

Collector & Emitter

A CORA Publication

June 1996

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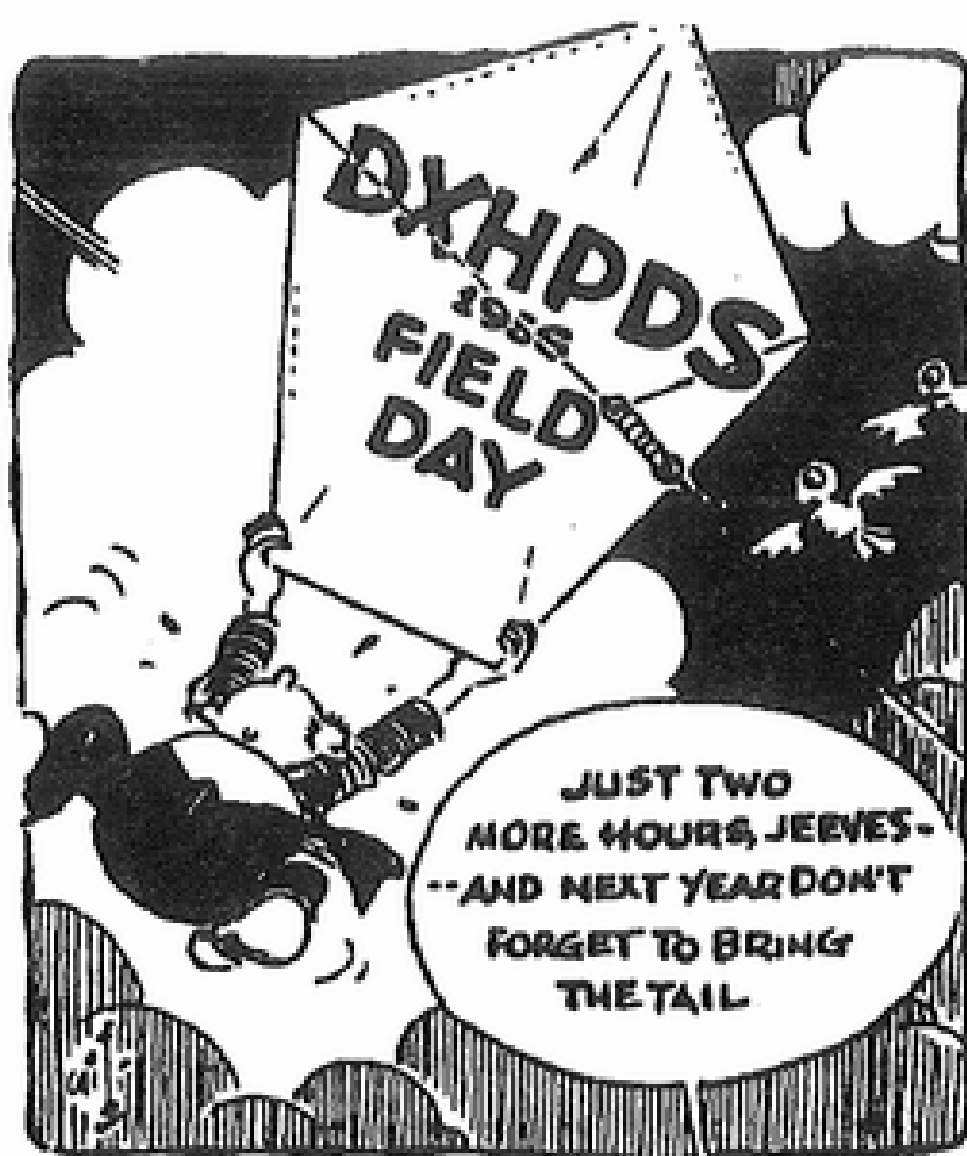
Postmaster See Page 2
For Postal Information

Second Class Mail

Welcome to Choctaw ARC

Field Day "Bonus" Points?

Adventures of J. Q. Amateur



June, 1956

Attack on 2 meters/70 cm

See ARRL Bulletins

**Teen Ham Arrested
on Scanner Charges**

Solar Activity Up?

Collector & Emitter**Harold C. Miller, KB1ZQ****Editor****Linda G. Miller, N1LPN****Circulation Manager****Central Oklahoma Radio
Amateurs, Inc.****President: Harold Miller, KB1ZQ****V Pres.: Louis Kennedy, KC5ABI****Secretary: Forrest Rush, N5VWF****Treasurer: Perry Jenkins, KB5TOT**

Dear Subscriber:

PLEASE help us keep your information up to date. What time, where, when, who are your officers, editors, and their phone numbers. Check your entry, it can be changed. If there appears to be a mistake, check with your club officials. We can't do a thing about it if you don't let us know. Below is a sample label:

2	96/12	2
JOHN E. DOE, KA5ABC		
1234 SW 56th STREET		
RADIOVILLE, OK 74321		

The "2" means VHF Club, "96/12" means the year/month C&E subscription expires. The "2" is for postal zones.

Dear Secretary / Treasurer:

When you want a change of any sort to your membership, you must completely fill out a subscription slip. Watch for the date you received their funds and the date the subscription expires. Have your slips, or list of deletions submitted by the Deadline of each month. If there is anything about C&E subscriptions you need to know, please contact us.

June 1996**VOL. 22, No 6, Issue 256****Collector and Emitter****(USPS 116-150)**

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2. Oklahoma Central VHF ARC Meets: 1100, 3d Saturday, Ashley's Country Kitchen 1-40 & SE 15th St., Del City Pres.: Jackolyn Olsen, KA5ENU 842-2305 VP: Ken Eason, KF5JS 789-2200 Sec: Joe Buswell, K5JB 732-0676 Treas.: Ellard Foster, W5KE 789-6702 Editor: Joe Buswell, K5JB 732-0676	14. Cimmaron Amateur Radio Assn. Meets: 1930L, 1st Thursday, WX5Y Playhouse 827 S. 13th, Fairview Pres.: John Medley, N5WVU VP: Kenneth Monahan, KB5SOM Sec: Dennis Painton, WK5V 764-3599 Treas.: Nadine Painton, N5FMH 764-3599 Editor: Kenneth Monahan, KB5SOM
4. Oklahoma City Autopatch Assn. Meets: 1930L, 3rd Tuesday, Salvation Army Bldg NW 50th and Penn, OKC (Back Door) Pres.: John Brassfield, N5SAM 685-8070 VP: Loyd Hargrove, AB5I 391-5723 Sec: Jim Richardson, N5OHL 524-0456 Treas.: Bob Kremer, WA9FCT 381-3182	15. South Canadian ARS Meets: 0930L, 2nd Saturday, Red Cross Bldg North OU Campus, Norman Pres.: Michael McEwen, KC5GJL 329-2615 VP: Mike Divilio Jr., KC5GRZ 360-3236 Sec: Randy Ridenour, WB5RWX 329-0967 Treas.: Sara Byer, KC5ABA 321-1673
6. Altus Area Amateur Radio Assn. Meets: 1900L 2nd Thursday, Southwest Technology Center, Altus, OK Pres.: Mike Brown, KK5ZB 481-6138 VP: John Mealer, AB5WQ 563-9252 Sec: Lil Town, KC5CNA 477-4027 Treas.: Mart Dennis, KC5NAX 477-2988 Editor: Jim Arterberry, N5UJB 353-5722	17. Ada Amateur Radio Club Meets: 1000L, 1st Saturday, Basement Ada City Hall 231 South Townsend, Ada, OK Pres.: Roy Throne, KB5STV 436-1019 VP: Dwight Myers, N0RIW 436-4755 Sec: John Burchett, KC5EZC 332-1063 Treas.: O. J. Collins, KC5DYN 332-7878
8. Choctaw Amateur Radio Club Meets: 1900L 3rd Monday, Eastern Oklahoma Co. Vo Tech, 4601 N. Choctaw Rd, Choctaw, OK Pres.: Bill Crossland, N9SQV 390-1514 VP: Hub Perry, W5GYX 275-8036 Sec: Larry Anderson, KB5ENP 672-4590 Treas.: Bill Tarkington, KC5ICR 390-8751 Editor:	19. Tenkiller Area ARC Meets: 1300L, 2nd Saturday, Cookson Fire Dept., Cookson, OK Pres.: Mike Clemons, KE5NU 918-463-3287 VP: Clyde Stottlemire, W5TQE 918-457-5959 Sec: Dick Wells, KH6FHS 918-457-3463 Treas.: Norma Wells, N5PNP 918-457-3463 Editor:
9. Wheatstraw Amateur Radio Club Meets: 1430L, 2nd Sunday, Location Varies Pres.: Johnny Fish, K5GBN 893-2227 VP: Neil Kappus, N5KCO 262-1551 Sec/Tr.: Joe Garland, WA5FLT 893-2660 Editor: Ralph Wilder, WA5PFK 623-5421	<p style="text-align: center;">CORA is Growing!! Room For Another Club's Officers Here. Let US Know of any Clubs wanting Information On Joining CORA.</p>
10. Oklahoma DX Association Meets: Hamfests and as announced in C&E. Pres.: Jim Hood, WV5S 405-732-6131 VP: Ross Hunt, K5RH 918-234-5050 Sec: Jeff Martin, K5WE 918-486-6493 Treas.: Mark Byard, N5OGP 405-762-1966 Editor: Mark Byard, N5OGP 405-762-1966	Central Oklahoma Radio Amateurs Meets: 1930L, 4th Tuesday, Salvation Army Bldg NW 50th and Penn, OKC (BackDoor) Pres.: Hal Miller, KB1ZQ 672-7735 VP: Louis Kennedy, KC5ABI 321-8992 Sec: Forrest Rush, N5VWF 842-8486 Treas.: Perry Jenkins, KB5TOT 354-5075 Editor: Harold Miller, KB1ZQ 672-7735

CONTENTS

On the Cover: Field Day 1996...

Central Oklahoma Radio Amateurs, Inc.	3
Chit Chat	4
South Canadian Minutes and News.....	6
Edmond Amateur Radio Society	7
Choctaw Amateur Radio Club Minutes and News	8
Oklahoma City Autopatch Association.....	9
VHF Club Minutes and News.....	12
Wheatstraw Minutes and News	13
The Adventures of John Q. Amateur	15
Oklahoma DX Association	18
A. R. R. L. Bulletins.....	24

Central Oklahoma Radio Amateurs, Inc.

Minutes of the CORA meeting of May 28, 1996.

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 PM by the president of CORA, Hal, KB1ZQ. Five clubs were represented with sixteen people in attendance.

The March and April minutes were approved as printed in the C&E. The treasurer's report was read, discussed, and approved unanimously.

C&E Report. All club secretaries, please get Hal the complete addresses of your members. Starting October we *must* have complete zip codes, (73112-****) for all CORA members. The Zip plus four can be found on your bills or on your junk mail.

To all Club Secretaries, please get the minutes of your club meeting to the editor as soon as possible, so that they can be printed in the C&E. Thanks for your cooperation.

New Clubs. Tonight The Tenkiller Area Amateur Radio Club was voted into CORA. This makes it the *fifth* club to join CORA. Our New clubs are the Ada Amateur Radio Club, the Altus Area Amateur Radio Association, the OKDXA, the Choctaw Amateur Radio Club, and the Tenkiller Area Amateur Radio Club. *Welcome!*

HH 96.

Dealers. As of May 28th, we have six confirmed dealers coming to Ham Holiday. They are Stewart and Associates, Startek, I - Tech, The Toolman, WB0W, and Caps Unlimited.

VE Testing. The hours for the VE tests are not yet set. Tentatively VE tests will be from 10:00am to 1:00pm. See Jim Copeland, NW0K, for details on VE testing.

Joe Harding Memorial Scholarship. Applications are still coming in for the CORA scholarship. All clubs, please get any members that qualify for the CORA scholarship to get their application in. Please remember that the deadline is June 15, 1996. Any question, please contact Don Ayers, KC5BRO, Rt. 1, Box 108x, Edmond, OK, 73003. Phone no. (405) 340-0458.

Next CORA meeting. The next CORA meeting will be at the Skyline Cafe, 1631 SE 15th just off I-35. This will be a dinner meeting, starting at 1pm on June 29, 1996. Hope to see everyone there.

Respectfully submitted,

Forrest, N5VWF
CORA Secretary

From the President

This has been a hard issue to put together. Last Tuesday night the CORA membership voted another club into the ranks. Tenkiller Area Amateur Radio Club was unanimously voted in, in the months prior we have had the pleasure of Altus Area Amateur Radio Assn. Rejoin us as well as Ada Amateur Radio Club join. Welcome to all of you.

Plans and discussions for Ham Holiday '96 are proceeding well. Dealer attendance seems to be down this year but times are hard, and dealers aren't gambling on hamfest incomes.

Other than that CORA is doing well. What has happened to make this issue hard to do is the death of a member of our immediate family. Our family consists of Linda, Mike, and myself, in addition to 4 cats and a dog. The cats are of ages 5 to 15 years. We were unfortunate to have lost our oldest, Shane. He had just celebrated his 15th birthday on May 8, 1996.

All of our cats are strictly indoor cats, they are only taken outside to go to the vet or under supervision. Well Shane has been known to escape out the door when we check the mail, apparently he did so on Saturday, June 1st. We did not notice him leaving the house.

Linda went to get Mike from work and upon her return found Shane in the street, having been hit by a car. This devastated her and has caused great distress to our little family. We laid Shane to rest out in the country and are trying to move on.

Shane was a constant companion to Linda, wherever she went in the house so did Shane. He would sit and keep her company when she typed articles for this publication. He at one time kept the 146.22/82 repeater entertained with his purring. He laid down on the microphone key for the desk mic and purred away for almost an hour until Linda received a call on the phone to turn the radio off, the radio direction crew was able to find the source of the key.

Shane also loved to ride and several times was taken to other ham's homes where he visited. He would like to explore, but when instructed and enforced with a pat on the butt to stay put, he would. Anyone visiting the house may get the once over and given approval to be here.

Even I will miss him, as he and I would eat breakfast together most every morning. He didn't care to eat dry food and would give up his canned to the other cats, so he would be told to go to the table and he was served his canned food. While he was eating on one end of the table, I would eat my breakfast of cereal at the other.

Over the years I have called him many names, but he kept this house running in more ways than one. Let a mouse show up in the walls and Shane was on it, letting us know where and when. Or let us go on vacation and return, cold shoulder for 3 days, we left him home.

Many people will say he was only a cat, yes, he was but he was also a big part of our family. Shane will be missed greatly.

Thanks for letting me reminisce on an old friend here and hope to catch you on the air soon.

73,

Hal, KB1ZQ

Chit - Chat

by Linda, NILPN

A Simple Act of Kindness...

Have you ever been away from home, in a strange place, homesick and alone? Many college students that move away from home know the answer to this question. There is another group of young people that experience these feelings many times during their lifetime, our servicemen and women.

A life in the military is one of putting all personal wants, needs, desires and dreams aside. Your life is no longer yours to control. You learn to go wherever the government sends you, sometimes you can take your spouse and children and sometimes you are forced to leave them behind. Military marriages are pushed to their limits and many never weather the storms of separation.

In December of last year, over 40,000 American service personnel were ordered to Bosnia and placed under the command of the United Nations. As far as I know, this is the first time in our history that our troops were placed directly under someone else's command. All winter, on the national news we were witness to the hardships and living conditions our troops were subjected to. They were not warmly received. There were many here in the states that objected strongly to this action. Yet our troops stood proud through it all, making the best of the situation and doing the job they were sent to do.

I do not plan to get into any discussion of the rights or wrongs of this issue. What I would like to do is remind you of our service people still in Bosnia. They were ordered to be there and it is time that we support their loyalty to our country. They are placing their very lives on the line and need to know that we care.

Care packages from home, letters of thanks, and cards do wonders for a person's moral. Some suggestions for items to include in care packages are as follows. If you want to send eatables make sure they are nonperishable food items. Must have items are writing tablets, ink

pens and envelopes. For enjoyment you could send a copy of the local newspaper to read, a puzzle book with pencil included and a letter written with kindness. Packages can not be any larger than the size of a normal shoe box.

Address all packages and letters to the care of :

**Any Serviceman
Operation Joint Endeavor
APO AE 09397**

Specify Army, Navy, Air Force or Marine land forces. These items will be distributed randomly among our troops unless you address it to a specific individual.

