

SECOND CLASS MAIL
Postmaster, see page 2

VOLUME 14
MARCH 1991
NUMBER 193

The South Canadian Amateur Radio Society

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Central Oklahoma Radio Amateurs

SCARS met on Saturday, the 2nd of February at the Norman Red Cross. The meeting was a week earlier than usual this month due to problems scheduling the meeting room. The meeting was held in the small conference room due to the over booking of the usual meeting room. The March meeting is scheduled for the 16th of March.

The treasurers report indicated that about \$960 was in the account. Several members paid dues at the meeting.

For the past several weeks Steve, NI8W, has been making a survey of the membership at meetings, and at the Saturday morning coffee and doughnut sessions, to determine what areas most club members are interested in. If you have not filled out one of the survey forms please take a few minutes and complete one.

The "show and tell" weekend at Sooner Fashion Mall is scheduled for April 27 - 28. Volunteers will be needed both days to man the booth and answer questions. We hope to have an operating HF station, some 2 meter equipment, and maybe a packet station. There are no roof openings we could use for antenna access so we will be limited to antennas inside the building. There may be severe interference problems from the computer cash registers used in many stores.

Storm Watch 3 severe weather spotter training class will be held at the Norman library on March 23rd at 1 pm. Basic and advanced spotter training will be given by NWS meteorologists.

Another call for volunteers for the 89er bicycle race was made by NI8W. The race will be the third weekend in April.

Several members have asked when the next license class will be held. SCARS has not planned to hold a class until after the mall weekend. There is a class being held in Purcell and we will try to find out when and where.

After about 5 years of working on the Ham Holiday flea market committee, Don, KB5ABS has retired. If SCARS members wish to continue to work on this committee then please see Don, otherwise CORA will need to find someone else to run it.

Ken, N5BEW, says a bad solder connection in the in town receiver equipment

FEBRUARY MEETING NOTES

I saw 15 faces at this months meeting. Even a couple of new ones. Mark N5OGP tells us that the new ARRL books are in the Library. There will be a list available at the front desk or from him of all the ARRL books. Only half of our members have paid their 1991 dues, if you haven't paid you can mail to:

KCARC
PO Box 2750
Ponca City OK 74602.

Mark suggested that we move our dues date and officer elections to the Fall. Think about this and we will discuss and vote on it next month.

Mike N5LPZ gave another of his series of talks. This one was on the National Traffic System (NTS). His next talk will be on Communication Skills and proper net procedures. The joint picnic and fox hunt with the Cowley County ARC was again announced. It is scheduled for April 21st, which is on Sunday.

NEXT MEETING

This will be March 21st, we may hold this one at the EOC in preparation for tornado season. Listen to the Monday night net for details.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 2- Enid VE Exams. 145.29 for details.

March 2- Elk City Hamfest.

March 23- Stormwatch III spotter training in Norman.

March 23- Wheels and Heels BiAthlon Lake Ponca.

May 4- Enid VE Exams.

May 18- Green Country Hamfest.

June 1- Triathlon Lake Ponca.

That's all for this month, see ya at our next meeting! de KD5FX

has been causing problems for a while. It seems to be fixed now but the antenna feed line may need to be replaced due to weather deterioration and corrosion.

The meeting adjourned at 10:26.
Ken, N5KUK

The January meeting was called to order at 7:39 pm with President Frank AA5GI in the chair with the following Directors and guest representing 6 of the 16 member clubs present: ACARC Tom Mangham & Jack Conley; 76ers Jerry Sproul & Jim Buswell; Wheatstraw Joe Lynch; MORI Ellard Foster & Robert Moose; OCAPA Baron Bieber; EARS Jim Richardson; C&E Joe Harding and visitor Jason Conley.

Following self-introductions the minutes of the November 1990 meeting and the report of the Treasury were accepted as distributed.

REPORTS; C&E Editor stated the deadline for the February issue will be 8 pm 23 Jan 91.

VE; No report available.

HAM HOLIDAY #18 (1991)

PUBLICITY; After thorough discussion it was decided that Baron would investigate and report on the quantity of publicity flyers needed.

FACILITIES; Frank read two letters to CORA from the OKC Convention & Visitors Bureau offering us their assistance.

DEALERS/AWARDS; Frank reported he/we would invite as many as can be expected and not limited to just our state.

PRE-REGISTRATIONS; On motion by Joe & seconded by Ellard it was decided to set admission fees at \$6 in advance, \$8 at the door, and \$5 for each flea market table reserved in advance.

REGISTRATIONS/TALK-IN; No report.

PROGRAMS; We will advertise for a chairperson as well as for content.

NON-TECHNICAL; Linda relayed through Jim that we have confirmed programs offered from the American Red Cross, the National weather Service and are still attempting to line up a lingerie show.

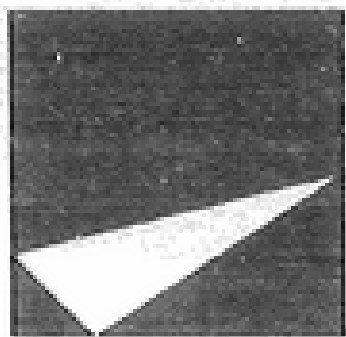
BINGO; Tom reports everything under control.

BANQUET <> FLEA MARKET <>

SECURITY; No report/er(s).

SCHOLARSHIP; CORA needs a chairperson on this effort on a continuing basis to ensure funding in the future.

BREAKFAST; Open, no committee, no



OklahomaCityAutopatchAssociation

The BIG Signal

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU...but has it seemed to me that this past month has come and gone without a blink. I know February is a short month, but it has never been this short before. But then again, we had a short winter, short gubernatorial inaugural hoopla, a short war (as of the time of the writing; the very last minute), and a short February OCAPA meeting.

Which means that fortunately for you, you will not have to endure a long-winded Autopatch article this month. We'll also keep it short.

February meeting. It was held. It was attended. It finally adjourned. Enough said about that.

QST. Best wishes for a speedy recovery are relayed to Leonard Hanstein W5MEL, who is currently QTH'd at a local hospital. Within his excitement to have his beam re-installed on his new tower, he decided to have a heart attack. Only a true ham...

Saw a lot of fellow hams and Autopatchers at Midwest City. It that's time of year for this sort of thing, as there are three of them cropping up almost every weekend this March.

THE 1991 OCAPA 146.82 WEATHER NET MEETING

A BIG deal for us, this year's weather meeting will be a grand one for us again. MARK YOUR CALENDAR, Thursday, March 28th, 1991, 7:00 p.m., KWTU, Channel 9 Television Studios. All Autopatch members are invited to attend, along with their family and guests. We'll see you there!

SIREN TESTS

(Contribution by Frank McCollum N5FM)

A visit with Jimmy Patty, Director of Police Emergency Management for the City of Oklahoma City, brought forth the information that the Oklahoma City Civil Defense Director has decided to discontinue the emergency siren tests.

He has decided to not spend any more money on them and plans to remove the ones remaining.

As many of you know a large percent of those tested twice a month failed in some way to operate as they should.

The sirens will be replaced by an alternate system which most likely will not be in place by the start of the tornado season.

I could not find out at this time whether or not they will announce to the public the fact they can not depend on the sirens in Oklahoma City.

A survey of other metropolitan areas is in progress to determine which system will be used in the future.

The two plans being considered at this time are one: a transmitter at the EOC would broadcast a tone burst and a verbal warning to tone activate receivers located in the media facilities. The media would relay the alarm to the public. The second plan is to arrange with the phone company to relay warnings. It seem the phone company can make all phones in a given prefix area ring at the same time with a warning-type sequence.

This second system, if it works, seems to offer the best service as it would warn at all hours and would not depend on any one to be watching TV or listening to the radio. They could be asleep and receive the warning. Also, only the area

in danger would be alerted, not the whole city, as is the case with NOAA Radio now.

The Oklahoma City decision would not effect the other metro areas such as Bethany, Warr Acres, or Midwest City.

No decision has been reached at this time on what system to use and any suggestions would be welcome. Your idea will be considered although not necessarily used. If used, you may not get any credit for it.

I believe it is our duty, since we have been involved over several years in the testing of the old system, to inform the public we are no longer involved and why.

HOW TO PUT UP AN ANTENNA TOWER

(Courtesy WA2PVB BBS; W1SJV via The Squelch Tale; The RaRa Rag, Rochester Amateur Radio Association)

I am writing in response to your request for additional information on my recent accident. In block number 3 of the accident reporting form, I put "poor planning" as the cause of the accident. You said in your letter that I should explain more fully and I trust that the following details will be sufficient.

