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THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE RADIOGRAM

VIA AMATEUR RADIO

NUMBER	PRECEDENCE	HX	STATION OF ORIGIN	CHECK	PLACE OF ORIGIN	TIME FILED	DATE
44	R		K5CXP	79	MIDWEST CITY, OK		4-21-91

To

ALL OLZ MEMBERS AND
ALL OKLAHOMA RADIO AMATEURS

THIS RADIO MESSAGE WAS RECEIVED AT

AMATEUR STATION _____ PHONE _____
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DURING THE PAST EIGHT MONTHS
HAS BEEN 2.8 STATIONS EXCLUDING
IS WILLING TO ACCEPT NET
REASONS I REGRET TO ANNOUNCE
FORMALLY EXIST AFTER THE APRIL
TIME X IT IS A
OF SERVICE TO OKLAHOMA AND
THIS DECISION COORDINATED WITH JOE

THE AVERAGE PARTICIPATION IN OLZ
NET CONTROL X NO ONE
MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES X FOR THESE
THAT OLZ WILL CEASE TO
30TH SEVEN PM SESSION LOCAL
SAD ENDING TO MANY YEARS
THE NATIONAL TRAFFIC SYSTEM X
Lynch N6CL SECTION MANAGER

AL RAUSCHER K5CXP
OKLAHOMA SECTION TRAFFIC MANAGER

SENDER'S ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER FOR REFERENCE:

REC'D

FROM	DATE	TIME	TO	DATE	TIME
			SENT OLZ	4-22-91	0018Z

GREAT PLAINS A.R.C.

W5HGH Repeater 146.13/73

The Great Plains Amateur Radio Clubs May meeting was held at Fort Supply Lake, where we had a picnic. Those in attendance were: Willis N5OO, Lorene N5LEP, Rod WB5OVT, Lois N5JGQ, Lewis W5KFK, Freida N5EOX, Andesal W0DOZ, Wendel WA5PLW, Ken N5HID, Phillip N5QCN, Bob WB0GAX and wife, Lee W5HGH and wife, Wes N5SBL and family and there was a newcomer too, Keith N5TXB and his family. Thanks for coming and we hope to see you again soon.

We talked about the last Ham Fest and all of the activities that went along with it. Since Judy Perry did a super job at being in charge of the ladies activities last year, guess who is in charge next year. That's right. Hi Hi.

The GPARC is also donating \$100 to the Mooreland school system for the use of their buildings in the past few years.

The main topic of discussion was the GPA-RC communications trailer. It needs some work done on it, but the question was, "would it cost more to fix it up, than it is worth?" We decided to keep the trailer and go ahead with the repairs for it. It is used for Field

Day and other communications such as the Gage Marathon and emergency communications.

The GPARC has two new members, Keith N5TXB and Wes N5SBL. The club would like to thank both of you for your support and interest in the club. We are happy to have you in.

Repeater activity has been on the rise in this area. Sonny N5AKN put a 147.39/99 machine up at Forgan. This repeater had excellent coverage. I was setting in my drive way, approximately 70 miles away from the repeater, and talked to Jim KA5AAE. That's not too bad for forty watts and quarter wave magnetic mount antenna. This repeater has an excellent sight, and everyone in the area has been amazed at the coverage that it has to offer.

The Fairview machine 145.45/85 and the Perryton machine 146.82/22 both have both had some work done on them, and seem to be working better than before. The Fairview repeater has also been moved to a new location. I hear that the move has helped the repeaters coverage considerably. There is a net held on the Fairview machine every Thursday night at 9:00 pm.

The Elk City Repeater is still up and running. It is on 146.13/73 and is a good repeater to use in Western Oklahoma. I have talked on this machine as far south as the

Wichita Mountains, and as far north as Arnett with 25 watts. As far as I can tell, This repeater works a little bit better in southerly directions.

The Woodward repeater 146.13/73, is still off the air. So if you are ever in this area, and are not able to bring up this machine it is probable that it is still broken down. However, don't think that there is not a repeater in this area. The Fort Supply repeater 147.12/72 is still up and working. This machine has about the same coverage as the Woodward repeater.

If you are through this area on a Monday or Thursday night, check-in to the Northwest Oklahoma Service Net. It starts at 9:00 pm and is held on the 147.12/72 repeater. This net is sponsored by the Great Plains Amateur Radio Club. We will be looking forward to hearing you.

Bill KD5JR Put the Woodward digipeater back on the K-101 tower a few miles west of Sharon. So all of you packeteers are once again able to connect into Northwestern Oklahoma.

Amateur Radio has been a big help in the recent earthquake in South America. I listened to the emergency communications on 14.275 MHz and heard quite a bit of information on the air.