A simple act of kindness extended to a stranger in a land far from home and family will be cherished and remembered. Reach out to our troops and take a few minutes to let them know you thought of them. By sending a simple note of thanks, you are letting them know we have not forgotten them.

Yes, I got on my 'little soap box' this month. I feel very strongly in supporting our service people. As I stated before, their life is not an easy one and they go where ever they are ordered to go. I hate the very thought of placing American troops in danger and am not sure how long they will be in Bosnia. Due to our own military cut backs, we have no one to send over to rotate them home, they are there until it is over. I know my simple puzzle book will brighten someone's day and I am mailing it without a second thought. I expect nothing in return, it is my way of thanking our troops for doing a job few are willing to do.

So...what are you waiting for? Take a few minutes and send a thank you note to our servicemen and women in Bosnia while it's still fresh in your mind. Thanks! Until next month,

FREE MESSAGES TO BOSNIA

Army MARS has announced that free MARSgram messages may now be sent to military personnel deployed to Operation Joint Endeavor in Bosnia. These Joint

Endeavor addresses can receive messages from family and friends:

APO AE 09779, Zagreb, Croatia
APO AE 09780, Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina
APO AE 09781, Split, Croatia
APO AE 09782, Kiseljac, Bosnia-Herzegovina
APO AE 09789, Tuzla, Bosnia-Herzegovina
APO AE 09793, Taszar, Hungary

For more information or to send a message, contact Lorraine S. Matthew, AAA9PR, e-mail lorimatt@aol.com or any Army MARS member near you.
(from The ARRL Letter)

Exchanging club letters...

by Linda, NILPN

When Hal, KB1ZQ first became editor of the C&E, we exchanged our newsletter with just two clubs. Slowly as we found our footing and the paper began to take shape, we began receiving newsletters from other clubs. For every newsletter we receive, we send them one of ours. This last month, we received a very pleasant surprise in the form of a newsletter. It came to us from "Broward Amateur Radio Club," Pompano, FL. The editor is Baron Bieber, WZ3F. We will add them to our club exchange list this month.

Why exchange newsletters? The main reason is for an exchange of information and a sharing of ideas. We have found that by working together with editors from other clubs, we all benefit the rewards. Each editor has something to offer and hopefully they feel the same toward us. The added bonus is the knowledge that others are facing the same challenges we are in publishing a ham newsletter. This knowledge helps and we know they are just a phone call or e-mail away if we need them.

Hal and I have tried to create a newsletter which reflects the true Spirit of Amateur Radio. This newsletter is a service to the ham community, representing 12 clubs across the Oklahoma state. We would like to take all the credit for the C&E, but can not. What makes the newsletter what it is today is the joint efforts of the CORA club

editors, writers and individual articles sent in monthly. We just put it all together under one name and format it for the printer.

We believe that for us to grow and for Amateur Radio to continue, we must be open to all that have the love for the hobby and a willingness to be open to new ideas. The exchange of newsletters with other ham clubs helps us to achieve this goal. After all, isn't that what ham radio is all about?

Change is my friend... I will embrace him...

by Keith Haye, WE0G

How often have we yearned for the good old days? It seems That everything around us is going straight to the dogs, doesn't it!

One of our greatest challenges in life, especially later in life, may be acceptance of change. In some of the reading I've been doing lately, one study indicated that when we are forced to change just one basic belief or viewpoint, our brain undergoes a series of nervous situations equivalent to the most antagonizing torture.

If that's the case, it's no wonder we find it difficult to change. The uncertainty of change is often seen as a threat to our security and it upsets our established patterns of behavior. So we resist change.

Like it or not, we must face change - daily. If we have a problem with change, it becomes a problem for those around us, our friends, businesses, employees, and etc. As far as the world around us is concerned, we can either be a part of the

problem or a part of the answer. The choice is ultimately ours.

The problem of change is not new or modern. Change is not the problem. Our reaction to change is the real problem. Change is a fact of life. We must learn to live with it. Our club is going to change; our friends and other people we deal with are going to change; our environment, tools of living, community...are changing now...today! Society, culture, technology...changing!

Tradition has its place, however the following story may help keep things in perspective: *A young man asked his new wife, "Why do you cut the ends off the ham when you bake it?" "Because that's what you're suppose to do. That's the way my mother did it," she replied.*

So he asked the mother why she taught her daughter to prepare ham that way. She answered, "Oh, that's the way you bake ham. I've always done it that way. My mother fixed it like that."

The next time the young man saw the grandmother, he asked her why she cuts the ends off of the ham and she said, "So it would fit in the pan."

Katie, WA0RVT, included a quip at the top of the last page in *The Repeater*, February 3, 1996 which caught my eye and lead me to do a little research (and got on my stump). It said, "The person who says something can't be done, is likely to be passed by someone doing it."

The challenge to all of us is to accept change, embrace it! Learn to seek it out and enjoy it as part of our human existence and experience. It is a valuable

necessity in our adventure of life.

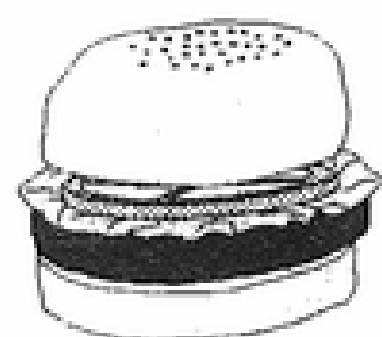
Finally, if you still find yourself longing for the "good old days" check out this list of rules for white-collar workers posted in 1872 by a carriage manufacturing company in New York.

1. Office employees each day will fill lamps, clean chimneys and trim wicks.
2. Each clerk will bring a bucket of water and a scuttle of coal for the day's business.
3. Make your pens carefully. You may whittle nibs to your individual tastes.
4. Men employees will be given an evening off each week for courting purposes, or two evenings if they go to church regularly.
5. After 13 hours of labor in the office, the employees should spend the remaining time reading the bible or other good books.
6. Each employee should lay from each pay a goodly sum of his earnings for his declining years so that he will not become a burden on society.
7. The employee who has performed his labors faithfully and without fault for five years will be given an increase of 5 cents per day in his pay, providing profits from the business permit.

Oh, but what...for the good old days!!!

*Ideas for this article were taken from notes in classes attended by my brother, Kyle Haye of Russelleville, AL.

Permission given to reprint article by Keith, WE0G. Article was first published in "The Repeater - April 13, 1996" newsletter of the Warrensburg Area Amateur Radio Club, Inc. Editor, Katie, WA0RVT.



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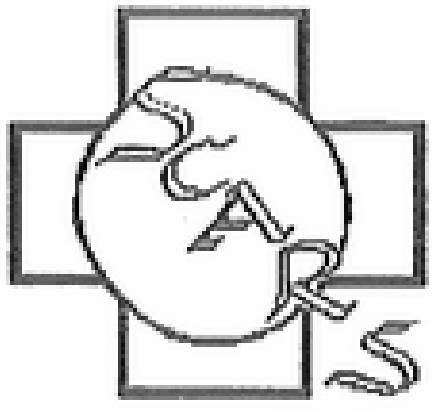
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South Canadian Amateur Radio Club

The May meeting of the South Canadian Amateur Radio Society was held on Saturday, May 11, 1996. The meeting began sometime before 9:30 (I arrived shortly before 9:30, and the introductions had already been done). First, I apologize about last month's minutes. I found that I had Reserve duty that weekend, and the Army has always been less understanding than the Ham club about my absence.

The first (I believe) order of business was the repeater. Ken, N5BEW, reported that the repeater is suffering from an increase in reflected power, which is a sign of antenna trouble. A new commercial DB-224 antenna will cost us approximately \$700. We can get 300 feet of heliax cable for \$450 if we act soon. A coax fitting for the cable will cost \$75, and the tower crew will charge \$150 for installation. The total cost is \$1,375.

Ken mentioned some other options that might decrease the cost. One option is to buy a cheaper antenna, but this has some drawbacks. Given the height of the tower, the antenna is extremely likely to suffer several lightning strikes. A cheaper antenna might not survive them, and we will find ourselves back in the same situation.

Ken upgraded the duplexers and cables on the UHF (443.700) repeater. He also added a PL board and a pre-amp for the receiver. The tone required to use the machine is 141.3. There is a problem with the in-town link to the 2-meter repeater. I seems to transmit some tone. If someone comments on your bad audio, the problem is probably not with your radio. The club voted to reimburse Ken's expenses of \$100 for these repairs.

We then returned to the problem of replacing the repeater antenna. The

problem is that we currently have \$1,100 in the treasury, which is almost \$300 less than we need. Ed, N3US, moved that we immediately purchase the cable, since we'll have to act quickly to get it for that price. David, N5KUJ, seconded, and the motion passed. Donations are now being accepted for the repeater fund. If all club members will donate \$20 or \$30, we should have no problem financing the repair job.

Ken then mentioned that the club might still have a spare repeater. This repeater could be sold to raise funds, unless the club wants to keep it for a spare. We'll need to decide what we would like to do with it.

Sara, KC5ABA, gave the treasury report. The reduced phone bill will help nicely. New regulations cut the bill by approximately half.

Louis, KC5ABI, reported that CORA is doing well. Several new clubs have recently joined, we'd like to welcome them to the Central Oklahoma Amateur Radio community. Preparation for Ham Holiday is continuing nicely. Our club is once again in charge of the flea market. We'll need plenty of volunteers to insure that our responsibilities there are fulfilled. Louis also reported that insurance for the tower is available. Several members mentioned that this is something the club might be interested in, if we could have some more information on the policy.

Field Day is coming up in June. The dates are the 22nd and 23rd (I checked the ARRL web site to verify the dates.) We have the antennas ready, and the Red Cross is providing a generator for us.

Considering the funds required for the new repeater antenna, it was suggested that the club not furnish the meal this year, instead we'll be eating pot-luck. So, be sure to bring whatever you want to eat.

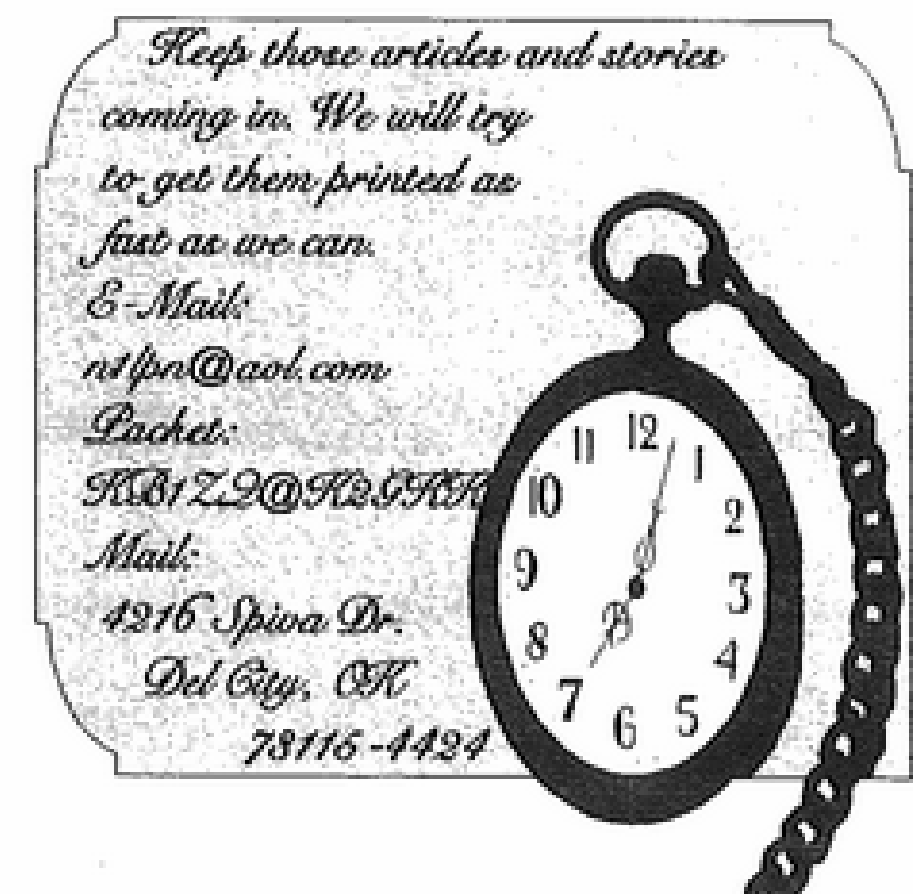
The regularly scheduled meeting for next month is the same weekend as Ham-Com. Therefore, we'll meet on the 15th of June at the Field Day site at Reeves Park.

Dennis reported on the weather net. Fortunately, the storm season this year has not been too bad. This gives those involved some time to organize. If you're interested, check in to the net on 145.210 on Thursday evenings at 8:30.

Don, KJ5KB, reported that Family Disaster Preparedness Day is June 8. The club will be providing an exhibit. If you're interested in helping, and providing some good community relations for the club, talk to Don.

We were all sorry to hear that Mike, WG5C, is leaving us and moving to Indiana. He reported that the Packet node at the repeater site will continue to operate after he leaves. We all certainly wish him well as he goes. You'll certainly be missed, good luck!

Randy . WB5RWN



1631 SE 15th

677-9001



Bryan, Cindy, Jennifer and Jessica



Edmond Amateur Radio Society

June 1996

I can't believe that is June. It feels like July or August with the hot weather and not a storm in sight. Speaking of storms Kevin, N5USQ still needs to have one or more relief coordinators. With his jobs taking up his weekends, he needs someone to be available on Fri., Sat. and Sun. The way things have been going it would be an easy job. Also if you have one of the map books of Edmond contact Kevin for updates.

The May board meeting was held in the club station on the eighth at 7:00 P.M. Most of the board was in attendance along with some club members.

Well I heard that the new antennas at the club station really do work. Contacts have been made from Spain and South America to name a few. The club station is open every Thursday evening from 6 to 10 P.M. thanks to Jim, N5OHL. John, WB5SYT is there from 6 to 9 P.M. on the third Monday. If these times are not convenient for you call Dee, WD5FHR. He will be able to work something out for you. There are a couple of designs for club station QSL cards being worked on, when all the bugs are worked out they will be available at the club station.

Mayfest '96 was a great success. It was held on May 5th by St. John the Baptist Catholic Church. Net control was Ernie, K5YKD. And helping him was David, KC5KJE, Jim, KC5MJS, Sue, N5VWI, Ken, N5TWC, and Clara, KG5UG. Good job all.

Don't forget the MONDAY NIGHT NET every Monday at 8:00 P.M. There are now three ways to check into the net. 1-147.135 repeater, 2-443.150 repeater, & 3-145.070 packet (N5OHL). You can even call John on the phone (359-4386) on the 3rd Mon. Also warm up you're 10 meter rig because there is an "after the net get together". A real good chance to practice your "DX"

The May business meeting was held at St. John the Baptist Church on the 19th. There was a good group in attendance. Frank, AA5GI stayed to help keep us comfortable. (He manned the air conditioning controls) Toni, KK5LH provided some snacks for us. Thanks again Toni, they sure tasted great.

Coming up fast are many events for the club. The first being Field Day which will be June 22-23. EARS will be participating with FAA, OCAPA & OKDXA. The location will be Deer Creek School 206th and MacArthur. The set up time will be 8-9 A.M. on the 22nd. Operating time will start at 1:00 P.M. and finish at 1:00 P.M. on Sunday the 23rd. Help is needed to set things up and then to take everything down.

If you have a RV or a travel trailer that could be used to set up a station contact Jim, N5OHL at 524-0456. Meals will be provided. There will be sandwich fixings for lunch, pizza to be delivered about 6:30 P.M. for dinner, and breakfast in the morning. I heard that there will even be an ice cream machine.

SOOO COME ON DOWN!!!! Help set up, operate, tear down or just visit.

Bring a friend and show them what amateur radio is all about. Who knows...

The next big event for EARS will be July 4th. In the past we have helped with the parade and fireworks here in Edmond. Also last year we have been helping with the fireworks in OKC. To help contact Kevin, N5USQ, John, WB5SYT or Lee, KA5WIS.

EARS will again be taking care of registration at Ham Holiday again this year. We need quite a few people to do this. There will be 2 and 4 hour shifts so you won't miss too much in the flea market. Contact Richard, KJ5QU.

Do you know someone that would like to be a ham? Well EARS will be having classes again in Sept. The date is not firm yet. Keep it in mind.

