

CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CHAPTER #63
CHARTERED MARCH 19, 1973

Q. R. Zedd

THE BIG SIGNAL
OKLAHOMA CITY AUTOPATCH
ASSOCIATION, INC.

FOREST PK., OK(NL) Oct. 21, '87:
Trying to type and watch the
"FNN"; all at the same time.
Believe the words (pros &
cons) would easily reach the
moon & back.

Right now am anticipating
HAMARAMA '87. To quote from
the flyer it promises to be
"BIG-TIME", "TOP-DRAWER
PROGRAMS", "INCREDIBLE!" & etc.
Mostly from the Sunday Net,
believe Chapter 63 will be
well represented. Margaret &
myself have been absent the
past four years; expect to do
lots of visiting.

<FALL MEETING-FALL MEETING>

Sunday November 1, 1987; High
Noon at Anna Maude's
Cafeteria, N.W. 23rd &
Meridian. The address is 4629
N.W. 23rd and is in Windsor
Hills Shopping Center.

Hopefully the Stock Market
will have made a stable
comeback---so that all can
enjoy our annual fall meeting.
The more the merrier with
member guests always welcome.

Believe you would like to
know that Gene Nailon, K5DLE
has experienced much
frustration during his search
for a suitable meeting place.
According to Gene, most places
are very negative to
accommodate Sunday gatherings.
For this meeting believe Ivan
Miller, W5HFU deserves Kudos
from Gene & ourselves for
suggesting Anna Maude's. Am
rather certain Gene will air
his experience at this
meeting. (ED)

<<W5AS INFORMATION>>

QCWA, Chapter 63's on-the-air
operation during Sept. '87 as
follows:

SESSIONS	4
CHECK-INS	167
TRAFFIC	11

CONTINUED PAGE 10

A GREAT MOMENT REMEMBERED

Q.R. Zedd, A5A, world's
greatest DXer and holder of the
nation's only 1x1 callsign, was
named last month to chair a
special department in the
University of Oklahoma's school
of electrical engineering.

Zedd, who has worked all
stations on all bands, all
modes, will henceforth be known
in academic circles as Dr.
Zedd, chairman of the new
Miraculous Discoveries Dept. at
OU. The university immediately
announced that it will build a
new engineering center annex to
house the Zedd project just as
soon as Campus Corner can be
condemned and the necessary \$88
million can be raised from
private donors.

Norman's South Canadian
Amateur Radio Society started
the ball rolling with a
contribution of \$15. OU
President Frank Horton used the
funds to make a down-payment on
a shovel for the ground-
breaking, tentatively scheduled
some time in 1996.

"Boys," Zedd told
assembled members of the press
at a conference held at his
Honor Roll Ranch, just a hoot
and a holler south of town,
"this is going to be the
greatest thing for the state of
Oklahoma since Ringling
announced he was going to bring
his circus here. I predict a
lot of great stuff, and I plan
to have lots of long hallways
in the new building so we can
hire a lot of football players
to sweep them out and thus also
help Barry some with his
recruiting.

"But let me explain why
research into superconductors
is going to be one of our top
priorities in the new
department.

"I," Zedd told the
reporters, "discovered
superconductors, of course."

CONTINUED PAGE 7

OCTOBER MEETING

What a tremendous meeting we
had this month! Hobe Burgan,
WB5HLN, gave a very interesting pro-
gram on the use of Cellular Phones.
Hobe is a former member of the club
and it was good to see him. He,
like several of us, has added a few
pounds here and there and the old
noggin has turned a little white.
Hobe gave us a bunch of interesting
facts about the present use of mo-
bile phones and some of the coming
things. Hobe didn't try to
high-pressure anyone into buying his
services, but did get the point
across that he is available.

NOVEMBER MEETING

President George, AD1S, an-
nounced that Ernie Gomez from South-
western Bell will present the Novem-
ber meeting along with other rep-
resentatives from the phone company.
They will have information on the
latest technology in communications.
This should be an interesting pres-
entation, so let's have a good turn-
out.

DECEMBER MEETING

President George is already
making plans for our annual Christ-
mas party. It will be held on our
normal meeting night, the third
Tuesday of the month, which will be
December 15. Unless notified other-
wise, it will be held at our regular
meeting place at the Salvation Army
building, 50th and Penn. Everyone
is to bring a covered dish and es-
pecially a White Elephant gift for
exchange. So, mark your calendars
and be making plans to attend the
Christmas party. The entire family
is invited.

CLUB NOTES

Hike, N5DDB, our club treasurer
informed me that we now have 141
members in the club and we are defi-
nitely on the upswing. We would
like to welcome two new members at

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

PCARR

MET on Saturday

October 10 at 9:50 am. About 22 members attended. Monte, WB5RZX, reported a balance of \$887.30 in the treasury. President N5HZR introduced Scott, N5HAB, from Dallas and Bob, N8IPM.

Dave, K5PL

discussed recent happenings at CORA. Gary, WB5ULK, was elected president; Lee, N5HIR, vice-president; and Mark, N5HZR, treasurer. Dave, K5PL, also noted that Ken, N5KUK, would be finishing the repeater voter project and that the battery backup parts had been purchased and that is being assembled.

The NWS was

pleased with the amateur operations last spring, reports Mark, N5HZR, and has requested continued assistance from the group. Additional net control stations(NCS) are needed however. If you are interested, contact N18W or WU5W. We were reminded that "storm week" will be in March and that one or maybe more spotter training sessions will be held at that time.

The Novice class

started as scheduled on Monday, October 12, at 7:00 pm. It will be held at the Norman Red Cross every Monday night from 7-9:30 pm through November 30. A VE exam will be held on December 2. Twenty-four persons started the Novice class and another nine are attending the upgrade class. We have a good mix at the class, several youngsters, a couple of YL(XYL's too), and one former ham who still copies 30 wpm! The first class featured a showing of the new ARRL film "The World of Amateur Radio" and it was an improved version.

The Special Event

certificates are being printed by Jim Greenshields, WD5HPU. Jim has now established himself in the printing and typewriter repair business and is located at 331 White

Street in Norman. We expect to mail the certificates to the 300 stations who participated in the special event late in October.

Negotiations

are under way for access to the repeater site and the reinstallation of the phone patch, according to Mark, N5HZR. Dave, K5PL, reports that Monte, WB5RZX, has been in touch with the appropriate county officials and the problem is close to being solved. Charlie McCown, WB5UUX, has volunteered to be the club's legal agent, replacing Jess McKenzie.

Jerry, W5MCJ

reported that Koichi, J1IBHH, had contacted him about an article on the W5OU repeater for the Japanese CQ magazine. Koichi went through the novice class last spring and earned his US tech license. He has written about SCARS for the Japanese CQ magazine. SCARS has gone international!!

Nominations

for club officers will be solicited by a committee consisting of KD5IT, KB5ABS, and WU5P. If you are interested in serving in an office, contact one of these members. Elections will be held at the November meeting, which will be on

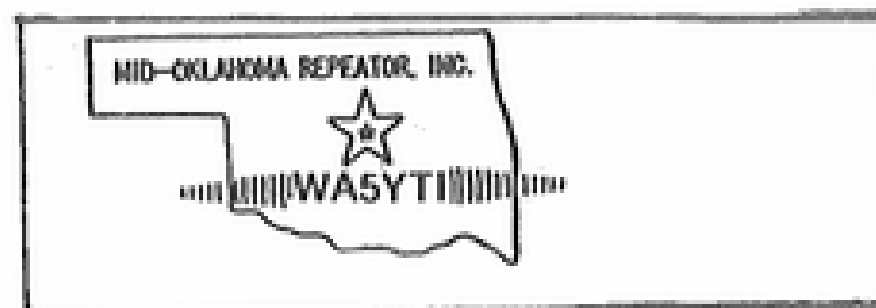
Saturday

November 14, at 9:30 am in the Norman Red Cross building, 1205 Halley Drive. Hope to see you there.