I am an amateur radio operator. On the day of the accident, I was working alone on the top section of my new 80 foot antenna tower. When I had completed my work, I discovered that I had, over the course of several trips up the tower, brought up about 300 pounds of tools and spare hardware. Rather than carry the now unneeded tools and hardware down by hand, I decided to lower the items in a small barrel by using a pulley which fortunately, was attached to the gin pole at the top of the tower. Securing the rope at ground level, I went up to the top of the tower and loaded the tools and hardware into the barrel. Then I went back to the ground and untied the rope, holding tightly to insure a slow descent of the 300 pounds of hardware. You will note in block 11 of the accident form that I weigh 155 pounds. Due to my surprise at being jerked off the ground so suddenly, I lost presence of mind and forgot to let go of the rope. Needless to say, I proceeded at a rather rapid rate up the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40 foot level, I met the barrel coming down. This explains my fractured skull and broken collarbone. Slowed only slightly, I continued my rapid ascent, not stopping until the fingers of my right hand were two knuckles deep into the pulley. Fortunately by this time I had regained my presence of mind and was able to hold tightly to the rope in spite of my pain. At approximately the same time, however, the barrel hit the ground and the bottom fell out. Devoid of the weight of the tools and hardware, the barrel now weighed 20 pounds. I refer you again to my weight in block 11. As you might imagine, I began a rapid decent down the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40 foot level, I met the barrel coming up. This accounts for the two fractured ankles and the lacerations of my legs and lower body. The encounter with the barrel slowed me enough to lessen my injuries when I fell in the pile of tools and hardware and fortunately only three vertebrae were cracked. I am now sorry to report, however, that as I lay there on the tools and hardware, in pain, unable to stand, I again lost presence of mind and let go of the rope, and watched the empty barrel 80 feet above approach me.

(Ed.note - The name and call of the author has been omitted by request until all his medical claims have been paid by his insurance company. Also his insurance company is cancelling his policy.)

88 to the YL's.

Baron J. Bieber N5PQK

1. AERONAUTICAL CENTER ARC Meets: First Thursday, Flight Standards Building, FAA, South MacArthur 7:30 pm. PR Doug Teachman, W0DXA 392-5458 S/T Ted Anderson, NY5W 685-4016 AsVP Harold Todd, WA5VAQ 685-3685 Asvp Charlie Greene, WA5JGU 943-5631 Editor: Jack WB5SUN	11. EDMOND AR SOCIETY Meets: Odd Months, 3rd Sunday, 2:00 pm, Edmond EOC; Dinner, Even Months, 3rd Friday PR Tommie Guinn, KA5WAV 341-3886 VP Mike Delaney, KB5HXT 341-7847 SE Jim Richardson, N5OHL 524-0456 TR Aldon Sage, KB5LIC 341-8978 Editor: Mike Delaney, KB5HXT 341-7847
2. CENTRAL OKLAHOMA VHF Meets: 11:00 am, 3rd Sat., Favorite's Cafe, 3701 S. Western, OKC PR Jack Muse, WB5ZKZ 691-1152 VP Fred Boardman, W5NL 427-2505 SE Joe Buswell, K5JB 732-0676 TR Ellard Foster, W5KE 789-6702 Editor: Joe Buswell, K5JB 732-0676	13. KAY COUNTY ARC Meets: 7:00 pm, Third Thursday, Sep-May, Pioneer Vo-Tech, Ponca City, OK PR John Spoon, WB5YSX VP Marsh Pronneke, WA5UB S/T Gary Robison, WB5WMD 765-9727 Editor: Dave Land, KD5FX 762-8616
3. MID-OKLAHOMA REPEATER, INC. Meets: First Tuesday, 7:30 pm, at Favorite Cafe, 3701 Western, OKC PR Steve Comman, KB5CDF VP Jim Buswell, N5BEQ S/T Linda Moore, KA5NAV 799-1765 Editor:	14. CIMMARON ARS Meets: 7:30 pm, second Thurs., WX5Y Playhouse 827 S. 13, Fairview PR Curt Briggs, N5RHO (405) 227-4641 VP Terry McCall, N5MLT (405) 227-3672 SE Dennis Painton, WK5V (405) 764-3599 TR Nadine Painton, N5FMH (405) 764-3599 Editor: Jack Day, NN5Z (405) 227-3462
4. OK CITY AUTOPATCH Meets: 7:30 pm, third Tuesday, Salvation Army, N.W. 50th & Penn. PR Jim Bartlett, KA5PSF 359-1299 VP Baron Bieber, N5PQK 557-1664 SE Ken Goddard, WA5DTL 946-4973 TR Mac Macdonald, K2GKK 672-4947 Editor: Baron Bieber, N5PQKU 557-1664	15. SOUTH CANADIAN ARS Meets: 9:30 am, Second Saturday, Red Cross Bldg., North OU Campus, Norman PR Dorinda Skaggs, N5IUA 799-5363 VP Steve Wolfe, N1BW 329-0203 TR Charles McCown, WB5UUX SE Ken Brown, N5KUK Editor: Ken Brown, N5KUK
5. OKLA. UNIVERSITY ARC Meets: 7:30 pm, Second Tuesday (Sep-May) 119 Wilson Center, 1334 S. Jenkins PR Frank Donaldson, N5IQJ 329-4172 VP John Wustenberg, KE5N 325-2382 S/T Jim Greenshields, WD5HPU 321-9981 Editor:	16. EDMOND AR CLUB Meets: 7:00 pm, Second Monday, Various locations. PR Mark Northcutt, WD5DYI 755-4672 VP Wendell Cochran, WB5ISO 943-4308 S/T Kay Northcutt, WD5DYJ 755-4672 Trustee: Dennis Orcut, WB5ISN 340-0034
6. ALTUS ASSOCIATION Meets: 7:30 pm, Second Thursday, North Main Fire Station, (CD) Altus PR Loren Simms, WA5CBF VP None S/T Mike Schenkel, W5VXU 482-1797 Editor: Mike Schenkel, W5VXU 482-1797	18. GREAT PLAINS ARC Meets: 2:15 pm, First Sunday, Woodward Public Works Building PR Bob Bayles, WB0GAX, Woodward 254-3561 VP Andy, N5LRR 256-4017 SE Rod Ford, WB5OVT, Gage 923-7683 TR Freida Patterson, N5EOX, Woodward 256-2111 Editor: Phillip Perry, N5QCN 938-2453
7. BICENTENNIAL (76er) ARC Meets: 7:30 pm Second Tues., 1801 N. Lincoln Blvd., Parking in Rear PR Hank Stokes, KB5XM 376-1067 VP Bill Skipper, KB5BS 392-4612 TR Bill Skipper, KB5BS 392-4612 SE Not Filled Editor: Not Filled	20. CENTRAL OK COMPUTER ORG. Meets: Second Saturday, 12 Noon, Oscar Rose College, Midwest City PR Don Fox 733-8480 VP Patrick Roberts, KA5ZYM 681-5220 S/T Martin Schiel Editor:
9. WHEATSTRAW ARC Meets: 2:30 pm Second Sunday, Location Varies, see Club Section for Details PR Edgar Engbrecht, W05B, Okarche 263-4411 VP Neal Kappus, N5KCO, El Reno 262-1551 S/T Joe Garland, WA5FLT, Calumet 893-2660 Editor: Ralph Wilder, WZ5PFK, Watonga 623-5421	CENTRAL OKLA RADIO AMATEURS Meets: 7:30 pm, Fourth Tuesday, Salvation Army, Penn & NW Highway, OKC, (Back Door) PR Frank Tassone, AA5GI 341-1124 VP Dorinda Skaggs, N5IUA 799-5363 SE Jim Buswell, N5BEQ TR Tom Mangham, K5LDI 677-5291 Editor:
10. OKlahoma DX Association Meets: Quarterly - Hamfests, DX Net Saturdays - 1730 UTC-7.195 MHZ, Box 88, Wellston, 74881 PR George W. Adkins, AD1S VP Darrell Reed, KF5DA SE Paul Harrop, WB5NDN TR Paul Wardell, N5PYD Editor: George W. Adkins, AD1S 356-4101	

PLEASE help us keep your information up to date. What time, where, when, who are your officers, editors, and their phone #. Check **YOUR** entry, it can be changed.

If there appears to be a mistake - check with your club official. We can't do anything about it. Below is a sample label.

4	90/01	2
WILSON, MIKE WA5RTY		
1234 W 49		
MCCLOUD OK 74851		

The "4" means Autopatch Club, 90/01 means he is overdue. The "2" is for postal rates.

Dear Subscriber:

If your address label has a SAD FACE it means that you are due to renew your subscription or your club dues and you will continue to get the C&E for three months then, sorry but post office rules say that we must cancel you until you pay up.

Likewise
if
you
see
a

RED X here

this will be your last C&E until you renew.

