

SECOND CLASS MAIL  
POSTMASTER, SEE PAGE 2

Volume 17  
JULY 1991  
Number 197

## Welcome From VHF Club!

This is a short history of the our club and a special Ham Holiday welcome to those who are getting this special edition of the C&E. The Oklahoma Central VHF Amateur Radio Club, usually known as the VHF Club, was formed nearly 35 years ago at the same time as the technician license was gathering popularity. Originally known as the Oklahoma Central 6 Meter Net, the club was formed when there were only two other clubs in the Oklahoma City area. One was the Aeronautical Center Amateur Radio Club, still flourishing, and the other was the Oklahoma City Amateur Radio Club, now extinct. At its peak, there were over 100 members of the Six Meter Net. Most of them lived within driving distance of the club house. In total, there were as many as 288 names in the six meter net directory which listed operators who were within direct wave range of Oklahoma City. Some of the highlights of the club's past include frequent caravans and other social activities, and the bang-up sunspot peaks like the one in 1958 that really livened up six meters. The Club has always performed public service as one of its prime chartered purposes. At one time the Oklahoma City Emergency Operating Center was adopted by the VHF Club which arranged for equipping and staffing the communications center with multi-band amateur radio equipment and operators. Some of the County Civil Defense equipment was installed by the Club. Prior to the arrival of 2 M FM, the U.S. Weather Service Office at Will Rogers field was equipped and staffed by the Club during periods of bad weather. The frequencies of 50.525, and later, 50.50 Mhz (the change occurred with incentive licensing) were the places to listen to find out what was going on. The Red Cross was initially put in radio contact with the world by VHF club members. Club members installed radio equipment including towers and antennas, and the radio room furnishings. Members provided the funds and sought the good deals, including loan of surplus equipment by members of the Aeronautical Center Club.

The club has since turned its support more directly to Oklahoma State Civil Defense, supporting radio operations at that office. My own initiation in net operation began with the old Nite Owl Net which met every night on 50.25 (or 50.50) Mhz. Net control was selected by toss of the coin, or by whomever wanted to do it. The net control station would spend the evening twisting the beam around to catch the Heathkit Sixers, 50 miles out. I didn't have the luxury of a beam for quite a while; a turnstile served my purpose. W5HXL liked them and talked me into building one. He claimed they worked equally poor in all directions! He, in fact, had two of them vertically stacked and phase fed. Single sideband broke up that old gang of mine. The new fangled rigs just weren't compatible with the unstable 6A3 (AM) rigs that were common. Separate net frequencies were established for the new A3J rigs but as the numbers became divided, they also dwindled; much of the gang drifted off to HF land. Then came the 2-meter repeater. First there was a division of opinion about the legality of the things. The conservatives felt that since they were not mentioned in the regulations, they must not be legal. The liberals felt that since they were not prohibited, they must be legal. The club has never built a 2M FM repeater since it felt that there were more than enough repeaters to go around. Members who are on 2M phone hang out on the K5VFN Oklahoma State Civil Defense 145.41 repeater.

The club currently meets at Favorites restaurant, S.W. Grand Blvd and Western at noon for lunch on the third Saturday of each month, except when replaced by social events such as the annual watermelon party in August. It is ARRL affiliated, is the cheapest club in town, and guests are welcome at the meetings (which are kept short to not interfere with eating).

Well, that is about it for the Club's thumbnail sketch. If I don't have all the facts straight you "Old Timers" can fire me and get a better secretary! Have a fun Ham Holiday! Joe, K5JB

## OKDXA EDITOR NUMBED BY FLARES

A lot of folks asked about last month's column for OKDXA. Well, you're reading it...except for a few timely deletions, like leaving out all the good copy about Ham-Com in Dallas and all the neat stuff on the bands for June. Sorry folks, I simply committed a journalistic sin; I missed deadline! Here we are with a nice column for the Ham Holiday edition of the Collector & Emitter and we hope to see you at the DX Luncheon which will be held at the Heritage House Restaurant at 12:00 Noon. The Heritage House is an all-you-can-eat with some pretty good home-cookin, so we hope you will join us for lunch and share the latest lies with your fellow DXers. You do not have to be a member to attend the DX luncheon, but we will surely take your money while you're there... The Heritage house is located at the intersection of N.W. Expressway and 63rd Street. From the fairgrounds, proceed north on Portland Avenue to NW 63rd Street, take a left turn and look for the Heritage House on your left. If you cross NW Expressway while on NW 63rd Street, you've gone too far!

## CLUB BUSINESS 'n' STUFF

Last warning.. If you have not returned the C.O.R.A. circulation slip that was sent to you in April, this may be your last issue of the C & E. If you are an OKDXA member, please make sure that your dues are current and that you returned your CORA slip. If you are not an OKDXA member, send an SASE to OKDXA, Box 88, Wellston, OK 74881 and we will send you an application. Better yet, send your check for \$10, payable to OKDXA and we will fill out the form for you. Remember, OKDXA does not replace your local repeater club which still needs and deserves your support. We are a statewide organization with special interest in DXing, DX contests and international goodwill through amateur radio.

