

CIMARRON

GREAT PLAINS A.R.C.

W5HGH Repeater 146.13/73

June is the month of High-school Reunions, wheat harvests, and Field Day....not to mention June bugs, gardening, and poison ivy. So far, it has been a great spring here in the gateway to NoMans Land....only one real hot day but that one was a doozy! I sincerely hope that that is not an omen of things to come!

That day (105 degrees plus) and the fact that I had volunteered to help lay some twelve inch blocks was the reason that I was a no-show at the June CARA meeting. However, thanks to my good

friend WX5Y, I can report that W5MLT, WK5V, N5LBN, KF5SW, WX5Y, N5FMH, N5FUN were present.

Of course Field Day was the main topic of discussion and plans for that and a hamburger fry were finalized.

The following Thursday CARA net was called by Terry N5MLT with 9 check-ins. WO5B, Ed from Okarche was a guest checkin.

Any Ham that can make the 145.45 repeater on Thursday night at 9 pm is very welcome to check in to our CARA net on the two meter band.

One final note - CARA club members when renewing their A R R L membership should do so through the club secretary. The club will make a few bucks. It will cost you no more! Every little bit helps! 73-Jack NN5Z

The June meeting was filled with the discussion of the Club's participation in the Woodward Harvest Day 10K Race and the Gage Roadrunner Marathon and 10K races. Although the number of participants seemed to have been down somewhat this year, both events went very well and no major problems were encountered in either activity. Our club has been depended upon to provide communications support for both 10K races and is really an important part of the longer marathon. We have been asked by officials of the Gage Chamber of Commerce to sincerely thank the GPARC for the continued support of the Roadrunner Marathon. Both activities give us an opportunity besides providing a service, to demonstrate the usefulness of amateur radio.

NEW JACKET ANYONE ?

Several members have expressed an interest in obtaining a club jacket. Bob Bayless, WBOGAX, has been unofficially named as coordinator of this endeavor, has made preliminary inquiries, including some good news on prices and can provide all the necessary details. Contact Bob for further information as soon as possible.

OUR PRESIDENT

What's that? You say you missed President Windel Hatchett at the last couple of meetings and are wondering if he is ill? Fear Not! He has been competing in several bowling tournaments and from what I understand is doing quite well. I'm wondering if he hasn't found a way to rig a remote controlled receiver inside a bowling ball. Seems like that would be quite an accomplishment. Congratulations on your success but hurry back-----everyone misses your words of wisdom at the club meetings.

SPECIAL MEETING DATE

Because of the Fourth of July Holiday, the regular monthly meeting date has been moved to the 10th of July at Woodward' Crystal Beach Park. Best of all, and of particular interest to KOCIO and WG5Z, are the events planned for that date. Each family is asked to bring a freezer of home-made ice cream or a watermelon. We figure that Larry, KOCIO, will probably kill two birds by bring a freezer of watermelon ice cream. Rumblyings have also been heard about some exotic flavors being considered such as jalapeno, cucumber, onion, and even Boston baked bean ice cream. Rumor has it that even a large cake is to be provided for another special reason that we'll talk about later. Sounds like a neat afternoon commencing at 2:00 pm.

50 YEARS

Lee Rogers, W5HGH, made his first radio contact 50 years ago on July 10, 1938. It's ironic that the rescheduled GPARC meeting falls exactly on the same date. Lee has been very successful in his radio endeavors and has always supported club activities to the fullest.

EVERYONE WELCOME !

We'd like to extend a special invitation to members of the Wheatstraw, Cimarron and Salt Plains Amateur Radio Clubs and any other amateurs in the area to attend our July club meeting and help us to honor Lee, W5HGH, on "His Special Day". Please make plans to attend.

NWOSN

Activity on the Northwest Oklahoma Service Net for the month of May follows: 13 sessions, 121 check-ins and two pieces of routine traffic being handled. Thanks Andy, N5LLR, for the report and for all of your efforts as Net Manager.

THAT'S ALL FOLKS

Out of words, so guess it's time to quit. For now,
73, Lois, N5JGQ

CORA HAM HOLIDAY '88

AUGUST 5 - 7, 1988

LINCOLN PLAZA HOTEL AND CONVENTION CENTER

4445 LINCOLN BOULEVARD

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

GRAND PRIZE: ICOM IC-735

PRE-REGISTRATION PRIZE: ICOM IC-28

PLUS MANY OTHER HOURLY PRIZES

NEW AND IMPROVED (LARGER) FLEA MARKET AREA. TECHNICAL PROGRAMS FEATURING SCIENTISTS/HAMS FROM THE NATIONAL SEVERE STORMS LABORATORY. BAR-B-QUE BANQUET ON SATURDAY EVENING (YUM!)

Programs begin on Friday evening and continue through Sunday morning. VE testing will be conducted throughout the day on Saturday, so come ready to upgrade. Again this year, we will have our public access demonstration room featuring the latest technology in Amateur Radio, as well as, the old favorites. Bring your license and operate from HH 88. Also this year, Child Care will be available at Ham Holiday. Space is limited, so to reserve a place for your youngster, contact Andrea Wolfe, WU5W, at 405-799-5150. Again this year, the ladies will have a fabulous program. Last years ladies' programs are still being talked about around the Southwest and this year promises to be just as exciting. In addition to technical and non-technical programs, there will be the yearly meetings of the various organizations common to Amateur Radio -- Packet, MARS, Repeater Society, and Sunday morning worship sponsored by the Oklahoma Baptist Hams. Again this year, some of the largest dealers in the Southwest will be at HH 88. And the Flea Market moves back upstairs into the BIG convention area. So plan now to come ready to buy that rig or antenna that you've always wanted. New for this year will be a "come as you are" informal breakfast at the convention center. No program, order off the menu, shoot the breeze.

**HH 88 IS BIGGER AND BETTER THIS YEAR!!!
SEND YOUR PRE-REGISTRATION IN TODAY!!!**

FLEA MARKET
2 DAY
COMMERCIAL
DEALERS
VE TESTING

PROGRAMS
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PROGRAMS

LADIES
PROGRAMS
BAR-B-QUE
BANQUET
CHILD CARE

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

LAST NAME _____ FIRST NAME _____
ADDRESS _____ CALL SIGN _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
ADDITIONAL REGISTRATIONS (NAME & CALL SIGN) _____
RESERVE _____ REGISTRATIONS @ \$7.00
RESERVE _____ FLEA MARKET TABLES @ \$2.00
RESERVE _____ BANQUET TICKETS @ \$7.50

(REGISTRATION(S) WILL BE MAILED TO YOU IF RECEIVED BEFORE JULY 22, 1988)

SEND PRE-REGISTRATION FORM WITH CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO:
HAM HOLIDAY '88 P.O. BOX 850711 YUKON, OK 73085-0711
MUST BE POSTMARKED BEFORE JULY 27, 1988.