We are in the very middle of the severe storm season. Thankfully we in North-

Continued on Page 2

CIMARRON

WA5ZNF de NN5Z: "To err is human...to forgive..divine"! You are forgiven, Joe, although I will have to admit to a certain amount of pique, as my copy was cut by our local newspaper that week. Composing a column is labor lost. Not knowing why is like waving to a friend behind a car window covered with sunscreen. It takes a while to understand the lack of responsel

But to the matter at hand! CARA scheduled a farewell picnic at the Longdale boat dock shelter for Vern Brewer KA5SZD, and XYL Fran, who are moving to Louisiana. Thirty minutes before arrival time it began to rain and rain and rain Was the picnic cancelled? No way! Fourteen soggy Hams and the honorees showed up at the appointed time and place! Believe it or not everyone had a good time and no one went away hungry! Club President Curt Briggs N5RHO was there and his XYL Melodie and their three youngsters Morgan, Kelcie and Audrey.

Denny Painton, WK5V, Nadine Painton N5FMH, Ray Barnes and XYL Sue, Leo Peil WZ5H and XYL Ann, Jack Day NN5Z, Betty Day KA5RTW, and Terry McColl N5MLT, all showed up to wish the Brewers GODSPEED!

CARA is planning to enter a float in the Canton Lake Walleye Rodeo parade, May 18th. Leo will pull Denny Paintons trailer... hopefully equipped for emergency communications. Yours truly NN5Z, has lettered a sign and the station will be operated by several members. This is the first effort CARA has made in this direction although the club has set up an operating booth at the county fair a couple of years. Projects like this are good for the club, and for amateur radio in general.

The tornado at Skiatook brought a response from the Baptist Disaster Group. Only the small feeding van was sent so no members of the Ham Radio Fellowship was sent, but the group that went reports that 1200 to 1300 meals a day were fed. The big unit was fully equipped with all necessary HF equipment to maintain communications with our Oklahoma station at Baptist Boys Ranch in Edmond. Bill Thompson N5KLG, is trustee for the home

station.

The regular monthly meeting of CARA was held May 9th, with Curt N5RHO chairing the meeting. Denny WK5V, Steve KF5SW, Terry N5MLT, John KB5NBQ, Betty KA5RTW, Ruth WX5Y, Nadine N5FMH, and Jack NN5Z were present to finalize plans for the float for the Canton Lake Walleye Rodeo parade. Field Day was also discussed and it was determined that it would be held at the usual place...WK5V's pasture north of Orion. Denny volunteered to furnish the hamburgers and the club will come up with the ice cream and fixings.

There was a discussion concerning a Novice class with several volunteering to help. More later on this.

Melodie: "The first time I went out with Curt,, I had to slap his face six times!"

Ann: "Why, was he that fresh?"

Melodie: "No, He fell asleep and I thought he was dead!"

On that note, it's time to QRT the station. Don't forget June thirteenth.....CARA will be planning our Field Day exercise..... BE THERE OR BE SQUARE!!!!!!

73 NN5Z

G P A R C Continued

western Oklahoma have had to conduct storm spotting only once this year. But this does not mean that there is no more in store. We still have more than a month left to stay alert.

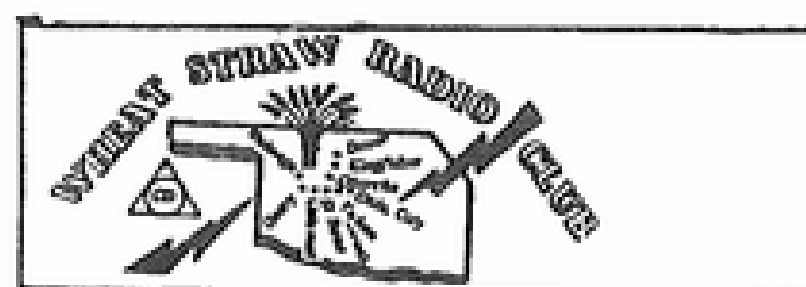
In the past few weeks, there have been two storm spotter training sessions in NW Okla. One in Shattuck and one in Woodward. These were put on by the National Weather Service.

The NWS also conducted a severe storm awareness program for the Elementary, Junior and Senior High schools in Shattuck. The main topic of this program was Flash Flooding, and how quick it can happen to you.

I have heard some pretty rare DX on the bands lately. Around 0300 UTC, I heard 1AOKM on 14.195. He was operating split and listening from 14.300 to 14.310. I have not worked him yet because of the tremendous pile up! This same station has been heard on 7.082 and 28.495. Keep an ear out for him. Rumors have it that he has been operating on all bands.

However I did get to work FR5DX on Reunion Island in the Indian Ocean. I worked him at 0258 UTC on 14.183.3, this guy has a true booming signal. He also had a pretty good sized pile up, but it was not that hard to break through. Listen for EK0KBZ on 15 meters.