## OKDXA WEEKLY NET

Your president has been a bad boy for several weeks and I have missed some of the nets.

Continued on Page 2

# PROGRAM SCHEDULE

SATURDAY JULY 27, 1991

TIME	PROGRAM	SPEAKER	ROOM
9:00 AM	STRESS MANAGEMENT	TBA	A
10:00 AM	VE TESTING		B
	COMBINED MARS	ANN TIERNEY WB5SZQ	A
	BASIC ANTENNA (NEW HAMS ONLY)	ROBERT SHAW W4SBQX	C
	QRP AND HOMEBREWING	DON KELLY K4SUOS RANDY HENDERSON W1SW	D
10:30 AM	ZOOMOBILE	OKC ZOO	OUTSIDE
	TRANSMITTER HUNT	DON LOVING N5NDE	E
11:00 AM	DX SEMINAR - DXPEDITION	TBA	C
	DISASTER ACTION	DAVID HACKETT	D
12:00 Noon	LUNCHEON HELD BY OK DX ASSOCIATION	LOCATION TBA	
1:00 PM	AWARDS IN AMATEUR RADIO BINGO	JIM RICHARDSON N5OHL ACARC	A D
1:30 PM	AMSAT	TBA	B
	HOW TO BUILD AND USE FREQUENCY COUNTERS	BILL ENTER K8SNUA	C
2:00 PM	ARES/RACES	BOB TIERNEY WB5SZP BENNETT BASORE W5ZTN	A
2:30 PM	WX SEMINAR	NWS NORMAN	B
3:00 PM	PACKET CLUSTER & DXING	TBA	A
	OKLAHOMA REPEATER SOCIETY INC. SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING		C
4:00 PM	MARY KAY FACIAL MAKEOVER	TBA	A
	CORA CLUB TREASURERS MEETING		C
7:00 PM	BANQUET FAMILY PROGRAM	TBA	

SUNDAY JULY 28, 1991

9:00 AM	WORSHIP SERVICES		B
10:00 AM	WAVE GUIDE (WHAT'S THIS ABOUT DX)	BILL DEMAND K5SKA	B
	NON-TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES PROGRAM	TBA	A
	TRANSMITTER HUNT	DON LOVING N5NDE	D
	HOW TO BUILD AND USE FREQUENCY COUNTERS	BILL ENTER K8SNUA	C
12:00 Noon	ARRL FORUM	JOE LYNCH N6CL	BIG ROOM
1:30 PM	PRESENTATION OF SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS		BIG ROOM
1:45 PM OR SO	HAM HOLIDAY AWARDS PRESENTATIONS		BIG ROOM

## MORE DX

On April 27, 1991 the 40 meter band was so long that no one in the region could be heard... (Incredible) A ham in Rhode Is-land could hear several Okla-homans hunting around, but the net was a lost cause. On Saturday, June 1, 1991, propagation played havoc with us again, as the combination of a solar flare and a geomagnetic storm shut down all the bands... a good day for mowing the lawn... However, look for the net at its usual time on Saturday morning until further notice. It will start promptly at 1100 UTC, 7.195 Mhz with OKDXA Vice-President Darrell Reed, KF5DA as your net control. Don't miss it! WE try to meet every Saturday except during major DX contests, (including -- gasp -- field day) and ham conventions. And of course since our net control is a professional meteorologist, we don't meet during tornadoes... Our ARRL Section Manager Joe Lynch, N6CL has suggested that we move the net up into the General portion of the band so that some members who are still working on their upgrades can join in the activity. I would recommend this to the net con-trols, and if they concur, look for the net to start up on 7.230 Mhz +/- after the Ham Holiday weekend.

## PACKETCLUSTER NEWS

The Oklahoma DX PacketCluster has grown by one node since our last report. The KD5FX node is now operational from Ponca City. This should be an encouragement and motivation to the guys in Lawton to get their own node on the drawing boards. KD5FX is presently linked into the system via a digipeater to N5OK, but plans are for them to connect directly to AD1S NODE via a new 2 meter link within the next few weeks. Welcome aboard as a DX PacketCluster sysop, Dave, and congratulations on being the first Oklahoma node to utilize the new Version 5.0 software. We will have a review of the new software in next month's article. Due to initial reports of problems with Version 5.0, some sysops are moving slowly before making the change. However, as the bugs are worked out and the dust settles, it appears that 5.0 is here to stay and users will benefit from many of the 78 new features in this version. Watch next month's article for details. See you at Ham Holiday 1991 and good DX. De AD1S.

# Oklahoma State Fair Park July 27th & 28th, 1991

PRE-REGISTRATION AWARD  
ICOM 736 HF RIG

Retail \$1,149.00

(Or Equivalent)

GRAND AWARD  
ICOM IC-725 HF RIG

Retail \$1,299.00

EXHIBITS AND SHOWS!!  
PROGRAMS AND FORUMS!!  
NEW AND USED DEALERS!!  
GIGANTIC FLEA MARKET!!

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY!!  
DOORS OPEN 8 AM!!  
PLENTY OF FREE PARKING!!  
...AND A WHOLE LOT MORE!!