The next board meeting will be June 5 at 7:00 P.M. at the club station.

Sat. morning breakfast at Gamble's Country Kitchen at 8:30 A.M.

Are you into the internet?? Do you want a directory of club members? If you do contact Lee --- KA5WIS@ionet.net

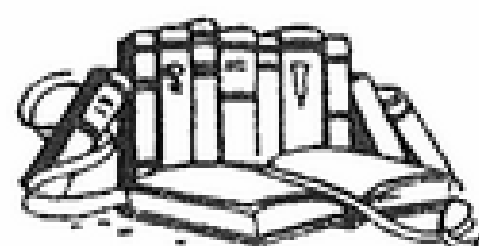
JUNE BIRTHDAYS

6-3	FRANK	AA5GI
6-3	LEO	K0LOT
6-7	KAY	KB5LDO
6-8	JOEL	KB5FCF
6-8	DAVID	KC5KJE
6-12	A. C.	KA5WGV
6-17	DON	N5KLI
6-27	ALEEN	WD5ADV
6-28	JOHN	KB5BLE

73 de Edith, KA5YX

Congratulations

In March 1996, Edith Vaughn, KA5YPX received recognition for 20 years of employment tenure with Presbyterian Hospital in OKC. Edith gives 110% in all that she does and we are very proud of her accomplishments. In the ham community, she is the creator of the C&E Word Search puzzles, an EARS Officer, and editor of their club news. She is one fantastic lady! Congratulations!



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Choctaw Amateur Radio Club

Minutes for 20 May, 1996

The meeting was called to order at 1900 in the Vo-Tech with Bill, N9SQV, presiding and 17 members present. Introductions followed.

REPORTS:

April Minutes: Since a news letter was not published this month, the minutes for the April meeting were read by Larry, KB5ENP. The minutes were approved as read.

Treasury: Bill, KC5ICR, read the treasurer's report. We have sold 41 C.A.R.C. logo patches. Patches are still available at \$3.00 each.

Texnet: John, K0ZPO, was not present at this meeting. Bill, N9SQV and Larry, K5VVD provided related information. The new Texnet software has been installed at the Choctaw node. After putting the node back on the air, a problem was noted with the Locations command. Choctaw was the only node being listed. It was determined later that this problem was attributed to temporary loss of other network nodes caused by thunderstorms in the northeastern part of Oklahoma. The second node port is now ready to accept the addition of the DX Packet Cluster. The OKDXA is currently awaiting the installation of the G8BPQ software at the DX Cluster node before hardware installation begins for Texnet routing.

YL Net: Kay, KB5VJR reports they are averaging 4 to 10 check-ins per week. With active conversations, the net has been running until 2115 and sometimes 2130.

History: Kay, KB5VJR says she still needs information for the gap between 1979 and 1987. It was discussed that one former elusive secretary may be contacted in the near future to find out if he has any records from his tenure that have not been turned over to the club.

OLD BUSINESS:

Repeater Upgrade: Don, KB5KWV was not available at this meeting.

CORA Membership: Don, N5ENQ provided additional information about costs and benefits of having C.A.R.C. join with CORA. It was moved and seconded that we join CORA with a provision that we should wait at least six months before making any decisions on remaining or withdrawing from CORA. The motion was passed by a majority of members present. There was one nay vote.

Field Day: Don, N5ENQ reviewed how bonus points are earned. It's assumed that most of the equipment used last year will be available this year. There will be one more meeting prior to Field Day to discuss and finalize any necessary details.

Fox Hunt: This item was tabled until after Field Day.

Weather Node: The new National Weather Service digital broadcast node in Norman will operate on 150.525 MHz as soon as the transmitter is repaired. The antenna was installed on the Channel 43 tower between 400 and 800 feet.

NEW BUSINESS:

Advertising: It was suggested that the club look into ways of getting more publicity out about our club activities, such as meetings and the quarterly swap meets. Some possible sources could be The Choctaw Chronicle, Multi-Media Cable information channel, and Channel 34's Focus spots.

Swap Meet: The next quarterly C.A.R.C. Swap Meet will be Saturday, June 8th from 0800-1200. As always, we need maximum member participation to help with set-up and clean-up.

J.O.T.A.: Chuck, KC5EZZ has been busily paving the way for us to provide solid support to this year's Boy Scout Jamboree-On-The-Air for our area. We have been authorized by the National Boy

Scouts of America to use the call K2BSA/5 for this event. Sheila, KE4YJA has already worked up some sample QSL cards we may want to consider using. Also, as a means to give our youth some additional exposure to Amateur Radio, Larry, KB5ENP has been spreading the word to the Big Teepee District leaders to invite Scouts to our Field Day site.

PRESENTATIONS:

Bill, N9SQV shared a nice information package he received from a ham in Kimberly City, MO he had met during a recent trip there. For a small area, their club currently has 255 members. WHOA! Now that's what's known as a good solid amateur radio community!

Tony, WP5PNH showed us a video he and Kay, KB5VJR taped showing the extent of the recent tornado damage at Ft. Smith, AR. Thanks Tony.

The meeting was adjourned at 2028.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Congratulations to our club president, Bill N9SQV for up-grading to General Class on May 28. The whole club is proud of you.

The next Choctaw Amateur Radio Club swap meet will be held on 8 June, 1996 at the Midwest City Community Center, which is located at the corner of Reno and Midwest Blvd. adjacent to both the Midwest City Library and the Midwest City Police Department. Tables are \$3.00 each. Coffee and doughnuts will be available for donations.

73 de Larry/KB5ENP

Jim Nolen
Enrolled Agent

Jimmie Nolen
Steve Moore

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OCAPA Minutes May 21, 1996

Meeting was opened at 7:30 PM by president John, N5SAM followed by introductions. There were 27 members and 4 visitors present.

Treasurer's Report: In Bob's absence, Brad, KJ0W read the treasurer's report. There were some typographical/addition errors. Mac, K2GKK made a motion with a second by Hal, KB1ZQ to accept the report pending corrections in addition. Motion carried.

Secretary's Report: Club secretary Jim, N5OHL attempted to read the minutes of the last meeting. Hal, KB1ZQ made a motion with a second by Mac, K2GKK to approve the minutes as printed in the C&E. Motion carried.

Field Day: Chuck, K5NK reported that a planning meeting was held on May 3. Everything is shaping up very well for another fine field day. A spot has been picked out for field day on the SE area of the school. There was discussion about equipment, food, drinks, etc. Don, KC5BRO has the large generator at his place but needs someone to wire-up the electrical distribution panel. He would prefer a licensed electrician to help him do the work and/or do a final inspection. The next planning session will be on Friday May 31 at 7:30 PM at the Skyline restaurant (near Eastern and SE 15th).

Scholarship Report: Don, KC5BRO said that a few applications are already in.

Technical Committee: John, N5SAM reported that not much is new. Repeaters are working fine. We are waiting for a day with little or no wind to go up on the tower to remove several antennas.

Special Event Station: John, KC5DRI said that they made over 300 contacts (HF, 2m and packet) during the Special Event on April 18th and 19th at N5FM. He is getting ready to prepare a Special QSL card.

CORA Report: Hal reported that preparation for this years Ham Holiday is proceeding fine.

Old Business: Teresa, KC5NBZ passed out some more great-looking shirts and hats. She still has hats or shirts for KA5ZZX, W5UZV, KK5LR, KC5QCV, AND KC5EPJ. Please contact Teresa.

New Business: John, N5SAM read a letter from Dolph, KB2AW thanking OCAPA for letting the Luther Middle School participate on the 146.82 repeater on the 18th and 19th. Over 100 7th and 8th graders had "hands on" experience with ham radio. Dolph stated in his letter that nearly 50 students have signed up for amateur radio class.

John, N5SAM pointed out that normally once a year OCAPA makes a donation to the Salvation Army. However this year we may consider the purchase of much-needed 2 meter antennas at the N5FM station at the Salvation Army Headquarters.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Jim, N5OHL
Secretary

O.C.A.P.A. Field Day News

Field day is just around the corner. The big event will be held at the Deer Creek School this year, located at the southeast corner of Northwest 206th and MacArthur Boulevard. The school has several sites we can use, however, Don, KC5BRO and I have decided that the best place to set up would be on the very southeast corner. This area is a grassy lot and contains approximately one acre of land, surrounded by trees and conveniently accessible for the public. We will begin set up on Saturday morning, June 22.

Don will be furnished a key to the dining room facilities so we can use the restroom facilities. We will also have access to the ice machine which will be very beneficial.

Don has spent countless hours working on the generator which is being furnished to the club. We would like to express our thanks to Phil Wolfenbarger, N5HIP, for furnishing Don many needed parts to get the generator wired for use.

The CW tent will be set up by Lloyd, AB5H. Clarence, W5LDF has agreed to lend the use of his transceiver for this use. We intent to use both the logging program and regular keyers at the CW station for everyone's preference. The phone station is being furnished by the E.A.R.S. club.

Food will once again be furnished as in the past. Sandwich material will be available for lunch on Saturday and we will once again have pizza that evening. Rick, AB5ON has agreed to cook up his famous breakfast on Sunday morning. In the past, we have furnished drinks for everyone. However, this year, we have decided to only have Gatoraid and water. No pop will be furnished, so if you desire to drink soda, bring your own. Since this is a school facility, no beer will be allowed on the premises.

Bring your lawn chairs. Tables will be furnished for operating positions and food. Invite your friends to come out and enjoy field day. I would recommend that everyone make a visit to the site prior to Field Day to inspect the facilities and see where you want to set up. See you there.

Meet A New Member

This is KC5TVS. Has everyone heard that call? One who has said that she was never interested in her husband's hobby, has now taken over his hobby. It wasn't too long ago that she was headed to the shopping center, one of her favorite places, when she experienced car trouble. What a terrible predicament! With the help of some friends, she was finally able to get hold of her husband who was fixing to ascend the tower at Channel nine. Undoubtedly she saw the importance of getting her license.

I am informed that just as soon as she hits the car, before turning the switch on and starting the engine to back out of the garage, the radio goes on first and out comes her call.

In case you haven't noticed, she has somewhat of a foreign accent. Born and raised as a blue blooded English person, she never learned to speak American. Sometime in the 1970's, she fell in love with an airman and they were married in 1974, when she came to the states. Falling in love with this part of the world, she finally decided to obtain citizenship and did so a year or so ago. Even though she is now an American, she still has trouble with some of our terminology. For some reason, the hood of her car is still a bonnet, and the trunk is the boot. She has even been known to eat a Big Mac with a knife and fork.

One of her favorite activities is going to garage sales. On a Friday and Saturday, one can hear her out mobiling from one sale to another. Undoubtedly she has made some very outstanding purchases, especially for her husband.

Her back yard is something to behold. Surrounding the swimming pool is a lovely stand of weeds of all kinds. She does finally have some beautiful lattice work along the patio. This took much persuasion on her part to get her busy husband to make the purchase and finally get it installed. She would love to decorate the premises with a tower so she could install antennas in order to be able to reach distant repeaters. The only thing keeping her from doing so is that her husband shivers at the thought of destroying all those lovely weeds.

So, if you haven't heard this wonderful lady, keep on listening. She will show up.

K5NK

*****Attention*****

*All Clubs & Subscribers, when renewing your dues or subscriptions please include your Zip + 4 zip codes. Due to postal changes will be required October 1, 1996
Thank You*

Your first HF transceiver

by Duncan Insley, WA6RRU

In the Amateur Radio classes I teach, I often encounter students who plan to persevere at least to a General Class license. I suggest that they get an HF transceiver immediately ---first to practice receiving on-the-air CW, then to operate in CW mode once they receive their Novice licenses.

They always ask, "Which transceiver should I buy?" and "What will it cost?"

When I tell them a new transceiver costs a kilo-buck or more, they ask, "How about a used transceiver?" When they learn that even a used, all-solid-state transceiver will set them back \$750, a long silence ensues. Finally, in a spirit of three and you're out, they are "Is there no way I can get an HF transceiver without hocking my kids?"

So I inquire, "Is \$350 possible?" The students brighten---until I explain that, back in the stone age there were hybrid transceivers---solid state except for the last transmitter stages, which used vacuum tubes. Their facial expressions then say, "Who wants an old transceiver with hard-to get, expensive vacuum tubes?"

"Cheap" transceivers

In the mid 1970's, both Kenwood and Yaesu introduced "hybrid" transceivers---the forerunners of today's marvelous toys. Because no RF transistor could put out more than a few watts, they made everything solid state except for the transmitter output stages. The FT101 was a true transceiver (all in one box), Whereas Kenwood "Twins" comprised separate receiver and transmitter---cabled together to operate as a transceiver.

Both rigs became popular, and both roughly matched the performance of the previous all tube sets, though early solid-state receivers tended to overload easily.

Both used a 12BY7 tube in the driver stage, followed by a pair of TV sweep tubes in the final amplifier.

Improvements

Until about 1980 the two companies periodically upgraded their hybrid rigs. Yaesu made versions through the FT-101E. Kenwood brought out entirely different models, progressing to the one-box TS-520, the TS-820, the TS520S (and the contester's favorite, the TS830S---AF6S). They also switched to real transmitting tubes in the finals (6146's). But in about 1980, high-power transistors appeared, and both companies stopped making hybrid rigs.

Availability of vacuum tubes

Tubes for these rigs are still available. One source is Antique Electronic Supply in Tempe Arizona. The \$10-\$18 prices aren't peanuts, but since a set of tubes will last several years, the cost per year isn't significant.

Last comments

A modern solid-state rig requires no tune-up. And if you transmit with your antenna disconnected (or on the wrong antenna), nothing bad happens, because protective circuitry instantly shuts the rig down. The old hybrid transceivers don't have protective circuitry, and you must "tune up" whenever you change bands or antennas. (On the other hand, tubes don't instantly "pop." You have time to notice your error and correct it.---AF6S)

So if your name isn't Rockefeller, consider a Yaesu or Kenwood rig from the 1970's. Get a clean one, with new or nearly new tubes and the instructions book. Have the seller turn it on and demonstrate its receiver, at least. If the seller can't demonstrate the transmitter section, demand a return guarantee if you experience a transmitter problem.

Back home, you can enjoy it to your heart's content on receive. Just keep that "heater" switch on the front panel in its off position. (The heater switch fires up the transmitter tubes). Later, when you have a license and a proper antenna, ask some old foggy like me to come over and show you how to tune up and operate the transmitter.

from the November '95 Sierra intermountain Emergency RA (Minden, Nevada) "Sierra News"---Dorothy Uebele, N7MXA, Editor

Field Day "Bonus" Awards

forwarded by Andy, KE0UL @
KE0UL.#NECO.CO.USA.NOAM

I must be getting bored. Here are some Field Day "special bonuses" I thought up. Can you add a few of your own? Post them to FD @ USA

1. 25 points per kluged power or antenna connection needed. 100 point bonus if ALL connections made without using clip leads or solder. An extra 50 points per 250' roll of duct tape used.
2. 500 points for getting a signal on the air without using any duct tape at all.
3. 50 points for installing a PL-259 while dangling from the mast, at least 15 feet above the ground. Extra bonus of 25 points for remembering to install the sleeve before soldering. Additional 5 points if the sleeve was placed in the proper direction.
4. 50 points if 3 or more beam elements lie in the same plane with no greater than 10 degrees deviation. An extra 150 points if the plane is within 10 degrees of horizontal.
5. 50 points for each successful re-raising of the antenna if task is completed within 30 minutes of its falling.
6. 100 points per square inch of bandage material used to treat cuts and abrasions incurred while erecting the antenna or trying to position the generator. (You may substitute 500 points per stitch -- whichever is greater)
7. Deduct 20 points per can of Dinty Moore beef stew eaten.
8. Ben Franklin Award: A bonus of 10 points per contact made during a severe thunderstorm. Additional bonus of 2 points per contact made under a collapsed tent. Additional bonus of 2 points per contact if tent interior is flooded with more than 3 inches of water.
9. Add 10 points per dollar value of damage caused to any transmitting or receiving apparatus that was known to be

working at the onset of the Field Day weekend.

