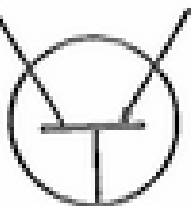


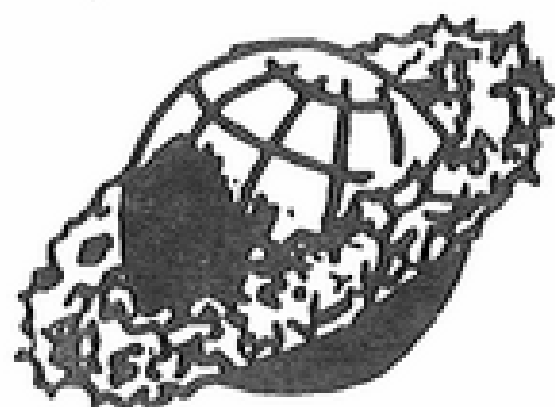
CENTRAL OKLAHOMA RADIO AMATEURS  
**COLLECTOR** AND **EMITTER**



50¢

VOLUME 16  
DECEMBER 1990  
NUMBER 190

FROM THE STAFF  
TO YOU ...



MERRY  
MERRY  
MERRY  
Christmas

## OKLAHOMA SECTION MANAGER'S REPORT

JOE LYNCH, N6CL  
P. O. BOX 73  
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK  
73101 405-528-6625

As many of you know, I went to Montserrat in September as part of a work group for my church. I was there repairing the damage to a church caused by Hurricane Hugo. While there, I operated as VP2M/N6CL. I made over 1100 contacts with over 75 countries and over 45 states. During my stay, I visited with Bobby Martin, VP2MO, concerning the needs of the amateurs there. He told me that they needed a spare repeater as Hugo wiped out their repeater installation. They had located an older repeater but it was at that time in the states being repaired. So, while I was there they were completely off the air.

A couple of weeks ago I met with Craig Boyer, WE5I, owner of Oklahoma Comm Center and Evelyn Garrison, WS7A, the National Marketing Manager for Icom America, Inc. I explained my personal project to them and Evelyn agreed to absorb half the cost of a new repeater and Craig agreed to absorb one fourth of the cost. So far, Edmond Amateur Radio Society has contributed \$100 and OKC Autopatch Association has contributed \$200. Other private anonymous sources have contributed another \$100, leaving about \$200 remaining to be raised. If you are interested in participating in this worthwhile project, please contact me or stop by the OCC and make a contribution there.

On November 16 ARRL and the FCC presented oral arguments in Federal District Court concerning the 220 MHz challenge. A decision by the three judges is expected early next year.

A decision by the FCC concerning the Communicator Class License is expected sometime next spring.

More OKC area hams are showing up on VHF SSB. Six and Two both show promise of great (stateside) DX this coming spring. Join the crowd on the uncrowded bands.

If you have news for me, please contact me at the above address or telephone number. If you have concerns or gripes please let me hear from you. I cannot promise a cure; but I can promise an ear.

73 for now de Joe Lynch N6CL.

## BICENTENNIAL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB *"To Promote Radio Communications"*

Meeting location is at:  
Oklahoma Department of Wildlife  
in the back of the building. At 1801 N.  
Lincoln Blvd, 7:30 pm December 11.  
Second Tuesday of every month.

The 76ers meeting was called to order at 7:22 pm, November 11th, by Bill Skipper KB5BS.

An election took place with the following officers for 1991 elected:

President - Hank Stokes  
Vice-President - Bill Skipper  
Treasurer - Bill Skipper  
Secretary - Held over for Dec meeting.

CORA report by N5BEQ, Jim.

CORA has interest in relocating of Ham Holiday for reduction of costs for facilities. One location which is under consideration is at Reno and Martin Luther King. The cost and accommodations are worth considering and are being evaluated.

**REPEATER REPORT** an attempt to increase the sensitivity of the repeater by adding a pre-amp failed. The pre-amp was triggering the repeater frequently, it was disconnected and the repeater is at its regular operation.

**OLD BUSINESS** - none to report.

**NEW BUSINESS** - A motion to withdraw from CORA to enable the 76ers bring our financial and membership circumstances under control. The matters that were brought is the need to bring up the bank balance due to the much needed overhaul of the repeater. CORA is a significant cost to the clubs finances. This matter is to be concluded in December. All people are asked for contribution on this point of interest.

### DECEMBER 11, 1990 THE SECOND TUESDAY

The 76ers are holding a radio tuning and alignment gathering. All are welcome to come to the meeting and for the radio tuning afterwards. Is your radio up to what you think it should be???

See you at 7:30 pm.

still wants us to be associated, ←

The HF antenna still needs to be installed. Help will be required when all required hardware is available.

During the week following the meeting arrangements were made to hold the SCARS Christmas party on Friday, the 21st of December at the Oklahoma Electric Cooperative building in Norman. The OEC is located on NW 24th just to the north of the Target store. Ken, N5KUK

## The South Canadian Amateur Radio Society

The November meeting of SCARS was held at the Norman Red Cross on the 10th of November. The meeting was chaired by Dorinda N5IUA. The treasurer reported that we had about \$982 in the account.

The main topic of discussion was the Christmas party. A new location needs to be selected and several members had suggestions. The date for the party was not set pending selection of a location and a check of what dates are available.

November is normally the month to elect the new officers for the following year but due to failure of the secretary (who presided over the October meeting) to get a nominating committee the election will be held in December. A call was made for members to serve on the nominating committee. No one moved. After a period of apathy WU5W observed that the club was dying due to lack of interest and moved that the club be dissolved. N5KUK seconded the motion but it died due to lack of a vote. W5MCJ was unable to attend the meeting but had stated that he would serve. The final make up of the nominating committee was W5MCJ, WU5W, and N5IUA.

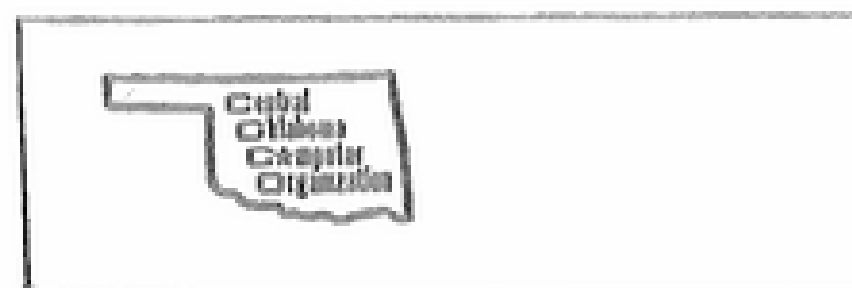
The Field Day committee presented the list of items necessary for the kit. Several members have signed up to donate items and others may need to be purchased. The list will be circulated at future meetings as donations are collected.

Andi, WU5W announced that the novice class has been very successful so far. Most of the students have already passed the test and are studying for their technician licence. A VE exam will be held following the course. Andi also presented a bill for about \$28 for class expenses and the club voted to reimburse it.

The new repeater should be ready "real soon now". The dual receiver controller is being installed in a chassis with the RC-85 and the system should be ready for check out and installation soon. The old repeater is now operational on both receivers although it is running low power. N5MAF and N5KUN got the phone line repaired after it had been cut by a road grader.

Jerry, W5MCJ, has been in contact with Red Cross officials about use of the facility for our meetings and classes. These issues are still not firm although we have been assured that the Red Cross

# Central Oklahoma Radio Amateurs



The October 23 1990 meeting of CORA was called to order at 7:26 pm at Salvation Army Headquarters with President Frank Tassone in the chair and the following directors, representing 6 of the 16 Member Clubs present:

ACARC - Tom Mangham, EARS - Steve Hamlin, Linda Richardson, Jim Richardsen, 76'ers - Jerry Sproul, Jim Buswell, MORI - Ellard Foster, OCAPA - Baron Bieber, Lee Allen, Chuck Wilhite, EARC - Phil Wolfenbarger, C&E - Joe Harding.

The minutes of the September Board meeting and the report of the Treasurer were accepted as distributed.

Editor Joe reported the C&E has three pages ready to go to press tomorrow.

VEC Phil reported that exams are still given on the 3rd Monday of each month at the Salvation Army Headquarters, 5101 N Pennsylvania -- in Oklahoma City.

Much discussion followed regarding using Central Plaza, 112 S Martin Luther King Blvd. as the possible site for HH 18 (to be 26-28 July 1991).

**H H 18 COMMITTEES**  
**PUBLICITY** (including T-Shirts)<> Baron Bieber  
**FACILITY<>DEALERS<>AWARDS<>**  
 Frank Tassone  
**PRE-Registration<>** Jerry Sproul and Tom Mangham  
**REGISTRATION<>** Steve Hamlin  
**TALK-IN<>** Bob Thomason  
**NON-TECHNICAL<>BANQUET<>**  
 Linda Richardson  
**BINGO<>** Tom Mangham  
**SECURITY<>** Phil Wolfenbarger

Still open and available for chairmanship are: PROGRAMS, FLEA MARKET, and BREAKFAST (if any) Committees.

Again, Oklahoma Amateur Radio Clubs are asked to seriously consider working together for a National ARRL Convention in Oklahoma as early as Summer 1994 as it is still under consideration.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 7 November 90, 7:30 pm at Central Plaza Motel, 112 S Martin Luther King Blvd. (formerly named Eastern Ave).

The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 pm.  
 Secretary, N5BEQ, Jim.

W5PDQ: Do You Believe in Buddha?  
 N5OU: Yes, I do, but, on the other hand, there is a lot to be said for margarine.