An interesting article in the May QST is on page 22. It is titled "Basic Steps Toward Eliminating Telephone RFI: If you are like me, I found this one very interesting. Because I, like most other hams, have some RFI problems. Check it out! 73, Phil N5QCN



It was cloudy and on the cool side, Sunday May 5th. Fifteen members and one visitor were brave, came out enjoying a good covered dish dinner. After lunch the sun broke out and it was nice.

Reading WA5ZNF Joe Hardings apology. Any person who works for sixteen years with the work load Joe has owes no one an apology as far as I am concerned. Joe that is what most people would call perfection. A person who makes no mistakes, does nothing at all. If it will make you feel any better, you are heartily forgiven. You are doing a good job.

WO5B Edgar our president called the meeting to order near 2:30pm. Ed called for committee reports. There was no report of where Field day was to be held. After a brief discussion it was decided to check on the park in Okarche first. If it was not available, it was back up on the hill. Ed checked it out and reported Wednesday Net, the eighth. It was available and was reserved at that time.

A motion was made by K5GBN Johnny that the club furnish the hamburgers, buns and the gas needed. Motion seconded by WASPFK Ralph. Motion carried. The spouses are to bring the rest of the trimmings. Antennas, radios, and some equipment will need more detailing yet.

The technical committee has the go-ahead to purchase a new controller for the club repeater.

The June 9th meeting will be held at the Watonga State Bank Community Room. Location--From west or from Geary. Amt stop light at southwest corner of town, go east on Highway 33 to the street west side of the Phillip 66 Station, turn north 1 1/2 blocks, turn left into alley. Come to south door.

The visitor was N5OLS Don from Crockett TX. Visiting with him I told him that I have a cousin living there. Her name is Fannie Pritchett. Don said "I know her she lives across town from me." Don just finished air controller school in Oklahoma City. When he goes back he will be located in Houston. Good luck Don.

First let us not forget that there are Women Veterans too. If you are a veteran, find a veteran's organization, join and support it. We have thousands who need help. Vets are getting more and more cutbacks.

If you do not have an organized group celebrating the 4th of July, come to Watonga. We invite you we are having an old fashioned family picnic at noon.

I AM AMERICAS HERITAGE

Thomas Wicks, Sr.

I am your flag. I was born on June 14. I am more than just cloth shaped into a design. I am the refuge of the worlds oppressed people. I am the silent sentinel of freedom. I am the emblem of the greatest sovereign Nation on Earth. I am the inspiration for which American Patriots gave their lives and fortunes. I have led your sons into battles from Valley Forge to the desert sands of Iraq. I walk in silence with each of your honored

Continued



VHF Club NEWS

W5LOW
Elmer Gockler Memorial
Station

Minutes of May Meeting

Meeting was called to order by President Jack, WB5ZKZ, at 12:04 p.m. with 18 members and guests present. Motions passed that the minutes of last month's meeting be approved as published in the C&E and that the Treasurer's report, given by Bob, W5HXL, in Ellard's absence be approved.

Steve, W5VCJ, advised the group that last month's motion changing the 1992 club dues was not in accordance with the By-Laws; that such a motion could only be entertained at the last club meeting of the year. With that in mind, the club tabled the (null) motion until December. At that time the club's 1992 dues will be changed to \$5.99 (Grin!). With all the old and new business taken care of, meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Bob, W5HXL, drawing on his old management presentation skills, showed maps he had prepared to show his travels over the country, and focused on his last year trip which included Yellowstone and Glacier National Park. He discussed several areas in detail and proceeded to show a commercial video tape of the 150 square mile park. Thanks for the presentation, Bob! Joe, K5JB, Secy

Editor's note: The following Hambones feature, which is becoming a regular submission of Jack, WB5ZKZ, was delivered with some disclaimers. Jack tried to blame some of it's contents on Charlie, WA5JGU, who roundly denied responsibility. Jack was the guy who handed it to me, so I think he ought to shoulder all the blame he can get! Joe, K5JB

Hambones

A net occasionally known as the "Turkey Net", or the "I don't know who to turn it to Net", meets weekdays and Saturday approximately 7:45 a.m. and on Sunday at 9:00 a.m. on the State RACES repeater operating on 145.410 MHz, down 600.

Bob Ashby, W5HXL, is the #1 Turkey (we're all glad he is #1 at something). The chief optimist is Jim, W5VSW, and he always exclaims, "Oh! What a beautiful day!", regardless of the fact

there may be 6 inches of snow on the ground, hailing, with a tornado warning in effect. He must work for the Oklahoma Chamber of Commerce.

Jim Williams, K5VRL, frequently "checks in" but at his advanced age, "signs" and goes to the senior citizen center in Warr Acres.