10. 10 points per inhaled moth or fly, while speaking into the microphone.
11. 5 points per stuffed mosquito squashed on log. Must submit log.
12. 25 points for receiving a "59" signal report from a station who had to ask you to repeat your "check" over 10 times. (Or giving a "36" signal report to a station known to be running an automated contest exchange system.)
13. 100 points for each 20-meter net control operator who appears on your frequency -- and politely agrees to let you continue.
14. 200 points for each pileup you generate and immediately abandon by switching bands or turning the microphone over to an inexperienced beginner.
15. 20,000 bonus points for not working California, Florida or Western PA.
16. 50 point bonus for not even hearing W1VT throughout the contest period.
17. 1 point per volt of RF energy on the microphone housing.
18. Saturday evening campfire scoring: Skewer marshmallow and approach fire, remaining 24" above ground. When marshmallow melts or burst into flame, record distance (in feet) to edge of fire. Multiply this figure by 100.
19. Additional campfire bonus of 50 points if the fire was started by arcing the end of a dipole through the starter gasoline.
20. 10 points per melted glass pop bottle in the fire pit.
21. 250 bonus points for working someone who asks, "what's Field Day?" and taking the time to answer him.
22. 10 points per successful tent set-up using only plastic tent stakes.

23. 100 points for bodily providing the electrical return path to ground for the generator.

SPECIAL AWARDS:

- A. Conservation of Resources Award: for the cost-saving practice of using a 200-foot, 14/3 extension cord for the 2 kW linear.
- B. Joe Cool Award: for non-chalantly asking W1AW to repeat its call phonetically...and then asking several times for a repeat of its Section.
- C. Special-Friend Award: a certificate of achievement for creative engineering -- earned for attaching the output of the linear to the RX input of your best friend's IC-781.
- D. E. Kneivel Award: for filling the generator gas tank without bothering to shut it off first.
- E. Good Faith Award: for powering the logging computer and the linear from the same quad-box.
- F. Maxwell Award: for packing the log disks next to the power-supply/speaker cabinet of the FT-757 for the trip home from Field Day.
- G. Iron Ear Award: for spending 90-minutes or more attempting to raise someone on 160 meters.
- H. Adm. R. E. Byrd Award: for running an exhaust hose from the generator to keep the operating tent warm during the early morning hours.
- I. Diplomacy Award: for patiently explaining the difference to the 125th visitor who asks, "oh... isn't that sort of like C.B?"
- J. Diplomacy Award - II: for deftly fielding the question, "I have a cousin who lives in Madagascar -- can you call her?"
- K. Poker Face Award: for respectfully declining the offer from the visitor who just pulls up in his Kenworth and says, "If ya'll want to run some REAL power, mah brother-in-law kin make you a linear..."



VHF Club

NEWS

W5LOW

Elmer Goekler Memorial
Station

Minutes of May Meeting

Meeting was called to order by President Jackolyn, KA5ENU, at 12:03 p.m. with 17 members and guests present. Charlie, WA5JGU, gave the Treasurer's report for Ellard, W5KE, who was absent. Charlie then showed the group the ARRL Certificate of Merit presented to the Oklahoma Central VHF Amateur Club, W5LOW, for its activities after the OKC bombing.

He handed off a Buckmaster CD ROM to Jackie so she could see the results of the club picture session conducted earlier.

There was discussion of some details for a wiener roast to be held at Lake Thunderbird the third Saturday of September. (It will replace the September meeting.) Charlie, WA5JGU, will supervise and Jim, KK5BX will assist. This is a BYO stuff event and everyone is welcome.

Bob, WA5HXL, gave the CORA report and with all business taken care of we adjourned at 12:13. Joe, K5JB, Sec'y

Complex Problem Being Solved

This isn't a technical article, and has nothing to do with amateur radio, but is a success story of sorts, and I was compelled to share my experience and observation with you good C&E readers. Perhaps someone else out there is working on solving some complex problems like I am.

As many of you are aware, I am working on some cancer problems. I won't say I am "fighting" cancer, like the obituaries often say, but instead am just trying to participate with the doctors to do the best things possible to rid myself of the problems I have encountered. As most of you know, I am an engineer, and what most of you may not know, am a pretty darned good one. Not to brag, but I'll give you an example to set the

tone of this essay:

My first day on the job as an apprentice engineer started with a job orientation, and then I was given a box containing a bunch of parts that used to be a high pressure compressor in an airplane. It had exploded and left a whole bunch of little bitty pieces lying around. Question for me to answer was, "What happened to this thing?" I was shown the library and how to look up the books for this airplane and its components, and turned loose.

In a couple of hours, they had me in front of the big boss explaining the sequence of failures that resulted in this explosion. An electrical heater blanket around a moisture separator had failed. There was a broken wire in the heater mess that was a fatigue fracture, not an overstress fracture from the explosion, therefore the moisture separator had frozen, stopped up, blocked pressure to the main regulator and allowed the compressor continue to run after the normal cut-off pressure was reached. This wouldn't have been an explosive situation except that there was a second thing wrong. In the plumbing there was a thin little disk, called a rupture disk, that was supposed to blow out instead of the whole compressor blowing up. I found that someone had by mistake installed two rupture disks in the holder, thus it was ineffective and, Boom!

The point of the story is not how wonderful I was on the first day of the job -- though that was certainly an interesting and fortunate first day for me -- but this story illustrates that failures are often not simple one-cause deals, but fairly complex sets of circumstances. The simple problems weren't assigned to the high priced engineers to figure out! This compressor explosion took two failures to happen. As my career progressed, I got better in questioning, analyzing, studying, and solving problems. I made a very good living, because I was very good at what I did. While I wasn't born with the basic knack for problem solving, I started developing it at a very early age. As I got older I gained knowledge that sharpened my ability. Now that I am presented with the most important problem I've ever had, this cancer problem, I naturally am

tackling it with the tactics of an engineer, and much to the amusement of the doctors I am working with. Since I don't have the medical knowledge, I absolutely depend on them, like I depended on the technicians in my earlier life, to supplement my knowledge with their essential knowledge and help me assemble puzzle pieces.

Cancer is not a single problem. The cancer tumors have effects on the organs where they are found, and the chemotherapy treatment (poisoning) has effect on all kinds of healthy body systems as well as the tumors it is supposed to be killing. The result is that the body really starts malfunctioning and develops a handful of problems, some serious and requiring solution (digestive system stopping) and others not so serious, (hair loss). But the challenge, when a serious malfunction happens, is trying to figure out what is really causing the malfunction, and then coming up with a solution.

My digestive system shut down, blood pressure went through the floor, red blood cells and associated things that have to do with oxygen went away, body temperature went down, and in short, I was getting set up to die. To all outward appearances, the chemotherapy was really putting the hurt on me. After demonstrating to my doctor that things were getting pretty serious, he put me in the hospital where I had a whole lot of people (those knowledgeable and invaluable technicians) around to pester with questions. I asked questions of anybody who came in to look at me, and finally struck some other's curiosity nerves, and got some interesting responses.

Two places where I have tumors are in my adrenal glands. One key question that I kept asking was, "What do adrenal glands do when one is not getting ready to fight or flee?". Surely they aren't just sitting there like lumps at all other times. One oncologist thought that was a good question and ordered a blood test that had not been ordered before. Without going into the technical details, suffice it to say that he found an abnormally low level of an important blood component. It was a possibility that had not been explored. He then ordered a pill for me that would help restore the level

of the blood component. When I started taking this medication there were several immediate effects. All good!

My new hospital staff friends were giving me a lot of credit for figuring out this treatment fact, when in fact, all I did was keep asking the right questions until someone prepared with essential knowledge could supply an important answer.

The point of the whole story is that it is extremely important to take an active role in solving one's own health problems. Doctors can only guess so much and are certainly handicapped if the patient is not supplying them with salient information from good quality observations.

There is a prologue to this that I must include. Without question, the medical profession does a wonderful job of fixing people up. But, there is no question in my mind that when dozens, maybe scores, of extremely concerned friends are praying for one's recovery, that road to recovery is made much smoother, steeply angled downhill, and thus very, very fast! Thanks friends! I am living proof that those prayers work!

Joe, K5JB

Life's Hard Questions

On of my friends, Marion Farley, WD8CJD, has been sending me inspirational things which I have really enjoyed. The following is not inspirational but fun to ponder anyway. I read it somewhere before but don't remember where and Marion didn't indicate its source. Here it is:

Why do you need a driver's license to buy liquor when you can't drink and drive?

Why isn't "phonetic" spelled the way it sounds?

Why are there interstate highways in Hawaii?

Why don't sheep shrink when it rains?

Why are the seats in airplanes flotation devices instead of parachutes?

How does the guy who drives the snow plow

get to work?

If 7-11 is open 24 hours a day, 356 days a year, why are there locks on the doors?

When a cow laughs, does milk come out of its nose?

If nothing ever sticks to teflon, how do they make teflon stick to the pan?

If buttered toast always lands butter-side down on the floor and a cat always lands on its feet, what happens if you tie a piece of buttered toast to the back of a cat and drop it?

If you are driving at the speed of light and turn on your headlights, what happens?

Why do they put Braille on the keypad of the drive-up ATMs?

Why is a brassiere singular and panties plural?

Why is it that when you transport something by car it is called shipment, and when you transport something by ship, it is called cargo?

Why are they called apartments when they are all stuck together?

What does Geronimo say when he jumps out of a plane?

If fire-fighters fight fires, and crime fighters fight crime, what do freedom fighters do?

If con is the opposite of pro, is Congress the opposite of progress?

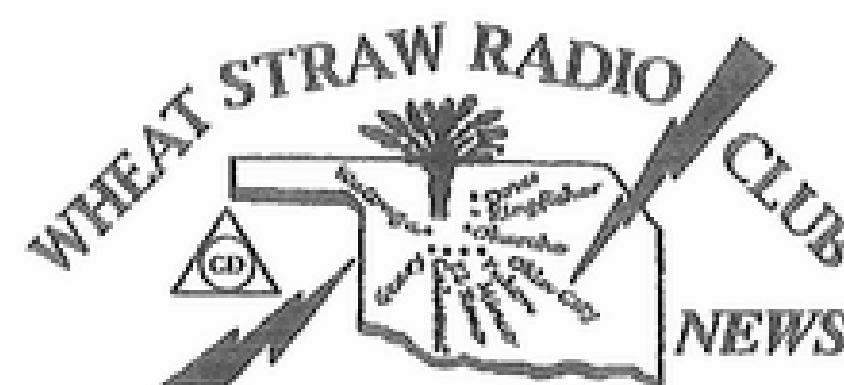
If Olive oil comes from olives, where does baby oil come from? (This one's kinda scary.)

When a Governor is in a gubernatorial race, shouldn't that make him a Gubernor?

Joe, K5JB

And, Finally, saw this in the paper:
When life knocks you flat on your back, you are in a good position to look up!

Ann Landers



Wheatstraw May Meeting

President Johnny called the meeting to order at Hinton, Red Rock Canyon with 12 people present. He welcomed the members and since everyone knew each other, self introductions were not called for.

The minutes of the March meeting were read by secretary, Joe, WA5FLT. The members approved them as read. The treasurer's report was read by the treasurer, Joe, and members approved it as given.

Joel and Johnny gave a report on the new links to/from Woodward on 146.745, 444.950, and 443.150 MHz. These links were put into place to provide better coverage for severe weather information.

The club received a graduation notice from Dustin Bennet, who missed the meeting because he is off to Cancun for his senior trip. Tom made a motion to present Dustin with a gift to celebrate his achievements. Donnis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Donnis made a motion to make the gift \$25.00. Tom seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting will be in July in the Calumet Municipal building. If other arrangements are made, notification will be via the Wednesday evening net. Johnny and Tom will be the net controls and will welcome help for this task.

The secretary reported that the membership numbers were down this year, but the percentage of members that hold ARRL memberships is up. We are in good shape as being an ARRL affiliated club.

Johnny mentioned the upcoming elections for SM and it seems that Joe, N6CL, might be leaving the post to join the ministry.

Jim made a motion to adjourn. Margaret seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Joseph Garland, Secretary/Treasurer

Packing Peppers

When peppers are plentiful, pick them, wash and core them, removing the seeds. Chop the peppers up into small pieces. Lightly pack in empty clean baby food glass jars. Gently shake down the contents and put into the freezer for winter. One jar is about the right amount for a family casserole, or soups.

When garlic is harvested and fresh, we slice and put into the dehydrator and dehydrate it. We take the larger slices, place them in a jar, and seal for later spreading the slices on a roast in the crock pot. Don't forget the gravy and other flavorings. The smaller pieces of the dehydrated garlic are put into the food processor to make garlic powder of desired size. Process in deep-freeze in the same manner. Some of the smaller varieties of garlic we prepare the cloves by peeling them and freeze sealing.

We have found that putting garlic in plastic bags lets the garlic odor all through the freezer.

Little Ham Earns License

Seven-year old Rebecca Rich just wants to talk, and now has a license to do it.

Rebecca is believed to be one of the youngest people in the country to have an amateur radio license, according to the American Radio Relay League.

"She is just a normal kid," said her father, David Rich, who has had his license since 1977. "She has an extra hobby that other kids don't have."

Rebecca, who lives in Raytown MO, earned her license lately after passing two tests.

The FCC lists only four people in the country the same age as Rebecca who hold licenses, said Rosalie White, education activities director for the league.

Amateur radio operators provide communications for charity and sporting events and

in times of emergencies, as well as for conversations with people around the world. Nearly 600,000 people have licenses.

Home is a Place

Home is a place whose sidewalks have been jogged, whose lawn has been croqueted, whose garden has been harvested.

Home is a house whose halls have been yelled through and laughed through, whose books have been twice read, whose locks have never been locked out.

Home is a room whose jigsaw puzzlers have grown silly towards dawn, whose arguments have been "discussions" whose carpets have been regularly knelt on. Home is a place where love has been.

Written by Linda J. Finster

Unexpected Call

Mr. Brown was sitting at breakfast one morning when he was astounded to see an announcement of his death in the newspaper. He phoned his friend, Mr. Smith. "Hello, Smith," he said, "Have you seen my death in the paper?" "Um, yes. Where are you calling from?"

Honoring Pickles

The Pickle Fest, May 17-18, in Atkins, Ark, celebrates International Pickle Week, May 17-27. The Pickle Fest will include the World's Champion Pickle Eating Contest, the World's Champion Pickle Juice Drinking Contest, pickle tasting and pickle pageant.

Lucky or Fate

The big prize at the Pioneer Telephone Coop was a twenty seven inch television. Wheatstraw's own Wanda Claunch won the prize Tuesday, and as of Wednesday no one in the net had heard from her. Anyway, congratulations Wanda. Maybe she will come down to earth by the time the C&E is delivered.

FCC Announces Consumer RFI Policy

from W5YI Report

Radio frequency interference (RFI) in consumer electronics products has dogged radio amateurs for decades. RFI may seem

like the "old news". The FCC has just announced a formal Public Notice of the RFI policy, however, that should assist hams and those experiencing interference. At first glance, the policy statement (reproduced below) may appear not to contain any breakthroughs. The FCC is still not requiring RFI labeling of consumer electronics products. Nor has it adopted standards for interference immunity.

What makes the Public Notice special is that the FCC states that the cause of most RFI to home equipment is in the design or construction of the home equipment.

Amateurs have long recognized this fact. But now the FCC has conceded the point in writing it in a statement from FCC HQ in Washington and not merely the opinion of local FCC public service staff.

The statement points to the need for dealers and manufacturers to protect their products. Some indication that the FCC is putting this policy into practice is found in another publication, FCC Bulletin CIB-10.

CIB-10 states that telephone RFI is a "technical problem not a law enforcement problem", to be remedied by use of "protected" telephone equipment, and that it does not mean that the radio operator is doing anything illegal. The Bulletin invites consumers to file complaints with the manufacturers, not the FCC.

CIB-10 bulletin is also on the World Wide Web site on the Internet, <http://www.fcc.gov>.

Public notice released April 5, 1996, by Federal Communication Commission:

FCC Policy for Handling RFI to Home Electronics Equipment

The FCC receives thousands of complaints yearly of home appliances. They cannot resolve them because most of the problems are in the design of the product.

To help consumers deal with these interference solutions is now on the Internet.

Ralph, WA5PFK

The Adventure's of John Q. Amateur

The morning was cool, not cold mind you for a late April day, but cool just the same. It was 6:30 Friday morning, and the sun was slashing away the darkness of the night, with such intensity that the eastern horizon had been set ablaze with shades of crimson, amber, yellow, purple, and blue. It was a sunrise, not unlike many others John Q. had seen before. It was the beginning of a new day, and all was right with the world, and John Q. would do his small part to keep it that way.