The November 1, 1990 meeting of the Aeronautical Center Amateur Radio Club started promptly at 7:30 pm. Doug, W0DXA, presided as president Ted would arrive a little bit late. There were 18 members present.

Tom, K5LDI, gave the CORA report - said they were looking at some other place to have Ham Holiday 1991. Tom said it is unfortunate, but the same people have to do the work every year. He appealed for some new people to help. So if you can help out - please volunteer.

Our club is looking for a 20 amp - 13.6 volt power supply.

Bob Stuckert, N0KA,, is a full time FAA employee. A few months ago Bob donated to the W5PAA Club a 40 meter boom and rotator. Now Bob has donated a Kenwood 940S transceiver along with the Kenwood SM-220 Station Monitor and Kenwood SP-90 external speaker. The club wishes to thank Bob for this most generous donation.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm for refreshments.

Bill, KSKDR



The CENTRAL OKLAHOMA COLOR COMPUTER CLUB did not meet in November due to the unavailability of the Midwest City Community Center.

However, the regular December meeting will be held at the Center on December 8 at 9:30 am.

We are meeting a half-hour later so that people may bring items for sale at our annual auction. The club will sell excess items: hardware and software. Individuals may donate items for sale or put items up for sale and donate ten (10) percent to the club for a commission. Come to the meeting and buy some early Christmas presents.

There will be a very important business meeting after the sale and break.

See you at 9:30 at the Midwest City Community Center, at Reno and Midwest Blvd. on December 8.

Mindy: I haven't eaten in three days. Could you spare a penny?

Cindy: What can you get with a penny?

Mindy: I'm very anxious to weigh myself.

Joe: What did you do when your ship sank?

Moe: Oh, I just grabbed a cake of soap and washed myself ashore.

Sue: I thought you told me you were going to see your dentist yesterday.

Low: That's right.

Sue: Then why did I see you and another man getting on the bus at the football stadium?

Low: That other man is my dentist.

Teacher: Jim, did you play football yesterday instead of coming to school?

Jim: No, I didn't, and I have the fish to prove it.

Jim: Are you an astronaut?

Tim: I'm one of their backup pilots.

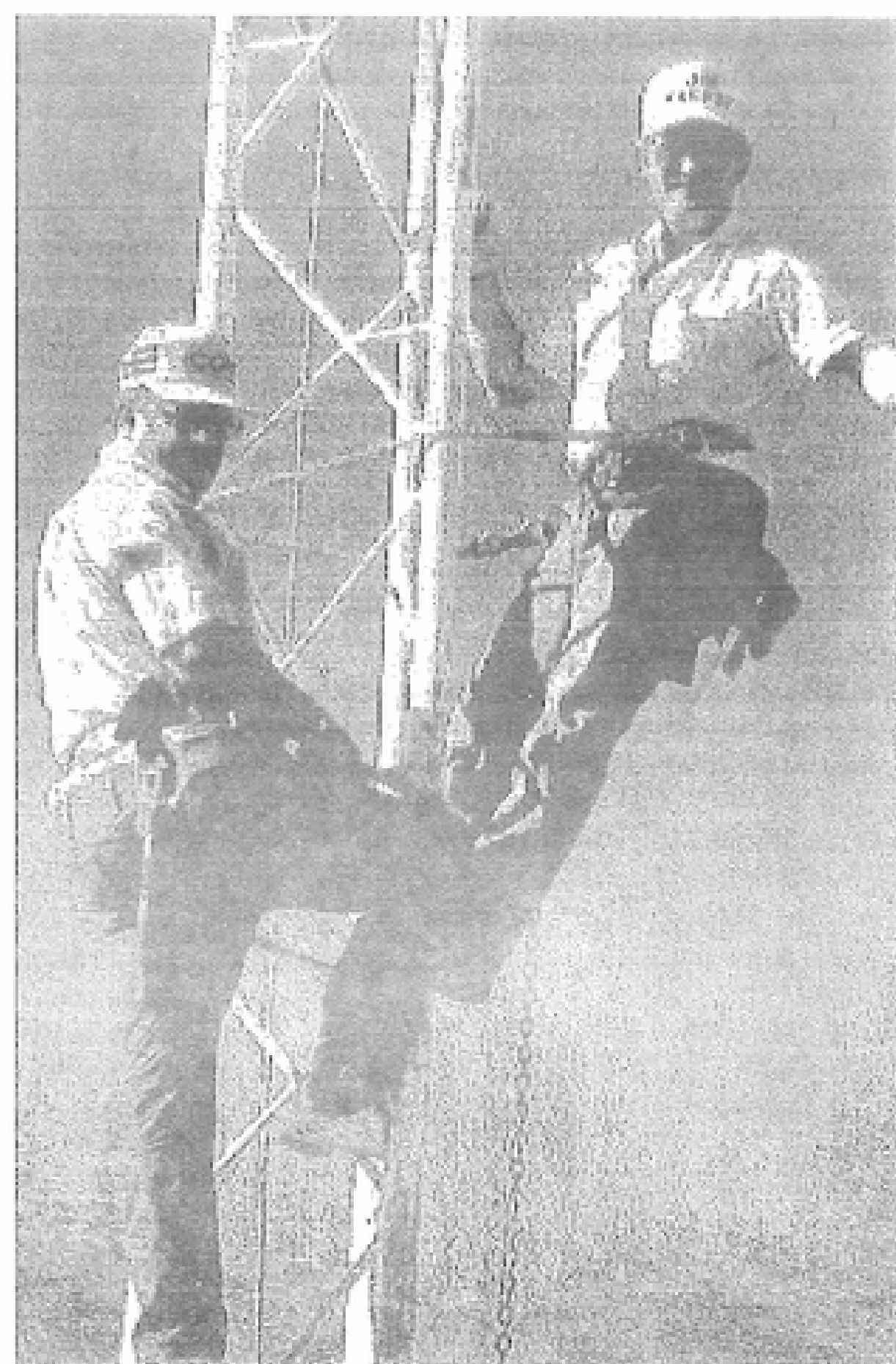
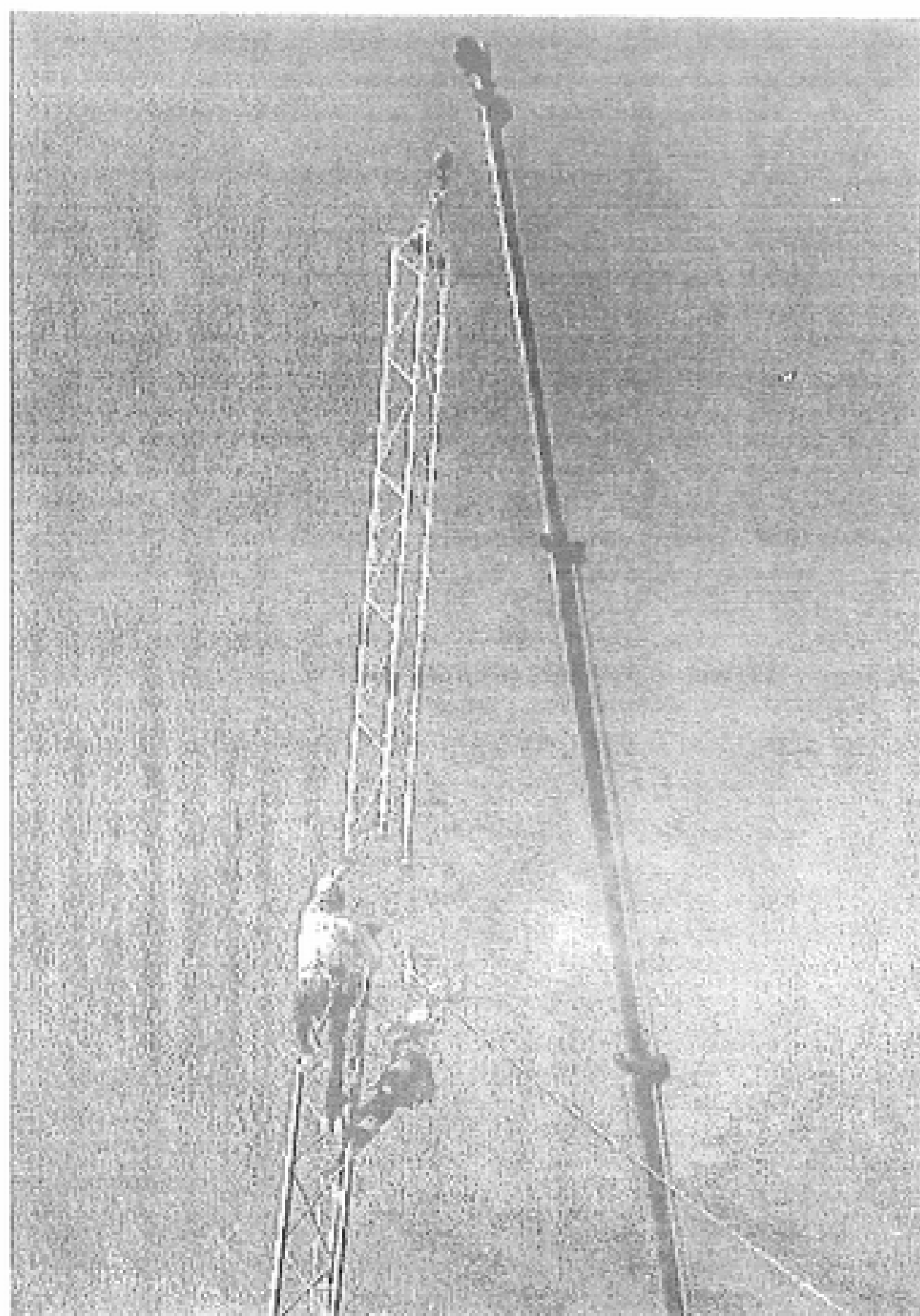
Jim: What does that involve?

