likely to be several years before the new band actually becomes available.

In its petition, the ARRL told the FCC that the new band would aid emergency communication activities by filling a "propagation gap" between 80 and 40 meters, particularly for emergency communications during hurricanes and severe weather emergencies. The ARRL also said a new 150-kHz allocation at 5 MHz also could relieve substantial overcrowding that periodically occurs on 80 and 40.

The ARRL has proposed that General class and higher amateurs be permitted to operate CW, phone, data, image and RTTY on the new band running maximum authorized power. No mode-specific subbands were proposed. If allocated to the Amateur Service on a secondary basis, hams would have to avoid interfering with--and accept interference from--current occupants of the spectrum, as they already do on 30 meters.

The ARRL said that its successful WA2XSY experimental operation between 1999 and this year demonstrates that amateur stations can coexist with current users and that the band is very suitable for US-to-Caribbean paths.

### ARLB034 ARRL to FCC: Stop the Encroachments!

August 17, 2001

The ARRL has called on the FCC to put an end to commercial encroachment on amateur allocations at 2.3 and 2.4 GHz. The League included the request in its reply comments, filed August 16, on a petition by AeroAstro to share co-primary status with the Amateur Service at 2300 to 2305 MHz. The ARRL reiterated its stance that the company's petition represents "a Trojan Horse" and that there is no way that Amateur Radio and AeroAstro's position monitoring system could share the same spectrum.

"It is time for the Commission to stop those encroachments, because they have gone too far already," the ARRL said.

The League said AeroAstro's petition for a commercial Miscellaneous Wireless Communication Service allocation at 2300 to 2305 MHz not only would impose "preclusive operating conditions" on hams but represents "yet another in the continuing series of encroachments" into amateur allocations between 2300 and 2450 MHz. The ARRL asserted that AeroAstro has failed to back up its claim that hams and low-power commercial operations can share the band on a co-primary basis without interfering with each other. An interference study prepared by the ARRL Lab and attached to the League's comments predicts "intolerable" interference, especially to weak signals, if the AeroAstro petition were granted.

ARRL has petitioned to elevate the Amateur Service from secondary to primary status on the band and requested that no commercial operations be introduced. AeroAstro seeks co-primary status with the Amateur Service to accommodate its Satellite Enabled Notification System (SENS) position-monitoring system under MWCS rules. The FCC put both petitions on public notice last month, and both parties filed comments earlier this month. There is no primary occupant at 2300-2305 MHz.

The League asked the FCC to dismiss the AeroAstro petition as defective and to grant the League's petition for primary amateur status at 2300 to 2305 MHz.

A copy of ARRL's reply comments are available on the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/rm-10166/rm-10166-reply.html>

### **ARLB035 Section Manager Election Results**

August 22, 2001

West Virginia will get a new Section Manager October 1. In membership balloting, Hal L. Turley, KC8FS, of S Charleston narrowly defeated incumbent O.N. "Olie" Rinehart, WD8V, 252 to 235. Rinehart has served as SM since 1994. Turley has been a ham for 35 years and an Official Observer since 1995. He's an active DXer.

In the only other contested race, incumbent San Francisco SM Leonard Gwinn, WA6KLK, outpolled former SM John Wallack, W6TLK, 374 to 126. Gwinn had been appointed to complete Wallack's term following Wallack's resignation in November 1999.

Colorado also will get a new SM this fall. Jeff Ryan, N0WPA, of Colorado Springs was the only candidate to replace Tim Armagost, WB0TUB, who did not run for re-election. Ryan has been an Official Emergency Station since 1994, an Assistant Section Manager since 1996 and has also held an appointment as an Emergency Coordinator.

Incumbent section managers ran unopposed in six other ARRL sections. Re-elected were Kyle Pugh, KA7CSP, Eastern Washington; Sandy Donahue, W4RU, Georgia; Phineas J. Icenbice Jr, W6BF, Los Angeles; Jerry Boyd, K6BZ, Sacramento Valley; E. Ray Taylor, N5NAV, South Texas, and Harry Lewis, W7JWJ, Western Washington.