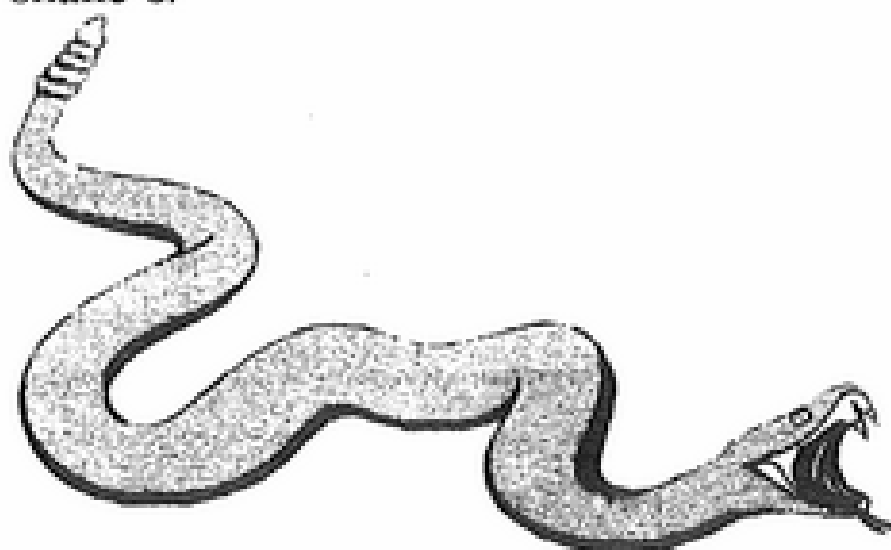
The event's of the previous day raced through John Q's mind. That a small town of some three thousand people could in few hours, be transformed into a microcosm of up to thirty thousand people from all over the United States. It was a scene reminiscent of the land rush of the early 1890's. All of that day folk's had been gathering along the perimeter's of the town awaiting there chance for their small spot of real-estate within the confines of a small snake infested hole known to locals as Mangum, Oklahoma.

You can believe me when I say snake infested, there were as many snakes in this town as there would be people, and most of the serpent's were of the venomous variety, heck there were snakes that were over ten feet long and bigger around than a fireplace log. Although that didn't seem to dissuade many from wanting there spot in this assemblage known as the Mangum Rattlesnake Hunt. Matter of fact it seemed to draw folks like a magnet, including John Q and the A.A.A.R.A. .

This would be a very long weekend, and would be starting very shortly. Sometime around 3:00 this Thursday afternoon the barriers around this community would be lifted and the race would be on, and our job's would begin. As I said earlier this was quite a sight, very much like the Great Land Rush some One-hundred year's previous, when hundred's of families would at a given moment, rage forth across the Indian territory's to stake

their place in history, and there small claim's of land they would call home on the Oklahoma prairie. It was about 2:45 when the first few slipped past the barrier's on foot, and headed for the square to stake out their claim's. Shortly thereafter the charge began! There were Camper's, Motor-homes, Pickups, Car's, ATVs, Snack, Gift, and Junk wagon's converging upon our group.

On this day it would be our responsibility to assist the local officials, and authorities in the orderly settlement of this assembly. That in its self is no small chore, aside from the obvious traffic confusion, there will be conflicts over space-allocation, water and electrical hookup's, and other queries, as to how do I get this trailer in to that slot? Or the guy who has a 20 amp electrical service and a 30 amp draw, and complains that his electric service doesn't work properly! Our job here is basically to handle the communication's and coordination between the group's. But being the gullible sort that we are, we end up doing quite allot of hands on assistance, "which is an all to often occurrence", and all the while keeping a watchful eye for all those pesky Rattle-snake's.



As night falls like a shadow upon the street's of Mangum, Oklahoma, and the sun retreats beyond the western horizon, leaving only a bloody trace in the deep Blue-Gray of the evening sky. The activities of the day also draw to an end. Leaving John Q and his group from A.A.A.R.A. tired, but with a great feeling of accomplishment. They would all sleep well tonight.

As the clock struck 7:00 A.M., John Q arrived in Mangum. The 147.500 simplex frequency already had some activity. There was discussion of the fine breakfast being served at the local Snake-hunt

Headquarters - V. F. W., this would be John Q's first stop. The discussion around the breakfast gathering this morning would be the activities of the day. The next few days would bring a new slate of chores and responsibilities, which would bring the group to the edge of their capabilities. But as with breakfast, our group always bellies up for an extra helping.

Some of the tasks to be accomplished the remainder of this weekend would be to assist the local Sheriff and Police departments in patrolling the streets for problems. Anytime you crowd that many people, and Rattle-snakes into an area the size of a square-mile there are bound to be some problems! Although most problems are small and short lived. With so many things to see and do, a quite often occurrence is a misplaced family member. Usually a small child with all their natural curiosity, in combination with all the wondrous happenings, and the constantly moving crowds, and a moment of inattention on the part of Mom and Dad "Voila" there you have it a lost child! Then there is the other end of the spectrum, when a Grandparent gets lost. Although in my opinion the latter is usually more intentional, for most often they are found in a quiet, and shady spot patiently unraveling their nerves. In the area of lost folks our group has an excellent record of locating, and reuniting these people with their loved ones in a minimal amount of time. We also circulate through the crowds on a regular basis to check with the vendors to see that all is going well.

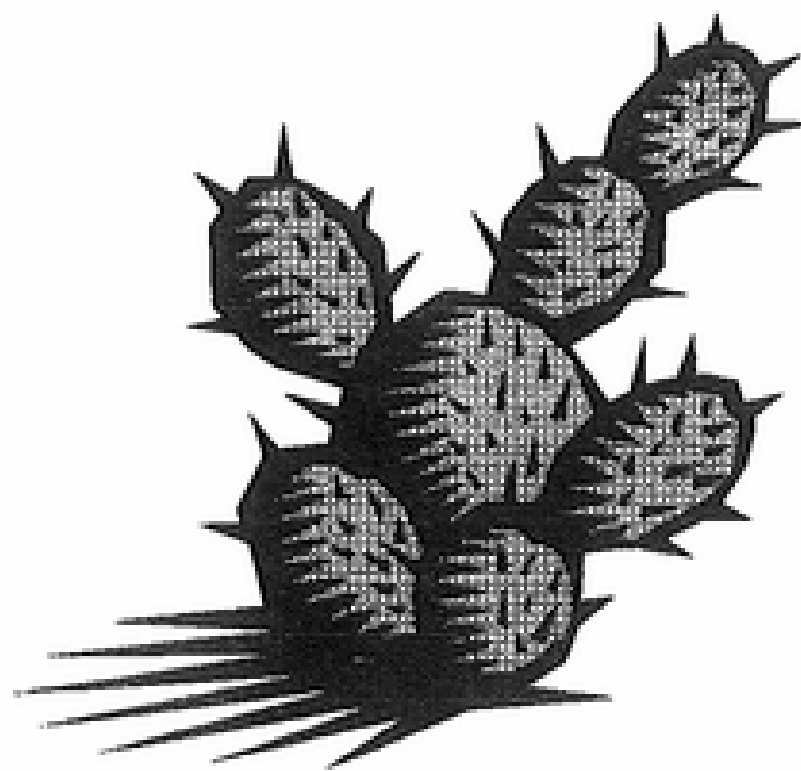
This year we took on an all new challenge, we will be delivering ice to the vendors at \$1.25 a bag, of which the club will get a small cut. Sounds easy, Huh, to deliver this ice we have a trailer with a cooler box that will hold approximately 60, 8# bags and is towed by a 4-wheel ATV. During the early morning hours maneuvering through the crowd is not to tough a chore, but during the peak of the crowd when people are as thick as Bees in a swarm, travel through the crowd becomes quite like walking bare foot through a Goat head patch which is at best tedious if not frustrating. The other

trick is during the heat of the day it becomes almost impossible to keep ice in the trailers. Inevitably when you run out of ice the next vendor needs 10 bags, so you head back to the ice truck to refill the trailer. But on the way back to the vendor that needed the 10 bags you will be stopped a half a dozen times by other vendors who need ice just as badly. Well to make a long story short you will end up refilling the trailer a second time before you make the intended vendor. We managed to sell 5 pallets of ice and I believe there to be 500 bags of ice per pallet looks like we did all right. This is our first year doing the ice so it is our learning year, next year will be smoother? I told you that our group always bellies up for an extra helping!

Well I guess now is as good a time as any to introduce our group from the A.A.A.R.A. "The Altus Area Amateur Radio Association". First I will introduce Donnie Hanna, KC5MKZ pronounced hM kra Zy. He has been involved with the Snake-hunt for as many years as I can remember. Donnie actually likes catching, and handling Rattlesnakes. Matter of fact most of us can tell it's Spring around here when Donnie hits the Sink-holes out west of Altus. You'll hear him on the repeater telling someone about catching a box full of them things. Yes he's quite a snake expert, you'll see him on the exhibition platform working with those snakes. Matter of fact I remember a few years back when Donnie, on that exact platform was Bitten! It was a horrible sight all the swelling, the convulsions, the fever, the hallucinations, and all the pain and suffering. We were all glad when the snake finally died. As for Donnie he went on unscathed, ready to handle snakes another day. Donnie is the one we hold responsible for getting the club involved with the Mangum folks and our participation in this event annually.

Next we have Doc. and Birttie Barker from Hobart. Doc's call sign is KB5YWP and his wife Birttie's call sign is KC5OAG. Birttie is a heck of a fine woman always cheerful and helpful kind to everyone. But over the past few years she seems to have her hands quite full trying to keep a rein on old Doc. Lately

Doc has taken to some strange actions that have us all somewhat concerned. I think it all started last spring, when Doc who is 71 years old climbed the Navajo mountain which is over 900 feet tall just to see where a repeater lived. Not only did he walk up to the top of the mountain he also walked back down refusing to ride in one of the four wheel drive vehicles that were coming down anyway. Shortly after that incident, at the snake hunt last year Doc borrowed a set of snake grabber's, and a snake hook and set out to catch a Rattlesnake thank goodness he didn't find any. Not long after that he was caught out in his workshop cutting the head's off a couple of his golf clubs so as to make some snake catchers for himself. Soon after this event Doc came up with this Idea of our group putting on a Hamfest, "as if we didn't have enough to do already"!



This year has turned out with a whole new set of happening's, Doc has been seen up around the Rocky area hanging Peanut butter jars circuitously in trees. I don't know quite why, But Donnie seems to think that with a little closer observation we will find that he is also hiding the Grape Jelly and White Bread somewhere. Last but not least Doc's been asking around about buying a computer, must be going to start working on that pesky code again! Poor Birttie sure has her hand's full, I guess we all have to carry our burdens.

Next we have J. T. Ruzicka call sign KC5AST and his wife Patty KC5EEL, now he is quite a character, this guy can build anything. He took an old boat trailer, an old tower, and a broken hinge

plate and built a quite admirable portable, Crank-up Tower that the club has used numerous times. But he still has not designed anything to confine old Doc, but he's working on it! J. T. is one of the hardest working members of our group. He or his equipment is usually there from can till can't and sometimes beyond, and is much appreciated for his efforts. He also has a great affinity for selling ice, he ran almost non stop for the better part of two days selling and delivering ice. He must have ice water coursing through his veins. I think he also holds the record for the most possible antenna's on a given vehicle. Although he is closely seconded by Mart Dennis, KC5NAX, and Robert Burnett, KC5NAZ I still believe he is the hands down winner.

With that introduction we will move to Mart Dennis, KC5NAX and his wife Peppy. She acquired that nickname on the way to the Elk City Hamfest this year, but that's another story! They are assets to our club, and put forth great efforts to make club functions a big success. Now on to KC5NAZ, Robert Burnett, a true Oklahoman who never met a radio he didn't like and that's probably why he owns so many. Although with his affliction for radio gear he is always present to assist in club functions.

Then we have Robert Casey, KC5CNC a quiet sort, we don't hear much of on the air but during times of severe weather or club functions such as the snake hunt you can always count on his participation. Moving on we have Ed Graham, KC5IVY, he talks softly but carries a big sidearm at least at Deer-Camp each year. Sometimes I think that .44 is bigger than he is but I wont bring that subject up for discussion!

Onward to the next few in our group, the Club President Mike Brown, KK5ZB anybody that drives a Ford Pickup, and a Harley-Davidson Motorcycle can't be all bad. Although some of us had our doubts, when he was trying to pass that Advanced class theory. Well he made it all right but now he is talking about his Extra class license, Some folks will never learn. I have learned as of late he has quite a taste for Seafood, preferably Lobster when he

can get it. The next on the list is KC5MLA, Jr. Hardy he says the MLA stands for Mammias Little Angel. Don't know if I can believe that one or not. Nice guy and all, but I haven't quite got him figured out. Good guy though always willing to pitch in where needed to get the task at hand completed.

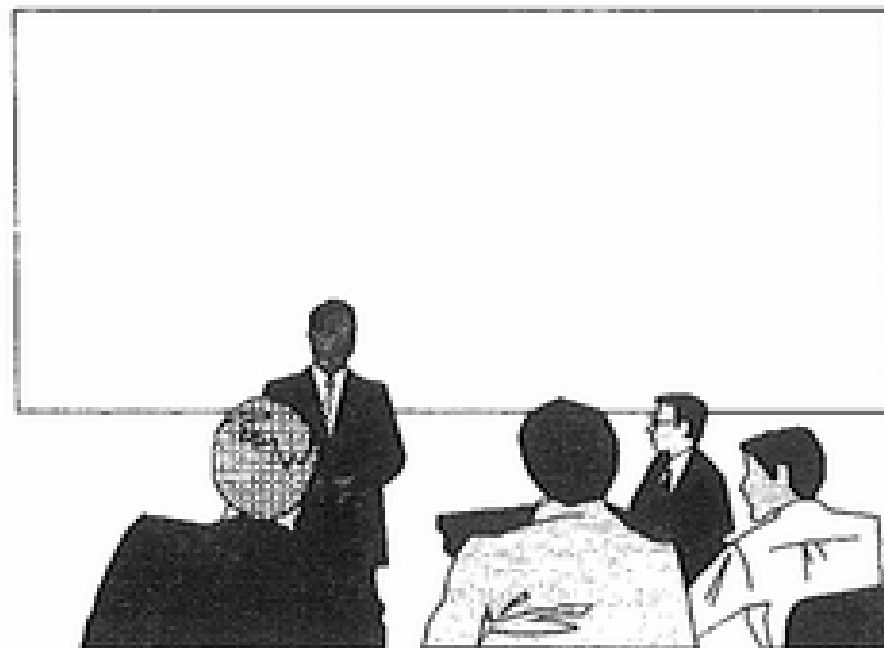
Now we move to James Clark, AB5NT, and Vallie McClain, KC5AHX Vallie has to keep James on his toes, guess that explains that big frying pan in their kitchen. One can sure see the fear in James's eyes when he is near that thing. Vallie is a born leader she ramrods our yearly garage sales and our annual club picnic. She does an admirable job on both counts. Add that to the full time job of keeping James out of trouble and she really has her hands full.

This brings us to some of our newer members. One of which is KC5SRK, Travis Houska he professes to be deathly afraid of snakes, but I have my doubts. Less than a week after our last snake hunt activities Travis's wife came home and found a snake in their bedroom floor. Travis swears he has no idea where it could possibly have come from. But I have a sneaking suspicion that he likes rattlesnakes more than he wants to admit. And it is probably one of his pets that escaped.

Next on the list is KC5SRJ, Fred Cramer from the big city of McQueen, Oklahoma, his wife Janice, and daughters Teresa, and Jeanette. They spent several hours helping out with the ice sales. We also had the Help of David Locke, KC5SII and his wife Teresa, KC5TTD of Altus who took from their valuable fishing time to lend a hand in this years activities.

And I almost forgot Owen Richards this guy is so proficient with Morse Code that the FCC felt it necessary to bestow Owen with a special call sign AB5VF the VF for Very Fast!! He also likes using those low powered HF radios I think he calls them QRP. With 5 watts or less I guess one would have to be very fast with that CW to make any contacts.