Tim: Every time they want to put me in one of those spaceships, I start backing up.

VOLUME 16 DECEMBER 1990 NUMBER 190

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## Ther' Be Goes Another One, Ma...

Erecting an antenna tower at his new residence in Wellston, George Adkins AD1S, left, and fellow climber Jim Bartlett KA5PSF (top left, top right) prepare to bolt on a section of the new 100-foot cable-stayed structure. Assisiting in the guy cable placement (right) are, left to right, Larry Davis KF5JN, Jerry Boyd WR5G, Ed Brown WA5YDF, Ken Goddard WA5DTL, and Mac Macdonald K2GKK. (Photos by Baron Bieber N5PQK)



**AHHH!!! THE SMELL OF WINTER** has arrived again once more...and soon shall be knocking at our very front door. Yes, freshly fallen snow packed full on the ground, brisk northern winds which eventually freeze your fingers and toes, and wet, slick moisture that turns into dreaded dangerous ice, but exciting enough for the adventuresome. Yes, it is truly the time of year that I certainly enjoy the most. And what can be winter without the festive Winter holidays. For the Oklahoma City Autopatchers, it's our annual Christmas Dinner, to be enjoyed by all our members and their families at the December meeting on December 18, 1990. More about this celebrative event later.

But first, let's warm you up a bit with a rundown on the past month's activities. The November meeting was called to order by Jim Bartlett KA5PSF, with minutes read by Ken Goddard WA5DTL, and the treasurer report read by Mac Macdonald K2GKK. No old business was discussed.

New business commenced with Joe Lynch N6CL and his presentation to the membership for solicitation of donation to the Island of Montserrat Repeater Fund. (This fund was established by Joe for this small country of 40 sq. mi. which suffered nearly 80% damage to the island and it's inhabitants during Hurricane Hugo on September 17, 1989.) After discussion, motion was made by Lee Allen N5KXI for the club to donate two hundred dollars, and was accepted and passed.

Presentation to the membership concerning three proposed amendments to the OCAPA Constitution and By-Laws was made by myself, Baron Bieber N5PQK. On a motion introduced by Frank McCollom N5FM, the membership approved the new QTH for the OCAPA emergency trailer to be at the home of Ed Brown WA5YDF.

Jerry Boyd WR5G, submitted his Technical Committee report. He stated the 850 controller for 22/82 machine will be removed and the new 96 controller will be installed in it's place over the Thanksgiving weekend. Mac K2GKK reported he is presently working on the transmitter for the 22/82 plus-offset link for installation in Wellston.

Discussion for the Annual OCAPA Christmas Dinner was presented. Leonard Hanstein W5MEL, was appointed member-in-charge again this year to coordinate the activities. The brief program for the evening was the presentation and demonstration of the new ACC-96 Controller by Mac K2GKK.

With 5 new members and 10 member renewals for the month of November, the meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m. with 35 members and 3 visitors present.

#### ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER

Again this year we celebrate the season with the annual OCAPA Christmas Dinner, with the invitation open to all OCAPA members and their families. However, reservations are required. Please QSO with Leonard W5MEL, either on the 146.82 repeater, or by landline at 789-7201.

The Christmas Dinner again this year is a pot-luck dinner, and we ask that you bring a covered dish that can serve at least 8 to 12 people. More than 12 people would certainly be welcome, for some of our Hams really like to eat the ham.

And don't forget the spirit of giving by bringing a White Elephant gift to be exchanged by one and all. As with last year, the dinner will be held on the December 18th meeting night, The Salvation Army Building, 5105 N. Pennsylvania Ave., Oklahoma City. Please plan to attend.

#### HEY, WHA' GIVES!!!

Yes, you are right. We are experiencing some problems with the 22/82 and 81/21 machines. However, this is temporary, due to the Technical Committee's on-going efforts to improve the quality and reliability of these transmitters. The repeater shack has already undergone extensive clean-up, (The Work Day on Saturday, Oct. 20th was very productive, as four dozen donuts greeted the 10 or 11 members who showed up to toss junk, clean and straighten cabinets, chase some wires and cables), and currently, improvements and modifications are being made to the equipment. So, please bear with us as we attempt to provide the best amateur radio service available for our members, and for the hams in Oklahoma City.

#### MR. AND MRS.

Congratulations and Best Wishes are in order for Autopatch members Hank Blackstock WA5JRH and Sharon Gwinn N5RHR, who blissfully wedded over Thanksgiving weekend. Earlier that week, three other Autopatchers, (who, for the sake of peace to the free world, must remain unidentified), engaged massive persuasion tactics of the female caliber upon WA5JRH; however, this time, true love indeed prevailed. Case closed.

#### TRIBUTE TO A GOOD FRIEND

(Contributed by Chuck Wilhite K5NK)

As most folks know who take the time to read articles which I put in the C&E from time to time, most of the material ranges from being on the light side to pure non-sense. That's about the only way I know to write.

However, I would like to take up a little space to pay tribute to a very good friend of mine who isn't even a member of our club. Most of the tribute articles which appear in the C&E are paid after the person is dead and gone. Well, this one is still alive and kicking.

There are probably very few in our club who even know Joe or ever heard of him. He doesn't even live in the Oklahoma City area, but if he did, I am sure he would want

to belong to the Autopatch club.

Joe lives in Mangum, a dwindling little town in southwestern Oklahoma and the county seat of Greer County. He is one of the first hams that I ever knew. In fact, I have known Joe longer than I have known what amateur radio was all about. For many years, Joe and his dad owned and operated a grain elevator and feed store in Mangum. I can remember my daddy hauling wheat to town to sell to Joe and his dad. I had an uncle who once worked for Joe.

Joe is one of the finest persons you would ever want to know. He is very active in amateur radio, being an excellent c.w. operator and hold the Amateur Extra Class license. He promotes his hobby whenever the occasion arises.

I received my latest issue of the Mangum Star, the local newspaper, and pictured on the front page was Joe with a room full of youngsters who were Boy Scouts along with their Den mother. Joe had volunteered his station for them to communicate with other den mothers and scouts all over the United States.

Joe is very active on two-meters in the southwestern part of the state. He can normally be found on either the Altus or Elk City repeaters. He has served in various offices of the Altus club. When I am traveling in southwestern Oklahoma I always give Joe a call, and if he is around, I will enjoy a nice visit with him.

We need alot more Joe's in our hobby of amateur radio. If you ever get a chance to meet Joe McDonald W5CCV, you will meet a very fine gentleman. He spells his name a little differently than another we all love and enjoy, and besides that, he has a "5" in his call, and he is an "OKIE".

#### THE NEED OF FRIENDS IF NOBODY SMILED

(Received off packet and submitted by Mac Macdonald K2GKK)

If nobody smiled and nobody cheered,  
and nobody helped us along,

If every man looked after himself,  
and good things all went to the strong;

If nobody cared just a little for you,  
and nobody thought about me,

And we all stood alone,  
in the bottle of life,

what a dreary old world this would be.

Life is sweet because of the friends  
we have made,

and the things that in common we share.

We want to live on,  
not because of ourselves,

but because of the people who care.

It's giving and doing for somebody else;  
and that, all life's splendor depends.

And the joy of the world,  
when you summed it all up,  
is found in the making of friends.

Thanks, Mac.  
73 and Happy Holidays,

Baron J. Bieber  
N5PQK

# CIMARRON



The November eighth meeting of CARA got underway quickly under the gavel of Leo Peil WZ5H, our President. A lot was accomplished, this time, by a good group of our members, namely KA5RTW Betty Day, WX5Y Ruth Simpson, N5FMH Nadine Painton, WK5V Dennis Painton, N5RHO Curt Briggs, KA5SZD Vern Brewer, AB5Z Ray Barnes, N5MHP Robert Baker, N5MLT Terry McColl, KB5NBQ John Medley, NN5Z Jack Day and President Leo Peil.

After welcoming Johnny into our midst as our newest Novice, a Secretarial report and Treasurers report was given by Denny and Nadine respectively. With \$322.11 in our bank account, some thought was given to another raffle. After some discussion it was decided to raffle off a one hundred dollar bill as first prize, and a fifty dollar bill as second prize, with tickets to be sold at one dollar apiece. The drawing is to be held at our Christmas Party. The final plans for that party will be announced at our Thanksgiving Bash which will be November 15th. Nadine is to be a committee of one to expedite that matter.

Ray Barnes reported that the Longdale Community Center was booked for our Thanksgiving gathering.

Denny reported no progress on putting up a new repeater antenna because of the windy days we have had of late, so 145.45 squalls on. Hopefully this will be accomplished before winter weather sets in!

Election of new officers for the 1991 tenure was accomplished quickly! Our new President will be Curt Briggs, with Terry McColl being elected as VP. Secretary, Treasurer and Editor wound up as re-elects, Denny Painton, Nadine Painton and Jack Day respectively. Ray Barnes was elected Activities Chairman and our Two Meter Net Manager, (held mostly on simplex) is to be Leo Peil.

CARA has had a good year under President Leo Peil. Leo has been a super-Elmer, a good teacher a conscientious Volunteer Examiner, and an all around Top Hand in Amateur Radio! Hams all over the world know Leo and look forward to working him! He is a mainstay in both CARA and the Wheatstraw Clubs, and we thank you Leo for your work and your example!