-----KD5IT-----

*LAST CHANCE (BEFORE)
SNOW
CAMPOUT/WEINER ROAST
BROUGHT BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND
NOVEMBER 20, 21, 22*

LITTLE RIVER STATE PARK, CLEAR BAY AREA, SOUTH SIDE OF
LAKE THUNDERBOLT - ABOUT 16 MILES EAST OF I-35 ON SH 9
TALK IN 146.88
PARK YOUR CAMPER/TRAILER/MOTORHOME/PUP TENT/ETC FOR
THE WEEKEND OR COME FOR THE WEINER ROAST SATURDAY @
6:00 P.M. BRING YOUR OWN FOOD & DRINK.



I want to remind everyone that the annual elections for MORI will be held November 2. The November and December meetings will be held at the Bricks Restaurant, 31st & N. Portland. The plan is to arrive around 7 pm for dinner, with the meeting to follow at 8 pm. Bring your appetite, the Bricks has good food.

Speaking of bringing things, bring your nominations for club officers. The nominating committee has picked a few candidates, but we could use more. Holding office is not difficult, besides, officers are exempt from dues for their term of office.....

Remember, you will get out of a club what you put into it. We are primarily a repeater club. We don't have much activity other than operating our three repeaters. We could have more variety if club members wanted it. We need some fresh ideas and enthusiastic people.

Get involved !

LOOK AT YOUR LABEL

That is it at the top of page one. Is your name spelled right? Is your call correct? Is your address correct, do you live in an apartment or trailer court? Is the city correct? Is the state correct? Is the ZIP code correct?

If everything is correct, good. If there are any changes---Contact me within 10 days by mailing to my address: 1020 Arthur Dr, Midwest City OK 73110 all the corrections necessary. Or you can call me at (405) 737-1044.

The reason is simple, we are going to publish a CORA Roster in the next issue of the Collector & Emitter and would like to have it right.

If we left out your middle initial or something like that, sorry. The figure 1, 2 or 3, etc. designates postal zone, that's for our use.

1 AERONAUTICAL CENTER ARC

MEETS: FIRST THURSDAY, FLIGHT STANDARDS
BUILDING. FAA, SOUTH MACARTHUR 7:30 PM
PR BOB PACE, WASCJG 376-3569
VP
S/T JACK IMAN, WBSVN 677-8537
EDITOR: BOB PACE, WASCJG 376-3569

2 CENTRAL OKLAHOMA VHF

MEETS: 10:00AM THIRD SATURDAY, RED CROSS
10TH & HUDSON (BACK DOOR) OKLA CITY
PR JERRY WETMORE, KDSIS 524-5080
VP RICHARD GIMMEL, KASITH 721-3991
SE JOE BUSWELL, K5JB 732-0676
TR ELLARD FOSTER, W5KE 789-6702
EDITOR: JOE BUSWELL, K5JB 732-0676

3 MID-OKLA REPEATER

MEETS: FIRST TUESDAY 8:00PM. OC COMMUNITY
COLLEGE 7777 S MAY ROOM 101
PR BOB ALLEN, W5EPV UNLISTED
VP TIM RAUSCHER, K5MUG 848-9910
SE RICHARD MOOD, K5QNH 677-0363
TR LINDA MOORE, K5NAV 799-1765
EDITOR: TIM RAUSCHER, K5MUG 848-9910

4 OK CITY AUTOPATCH

MEETS: 7:30PM, SALVATION ARMY, NW 50 & PENN
PR GEORGE ADKINS, AD18 722-0074
VP DENNIS PATTERSON, W5SCM 495-0769
SE DAVID CAREM, KF5EB
TR MIKE CREWS, W5DOB 722-2638
EDITOR: CHUCK WILHITE, K5NK 721-4926

5 OKLA UNIVERSITY ARC

MEETS: 7:30PM SECOND TUESDAY (SEP-MAY)
119 WILSON CENTER, 1334 S JENKINS
PR FRANK DONALDSON, W5IOJ 329-4172
VP JOHN MUSTENBERG, KESN 325-2382
S/T JIM GREENSHIELDS, W5HPU 321-9981

6 ALTUS ASSOCIATION

MEETS: 7:30PM SECOND THURSDAY
NORTH MAIN FIRE STATION (CD) ALTUS
S/T MIKE SULLIVAN, W7DNU 477-2938
EDITOR: MIKE SULLIVAN, W7DNU 477-2938

7 BICENTENNIAL (76er) ARC

MEETS: 7:30PM SECOND TUESDAY
KIPS RESTAURANT, RENO & MERIDIAN
PR DONALD DUCK, AESM 691-4199
VP TED VANLANINGHAM, W5JNT 262-1675
SE JERRY SPROUL, W5AUH 354-2061
TR
EDITOR: JIM SEALS, K85XN 381-2005

9 WHEATSTRAW ARC

MEETS: 2:30PM SECOND SUNDAY. LOCATION VARIES.
SEE CLUB SECTION FOR DETAILS.
PR RALPH WILDER, W5PFX (WATONGA) 623-5421
VP TOM JOHNSON, W5IKN (EL RENO) 262-5631
S/T JOE GARLAND, W5FLT (CALUMET) 893-2660
EDITOR: JAN KUEHN, W5JUT (OKARCHE) 263-4480

11 EDMOND AR SOCIETY

MEETS: ODD MONTHS, 3RD SUNDAY, 2:00PM EDMOND
EDC. DINNER, EVEN MONTHS, 3RD FRIDAY.
PR PHIL WOLFENBARGER, W5HIP 789-0681
VP LEE VAUGHN, K5WIS 348-2961
TR EDITH VAUGHN, K5YFX 348-2961
SEC JANA THOMASON, K8SAOP 340-1798
EDITOR: LEE VAUGHN, K5WIS 348-2961

12 QUARTER CENTURY W A

MEETS: QUARTERLY AT VARIOUS PLACES.
NET: 3855 KHZ SUNDAY AT 8:00AM.
CHM ROBERT RUNYON, AA0D 373-1818
VCH GENE HAILON, K5OLE 341-8289
S/T HOWARD BAKER, W5AS 721-5453
EDITOR: ROBERT RUNYON, AA0D 373-1818

13 KAY COUNTY ARC

MEETS: 7:00AM THIRD THURSDAY
PIONEER DRIVE-IN BANK, PONCA CITY OK
PR DAVE LAND, K0SFX 762-8616
VP STEVE SCOTT, K5SGK 762-0117
S/T HARRY BEATTIE, W5DPR 765-3862
EDITOR: CHARLES NORTH, W5EYD 762-8136

14 CIMMARON ARS

MEETS: 7:30PM THIRD THURSDAY, W5FUD SHACK
827 S 13, FAIRVIEW
PR BILL SIMPSON, W5HQR
VP RAY BARNES, AB5Z 274-3334
SE DENNIS PAINTON, W5SV 764-3599
TR TERRY MCCOLL, K5TVF 227-3672
EDITOR: JACK DAY, W5SZ 227-3462

15 SOUTH CANADIAN ARS

MEETS: 9:30AM SECOND SATURDAY, RED CROSS BLDG
NORTH OU CAMPUS. NORMAN
PR MARK KLEINE, W5HJR 329-4285
VP ANDREA WOLFE, W5W 799-5150
SE LINDA BRANDT, W5DWN 321-5081
TR MONTE BATEMAN, W5SRZX 329-7485
EDITOR: DAVIS EGLE, K0SIT 321-7570

16 EDMOND AR CLUB

MEETS: 7:00PM SECOND MONDAY. SEE CLUB
SECTION FOR LOCATION AND TYPE
PR MARK NORTHCUTT, W5DYI 755-4672
VP BOB MOORE, K5ETA 799-1765
S/T KAY NORTHCUTT, W5DYJ 755-4672
EDITOR: MARK NORTHCUTT, W5DYI 755-4672