1 AERONAUTICAL CENTER ARC

MEETS: FIRST THURSDAY, FLIGHT STANDARDS
BUILDING, FAA, SOUTH MACARTHUR 7:30 PM
PR JACK INAN, WBSVN WORK AAA-4403
VP NONE 677-8537
S/T BOB PACE, WASCJG WORK 686-2788

EDITOR: BOB PACE, WASCJG 376-3569

2 CENTRAL OKLAHOMA VHF

MEETS: 11:00AM THIRD SATURDAY, THE BRICKS
RESTAURANT, 3100 N PORTLAND, OKC
PR JIM WILLIAMS, KSVRL 789-0769
VP LAST ONE TO ARRIVE AT THE MEETING PLACE
SE JOE BUSWELL, K5JB 732-0676
TR ELLARD FOSTER, W5KE 789-6702
EDITOR: JOE BUSWELL, K5JB 732-0676

4 OK CITY AUTOPATCH

MEETS: 7:30PM, THIRD TUESDAY
SALVATION ARMY, NW 50 & PENN
PR GEORGE ADKINS, AD10 722-0074
VP DENNIS PATTERSON, W5SCB 495-0769
SE DAVID CAREN, KF5EB
TR MIKE CRENS, W5DBB 722-2638
EDITOR: CHUCK MILHITE, 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, NORTH MAIN FIRE STATION
(CD) ALTUS
PR JAMES MOLLEDALE, K5LS 482-5308
VP NONE
S/T LOREN SIMMS, W5CBF 477-0921
EDITOR: LOREN SIMMS, W5CBF 477-0921

7 BICENTENNIAL (76er) ARC

MEETS: 7:30PM, SECOND TUESDAY, THE BRICKS
RESTAURANT, NW 31 & PORTLAND
PR DENNIS HUSSER, K5GTH 524-4760
VP DICK BAKER, W5THN 745-3877
S/T JERRY SPROUL, W5AHU 354-0017
EDITOR: JERRY SPROUL, W5AHU 354-0017

9 WHEATSTRAW ARC

MEETS: 2:30PM SECOND SUNDAY. LOCATION VARIES.
SEE CLUB SECTION FOR DETAILS.
PR NEAL WSKCO
VP PERRY JONES, W5H62 772-6063
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
ECC. DINNER, EVEN MONTHS, 3RD FRIDAY.
PR PHIL WOLFENBARGER, W5HIP 789-0681
VP DEE MIZE, W5FHR 341-6163
SE GLORIA GUINN, K5S86H 341-3886
TR EDITH VAUGHN, K5YPI 348-2961
EDITOR: DEE MIZE, W5FHR 341-6163

13 KAY COUNTY ARC

MEETS: 7:00 PM, THIRD THURSDAY, SEP-MAY,
PIONEER VO-TECH, PONCA CITY OK
PR MIKE MORGAN, W5LPZ 765-9539
VP STEVE HUSTON, K5SDR 762-4726
S/T HARRY BEATIE, W5DPR 765-3862
EDITOR: DAVE LAAND, K5SFX 762-8616

14 CIMMARON ARS

MEETS: 7:39 PM SECOND TUESDAY
W5SY PLAYHOUSE, 827 S 13, FAIRVIEW
PR RAY BARNES, W5SZ 274-3334
VP LEO PEIL, W5SH 886-2998
SE MADINE PAINTON, W5FMH 764-3599
TR DENNIS PAINTON, W5SV 764-3599
EDITOR: JACK DAY, W5SZ 227-3462

15 SOUTH CANADIAN ARS

MEETS: 9:30AM SECOND SATURDAY, RED CROSS BLDG
NORTH OU CAMPUS, NORMAN
PR ANDI WOLFE, W5WM 799-5150
VP DAVID MEDDERS, K5PL 360-4292
SE DORINDA SKAGGS, W5IUA 799-5363
TR MONTE BATEMAN, W5SRZX 329-7485
EDITOR: DAVIS EGLE, K5SIT 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 SANDY ORCUTT, K5ONI 340-0034
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 NELTON 789-0280
EDITOR: WILLIAM COOTER 360-2141

18 GREAT PLAINS ARC

MEETS: 2:15 PM FIRST SUNDAY
WOODWARD PUBLIC WORKS BLDG.
PR WINDLE HATCHETT, W5PLW (FT SUPPLY) 766-3561
VP RON TICE, W5OPD (MOORELAND) 994-2138
SE ROD FORD, W5OVT (GAGE) 923-7683
TR FREIDA PATTERSON, W5EOX (MOWD) 256-2111
EDITOR: LOIS FORD, W5J6Q (GAGE) 923-7683

19 OKLA INDEPENDENT ARC

MEETS: 7:00PM SECOND TUESDAY
SOUTHWESTERN BELL OFFICES, PONCA CITY
PR LIN JACKSON, K5IJH 762-7299
VP BRUCE LEFEBURE, K5IKI NONE
SEC BIL WICHY, W5HCO 762-3297
TR DAVE WHITE, W5SLUI 765-5707
EDITOR: GLEN BISHOP, JR., K5PUB NONE

21 TRI-CITY ARC

MEETS: 1ST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH.
PLACE:
PR ROBERT DOLTON, K5RHU 379-2365
VP RON PHILLIPS, W5UPU 382-1856
S/T J. B. BILLS, K5KHU 379-3992
P.O. BOX 655, HOLBENVILLE OK 74848
EDITOR:

CENTRAL OKLA RADIO AMATEURS

MEETS: 7:00PM FOURTH TUESDAY, RED CROSS
BLDG. 10 & HUDSON OKLA CITY (BACK DOOR)
PR JOHN THOMASON, W5SYT 340-1798
VP
SE YVONNE HARRIMER, W5SYM 379-3149
TR MARK KLEINE, W5H2R 329-4285
CON/CON: CHARLES HOFFERBER, W5FHU 340-4468

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



It looks like we are in for a long hot summer and you can now begin to feel just what dear ole mother nature has in store for us. The bad thing about this is that summer has not arrived. I hope all will be extra careful when out in the heat. We don't want any casualties among our members.

Just a reminder that the next EARS board meeting will be on July 12, 1988 at 7PM. and the place will be announced later

The July monthly meeting will held on July 17, 1988 at 2PM. Meeting will be at Edmond Council Chambers (EOC).

By the time this newsletter is read by all the ARRL field day will be history. Lets hope all had a good time and did some wild hamming it up on the air as well as the eye ball QSO's.