George Clark, W5ZKK, checks in using tone C.W., however he often leaves the net early as a neighbor drags him off kicking, screaming and hollering to go get coffee and donuts.

Rarely "checking in" is Hugh Benson, KA5DGY, better known as "The Dog-Gone Yankee". His wife, Meg, listens to all comments, occasionally encouraging Hugh to use the transmitter to verbalize on statements that have been made.

The "Turkey Net" welcomes back Fred Boardman, W5NL, following his recent illness. Fred is also known as "Noise Limiter". (Ed note: I always called him "No Luck".)

Another "check in" -- "Pills, Iodine and Aspirin", or "I just don't understand", or "To tell you the honest truth", or "I hate to tell you this, but it just won't work". We wish he would talk to his wife about the newspaper articles before he comments on the air.

The "Old Eagle" (he says the, "Wise Old Eagle") Charlie, WA5JGU, is a frequent "check in". After asking Ken, K5VFN, and Bob, W5HXL, for comments we have determined -- NO COMMENT!

Another "Turkey" not "checking in" too often is Jack Muse, WB5ZKZ. It seems he doesn't get up that early in the morning -- besides, he is just plumb lazy.

Gobble-Gobble! Jack, WB5ZKZ

Dayton Hamvention

Well, Hamvention 1991 has come and gone, and it was a good one this year. Since I already have one of everything, I wasn't compelled to find anything in particular, except a Repeater Directory for KD5IS and a 12BY7 for W5NL. It didn't take all three days to find those items so I didn't feel too rushed. Joe, WA5FLT, Stan, N5JFQ, and I took video cameras and big plans to get it all on tape. Joe and I planned on taking more "out-takes" for the IOOK (International Order of Krazies) annual video. We were going to get 'em "coming and going", heh! Unfortu-

nately, my camera crapped out on Friday morning after viewing the previous day's takes and Joe and I had to share his camera.

The weather was almost perfect for a weekend outside. It was overcast almost all the time. There was one brief period of heavy showers but we were pretty well prepared for that. I dry out a lot more quickly than I recover from severe sun roasting.

Joe and I team up on the flea market and carefully comb it out, row by row, first up one side, then down the other. We were able to finish our first pass in about a day and a half. We found several goodies for others who made their wishes known so we weren't careless as we combed, but I missed at least three people who were there. Two of them had a flea market space so they should have been easy to find, but we missed them. (There are over 30,000 people at this event!)

We only went inside of the arena (Dealers and Forums) long enough to photograph some "out-takes". I did tape a nice demonstration by Paul Newland on the TAPR Metcon-1 kit. It is a packet radio based remote control unit that would be useful for remote control and monitoring conditions at a repeater site. It is currently in beta test and should be available from TAPR soon.

I stopped to chat with Norm, W2JUP, at the AEA booth and take a close look at the AEA DSP (digital signal processing) modem. Looks neat and will be available in July or August in quantities. This box will be desired by anyone who does satellites, high speed work, or just wants to have the most expensive toy available. The two port version will cost about \$1000. The single port model is quite a bit less, but still twice the cost of a PK-232. If you are timid, you can get the single port one at first, and add the second port later.

I didn't go to any of the forums, and I wasn't able to find any Okies who wanted to forgo the Gathering of the Faithful to attend the Mid-America Coordination Council meeting on Friday night, so ORSI wasn't represented. I have a problem with the time and place of that meeting. It is after the formal Hamvention activities, which is OK, I guess, but it is a Holiday Inn and not near the Hamvention site, which is OK too I guess. It all depends on priorities and I guess at my age my priorities for meetings isn't too high.

Anyway we tried to find a volunteer and failed.

TWA has long ago figured out our game and we are no longer cashing in the freebie vouchers on these trips. Bill, WA5FWD, and his co-workers bend over backwards to make us happy and they got us back on time, feeling refreshed. The only downside to the return trip was at St Louis airport where the ice cream was on the other side of the security check point; result of the Gulf War, I guess.

I gotta mention Tim, WA5LTM, our Tour Planner, and Motel Quality Assurance Director. He did an excellent job this year and managed to worm into the heart of an Icom Technical Customer Service Rep. Who sent him some improved "Pocket Guides" for the IC-24 type talkies. Tim duly mailed me one, for which I am grateful. Plans are starting to form for next year!

Let's see what was in my mail bag here... Joe, K5JB

P.R.I.N. Alive and Well

Do you know what a METCON-1 board is? How about a weather cluster?

These are a just a few of the subjects talked about on the Packet Radio Information Net each Sunday at 1400 CDT / 1000 UTC. This is an open format voice net for the advancement of packet radio and help for the new packeteer.

Tune in on 7.240 MHz and hear about what the new Version 4.0 KAM hardware can do. See you Sunday.