Votes were counted August 21 at ARRL Headquarters. All terms are for two years beginning October 1, 2001.

### **ARLB036 Candidates Vie for Vice Director in Three Divisions**

August 23, 2001

There will be one new director on the ARRL Board in January. Southwestern Division Vice Director Art Goddard, W6XD, will move up from the back bench to succeed outgoing Director Fried Heyn, WA6WZO. A director since 1984, Heyn has decided to not seek another term. The only real suspense in this fall's balloting will be the outcome of contested races for vice director in three divisions.

In the Pacific Division incumbent Vice Director Bob Vallio, W6RGG, faces a challenge from Gerald D. Griffin, K6MD. In the Southeastern Division, West Central Florida Assistant Section Manager Paul J. Toth, NA4AR, and Georgia SM Nelson E. "Sandy" Donahue, W4RU, will contend for the seat being vacated by Vice Director Evelyn Gauzens, W4WYR, who is not seeking a new term after 22 years of service. In the Southwestern Division, Edward J. Stearns, AA7A, and San Diego SM Tuck Miller, NZ6T, will face off for the seat Goddard is vacating.

In addition to Goddard, those unopposed for directors' seats are incumbents Jim Maxwell, W6CF, in the Pacific Division; Walt Stinson, W0CP, in the Rocky Mountain Division, Frank Butler, W4RH, in the Southeastern Division and Coy Day, N5OK, in the West Gulf Division. Those unopposed for vice directors' positions are incumbents Warren G. "Rev" Morton, WS7W, in the Rocky Mountain Division; and David Woolweaver, K5RAV, in the West Gulf Division.

Ballots go out by October 1 to ARRL members on record in the affected divisions as of September 10. The completed ballots are due back at ARRL Headquarters by November 16.

### **ARLB037 Lower Amateur Radio Vanity Fee is Effective September 10**

August 31, 2001

The FCC says the fee for a new or renewed Amateur Radio vanity call sign will drop to \$12 on September 10. Applications received on or after that date will be subject to the new fee. The current vanity call sign fee is \$14.

The FCC proposed the lower fee last March in a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for the Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for FY 2001. The FCC has estimated that 8000 applicants will apply for vanity call signs in the current fiscal year.

Earlier this year, the FCC also put paper and electronic vanity call sign applications on an equal footing in terms of processing priority. The FCC used to give priority to electronic applications for vanity call signs.

FCC rules stipulate refunds for applicants who inadvertently overpay a regulatory fee. Applicants who determine that they overpaid a vanity fee may request a refund in writing. Requests seeking a "Vanity Fee Overpayment Refund" go to FCC, 1270 Fairfield Rd, Gettysburg PA 17325-7245. Refund requests should indicate the date of application, the total fee paid, and the total refund owed.

For more information, visit the FCC Amateur Radio Web page, <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/amateur/VanityCS.html>.

## Hamfests

?????????

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

VE exams on 3rd Monday of each month sponsored by C.O.R.A. Salvation Army HQ at NW 50th and N. Oklahoma City at 6 p.m. 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 South Temple Baptist Church, 5 High, OKC. Test in on 146.76 MHz. For more information you can contact Clarence Warstler, KB51BY @ 632-3545.

VE Exams are held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of Each month, at Edmond Community Center, 28 E Main, Edmond. Starts at 10:00 AM. For more information contact Steve, N5ZQ at 405-749-9533

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 the Thursday evening before the 2nd Saturday of each month at 6:00 P.M. at the Community Service Building, 1183 E. Main St, directly west of the east side Wal-Mart. Pre-register at <http://www.telepath.com/n5dkr> (lower case letters). Contact Jim, NWØK, 329-1681 or at NWØK@arrl.net for more information.