One event that is next on the EARS schedule is the 4th of July Edmond big parade. Want to help out on this one please contact Lee Vaughn, KA5WIS for an assignment. Lee says we will need a lot of help. We will be working the parade as well as the fireworks display that nite. Come and help out.

Another event that EARS will have to help out on is the Warr Acres 40 year parade and celebration. If you can help out --call Phil, N5HIP

Your club officers and board members need some additional suggestions for a club project or projects. If you have some ideas let them know what it is you would like to see us do as a club.

Ham-Holiday will be on Aug 5-7 Lee, KA5WIS says that the EARS club will be working the registration again this year. He needs some volunteers who can work a 2hr shift each at the booth. Registration will be 4PM to 9PM on Friday and from open to 12 noon on Saturday. Lets all get behind this project and help make Ham-Holiday a huge success.

I want to appologize for the

VOLUNTEER EXAMINER PROGRAM

V.E. TEST SESSIONS ARE HELD THE 3RD MONDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 6:00 AT THE OKLAHOMA CITY RED CROSS AT 10TH AND HUDSON.

THESE SESSIONS ARE CONDUCTED UNDER THE WSYI PROGRAM AND ARE SPONSORED BY C.O.R.A. AT THE JUNE SESSION WE HAD A TOTAL OF 12 APPLICANTS WITH 9 UPGRADES AND 1 CERTIFICATE. 3 FROM NO LICENSE TO NOVICE. 4 FROM NOVICE TO TECH. 2 FROM TECH TO GENERAL, AND 1 13 WPM CODE CERTIFICATE.

TEST SESSIONS ARE FOR ALL LICENSE GRADES; FROM NOVICE TO THE EXTRA CLASS. WALKINS ARE ACCEPTED. WHEN ATTENDING A TEST SESSION, PLEASE BRING THE FOLLOWING:

1. A FILLED OUT FORM 610
2. PEN OR PENCIL
3. CALCULATOR (IF DESIRED)
4. DRIVER'S LICENSE (OR OTHER SUITABLE I.D. FOR MINORS)
5. ORIGINAL HAM LICENSE (YOU KEEP)
6. XEROX OF HAM LICENSE (WE KEEP)

IF YOU DON NOT HAVE A FORM 610, ONE WILL BE PROVIDED. A \$4.55 FEE WILL BE CHARGED EXCEPT FOR NOVICE TESTS. IF POSSIBLE PLEASE BRING THE CORRECT CHANGE. THIS FEE COVERS AS MANY ELEMENTS AS YOU SUCCESSFULLY CONTINUE TO PASS (YOU LOSE NOTHING BY AIMING FOR THE HIGHEST LICENSE AND IT WILL GIVE YOU THE OPPORTUNITY TO SEE WHAT YOU MAY BE IN FOR AT FUTURE TEST SESSIONS).

HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE NEXT TEST SESSION.

brevity of this months article because there just was not much in the way of news items. Hope we get some goodies for the next issue which I hope that if anyone has an article to put in they will let me know so it can be put to print for you in next month's issue.

Our wishes to all for a safe and happy 4th of July and we will see you next month.



THE ZANY NEWS FREQUENCY
By JOE, WA5ZNF

On another page we are featuring a story about Jack Bickham which appeared in the Daily Oklahoman. That is a thanks to Jack for seven years of writing Q. R. ZEDD, and it makes a lot of sense.

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It will be HAM HOLIDAY time in a month, and the hard working CORA bunch have come up with a bang up program that will encompass three days starting Friday August 5th, the really big day Saturday the 6th, and the big windup on Sunday the 7th with the awarding of prizes.

Throughout the three days there will be programs that will interest both the Hams and their wives, as well as their children (there will even be a Kiddie Koral to take care of the kids while the adults have fun).

The Flea Market has been expanded to two days this year, Saturday and Sunday, and will feature a multitude of items from "Resistors to Radios".

The Commercial Exhibitors space had to be expanded this year to take care of the display of the many items to be offered. It will be open Saturday and Sunday.

For those who like to eat there will be a Bar-B-Que Banquet Saturday night.

If you have not pre registered, look for the form elsewhere and send it in today. They will return your tickets to the various events if you get it in by 22 July (thats received, not mailed) and you won't have to stand in line Saturday morning.

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LAST MINUTE CHANGE

The Bricks has close again so the Oklahoma Central VHF Club will move their meeting place to Denny's Restaurant at 39th and Portland. 11:30am on the 16th. This change also applies to other clubs meeting at the Bricks.

DRSI PC Packet Adapter

At Dayton, I checked with Digital Radio Systems, Inc. (DRSI) to assess their PC*Packet Adapter (PC*PA). This is an MS/DOS computer compatible circuit board that is designed to be a two port communication adapter. One port is equipped to send and receive Bell 202 tones and key a transmitter. The other port is configured to send and receive HDLC frames (High Level Data Link Control - the stuff used in packet radio) either with RS-232 or TTL voltages. With the right software the first port functions as a VHF TNC. It has a built-in Texas Instruments TCM 3105 modem, the same device used in the Heath HK-21 Pocket Packet, the Pac-Comm Tiny and Micro-2s, and the Kantronics KAM. The second port must be connected to an external radio modem to function as a TNC. DRSI sells an HF modem for this purpose.

At Dayton, I left the DRSI booth without a warm and fuzzy feeling about the potential software support that would be available to make this device really useful so I didn't spring for one. A similar, but more expensive board, the PC-120, is sold by Pac-Comm and it has very little after market software support. (Both ports of the PC-120 come equipped with modems, the second port has an AMD 7910 "World Modem" chip which can do HF.) The PC-120 is supplied with a couple of terminal programs and drivers to operate TCP/IP but for other off-the-wall applications you need to be a skilled programmer. The PC*PI was initially offered with less software capability and little promise for software development "hooks" to permit the owner-programmer to develop his own. Considering the comparison between what software you get with the PC*PA and the DR-120, they may be equivalent values.

Later news about well known, and productive, programmers obtaining PC*PAs made me a little more comfortable about the potential usefulness of the thing so I sprung for a couple of the boards at Hamcom. I didn't get the DRSI HF*Modem which was priced special for the show. I might wire up a TCM 3105 and a keying circuit (with watchdog, ahem!) for that second port to make a two port VHF/UHF switch.

Note that to use these kinds of interface cards it is necessary to keep the computer running if you want to monitor things or have the packet system available continuously for connects. There is some merit in having a stand-alone TNC if you want to shut off the computer while it is unattended; you can queue up messages in the TNC and retrieve them later.