There are also a few folks that dislike snakes so badly that they will get no closer to Mangum, Oklahoma, and all those Rattlesnakes than to monitor the activities from the quiet safety of their homes. We'll start with Ralph and Dotty Cowels, KC5CNB and KC5EEO respectively. Dotty watches over all of us in the area, kind of a Grandma figure and is always there and ready to relay information, or handle a local net, and whatever else is necessary. Ralph is not heard very often on the air, I think he gave up trying to wrestle the mike away from Dotty sometime back. Occasionally he will catch her in another room and steal a moment or two on the air.



The other station that prefers the safety of his own home to the confusion of the Rattlesnake Hunt would be Jerry Rochelle, WB5MMM. Jerry is normally on the air and available to pass traffic to almost anywhere in the world if necessary. From his 70 ft. crank-up tower and the array of Beam antennas on top, a Ten-Tec Omni VI, and a Kilowatt under the console. If he doesn't have propagation he makes his own! There is not been a pile up made that Jerry can't bust through!

Last but not least there is yours truly John Q Amateur AKA John Mealer, AB5WQ wonder where he got that catchy little Title? AT this time I would like to mention my daughter, Crystal who also helped in the hours she was available. She's got

me a little worried, She has recently been talking about taking some Motorcycle type out to dinner at Red Lobster at Lawton. She's a good kid maybe I should trust her this time, but you can never tell about those Motorcycle Bums! And there are probably some amateur operators I may have missed, forgive me if did but your help was much appreciated by all.

Well we stayed plenty busy that weekend until those frigid north winds started to blow in on Sunday morning. The temperature dropped all morning bringing an early close to the 1996 Mangum Rattlesnake Hunt, and some much deserved rest to a weary group from the A.A.A.R.A. and John Q Amateur. If you are ever down in our area during the last weekend in April come visit us at the Mangum Rattlesnake Derby you'll be in for a heck of a good time, and we might even put you to work. But remember to keep an eyeball peeled, and sharp watch for those confounded old Rattlesnakes!!

The A.A.A.R.A. meets the second Thursday of every month at the Francis Herron Meeting room in the Vocational Technical Center 711W. Tamarack Road at 7:00 p.m. Visitors are always welcome. Also at this same location on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. A.R.R.L. sponsored Amateur Radio testing is conducted. Come and meet with us if you can. You will meet a great group of folk's. And by the way don't forget the Second Annual Altus Hamfest, September 21st see ya there!

73 de John, AB5WQ.



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OKlahoma DX Association

FROM THE PREZ

Hello again everyone. I hope everyone is enjoying this Spring season. With Spring comes Hamfests. I had a great time in Dayton at the Hamvention. I get to go every few years. I am always blown away by the presence of rare DX and big name contesters who are so available to chat. VK9NS was one of the most notable. The 2600 space flea market was incredible. The weather was spectacular. It was nice to see several of our club members there.

Don't forget (Hal won't let you) the Oklahoma City Ham Holiday in July where as always, the OKDXA elects officers. After much soul searching and evaluating priorities, I have decided to not run for an office in OKDXA in the coming year. As many of you know, my work is quite demanding and requires that I travel more than half the time. We now have children in south Texas and California which we like to visit, especially the new grandson. Karen and I also have other interests that we will be pursuing. Although I personally feel I have been able to devote significant attention to OKDXA this past year, I do not believe I can in the coming year. I don't see having the time and energy to do the job justice. I will continue to work in the Association supporting the new officers in anyway that I can.

I encourage anyone who has an interest in working hard to improve OKDXA to please let their wishes be known. I believe we have some momentum going in some areas and would hope that the new officers will be committed to follow through in those areas. In considering your own nomination and the nomination of others, the candidate must be willing to make a commitment to the Association, be willing to take-on responsibilities, and be willing to push tasks to completion. It is a courtesy to others that you discuss their

willingness to take on a position before nominating them.

As mentioned previously, at the Green Country Hamfest, the membership endorsed a proposal to combine the secretary and treasurer functions into one office and to have two vice-president offices. The new vice-president offices are going to be the key to the future of the OKDXA. One vice-president will have responsibility for activities such as the banquet, field day, hamfests and operational activities (DXpeditions?). This will be a fun job. The other vice-president will have responsibility for the administration of the organization including ARRL affiliation, the constitution, incorporation, and insurance. This is a critical function. Of course, these two vice-presidents will be looking toward the membership to assist in accomplishing their tasks. The two members accepting these positions must be willing to take on responsibility and push things through to completion.

I continue to be excited about OKDXA. The potential is here to have one of the best Clubs in the Country. We have a top notch newsletter; we have a super web page on the Internet; we have world class talent as members; we had one of the nicest banquets I have been to; and we have functioning DX packet clusters in parts of the state with plans to implement a powerful statewide network. We have the talent in this Club to do anything we want. I challenge each member to make a commitment to OKDXA. So, let's decide who can lead this Club and let's get behind them and get going. We all stand to reap the benefits of a world class club. We cannot depend on the handful of people who are doing it now to continue to do everything.

I will get off my soapbox now. Get out there and work some DX, build some new antennas, try a new contest, and above all have fun.

Jim, WV5S

THE CONTEST CONTINUUM

by Coy Day, N5OK

Building a Contest Station Without a Lot of Bucks - Continued

Since I started writing this, I've had a couple of questions come up.

The first is: "How are you doing this without spending a lot of bucks?" First, I had most of the materials. I had gained a couple of towers that were free for taking them down. Many companies set up towers which later are neglected because they are no longer needed. They become a hazard in one way or another and they are glad to have someone come and get rid of the problem. I don't recommend this if you aren't good at climbing and haven't done this before. I bought another tower at an estate sale, cheap. I bought one from an add in The Thrifty Nickel, cheaper. Amazing all the hardware that comes with these towers when you take them down. Another way I'm saving is by doing all the work myself, including digging the anchor holes. A retired guy can afford to do this and it helps me keep physically fit. For concrete, I've been using ready mixed 60 lb. bags that all building material suppliers have for setting fence posts. It is a little more work but is very cheap in the long run.

The second question: "A chimney isn't structurally made to support a tower, is it?" For this question, I have to answer that you are exactly right. Chimney's are not made to use as the base for a tower. I don't recommend using them for several reasons. They aren't made for it. Sounds from the antennas vibrating in the wind could reverberate through the chimney to the house. And, you may want to use the fire place. In my case, I thought it was worth a try since I wasn't going to use the fire place. Also, the chimney is not really supporting anything. The weight of the tower rests squarely on the base. I did brace the tower to the chimney but then I braced the chimney as well with the stainless steel angles on the corner of the bricks. Yes, if the tower goes the chimney might well go with it but the converse is true as well as they are anchored very solidly together. So far I have not had antenna noises reverberating through the

house. As a matter of fact it has had more of a dampening effect.

Yes, the tower is complete at 90' I dug the guy anchor holes, five of them, two feet square by three feet deep. Yes, five. When you have a tower with a hinge it takes four direction guying so that you can tilt it. The fifth hole was correcting a major flaw in engineering. One of the holes was a little too close to the house and the guy wire would rub on the eave gutter. The boss said move it! In the holes I placed four foot long pieces of two inch aircraft grade heavy wall aluminum pipe. At the bottom end, I put a rod through it and slid a magnesium wheel rim down over the pipe. I then filled the holes with concrete and reinforcing. I mixed the concrete in a wheel barrow and poured it into the holes. I learned to get the 60 lb. bags. The 80 lb. ones were a little too heavy for the old man.

After the concrete cured, I ran the guy wires using insulators to break them into lengths that are not resonant to any of the ham bands. I picked up a list of lengths that were supposedly non resonant off the Internet. The lengths were 27.5', 39.5', 58' and 76' between the insulators. I used 58' since I happened to have some guy wires that length.

Once I had the lower section guyed, I folded the hinge over and started building the tower down from the 50' level. I could have continued on up with it but, with the winds we've had lately, I chose to build it down.

When I put the top section on, it was just out of reach when I stood on the roof. Proper engineering paid off once again. This allows enough room for the antenna when the tower is tilted up. I stuck the KT 34XA at 92' and a three-element two meter yagi bolted to a tower leg at the 90' level and tilted it up. I was very glad that I secured it before the the high winds hit in early May.

DX NEWS

5A1A approved!

(The following is the text of a message sent by Dan Whitset, W5BRE, to subscribers to the Internet DX Reflector.)

The 5A1A operation has been approved by the DXCC Desk as of May 14, 1996. While my personal involvement has only been with the Ukrainian operation which started the initial 5A1A operation, the letter of approval from the DXCC Manager, K5FUV, says that based upon the document turned in this morning they are accepting all operations of 5A1A for DXCC credit. They will start processing QSLs (for the Ukrainian operation) immediately.

Those of you who have met Toly know he is an extremely nice, polite, (shy) even religious, gentleman. He has been extremely depressed for several months feeling he has lost three years of his life over this. In a fax I received a month ago, he said, "I must put this problem to an end, because this is last chance for me to have a normal life. I am very-very tired, I can't sleep, I have lost Helen (his fiancée), I have problems with my parents, I have problems with IYL (Ukrainian International Youth League, who originally helped set this up with the Libyans), if I will not close this problem nearly future I do not know how I will live." Fortunately the highest levels of the Ukrainian government got involved the past couple of months and were able to finally get the Libyan document the DXCC Desk needed. This young man has been through more hardships in the past 7-8 months than most of us would encounter in a lifetime.

New callsign blocks issued for Puerto Rico

On Monday, May 7, the FCC began issuing call signs in Puerto Rico from one of the new--and long awaited--call sign blocks, NP3. For some time now, the Amateur Radio community has been awaiting FCC action to begin issuing new call sign prefixes (blocks) for areas in the Caribbean, Alaska and Hawaii that are running low on -- or are already are out of -- available call signs for higher class licensees.

The FCC already has granted NP3AA through NP3AR, as of May 13. So far, it appears that no new call signs have yet been granted from the new Alaska and Hawaii prefixes. The FCC has said it no

longer will restrict Alaska call signs to the number 7, so future call sign prefixes could contain any numeral from 0 to 9, such as NL1 or AL0. New Hawaiian prefixes may contain the number 7, such as AH7 (prefixes for Kure Island already contain a 7, but suffixes begin with K). *(from the ARRL Letter, 5/16/96)*

No Change to Mount Athos DXCC Status

The ARRL Membership Services Committee (MSC, a standing committee of the Board of Directors), has received a 9 to 7 recommendation from the DX Advisory Committee (DXAC) to make no change in the status of Mount Athos (SV/A) on the ARRL DXCC Countries List. The Awards Committee reported a unanimous vote to MSC in support of the DXAC to make no change at this time. Since the DXAC and the Awards Committee are in agreement, the matter is decided. *(from the ARRL Letter, 5/24/96)*

Future significant DX operations

- AMSTERDAM IS., FT8Z. Mehdi, F5PFP, is planning an expedition of about one month's duration to one of the rarest Amateur radio countries. The trip is planned between Nov 96 and Feb 97. (425DXN)

- ANDAMAN IS., VU7. Jim Smith, VK9NS, announces he has received his Indian license which is valid for 5 years. The call is VU2JBS which contains his initials. He also mentioned that he believe the permit to import the equipment being donated by the Herard Island DX Association (HIDXA) to Mani, VU2JPS, has now been mailed to his home on Norfolk Island. Jim stated that he plans to return to the Andamans in July or August of this year subject to various factors.

- ARMENIA, EK. Victor, RV6HKB/EK will be active for about one year from Armenia on 20, 15 and 40m CW. 100 watts and a dipole. QSL via home call. (425DXN)

- ASCENSION, ZD8. Des, G0DEZ, will be active from late May until the end of 1996 with the callsign ZD8DEZ. His activity will be concentrated on HF and 50 MHz, mostly CW.

- BANGLADESH, S21. Andy, S21YE, will be active for one more year on all bands, SSB only. S21B is also active for

CW QSOs. Check 14226 KHz around 0030z. QSL via G0EHX. (TDXB)

• BERMUDA, VP9. Paul, N1LJA, of the Connecticut DX Association, will be operating as N1LJA/VP9 from approximately June 9-15th. Suggested frequencies: 7260, 14260, 18160, 21360, 24960 and 28460 KHz with allowances for propagation and QRM. QSL to his home call.

• BOUVET, 3Y. Barry Fletcher, ZS1FJ/G3MFW reports that he hopes to make a 2-week DXpedition to Bouvet in 1997 courtesy of the South African government which will be making an Antarctic trip. (Internet DX Reflector) ... ALSO ... Luis, XE1L, (at the Dayton HamVention) reported that the South Sandwich Island DX Group (SSIDXG) will be going to Bouvet sometime in December 1997/January 1998. Naturally, this will be a full scale operation. Details will be forthcoming.

• CHAGOS IS., VQ9. Ron, AA5DX, is in VQ9-land. Ron's call is VQ9DX and he will be concentrating on 160, 80 and 40. He will be there for about 2 more months. QSL to Ron's address in KP4, Ron Marra, Marginal 301C, La Rambla Suite 205, Ponce, PR 00731 (Internet DX Reflector)

• DODECANESE, SV5. Until 14 June Fred, SV5/SM7DAY/QRP will be active from Kalymnos island, Dodecanese (EU-001). 17 and 20 metres CW only. QSL via home call, direct or via bureau.

• ETHIOPIA, ET. (on RTTY!). Waldemar, DK3VN, has recently talked to Peter, ET3BN, on 20 meters. Peter told him he is active on RTTY now. When the conditions are good look for him around 1800-1900z on 14085 KHz (+/-QRM). Peter prefers cards direct to POB 150194, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Also, look for ET3SID on RTTY around the same frequency and time. (OPDXB)

• EQUATORIAL GUINEA, 3C. In June Teo, EA6BH should be active in June again as 3C1DX. Teo will try to be active also from Annobon island (Pagalu). QSL via home call. (425DXN)

• FALKLAND IS., VP8. DA4RG, will sign VP8BPZ until mid-September. He plans to operate SSB only, no nets or lists. QSL via GW8VHI or DA4RG. (ARLDXB)

• FRANZ JOSEF LAND, R1. In August, Sergey R1FJZ will end his operations

from FJL and collect the QSLs from DF7RX (who acts as a "mail box"). (425DXN)

• GREENLAND, OX. From 10 July to 25 August Terry, G3WUX will be active (5 Watt QRP) from Greenland as OX/G3WUX/P in CW (14.002) and SSB (14.200). QSL via home call. (425DXN)

• HEARD IS., VK0 - Early 1997.

• JAMAICA, 6Y. From 13 to 29 June Theo, PA3ERL/6Y5 will be active from Jamaica. QSL via home call. (425DXN)

• JAN MAYEN, JX. JX7DFA will be active from Jan Mayen until October. (425DXN)

• JERSEY IS., GJ. From 28 June to 1 July Jim, G3RTE and Phil, G3SWH will be active using the calls GJ3RTE/P (SSB and GJ3SWH/P (CW). They will try to be active using two stations, 10 to 80m. QSL via G3SWH.

• LEBANON, OD. Until 30 September OD/F5PWJ will be active from Libano in CW and SSB on all bands. QSL via F5PRR.

• LIECHTENSTEIN, HB0. From 13 to 20 July F6ELE, F1PNA and F6HKA will be active with two stations, 10-160m. (425DXN)

• MACQUARIE IS., VK0 - The latest from the bulletins is that Warren, VK0WH will be active on 40m CW (7009 Khz) on Mon, Tues and Thurs only. HE IS NOW CAPABLE OF SPLIT OPERATION AND WILL LISTEN UP 3+! Recently Warren has not been particularly active due to work problems. Local winter will reduce personnel at the scientific base and Warren hopes to have more spare time and to be active in different hours than the current 0930 to 10.30 UTC. QSL via VK9NS. One card per envelope please.

• MADAGASCAR, 5R. Gerard F2JD got his license. Call is 5R8EN. He will stay in Malagasy until September. He works with a long wire. QSL via F6AJA (direct or bureau are 100%) (Internet DX Reflector; 425DXN)

• MALDIVES, 8Q. From 8 to 22 September Andy, G4VPM will be active from Maldives. Operations, QRP only, will probably take place with the 8Q7PM call. (425DXN)

• MALI, TZ. Larry, TZ6VV, is now active mainly in CW, on 40, 17 and, mainly, on 30 meters. Find him between

10.109-10.115 MHz, around 22 UTC during weekends. QSL via TZ6VV (BP 2786, Bamako, Mali). (425DXN)

• MALTA, 9H. Until 21 June Ruben, DL4VCR, will be active (mainly on 160 metres) using the call 9H3II. QSL via home call. (425DXN)

• MARION IS., ZS8. Until June-July 1997 Chris, ZS5IR/ZS6RI will be active from Marion Island as ZS8IR. Chris will join the 53th scientific expedition to Marion, as the official doctor and will work from base camp on all the bands, also on 6 and 160 meters, in SSB, CW and RTTY hoping to join major contests. The station will be equipped with an IC-735, a FL-2100Z, PK-232 and antennas will mainly be wire due to high winds. QSL via ZS6EZ (ex-ZS6BCR).