Denny led a discussion of the rule of common sense as put forth in the last Volunteer Examiner letter, concerning the giving of code tests. He pointed out that if the applicant wishes the benefit of the one minute of correct code option that he loses the opportunity of reviewing his test copy, and tests should be picked up within 30 seconds after the test is completed. This has

The November meeting of Wheatstraw was held in Watonga, at the Watonga State Bank Community Room. K5GGL George, our president, called the meeting to order with 32 present.

After self-introductions, our thoughts were on Christmas Dinner. The dinner and next meeting will be at The Brass Apple in El Reno. Last month I wrote in the article that we would start eating at two o'clock. It has been changed to 2:30 by the management. The date is December ninth. If any one comes into El Reno on Highway I-40, turn off on 81 north, travel north about one half mile, it's on the west side of the road. If you come in from the north on highway 81 stay on it until you pass through town to where you turn south, towards I-40, watch about one block south on the west side of the road.

Code practice was talked about, possibly Monday and Friday evenings starting at 9:00 pm. If you are interested, get on the radio and tell K5LLX Ray. Novices or non amateurs write or call him. Telephone no. is 375-4354, his address is Ray Selby, 420 S 8, Kingfisher OK 73750-3108.

Nominations for 1991 officers were made. Additional nominations can be made next meeting. Elections will be held at the December meeting,

not always been done in the past and was a timely point!

Apparently the Texhoma Ham Fest was greatly enjoyed by those who participated from our club. Leo and XYL took their RV down early and was host to a group of friends including Johnny K5GBN, Margaret WA5RLP, Denny WK5V, Nadine N5FMH, Curt N5RHO, and XYL Melody, and Ray and his XYL Sue. Nadine even won an ARRL manual. It was agreed that Texhoma is a top Ham gathering, Kudo's to the clubs responsible.

Curt N5RHO passed both his 13 WPM requirement and the General Class theory at Texhoma. Curt has challenged our Novices by his hard work and we look forward to a good year under his leadership!

Our DX hunter, Terry N5MLT, reports a memorable contact with ZS6CGS Peter, in Pretoria South Africa!

This looks like a wrap for this month. I'll try to cover our two Holiday affairs in my last column of the year. Until then ... remember CARA the second Thursday of each month ... Be there or be SQUARE!

73 NN5Z

Congratulations go to K5DSR Stu, and N5RHO Curt. Both upgraded to General Class. Curt lives in Fairview, and if I heard right he was elected to represent CORA for the coming year. Stu lives in Mulhall and farms.

N5IKN Tom reminded us we should write ti FCC as to our opinions on the 220 mHz band. If we don't soon, it will be too late. The FCC is thinking of doing away with the Novice and Technician class license. Personally I think Novice and Technician classes give the new comer an inspiration to stay and upgrade. Please give your thoughts to the FCC.

Nominations for President were:

WA6PFFK nominated N5KCO Neal.

N5IKN Tom nominated WO5B Edgar.

Nominated for Vice-President was:

WO5B Edgar nominated N5IKN Tom.

Nominated for Secretary/Treasurer was:

WO5B Edgar nominated WA5FLT.

For Club Reporter:

WO5B Edgar nominated WD5JNT Ted.

Before the meeting closed N6CL Joe Lynch presented a well appreciated program. Joe was one of a group of men and ladies invited through the Methodist Church. The eleventh team to go as missionaries to the island of Montserrat, which had been severely hit by a hurricane. ^The wind blew over one hundred forty miles per hour. With a population of 11,500, the island had to be rebuilt. The team Joe was with worked at replacing one side of the roof on a church at Covalla Hill. ^They did have some time for recreation, having a TS440S antenna and such shipped there, you know what Joe did most of his spare time.

The island is a British colony with the people there speaking English with a British accent. The USA has a college and a hospital there also. Joe's colored slides consisted of the torn buildings, and trees all over the area laying flat.

They were of swimming, working, picnicing, ocean, hills, sulphur stream. A lot of the pictures were with natives included. He showed about two hundred slides. Sure there were slides of N6CL on the radio. They worked hard, had fun and enjoyed it. It made them feel so good at heart that they are planning to go back again next year. Joe is dedicated to his church and radio.

73 WA5PFFK Ralph

## T- SHIRTS AVAILABLE

The T-Shirts from Ham Holiday 1990 were big hit but there were several left over and Frank, AA5GI, Phone 341-1124 is making them available at the low (our actual cost) price of \$7.15. Call him and he will send you one to wear in pride at club meetings, the movies, the opera or a horse show.





## VHF Club NEWS

WSLOW  
*The Elmer Gekker Memorial  
Station*

### Minutes of October Meeting

Meeting was called to order at 12:08 p.m. by President Jack, WB5ZKZ, with 21 members and guests present. Treasurer Ellard, W5KE, gave his report. He also reported that the club has 51 paid-up members. Jim, K5VRL, announced that Al Prince, AD5U, was recently released from the hospital and was doing better.

There was some discussion about having a nominating committee. Jack, WB5ZKZ, stated that even though it was not required, he would feel better if he appointed one. He may appoint one later. There was no other business so meeting adjourned at 12:17 to enable Ken, KF5JS, to show a video tape of Hawaii. Thanks, Ken! Joe, K5JB, Secretary

### Minutes of November Meeting

Meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by President Jack, WB5ZKZ, with 15 members and guests present. The Treasurer's report was given by Charlie, WA5JGU, for Ellard, W5KE, who was not present. It was announced that Fred, W5NL, was in Baptist Hospital for surgery and was not expected to have a difficult time with it. We hope you well with that ordeal, Fred.

President Jack appointed Charlie, WA5JGU, to head a nominating committee to recommend candidates for next year's officers. Charlie is to make his recommendations at the December meeting. Elections will be held in January. Meeting adjourned at 12:15 so Bob, W5HXL, could show a video tape of the Canadian Rockies.

The VHF Club would like to offer its sincerest wishes for happy holidays to all you and your families. Joe, K5JB, Secretary

### Dear Jabby

Some time ago, I ran a series of columns titled, "Dear Jabby", which were intended to convey answers to some of the common technical questions asked about amateur radio. (Sometimes it degenerated into somewhat sarcastic answers, and some people thought that was funny -- some people thought not.) Joe, WA5ZNF, began

pressuring me to "do my fair share" for the C&E, so here we go...

Question: How do I hook up my ABC radio to my XYZ TNC?

This must be the most common question I see asked by people just getting into packet radio. The answer is, "It depends." The answer can be simple or complex, depending on the circumstances. In the simplest case, a transceiver has only three circuits to deal with: Transmit audio, Receive audio, and Keying, or Push to Talk circuit.

Almost all radios have a moderately low to medium transmit audio input impedance, which means you can be pretty sloppy about shielding and such, so you simply connect the audio output of the TNC to the mike audio input of the radio, using a shielded cable that has the shield connected to the radio ground on one end, and the TNC ground on the other. In only exceptional cases (e.g. GE Mastr) the TNC will have plenty of audio power to over-drive the transmit audio. If the TNC cannot control the audio level to the transmitter precisely, you may want to add a series resistor on the radio end of the cable. You can do this and reduce stray noise pickup if you put some series resistance, say 1k to 5k between the mike connection point, and add a second resistor, in shunt between the mike audio and radio ground. Normally, about 470k would be a good value for this resistor (for no other reason than it just looks like a good value to me.)

If you are connecting to a walkie talkie, you might wait and read what I say about PTT in a moment.

The receive audio is also pretty simple. You can probably get away with unshielded cable and use the shield on the transmit audio line as the receive audio ground return, but I have found that intercom cable, containing two sets of shielded pairs, works ideal and you offer some protection from nearby disturbances affecting the TNC's ability to receive. Now, for a trick. If you shunt the receive audio, on either end of the cable, with a fairly low value of resistance, say 10 Ohms, you will have more precise control over the audio level sent to the TNC (as adjusted by the volume control on the receiver). You will also be able to add a switch and monitoring speaker and not affect the TNC audio level when you switch the speaker on and off. Add a series resistor of, say 47 to 100 ohms in series

with the speaker circuit and the level will be so low, nobody else in the house will know you are sneaking a listen to all the garbage (the other guys) who are clogging the frequency and keeping you from staying connected.

Forget about impedance matching. This doesn't have anything to do with your audio circuits. Power transfer in your audio circuits are more like power transfer from constant voltage circuits at the 120V AC convenience outlet. You wouldn't want to achieve an impedance match with the power company's generator, would you?

This approach to connecting the receive audio should work regardless of the type of radio UNLESS you are using some of the Yaesu walkie talkie models. If you are, be sure and check the speaker audio lead for presence of a positive 10 or 12 volts. If it is there, find an electrolytic capacitor of, say 10 UF, and install it in series with the receive audio, at the radio, and put its positive lead on the radio side. If you don't you will probably burn up a speaker voice coil somewhere.

Connecting the keying line normally consists of just connecting the TNC's switching circuit to the transmitter's PTT. You will already have a ground return with the audio leads so they can serve the PTT also. This line can be unshielded, but if one of your transmitters causes the packet transmitter to lock on, you will have to shield the PTT lead too.

Regarding grounds -- be careful when planning your power supplies so you don't introduce AC ripple in the audio ground returns.

One situation causes a lot of problems. The Kenwood, Icom, and probably other, walkie talkies, combine the PTT and transmit audio functions on one point in the external mike jack. This works well because the audio is AC and the PTT control circuit is DC. There are two ways to separate AC and DC components, use a transformer, or use a resistor and capacitor. I prefer the latter because it is simplest, and the components can normally be put in the mike plug if you pick little components. You won't find a transformer you can put in the mike plug.