Dear Secretary/Treasurer:

When you want a change of any sort to your membership just remember...fill out a slip (COMPLETELY). Watch for the DATE you received their money and the date subscription expires. Have your slips, or list of deletions, to me by the 22 of each month. If there is anything about C&E subscriptions that you need to know get in contact with:

Joe Harding, 9211 N Council #216. OKC OK 73132, Telephone 720-1019

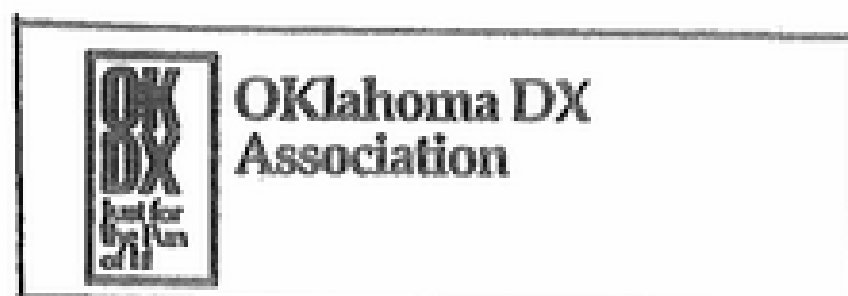
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C.O.R.A. WELCOMES OK DX

We are pleased to announce that the Oklahoma DX Association has been voted as a new member organization of C.O.R.A. Oklahoma DX Association was formed over a year ago by a group of hams from the Lawton-Port Sill Amateur Radio Club.

The Association now boasts over 65 members from all parts of Oklahoma and three foreign countries. We are a group of hams who really enjoy HF-VHF DXing and contesting. We take our efforts seriously, but have a lot of fun in the process.

If you have similar interests, you are invited to join the Oklahoma DX Association today. We are NOT trying to entice you from your local repeater club; our association serves a completely different purpose. We just love to DX, to talk DX and to hunt the elusive "Dog X-Ray".

If you would be interested in joining our group, just send your check for \$10 to the Oklahoma DX Association, Box 88, Wellston, OK 74881.

In the coming months we will have meetings and other activities at the largest Ham conventions in the State. Our next activity will be at the Green Country Hamfest in May, and will include seminars on Five-Band DXCC, Tutors on DX PacketCluster and Contesting. We are planning a DX Luncheon and other programs at Ham Holiday and Texhoma Hamfests. We hope to see YOU there!

ON THE BANDS

Probably the most excitement of the past month has been the appearance of ET2A, the first Ethiopian station that has been acceptable for DXCC in nearly 10 years! According to the DX PacketCluster logs, ET2A has been heard on the following times and frequencies:

14222.0 - 0502 UTC
21250.0 - 2050 UTC
21306.0 - 1850 UTC
28580.0 - 1916 UTC

All of these appearances were list operations. This station is expected to be there for

awhile and should be working on his own soon.

The next BIG NEWS is the anticipated arrival of S21JS on or around March 10, 1991. Look for Jim Smith on the usual frequencies, starting out on SSB, but with some CW expected.

You will note that many of our spots and DX information come right from the Oklahoma DX PacketCluster system. If you haven't tried PacketCluster yet, you're really missing the boat. There are PacketCluster nodes in Oklahoma City (Wellston), Tulsa (Claremore) and Poteau-Fort Smith. In addition, you can access the PacketCluster in your area via various digipeaters and/or Net Rom nodes. Check your local Packet "guru" if you are new in this mode.

This column keeps you up-to-date on the latest activities of the Oklahoma DX Association and the DX PacketCluster. All members of the Oklahoma DX Association are invited to submit articles for our monthly news feature that will appear here in the Collector & Emitter. Please set your typewriter or computer to a three inch margin and type to your hearts content. Send your articles to the editor (see the inside cover) in time for the paste-up deadline. Be sure to tell Joe that your article is for the OK DX column.

DX PACKETCLUSTER NEWS

There will be lots of excitement this year on the OK DX PacketCluster network. We have been joined regularly by two nodes in Arkansas and once in awhile the folks from Texas make an appearance. We have seen as many as 98 users connected at one time on the system! If you join us, we can bust a hundred with no problem. If you are new at PacketCluster, we are including a synopsis of PacketCluster commands later in this article. Feel free to cut out these commands and leave them close to your keyboard. If you want the ENTIRE list of all commands, I recommend that you obtain a copy of the PacketCluster Users Manual, available at the Oklahoma Comm Center for \$4.00 (57 pages!). The new DX Digi may be on the air by the time you read this article. The digi will be located in Anadarko and will link to the AD1S PacketCluster node on 145.09 Mhz. You may

ask, why in the world did the PacketCluster choose this frequency? Well, we listened for weeks for a packet frequency that would offer minimal desense problems with our other frequencies. We listened on 145.09 and found nothing on the "heard list" for our ten-day test period. Then, after announcing the frequency and completing our plans, we heard that 145.09 Mhz was also used by weather spotters, NWS packeteers and others in the business of chasing storms. After careful study, we have decided for the present time to stay on 145.09 Mhz, but of course DX spotting activities will be suspended during Severe Storm WARNING periods. I am sure that all DX Users of 145.09 will cooperate by leaving a quiet frequency on 145.09 during the severe WX times. Of course, the AD1S node has a primary operation frequency of 144.95...which competes with NASA, the Russian satellite and God only knows who else. Ain't DXing fun?

N5OK continues to serve Northeastern Oklahoma from Claremore. N5JKN serves the Poteau-Fort Smith areas. All these nodes are linked via 2 meters to form the Oklahoma network.

We look forward to hearing from our members with submissions for the MONTHLY newsletter here in the Collector & Emitter. We also look forward to meeting you on our weekly Fun Net, held each Saturday, 7.195 Mhz, 1730 UTC. You don't have to be a member to check in and share your favorite lies about the previous week's DX activities. In the meantime, good DX!

De George, AD1S
President, Oklahoma DX Association.

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
		145.09
N5OK	Claremore	144.97
		145.01
N5JKN	Poteau	144.97

Continued on next page

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:

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/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

STORM WATCH III

SATURDAY, 23 MARCH 1991

1 P.M. TO 5 P.M.

**NORMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY
(LOWRY ROOM)**

**225 N. Webster
Norman, Oklahoma**

Talk-In Frequency: 147.06 +

Storm Watch III is an afternoon of seminars on weather spotting sponsored by the National Weather Service and the South Canadian Amateur Radio Society. The program will include beginning and advanced spotter training, and a seminar on how to interface with the National Weather Service during severe weather.

Guest Speakers: Dennis McCarthy, Meteorologist in Charge of the National Weather Service; Bill Bunting, National Weather Service; Andl Wolfe, WUSW, South Canadian Amateur Radio Society.

**Storm Watch III is free
open to the public.**

Diner: Waiter, how long will the sausages be?
Waiter: Oh, I'd say about four inches, sir.

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 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.

INDIVIDUAL IMPRESSIONS

By Charles E. Maupin, W5HQM

Thomas J. Banks, Jr., W5HJ, died Feb. 9, 1991 in Las Cruces, NM at the age of 81. Tom was an early day radio pioneer in the OKC area. He held former calls of W5BFW and K6SMP. Tom worked for CAA installing radio beacon stations for airways in the central and south Pacific prior to WWII and was with Sandia Corp. for many years prior to retirement. I handled his QSL cards in the 5th District Bureau and he was quite active up to the end. Matter of fact, I have a sizeable batch of cards that came in this month for exotic foreign contacts Tom made.

Several months ago Bob Ashby, W5HXL, passed on to me a letter he received from Tom on Feb. 21, 1990. It gives a lot of interesting observations in his career and it seems appropriate to review as a memorial of Tom:

"You may be surprised to hear from me but I wanted to let you know how much I enjoyed the article on Paul Bell (in a previous INDIVIDUAL IMPRESSIONS in C&E). It told of four of you former Central High students visiting Paul and Mae in their retirement apartment. It brought back many pleasant memories of the past. Paul and Mae left their mark on me beginning in 1925 when I first enrolled in Paul's classes. During my first year he got me to sign up with Battery "F" Field Artillery in the OK National Guard even though I was only 15 years old. I matured very rapidly at Fort Sill with him that summer. After camp he had me working as an apprentice electrician on a contract with a downtown office building. Next year he became commanding officer of Battery "F" and made me his *chauffeur*. He sent me back to OKC to pick up Mae and bring her down to Ft. Sill for a dance the officers were holding. I guess he made me part of the family that year because after camp he sent me to drive Mae and little Mary up to Omaha in his sister Mrs. Birchfield's new car. We had quite an adventure since there were very few paved roads in those days. He later sent me home on a train which got wrecked in a rainstorm in southern Kansas but I survived with a few bruises and contusions.

By 1927, my last year at Central

THE ENDING

I fought the dog for my last month's issue of the C & E and began to read a great fiction article by Chuck, K5NK, about a couple of "codeless wonders" Mo and Joe and how an old time HAM got in trouble and was only able to send a distress signal via Morse code. I was just getting interested in the article when I read down to the part of the C & E that the dog had chewed up! Well that really made my day. I sat back in my chair and thought about it and realized that I could figure out the ending knowing what I know about HAM radio. So here is what the dog must have made me miss.