17 OK CPM USER GROUP

MEETS: 7:30PM SECOND THURSDAY OSU,
ROOM 307
PR WILLIAM COOTER 360-2141
VP JIM WHITE 364-5289
S/T JOY MELTON 789-0280
EDITOR: WILLIAM COOTER 360-2141

18 GREAT PLAINS ARC

MEETS: 7:30PM FIRST TUESDAY
WOODWARD PUBLIC WORKS BLDG.
PR WINDLE HATCHETT, W5SPLN (FT SUPPLY) 766-3561
VP RON TICE, W5OPGD (MOORELAND) 994-2138
SE ROD FORD, W5SVT (GAGE) 923-7683
TR FREIDA PATTERSON, W5EOX (MOND) 256-2111
EDITOR: LOIS FORD, W5J6B (GAGE) 923-7683

19 OKLA INDEPENDENT ARC

MEETS: 7:00PM SECOND TUESDAY
SOUTHWESTERN BELL OFFICES, PONCA CITY
PR LIN JACKSON, K5IJM 762-7299
VP BRUCE LEFEBURE, K5ZKI NONE
SEC BIL WICHY, W0QWCO 762-3297
TR DAVE WHITE, W5SLUI 765-5707
EDITOR: GLEN BISHOP, JR., K5PJ8 NONE

21 TRI-CITY ARC

MEETS: 1ST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH.
PLACE:
PR ROBERT DOLTON, K5RHU 379-2365
VP RON PHILLIPS, W5SUPU 382-1856
S/T J. B. BILLS, K5SMU 379-3992
P.O. BOX 655, HOLDENVILLE OK 74848
EDITOR:

CENTRAL OKLA RADIO AMATEURS

MEETS: 7:30PM FOURTH TUESDAY. RED CROSS
BLDG. 10 & HUDSON OKLA CITY (BACK DOOR)
PR JIM BUSWELL, W5BEQ 236-0368
VP FRANK TASSONE, K5WGS 341-4945
SE LEE WARD, W5HIR 789-0681
TR SUSAN ST LAURENT, KF5LG 324-8180
CON/COM: CHARLES HOFFERBER, W5FMU 340-4468

CORA COLLECTOR & EMITTER (USPS 116-150) IS
PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY CORA, INC, 1020 ARTHUR DR
MIDWEST CITY OK 73110. SECOND CLASS POSTAGE
PAID AT OKLA CITY OK. SUB: CORA MEMBER \$3.00
PAID SUBSCRIPTION: \$7.00 PER YEAR.

POSTMASTER: SEND FORM 3579 TO:
CORA, 1020 ARTHUR DR, MIDWEST CITY OK 73110

EDITOR: JOE HARDING, W5ZNF 737-1044
CIRCULATION: BOB GRAHAM, W5NSV 677-8685

AUTOPATCH

the November meeting, Hank, W4SJRH, and J. C., N5KLN.

President George would like for everyone to start wearing their name badges to the club meetings. There are always several new faces at the meetings and even after self introductions, it is a little embarrassing to not know what one's name or call is. Good idea George.

Even though we have excellent turnouts for our meetings, there is always room for more. President George has asked us to invite more of our friends to come to the meetings. So, let's all see if we can't invite one person to attend the next meeting that hasn't been coming.

I have stated it before, but President George is doing a wonderful job in keeping the meetings short and very interesting. The program is always presented first and the business portion is held after the program. We haven't had any long drawn out business meetings and he doesn't intend for that to happen. Normally, everything is accomplished in about an hour.

President George always has the Executive Board meetings at 6:00 p.m. the same night of our regular meetings. This is usually held at a nearby watering hole. It is at this meeting that most of the business is taken care of and anything of major importance to the club members is presented at the regular meeting. This meeting is open to anyone who cares to attend. George is always on the air telling everyone where the meeting will be. So, if you like, attend those meetings also.

Frank, N5FM, mentioned that our emergency trailer was pulled out of mothballs recently and it was noted that it needed a new paint job. Everything still works fine except one small light bulb and that will be fixed. Contact Frank if you would like to help with the paint job.

I GOOFED

Not often do I make a mistake, but in last month's "Getting to Know Your Fellow Members", I left out some very important information about our guest, W5MBL. I was not aware of it at the time, but it seems that Leonard has had some other interesting vocations. It seems that he did some world traveling with the circus and was a great performer. One of his acts was to see how many pool balls he could cram in his mouth at the same time. It also seems he was well acquainted with monkeys and was always up to some sort of monkey business. So, I apologize for not getting this information out.

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR NEW MEMBERS

How lucky can we be? We finally nabbed him and he coughed up the twenty five bucks to become one of the elite members of the Autopatch club.

Who am I speaking of? None other than the Cashion Flash, otherwise known as J. C., N5KLN, Mr. John Howry. Now, J. C. has made his presence known for some time. He got well acquainted with most of the users of the repeaters before deciding to join the club. He wanted to make sure he was welcome.

J. C. is an interesting character to say the least. He is always good for a laugh now and then and always brings up interesting pieces of conversation on the morning and afternoon nets held on the 82 machine.

J. C. is the main electronic technician at one of the larger General Motors dealers in the Oklahoma City area. When it comes to repairing automobiles, he is the man to see. It is also rumored that J. C. is the main Electronics man of Cashion, with a little something going on the side. What, I am not sure.

J. C. hasn't been in the amateur fraternity all that long. We won't hold it against him, but he, like many new hams came up through the criminal band route. Some of this was carried over into his early days on the air, but he is improving daily and is seldom now on the side.

Undoubtedly, J. C. is a big wheel in the Cashion community. He spends a lot of his time out driving around to keep a check on things. When he gets bored at home, he hops in the automobile and starts driving around. I don't know if he is in charge of the fire department or not, but it seems he is always ready to assist the local firemen and policemen.

J. C. is the envy of a lot of hams. He has his own little private shack out in his back yard. Most of us are cramped up in one corner of a spare room or in the garage, but not J. C. Anytime he desires, he can go out to his real "shack".

At the present time, most of J. C.'s operating is done on two meters. He does intend to expand his operating modes and plans to become a great c.w. operator. He is attending classes to improve his code speed and just as soon as he learns what a "J" is, he plans to spend more time on the air. He has two very good tutors, Ron, KE5M, and Mac, K2GKK. Both these fine gentlemen are constantly after him to work on his code speed and will normally ask him for a daily progress report.

J. C. has a little bit of trouble with his wife when it comes to

his new hobby. He would love to erect a tower in his back yard for his antennas, but it seems Momma has put her foot down and explained the situation to him that when the tower goes up, so does he. At the present time, he really doesn't want to move out.

One of J. C.'s favorite past-times is eating watermelons. He can't pass up a watermelon stand on the road. If he had his way, watermelons would stay in season all year long.

J. C. was very instrumental in bringing back the styles of the 50's. Remember the short haircuts? J. C. still wears that flattop. He doesn't have to worry about putting the greasy kid stuff on it to make it stand up, for now and then he probably gets zapped doing his electronic work and this will do the job.

J. C. isn't a bit bashful about joining in on a conversation. He will make his presence known by announcing that he is monitoring. If he isn't heard the first time, he will say it again. Sometimes, when called on to make a comment, he is satisfied to just stay on the side so he can learn a few things.

J. C. enjoys working on cars. He keeps them in good working order, but has a little problem with the rest of the family. It seems some of them never check the oil level and have a hard time keeping the rods in good working order.

J. C. is presently expanding his education and is attending classes at one of the area centers of higher learning. Classes are held on our regular meeting nights, so we miss the opportunity of seeing him at our meetings. What he is studying, I am not for sure, but I think it has something to do with electronics. He could possibly become a doctor of electronics.

Everybody likes to pick on J. C. But, you know what? J. C., you are a pretty neat fellow. You certainly have a good attitude and take the ribbing in good fashion. You undoubtedly have a very good personality and take everything standing up. You make the mornings and afternoons interesting as you do your traveling to and from Cashion. I for one enjoy listening to you and I am certain that everyone is happy to finally have you as a member of the club. Welcome.