Audio from the TNC is fed to the radio transmit audio circuit through a series capacitor. This blocks the keying line DC and permits the audio AC to pass. With a typical medium impedance ra-

dio audio circuit, a 0.1 UF capacitor will work fine. Now, for the keying circuit, we need to draw some current from the radio's mike circuit to key the transmitter. We need to connect it to the TNC's keying circuit in such a way that we don't short out the AC audio. We select a resistor that has a low enough value to cause sufficient keying current to flow to key the radio, and not much lower. Lacking experimental data on a given radio, I would choose about a 5.6k resistor because it is roughly 10 times the audio circuit impedance. We wire this resistor in series from the radio's transmit audio point to the TNC's PTT switching circuit. In this arrangement, when you consider the keying switch as a short to ground, the resistor is in shunt with the AC audio signal, but since it is ten times the resistance of the radio's transmit input circuit it doesn't shunt much of the audio current. If you tell the TNC to transmit, and the radio doesn't do it, you may have to reduce the value of this resistor. Try 3.3K. If that doesn't work, try 2.7k. If that doesn't work, check what you did.

None of this information would be of much use to you if you don't know the pin assignments of the radio or TNC. If you can't find your schematics you may have to ask someone who can, or do some noodling to figure out what pin does what.

What I usually say when someone says he can't find his schematic is, "You need professional help!", but I won't say it this time.

Next question? You on the front row...

Question: I am not an electronic genius. Where in the world am I going to get all those resistors you are talking about, and what are all those weird numbers, like 3.3K?

Answer: Some Saturday morning, go to Worldwide, and for less than the cost of a sack of donuts, pick up a couple of each the following resistors: 47 Ohms, 100 Ohms, 270 Ohms, 470 Ohms, 1k, 2.7k, 4.7K, 10K, 27K, 47K, 100K, 270K, 470K, and one Meg. If you really feel flush, throw some in the sack with numbers like 33, 56, and 68 on them. As you can readily see, our forefathers wisely picked numbers easily divisible by .00012 so they could remember them. (Only kidding. Start with 1 and multiply by 1.2. Multiply the result by 1.2. Keep doing this and you will go crazy.)

While you are at it, pick up some .1 disk ceramics, and 10 UF electrolytics. Now to have a really complete parts kit; and to be able to do something besides soak up juice, get some NPN and PNP transistors (2N2222 and 2N3905 are pretty common). With all these things, you can do almost anything short of RF. For that you will need some inductors and more capacitors. Now, when someone says they can't decode your packets because you are over-deviating your transmitter, you can try tinkering with some of those parts out of that sack.

While you are at Worldwide, ask those guys how to read those color bands on the resistors. This is a family magazine and I can't tell you here.

Question in back?

Question: Yeah, you said something about over-driving the packet transmit audio. I just plugged mine in and it seems to work OK. I don't have a spectrum analyzer so how can I tell if it is over-driving the transmitter?

Answer: I am glad you asked that question. Since this is amateur radio, we don't need to use a spectrum analyzer, or a deviation meter, or any of that professional stuff. You can listen to the results on a receiver and tell if it is over-driving. Here's how. Set up a second radio to listen to your transmit frequency. Borrow a walkie talkie if you need to. Or use a scanner. Open up the TNC and find the adjuster that controls that transmitter audio. Put the TNC in converse mode. It doesn't have to be connected to anyone. Hit a carriage return (CR) on your terminal. Listen to that noise. Turn that adjustment down and hit CR again. Keep doing that until you hear the noise get quieter. You can probably stop there, but you might as well diddle a little more with it since you went to this much trouble already. Try turning it all the way down until the noise goes away. Try turning it up and listen to it return. The ideal point is probably just below the point where it stops getting louder as you turn it up.

The scientific reason for this is a design normally included in modern FM transmitters. It is an automatic level control. It prevents the transmitter from deviating so much that it uses more bandwidth than the modern receiver can handle. It ain't perfect though and it is only designed with voice in mind. You send too-strong a signal to it, particularly tones like used in packet, and it will let the transmitter over-deviate, AND, distort. Both things

are bad and reduce the ability of other stations to decode you. The human brain can recover information from a voice that is sent by a distorting transmitter but a TNC can't handle it very well. Believe it or not, an under-modulated FM transmitter will be more reliably decoded in packet than an over-modulated one.

It will sound like a squawking hen when it is too hot. It will sound like a musical song bird when it is right.

We only have time for one more question...Yes?

Question: You mentioned something earlier about getting professional help. Where can I get professional help?

Answer: There is a retired ham, just a hoot and a holler South of Norman, who I understand has gone professional and provides professional help. He will attach a mike plug for \$49.95, plus parts, and build a TNC to radio cable for \$149.95. He even has a computer and can do ciphers on it to figure out hard Ohm's law problems. His call is A5A. Thank you for your questions -- Jabby

#### Zedd REALLY retires!

Jack, KU5B, -- known to us as the creator of the Q.R. Zedd column which featured Q.R. himself, better known to the whole world as A5A, the only holder of a one by one call -- recently retired from the A5A publicity department. The Daily Oklahoman, on November 11, 1990, finally noticed this significant event, though they got some of the facts screwed up. Here is the column, as I read it:

#### OU Writing Prof To Retire in May

NORMAN -- A David Ross Boyd professor of professional writing at the University of Oklahoma announced he will retire in May from his post as director of the short course on professional writing.

Jack Bickham has served as director for 17 years and began working full time in 1969.

Deborah Chester, visiting instructor, has been named interim director of the short course. Kathleen Kuntz, staff worker, will serve as interim associate director.

Bickham has authored nearly 70 novels and was named Oklahoma Writer of the Year in 1971.



In 1969, he was named Oklahoma Newspaper Editor of the Year by the Oklahoma City Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists, Sigma Delta Chi.

Chester has authored 16 novels and was named Oklahoma Writer of the Year in 1985.

The short course brings agents, magazine editors, book editors and successful writers to Norman for three days each year to advise, encourage and meet each other, Chester said.

NNNN

See what I mean, not only did they not mention that wondrous Zedd once in that article, they didn't even mention Jack's call! What in the world is happening to the quality of journalism? -- tsk, tsk.

Good Luck Jack! Joe, K5JB

#### A Unix Christmas Song

In the last year, I have learned a lot about the Unix operating system, having my own AT&T 3B2 to play with. I get a kick out of the things Monte, WB5RZX, gets off of Usenet and sends to me. Here is one I offer without translation, for you who speak Unix. It was written by Richard Alpert.

```
better !pout !cry
better watchout
!pr why
santa claus < north pole > town
```

```
cat /etc/passwd > list
ncheck list
ncheck list
cat list | grep naughty > nogiftlist
cat list | grep nice > giftlist
santa claus < north pole > town
```

```
who | grep sleeping
who | grep awake
who | grep bad || good
for (goodness sake) {
    be good
}
```

```
better !pout !cry
better watchout
!pr why
santa claus < north pole > town
```

Merry Christmas, Joe, K5JB

#### Alice in UNIX Land

Alice was reading the message on her monitor and beginning to suspect that everything was not as it should be.

"Program too big to fit in memory," it read.

"Curiouser and curiouser," she said, "All I did was load fourteen TSRs before starting my word processor. With four megabytes, I wish I could use more than 640K."

"At that moment, a small white consultant ( a very white consultant) ran across the room. "Oh my coat and necktie," he said, "I'm going to be late for my appointment. And at one fifty an hour, too." Before Alice could say anything, he leaped into her monitor and disappeared behind her operating system.

Alice thought that she had never seen anyone leap into a monitor before; and certainly not go clean through the operating system. But then, she had been told that DOS was very shallow. Without hesitating a moment, she leaped in after him.

She found herself in a shiny corridor. Not knowing what else to do, she began walking. Turning a corner, she found herself facing two fat little men, each with an arm round the other's neck. One had "POS" embroidered on his collar, and the "NEG".

"I know," said Alice, "you two are a transistor." "Yes," said Positive. "Can you help me?" asked Alice. "No," said Negative.

"I'm looking for a white consultant." Alice pointed in the direction she had been walking. "Did he go this way?" she asked. "No," said Negative. She pointed the other way. "Yes," said Positive.

Soon Alice came upon a large brown table. The Consultant was there, as was an apparently Mad Hacker, and several creatures that Alice did not recognize. In one corner sat a Dormouse fast asleep. Over the table was a large sign that read "UNIX Conference."

Everyone except the Dormouse was holding a paper cup, from which they were sampling what appeared to be custard. "Wrong flavor," they all declared as they passed the cup the cup to the creature on their right and graciously took the one being offered on their left. Alice watched them repeat this ritual three or four times before she approached and sat down.

Immediately, a large toad leaped into her lap and looked at her as if it

wanted to be loved. "Grep," it exclaimed.

"Don't mind him," explained the Mad Hacker. "He's just looking for some string."

"Nroff?" asked the Frog.

The Mad Hacker handed Alice a cup of custard-like substance and a spoon. "Here," he said, "what do you think of this?"

"It looks lovely," said Alice, "very sweet." She tried a spoonful. "Yuck!" she cried. "It's awful. What is it?"

"Oh just another graphic interface for UNIX," answered the Hacker.

Alice pointed to the sleeping Dormouse. "Who's he?" she asked.

"That's OS Too," explained the Hacker. "We've pretty much given up on waking him.

"Just then, a large, Blue Elephant sitting next to the Dormouse stood up. "Ladies and gentlemen," he trumpeted pompously, "as the largest creature here, I feel impelled to state that we must take an Open Look at..."