....Charlie having realized that the code key was the only way to communicate began to send international call of distress on code, SOS, over and over-- well it took a couple of times but Mo and Joe realized some one was in trouble (Mo had been a Cub Scout in the third grade and Joe liked to watch

High, Paul had taught me many things that influenced my life forever and for which I am truly grateful. I went four years to Texas A.&M. and tried to live up to Paul's teachings but I sure missed Mae's cooking as I had eaten with them many times. When I returned to OKC with an EE degree but no job, Paul got me a job teaching night school at Central and I subbed for him at times. In 1933 I married Lucile (sic) and went to work for KOMA and KFXR until 1937 when I was hired by the Bureau of Air Commerce in Washington. Later when I returned from Pearl Harbor and the Pacific Islands I didn't see much of Paul and Mae until they came to my parents 60th Wedding Anniversary reception.

After we moved to Albuquerque in 1952, Lucile and I visited them at their home in Eaglenest, NM where we sat on the front porch and fed chipmunks while reminiscing on old times. That was our last visit but we stayed in touch by Christmas cards every year. When I received Mae's note telling us Paul had passed away, I was deeply saddened. He was a great kind of man in my book!

By the way, when you see Bobby Ledbetter, tell him I said hello. His dad employed me to coach him in radio back in 1935 when we lived across the street from him.

old John Wayne movies so they both knew that dot dot dot dash dash dash dot dot dot meant SOS.)

Joe called for any other station listening on the air for help but none of the old timers were listening to the repeater. Mo, in the mean time picked up the phone and called Elmer, one of the friendly VEs he had met when he and Joe had taken their tests. When Elmer heard what Mo was saying he sprang into action--He started looking for his handy talkie (he had just used it a couple of weeks ago). Now with it in hand (Darn, the battery was down) he ran out to the car and turned on his mobile rig in time to hear Joe telling the unknown code station that someone would be there any second to copy his location.

Elmer gave his call and Charlie started sending his location and situation. Elmer repeated in voice to verify Charlie's location. Joe had called 911 and the operator heard what Elmer was repeating back and help was on the way!

Charlie was rescued that night thanks to the combined efforts of three HAM radio operators! Someone at the local newspaper heard of the work of the three hams and asked if they would all meet in Charlie's room just before he was released from the hospital. They all met there, had a nice write up and picture in the paper (front page, no less), and Charlie thanked all three for saving his life. As they left the hospital, Mo and Joe began asking about learning the code---and you know old Elmer, his face lit up and he made arrangements to meet them Saturday afternoon and get started with code the RIGHT WAY.

THE BEGINNING

I was against a "no code" license for Ham radio, but it is here and if we don't welcome the new people as HAMS we will cause factions to develop in HAM radio, "us" and "them", and it will be very harmful to the hobby. Let's all give the new people, and our hobby, a fair chance. The privileges we are given as hams are far too valuable not to take care of!

73,
Phil Wolfenbarger, N5HIP



The February meeting was held at the Community Building in Canton on the tenth. There were 35 members and guests attending. The meeting was called to order by the honorable President WO5B Edgar. WZ5H Leo introduced the guest, Park Ranger Kathy Carlson and sister Mrs. Johnson. Self introductions were made by members and spouses.

A list of the coming 1991 events was made by K5GBN and given to the secretary to read. N5IKN Tom made a motion that the April meeting be moved to April 7th and the club caravan to the Mooreland Eyeball QSO have the meeting on the road up. Motion was seconded by AB5Z, motion carried.

The March 10 meeting will be held in El Reno, at the Community Center. If you come in on I-40, turn north on the Country Club Road. When you get to the second stop sign turn to the right on to old Highway 66, or Sunset Dr. Go east then turn to the north on the street just west of Homeland grocery. In three blocks or so you will run into the Center on the east side of the road. Look for the cars with antennas. You can always tune in on 146.61 each Wednesday at 9:00 pm, find out and have the privilege of checking into the net. You are always welcome.

N6CL Joe made a CORA report bringing the club up to date on HH 91, the new location and the need for help. Joe also read a letter of appreciation for the new 2 meter repeater arriving in Montserrat. Joe Lynch is the SM of Oklahoma. Joe started to work talking to manufacturers and radio clubs. It was not long before Joe had the repeater. Donations were made by Icom, the Icom Dealer, amateur clubs and some individual donations. Good work, Joe.

Kathy Carlson a park ranger for 12 years presented the program after the meeting. She is the only known ranger that graduated from Oklahoma University. Kathy did a beautiful presentation on the survival of the coyote across the USA. In spite of the increase in human population, railroads, parks and highways the coyote continues to increase and expand from coast to coast. After the film Kathy had a good question and answer session which answered all questions.

Next came the refreshments, thanks to the ladies, the refreshments were home-made, the most delicious kind. Many thanks to the Canton and Longdale group.

I received a note this week that I think should be printed. I quote "I feel the need of bragging on the ladies of the Wheatstraw Radio Club. Last meeting at Canton, as well as at all of our club functions, the ladies go all out when preparing the refreshments. I

don't make all other club meetings, but the Wheatstraw **GALS ARE THE BEST.....**

Jim K5VRL

STRANGE THINGS JUST HAPPEN

On January 4 1942 a baby boy was born all spick and span in the rear of a laundry. As time passed his parents had to give him a name for his birth certificate. Well they named him Neal. They ran a laundry in El Reno with living quarters in the back end.

His mothers name was Bernice his father was Raymond. Both are deceased. Neal has three sisters, Laverne, Louise and Rita. Neal said it was hard growing up with three sisters, but he did not say who it was hard for, the girls or him. When he became old enough to go to school he attended the Sacred Heart Catholic School, grade one through twelve.

After graduation he went to work on the farm for his brother-in-law in 1961. Raising hogs he learned a lot about them. Such as the fact that a pig eats in order to make a hog of himself. They never clean house or use deodorants. If they did not eat it, it was not put in their trough.

Milking cows was a different story. He thought that if the milk was any good they would have kept it. Mr. Webster taught him alfalfa was a legume that was the best fodder, pasture and a cover crop. I thought it was a good hay, fed as it was, or ground up with other grains. Brother-in-law also farmed cotton, just forget it, it had to be picked. He was born too late to know the Dust Bowl days. There was a new breed of cows then, pole and china. Neal said that the school he went to, they never taught anything about that breed. I had to explain they had to be propped up with a pole and milked in a china cup when freshened.

As an average young man he got to go harvesting, northward, with a combine all the way into Nebraska. It was fun you know, a pretty girl in every port.

In 1962 things began to change, after joining the Air Force, following orders and the daily routines. He got hurt in 1965. Spent ten days hospitalized in Hawaii, shipped to Denver hospital for three months. Then he was moved to Hines Hospital in Chicago for one year. During that year Chicago had the largest snow storm in its history, 24 inches in 12 hours. There was so much snow it had to be loaded on flat cars (rail) and shipped down through Oklahoma and Texas to get rid of it.

Coming home after 4 years Neal married Lillie. They have two children, a daughter Sandra who is married to Herman Jennings. They have one child. They have a son, Darrell. Neal did go to college one year, at Weatherford.

Since a youngster he was interested in Amateur Radio. Not having the finances, how to get into it, or who to talk to-he was a CBer. When the 11 meter band dropped out there was no one to talk or listen to on CB. All he did was mow the lawn on the riding

lawn mower, wash the car and such. Then the decision was made to go for the amateur license. He and some friends went to Bus Blum's Wheatstraw radio and electronics school. In about 3 years he went from Novice to Extra class.

Neal is past president of the Wheatstraw A.R.C, serving as VP in 1991. He is President of the El Reno A.R.C., and active in the Disabled American Veterans. Loving baseball and youngsters he works with the El Reno Dug Out Club, the high school baseball team. When there is a fund drive going on you can usually find him in the El Reno Wal-Mart working the drive.

On Field Day, or the work days to get ready, he is there doing what he can. Enjoys all amateurs giving him a call on 146.61- or 147.24+.

When Neal got hurt in 1965 he was paralyzed from the waist down and in a wheel chair. That has not stopped him. He goes anywhere he wishes, by himself. The last time I saw Neal I asked "Well, Neal are you enjoying yourself?" He replied "Oh yes, as much as I ever have."

May I leave you with a thought for the day I heard over AMERICA RADIO KIMY 93.1 FM, PO Box 221 Watonga OK 72772---

THE BEST EXERCISE FOR YOUR HEART REACH OUT YOUR HAND AND LIFT UP SOMEONE WHO IS DOWN.

73 WASPFK Ralph

A small boy, told not to go swimming in a nearby pond, came home with his hair wet. He told his mother he had fallen in the water.

"Then why aren't your clothes wet, too?" she asked.

"Well," he replied, "I had a hunch I might fall in, so I took off my clothes and hung them on a limb."

The difference between the old songs and the new ones: We can't forget the old ones and we can't remember the new.

Back in his home in an Eastern city, the man told about his harrowing experience on a vacation in the wild, wild West.

"There were Indians to the right of me, Indians to the left—all closing in on me. I couldn't get away; it was terrible."

"What did you do?" asked a friend.

"What else could I do? I bought a blanket!"

"How dark it is, my dear," she said gripping his hand.

"Nightclubs are always like that, my love."