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR FELLOW MEMBERS

One of the most colorful figures in the Auto-Patch club is the voice of Mustang, Oklahoma, Mr. David Ferguson, K5SXJ. I have personally never heard anyone call him by David, therefore, he is affect-

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

AUTOFATCH

ionately known to his comrades as simply Fergie. Undoubtedly, this is a nickname which is short for Ferguson. To his closest associates, he is known as simply "Goob".

Fergie is one of the most active members of the afternoon net held on the 82 machine. Quite often he is the instigator of the sessions, usually beginning around 4:30 in the afternoon, when he announces that he is now on the air. Most times, he is mobile, either coming from or going to work.

Fergie has a thorough knowledge of all that is happening and knows a little something about everything. He is never at a loss of words to fill any conversation.

For years, folks around these parts were not sure exactly who Fergie was. Until a few years ago when Mr. Don Rooker upgraded and received his new Extra Class call, it was very easy to get him mixed up with Fergie. Don's old call was K5SVJ and many people thought they were one and the same person, or either they were brothers. People still get Fergie mixed up with Jim, WB5SJJ, who lives in Stillwater. But, it's pretty easy to tell Fergie from Jim if you ever see them together. Fergie is a tad shorter in stature than Jim, almost a foot I would say.

Aside from his amateur hobby, Fergie enjoys other activities, primarily stunt flying. He is a well seasoned pilot of small aircraft and has taught many of his fellow hams the art of flying. One of his most famous students was N5GOH.

Fergie has always been very active in the severe weather nets. He has his own private little hill out somewhere by Minco that he can easily spot severe storms moving into the area. He has been caught in more hail storms than you can imagine, however, he has taken good advantage of these occasions. It has never bothered Fergie to have his automobile beat to a pulp in a hail storm. Why, you ask?

Another of Fergie's hobbies is buying and fixing up old crates of cars. He loves those big cars, especially big Oldsmobiles. You should see the dashes on one of his cars. It has more instruments on top of the dashboard than most airplanes. How he ever manages to see over the top of them is a mystery to me. After buying the clunker and getting it in good running order, he will wait around for a good hail storm and head out for his hill in Minco. After a good beating, he will call his insurance company to report the damage and will usually get a good paint job out of the

deal. He's not so dumb.

Fergie comes from a long list of famous ancestors. If my memory serves me correct, one of the Territorial Governors of Oklahoma happened to be named Ferguson. Some folks say this was his great great grandpa. Then, there is also the rodeo star, Tom Ferguson. How they are related, I'm not quite sure.

Fergie has an interesting occupation, that being a car thief. He is an expert on hot-wiring a car and driving it out of a driveway before the owner knows what is happening. He isn't just any old ordinary car thief, for he actually fills the qualifications and has the license to steal. It seems that he works for one of the local banks and his primary duty is to repossess automobiles from those people who have come upon hard times and can't con-

tinue to make car payments.

Fergie has always complained of having back problems. I don't know if this was a result of the great war or not, but I have a feeling his problem is something similar to mine, a big yellow streak running up and down about a foot wide. He doesn't enjoy climbing towers either.

Fergie pretty well rules Mustang. You are not allowed to enter without his permission. It seems he was at one time on the police force and still enjoys the privilege of knowing who comes and goes through Mustang.

We are fortunate to have Fergie as a member of the club. We need more like him. Keep up the chatter Fergie, I enjoy it.

WD5CSH

Does Mr. Patterson have a yellow streak running up his back like me, or is he just not a man of his word? I ask you, fellow members, what is wrong with this gentleman? I use that term loosely.

Now Mr. Patterson thinks he has something to hold over my head, that I won't write anything about him in my column as long as he doesn't do his job. Wrong. I made a promise to the club that I would keep you informed. So, to keep everyone up to date, he has still not performed.

It was several months ago when your editor of this fine column served on the nominating committee, that Mr. Patterson begged and begged to serve the club as the new Vice-President. I tried to explain to him that he had served in that capacity at one time and had done such a lousy job that I didn't think he could be elected again. After much pleading, I finally agreed to put him on the list if he would do

just one simple little thing. He promised me the world and said he was at my every command.

This small favor I asked of him was to simply climb my 40 foot tower and put some new "U-Bolts" in my rotor so the old beam wouldn't sit up there and windmill in the Oklahoma breeze. "No problem", he said. "I'll be right over and get that done for you."

Well, several months, or perhaps weeks have passed and still no Mr. Patterson. The old TA-33 is still up there doing its thing, rotating with the wind. If I am lucky, it will be pointing in the right direction when I want to work someone.

Now I will admit that I have a yellow streak running up the middle of my back about a foot wide when it comes to climbing towers. If the lumb thing was about five feet across at the bottom it probably wouldn't bother me so much, but when it looks like a needle at the bottom when I am only up about 10 feet, I get a severe case of the jittering knees.

But, to hear Mr. Patterson talk, he is world renowned for climbing towers and working on antennas. He says he is booked up. I think when it comes right down to it, he also has a yellow streak running down the middle of his back.

So, fellow members, I have a small favor to ask of you. Every time you hear Mr. Patterson on the air, ask him if he has fulfilled his promise to me and fixed my rotor. Or, perhaps you could all ignore him when he comes on the air and not even talk to him.

Could there possibly be someone else out there who would be willing to help this poor helpless fellow member out with his problem? I don't care who does it, just as long as your yellow streak isn't as big as mine and Mr. Patterson's.

EDITORIAL

I have been known to occasionally climb upon my soapbox and expound on something I believe in, knowing that it probably does no one any good except myself to get it off my chest.

As most of you who know me are aware, I have always said that a kid could push the button on a mike and talk, but it took a real man to talk with his fingers. I do not in any manner mean to degrade a kid or anyone who enjoys using a microphone for communications. But, there are other means of communications that some of us enjoy, one being using the "broken wire" method as Donald Macdonald says.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

To me, one of the most enjoyable means of carrying on a conversation with someone is by cw. I realize this is not for everyone, and thank goodness it isn't. I also realize that it comes very easy for some of us to copy cw, while others have a most difficult time in doing so.

I learned the code many years ago during my military days. Uncle Sam wanted to make a radio operator out of me and to do so, I had to learn to copy Morse Code at a speed of at least 18 w.p.m. It came easy for me then and it still is today, some 32 years later. The army had a simple way of teaching the code to us. It involved practice, practice and then more practice, usually for eight hours a day. Most of us reached a point where we could copy "coded groups" of 5 letters each at speeds up to 40 w.p.m. and higher, carry on a conversation with our neighbor at the same time, and still sit there and daydream.

In our world of amateur radio, the F.C.C. has provided us with five different classes of licenses. In the early days, one could obtain the novice license and hold it for a period of one year. It was not renewable. Later, the novice class was good for two years and was still not renewable. It was during this time that one could study for a higher class of license and build up his code speed. Today, if a person is satisfied with a novice license, he can keep it for life.

Several years ago, a person could hold a novice license and a technician class license at the same time. I always felt this was a mistake, for it seems that many of those who did would stay on two meters and let their novice expire without ever working cw and wind up with only the technician license. Undoubtedly the F.C.C. felt the same way, because they eventually did away with the double licensing.

I feel one of the best rulings the F.C.C. ever made was giving the technicians cw operating privileges in the novice bands. This was undoubtedly an effort to have more people upgrade to a higher class of license. However, I'm not so sure that this effort hasn't taken a set-back with voice privileges now available for both novices and technicians on the 10 meter band.

Let me make one point clear. I do not intend to make light of any class license which a person is happy with. If one wants to remain a novice, technician, general or advanced, that is fine. Power to them.

I have rambled just to arrive at one point that I desire to make. I hear many operators on 2 meters

complaining about they can't get their code speed up fast enough to pass the general class examination. If you listen to their reasons why they can't, it is simple to understand, no practice, practice or more practice.