The PC*PA board has the very powerful Zilog 8530 Serial Communications Controller (SCC) that will do almost any kind of synchronous (or asynch) trick imaginable. When correctly setup, it would handle the Manchester coding used in satellite digital communications. It also has an 8536 CIO, and I don't know what that thing does. I have to get an technical manual order off to Zilog to find out how it is programmed. The hardware information supplied with the PC*PA is almost nil, and some of it is wrong (the described jumper header for making TTL signals on the second port is numbered incorrectly). The manual gives the devices' register addresses in terms of a base address and neglects to state what that base address is. The guy at the DRSI booth did tell us that that base address was \$300 so at least we don't have to go looking all around in 640K for it.

DRSI supplies software that makes the computer operate like a dumb terminal (no buffering, disk saving or file sending). The operating program, TNC.EXE, also doesn't use the higher level MS-DOS service routines that would permit redirection, so you can't do a trick like, "TNC > TNC.BUF" to capture things it sees.

It uses the command structure made popular by WA8DED in the TNC-1s and TNC-2s. (Software is being developed by Software 2000, the company with which Ron Raikes, WA8DED, is associated.) With this software running the computer, the board does what it is supposed to do. Dave, K5PL, plugged in one of my boards and had a little problem with spurious characters showing up in the displayed frames so we are looking for a possible conflict with some of the other things his computer was doing at the time.

I set mine up to operate while the computer was also running the MON program (a homebrew program that ignores duplicates and other chaff) and there seemed to be no conflicts, even as I sent unproto frames from the MON program. I have two communication drivers (interface programs) that I use for communications with the MS-DOS computer. One is a single port driver that came with Skip, WB6YMH, and NK6K's STATS system. The other is the multi-port driver that is used with the popular MS-DOS Packet Bulletin Boards. This latter driver has given me a little problem when I transmit and immediately go to the receive mode to see the results. It seems to delay retrieval of immediately following packets from the interrupt buffer, and sometimes scrambles part of what the TNC has heard. This could be happening in the KISS TNC, the Serial

cable, or in my clumsy programming attempts, but it doesn't happen with Skip's interrupt handler.

I only mention these details because it is important to learn what compatibility problems the DRSI PC*PA might have with other stunts the computer is attempting. After all, the only compelling reason for using an accessory like this is to be able to do things the "normal" packetero hadn't thought of. At this point, Dave, K5PL, and I are still experimenting. A better report will come later. Another clever fellow, Davis, KD5IT, has one so maybe the three of us can noodle them out.

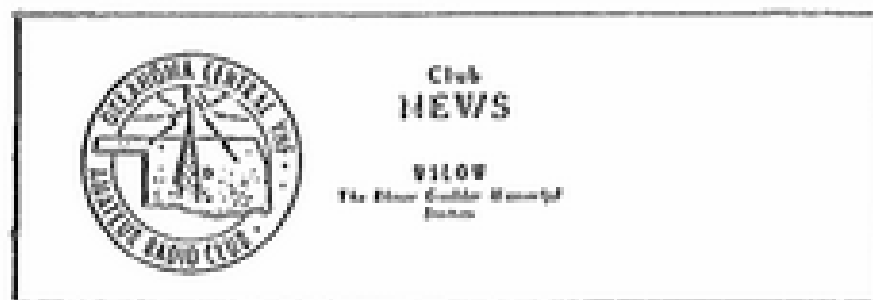
The guys from DRSI were showing a more robust communications program at Hamcom and promised to send copies as soon as they received the warranty cards on the boards. They explained that the company doing the programming (Software 2000) had a rigid licensing arrangement and wanted each owner on record before supplying software. This software arrangement did not contribute to the warm and fuzzy feeling mentioned earlier, but Software 2000 is certainly capable of producing a workable product. For example, the supplied terminal program did work flawlessly with my MON program competing for computer resources, and that is no small achievement since the MON program is very busy indeed!

What I would like to have is a programmer's development package that would simplify interfacing to the card so programs like my MON program could be hooked to it. Dave, K5PL, has a particular interest because of it's potential in the Severe Storms Lab. project. I could probably cobble up a software driver but Dave won't mess around if he gets interested. More later. Joe, K5JB

Rip/ROM

Last month I passed along a couple of messages about TheNet, a NET/ROM work-a-like from NORD<>LINK in Germany. One message described how to get it and the other expressed some concern that TheNet was a copy of NET/ROM and not an independent design, as claimed by NORD<>LINK. I am now referring to it as Rip/ROM. I'll explain.

A ton of related messages were generated on Compuserve's Hamnet after Rip/ROM became available. Some were from folks who indicated they had made a code comparison and the similarity was very close. Software 2000, designers of NET/ROM claimed it was an out-right theft, and still claim those who distribute it are distributing stolen property. NORD<>LINK



Minutes of Club Meeting

Meeting was called to order at 12:10 p.m. by President Jim, K5VRL, with eight members and guests present.

Ellard, W5KE, gave the Treasurer's report. Fred, W5NL, reported on K5JB's whereabouts and advised the group that form 610B had been ordered from FCC but not yet received.

There was discussion of the best way to move the station to the capitol building. We will need a session with Ken Fields, K5VFN. We voted to keep monthly meetings going at the Bricks with a few exceptions, such as the traditional August watermelon meeting with the Aeronautical Center ARC. Date for the August meeting has not been set.

The July meeting will be July 16 at 11:30 a.m. at the . . .

Meeting adjourned and the group went outside to watch Charlie, WA5JGU, figure how to get at the keys he locked in the car. Marie came to the rescue...Fred, W5NL, for the Secretary.

A Busy, and Fun Month

It doesn't seem like I have been keeping up with things very well this month. There were several things I intended to do but failed. I have some highly modified code for the DR-200 switch and think I might have discovered a way to make it play chameleon, like a dumb NET/ROM, but it looks risky, and would only handle one user at a time. The question is whether it would resume its correct identity after the user disconnected. No, there has been no news on ROSE code for the thing; that effort is on hold at my house. I don't think they have released the source code yet so they must still be musing over it.

I took off work one day to replace my faithful, old water heater. The house, and plumbing were built around this thing almost 25 years ago. I came home to water rivulets creeping down the driveway so had to turn the water off and rough it until I disassembled the part of the house that held the tank and replaced it. If I live long enough to wear the new one out it will be a snap to replace. I added unions and even a gate valve to shut off the cold water supply to it. I hate to fix things but I don't mind improving them!

I am typing this at Jerry (KD5IS) and Pat's home in the Northern New Mexico hills overlooking Eagles Nest. It happens to be the day of the scheduled VHF Club meeting and I regretfully had to miss it. (I also missed the Oklahoma City air show, but I did get to see the SR-71 arrive.) I made an abrupt decision a couple of days ago to come up here for the weekend because it was the only opportunity, during their three week stay, that I could get free with my airplane. Until this month, I had not done any flying for the last year. I kept letting trivial things interfere until I almost forgot how much fun it was to sprint around the country with my own wings.