"I didn't know. It's the first time I've been to one."

"I realized that about an hour ago, honey. I'm the waiter!"

Tradition: the name given to the revered, time-honored and staunchly defended way of doing things that keeps us from doing them better.

CIMARRON

here is an apt quotation for the times, I think. I am tempted to give Omar Kayyam credit, but I am not sure. "The moving finger writes, and having writ moves on...nor can all the tears of man erase but half a line!"

For Saddam Hussein, it appears his line has been written, and viewing the ruins he has created, surely if there is anything human in him, there must have been a tear or two shed, perhaps in secret!

Religion has been used many times for secular power. I have a feeling there is a special section in Hell for such opportunists.

But this is a column about Amateur Radio...and this is the good news. CARA is alive and well! Even when the roads were covered with ice and the cold wind blew...a few hardy souls showed up at the WX5Y Playhouse for the January meeting. President Curt Briggs N5RHO, called the meeting to order at the prescribed time, and while no business was done, Denny WK5V, Nadine N5FMH, John KB5NBQ, Ruth WX5Y, and Terry N5MLT had a good time over the chips and coffee.

The February meeting, held on Valentines Day, was a little better attended. As Curt N5RHO rapped the gavel, Ray Barnes AB5Z, Denny WK5V, Leo WZ5H, Vern KA5SZD, Terry N5MLT, Tom N5NOP, Steve KF5SW, Steves XYL Karen Schoonmmaker, Betty KA5RTW and yours truly, Jack NN5Z answered the roll. Ruth WX5Y was, as usual, our gracious hostess, and Oscar and Dorothy Ellis, Ruth's brother and sister-in-law, were guests.

Curt, who works in a MARS unit, noted that MARS has processed 80,000 messages to soldiers in Operation Desert Shield and was still working hard.

Leo indicated that, barring any disruption, his Novice/Technician Class will begin Friday, March 1. Several have indicated interest in the class, and we are looking forward to a new crop of Novices. There also has been some indication of interest in the No-Code license, and it is hoped that having started and accomplished that much that most will be inspired to persevere and get into the main current of Amateur Radio, where the real opportunity for Community Service lies. After all, it is our community service that keeps our frequencies!

Treasurer Nadine reported that CARA's bank balance stand at \$378.06 and that 17 members have paid their dues, and that number has been reported to C&E, along with a check for their subscriptions.

Ray, our 1991 Party Animal, gave us something to look forward to in March.. CARA will gather together for another great covered dish dinner and UNO bashing sometime soon.

The time will be determined on the availability of the Longdale Community Center on a Saturday. Check into the 145.45 CARA Net, Thursday nite at 8:00 L for further details.

Curt is now the proud possessor of an ADVANCED ticket, but hasn't said if he will change his call. Terry, as a new EXTRA Class says he will keep N5MLT as he doesn't want any of those "ALFALFA" calls. Can't blame him for that!

Denny WK5V has been laying plans to raise the 145.45 repeater a little higher, as it is hard for a HT in Fairview to get over the ridge. Denny has done a good job as Trustee for our Major County Repeater Association and deserves a lot of credit. The Paintons have been in the throes of remodeling their home, and Nadine, who has been the resident painter, reports that the last lick is soon to happen.

"Praise the Lord!" she says!!!! and a sympathetic CARA says "AMEN"!!!

Alright...this is a wrap! Check the Rear-view...Pardon me...the Fairview Republican for details of the Novice class. It will be held somewhere in beautiful Canton...Time and place later.

Remember...check into your CARA 2 meter net and YOUR next CARA club meeting...always the second Thursday evening of the month at the WX5Y Playhouse, 827 South 13th, in Fairview!

BE THERE OR BE SQUARE!!!!

73...Jack, NN5Z

They say money isn't everything.
Maybe so, but it's way ahead of
whatever is in second place. □



I'm not an under-achiever

My boss is an over-expecter

GREAT PLAINS A.R.C.

US5GH Repeater 146.13/73

The Great Plains Amateur Radio Club's February meeting was held at W5KFK Lewis and N5EOX Freida's QTH. Those in attendance were: Rod WB5OVT, Lois N5JGQ, Willis N5OO, Lorene N5LEP, Lewis W5KF-Freida N5EOX, Wendel WA5PLW, Andsel W0DOZ, Larry K0CIO, Gerald WG5Z, Kent N5HID, Phillip N5QCN, Jim KA5AAE, Wes N5SBL, Bob WB0GAX and guest, Harry KC5OU and guest, O.C. WA5OUV and guest, Lee W5HGH and guest, Leon N5OKE and guest, Esthel WB5NTH and guest. Larry Hunt and his wife Sharon also attended the meeting. (Thanks for coming and we hope to see you again.)

At the January meeting, Andy N5LLR suggested that the clubs By-Laws be changed for student rates. We voted on changing them at the February meeting and it passed easily. It says that any High School student or younger possessing a valid amateur radio license and shows an interest in becoming a GPARC member will become club member automatically.

Bob WB0GAX made a special trip to Oklahoma City for the GPARC. He picked up a new 4kw generator that the club just purchased. He brought it to the meeting and let everyone look it over. (Thanks for your time, Bob.)

The highlight of the whole meeting was the Annual Fish Fry courtesy of Lewis W5KFK and Freida N5EOX. No one walked away hungry. Gerald WG5Z was the last person to put his plate up, and he even ate before coming. I heard Lewis say on the net the other day that he officially started fishing season. (Good luck Lewis because there is going to be more of us next year.)

My dad, Wes N5SBL and I went over to Enid to take advantage of the VE testing. He went over expecting to come back with a Novice ticket but ended up coming back with a Technician anyway. (Congratulations). I took the Advanced test and passed.

Net manager Andy N5LLR reports 9 sessions and over 130 check-ins for the month of January.

The Hamfest? is still in the works. It is going to be April 6-7. There will be VE testing on both days.

Everyone is invited to come and join in on the fun. We will be looking forward to meeting you there.

Catch you next month, Phil N5QCN

Jim: The barometer's falling.

Tim: Well next time nail it up better.

Jake: You look terrible! Did you have a hard day at work?

Blake: It was exhausting! The computer broke down and I had to do all my own thinking.



The CENTRAL OKLAHOMA COMPUTER ORGANIZATION met at 12:00 p.m. at Rose State College in Room BS206 in the Business Building with a total of 18 attending. The meeting was called to order by the President, Donald Fox; also present were the Vice-President Patrick Roberts, Treasurer Martin Schiel, and Secretary Dorothy Roberts. Everyone introduced themselves. It was encouraging to see many old members at the meeting; many of the old members came because Martin had sent out postcards describing our new format. The club is now a general computer club serving the beginning computer operator/programmer. A poll was taken of those present who still used a Color Computer and an IBM compatible machine. It was surprising to find that there were almost an equal number of people using both formats.

SOFTWARE: Martin Schiel explained the Novell networking operation he uses at work. Ed Price said that he has a bulletin board for IBM's at 495-5765. Rose English had problems using her new IBM compatible Tandy; the print on her DMP110 was printing to the end of the line and warping on to the next for a short space and then performing a carriage return. Some members suggested that the dip switch that controls the on/off line feeds. The COCO that she used before uses the opposite setting; the COCO does not need line feeds, but the IBM does. Someone suggested that software must be checked so the setup is correct for the printer. It was reported that 5.0 DOS will be coming out soon. A free lesson on learning DOS for teachers was mentioned; if the secretary gets the address, it will be printed. One member is looking for software to study for the new amateur radio operator's license -- not the code practice.

HARDWARE: Dale Goode was having trouble with a Hayes modem; the output of the RS232 port could be bad or have a bad cable.

Donald Fox gave an interesting program on the basic operations that a modem performs to change a digital signal to an audio type signal that can be sent over the telephone lines.

Dorothy Roberts presented a video review of the "COCOUTIL" program. She demonstrated that program that transfers COCO ASCII data files into MSDOS that can be accepted by WordPerfect, etc. Several members also pointed out that Jiff, MacPaint,

some picture, and some sound files can also be converted. The tape is available at the next meeting for check-out. Now you don't have to retype all the old files that you use frequently. The quality of the type was fuzzy and some hardware suggestions to clear up the output was given.

The doughnuts and coffee will reappear for a trial run next month; however, refreshments must be consumed outside or in the breezeways since there is no smoking, eating, or drinking in the rooms.

The next meeting will be held at the Rose State College in the Business Building at 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 9. The meeting will probably be held in the same Room BS206; however, a sign will be posted on each entrance of the building and the bulletin board with the correct room number.

THANK YOU

I would like to thank the membership of EARS for the beautiful plaque. Brad, KBSCDE, brought it to me the day after the last dinner meeting. I was very surprised and flattered. However I don't feel I deserve the plaque, for I received far more from the club and it's wonderful people than I was ever able to give.

I hope all the members know or will some day know, how special the club really is.

My involvement with EARS was the best time of my life. Thanks again for the plaque. I miss you all very much.