I have no statistics and doubt if anyone does, but I would venture to say that a very small percentage of those who get a novice class license ever do any operating. More than likely, most of their time is spent cramming for the technician theory so they can pass this exam and get on two meters.

I would also venture another guess and say that a very small percentage of those with novice or technician class licenses own an h.f. radio. Those that do are probably spending most of their time on 80 meter phone. Just take a listen in the cw portions of the novice bands and note the absence of signals. It is a common expression that when one passes his general class test they will buy an h.f. radio.

Now to drive my point home. Why wait until you pass the general class examination before buying an h.f. radio? My suggestion to anyone would be to buy that radio as soon as possible and start using it immediately.

Code classes are good. The Edmond club is to be highly commended for conducting their radio theory and code classes. More of the clubs should be doing the same thing. Code tapes are so-so. But, how can anyone expect to build up their code speed by attending classes once a week? It's hard to do, and listening to the same code tapes causes one to memorize them.

My suggestion to anyone would be to get an h.f. rig as soon as possible and get on the air. There is no better way to build up your code speed and confidence than to do some on-the-air operating. If one would make one or two contacts every day, they would be surprised how fast their speed would increase. Besides all that, cw might turn out to be fun.

K5NK

I HEARD: DDB kissing VQ BQX with his flaps down M#1 uses his computer to hold his table down GKK giving advice on copying cw SXJ had some bad gas JN amazes himself GKK has some bad hangups BOB has fond memories of some blonds and brunettes MEL waiting until tomorrow M#2 understands BQX loves pink DK makes do with what he has M#2 has gold stars on his license BQX is an occupant as far as the FCC is

concerned MEL has an undercover cat M#2 found a goodie place JN making time BQX saw a rig MEL loves pickled crow gizzards JN couldn't believe it ZOI will let BOB do it JN stays in hot water MEL has an ammeter in his drawers DDB do dahing BQX is a great choir member MEL loves Dan Rather FM got zapped M#2 takes trade-ins KLN understands all that GQY rejoicing MEL uses WD40 in the most unusual places MEL also keeps unusual things very tight and several other goodies.

K5NK

G C W A

Many, many Birthdays during November 1987. Sincere wishes & greetings to all.

04 Lynn E. Scott	N5FMO
05 Joe McKinzey	W5YPN
05 Gene Nailon	K5DLE
06 Laura Cash	YL W5PML
07 Ken Jessup	W5EIO
08 Sam Isaacs	W5UGA
11 John Dalby	W5COE
16 Norman Wilson	W5FLO
17 James R. Russell	W5KY
19 Virginia Scott	YL N5FMO
22 George W. Bunce	W5DKC
23 Sophia Ard	YL W5JME
24 Al Rauscher	K5CXP
26 Raymond Willis	W5ATO

Our most recent Chapter Member is Howard M. Grove, W5RPD; Shawnee, Oklahoma. Howard has an Advanced license & has been licensed more than 45 years. Welcome Howard; we also appreciate your checking into the Sunday net. Also welcome to your XYL/YL, Mrs. Grove. Apology for losing your name which Howard, W5AS gave me over the telephone. (ED)

Harold Gilbertson, W5RB recently received a "Certificate of Merit" from the ARRL, commemorating many years of dedicated service to his fellow amateurs. Congratulations Gil. If my arithmetic is correct Gil will be licensed 60 years in 1988. (ED)

QRN for the net: It seems that the new Capacity Type Electric Lamps will turn on & off whilst keying the Ham rig. One of our members said He fixed one and does not intend to fool with another. Please strike "It seems that". Mine does the same whilst speaking (Vox or P to T) plus reasonably close lightning strikes. (ED) 73, Howard, W5AS

Q R Z

The great one's announcement caused a certain degree of shock and consternation, because, while Zedd is well known as the inventor of radar, SSB and the plastic milk carton, it is not as well known that he discovered the principle of the superconductor.

Because not everyone understands how superconductors work, we asked Zedd's protoge, Homer Klott, to explain.

"Superconductors," Homer told us, "are called superconductors because they conduct real super. There used to be more superconductors than they are now, but that is only because there ain't as many streetcars as they used to was. You see, the conductor stood on one end and the other guy, I forget his name, stood at the other. When the streetcar was going north, the conductor stood on that end, or maybe the other way around. He drove. The other guy collected the money and shoved you in the back door if it was crowded or if you wanted out he shoved you out.

"Superconductors could make your streetcar go so fast it swayed back and forth a whole lot and sometimes almost hit your cars in your track, and he made sand squish out in front of them steel wheels when he wanted to stop, for making the wheels grip, don't you know. On a real good day, a superconductor could go so fast around them corner that the trolley was flang clean off, and while the other feller clumb down to go hook it on the wire again, you could if you was lucky slip into the back seat and whang your foot on the metal pedal and make the bell clingclang, which excited people no end."

At this point, Zedd, wearing a Eureka Springs tee shirt, Levi's and cowboy boots with the rowels on the spurs painted red, had somebody take Homer off someplace.

"Superconductors," Zedd explained, "conduct current without appreciable resistance. They work at super-cold temperatures. How all this happens is beyond the scope of your small minds, but here is the point: if you get enough superconductors going just right, you have computers that compute a jillion times faster, and you can shove enough power into a circuit to make magnetic

trains and such work.

"Take my word for it."

Zedd paused to shove some latakia tobacco into his oom-Paul. "I discovered superconductors on my DXpedition to the arctic some ten years ago.

"That was the year they still refer to up north as the year even the sunshine froze.

"That was the year it was so cold in the arctic, and even around Ardmore, that people sold snowballs for handwarmers. That was the year that in the arctic the polar bears all bought tickets for Miami Beach, with the result that the Bears and the Dolphins played in the Super Bowl.

"It had been a slow winter for me up until about this time of year that memorable year about a decade ago, and so I decided to mount me a little DXpedition to the North Pole. I couldn't find anybody to go with me, so I fired up my Cessna 172 and set out by myself.

"I will not bore you with details about how I got there, but a few days later I found myself flying through freezing fog and snow somewhere near the North Pole. When my engine quit, I just set her down on an ice floe and pulled out my tent and other stuff and prepared to start working some stations.

"Well, the first few hours it went just fine, and I was clicking off about 3K contacts an hour, CW, when the weather began to get a lot worse. Within two, three hours, the thermometer went clean off the bottom of the scale and my batteries all froze solid, and so did the gasoline for my generator. It was so cold that the rf from my last twenty contacts just hung there in the air, frozen solid around the Yagi.

"Frozen rf is real pretty. It's sort of red, with blue edges to it.

"But the world was waiting for more contacts, and I had a reputation to uphold, and this was serious.

"I tried everything to get them batteries thawed. I breathed on them. I packed them with ice because the ice was so much warmer than the air was that night. But nothing would work.

"It was at that time that I noticed my battery wristwatch was still working fine. That was because my bodyheat was

keeping it comparatively warm. Well, boys, that was when I got my inspiration.

"What I did was, I strung me out some wire and other substances which are still secret, and I hooked them up to my body-warmed watch battery.

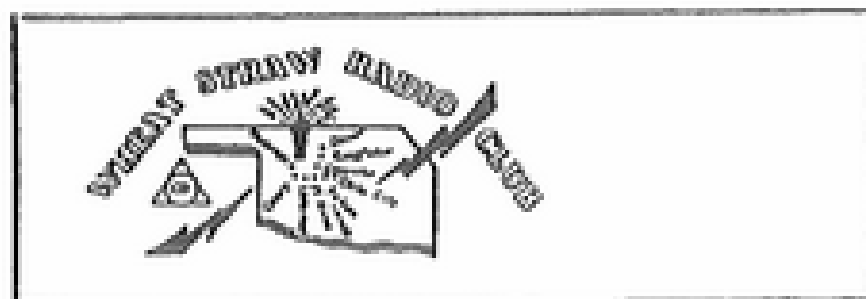
How cold were them conductors I hooked to my rig? They were so cold, they not only conducted that little current from my watch, they amplified it. Before I knew what was happening, almost, my rig was working again, my high-speed CW had melted the air all around the antenna and let the rf go out again, and I had to open the flap of my tent because it was getting so warm all around me.