VE exams on 4th Tuesday of even months are held at 6:30 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Altus, OK. Contact George Mateyo, NIGM for details.

VE exams on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month sponsored by the Stillwater ARC at 7:30 P.M. at the Red Cross Building, 505 S. Main. Contact Mike Crane, KC5GJN @ kc5gjn@hamsnet.net

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 HWY412 & Garland Rd., across east from Atwoods store. The testing is PREREGISTER ONLY. Contact Tom Worth, N5LWT @ 580-233-8473.

### On the Air

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

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

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 at 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 Monday Night ARES Net Monday @ 7:00 p.m. on 147.150MHZ.

Enid Amateur Radio Club Monday Night Net @ 8:00 PM on 145.29 / 444.400 Linked repeaters

W5HXL Memorial Net - Thursday @ 7:00 p.m. on 145.41 minus input.

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

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

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

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

Oklahoma Training Net - Daily @ 5:30 P. M. on 7120 kHz (CW Net)

T-SARG NW OK - Friday @ 9:30 p.m.

on 147.36+ with an 88.5

Oklahoma Baptist Hams Net - Sunday @ 2:00 p.m. on 7.273 kHz

Do you know of an upcoming event within the ham community?

Please e-mail us the information at

[corahams@swbell.net](mailto:corahams@swbell.net)

We can only print the announcements sent to us and we need your help to keep everyone up to date and informed. Thank you.

### "Special Things"

*It's the special things  
in life*

*That make it  
mean so much.*

*The sun,  
the rain,  
the sky;*

*The thoughts,  
and the touch.*

*If we let  
these precious things*

*Float out  
to an endless sea,*

*We lose  
our hope,  
our love,*

*And most,  
our reason to be.*

- Author Unknown

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# September 09 - October 20, 2001

## Weekly Planner

| Sunday                                   | Monday                                 | Tuesday                                            | Wednesday                                    | Thursday                                                                                     | Friday                                  | Saturday                                                                  |
|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| September 9<br>2:30 PM Wheatstraw<br>ARC | September 10                           | September 11                                       | September 12<br>11:00 AM Oklahoma<br>VHF ARC | September 13<br>6:00 PM SCARS VE<br>Exams<br>7:00 PM Alhus Area ARA<br>7:00 PM Tri State ARG | September 14                            | September 15                                                              |
| September 16<br>2:00 PM Edmond<br>ARS    | September 17<br>7:00 PM Choctaw<br>ARC | September 18<br>7:30 PM Oklahoma<br>City Autopatch | September 19                                 | September 20                                                                                 | September 21                            | September 22<br>1:00 PM CORA<br>Meeting & Elections                       |
| September 23                             | September 24                           | September 25<br>6:30 PM Alhus VE Exams             | September 26                                 | September 27<br>7:00 PM Enid ARC                                                             | September 28<br>5:00 PM C&E<br>Deadline | September 29                                                              |
| September 30                             | October 1                              | October 2                                          | October 3                                    | October 4<br>7:00 PM Aeronautical<br>Center ARC                                              | October 5                               | October 6<br>9:00 AM Ada ARC                                              |
| October 7                                | October 8                              | October 9                                          | October 10<br>11:00 AM Oklahoma<br>VHF ARC   | October 11<br>6:00 PM SCARS VE<br>Exams<br>7:00 PM Alhus Area ARA<br>7:00 PM Tri State ARG   | October 12                              | October 13<br>9:30 AM South Canadian<br>ARS<br>10:00 AM Enid ARC VE Exams |
| October 14<br>2:30 PM Wheatstraw<br>ARC  | October 15<br>7:00 PM Choctaw<br>ARC   | October 16<br>7:30 PM Oklahoma<br>City Autopatch   | October 17                                   | October 18                                                                                   | October 19                              | October 20                                                                |

August

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 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 |    |

September

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 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 |    |    |    |    |    |    |

October

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 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 |    |    |    |

November

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 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 |    |