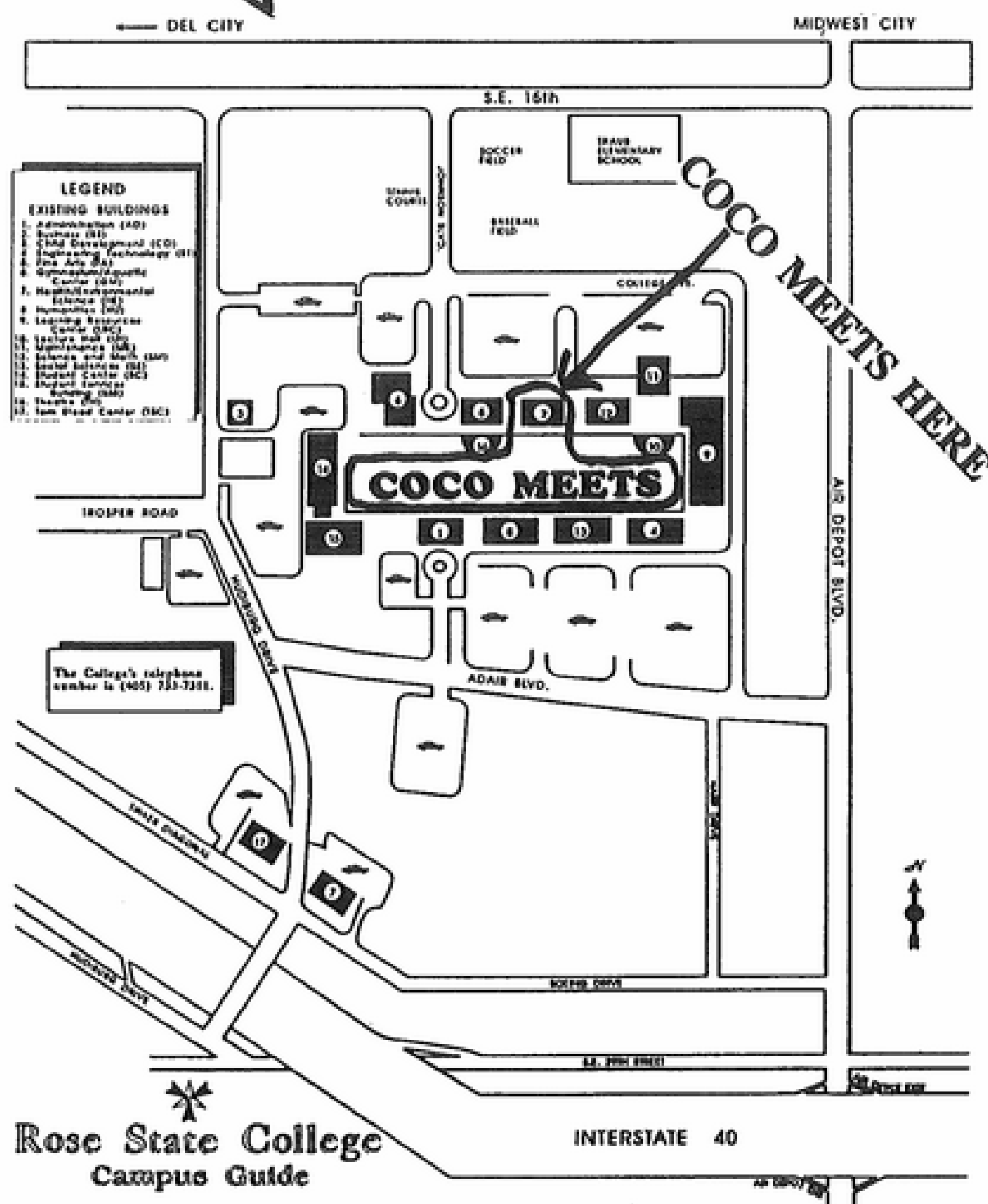
73, phil-NSHIP

Clark: Why are you looking so sad?

Mark: My wife made me a millionaire.

Clark: If my wife made me a millionaire, I'd be very happy.

Mark: Yes, but I was a multimillionaire before I met her.





VHF Club
NEWS

WSLOW
*The Elmer Goshler Memorial
Station*

Minutes of February Meeting

Were taken by Jerry, KD5IS, because I had to attend to the ORSI meeting. Here they are as posted on my packet BBS:

Here are my notes from the VHF club meeting, 16 Feb. at Favorites Cafe.

February's meeting was a double treat, with both the VHF club and the QCWA sharing the meeting room. The VHF club President, Jack, WB5ZKZ called the meeting to order at 12:02 P.M., with 19 VHF club members and guests present (there were 37 total in attendance, many of whom are members of both groups). The minutes of the January meeting were accepted as published in the C&E. Treasurer Ellard, W5KE gave his report and advised that after mailing reminders (before the cost of stamps went up) our club had 41 paid up members, (several were noted lining up with money in hand, in view of postage increase they seemed determined to make sure the postal dept. doesn't make too much profit).

We were sorry to learn that one of our members has become a silent key. Thomas V.(T Van) Woody was reported to have passed away on 14 Feb. while undergoing surgery. Grave-side service is planned for 2P.M. Monday, 18 Feb., at Memorial Park Cemetery.

There wasn't any old business, except to report that Fred, W5NL returned from Padre Island feeling puny, he was reported to be feeling woozy, somebody said that they feel that way all the time. Hope you get to feeling better Fred.

There being no new business the meeting was adjourned at 12:12, followed by the QCWA meeting.

Joe! I bet you missed your enchilada dinner, we missed you; Jerry, KD5IS

I sure did miss that enchilada dinner, and visiting with everyone. Thanks Jerry! Joe, K5JB, Secretary

ORSI Meeting

These aren't minutes of the meeting but some of the significant items that were discussed. There was good

sampling of "movers and shakers" present from over the state. It was nice to see the group, many who are old friends who have been involved in 2 meter phone repeater activity from the very beginning.

Dan, K5FVL, Frequency Coordination Chairman was unable to attend because his FM broadcast station was hanging a new antenna so he sent me a packet of things to handle for him. We made arrangements to get the spring MACC (Mid-America Coordinating Council) meeting at Dayton covered. Ken, W5QMJ, from Enid thought it would be a good excuse to make the Hamvention trip. Others who are going to be at Dayton are going to try to assist.

Another significant item was the possibility of purging inactive repeaters from the repeater coordination list. There are almost no frequencies available for new repeaters. We discussed ways to seek out dormant repeaters and outdated coordinations. The group agreed that something needed to be done but wanted to wait until the summer meeting at Ham Holiday to work out the details since more people would be present to make their wishes known. We will likely start a process of annual validation of allocations and start "de-coordinating" the inert ones. The validation will consist of physical verification or written inquiry of the trustees.

Another item that will be on the summer meeting agenda will be increase of annual club dues from the present \$3.00 to \$5.00.

We will request that ORSI have a two hour meeting scheduled from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Ham Holiday Saturday so we can cover these issues.

Four new directors were elected to replace those whose terms expired. They are Dan, K5FVL, Stillwater; Joe, WA5VMS, Muskogee; Gerald, WG5Z, Mooreland; and, Bob, KA5ETA, Moore.

The hold-over directors are, Joe, K5JB, Midwest City; Joe, WA5FLT, Calumet; Frank, AB5J, Lawton; Stan, N5JFQ; Oklahoma City, Loren, WA5CBF, Altus.

The question was raised by Bob, WB5AOH, Ft. Gibson, about potential interference to existing operations if some packet operations were started in the frequency range of 145.510 to 145.690. In some areas of the country this range is used so common duplexers can be used as combiners

permitting existing antennas to be used for additional frequencies on multi-port relay stations. There is no legal reason for not doing this but the question needs to be widely asked so present operations won't be affected. This will be a summer meeting agenda item. In the meanwhile, Bob asked that we check 145.690 for activity because he is thinking of using it in linking a proposed Okemah site to stations in the eastern part of the state, and in Arkansas. Packet operations aren't coordinated by ORSI, but by gentleman's agreement, proposed operations are brought to the coordinator's attention to avoid possible interference.

Incidentally, Bob, WB5AOH, and Joe, WA5VMS, are working on equipment for Okemah that will include both Texnet and ROSE devices and bring Texnet within reach of central Oklahoma stations, particularly the new ROSE switch at Choctaw. Construction is nearly complete and selection of the above linking frequency is one of the open issues. The location will also be linked to Muskogee, and the rest of the Texnet network using the standard 9600 bps Texnet UHF method.

Come to the Ham Holiday ORSI meeting for the reading of the "real" minutes, and let your wishes be known. Joe, K5JB

Good Guy In Norman

I'll tell you, sometimes I meet the nicest people! I want to tell you about one of them and how he really helped me out.