"I did 77K the rest of my stay there, and generated so much heat that the polar ice cap melted some, which is why the Great Lakes are a lot higher than normal to this very day. I had so much hot air left over that I sewed up my tent and made a balloon, and sawed me off a chunk of the trusty old 172, just before it sank beneath the waves, and made me a gondola. And after eating my last can of beans and Spam, I took off for the south, and that was how I saved myself and my logbooks.

"One bad thing I learned on the trip south about ballooning was that beans and Spam make you sort of uh flatulent, and when you're in a hot air balloon, you are drifting along at the same speed as the surrounding air mass, so when the inevitable thing happened out of me along about Edmonton, it just stayed right there with me until I had smelled it all up near Hays, Kansas. But other than that it was a great DXpedition, one of my more memorable ones.

"And of course I kept researching superconductors when I got back here to Honor Roll, on the theory that anything that is super just must be ordained by the almighty to have something to do with me. And as soon as I have everything perfected, I will let you know.

"In the meantime, just remember: when you hear the word "super," think of Zedd. And when you hear the word "Zedd," just think of super. And when you are going to go riding in a hot air balloon, never eat beans and Spam. I thank you." -- KU5B



Our October club meeting was hosted by El Reno club members. N5IKN set our meeting place while his better half N5ING, Bertha made delicious refreshments, also WD5JNT/YL & N5KCO also did their share. Thanks to you all.

Workday on our repeater was September 19th, everything was checked over and repaired, hopefully for the winter.

I would like to thank the men that did the repeater check-over from the rest of the club members. We really appreciate your time and effort. Thanks for keeping us on the air in good working order.

A motion was made and seconded to hold our Wednesday night net at 9:00pm, year round, so let's hear everyone check in on 146.610, even if you don't have any comments at least let us know you are there.

N5FM, Frank district emergency coordinator for Canadian, Oklahoma and Cleveland counties was one of our guest speakers. Frank gave an interesting and informative talk.

It was motioned and seconded to let our repeater be used for testing during emergencies by ARES.

N5IKN, Tom, had an interesting talk on "Traffic Handling". So many of us have never done this, so we had no idea of the proper procedure to take when passing traffic. Thanks Tom for spending time preparing and doing such a good job of explaining this to us.

We had more good news at our house this month, KB5APL, Karey, "A Pretty Lady" at our house upgraded to Technician at Moore VE session. "Congratulations" to Karey! Mom, Dad and Kris are proud of you for studying so hard and passing your Technician.

KB5AHB, Bruce also is to be congratulated for upgrading at Moore from Novice to Technician. "Way to go Bruce, you did a good job!"

A VE Test Session was held October 17th at Okarche. Contact VE for the session was WO5B, Ed of Okarche. Tests were given with the help of



The October Meeting of O.I.D.A.R was conducted on Tuesday the 13. First item of business was the treasure's report. According to Dave WN5LUI, OI DAR has \$118.61 in the bank after expenses. Biz, WDØHCO, read last meeting's minutes and then old business was discussed. The first item of old business was the repeater site report. Dave reports that the tower has been installed and is currently at 110'2" high. The club also has a new metal building donated by Lou N5GIW. Thanks LOU!

Electrical 30 amp breaker boxes, outlets and installation were provided by Tim KA5ZMC with Taco K5FFL providing the underground ROMEX power line. And we must not forget to thank Bruce KA5ZKI for climbing and installing the antennas and 3/4" hardline as well as Dave WN5LUI for providing technical assistance and Debby KA5WBX for just

VE's AC5C, Smitty, KG5AA, Jerry, WZ5H, Leo and AB5Z, Ray. Ed sends a big "Thanks" to all of these guys for their help.

Club members to upgrade that day were N5KCO, Neal who made it to the top by passing the Extra Class theory. Neal had already conquered his 20 wpm code. "Congratulations Neal!"

Roy, N5LGJ, upgraded from Technician to General Class.

My better half N5JWK, Leroy, passed his Advance theory. "Congratulations from Kris, Karey and Jan."

WD5KGM from Arnett came to participate in the test session and upgraded from Novice to general. KB5DCN, Andrew, from Woodward also upgraded to Technician.

Great job people. All together 8 people took the tests that day. Everything went very smooth, Ed had things well organized and under control.

November meeting will be hosted by Okarche members on November 8th at Community National Bank, Highway 81 at the north end of town. Bring a friend and enjoy the fun. I'm sure we'll have plenty of coffee, refreshments and fellowship.

Happy Halloween, N5JUT, Jan

providing assistance. As well as all the members of the O.I.D.A.R club who donated money, materials, and most importantly their time to the project. In return, nearly everyone learned something new about Radios, towers, electrical codes and civil engineering and that is what HAM radio is all about. Hopefully, everything is up and running by the time you read this.

In other old business, Lynn KA5ZJM reports that there were about 200 hams at the Ponca City Ham Fest with about 16 people taking ham tests. No mention as to how many passed or upgraded but there sure was a lot of happy faces so I assume most at least walked away with something. Overall it was a smashing success. We even had a shortage of tables and had to go to rental place and rent some more tables! It has gotten so big that Lin suggested that the club find a bigger place to hold next years. We will also be looking at changing the date so it doesn't conflict with the other hamfest in Texas that was also held at the same time. Several other suggestions were forwarded and all will be taken under consideration so until then, I hope to see you there next year!

Under new business Lin, KA5ZJM has volunteered O.I.D.A.R. for public service duty for the upcoming St. Mary's walkathon this Oct.24. A number of volunteers ahh...err..."volunteered" to be out there at 7 o'clock in the morning to make sure the little ones don't get lost.

That being the last item of business, The club welcomed Bill Goswick K5WG our ARRL Section Manager to the club. He then showed the club the new video "The New World of AMATEUR RADIO". Hey, if you get the chance, see this video...it is the best yet on Amateur Radio. It's so good that someone suggested that the club get a VCR and show the movie to the parents while their kids are on the walkathon....hmmmm might be a good way of getting some more hams! Anyway, the Club would like to thank Bill and his wife for making the trip from Broken Arrow to Ponca and back again! Well that's it for this month.... till next we meet again.

Big WDØHCO



IS IT NOVEMBER ALREADY ???

Well it's close enough for me it means that it's C&E time again. And I am sitting here staring at a blank screen, maybe some day I will have a computer that will do it all by it's self. Or maybe it will have a microphone on it and all I would have to do is talk to it. A fellow can dream can't he ??

Well I suppose you think I should cut the nonsense and get on with it. Well here it is. October started off rather quickly on the 3rd as a matter of fact. (at least for me) On that rather chilly morning approximately 80 hams assembled along the route for the Myriad Garden Run. To furnish communications for the run. There were hams from all over the OKC area. Several were from EARS, we all worked together, to make it happen. It was a sight to behold, do you know what it's like to see aprox. 2500 people running down the street at youuuu? thanks, Stan Van Nort N5JFQ for asking us to be a part of the event.

Upon departing the run we ran back to Edmond (the car ran) there aint no way you can get me to run. To get set up for the siren test at 12:00 noon. All sirens were covered and the test went smoothly.

Since I'm on the subject of the siren test. Have you been checked out on the club station? Do you have some question on how the patch works? Or would you just like to meet some of your fellow hams? Now's your chance!! The first Saturday of each month EARS has coffee and donuts at the Edmond EOC, starting at 9:00 AM until just prior to the siren test. Come on down and join us. It doesn't have to be for any special reason just drop in and visit for a while.

Along about the 8th of Oct. the nomination committee meeting took place and the committee selected their

choice for board members for 1988 they are as follows.