Brought to my attention by Mac, K2GKK

More on Packet Nets

Incidentally, reading the above reminded me to remind you that we are still meeting on 3882, plus or minus, on Saturday mornings at 7:00 a.m. Look for Doug, WB5HLR; Jim, W5JDH; Glen, W5ZKK, or me. You will be more likely to hear us at that time of the morning on 75M than the P.R.I.N net on 40M. Joe, K5JB

C Programming Humor

Monte, WB5RZX, sent me the following, for you who "roll your own" on computers:

(Left on the blackboard by students in a Real-Time Systems course)

How to program in "C"

1. Use lots of global variables.
2. Give them cryptic names such as: X27, a_gcl, or Horace.
3. Put everything in one large .h file.
4. Implement the entire project at once.
5. Use macros and #defines to emulate Pascal.
6. Assume the compiler takes care of all the little details you didn't quite understand.

How to debug a "C" program.

1. If at all possible, don't. Let someone else do it.
2. Change majors.
3. Insert/remove blank lines at random spots, re-compile, and execute.
4. Throw holy water on the terminal.
5. Dial 911 and scream.
6. There is rumour that "printf" is useful, but this is probably unfounded.
7. Port everything to CP/M.
8. If it still doesn't work, re-write it in assembler. This won't fix the bug, but it will make sure no one else finds it and makes you look bad.

More Programmer Humor

Excerpted from The Guardian Computer Page on March 14th:

The March issue of Forth Dimensions reported the results of a competition held at a recent conference about Forth where you had to complete the phrase "Computing is like sex because...". The women's entries included:

"You never know when to stop."
"Many users are satisfied without documentation."
And the winner from Anne Edgecomb: "It's never finished."

The men's entries included:

"I can never get enough of it."
"When I can't get to sleep I have to do one or the other."
"My wife doesn't want me to do either."
"When you do it professionally it's not as much fun."
"When you make a mistake you end up supporting it for years."

And the winner from Nick Grossman:

"You can hear about it, you can talk about it, you can read about it, you can even watch it done by experts, but even with all the fumbling mess,

it's still more satisfying to get personally involved with it."

Real Engineers...

Forwarded by Monte, WB5RZX. (I didn't think this was particularly funny, but...

Real Engineers consider themselves well-dressed if their socks match.

Real Engineers buy their spouses a set of matched screwdrivers for their birthday.

Real Engineers wear moustaches or beards for "efficiency". Not because they're lazy.

Real engineers have a non-technical vocabulary of 800 words.

Real Engineers think a "biting wit" is their fox terrier.

Real Engineers know the second law of thermodynamics - but not their own shirt size.

Real Engineers repair their own cameras, telephones, televisions, watches, and automatic transmissions.

Real Engineers say "It's 70 degrees Fahrenheit, 25 degrees Celsius, and 298 degrees Kelvin" when all you said was "Isn't it a nice day"

Real Engineers give you the feeling you're having a conversation with a dial tone or busy signal.

Real Engineers wear badges so they don't forget who they are. Sometimes a note is attached saying "Don't offer me a ride today. I drove my own car".

Real Engineers' politics run towards acquiring a parking space with their name on it and an office with a window.

Real Engineers know the "ABC's of Infrared" from A to B.

Real Engineers rotate their tires for laughs.

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Must be postmarked by July 23, 1991

dead, to their final resting place beneath the silent White crosses row on row. I have flown through Peace and War, Strife and Prosperity and amidst it all I have been respected.

My Red stripes ... symbolize the blood spoiled in defense of this glorious nation.

My White stripes ... signify the burning tears shed by Americans who lost their sons.

My Blue field ... is indicative of God's heaven under which I fly.

My Stars ... clustered together, unify 50 states as one, for God and Country.

"Old Glory" is my nickname, and proudly I wave on high. Honor me, respect me, defend me for your lives and fortunes. Never let my enemies tear me down from my lofty position, lest I never return. Keep alight the fires of patriotism and strive earnestly for the spirit of democracy. Worship Eternal God and keep His Commandments, and I shall remain the bulwark of peace and freedom for all.

I am your Flag.

A MEMORIAL DAY PRAYER

By Otis R. Holloway

Heavenly Father, we gather again in memory of those who gone before. We do this each year, Honor Our Dead < whom we adore. Beginning with Fort Sumpter, and so many battles on our great nation's soil. Later San Juan Hill came into play, again our nation we do toil. Peace was just for a short while then across the waters we went, Argonne, Belleau Woods and many more defended our cause and forced our vent. Along came Anzio, the Bulge and others, Pearl harbor, Far East -- suddenly Enola Gay, one bomb ended that era ever so fine. Alas Pusan, Porkchop Hill in just a few short years, Now 38th Parallel is holding-perhaps it will stay somehow. Then soon again, it came once more. Ever so long there was Dak-To, Tuy Hoa, unforgiving jungle mess we grieved once more, we did care. The recent war, the Persian Gulf and desert sand, tho short and swift it did go, the world saw our mighty forces, grand. We pray this is the last war as we hoped so many times before. Honor each year though with flags and flowers, wars we abhor. Many of our nations gave their all for our country each and every one to let us live in one accord when the last battle is won. Amen.