Around the first of the month, Mike, N5MS, put me on the manifest for a flight down to Hamcom. The night before, I went out to my airport to sharpen up my skills (and get legal for carrying passengers). With that preparation, I could contribute some towards the trek to Grand Prairie. That trip was fun. Nobody got sick. We didn't get lost, and so forth. Once I was re-infected with the aviation bug, I started looking for other opportunities to flit around a bit. Jerry and Pat provided one of those reasons by inviting me up to their place.

One of the compelling reasons for this trip was to answer two questions about the mountains of New Mexico. They are: 1. Does the sun go down before dark? and, 2. Does it come up before morning. Jerry, Pat, and Jason (Jerry and Pat's 11 year old grandson) agreed that this was a very worthwhile investigation and would diligently report their observations if I came up to supervise, so I did.

Well, I am typing this well after sunrise and the rest of the crew is still snoring away. I don't think we are going to arrive at an answer without more investigation.

After awaking, the crew proposed a more simpler question to answer: What time in the evening does the 300 Watt sodium yard light come on?

About midmorning Saturday, Jason and I had a good time herding the airplane around the Moreno Valley that contains Eagles Nest Lake and the Angel Fire Ski Resort. We took Jerry and Pat on a sight seeing tour, circling the valley, the lake, and the cabin, snapping pictures and ogling.

It was early in the morning before the thermals could form and the air was silky smooth. We watched the boaters on glass-like Eagles Nest Lake enjoying the cool morning weather. Jason had things well under control, even if he couldn't see where we were going. Jason is 5'4" and I neglected to share my pillow with him so he could

see over the instrument panel. Jason had a good sense of touch on the controls, he made his turns as smooth as an Air Transport Pilot would have and sensed the need to add a little up elevator in the turns to maintain altitude. I think he will make a good pilot by golly!

The day I left, we arrived at the airport as a Cessna 206 took off with the back door removed. Since that signalled about the most exciting thing that would happen at the airport that day, we didn't have to do much investigating to find out what was going on. The airport staff (1) put all other activities on hold while the 206, with three parachute jumpers circled for altitude. We waited for them to jump before I paid for gas and departed. Later, I learned that the one jumper who hit right on target suffered a broken leg. Indeed, it was a big event at Angel Fire Airport!

On my arrival at Expressway, there was some problem on the runway. There was an airplane that seemed to be stationary there. I elected to make the approach with the option of going around if he didn't clear the runway. I was late getting loose from Air Traffic Control and had not been guarding the local airport frequency until immediately before my pattern arrival so I was unaware that the airplane on the runway had a flat front tire. After one low approach, (N5MS knows what a low approach in a Skylane sounds like, only kidding!) it moved to the taxiway and I landed. After putting the airplane away I noticed that the disabled airplane had worse problems than a flat tire. I went over and asked the pilot about the suspicious wrinkles alongside the firewall (attachment bulkhead for the nose gear). He acted surprised to see them and admitted having a "little porpoise" on landing. Sigh, that airplane, an older 182, had been real nice looking one. I hope I don't ever have a "little porpoise".

I will be heading off to Richmond, VA the week before Memorial Day and Hoss, WA5ZAI, is checking into the hamfest calendar for his area. We didn't have anything posted so I may not have another "foreign" hamfest to report on next month. In only another month we will be having our very own Ham Holiday and I am looking forward to that. If your club, or someone you know is working on the committees to put it together, see if you can invest a little time to help out. Everybody contributing a little beats the heck out of a few having to contribute a lot!

Well, that is just about enough musing, let's look at the month's packet notes. Joe, K5JB

responded that they had independently written the code in assembly and C and that they would make the source available. A week ago, Phil Karn, KA9Q, indicated that he had received the source code from them but didn't offer any conclusions.

I obtained a copy of the object code, put my call, etc. in it, burned a couple of EPROMS, and gave it a try. Sure enough, it worked like a NET/ROM. Then I started looking through it and comparing it to code provided by one or our local NET/ROM owners. (Note to Software 2000 zealots: I didn't ask for permission to disassemble NET/ROM any more than I would have asked for permission to pull the cover off of my Icom 27 to have a look-see. If I had a reason to have a NET/ROM for my very own, I would buy one, so don't sue me!) I found the same similarities reported on Hamnet. The jump tables containing the eight software interrupts pointed to routines that were identical. On a Z-80, software interrupts are subroutines that are executed by issuing an RSTn (restart 0 through 7) instruction and they can do anything the programmer wants them to do. Observation #1: It is impossible that two programmers would independently decide what these software interrupts would do. Chosing the things these eight things would do is about as likely as two people rolling dice eight times and coming up with exactly the same set of numbers. It is preposterous to believe that the routines themselves would be identical if independently developed. Conclusion #1: NORD<>LINK copied these routines from NET/ROM.

To check the claim that TheNet was created by a C compiler (for what ever difference that makes), I took a look at some of the routines that would likely have been written in C, such as the response to a SYSOP command. The two programs were nearly identical. There were some subtle differences in the code module boundaries, like where they called up routines from the standard C library, but they were functionally identical. It did indeed appear that the Rip/ROM code had been compiled. I found it incredible that NORD<>LINK would go to the trouble to reverse engineer the NET/ROM code to the extent necessary to generate a C program that would, in turn, create the same object code. The process would require disassembly, rewriting in C, compiling, comparing the results to the original, etc. Both programs were supposed to have been optimized for size, a process that removes duplicate or redundant commands and compacts the code. NORD<>LINK claimed to have used a commercial optimizer, Software 2000 claims to have used an optimizer

of their own design. (Neither one were very good because I saw a lot of JMPs to JMPs to JMPs that did a return to the calling code.) Some of the code boundary differences I saw may have been caused by this difference in processes.

It seems that if they were going to steal it, they would stop with the disassembly and modifications and simply reassemble the modified code. Maybe they thought that if they produced a C source program, people would believe that they developed the thing independently. I don't, any more than I believe in those Black Forest Elves and Brownies. It is just incredible to me that they would go to the trouble for any other than an idle "knitting" exercise. If they were knowledgeable enough to make C source code that would generate the same assembly listings, they should have been knowledgeable enough to make their modifications to the assembly listings. Conclusion #2: Portions of TheNet did appear to be created by a different C source program than the one that created NET/ROM.

Regardless how it was done, TheNet was a copy of the structure, methods, and detailed designs of NET/ROM. It was not independently developed. Once I arrived at this conclusion, I simply renamed my copy Rip/ROM, because it accurately describes what I think it is.