A couple of weeks ago I fired up my '386 only to have it fizzle out with a failed power supply. It is in one of those "tower" cases and the power supply is different from the plain vanilla ones in the "AT" cases. The switch is external to the supply. I learned from past experience that fixing a switching power supply, without documentation, is the pits. I spent hours on a supply that was much simpler than this one, and never did find the bad component. I decided that I wasn't going to mess with this one, but instead just replace it. I was thinking of the one time I successfully fixed an odd-ball supply by sifting through power supply boards at Dayton and finding one I could graft into the case. But Dayton isn't until April...

I remembered that Howard, N5NZU, in Norman, dealt in computers so I gave

him a call to see if he could order this supply by part number so I could get a direct replacement. He jumped right on it and when he called me back about the power supply's availability I tried to convince him that I wasn't in a real big hurry but he insisted in picking it up for me that afternoon -- which he did.

He stuck around his office until I could get by after work and we had a nice visit. He doesn't keep much inventory, but he does keep a sharp eye out for bargains that can be shipped in quickly; and, he gives amateur radio operators a break on the prices. Many of you have already discovered that Howard is the man to see if you want an MFJ product. He has imported a lot of the TNCs that are on packet in this area.

The name of his business is O.T.S. Computer Systems, located at 1811 Industrial Blvd, Suite 107. The phone number is 321-0441. When you get the yen for a high-dollar computer, or a computer gadget, check with Howard and see what the bargain of the week might be. Joe, K5JB

Programmers Wanted

Since I am on a commercial roll, I might mention that I am looking for a couple of good computer programmers. They both need to have journeyman level knowledge and ability, and the requirements for the two jobs are different. One job is for a C programmer and the job will be to clean up and add features to software that does process control. I'll be able to interview applicants to see if they have the needed knowledge. Also, in this job, it would be nice if the applicant has Z-80 assembly language knowledge, but not mandatory.

The second job needs someone who is skilled in DBase type of programming and the use of compilers such as Clipper. I am not qualified to make assessments in this area but one of the folks in my shop can do that. If you or someone you know might be interested, give me a call at the office, 366-4251. Joe, K5JB

Latest on OPRA/WX

I am combining two messages here that relate to access to the Weather Service server at the Severe Storms Laboratory in Norman. The first part is a well deserved thanks from Dave, WB5FWE, and the last part is a notice posted by J, KB0QJ.

Thanks to Monte, WB5RZX, the OU (05), OPRA (09), and the UHF link are back in operation. all three TNCs are located in Norman.

The OU node is on 145.05 and allows access to the BBS LAN.

The OPRA node is on 145.09 and allows access to the National WX Service system. Connect to N5KUK for WX data or for access to the WX server. Again, thanks to WB5RZX !

The OPRA node in Norman OK, and access to the Oklahoma Packet Radio/NWS Weather Server software is once again active. This software is customized and contains few, if any, of the typical commands one generally finds on Personal Mailbox Systems.

You may access the packet station: N5KUK from the OPRA NetROM node in Norman which operates on 145.090 MHz. Once connected, you will be presented with the prompt 'NWS>' at which, if you are NOT a registered WX user, you may enter,

NWS> MAIL<CR>

and you will be able to access the mailbox system where you may send a message to the SYSOP requesting addition to the current list of users with:

MAIL> SYSOP<CR>

after the text has been entered send one <CR> and then END<CR> to terminate the message!!

To re-enter the standard mode, send: MAIL> NWS<CR>

Then at the 'NWS>' prompt, send:

NWS> mailupdate<CR>

to get the command list .. be ready to capture this list to buffer/printer as it contains numerous commands for later use.

To disconnect from the system, merely go to your local command mode with CONTROL-C and send a 'D' to your TNC as there is no provision for the NWS system to disconnect from that end.

73 de J/KB0QJ (Oklahoma Packet Radio Association)

Third Party Traffic - Implications

By now, you have surely heard about the FCC citations issued to packet BBS stations that passed the 'commercial' traffic that advertised a 900 telephone number. The one who posted the message was clearly in the wrong, but

the BBS where he posted the message and the one on the other end where the FCC got it were to show cause why they shouldn't be fined. The BBSs in the forwarding list were not threatened with fines but were to explain what they were going to do to keep it from happening again.

There is simply nothing in the rules that absolve any amateur station from rule compliance in third party passed by his station. There have been policy statements from the FCC, but this recent round of citations seems to have created new policy.

If the principle of responsibility for third party traffic content is to apply to all amateur stations, and not just packet BBSs, the implication would put us back in the dark ages where repeater clubs had to appoint people to listen to repeater's round-the-clock in order to live up to that responsibility. I am referring to voice repeaters AND digital repeaters and switches. I somehow don't think the Virginia Beach Engineer in Charge thought through all these implications when he fired off his volley of citations.

If just limited to packet BBSs, which can easily hold traffic for review before forwarding, other operators can go on with "business as usual", but it will cause some interesting effects on packet bulletins, for sure. There are a lot of worthless bulletins forwarded and many BBSs will probably stop handling them (mark them for hold, then "kill hold") and this will really start some people to whining about censorship, and such.

In any case, it will be interesting to watch the coming dogfight. Joe, K5JB

Kenwood 830S Report

The following was forwarded by Monte, WB5RZX. It is a preliminary reaction and report from Fred, AA7BQ, in Phoenix:

With my hand shaking, I nervously wrote out the check... \$1629.00 plus tax. I'm not one who can afford to make a \$1600 mistake and if it weren't for my trade in allowance I wouldn't have done it at all. Now that I've owned it for all of 1 day, I'm so excited that I can hardly wait to write about it.

I'm talking about the new Kenwood TS-850S. Yesterday, I traded in my old reliable TS-440 (sniff) and took the plunge. For the past several months, I'd been eyeing the TS-950SD but could

not for the life of me see paying \$3500+ for the thing. Worse yet, I'd heard some mixed reviews about it which weren't all that great.

Last Monday I stopped in to the local candy store and lo and behold there it was - the TS-850. I'd seen it in the magazines for about 2 months now and it had just arrived. Although I had previously discounted it in my mind as a lesser radio (compared to the 950), I sat down to it anyway to see what it had to offer. Within about 20 minutes I was hooked and had made the decision to buy.

After reading most of the manuals (yes, there's more than 1) and playing around with it for an evening, I have the following to report:

FEATURES:

Here's what the basic rig has built in (in no particular order):

- Band stacking -- I really wanted this on the 440. Although there's not a separate button for each band, when you use the UP/DOWN buttons to change bands the computer remembers your last used FREQ/FILTER/MODE for that band.
- Serial computer interface (TTL) -- This has been an option on most all of the previous Kenwood rigs. Now, all you need is a simple level translator (1488/1489) to run this on RS-232).
- PL tone encode -- Again, what was once an option is now standard. Can't say that I'm that interested in 10m repeaters but it's nice anyway. The PL mode is adjustable for Burst or Continuous.
- Electronic keyer with adjustable weight -- This will likely become standard on all future rigs in the mid to high price range. Haven't tried mine yet since I just had built the QST CMOS Super Keyer II (sigh).
- Auto CW keyer weight adjust according to speed -- This adjustable feature apparently does a weight adjustment for you as the speed increases. It can be disabled. The adjustment can be set to increase or decrease the dash length with increases in speed.
- 105 memories plus band memory for each band -- 100 main memory channels in the typical Kenwood fashion. Channels 90-99 are special function for split and for programmed scan band limit. 5 more "Quick" memory channels (see below).
- 5 position FIFO scratch pad memory -- This is really neat. There's a couple of little buttons right next to the VFO knob labeled "Quick Memory" MI and MR. Pressing MI puts the current VFO/filter/mode selection into the top of the scratchpad stack. When another frequency of interest is found, you press MI again and what was in #1 is pushed down to #2, the new frequency becomes #1 and #5 falls off the end of the stack. This is completely independent of the regular 100 memory channels.
- All mode output power level control -- The PWR control controls output power independent of the current mode selected. You still have your CW Carrier level and MIC gain controls as well.
- Automatic Tuner with band memory -- A big improvement over the TS-440 auto tuner, and even better than that in the 950. There's the same Auto/Through switch and a AT TUNE switch. The nice thing about this one is that when you press AT TUNE, the rig tunes up and releases (it's a momentary button). In the older rigs, you had to release the AT TUNE button yourself. As you change bands, the auto tuner automatically switches to pre-programmed positions so that when you do hit the AT TUNE switch the tuner is almost ready to go - thus shortening tuning time.
- Manual auto tuner override -- This is quite interesting. By setting one of the options on in setup mode, you can indicate that you prefer to operate the internal tuner manually. To do this, you watch the SWR meter and turn the VFO and the MCH/VFO knobs for best indication.
- Digital CW pitch control 400 - 1000 Hz -- Another nice feature. The digital selection is made in steps of 50hz from 400 to 1000 hz. Changes both tone and transmit offset.
- Fine tuning button -- I don't know how I ever lived without this one. By pressing one button, the resolution of the VFO knob is divided by 10 allowing for very smooth fine tuning adjustments. Should be very good for RTTY and also very helpful for SSB transmissions.
- Tune switch to zero beat a received CW signal -- This button is used for tuning a linear as well as zero beating incoming signals for CW.
- Memory scan, programmed band scan, adjustable scan speed -- The scan speed control is a nice touch. While scanning, you turn the RIT control to speed up or slow down the scan. Scan rate is adjustable (in VFO mode) from between 700 Hz/sec to 20 Hz/sec. There's also an auto-resume mode which will allow you to twiddle the VFO knob a bit and then after a period of inactivity it will resume scanning.
- All memories store filter and mode selection with frequencies -- This is getting to be a bit more typical in the newer rigs but coming from a TS-440 I'm still impressed with it.
- Reverse function for LSB CW and USB FSK -- This is truly unique and I've not seen it elsewhere. By hitting the REV button you can switch sidebands on CW and FSK. Probably most useful for FSK.
- SSB slope tune (no more IF shift control) -- Although this has been out a while, I can already tell that I like it better than the TS-440's IF SHIFT function.
- M CH/VFO knob for fast band excursions -- This little knob, just to the right of the VFO, is an optically encoded shaft which is used for all sorts of things. Normally, it is used to either scroll through the memory channels or to traverse the band in 10 kHz steps. Takes no time at all to move up or down hundreds of kilohertz. The main VFO does not appear to change excursion rate with knob speed as the 440/940 did. Incidentally, unused memory channels don't show up when you're scrolling through memory.
- 2 Adjustable noise blankers -- There's a fast blanker for ignition type noise and a wide blanker for woodpecker noise. The width of the wide blanker is adjustable with a front panel knob.
- Adjustable speech processor -- Sure, these have been around for years, but not on the TS-440 which only had a PROC ON/OFF switch. It's nice to have control back.
- Monitor function with separate level control -- I also missed this on the 440 although Kenwood has been offering it for years on the other rigs. Glad to see it return.
- 32 adjustable function setup procedure -- Say goodbye to dip switches