A child is irresistible until it sets and watches TV, then it becomes an immovable object.

A good friend is one who thinks you are a good egg, although he knows you are partially cracked.

Quotes from the Watonga Radio FM 93.1. Man Mountain and side kick radio hour. 6 to 7 am.

If you miss the next meeting at Watonga, we will be sad. God Bless, Ralph WA5PFFK

Customer: Waiter, why do you have your thumb on my steak?

Waiter: I don't want it to fall on the floor again.

The South Canadian Amateur Radio Society

The May meeting of SCARS was held at the Norman Red Cross on the 11th at about 09:40. The treasurers report indicated that there was \$1485 and some change in the account. Bills were payable to Oklahoma Two Way, CORA, KB5ABS, N5BEW, and the phone company. The membership voted to direct the treasurer pay the bills. The next meeting will be on the 13th of June.

The "Mall Day" at Sooner Fashion Mall was a success thanks to much work by N5MAF coordinating the various functions and making sure everything happened on time. Although the band conditions were not very good and everyone else in the country had gone to Dayton, a number of HF contacts were made. People were also interested in the demonstration of packet radio. As usual, the display that got the most attention was the VCR playback of tornados furnished by Bill Bunting, N5SAL, a meteorologist at the Norman NWS office. Bill was unable to attend because he was making damage surveys of the storms which occurred a day earlier.

Thanks was given to all who assisted in the 89er bicycle race. As has been the case in past years a number of club members helped out with safety communications around the race course which was in the Lake Draper area.

A discussion was held about items needed for the Field Day kit. No one had the list at the meeting. Two antennas will be available. There was also discussion about the level of participation that the club could support for Field Day. It may not be possible to run the station all night due to lack of interest. Final plans will be made at the June meeting and operator training (how to fill out the logs correctly) will be conducted by N18W.

W5UZD arrived at 09:50 and by the time he discovered that a meeting was taking place his escape route had been blocked.

The HF beam at the Red Cross is now working. A problem with the rotator was repaired and it should all be operational now. The Red Cross antenna has been mounted above the HF beam. We don't have a two meter antenna up yet but N5BEW offered to donate a Ringo Ranger.

Steve, N18W announced that he had set up the course material for the next Novice class. It is set up so that a number of people can each select one topic, or a few topics, that they are comfortable with and no one has to teach the entire course. A volunteer is needed to coordinate the course and volunteer instructors will be needed to teach. No start date has yet been decided.

N5BEW displayed the new (to us) equipment for the in-town receiver. N5KUK has the chassis to mount all of the equipment and will proceed with construc-

tion of the controller. In the mean time, we had a lightning strike on the main repeater site which helped uncover a weak spot in the controller there. It also wiped out the phone line again. The controller deficiency has been corrected and in another lightning storm a week later no problems were encountered. The phone company has repaired the phone line.

Don Schader, KB5ABS, has had to get up on Saturday mornings somewhat earlier than everyone else for the last couple of years. This is because he had gotten the doughnuts and fixed the coffee for the rest of the club. Don has other matters to attend to and has turned in the keys. Someone who can take a turn at picking up the doughnuts and unlocking the place needs to step forward for us to continue the tradition of the Saturday morning get together.

There was no more business and the meeting adjourned at 10:15.

de N5KUK

I have received some questions lately about the use of the term VIP when used to describe storm intensity on weather radar. The following is an article written by Jerry Hunt several years ago for publication in the *Weather Watch* news letter.

de N5KUK

UNDERSTANDING VIP

by Jerry Hunt, N5MAY

Radio Amateurs across Oklahoma will for the first time have access to Radap II data via Packet Radio. This will provide them with a valuable tool in conducting spotter operations. However, any tool is only as good as ones knowledge of how to use it. The explanation given below is intended to provide some knowledge and thus understanding of the VIP product.

The term VIP is an acronym for Video Integrator Processor. This is actually the hardware unit (a computer) that quantizes the radar echoes into 6 different levels, VIP levels. This statement requires some explanation.

Water droplets within clouds reflect energy to the radar. The more droplets or the larger sized droplets reflect more energy than fewer or smaller sized droplets. Conventional Weather radars, unlike other radars, measure the power of the returned echo. Through the use of the radar equation, the amount of returned energy can be equated to the amount of water in a storm, hence potential rainfall rates can be estimated. Discussion of the radar equation is beyond the scope of this article.