As you might surmise from my admitted curiosity, I have no problem with someone browsing through software to see how it works. I also don't have a problem with people "borrowing" software to see if they like it well enough to buy it. I do have a little problem with people running software they haven't bought. That is referred to in N5MS's business as converting property for one's own use, ahem, stealing it. I have a BIG problem with people stealing software and then lying about it, claiming that they wrote it. Admittedly, if I refused to associate with thieves, I would have very few amateur radio associates who happen to use computers for digital communications. I guess the thing that made this country great was our ancestral thieves and hooligans who were kicked out of their homelands to populate this place.

It wasn't "necessary" for NORD<>LINK to copy NET/ROM to make a workable substitute. Software 2000 published, with their version 1.3 NET/ROM, an excellent explanation of how NET/ROM did it's thing and what would be required to create a compatible network controller. KA9Q, or somebody, wrote NET/ROM support for the TCP/IP suite by using these specifications, so it can be done by

a capable programmer. What puzzles me is why the NORD<>LINK folks, who seem to be capable, did not write the thing from scratch. Even though my monitoring program bears little resemblance to STATS I did use many of the routines therefrom because I couldn't have done better. The difference was that the STATS authors gave permission to use their routines, and Software 2000 clearly prohibited it. I am so proud of the way WB6MYH and NK6K handled the circuit tables and various structures I gladly pop their names up on the first screen as the program starts, to give them credit for their designs. If I wasn't embarrassed with my primitive programming style, I would send the source code to those guys, to show what I did with their neat stuff, but on the other hand, I don't think they could learn anything from me.

(Incidentally, I'll give the monitoring program to anyone who asks. It does require an MS-DOS computer and a TNC with the KISS code. I keep adding stuff to it all the time so it will probably never be finished.)

In conclusion, I expect to see a number of less scrupulous amateurs putting Rip/ROMs on the air. If Software 2000 (or their distribution arm Amertech, I think) gets out of the NET/ROM business, there may be no alternative for additional, legitimate NET/ROM nodes. Making the code freebie could encourage spurious home-nodes that would do nothing but clutter the developing network with eunuchs. I hope not. Joe, K5JB

Didja Know Dept.

Did you know how Mac, K2GKK, gets all those ARRL bulletins and things he puts on the packet bulletin boards? He has a team working on it. Judy, KA5BJS, fires up the PK-64 RTTY system and catches the 5 O'Clock WIAW broadcasts. When Mac gets home, he edits the things to remove the nits and makes them up in the standard bulletin format so they will be forwarded on the packet bulletin board systems. He also comes over on 146.415 and leaves a copy on the K5JB PBBS, which doesn't do forwarding.

He also follows up with the house-keeping that is necessary to keep things tidy. When bulletins get pretty old he deletes them and continually updates pointers to the files that are kept in the separate directories. I used to have to type all those things in from the post cards sent from the League. I now don't have to do the typing, and the material is kept much more current. I and the ones who read the bulletins thank you Mac and Judy for the work that makes these bulletins locally available! Joe, K5JB

Teacher Has a Novel Approach

By Ben Fenwick

NORMAN — Author and teacher Jack Bickham sat with two students in a University of Oklahoma coffee shop and talked about writing. He was buying the coffee.

Patently, he listened while one of the students explained a novel he had just finished.

Bickham knew full well that if a novel were written properly the student wouldn't have to explain it. Bickham also had read it.

"It's a wild and woolly thing, with good forward motion," Bickham finally said. "It's not bad. But you need to get to know your character more."

"How close am I?" the student asked, nervously sipping the coffee.

Bickham paused a moment. He seemed to be thinking.

He leaned back in his chair.

He bummed a cigarette from the other student (Bickham is supposed to be quitting smoking), then grinned and scratched his head.

"About from here to Albuquerque," he said.

No hard feelings. The students had taken his classes for about two years. They are used to it.

Usually, it's the new professional-writing students at OU who have problems with some of Bickham's methods. So do people who talk about writing but aren't serious about it.

Especially if they want to be writers but don't write.

"When someone tells me they want to be a writer, I immediately suspect them," Bickham said recently. "I want people who want to write, and *will* write, come hell or high water."

Bickham, 57, teaches professional writing at OU's H.H. Herbert School of Journalism and Mass Communication. He also is director of the OU Short Course on Professional Writing each June.

This year's short course is a special one for Bickham; it is being offered for the 50th time.

Both as an OU professor and as head of the short course, Bickham

teaches that writing can be a profession.

"The thing that this school and the short course sell, the heart of the matter, is the professional attitude,"

Bickham said. "If you are open to the experience — that's an important qualifier — then you can learn it."

Bickham said there are a lot of misconceptions about how to write novels, most coming from college English departments and literary circles or from people who can only get their work self-published.

He refers to those people in the English department as "sachet-bag sniffers."

"There are people out there who like to spread the impression that writing is very mysterious," Bickham said. "I think people see writers as strange, eccentric people who walk around in thought all the time and drink heavily and somehow produce pages, probably out of a garret in Paris or something."

He said publishing requires a writer to be realistic, a part of the professional attitude. Goodbye, Hemingway and James Joyce. Hello, Waldenbooks.

"You deal with the publishing world that is out there, not preconceptions," he said, "not what may have worked 100 or 50 or even 10 years ago."

Bickham believes professional writing is writing meant to touch the common man or woman. People buy books they want to read, not the kind of work published in literary journals for professors.

Bickham himself came from the sachet-bag school of novel writing. An Ohio University English graduate, he said he wrote a lot of lousy, unpublished novels — wonderful prose, he said, with blazing sunsets and twirling leaves and other nonsense before he took OU's professional-writing

courses and learned how to write.

Bickham writes at home on a computer, from three to 10 pages every night. He believes the routine of writing each day is important. Sometimes, if he can't sleep, he gets up and writes some more.

The publication of his first book was in the 1950s, a Western titled "Gunman's Gamble." Bickham has published 64 novels.

One, a humorous Western, was made into a movie, "The Apple Dumpling Gang." Two others have been sold to be made into movies.

He wrote "All the Days Were Summer," a story about a boy who raises a dog born completely blind.

Last year, TOR Books published "Miracle Worker," a thriller about a doctor who poisons people in the name of medicine, set in an imaginary Oklahoma town.

His most recent book, "Day 7," due out in June, is about a space shuttle mission — with someone trying to murder its astronauts.

Bickham's edge in the real world probably has something to do with his extensive news background. He has reported and edited for the *Oklahoma Journal*, the *Oklahoma Courier*, the *Norman Transcript*, the *Oklahoma City Times* and the *Daily Oklahoman* and the CORA Collector & Emitter. His newspaper work has earned him a place in the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame.