PRESIDENT:
Phil Wolfenbarger N5HIP
VICE- PRESIDENT:
Dee Mize WDSFHR
SECRETARY:
Gloreia Guinn K8SBGM
TREASURER:
Edith Vaughn KASYPX
BOARD MEMBER:
Larry Traub N5IXV
BOARD MEMBER:
Brad Efaw KBSCDE
BOARD MEMBER:
David Smith K8SDQZ

Elections will be held at our November business meeting the 15th. Which will be at the St JOHN the BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH 9th and Littler, starting at 2 P.M. Classes will be held at the same location. with the class attending a portion of the meeting.

Nominations will be taken from the floor prior to the elections. If anyone has some one they would like to see on the board you are encouraged to talk to that person to see if they would serve, then nominate them for that position. It's your choice. Nominate the person of your choice. May the right choice win.

I guess that brings me right up to the best part of the month. (my favorite anyway) Any time food is involved, is my time. On friday the 16th we held our dinner meeting at the Cherokee Pavilion at Arcadia Lake. It was a meal to remember, We had a chili dinner which really hit the spot I am very picky when it comes to chili, I had to sample it several times to make sure it was my kind of chili. After my fourth bowl I decided that it was perfect and should go ahead and eat a bowl for my dinner. My special thanks to Amber/Bob Tomason KASVEK/KA0CVK and all of Post73 for a great meal!!!

EARS had their dinner meeting to kick off their fall campout and special event station. We all had a great time. If you missed it, you missed a good one. Don't miss the next dinner meeting in December. It will be a good one. The dinner will be at The SAINT JOHN BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH on the 18th of December. It will

be a Pot Luck dinner, Bring your favorite dish and lets have a feast. White elephant gifts have been suggested (keep it small) and or children's gifts. Also some EARS members have already been trying to contact the north pole and talk to SASNTA to invite him to dinner.

I have reserved this paragraph to tell you about the Texoma Hamarama and the motorcycle races. But since that hasn't happened at this time you will just have to wait until next month.

The Amp classes are about to be wrapped up with only a few more to be completed. The next classes will be on Antennas which should prove to be very interesting. Stay tuned for the time and place.

Novice classes are going very well and Tech classes should start some time in late November. This would a great time for any novice to study for upgrade.

One note about the questionnaire about the scholarship fund that was mailed out recently. please mail your response in as soon as possible, So the results can be tabulated. thank you!

For your information the Guthrie link transmitter and receiver have been ordered and received. and assembly is soon at hand.

That just about wraps it up for now. I just have one other thing to comment on, Here it is ask Lee Ward N5HIR who GW4WJO Joe is. We have a DXer in our midst. that's all folks

73 Lee, KASWIS

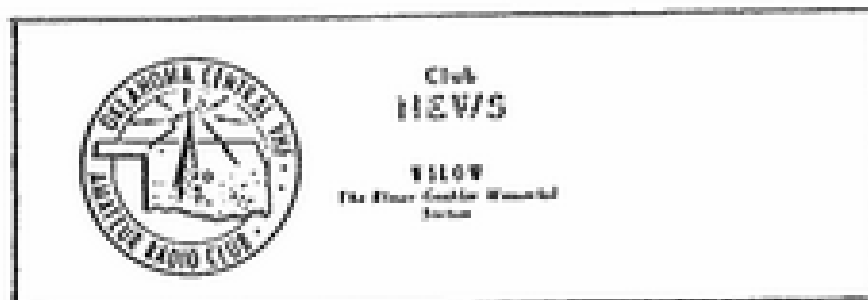
RSC ELECTRONICS, INC.

Electronic
Components
Connectors



Belden Cable
RCA SK
Transistors

Now Open - OKC Branch
8109 S. I-35, OKC, OK 73149
639-7729 or 800-522-4801 (Okla)
Fred Noble, N5JIK



Minutes of Club Meeting

Meeting was called to order 12:30 p.m. October 17, 1987 at the Bricks restaurant by Secretary Joe, K5JB, with eleven members and guests present.

It was decided that the November meeting would be replaced by the Campout/Weiner Roast held in conjunction with the Lake Thunderbird gathering at Little River State Park, Clear Bay Area, sponsored by Charlie, WA5JGU, and Bob, W5HXL. It will run from November 20 through the 22nd. The Weiner Roast will start at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 21. Details on how to find it are elsewhere in this issue.

The December meeting will be a Christmas lunch at the Bricks, 32nd and Portland on December 19. Gathering will start about 11:30 am.

The group was reminded by Charlie, WA5JGU, of the history of the EICO 720 CW 80-10M transmitter, Heath HG-10 VFO, and Heath HR-10 80-10M Receiver that we have. It originally belonged to the Explorer Post 5 which later became Explorer Post 24. When the Post disbanded, the VHF Club held custody of the equipment until a suitable new owner could be found. The group agreed that the equipment should be given to the Edmond Explorer Post. The Secretary wants to clean it up a bit before making the transfer.

Meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m. so the group could take in the OSU - Nebraska football game on TV, Sigh! Joe, K5JB, Sec'y

Wow! That Was Close! Part 2

You may remember that last month I was starting to repair stuff that got zapped by lightning. Well, I have made some progress but haven't fixed everything yet. I haven't looked at the Model 43 Teletype machine. I surveyed the damage to the TNC-1 and found over half of its ICs shorted. These were the two devices that weren't connected to the outside world except via the Ether. I can't believe what happened to the TNC as a result of an electromagnetic spike! Like I said before, I am glad it wasn't a big bolt of lightning!

Joe, WA5FLT, made his TNC-1 available to me to use for testing but I haven't tackled that project. It

uses a goofy bunch of Motorola micro-processor stuff and support chips made by big names like Xicor (!) and I don't know how easy it is going to be to obtain everything.

With some help from Gwyn Reedy, W1BEL, of Pac-Comm, I got the TNC-2 running again. His company sells various kit stages for TNC-2 designs. (His company's version is the TNC-200.) He fixed me up with a set of replacement ICs for the thing. After I replaced six transistors I plugged the new IC set in and it came right on. I started trying the old ICs out of the "maybe not shot" pile and tossed them in the trash one by one as I found something wrong. Only seven ICs survived the crash. (There are about 22 in the thing.) One that survived was the Z80 CPU chip, which surprisingly was a CMOS version. I nicknamed the TNC-2 "Lazarus" and put it back on the air serving the UHF port of the DR-200 switch.

Since the lightning strike the Ringo Ranger seemed to be unusually deaf so I suspected there was a hole blown in the coax. I finally pulled it loose and brought the end into the house so I could measure its loss. 1.6 dB. Hmm, not good, but not that bad for a 50 foot run of 20 year old foam stuff. I took the Bird up on the roof and checked out the antenna. Hmm, only about 200 mW reflected with 3 Watts forward. That is pretty good. But why is it so deaf? I added some radials to it to try and better decouple the mast from the antenna and it did pick up an S-Unit but it still works miserably, oh well.

I took a look at the KLM 80 Watt amplifier and its transistor, a \$27.00 item, was shorted, sigh. More on this one next month, maybe. Joe, K5JB

Pac-Comm Tiny-2

I got a surprise about three days ago when I found a little package on my front porch. It was an engineering prototype of the "Tiny-2" a new TNC design from Pac-Comm. I had mentioned in a phone conversation with Gwyn Reedy, W1BEL, that I would be glad to do some testing on their hardware before they put it into production but I didn't expect anything this soon!

It came with a note regarding things they wanted checked out and it had been bench tested and ready to put on the air. So I did it. With some help from Bill, WD5HJL, from his home in Wellston, I ran it through its range of modem adjustments to see what it would take. It has the TMS 8110 modem chip that the Kantronics KAM uses and I had no previous exper-

ience with that critter. I was impressed! Later I put it on the Ringo Ranger dummy load with incidental radiation (which has improved a tad with the addition of some radials for decoupling from the mast). It did a remarkable job on some weak signals. It is a bare bones design, having only four big ICs and eleven little ones. It is not the itty bitty one you have heard about from the Japanese Packet User Group; the one with surface mount devices. That one may be marked in the US but it will be expensive, probably about \$300.