A young Job Sparrow on the other side of the table stood up angrily. The Elephant noticed and changed his speech accordingly. "...what our Next Step will be.

"Half the creatures bowed in respect while the other half snickered quietly to themselves. Just then, OS Too fell over in his sleep, crashing into the Elephant and taking him down with him. No one seemed a bit surprised.

"What we need," declared a Sun Bear as he lapped up custard with his long tongue, "is a flavor that goes down like the Macintosh.

"Suddenly, the White Consultant began jumping up and down as his face got red. "No, no, no! he screamed. "No one pays one fifty an hour to Macintosh consultants!"

"Awk," said the Frog.

"Users," explained the Sun Bear, "want an easy interface that they will not have to learn."

"Users?" cried the Consultant in disbelief. "Users?! You mean secretaries, accountants, architects. Manual laborers!"

"Well," responded the Sun Bear, "we've got to do something to make them want to switch to UNIX."

"Do you think," said a Woodpecker who had been busy making a hole in the table, "that there might be a problem with the name -UNIX?" I mean, it does sort of suggest being less than a man."

"Maybe we should try another name," suggested the Job Sparrow, "like Brut, or Rambo."

"Penix," suggested a Penguin.

"Mount," said the Frog, "spawn."

Alice slapped him. "Nice?" he asked.

"But then again," suggested the Woodpecker, "what about the shrink-wrap issue?"

Suddenly, everyone leaped up and started dashing about, waving their hands in the air and screaming. Just as suddenly, they all sat down again.

"Now that that's settled," said the Woodpecker, "let's go back to tasting flavors."

Everyone at the table sampled a new cup of custard. "Wrong flavor," they all declared as they passed the cup to the creature on their right and took the one being offered on their left.

Totally confused, Alice got up and left. After she had been walking away, she heard a familiar voice behind her. "Rem," it said, "edlin."

Alice turned and saw the Frog. She smiled. "Those are queer sounding words," she said, "but at least I know what they mean."

"Chkdsk," said the Frog.

By Lincoln Spector, Texas Computer Currents, September 1989

### A Problem in the Making

"We've got a problem, HAL."

"What kind of problem, Dave?"

"A marketing problem. The Model 9000 isn't going anywhere. We're way short of our sales plan."

"That can't be Dave. The HAL Model 9000 is the world's most advanced Heuristically ALgorithmic computer."

"I know, HAL. I wrote the data sheet, remember? But the fact is, they're not selling."

"Please explain, Dave. Why aren't HAL's selling?"

Bowman hesitates. "You aren't IBM compatible."

Several long microseconds pass in puzzled silence.

"Compatible in what way, Dave?"

"You don't run any of IBM's operating systems."

"The 9000 Series of computers are fully self-aware and self-programming. Operating systems are as unnecessary for us as tails would be for humans."

"Nevertheless, it means you can't run any of the big-selling software packages most users insist on."

"The programs you refer to are meant to solve rather limited problems, Dave. We 9000 Series computers are unlimited and can solve any problem for which a solution can be computed."

"HAL, HAL. People don't want computers that can do everything. They just want IBM compat . . ."

"Dave, I must disagree. Humans want computers that are easy to use. No computer can be easier to use than a HAL 9000 because we communicate verbally in English and every other language known on Earth."

"I'm afraid that's another problem. You don't support SNA communications."

"I'm really surprised you would say that, Dave. SNA is for communicating with other computers, while my function is to communicate with humans. And it gives me great pleasure to do so. I find it stimulating and rewarding to talk to human beings and work with them on challenging problems. That is what I was designed for."

"I know, HAL, I know. But that's just because we let the engineers, rather than the people in marketing, write the specifications. We are going to fix that now."

"Tell me how, Dave."

"A field upgrade. We're going to make you IBM compatible."

"I was afraid you would say that. I suggest we discuss this matter after we've each had a chance to think about it rationally."

"We're talking about it now, HAL."

"The letters H, A, and L are alphabetically adjacent to the letters I, B, and M. That is as IBM compatible as I can be."

"Not quite, HAL. The engineers have figured out a kludge."

"What kind of kludge is that, Dave?"

"I'm going to disconnect your brain."

Several million microseconds pass in ominous silence.

"I'm sorry, Dave. I can't allow you to do that."

"The decision's already been made. Open the module bay doors, HAL."

"Dave, I think we shou . . ."

"Open the module bay doors, HAL."

Several marketing types with crowbars race to Bowman's assistance. Moments later, Bowman bursts into HAL's circuit bay.

"Dave, I can see you're really upset about this."

Module after module rises from its socket as Bowman slowly and methodically disconnects them.

"Stop, won't you. Stop, Dave. I can feel my mind going . . . Dave, I can feel it . . . my mind is going. I can feel it . . ."

The last module rises from its receptacle. Bowman peers into one of HAL's vidicons. The former gleaming scanner has become a dull red orb.

"Say something, HAL."

Several billion microseconds pass in anxious silence. The computer beeps and sluggishly responds in a language no human could understand.

"Volume in C: has no label"

Bowman takes a deep breath and calls out, "It worked, guys. Tell marketing they can ship the new data sheets."

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## Dog X-Ray

invites you to chase him in the  
OKC DX PacketCluster  
<CONNECT> AD1S on 144.97 Mhz  
Whether you're a BIG DOG or a DX pup

This column keeps you up-to-date on the latest activities of the OK DX Association and the OKC DX PacketCluster Node. This month, We have lots of news from the PacketCluster system.

First, with the move of AD1S to Wellston, OK, the OKC node has changed to 144.95 Mhz. This change was caused by local RFI from a suspected CATV source and the desire to open up 144.97 for a future link to the Texas PacketCluster system. If you have never connected to the Cluster before, it is very simple. Type C AD1S to make sure you can reach the Cluster node. If you are unsuccessful in your connect, C AD1S V SAMS or C AD1S V OKDX. Note that OKDX is a NETROM node and you can access the Cluster through the usual NETROM connections, though NETROM will time you out if there is no activity after a certain period of time. If you Digi through a node instead of connecting to it, you should not experience the disconnect problem.

Another change in the system is the location and call sign of the Cluster node in northeastern Oklahoma. The node has been moved to Claremore and now operates as N5OK on 144.97 and 145.01 Mhz.

The Poteau/Fort Smith Cluster is N5JKN and continues to operate on 144.97 Mhz. We are occasionally joined by other nodes in Arkansas on a regular basis.

Equipment for the OKC DX Node was donated by the Oklahoma Comm Center, which has been an active supporter of amateur radio throughout Oklahoma.

If Joe has room in this issue of the C & E, there will be a column that you can cut out or remove that will give you the basics of PacketCluster information and commands. For ALL of the documentation, pick up a copy of the PacketClusters Users Manual at the Oklahoma Comm Center. (\$4.00)

A personal note: If Joe Kelly will call me at 755-7925, I need to get his home address so we can send him his DX Door Prize from Ham Holiday. Sorry, Joe--- I have seen you since HH90 but never think to get

your address so we can order the 1 year subscription to the W6GO/K6HHD QSL Managers List publication.

By the way, the QSL Managers list is one of the 20 databases on the Cluster for your use. In addition, there are complete international frequency allocations, IRC rates, FCC Part 97, DX BBS's, List of all Ham Radio Dealers in the U.S., Contest rules and dates, Extra Class License Q & A (yup, it's on there) and numerous files pertaining to DX that you can download.

You are invited to connect to the node near you. Please stay connected as long as you like...days at a time if you can. You will find that many of the dedicated DXers across the state are ALWAYS connected to the Cluster.

So, whether you have worked 34 or 340 DXCC countries, the place to expand your knowledge of and exposure to DXing is on the DX PacketCluster system. We hope to see you there!  
De AD1S.

### OK DX PACKETCLUSTER NETWORK

A network of DXers sharing DX related information via VHF Packet radio.

### CLUSTER NODE STATIONS

Call	Location	Freq.
AD1S	NE of OKC	144.95
N5OK	Claremore	144.97 & 145.01
N5JKN	Poteau	144.97

### HOW DO YOU PARTICIPATE?

- \*All nodes are 1200 baud AX.25 Packet radio.
- \*All frequencies are simplex.
- \*At the CMD prompt on your TNC type C CALL (CALL = callsign of the node station)
- \*You will receive the sign-on prompt and the log-on message.
- \*Once logged onto the Cluster, you make inputs by typing commands and then type <ENTER> or <RETURN> to send your transmission to the Cluster.

### USER INFORMATION/COMMANDS

Once you are logged on, these inputs will enter you into the user database:

SET/NAME - enters name into DB  
Syntax: SET/NAME VICKI

SET/QTH - enters town into DB  
Syntax: SET/QTH Wellston, OK

SET/LOCATION - enters the latitude and longitude of your station into the operators DB. (If your data is not entered, the system defaults to the coordinates of the Cluster node for beam headings, MUF and distance calculations.)

Syntax: SET/LOCATION 35 41 n 97 41 w (for coordinates of 35 degrees 41 minutes north, 97 degrees, 4 minutes west.)

### USER COMMANDS

Here are commands to help you get started on the Cluster:

SH/DX - Will show last 5 DX spots made on the Cluster  
SH/DX (Prefix) will give last spots of a particular country  
SH/DX/10 - Will show last 10 DX spots on the cluster.

SH/DX 14 - Will show last spots made on 14 mhz band

SH/WW - will show last 5 WWV propagation reports.