Through all the jobs, Bickham wrote and published books on the side. He moved into teaching full time at OU in 1970.

At OU he excels in what might be termed "his baby." Professional Writing 4514: Novel Writing. Bickham teaches the discipline and techniques of the profession. His method: learn by do-

ing.

Bickham has students complete 200 pages of a first draft of a novel by the end of the semester. The pages are graded on a real-world scale: "A" means publishable. Students who don't get theirs finished on time get an "F" (the deadline is usually Pearl Harbor Day).

Persistence is a crucial part of the professional attitude, he said, perhaps the most important. Bickham said the only people who can't write are the ones who give up.

"I never knew a failed writer," Bickham said. "I only know quitters. The worst writer I ever knew lived somewhere out in western Oklahoma. He was bad. But he kept telling me, 'Bickham, I am going to write.' A few years ago I got a letter from him with a copy of his first novel."

Bickham knows the feeling. He never gave up, either.

Several years ago he was diagnosed with cancer. Thinking it was to be his last book, he said he wrote "I Always Dream of Columbus," a novel about his boyhood in Columbus, Ohio.

The cancer went into remission.

And, as surely as persistence pays off, the book landed him in the Ohio Hall of Fame.

Bickham also won't give up on the professional-writing department in the journalism school. A small program with its basis in quality rather than quantity, it faces cutbacks and the threat of cancellation every year. He said there has even been talk of merging it with the English department.

But Bickham said he will stick by professional writing until he is retired, about three years away.

"Ninety-five percent publish something, like non-fiction. I'd say one or two in 10 publish a novel in today's marketplace."



ALTUS AREA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

The Altus Area Amateur Radio Association met 7:30 pm, 9 June 88 at North Main Fire Station. We had 14 members present. They were KB5LS, W5CCV, N5IIV, KF5ME, KA5YWY, W5VXU, W5ZDI, WB5URH, K9PNT, WD5BBN, WA5CBF, KA5HUX, WB5UMH and WD5BBO.

Jim, KB5LS started the meeting. Loren, WA5CBS read the last months minutes plus gave a financial report of \$284.69. Several of the group needed Form 610's. The club secretary has a good supply of them.

Joe McDonald, W5CCU volunteered to check on a meeting site for the club breakfast for the 30 July meet. He will report back to the club on 14 July.

We have a new Novice in Altus by the name of Charles Jeffries, KB5GOO. Welcome to him.

Phil Hunsberger, K9PNT upgraded to Extra Class. Congratulations to him.

Dwight Dennis, WB5URH has the new 145.01 dipmeter working. He plans to install it at the site soon. Frank, KA5HUX has been working closely with him on this project.

K9PNT and N5IIV commented on the 2 and 6 meter band openings we have had lately. N5IIV Jim commented on the nice temperature inversions on 2 meters. Loren, WA5CBF worked several 6 meter SSB stations during the weekend of 11-12 June. K7's and N7's were really coming in on his IC-502.

Jim, KB5LS had some discussion on the Field Day 88 site. We need to start checking our gear and preparing for FD '88.

The club meeting dismissed at 10:00 pm, when the sodas and doughnuts were gone.

Next club meeting is 14 July 88 at 7:30 pm. EOC.



PEARS

met on June 11 at the Norman Red Cross. There were about forty at the meeting, including three guests. Monte, WBSRZX, reported \$1366.28 in the treasury and distributed the new SCARS rosters and repeater user guides. If you did not attend the meeting, look for yours in the mail.

Mark, NSHZR,

discussed SCARS involvement in the Aerospace America airshow. After admitting he had "been out of it for a week" (some thought more like a parsec), he described the functions the group would be doing. It looks like about a dozen SCARS members are lined up to help.

FIELD DAY 88

will be history when you read this but plans for the winning SCARS effort are being formulated by Louis, KD5WA, even as this is being written. Gary, WBSULK, is planning a 200 foot vertical longwire held up with several helium filled balloons. Anyone have a balloon?

The big challenge this year will be beating Andi's 1986 FD record for the most contacts per hour. I can't find the actual count but I seem to remember she did 200 in the first two hours.

OK QSO party

planning is underway. Joe Lynch, NSCL, and KDSIT met to plan the very first QSO party in Oklahoma. It will be held from 1200Z Nov 12 to 1200Z Nov 13 which coincides with the first day of the "200" Bicentennial special event week for Oklahoma. Watch for further announcements here.

Lost my balls..

said Leland, WSMCN, and got everyone's attention. "If anyone has eighteen 11 mm balls they don't need, I could use them." After the blushes and laughter subsided, Gary, WBSULK and David, KSPL, relayed the story. It all started when someone spotted Leland's newly installed beam off the tower and laying precariously on the dipoles he has strung around his house. Apparently unaware of this

Leland had been working a BY (but with some difficulty). Apparently the rotor had come apart dropping the beam on the wires and the ball bearings on the roof. "The XYL thought it was hail" reported Leland. Several SCARS members retrieved the antenna and put it in a safe place (on the ground) until Leland can find the replacement balls.

The BIG EARS-

SCARS softball game has still not been scheduled. However Jean, NSHZV, reported that EARS wanted to have it in Edmund. The club approved that if it were held in Norman in 1989. Jean was appointed chairgirl of the softball game committee & will set up the big game.

Congratulations

to Don, K5ABS, who upgraded to General class and to Steve NSHJG who won the raffle at the June meeting. The prize was a rechargeable, battery powered screwdriver. Hope he brings it to Field Day!

The next

SCARS meeting will be on Saturday, July 9, at 9:30 am in the Norman Red Cross. But you will find friendly folks at the Red Cross every Saturday morning drinking coffee, eating donuts, and swapping lies.

-----KDSIT-----

FOR SALE

Mini-Quad HQ-1 two element, four band beam antenna. In excellent working condition. Call Davis, KDSIT, 321-7570.

WANTED

A linear using 3-500Z's or a Heath SB220.

Filament transformer, 5 v at 30 a- Stancor P-4648 or equiv
2 Eimac SK-410 sockets 3-500Z
2 Eimac SK-406 Chimneys 3-500Z
Call Joe WSPNO 405-321-2099

FOR SALE

Kenwood TS-430S transceiver complete with YK88-S 2.4 KHz SSB & YK-88A 6 KHz AM filters. FM-430 FM unit, MC-42S up/down hand mike, inst & serv manuals and remote connector cable for linear. \$625

Joe WSPNO 405-321-2099 Norman

LAKE CANTON, OKLAHOMA HAM RADIO EVENT PLANNED FOR JULY

Oklahoma amateur radio operators will conduct annual "Field Day" exercises Saturday and Sunday, July 9-10, at Lake Canton, Oklahoma. Activities begin at 3 P.M., Saturday, and continue through the night until noon Sunday. Events take place in the "Big Bend" picnic shelter.