• NAMIBIA, V5. In July and August Charlie KY0A will be active (including on the WARC bands) from Namibia. This year the call will be V5/ZS6YG. QSL via KY0A. (In February 1997 Charlie, together with WB0HBS, KV0Q and W8UVZ will participate in the ARRL CW Contest probably using the call V52YG). (425DXN)

• SABLE IS., CY0. Ken, WA8JOC, reports that everything is still "go" for the upcoming June CY0AA DXpedition. The team will concentrate on 30 through 6 meters but will have wire antennae for 40, 80 and 160m. The team is possibly planning to be active for 7-10 days somewhere between June 18th and July 2nd. More sponsors have been added: Cushcraft, SMIRK, Battlecreek, SM7AED and ARNE. Activity will be on 160-2 meters SSB/CW/RTTY with one station placing its emphasis on 6 meters. (OPDXB)

• SENEGAL, 6W. Starting from July, for two years, Didier, F5OGL will be active from Dakar, Senegal. Didier plans to work on all bands from 10 to 160m on CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via F6KEQ. (425DXN)

• SIERRA LEONE, 9L. Jim, 9L1JC, will be active until at least August. QSL to POB 1031, Freetown. (OPDXB)

• SOUTH COOK ISLANDS, ZK1. Bruce, AA8U, Stanley, K8MJZ, and Marilyn, AG8W, plan to enter the IARU Radiosport Contest in July as ZK1AAU from Rarotonga. Their stay will be from July 11 to 20 and they will concentrate on

160 and 80 meters outside of contest hours as ZK1MJZ and ZK1AGW. QSL via AA8U with SASE. (ARLDXB)

• TOGO, 5V. Until 18 June, Roy, DL7UBA/5V7HR and Lars, DL7ALM/5V7ML will be active from Kpalime, Togo, on all bands, SSB and CW. QSL via their respective home calls.

• TRINDADE, PY0TI. PY1UP is on Trindade Island as a crew member of the Brazilian Navy Base. He intends to operate all bands as PY0TI. QSL via his home call. (Internet DX Reflector, ARLDX)

• WILLIS IS., VK9W. Until the end of the year Graeme, VK5WG will be active as VK9WG from Willis islands. QSL via home call. (425DXN)

MONTHLY FEATURES

Sources for DX info

Jan 96 - *The GOLIST*

Feb 96 - *QRZ DX*

Mar 96 - *The DX Bulletin*

Apr 96 - *The 59(9) DX Report*

May 96 - open

This month - *The DX Magazine*

The DX Magazine is a bimonthly sister-publication of *The DX Bulletin*, published by Chod Harris. It consists of about 60 pages of articles which span the DXing subhobby of Ham radio. Each issue contains DX News and Events, a condensed version of The GO List, and usually a puzzle or word game. Other articles might feature Amateur Radio in a certain country, propagation science, a review of a certain DXpedition or an equipment/antenna performance review. Subscriptions to *The DX Magazine* cost \$15/year and are available through POB 50, Fulton, CA 95439. Chod's telephone is 707.523.1001.

This is the last commercial DX info source that I'll review. Starting next month I'll start covering the "free" bulletins which are available over the air, via the Internet and by BBS.

Doing your ALL to get that QSL card
by N5OGP

In the April newsletter I wrote about the "stealth envelope" and how to do your ALL to get your cards and payments delivered. This month I'll start discussing

the second part of the equation ... what types of payments to use and how much payment to send. June's topics will be: *legalities* and *security*. In the following months I'll cover topics such as *amount*, *acceptability*, and *efficiency*.

Legalities ...

It is a crime in some countries, e.g., Brazil and India, for residents to possess foreign currencies. Obviously, sending *green stamps* (US dollar bills) into these countries puts the receiving Amateur in jeopardy. Unfortunately, there is no list (of which I am aware) that defines these countries. You have to garner this kind of information from the DX columns in magazines, the DX newsletters, messages on the Internet DX Reflectors, and if possible, from the DXer him/herself.

I do wish that more DXpeditioners would publish their postage requirements. It would be easier for everyone in the long run. I suspect that many are afraid that a publication of their *minimum* postage requirements (type and amount) might limit their donations ... and they may be right. It is human nature to send the least amount required! ha

Security ...

Assuming it is legal to send US currency into a country, which is more *secure* ... native postage, US dollar bills or IRCs? And by *secure* I mean which type of payment/postage is most likely to make it to the addressee IF the envelope is opened either legally (some countries routinely open foreign mails) or illegally.

Well, if your envelope is opened illegally, it is likely that no type of payment will make it further! So in this situation the point is mute. If you are sending QSL requests into a country which is well known for its pilfering of foreign mails (e.g., Cuba, Mexico, many Central and South American countries, many CIS countries, many African countries, and etc.) you are simply playing the odds that your envelope might slip through the gauntlet. If a pilferer is going to go to the trouble to open your envelope he will likely trash it after keeping whatever he can find inside. Of course this is not always the case. I read on the Internet where one CIS ham

urged his contacts to use IRCs since they were usually left in his obviously opened envelopes. His conclusion was that the pilferer didn't know what they were!

If you are sending into countries that legally open foreign mails your best bet would be to use that country's stamps or IRCs (if accepted).

If you are sending into secure countries (e.g., western Europe, Canada, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and etc.) your method of payment is really determined by what is required/forbidden or what is convenient with you. Use what is convenient to you or what is requested by the DXer.

OKDXA STUFF

Welcome new member(s)

Theo (Ted) Doty

Box 211

Cheyenne, OK 73628

405.497.2716

Proposed changes in OKDXA constitution ...

The OKDXA Constitution requires that members be notified in writing of any proposed changes at least 30 days in advance of a vote. Members may obtain a copy of the old and new constitutions from WV5S. Changes require a two-thirds vote of the members present at an announced business meeting (Ham Holiday). Here are the proposed changes

ARTICLE IV

Section I. The elected officers of this organization shall consist of a president, a vice-president of administration, a vice-president of activities, and a secretary/treasurer. These officers shall serve for a term of one year until their successors are elected and duly qualified. Officers may succeed their self if reelected for successive terms.

Section IV. It shall be the duty of the vice-president of administration to preside at meetings in the absence of the president and to succeed him if for any reason the office should become vacant.

Section V. It shall be the duty of the secretary/treasurer to record minutes of all

meetings, to carry on the correspondence necessary to transact the business of the organization, and to maintain the financial records of the OKDXA as well as being responsible for the receipts and disbursements of such funds as may be the property of the association.

Section VI. Deleted (Described the treasurer function shown above)

Nominees for 1996-97 ...

In late March 15 OKDXA members were polled by both email and letter asking for their recommendation for nominees for the 1996-97 year. I asked them to assume that the new executive committee structure would be approved and I also asked them to make sure their nominees were contacted and permission obtained prior to placing their names into nomination. I am assuming that was done. Here is the list of current nominees, listed in alphabetical order.

President

Hood, Jim WV5S (withdrawn)
Hunt, Ross K5RH

Vice President x 2

Case, Ken K5KC (withdrawn)
Day, Coy N5OK
Gillespie, Robert WB5KJE
Hunt, Ross K5RH
Sweetko, Steve AA4BG

Secretary/Treasurer

Byard, Mark N5OGP

At the time of the nomination process our President, Jim Hood, had relented to the many requests to stand as a nominee for President. Likewise Ken Case had agreed to stand as a nominee for a VP position. Since that time both men have had significant (maybe the word is drastic) additions to their job load and both have been forced to withdraw their names from nomination.

If you would like to serve please pass along your interest to N5OGP. In the meanwhile, please heed our President's admonishments in this newsletter regarding the necessary commitment to the jobs. Come to the Ham Holiday business meeting with suggestions and volunteers!

OKDXA Web page released ...

We are proud to announce that the OKDXA World Wide Web home page is on-line and officially released to the viewing public. The address is ...

<http://www.pcok.com/~n5ogp/okdxa/>

Please check it out and send your critiques and suggestions to N5OGP. It is, and will always be, under construction in one way or another. We are adding files weekly.

QRZ? OKDXA DXpeditioners ...

We would like to advertise your upcoming DXpeditions in the OKDXA newsletter and on our OKDXA WWW site. If you publicize your operations by sending email to the bulletins and DX Reflectors PLEASE include n5ogp@pcok.com on your TO: or CC: list. I'll be sure to advertise your upcoming "jaunt" in print. When you return and get your QSL cards printed please ship me one for scanning and inclusion on the OKDXA Web Page.

Attention OKDXA testers ...

"Please copy zone 04, 5x9 ... over". Ah ha! Got your attention didn't I? Would all of our OKDXA testers (Field Day to Sweepstakes to CQWW and everything in between) PLEASE turn in your scores (unofficial and official) and any related "war stories" to our Contest Coordinator, Coy Day, N5OK. We want to highlight our membership's contesting exploits in both our monthly newsletter AND on our soon-to-premier OKDXA World Wide Web site. No matter how well you ranked or didn't rank, please let us know you operated! Thanks!

OKDXA callsign badges?

For some time now I've been wanting a professional looking name/callsign badge carrying the OKDXA logo. Having received a nice ARRL DXCC Field Rep. badge from The Sign Man III company in Palmyra, TN, I sent a design and asked for a quote. Mr. Doug Barnes (Mr. "Sign Man" himself) enthusiastically responded with the following info:

• 4-line, 2.275 x 3.375 in badge = \$6.25 which includes shipping. This is \$0.50

off the advertised price and he will waive the logo setup fee.

• No minimum order. Regarding the same, Mr. Barnes says, "our position is that a club member should not have to wait for a badge until more members want one."

I am going to talk "background color" with Mr. Barnes in late April and order myself a badge for a demo. Maybe I can get a graphic of the badge in our newsletter. I'll have all the ordering info in the newsletter when the details are settled. ... N5OGP

Current Email Directory

Bargmann, Nate KA0RNY
natebarg@cencom.net
Boyer, Craig AH9B
ah9b@ionet.net
Buford, Bob KD5QD
103130.656@compuserve.com
Byard, Mark N5OGP
n5ogp@pcok.com
Calhoun, Charlie, Jr. KB5ZUD
kb5zud@tulsa.com
Case, Ken K5KC
CaseKE@aol.com
Day, Coy N5OK
n5ok@ionet.net
Feigel, Don WD5EHU
wd5ehu@aol.com
Goodnight, Gerald KK5JH
night@icon.net
Guida, John NJ1V
nj1v@phoenix.net
Hargrove, Loyd AB5I
AB5I@prodigy.com
Hood, Jim WV5S
wv5s@icon.net
Ingram, Jay W5QVS
w5qvs@msn.com
Land, Dave KD5FX
daveland@pcok.com
Martin, Erik AA5WQ
emartin@moran.mines.edu
Martin, Jeff K5WE
k5we@aol.com
Miller, Hal KB1ZQ
n1lpn@aol.com
Romere, David KA5OWI
dromere@ionet.net
ka5owi@amsat.org
Russell, Dick KJ5VV
kj5vv@aol.com

Sweetko, Steve AA4BG
 sweetko@busprod.com
 Thomason, John
 wb5syt@ionet.net
 Vandagriff, Tim
 wa5yom@wb5cqu.ampr.org

If you are a member of the OKDXA and you have an electronic mail address (and you wouldn't mind having it published in this NL) please email it to your Editor, N5OGP. Thanks!

Kudos column

Congrats to OKDXA member Richard Winnard, KJ5QU, who recently received 7 brand new country QSLs ... in a BUREAU shipment no less!

• MISCELLANY •

Memoirs of a DXer ...
 by Peter Casier, ON6TT

You might ask, what is so special about opening an antenna box? Memories, I tell you, memories.

After my 1994 Malawi and Angola tour. I knew I was in for a new vertical antenna, to replace my 70m long G5RV. Craig from Oklahoma Comm Centre was so kind to donate an R7 for my upcoming Africa trips. It came in the normal Cushcraft cardboard box just before my trip to Goma, Zaire (9Q5TT, 4U9Q '95). I remember the customs officers throwing a suspicious glance at it as I took it out of the UN plane on the strip and carried it to the vehicle waiting on the tarmac.

The R7 was good for the majority of the 12,000 QSOs I made from my shabby room in hotel Karibu on the shore of Lake Kivu. The antenna was then, with UNHCR stickers all over, driven to Kigali, where Mark, 9X/ON4WW used it for a couple of months, after which it was returned to me.

The (still original cardboard) box was wrapped full of Red Cross tape and taken to Luanda, Angola (D2TT, D3T '95), where I used it for 10,000 QSOs. I still remember the glorious African night when I took it down, and packed it again to go home.

Then it was shipped to Australia, to be used on the Heard trip. Without being

used, it came back, after which I took it with me to Ivory Coast. The stay was too short for any decent activity, so I shipped it to here in Uganda.

Yesterday, while awaiting a proper license, I found a boat on which I could install the antenna, and operate /MM. It was like all the smells of the countries the antenna went to, came out of the still original box, when I cut it open. The box now has all kinds of airline stickers and UN/red cross stickers all over it. It is difficult to even see a piece of its original color anymore... It was a sentimental moment. There were still even pieces of mud from Angola on the antenna, and there were still some 'danger - high voltage' stickers on the rods. Stickers I put on there while in Goma, trying to avoid people running off with it.

So you ask me what is so sentimental about unpacking an antenna? Memories, I tell you, memories.

See you /MM from Lake Victoria soon, until I have a proper license and can go back on land.

73, Peter, ON6TT soon to be /5X (I hope.)

KENWOOD Tech Tip CHECK YOUR BATTERIES!

The MC-60A, MC-80 and MC-85 microphones all have pre-amps in them. These pre-amps are powered by regular "AA" type batteries if you are using a TS-520 (S,SE), TS 820(S), TS-120S, TS-130S (E), TS 430S, TS-530S (P), TS-830S, or TS-930S. The batteries should be tested at least once a year to be sure the microphone is working properly. Weak batteries can result in low output, erratic output, or possibly distorted output.

More Ham radio web sites

The geo DXCC Page
<http://www.webbuild.com/~murf/dxcc/dxcc.htm>
 Gladiator single-band vertical antennas
<http://www.primenet.com/~bmyers/>

Letter from Oklahoma County Emergency Coordinator (ARES)

We need to have a PUBLIC SERVICE EVENT to let the public see what and who we are as amateur radio communicators. What I propose is a State Fair Exhibit. I talked to the state fair official today, May 31, 1996. They said we would be more likely to get an outside area. That is \$17.50 per linear foot. I figure a spot 10' X 15' is \$262.50 charge. With several clubs participating that should be no problem. There will be an electric fee.

A mobile, van or similar would be highly desirable for security reasons. It could be locked up at night. If convenient someone might sleep there overnight.

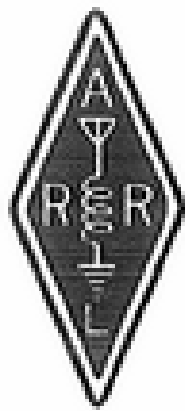
Now hear this, the critical and most demanding thing is manpower (you). Please commit and schedule shifts. The area has to be manned every hour the fair is open each day.

It is urgent we get applications in as soon as possible. I have that. I would appreciate and request club presidents and secretaries bring this to your club. Discuss it and have members sign a roster with phone number. Mail the rosters to me. This event is a must at the next club meeting. If you like, call me at 634-5235, and I will come to your next meeting and present this. Anyone with ideas or suggestions call me.

What we will do at the fair. Have 2 meter and possibly HF. We will send radio grams for fair attendees. Talk about and demonstrate radio QSOs. Display other things. In general, introduce amateur radio to the public. Have a good time and be proud of who we are and what we do. We could have a display of our award certificates we received for service in the bombing disaster last year. Come on guys and gals, let's do it!!