and clipped diodes. We now have a smart user interface that allows you to set some of the CMOS RAM operating parameters. The only drawback that I can see is that the setup procedure can only be invoked at power-up time by holding the USB/LSB switch.

- Lock out function -- Completely disables transmit. Turn the rig into a receiver to prevent unauthorized usage.

- Adjustable FSK shift -- This is nice too. You can select from 170 to 850 hz shift in 4 or 5 steps.

- Adjustable RIT/XIT range -- This can be set to +- 1.4khz or 2.8khz in 10 or 20hz steps.

- Display dim control -- A single button on the front panel - bright or dim. Bright does not seem as bright as the 440 however. Regardless, there's no trouble reading anything.

- IF output for band scope -- The 440 did not have this either. Now you can have direct access to the 8.33 Mhz IF.

- 2 850's can be connected in master/slave arrangement -- By connecting 2 850's together via their serial ports, one can dump it's contents into the other. I'm not quite sure yet what this will buy you. It's probably cheaper, however, and more flexible than buying a TS-950 with it's crippled dual receive function.

- Display can indicate transverter frequencies (144/220/450) -- This will be very nice, as soon as the transverters are available.

- DVR (option) stores cw and voice messages (3) -- I didn't buy the DVR but am thinking about it. There are 3 record and play buttons on the front panel for operating it.

- Remote control input -- By building a small box with resistors and switches in it, you can plug it into the back through a single 3.5mm plug to control 11 different functions (DVR, VOICE, Quick Memory, etc.). The input resistance on the 3.5mm jack is sent to an internal A/D converter, sampled and decoded into a function.

- 13 pin DIN and 6 Pin DIN interface connectors supplied -- I had to buy one of those @\$\$ 13 pin DIN's for the 440. The plug was hard to get and expensive. Now it comes with the radio - finally.

- Comes with separate remote programming manual -- A nice manual covering all of the functions available on the serial control port.

- 3 speed AGC control -- Fast, Medium, Slow and Off. Again, big improvement over the 440 which only had Fast and Slow. When AGC is off, however, the S-Meter ceases to function. Although normal, I found was this confusing at first.

- Peak reading multifunction digital meter (as with TS-950) -- I like the new metering. Some of the old timers who are bad-mouthing the 950 say that they would rather have an old analog meter. The peak hold amounts to a single bar element which stays on for a second or two after the last highest excursion. Nice for figuring RST reports when conditions are fluctuating.

- Dual cascaded selectable IF filters (as with TS-950) -- Filtering is very good with this arrangement and I plopped down the extra \$200 to get the pair of 500hz filters (I work a lot of much damned CW mode).

- Auto mode shift (USB/LSB) according to frequency -- Nice and it's about time.

- Linear amp relay enable switch on back panel -- The 950 has this too. On the 440 you had to open up the radio and install a jumper to enable the linear amp TR relay. The problem was that the relay makes a lot of noise which I don't care for when operating QSK CW (oops! I said the C- word again :-). The switch allows you to disable the clatter when you're not running QRO.

- Many more I/O connectors on the back panel -- Lot's more - many relating to the external DSP box which I haven't seen yet. Don't know that I'll put \$500 down for one yet, I'll have to see some proof of it's worth first.

- It comes with a microphone (same mic as the 440). -- Many of the base-style rigs don't come with a Mic. The dividing line seems to be power supply. If the rig runs off 110, it doesn't come with a mic.

- Enhanced split frequency operation -- You can split between: VFO-A/VFO-B, VFO-B/MEM, VFO-A/MEM in any combination of transmit/receive.

The salesman at the candy store said that Kenwood had underpriced this radio. I tend to agree since it's only \$400

above the price of the TS- 440. The TS-440 has been the best selling rig of all time but I do believe that its days are now numbered. Also, there are some non- overlapping features between the 950 and the 850 to the point where I really think that 950 sales will suffer. Unless you really-really think that the sub-receiver is worth it, and that the extra 50 Watts is needed, then I can't really think of a reason to buy a 950. I'm sure there are some, but not for me.


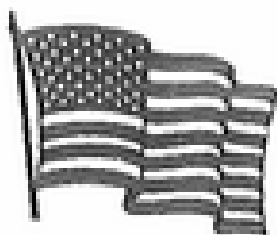
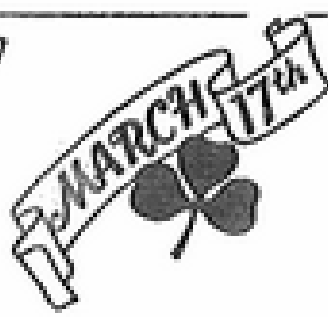



Also note that the 850 operates on 12 Volts!. The companion PS-52 power supply (not included in the \$1629 price) is wimpy. It's rated at only 16A continuous. I opted to keep my Astron 35. The companion speaker, the SP-31 is ugly. It does not have a wire-mesh grille and you can see the speaker cone when looking at its front. It does have a couple of passive filters but it did not sound appreciably different than the built-in speaker - again, I passed on it.

The optional 500hz filters seem to be of a much higher quality than those I had in the 440. With the 440 where was noticeable insertion loss of about 2 to 3 s-units. Not so in this rig and about all I see is 1/2 to 1 s-unit penalty for filtering.

The construction of the radio is almost all SMD (surface mount devices). I only took the bottom cover off to install the filters but inside I saw no leaded components. The boards were profusely lettered which should help in troubleshooting. Some of the potentiometers were only about 1/8" square!.

My general impression is that I'm operating a computer that looks and acts like a radio. This is more evident in this rig than any other I've seen. Learning the various commands, however, was not at all difficult (although I'll concede I'm a computer person), and I believe that the user interface is very well done. The Quick Memory, for example, was impossible to decipher until I had read the manual (RTFM!). After reading it, however, I had no trouble at all.

Well, this article has gone on about long enough as I've spent about as much time writing about it as I have using it. I'll post any updates or new info as I become aware of them. As you can probably tell, my initial reaction has been positive :-). 73 Fred, AA7BQ

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 OKC CD SIREN TESTS 1130 145.41
3 GREAT PLAINS ARC	4	5 MORI	6	7 AERONAUTICAL CENTER ARC	8	9 CENTRAL OKLA COMPUTER
10 WHEAT STRAW	11 EDMOND CLUB	12 OKLAHOMA UNIV. AARC BICENTENNIAL (76ers)ARC	13	14 CIMMARON ARS ALTUS ASSOCIATION	15 E A R S	16 VHF SCARS
17 	18 VE TESTS 6:00 PM SALVATION ARMY 50 & PENN	19 AUTO PATCH	20  SPRING!!	21 KAY COUNTY	22	23 STORM WATCH 3
24	25	26 CORA 7:00 PM SALVATION ARMY 50 & PENN	27 	28	29	30
31 	<p>Pat: How's the dry cleaning business? Nat: Oh, not very good. Grime doesn't pay, you know.</p> <p>Patient: Doctor, what would you take for a cold? Doctor: Make me an offer.</p>					

***** N E T S *****

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OKLA. NITE OWL DAILY 1030PM 146.67
EARS INFO NET MONDAY 8 PM 147.135

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