The Tiny-2 is on a circuit board that is about 4 1/2 by 7 inches. It could have been smaller but there are provisions on the board for some other circuits that will be used to control another design that is in the mill. The goal of this one is to produce one that is simple and inexpensive to produce, to be able to advertise the lowest price TNC on the market. It should look pretty respectable too since it will be in an extruded aluminum case like the TNC-2 (AEA PK-80, etc.) except lighter and smaller. I understand the ads are out now but I haven't seen them.

One of the most significant things about the Tiny-2 is that it uses the same EPROM as the TAPR TNC-2. That means it will run with NET/ROM.

I only ran a bunch of fundamental performance tests to meet the short deadline Gwyn had given me and I lack the time to really write it up. Maybe next month I will be able to cover some of its performance characteristics. In the meanwhile, if you find it lurking on one of the common packet frequencies with the call K5JB-11, give it a try and see what you think. Joe, K5JB

The DR-200 Packet Switch

Last two months I described the Pac-Comm DR-200 packet switches that some of us were playing around with. If you remember these devices are dual port packet assembler/disassemblers. With two radios, you can connect to one port and tell the switch to make a connect with someone else on that port, or preferably, on the other port. Their hardware configuration makes them a network device but they lack the operating program to make them perform as a network device if two or more of them are used in a packet circuit.

Bill, WD5HJL, put one of the switches on the OKC digipeater site and after working hard for several days to get it working as well as the TNC-2 it replaced, removed it and put the TNC-2 back. The DR-200 seemed to be hard for some stations to copy for some reason. He noticed that there was a

strange ripple induced on the DC power supply when it was connected and there may have been a hardware problem with it. There is no network code yet available for the DR-200 switch, and the more time that elapses the less likely there ever will be. The switches may never be useful for anything but cross banding, which they do quite well, by the way.

I left mine on UHF for a long time and rigged up a TNC to an IC-04AT to do some playing with it. It seemed to be working fine.

I changed the EPROM in it so it could be called by NET/ROM. When you previously called it you used the call MWC1 to activate it and the call K5JB-2 to digipeat through it. NET/ROM won't let you try and connect with an alias unless it has been programmed into the NET/ROM network. Since it no speaka da NET/ROM language you treat it as a simple AX.25 link level connection and command it from there. With the current (this week anyway) EPROM, use K5JB-2 to activate it and MWC1 to digipeat through it on the same frequency. The digipeat call of the UHF port (which sometimes is on 2M for special experiments) is MNC2. (Use K5JB-2 to activate either port if you find it lurking on 2M.)

I spent some more time disassembling the DR-200 code and made some progress in segregating the routines that handle the Input and Output. I have not been able to correctly emulate the operation of the 8530 Serial Communication Controller and get the code to run in the emulation mode. So far I have only been able to get it to send a single flag byte out the transmit port!

Disassembling code like I am doing is like dumping a 30,000 piece jigsaw puzzle of the San Juan National Forest out on the floor. First you only see green pieces. After a while you find some blue and white pieces and conclude they are for sky and clouds. I'll tell you how far I have progressed. I can now tell the top of the picture from the bottom!

I'll continue with the disassembly later but I got a pleasant interruption this week. See the next story about the Tiny TNC from Pac-Comm. Joe, K5JB

Now for the Really Big News!

Larry, WA7UIB. (POND); Smitty, AC5C. (ELRO); and Jerry, KG5AA, (OKCY); have NET/ROM up and running. Jim, K5LGW, (WFORD), has his running temporarily in his Clinton home. Steve, N5KFN, (CEDAR), has one on order, funded by the UIB. Bill, WD5HJL (OKC) has one on order. There may be

others I haven't heard about.

What is NET/ROM? You don't know? Check back in the March 1987 C&E about all the details. There is a 28K file on the K5JB BBS that tells all about it and some later files that tell about the latest version, 1.3. In summary, it is a Layer 3/4 networking scheme that creates circuits between nodes. It is code written by Ron Raikes, WABDED, of Software 2000, to run in the TAPR TNC-2 design.

The user connects to it and tells it to connect to one of the nodes in its network. There are only two commands that a user needs to know: NODES to get a list of the other NET/ROM stations in the network, and CONNECT to establish crosslinks to other nodes or downlinks to other users.

If you make a mistake in a command your local NET/ROM node will give you a list of the commands you can use. It consists of: CONNECT, CQ, IDENT, NODES, PARMS, ROUTES, USERS. CQ and USERS are useful if you are just piddling with the thing and the others are just "busy work" commands that are meaningful only to the control operator.

The primary advantage to NET/ROM is that it sends packets to and gets acknowledgments from other NET/ROM stations instead of using the end to end acknowledgments of the digipeater network. Right now, the installed NET/ROMs are competing with the users on .01 so it looks like a mess but with alternate frequency backboning it should work out real slick.

Yes, Clyde, I am seeing all them winky-blinky cusswords from them NET/ROMs. That is how they talk to each other. Packets from one user to another have a header appended that instructs the receiving NET/ROM station what to do with it. That header has control characters in it. Those are the little happy faces and things you see on your IBM (or the things that are making your screen go winky-blinky and the bell go ringy-dingy if your computer program ain't prepared for them). Also, the NET/ROMs carry on a little conversation of their own once an hour to pass along the latest gossip about what other NET/ROMs they have heard. Those conversations are full of colorful language too.

Larry, WA7UIB, the prime NET/ROM mover and shaker, has offered to let me see the operator's manual for the thing so I can do a NET/ROM cookbook article. We ran out of time to get together this month but it should happen next month. By that time, the NET/ROM network should be much better fleshed out anyway. In the meantime, watch, participate, and enjoy!

I haven't heard anything from Bob, WB5AOH, in Fort Gibson who is building a bunch of Texnet nodes for the Eastern and Southeastern part of the state. I got some correspondence from Ron, WA5TTU, but it was trumpeting the benefits of Texnet, which at this time is like talking to the wind. If it wasn't for Bob building the things Texnet wouldn't happen in Eastern OK either. I can testify after years of heckling and teasing that hams just don't give a hoot about building anything anymore. I give up. I hate to back a loser.

I mentioned last month about the TCP/IP exercise that is going on around the country and got the disks for Dave, WD5G so he could take advantage of the KISS protocol in his Kantronics packet controller. He is mulling over the process now. Nick, W5UD, has the programs but is waiting to get the required IBM compatible computer. If one of these guys get TCP/IP going I will jump in there with it on the equipment here, but it takes at least two to tango, you know what I mean?

If anyone else is interested, the KISS code is available for TNC-2 designs, PK-87, PK-232, Kantronics, and TNC-1 (I think). You need an IBM type PC, preferably with a hard disk and I got the code. Just call me or leave a note on the BBS if you are interested in trying it.

The TCP/IP (Transmission Control Protocol, Internet Protocol) is used in large computer mail networks (primarily associated with ARPANET) and has been adapted by Phil Karn, KA9Q, to the Amateur Packet Radio environment. If you aren't a computer network teckie, it is a bit hard to digest all the details of the system but there is a "Plug 'N Play disk in the five disk set that contains the latest code and documentation. I simply haven't had the time to do anything but read about it so I haven't experienced what it does, how to get these NET/ROM and Texnets linked, and how to send mail. I don't think we are going to run out of things to do with packet radio for a long time!, Joe, K5JB

J, KBOQJ, reports that OPRA is supporting an IBM programming project that will make weather information available on demand from the USWSO in Norman via packet radio. I haven't been eavesdropping on .09 lately so I don't know who all is on there. Here might be an application for the DR-200 switch design to move information between the .09 wx frequency and the "ad hoc" backbone on .01. Later it could be moved to the UHF backbone after it gets ta runnin'.

More - next Month! Joe, K5JB