## VE EXAM SCHEDULE CORRECTION

The correct date for the next Altus Area VE Examinations is 20 July, Saturday at 12:30 pm. North Main Fire Station in Altus Ok.

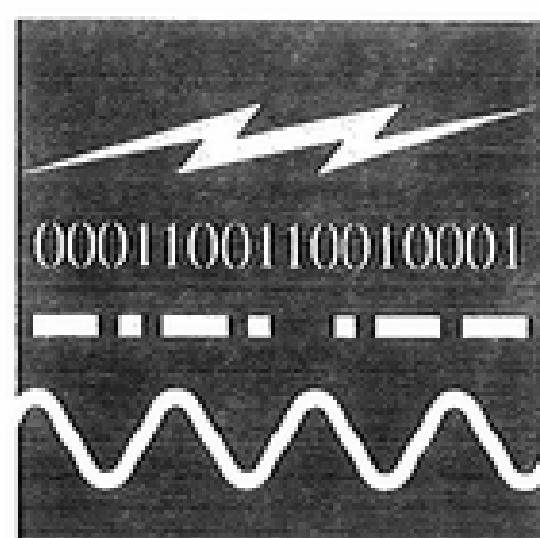
Ray and Verlena Selby, K5LLX, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary July 20 from 2 until 4 At the Peoples National Bank, Community Room. (I missed the town). No gifts, plenty of refreshments.

The headquarters for Ham Holiday will be at Days Inn Northwest. We will have a conference room, and all the other things that go with a "convention". It is two miles north of the State Fair Park, 2801 NW 39th, Okla City. You can phone your reservations for Friday/Saturday night to Sue Austin (405) 943-2767 or Fax to (405) 942-0181. Rates are \$34.00 a night and that goes for 4 people per room. You can also pick up your pre-registration tickets there Friday night or if you are not already registered you can register there Friday night.

197 issues ago Joe Buswell K5JB turned in his first article for the CORA Collector & Emitter. Now 197 issues later Joe came forward with his copy to complete all those years and I decided to use his submission instead of the long article or rather a series of articles all about Ham Holiday. Then I needed some more so George Adkins AD1S came along at pasteup time with his, so I cut it down to fit and included it. Then I realized that I hadn't said anything about Ham Holiday so look at the back page and get most of the "poop" about this the 18th Ham Holiday. You will find a pre-registration slip - cut it out and send your pre-registration(s) in today. Note that the price has been reduced and a new location has been found.

CORA Collector & Emitter (USPS 116-150) is published monthly by CORA, INC, 9211 N. Council, Apt 216, OKC, OK 73132. Second class postage paid at Okla. City OK. Sub: Cora Member \$4.20, Paid subscription: \$7.00 per year.

Postmaster: Send form 3579 to: CORA, 9211 N. Council, Apt 216, OKC, OK 73132. Editor: Joe Harding WASZNF 720-1019 Circulation: Bob Graham WB5NSV 677-8685



# HAM HOLIDAY 1991

OKLAHOMA CITY

JULY 27 & 28

CENTRAL OKLAHOMA  
RADIO AMATEURS  
PRESENT  
HAM HOLIDAY 1991  
ARRL CONVENTION  
HOBBIES, ARTS & CRAFTS BUILDING  
OKLAHOMA STATE FAIR PARK  
JULY 27TH & 28TH, 1991



GRAND PRIZE AND OTHER AWARDS.  
PRE-REGISTRATION & SCHOLARSHIP AWARD.  
HOURLY PRIZES.

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NEW AND USED DEALERS.  
GIGANTIC FLEA MARKET.

Plenty Of  
FREE Parking

VE EXAMS  
OK DX MEETING.  
ORSI MEETING.  
MARS.  
AMSAT.  
PACKET AND COMPUTER.  
RF FOXHUNT.  
OKLAHOMA QRP.  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE.  
ARRL FORUM.  
OTHER TECHNICAL PROGRAMS.

GREAT OKLAHOMA SATURDAY NITE BBQ.  
QCWA SUNDAY MORNING BREAKFAST.  
SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE.

TALK-IN 147.03/63 AND 444.20/449.20, PL 141.3.  
DOORS OPEN 8 AM.

## PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

LAST NAME \_\_\_\_\_ FIRST NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CALL \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY/STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL REGISTRATIONS \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name & Call Sign) \_\_\_\_\_

Reserve _____	REGISTRATIONS	@ \$6.00 ea.	\$ _____
Reserve _____	FLEA MARKET TABLES	@ \$5.00 ea.	\$ _____
Reserve _____	GREAT OKLAHOMA SATURDAY NITE BBQ	@ \$8.50 ea.	\$ _____
Reserve _____	SCHOLARSHIP AWARD TICKETS	@ \$2.00 ea.	\$ _____
		OR 3 for \$5.00	\$ _____
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>

[Registration(s) will be mailed to you if received before July 13, 1991]. Send Pre-Registration Form with check or money order to:

**CORA HAM HOLIDAY 1991 • P.O. BOX 95942 • OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73143-5942**

Must be postmarked by July 23, 1991