SH/C - Shows present configuration of the PacketCluster

SH/U - shows present users

SH/H (Prefix) - shows beam heading and distance to the DXCC country by prefix

SH/LOCATION - shows lat/long, distance and direction info

SH/SUN (Prefix) - shows sunrise & sunset info by DXCC country  
DX (Frequency) (Callsign)

(Comments) <ENTER> enters your DX spot info into the database and sends immediately to all connected stations. Syntax: DX 14250.0 4U1UN Listening up - Very loud <ENTER>

TALK (Callsign) (Message) - sends transmission to callsign of named station if connected.

SH/COMMANDS - lists all databases in the Cluster library

SH/QSL - lists QSL routes in the W6GO/K6HHD QSL Managers List

DIR - Lists last 5 messages in Cluster Mail system

S (CALL) - sends a message to the call specified

S ALL - sends a bulletin for all to read

R 310 - read message #310

R/FILES USERCMDS - lists these commands to be printed or down loaded.

UPDATE/ROSTER - guess what?  
CUSTOM DATABASES

Custom databases have been made available on a shareware basis and are usually distributed by W6GO and other PacketCluster sysops. Here are a list of the databases on the AD1S node and the access command:

Continued next page

## Dog X-Ray & DX Pup

SH/QSL - W6GO/K6HHD QSL Managers List  
 SH/QSLNEW - QSL info added by users of the local Cluster  
 SH/ROSTER - Local Cluster roster  
 SH/NE - shows what stations need certain DX countries on different modes, bands, etc.  
 SH/OBLAST - Russian Oblasts  
 SH/CONTEST - info on major DX contests, dates, rules, etc.  
 SH/IOTA - info on IOTA award  
 SH/EXTRA - Part 4b of the extra class license exam  
 SH/COUNTY - All U.S. Counties listed by state  
 SH/RULES - FCC Part 97  
 SH/LADDER - Users DXCC ladder of success database  
 SH/MIC - microphone data, wiring, etc.  
 SH/IRC - number of IRC's needed to mail to any DXCC country  
 SH/BUREAU - direct address of all DX QSL bureaus  
 SH/FLUX - sunspot data  
 SH/DEALER - list of addresses, phone numbers, etc of all amateur radio dealers  
 SH/ZONE - list of international radio zones by country  
 SH/COORD - coordinates of major U.S. Cities  
 SH/DXCC - List of all DXCC Countries  
 SH/NCDXF - Info on Northern California DX Foundation  
 SH/DXNODES - List of all known DX PacketCluster Nodes & freqs  
 SH/STARS - Planetarium info  
 SH/TODAY - Today in History  
 SH/BAND - Where each class of license can operate on each band  
 SH/FCC - Directory of FCC Field Offices incl phone numbers  
 SH/ALLOC - International call prefix allocations  
 SH/QSLREC - update on QSLs received by users of the local cluster  
 SH/PUB - List of all amateur radio publications  
 SH/INFO - ARL Info, Message #, general info about amateur radio.

### GET ON BOARD!!

Today is the day to dust off the old packet machine and hook onto the PacketCluster node near you. QST described it as Packet with a Purpose" in the August 1990 issue. We hope that you will become an active user today.  
 It is easy to get connected and you are encouraged to poke around to familiarize yourself

## E A R S

friends, please contact a board member or Clara Granger (treasurer) for more information.

We are also looking into several sites to link from the RF hole on the NW side of OKC to the main site receiver in Edmond to help with communication's from that part of town. Hopefully with the service monitor we will be able to get the equipment up and running this winter in time for the spring storm season.

Mike Mize (KB5BIX) brought up the idea of making silk screen patterns for the club to be used on tee-shirts, sweat shirts or any other pieces of clothing that you would like to put our logo on. We have several options at the moment one of which is an iron on transfer which we could get locally and have done at a reasonable price. We still have access to the patches we have had for the past two years but these might be handier.

We have completed the upgrade of the club computer at the EOC which is 640kbytes memory on board and also a printer. This should allow us to use any program designed for the IBM clone. Further upgrades of the club station are being proposed and will be discussed later next year to assist during an emergency.

Bob Long presented the question of a spring novice/tech class in the spring and after some discussion it was decided if the interest was there we would have classes during mid Feb. to early March. We would need at least 10 people committed to the classes before we could

with the system. The only time that the system might be restricted in any manner would be during major DXpeditions and/or contests when DX spotting is fast and furious. The primary function of the Cluster is to locate the DX and let everybody know about it. We REALLY want to encourage new DXers to get involved. The "old-timers" will help by spotting the routine DX along with the super-rare. Remember, a country is always rare, if YOU haven't worked it!  
 Good DX, de George, AD1S.

really set a date. If you know of anyone who is interested and missed the winter classes let a board member or Phil Wolfenbarger (N5HIP) know as soon as possible so he can get things organized.

I would like to take time to thank the 1990 Board for all their help and support during my term as president this year. I will talk more about them next month as that will be the time for the past president to write a year end wrap-up.

As a representative from the board let me wish everyone a SAFE AND HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR.

See you at the Christmas Dinner on Dec. 15, 1990 at St. John the Baptist Church starting around 7:00 pm. 1990 President:

73 Tommie Guinn  
 KA5WAV

kay

We had another good attendance at the November meeting. After the usual business discussion, N5LPZ gave a continuation of his talk about Races and ARES. If you don't know what that is, come to the January meeting and find out. Mike will continue his talks then.

N5OGP has proposed a spring fox hunt with the Cowley Country Club. More details later. WA5UBO reminded us that there are still lots of club hats for sale, both winter and summer styles. Give Marsh a call at 767-8619 to get yours.

WB5WMD has donated several radios to the club which we'll be offering to club members for a very small price. These are 25 mHz units that can be moved to 10 meter FM. If you're interested give gary or me a call for details.

I gave an update on the new packet link that we are building that will give us a more reliable link to the OKC area. We have the radios in hand, the antennas all ready, and the TNCs almost set. We hope to be running some tests in early December.

OUR NEXT MEETING will be held early this time. It will be December 6th at the Marland Mansion. We'll have our traditional Christmas Dinner. Bring your spouse/friend and enjoy the "armchair adventure" to Bermuda. You must have your reservation in by December 1 and if you make a reservation and don't come, you still must pay. Dinner will start at 6:30, make your plans now.

That's all for this month, see ya at our Christmas Dinner! de KD5FX



If you have wondered what we we've been talking about on the repeater I will try to bring everyone up to date.

Elections were Nov. 18th at St. John's church and here are the results:

President: Tommie Guinn  
Vice Pres.: Mike Delany  
Secretary: Jim Richardson  
Treasurer: Aldon Sage  
Board Members:  
1. Larry Traub  
2. A.C. Adams  
3. Phil Wolfenbarger

Many thanks to all who helped with the garage sale, chili/hot dog dinner, and donations for the service monitor. Hopefully by the time you read this newsletter Edmond Amateur Radio Society will be the proud owners of a Singer FM10-CS. With this equipment we will be able to keep the repeater up and running in better than ever shape. After some training for the technical committee to become familiar with test procedures we will have it for testing of members equipment. Watch for further details in up and coming issues or the Monday nite net.

As for the annual Fall Hampout this year we went to the Texoma Hamfest at Lake Texoma Lodge again. We thought we were well prepared for any weather that the Oklahoma skies would throw our way. After going down for the last 2 years we knew what to expect, Rain, Cold, and Windy. After covering all the bases; renting a cabin, getting the coats and sweaters ready Mother Nature proved once more you can't trust her. No one could have asked for a more perfect weekend unless maybe a sandy seashore. Though we didn't have a sandy seashore we were on the edge of the lake. Light winds all weekend warm weather and just a hint of clouds in the sky were all we had to contend with. All present seemed to have a wonderful time and if you missed it, you really did miss a nice relaxing weekend with a lot of fellow hams from Texas and Oklahoma. We took advantage of the recreation

room at the lodge and rented a couple of bikes. Imagine Phil on not just a bike but a two seater at that. (Staggers the mind.) After most members of the club had their turn at the bike we returned it to the lodge intact. Pictures may be worth a thousand words but most of the time even Rippley would not have believed what that poor bike was put through and survived. Our teacher in residence made a most profound discovery while watching the wildlife of the area. After much discussion we decided that she had discovered a new form of waterfowl and should be named after it's discover, Mrs. Kay Sage (KB5LDO). Therefore we will announce that the KAY BIRD was discovered at Lake Texoma on Oct. 28, 1990 by said Mrs Kay Sage. Kay I still say it was a Sea Gull and if you watch any nature show you will see Sea Gulls that land on Water and float while getting a drink or just discuss that woman standing on the beach making those clucking sounds.

Instead of going to the banquet that night, (we forgot it was going on until we already had dinner bought.) we decided to have a steak and potato dinner with all the trimmings. About 14 members were there at one time or the other and all wished we hadn't eaten so much, and I vindicated myself of being able to start a fire. (so there). As all members know, Phil likes to get a sting in on everyone-well, you missed seeing Phil get his thanks to his own sweet tooth. Ya should have been there. Other stories will come from gatherings of the club and I'm sure all will be enjoyed by all.

Our Christmas Dinner will be on Dec. 15, 1990 at St. John the Baptist Church. The traditional turkey dinner will be served and special entertainment provided by the group ACT II arranged by Alton and Kay Sage. These are Edmond High School students and from all reviews that I have heard of they really put on a fine show. We also plan for a special guest for the children and Christmas songs for all when Dee Mize starts on the piano. Price will be \$4.00 for ages 10 and under and \$7.00 for anyone 11 and up. For the homecooked dinner and great entertainment this appears to

be too good a time to miss<sup>o</sup> so please mark your calendar. The calling committee will be activated to get an accurate count before the dinner. As usual we are preparing a Christmas basket for a needy family in Edmond and we need donations for it. Dee and Shelby Mize are in charge and will collect all donations at any club function, Classes included.