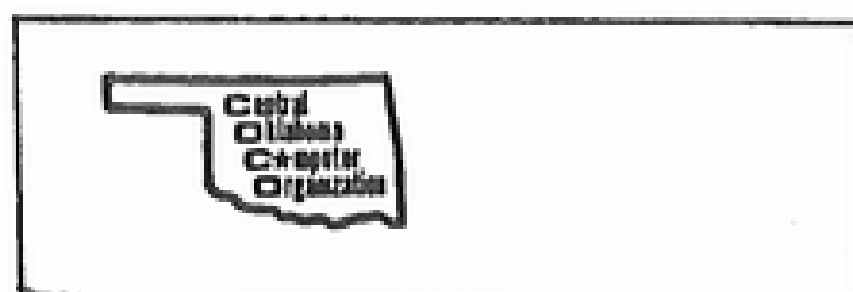
Most radio amateurs understand terms like db and dbm. To understand VIP levels a new, but similar term must be introduced; the dbz. Like db and dbm, dbz to be meaningful must be related to a standard reference. For weather radars this reference is the receivers MDS (minimum detectable signal). This level is normally less than a -103 db. Thus a -103db has become the reference for dbz. The transmitters power output must also be taken into account for dbz to be meaningful. S-band Weather radars are operated at a standard peak power output of about 410 KW.

The Digital Video Integrator Processor (DVIP) takes the returned echo power levels and places them into one of 6 different levels for display on the radar. This is what the radar operator sees, up to six different intensity levels on his scopes. The radio amateur getting a VIP product via packet radio is getting very much the same thing. The difference is that a another computer, RADAP II, is taking automatic radar observations and is providing the data in ASCII format. Here the returned echo power levels (in dbz) are given as VIP levels 1 thru 6. Thus a VIP 1 = 18 dbz, VIP 2 = 30 dbz, etc.

There are some problems that must be taken into account when using VIP levels. The first and one of the most significant is the fact that the radar equation assumes that the radar beam is full, i.e., that the target completely fills the radar beam. This is not a real problem when the target is close to the radar as typical weather targets are quite large. As the targets get further away from the radar, the radar beam grows in size (the WSR-57 has a 2 degree beam width), and the targets must be larger to completely fill the beam. Thus distance and the targets real size can introduce errors in assigning measured power levels to the appropriate VIP level.

Another problem with VIP levels is related to a targets distance from the radar. Consider two identical targets that are occurring at different ranges from the radar. The closer target will return more energy to the radar than the further target. This is taken into account, by both the DVIP and Radap II, for ranges from about 10 to 120 miles by use of a range normalization curve. Note however that targets located at a distance greater than 120 miles from the radar are not corrected for range. Further, they probably will not fill the radar beam. Thus the VIP levels must be suspect.

There are other problems with using a Radap II VIP product. The data can be contaminated with Anomalous Propagation, second trip echoes, etc. These problems do not diminish the value of using VIP levels. Rather knowledge of these problems provide a means of using VIP levels more effectively.



Instead of the regular COCO meeting, the June meeting will be a PICNIC ON SATURDAY, JUNE 1, from 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. at KIWANIS PARK's NORTH PAVILION in MIDWEST CITY. We are having a picnic -- swap meet; bring Bar-B-que, picnic food (hot dogs, chili, beans, buns, etc.) and anything you want to swap. The club will bring the charcoal, drinks, and a lot of club hardware/software for the swap. The Prez will bring a tape player with 50's and 60's music. Bring your cassettes and we'll play them too. Directions

are: east on Reno, south on Midwest Blvd. for a short distance, and then back to the west 1/2 mile to the parking lot and pavilion. We will have the picnic-- rain or shine.

From the Prez! Greetings, the reorganization of the club format has been successful. Attendance as increased with the inclusion of the IBM Special Interest Group (SIG). Welcome and thanks. The club's library is lacking IBM software at this time. All donations of Public Domain or shareware software is always appreciated. We do need those experienced in IBM use to come forward and identify themselves. We could use ideas and programs connected with SIG.

The May 11, regular meeting of COCO met at Rose State College in Room 129 beginning at 12:00. The President, Don Fox; Treasurer, Martin Schiel; and Secretary, Dorothy Roberts; and sixteen members were present. The Secretary reported a profit of approximately \$500 with the sale of the hardware connected with COCO Net.

Hardware problems -- One member was wondering about the availability of print heads from the Gemini 10X printers. A cost of \$40 was estimated by several members, but availability was limited. One person suggested that sometimes the print head goes too far when printing; after this, the ribbon will not ride in the correct place. He fixed his by a folded piece of paper wedged in the correct place to push some metal pieces together so that the ribbon would track correctly. One member was needing help after burning out the video chip.