The Lake Canton Field Day is held in conjunction with the annual IARU "Radiosport" DX Contest. Simulated emergency operations, QRP contacts, solar power, fellowship and camping are among the featured attractions of the weekend. Participation is open to all amateurs. Guests are welcome.

day event occurs in "Grid Square" EM-06 -- both the county and grid square are popular contacts when heard on the bands.

Talk-in frequencies are 146.52 simplex, and the Fairview, Oklahoma, repeater, 144.85 / 145.45. 1-40 travellers should use the Calumet, Oklahoma, repeater, 146.01/ 146.61. For additional information contact Tim Mauldin, WA5LTM, Lake Canton Field Day, P.O. Box 19097, Oklahoma City, OK 73144, telephone (405) 521-5048.

G. R. ZEDD

But all of us bask in the radiance of the great one's greatness.

1704Z - A5A goes QRT.

1705Z -- We take one more contact. It is the president, from the White House. The President weeps out of pride to be an American, like Zedd. He asks Zedd to come to Washington and teach him how to become an amateur radio operator.

Zedd is gracious, naturally.

1735Z - Camp is struck. We fly out of there.

1744Z -- "Good grief!" cries Tondelayo.

"What?" we all chorus, still doing the Hardy Boys number.

"We forgot Homer!"

A vote is scheduled on whether to go back and get him.

We decide to vote tomorrow.

We wing on southward toward distant Calgary. Behind us, it sounds like our camp is still on the air. It has been so cold that some of our signal reports are just thawing out enough to get transmitted out of the immediate area of the antenna.

"Wonderman," Tondelayo tells Zedd, revealing a new (and accurate) pet name for him, "you should write up this phenomenon for QST!"

The great one says he'll think about it. We are silently respectful.

--KU5B

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
JULY					1	2
3	4 <small>Independence Day</small>	5	6	7 TRI CITY AERONAUTICAL	8	9 SCARS
10 GREAT PLAINS WHEATSTRAW	11 EDMOND CLUB	12 OIDAR OU ARES 76'ERS	13	14 OKC/PM ALTUS AREA CIMARRON	15	16 VHF
17 EARS	18 VE EXAMS RED CROSS 10 & HUDSON 6:00PM	19 AUTOPATCH	20	21	22 EDIT NIGHT FOR C & E	23
24 31	25	26 CORA CORA CORA CORA CORA CORA CORA CORA CORA CORA	27	28	29	30

Q. R. Zedd

EAT YOUR HEART OUT, BORIS

(Special to C&E)

NORTH POLE -- (Second of 2 reports) Q. R. Zedd, A5A, made history here recently with his epic North Pole DXpedition.

Zedd, whose home is at Honor Roll Ranch, just a hoot and a holler south of town, is the world's greatest DXer -- a title he cemented forever with his exploits at this frigid outpost beyond the ken of civilization.

Zedd was accompanied on his trip by his bride, the blond, nubile Tondelayo; his son Zepp, age 1; Momma Zedd of Mena, Ark.; nerdlly Homer Klott, and a reporter from Collector & Emitter.

In our last report we told how Zedd outsmarted a Russian team led by Boris Badenov, Soviet DXer, to find the pole. The remainder of the story follows:

2030Z -- Zedd, Momma and Tondelayo have now been operating more than one hour. Zedd has racked up 13K QSOs, Momma 11K and Tondelayo 10.5K.

Homer Klott is still screaming, but more faintly, in the latrine pit.

"QRZ?" says Zedd, thumbing his mike as he logs the last 15 contacts.

A voice booms over the pileup:

"Zapp, you capitalist swine! We made one little mistake and you take advantage of it, you don't play fair you pig! Us great Russian radio

sportsmen demand you get out of North Pole camp, let us good guys operate there!"

"QSY, Badenov," Zedd says. "You bore me."

A shrill female voice comes back:

"Ziff, this is Natasha, and you don't get out of North Pole, I will stick you with my knife! You are oink! You never even send me home address that cute hunk, WB5RZX!"

Zedd had been listening to the signals down under. "I QSL the 5 and 9 from W5MCN, W5OU, KD5IT, W5NUT, WB5RZX and WA5MLT," he says. "You also are all 5 and 9, QSL?"

"You got that cute WB5RZX on frequency? I want talk to that cute boy! You tell him QSY up five, QSL? Or you get stuck my my knife two times!"

Zedd kept on logging.

2036Z -- The rigs all go dead at once. Zedd bounds out of his chair. Runs outside.

Homer has finally gotten out of the pit and fallen over the power cords running from the generator. He has unplugged everything.

2038Z -- Power is on again. Homer has been thrown back into the latrine pit.

2325Z -- The QSO total is now over 35K. Young Zepp has been given a turn at the keyer on 75 meter CW, and he sends pretty nicely, but his handwriting in the logbook is atrocious. Tondelayo takes over from him. He cries and dirties his pants. They freeze. He will just have to tough it out until morning. This is serious.

1956Z -- The sounds of aircraft engines and trucks come distantly across the ice floes. The C&E reporter

runs outside and verifies that the Soviet DXpedition is de-camping and heading back toward Siberia. There is some final language from Boris Badenov that should not be allowed on the airwaves.

"Sounds as bad as a Clipperton pileup," Zedd notes.

0230Z -- Homer gets out of the latrine pit again. He comes into the tent. He looks real blue.

"I wanna talk," he whimpers.

Zedd pauses, thinking about it. "Maybe," he decides grimly, "it will make a man out of you."

He hands Homer the mike. "You remember your radio manners and lingo?" Zedd asks.

"Ten four!" Homer cries.

Zedd gets out a snowball to use as a handwarmer and lets Homer have at it.

Homer keys the mike.

"Hey, good buddies, you got the Big Red Road Runner here, how copy, come on back?"

Zedd whops Homer up alongside of the head with the snowball and takes over again.

1600Z -- It is nearing the time when this historic DXpedition must close its 24-hour run. The temperature inside the tent is minus 74 degrees. Breath has frozen into a sheet-ice layer four inches thick inside the nylon walls. We are almost out of gas. Homer has stopped crying from the latrine pit. Young Zepp's pants are so stiff he can't kick. Momma, Tondelayo and the C&E reporter are exhausted and near death from the cold.

Zedd, now on CW, presses on, making about 65 contacts a minute with each hand.

It is dark and cold at the pole.

See previous page