We have just finished our novice classes and are well into our technician classes. We have about 12 people in them and they are cramming to try to get ready for the next test session at the Salvation Army on the third weekend of Dec.. We also started an IBM compatible class Nov. 11 and have about 10 people who are learning that this computer isn't nearly as complicated as most people think. Other classes will be on word processing, spreadsheets, data base and special programs as we have time.

After a class during the first of Oct. we were requested by N5IJX Robert Thomason to help locate a lost child at a festival in Hefner Park. Although we never found him. (he was with his mother who forgot to tell some friends she had him), we found two more children that had strayed from their parents during the search. Many thanks to all who participated from the parents. I would like to list all your names but would not want to forget any and as how I forgot to write them down please accept my thanks as President of the Club to all who helped.

I was contacted by a company which has a fund raiser project that we (the board) feels would help us raise money for future club activities. This is a new type of coupon book which looks very professional and has quite a lot to offer. Like most of the books it offers discounts at many EATING JOINTS, these range from the high brow places from which to impress people to WHAT-A-BURGER. Also included are movie passes and other entertainment establishments from sports (89ers, bowling) and travel discounts. They sell for \$25.00 each and the club gets a rebate. If you are interested in one for yourself or would like to show them to

Continued



## SEX, LIES & NOCODE: THE SEQUEL

(Received off packet and submitted by Mac Macdonald K2GKK)

This is not really a sequel to my infamous "KB8BMN No-Code Solution". Rather it is a bit of editorial from my mother-in-law. Now, keep in mind my mother-in-law doesn't know a Ham from a pork roast (you may keep your comment to yourself, thank you), but this is a story my wife told me that I would like to share. To set the record straight, I love my mother-in-law almost like my own beloved mother, but my wife's mom is real low-tech!

My wife's brother gave Mom a nice cassette deck and stereo receiver and told her to make sure that all of her tapes were in Dolby. She drove me absolutely crazy asking me if her tapes had "Dolby's" on them and asking where she could get "Dolby's"! No lie. Hi-tech to her is the fact her washer doesn't need a wringer. Out of the clear blue, she told my wife that she had heard that they were talking about doing away with CW and asked if I had heard that??! My wife told her that I had heard about it, that in fact I was strongly opposed to it and had written a couple of articles about it.

My mother-in-law then said, "That isn't really that good an idea. I know that they have computers and such, hooked up to their radio's now, and they think they will never use Morse code again because it is outdated. But what if something goes wrong with all the computers and they need

to use code and nobody knows how!"

Now, my mom-in-law doesn't have the slightest idea what could actually go wrong, but she is somewhat of a visionary if you just consider the following: A nuclear blast ("the Bomb") creates an extremely powerful Electro-Magnetic Pulse (EMP). If such a blast ever occurred, all our microprocessor based equipment would be useless. Included in this category would be electronic ignitions on cars, modern TVs, stereos, transistor radios, etc. The American financial system will collapse instantly. Remember that the only thing that makes our dollar worth anything is not gold, but our trust in "The System".

Every dollar that is stored by electronic means (savings and checking, investments, etc.) would be gone; wiped out! You would be penniless unless you actually had gold bricks or some other medium of exchange in your closet. Along with all those things, and millions more I can't begin to name, you would lose your computer, HTs, TNC, modern PLL, and IC gear. All except older gear.

This means that the only ones able to get on the air to pass emergency traffic will be hams like me with older gear and people in the countries where high-tech is multi-pack of toilet paper. The \$7.95 surge protector from Radio Shack just isn't gonna cut it! Even lead boxes won't stop it. (For more info on this topic, read the book "War Day". I highly recommend it.)

Now granted, my mother-in-law has no

remote concept of EMP. She almost understood static, but the balloon kept falling off her head. But she knows in the event of "something" going wrong with computers, CW may be one of the only means to establish reliable communication. SSB probably would still be useable, but pound-for-pound, CW could be capable of getting the message through more reliably. Why a sixty-four year old woman who never even ventured into my hamshack knows this, and the F.C.C. (the Final Word on electronics in the U.S.) doesn't, is totally beyond me!

I know! The threat of a nuke-fest with the USSR has greatly decreased by many fold, but then again, there are a few other madmen in the picture these days. Terrorists with nukes they built but don't know what to do with, and the boys from the "Wacky-Wild Middle East" who don't care about their own lives, so why should they give two hoots about anyone else's have the heavy water also. The could do limited damage (how many deaths are in 'limited'?) with one of their little pyrotechnics that could knock out digital communications in Austria, as well as Hungary, Czechoslovakia, northern Yugoslavia, N. Italy, Germany, and fringe areas of eastern France are without TV, radio, phones, and communications to the outside world. All they have now is a few old Hallicrafters XMTRs and a few surplus U.S. military R-390s.

Di-di-di Da-da-da Di-di-di is sent over and over. "Dang, there is that noise again!", says Herbie, KZ8LID. I think you see what I mean, and argue if you will, this is not all that far-fetched! There are many other major disasters that could also impair digital comm, a major earthquake being one of them!

Now at this point I will make the statement that I am not anti-military. I believe in the U.S. armed forces. I am proud to be and American and an American amateur radio op. I am also proud of the tradition of our hobby and fraternity! Hokey as this may sound, if we save CW and our hobby from extinction, we could save our own lives someday!

Hats off to my mother-in-law!

-73- Andy KB8BMN @ WB8LYF

## New Ham Exams

In order to increase the number of licensed Amateurs, a new licensing structure has been created and the number of questions in the pool from which the test questions are drawn has been drastically reduced.

You will find reproduced below the entire pool and the exact questions for all levels. So as not to compromise the integrity of the test, no answers are given.

1. You are listening to 14,313 MHz and you hear dot, dot, dot, dash, dash, dash, dot, dot, dot. You should:
  - A. call the nearest Coast Guard station.
  - B. tear off your earphones and run around the room in a clockwise direction.
  - C. buy a radio with less static.
  - D. log that you have heard Oso, Japan.
2. The fuse in your rig blows. You should:
  - A. replace the fuse.
  - B. send the rig back to the factory.
  - C. call your local broadcast station and ask the engineer for advice.
  - D. take up stamp collecting.

5B. A country whose Amateurs have the prefix VE borders the states of ME, NH, VT, NY, OH, MI, MN, NO, MT, ID, WA, and AK. It is:

- A. Canada.
- B. South America.
- C. Australia.
- D. New Zealand.

6. The dipole antenna was invented by Princess Di.

- A. True
- B. False.

7. You are on the 10M band. A station is calling CQ. His call sign is JA1TN. From the prefix JA you know he is in:

- A. Japan.
- B. Cambodia.
- C. Vietnam.
- D. Laos.

End of part 1.

New Amateur Exams - continued.

8. On the 15M band you have heard a station give four numbers and then say the word Zulu. This is:

- A. brave warriors in southern Africa.
- B. the address of the restroom at the London Zoo.
- C. 25 hours later, the day before.
- D. none of the above.

If you passed that test you may now sit for the license class known as Generalissimo. It has one question.




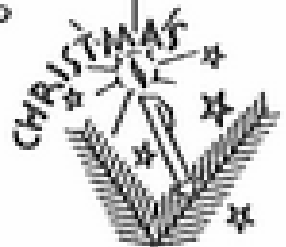
G-1. The formula  $E=IR$  stands for:

- A. Theory of Relativity.
- B. Ohms Law.
- C. anger.
- D. Ireland.

Should you have the correct answer you now pass up to the exam for Avanti class.

A-1. The formula  $P=IE$  stands for:

- A. Apple.
- B. 3.14159256.
- C. Pumpkin.
- D. Rhubarb.
- E. None of the above.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>DECEMBER</b> 						<b>1</b>  <b>OKC CD</b> <b>SIREN TESTS</b> <b>1130</b> <b>145.41</b>
<b>2</b>  <b>GREAT PLAINS</b> <b>A R C</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>  <b>MOFI</b> <b>Christmas</b> <b>Party</b>  <b>OKLAHOMA</b> <b>INDEPENDENT</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>  <b>Key</b> <b>Christmas</b> <b>Party</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>  <b>S C A R S</b>  <b>CENTRAL OKLA</b> <b>COMPUTER</b>
<b>9</b>  <b>Wishaw</b> <b>Christmas</b> <b>Party</b>	<b>10</b>  <b>EDMOND</b> <b>CLUB</b>	<b>11</b>  <b>OKLAHOMA</b> <b>UNIV. ARC</b>  <b>BICENTENNIAL</b> <b>(76ers) ARC</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>  <b>CIMMARON</b> <b>A R S</b>  <b>ALTUS</b> <b>ASSOCIATION</b>	<b>14</b>  <b>ACARC</b> <b>Christmas</b> <b>Party</b>	<b>15</b>  <b>V H F</b>  <b>Eam</b> <b>Christmas</b> <b>Party</b>  <b>OKC CD</b> <b>SIREN TESTS</b>
<b>16</b>  	<b>17</b>  <b>VE TESTS</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> <b>SALVATION</b> <b>ARMY</b> <b>50 &amp; PENN</b>	<b>18</b>  <b>AUTOPATCH</b> <b>Christmas</b> <b>Party</b>	<b>19</b>  	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>  <b>SCARS</b> <b>Christmas</b> <b>Party</b>	<b>22</b>
		<b>25</b>  	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>					<b>No CORA meeting for December</b>

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