Martin showed a new lap top Zeos notebook; it is truly portable and weighs only 7 lbs. with VGA, 1 meg. memory, serial/parallel port, and RGB pack. The only drawback seems to be a "weird" keyboard that resembles the original Coco 2. Twenty or 40 meg. hard drive and a color monitor are coming soon. With careful use, the laptop can be used three to four hours. One member reported on a hand-held computer with a color display and a four-hour battery; it opens like a European-style telephone. One member mention

that TI made the first hand-held calculator from 1957-59; however, the market was not ready and the project failed.



One person was having difficulty making double-sided 5 and 1/4 in. from single-sided diskettes. Several people gave suggestions about templates, etc. Radio Shack has OS9 materials for \$9.95 and Deskmate for \$4.95. One member wanted a Coco based, simple word-processing program that would allow imbedded printer codes. Elite Word and VIP were suggested. One member related a program that he had used called Mind Reader. It would anticipate numbers, words, percentage, etc. This sped up the data entry.

MISCELLANEOUS -- Chuck West has a net for users that miss the Coco net. His is Aracus on 752-8955.

PROGRAM -- Bill Demand demonstrated the use of the CocoMax. He went through the special features: stretch, fonts, printing, drawing with its several options. He was doing the demonstration via video. He set up a video, camera/recorder on a tripod to tape a video of the demonstration. The quality was good, but the distance made the reading of the icons difficult. At the end of the regular demo, Bill showed that connecting the computer video directly to the camera/recorder was much clearer and made the output larger. The only disadvantage was that you can not see what the operator is physically doing and the voice must be dubbed in. The Coco 3 has a color video output; however, the Coco 2 does not.

April's demonstration was given by Martin Schiel. He had a laptop computer connected to a LCD display on top of an overhead projector. It was supposed to be a color display, but Martin had not previously been able to get the color going. The color did co-operate for the demonstration. At Tinker the program was used to have an updated map and information in co-ordinated program. An aerial photo was scanned and transferred to a map with an auto-cad program. Harvard Graphics was used to make color/shape coded icons for planes, etc. The program can click on and zoom on any

Continued on back page

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	<p><i>The next issue of the Collector & Emitter will be put to bed 12 June - Present plans call for a FOUR PAGE with the total of all the secret Ham Holiday information, in other words it will be a Ham Holiday edition, mailed to a total of 3000 hams. It will have a preregistration form and the rest of the copy all about Ham Holiday.</i></p>			
9	10	11	12	13	<p>night, we will have food catered in. We plan for breakfast at the site on Sunday morning for those who wish.</p> <p>The new repeater is up and the new link is up and performing beautifully in NW OKC. They both sound great. Keep listening for more.</p> <p>CONGRATULATIONS go to Jim N5OHL who is now an Extra Class operator. Catch him on the CW bands, he just had his rig tuned especially for that, and we hope no more smoke gets out.</p> <p>Keep the 4th of July open on your calendar if you would like help to stage the Edmond parade. Our club has been asked to do the honors again this year and planning will get in full swing soon.</p> <p>Ham Holiday is around the corner also. It will change location to the Oklahoma State Fair Park this year and is on July 27 and 28.</p> <p>The next meeting is June 22 at the Oak Cliff Fire Station, with dinner. Listen to Monday night nets, 8:00 pm local on 147.135 (+ offset) for further details.</p> <p>CUL on the bands de K5SHXT, Mike. 73</p>	
						

MORE COCO

section; this blow-up combines the visual with text on identification, stasis, etc. Information can be entered from the keyboard and can be interfaced with other computers. This instant information is useful in emergencies (such as moving expensive airplanes out of way of damaging weather conditions) or for everyday maintenance of records.

The Prez asks for HELP WITH THE SALE'S TABLE that the club plans to have AT THE UPCOMING HAM FEST on July 27 and 28, at the Fairgrounds; helpers must have an entry ticket. Anyone wishing to help contact any officer. It was suggested that our club have a DEMONSTRATION TABLE ALSO; volunteers for this demonstration do not need to purchase a ticket.

See you at the PICNIC 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. on JUNE 1, at the NORTH PAVILION in KIWANIS PARK. The club will bring the drinks. You bring the family, food, and songs. Be prepared to have a good time!

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R U ready for F D???

Our club is getting ready for this year's Field Day at the Oak Cliff Volunteer Fire Department at 8299 North Bryant (1 mile north of Waterloo) in Edmond. We would like to see everybody there, if not for an eyeball QSO, then come out and look at the setup. N5OHL Jim and KA5WIS Lee, and N5IXZ Larry have been putting things together and we should have a good time.

There will be an antenna party about 1130 am Saturday with a dinner party Saturday

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