James L. Jones, K5PER
 Oklahoma County EC

CU NEXT MONTH
 73 de N5OGP sk



A. R. R. L. Bulletins

From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT

To all radio amateurs

ARRL Bulletin 25
May 2, 1996

A seven-month-old problem that had threatened to disrupt the Amateur Radio volunteer examiner program has been resolved.

In September 1995, a newly formed corporation called NCVEC Inc. attempted to exert control over the Question Pool Committee (QPC) that had been formed some years earlier by the organizations that have entered into agreements with the FCC to serve as Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (VECs). By unilateral action of the new corporation and contrary to the FCC rules that require all VECs to cooperate in the maintenance of question pools, ARRL Volunteer Examiner Department Manager Bart Jahnke, KB9NM, was dismissed from the committee. Efforts by the ARRL and the FCC to gain his reinstatement were not successful until early April.

Ever since the reinstatement, QPC members have been working in good faith to resolve issues concerning decisions taken by the QPC in the seven-month period during which it was operating contrary to the rules. Those issues have now been resolved to the satisfaction of all participants. Some revisions to the previously released syllabi for written examination elements 2 and 3A, for the Novice and Technician licenses, will be announced shortly.

"We are pleased to have this matter resolved," said ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ. "The

other members of the QPC appear to understand that the committee is not a creature of NCVEC Inc., and that no VEC can be excluded from committee participation. It still is not clear that NCVEC Inc. acknowledges these facts. However, that is no longer a matter of concern because the FCC has affirmed that it has no relationship with NCVEC Inc., but only with the individual VECs."

Amateur Radio volunteers have been administering and coordinating FCC examinations for more than 12 years. The ARRL/VEC coordinates approximately two-thirds of the examinations.

ARRL Bulletin 26
May 2, 1996

Vanity call sign filing Gate 1 opens May 31.

The vanity call sign program is almost here. The FCC has announced that Gate 1 of the vanity call sign program opens May 31, and eligible hams may file applications on or after that date.

Under Gate 1, you can file for a previously held individual or club call sign or for a call sign formerly held by a deceased close relative. To request a vanity call sign for your primary station, you must already hold an unexpired amateur operator/primary station license. To obtain the former call sign of a deceased close relative, your license must be of the proper operator class. To request a vanity call sign for a club station, you must also hold an unexpired club station license listing you as the trustee. Vanity call sign applicants must use FCC Form 610-V to file.

Applicants should refer to the licensee data base to make sure the call sign they are requesting is not already assigned. A call sign is normally assignable two years following license expiration, surrender, revocation, set aside, cancellation, void ab initio, or death of the grantee. FCC Fact Sheet PR5000 Number 206-V, Amateur Station Vanity Call Sign System, has details. For explanations of Groups A, B, C and D and the geographic Regions, see

Fact Sheet PR-5000 206, Amateur Station Sequential Call Sign System.

For more information about the vanity call sign program, call the FCC Consumer Assistance Branch, 800-322-1117.

More information on the vanity call sign Gate 1 opening is in the latest ARRL Letter, available on the World Wide Web at:
<http://www.arrl.org/>

Specific eligibility criteria are in the packet radio version of this bulletin. Check your local PBBS or PacketCluster node.

ARRL Bulletin 27
May 3, 1996

Irvin J. Foret, KB5UJD, of Metairie, Louisiana, whose Technician Plus class license was suspended by the FCC following allegations of interference to Amateur Radio operations in the New Orleans area, has reached a settlement with the FCC to end its proceedings against him. Foret has agreed to immediately surrender his Amateur Radio license for life and permanently divest himself of all electronic equipment capable of transmitting on the ham bands. In addition, Foret has agreed to refrain for life from applying for any FCC license or permit--regardless of the service, from participating as a third party in any communication in the Amateur Radio service and from transmitting on CB. Foret also agreed to pay \$500.

But the core of the agreement was his consent to cooperate fully and completely with all government officials in connection with any ongoing or future administrative or law enforcement investigations or proceedings involving ham radio operations by others.

The agreement does not prohibit Foret from engaging in otherwise lawful transmissions over land mobile radio facilities as part of his work.

The Commission's original action came April 5, 1996 after Commission personnel monitored and documented Foret's

transmissions in December 1995 and January 1996. The FCC said some of Foret's transmissions on January 29, 1996, constituted willful or malicious interference to the transmissions of other Amateur Radio stations, in apparent violation of FCC rules.

During an inspection of his station, the FCC said, Foret was lacking in candor and misrepresented material facts to Commission personnel by stating that he did not make the transmissions the Commission observed. The FCC also said some of Foret's transmissions were unidentified, included music or were obscene or indecent, the alleged indecent transmissions occurring at a time when there was a reasonable risk that children were in the audience.

ARRL Bulletin 29

May 15, 1996

Former Midwest Division vice director Dick Pitner, W0FZO, of Sioux City, Iowa, died May 14, 1996. He was 87. Dick became vice director in January 1974, succeeding Paul Grauer, W0FIR, who became director, and he served for one term. Dick also was a leading member of the 3900 Club, which meets on that 75 meter frequency. Tod Olson, K0TO, remembered Dick as "a good friend and an exemplary person and amateur." Services are May 18 at First Christian Church, Sioux City, Iowa.

ARRL Bulletin 30

May 24, 1996

Ballots have been counted in Section Manager elections for Vermont and Western Massachusetts. Terms of office begin July 1, 1996.

The results are as follows:

In Vermont

Justin C. Barton, WA1ITZ, 234
Ronni Stern, KA1NRR, 105
Barton was declared elected

In Western Massachusetts

Mark Casey, N1LZC, 163
William C. Voedisch, Jr. W1UD 232
Voedisch was declared elected

In eight other sections, positions were not contested. The following were declared elected.

In Alaska, Russell Ely, WL7LP, which became effective March 20, 1996

In Illinois, Bruce Boston, KD9UL.

In Indiana, Peggy Coulter, W9JUI.

In Maine, Michelle Mann, WM1C

In Northern Florida, Rudy Hubbard, WA4PUP

In Oregon, Randy Stimson, KZ7T

In Santa Clara Valley, Kit Blanke, WA6PWW

In Wisconsin, Roy Pedersen, K9FHI.

ARRL Bulletin 31

May 29, 1996

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Under Gate 1, you can file for a previously held individual or club call sign or for a call sign formerly held by a deceased close relative. To request a vanity call sign for your primary station, you must already hold an unexpired amateur operator primary station license. To obtain the former call sign of a deceased close relative, your license must be of the proper operator class. To request a vanity call sign for a club station, you must also hold an unexpired club station license listing you as the trustee. Vanity call sign applicants must use FCC Form 610-V to file.

Applicants should refer to the licensee data base to make sure the call sign they are requesting is not already assigned. A call sign is normally assignable two years following license expiration, surrender, revocation, set aside, cancellation, void ab initio, or death of the grantee. FCC Fact Sheet PR-5000 number 206-V, Amateur

Station Vanity Call Sign System, has details. For explanations of Groups A, B, C, and D and the geographic Regions, see Fact Sheet PR-5000 number 206, Amateur Station Sequential Call Sign System.

For more information about the vanity call sign program, call the FCC Consumer Assistance Branch, 800-322-1117.

More information on the vanity call sign Gate 1 opening is in the latest ARRL Letter, available on the World Wide Web at:

<http://www.arrl.org/>

ARRL Bulletin 32

May 30, 1996

Amateurs Mobilize Against Threat to 2 Meters, 70 CM - Part 1 of 4

The American Radio Relay League is asking radio amateurs across the United States to help defeat a threat to the two most heavily used amateur VHF and UHF bands.

An Industry Working Group known as IWG-2A that is preparing draft US proposals for the 1997 World Radiocommunication Conference has before it a list of "candidate bands" for Low-Earth Orbit mobile Satellites ("Little LEOS") that includes, among a number of others suggested for consideration, the 144 and 420 Mhz bands. Little LEOS are intended mainly to offer commercial paging and other low-data-rate messaging services. The list of candidate bands was submitted by Little LEO industry representatives at a meeting of IWG-2A on May 7. ARRL Technical Relations Manager Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, was present and objected strongly to the inclusion of these two bands. He was told that objections should be submitted in written comments, and the ARRL did so on May 15. At the same time the ARRL advised the industry participants in IWG-2A along with its chairman, Warren Richards of the Department of State, that if we did not receive assurance that the bands would be dropped from the list of candidate bands we would have no choice but to advise members in July QST that the bands were under threat. No such assurances were forthcoming. Instead, we

were told that as long as Little LEO allocations requirements remained unsatisfied, everything had to remain on the table.

This response was not acceptable. Accordingly, when July QST went to the printer on Tuesday, May 28, it included the following editorial. The editorial speaks for itself, but is worth emphasizing that there is no reason for panic. What we are dealing with is an ill-considered industry effort that is in its early stages, there is no reason to believe there is any government support for any move against these two amateur bands. Our mission is to quash the idea before it goes any farther. An outpouring of thoughtful comment by amateurs, explaining why the public interest would not be served by the introduction of commercial services into these bands, will go a long way toward ensuring the desired outcome.

The editorial may be reprinted in its entirety with the credit line, "Reprinted with permission from July 1996 QST."

Continued in Part Two (ARLB033).

ARRL Bulletin 33 May 30, 1996

Amateurs Mobilize Against Threat to 2 Meters, 70 CM - Part 2 of 4

It Seems To Us, July 1996 QST:

Write now. Get out a pen and paper, or boot up your computer. There's work to be done. Your help is needed to defend two meters and 70 cm. Yes, that's right--the two most popular and crowded amateur VHF/UHF bands. But don't panic, and don't "go ballistic." Here's what's happening, and what you can do about it.

The United States is preparing for the 1997 ITU World Radiocommunication Conference, WRC-97. In the past, the public has been able to participate in the preparations for such conferences by responding to FCC Notices of Inquiry. In March, the FCC announced a streamlining of its International Bureau's preparatory processes for WRCs. Under the new scheme, the NOIs have been

eliminated in favor of increased emphasis on WRC Advisory Committees.

For WRC-97, a series of Informal Working Groups (IWGs) of the Advisory Committee has been created to address specific agenda items. The output of each IWG will go directly to a joint FCC-NTIA-Department of State Steering Committee of the Advisory Committee. There, draft proposals as received from the IWGs will be reviewed and forwarded to the FCC for possible release as preliminary U.S. proposals for public comment.

In announcing the streamlined WRC preparatory process, the FCC tried to reassure those who might be concerned about reduced opportunities for public participation: "Interested parties should note that input to the Advisory Committee may be sent at any time directly to the chair of the WRC-97 Advisory Committee, the chairs of the Advisory Committee's Informal Working Groups, Cecily C. Holiday, the FCC's Federal Officer of the WRC-97 Advisory Committee, or to Damon C. Ladson, the alternate federal officer." Hold that thought while we shift gears to the substance of the issue.

Continued in Part Three (ARLB034).

ARRL Bulletin 34 May 30, 1996

Amateurs Mobilize Against Threat to 2 Meters, 70 CM - Part 3 of 4

One of the WRC-97 agenda items includes consideration of possible additional frequency allocations for the Mobile-Satellite Service. So-called "Little LEOS," low-earth orbit satellites below 1 GHz, already have allocations. Their proponents claim these are inadequate and are trying for more. The needs of Little LEOS are being addressed in IWG-2A, chaired by Warren Richards of the Department of State. The ARRL Technical Relations Staff participated in IWG-2A to represent amateur radio interests at the May 7 IWG-2A meeting, an industry representative proposed a list of "candidate bands" for Little LEOS. The list includes a number of bands that

would negatively impact existing services, and does not include others that would be technically more feasible but to which strong objection from incumbents could be expected--the point being that some political, rather than purely technical, judgment already has influenced the list. Incredibly, 144-148 and 420-450 Mhz were included on the list. This is the first time in memory that another service has been proposed for the two-meter amateur band. We must make sure it is also the last time.

We do not need to explain to ARRL members the extensive use that is made of these bands by amateurs. The two bands provide the backbone of our local public service communications effort. Voice and data, mobile and fixed, even television--the list of present amateur uses is a long one, and of future uses is even longer. Both are already used for satellite services and for moonbounce and extended-range terrestrial operations requiring extremely sensitive receivers and high levels of effective radiated power.

Apparently we did need to explain all this to the Little LEO industry representatives, so we did just that--both at the meeting and in a follow-up letter on May 15. We also explained that we had to regard the matter as extremely serious. No one with the slightest background in radiocommunication could possibly believe that a Mobile-Satellite Service could be introduced into either band without disrupting existing and future amateur operations. Therefore, we said, if we did not receive assurance that they would be taken off the list of candidate bands by the deadline for this issue of QST, we would have no choice but to bring the matter to the attention of the entire membership.

Continued in Part Four (ARLB035).

ARRL Bulletin 35 May 30, 1996

Amateurs Mobilize Against Threat to 2 Meters, 70 CM - Part 4 of 4

The response we received was unsatisfactory. In effect, we were told the Little LEO industry would consider our

views but that until their spectrum needs are satisfied, all bands must remain under consideration.

So, this is a call to action. We must get across to the industry and government participants in IWG-2A that the 144-148 Mhz and 420-450 Mhz bands cannot be considered as candidates for mobile-satellite services. We need to drive the point home so forcefully, with so many grassroots responses, that no one is ever tempted to try this again. Which brings us back to that invitation for "interested parties" to send input "at any time." There's no time like the present. Here are the key addresses, including those of the mobile-satellite industry folks who seem to have started the ruckus:

Cecily C. Holiday, International Bureau, FCC, Washington, DC 20554, choliday @ fcc.gov, FAX 202-418-0748.

Warren G. Richards, Chair, IWG-2A, Department of State, CIP 2529, Washington, DC 20520, richardswg @ s6820wpoa.us-state.gov, FAX 202-647-7407.

Tracey Weisler, FCC Rep, IWG-2A, International Bureau, FCC, Washington, DC 20554, tweisler @ cc.gov, FAX 202-418-2824.

Mary Kay Williams, Final Analysis, Inc, 7500 Greenway Center, Suite 1240, Greenbelt, MD 20770, FAX 301-474-3228.

Do comment, but be civil. Don't abuse people who are simply doing their jobs. We have to get across that casting covetous eyes on amateur bands is counterproductive, and contrary to the public interest. To accomplish this we need a lot of comments, including yours. But remember that the objective is to educate and persuade, not to intimidate. We don't need to. The facts are on our side.

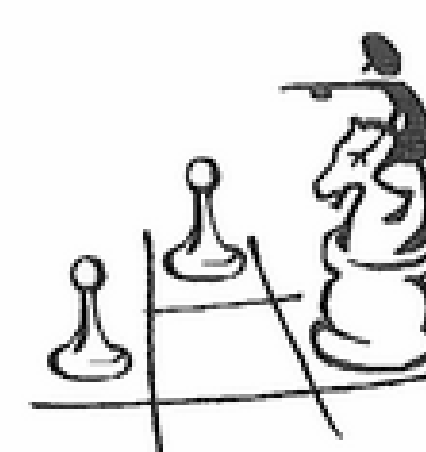
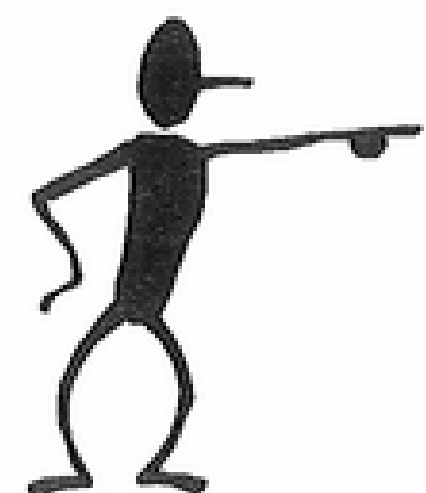
To monitor the FCC's ongoing WRC-97 preparations, visit its WRC-97 home page at: <http://www.fcc.gov/ib/wrc97/>. Write now. Right now!

David Sumner, K1ZZ

ARRL Bulletin 36 May 30, 1996

The following name and address information was inadvertently omitted from ARLB035:

Leslie Taylor, President, LTA, 6800 Carlynn Court, Bethesda, MD 20817. E-mail to ltaylor @ lta.com or FAX 1-301-229-3148.



Attention All ARRL Accredited VEs

If you are interested in helping give ARRL VE tests at Ham Holiday '96 in Oklahoma City, July 27, 1996, please contact John Copeland, NW0K at 405-329-1681. All level of tests will be administered. If you are not ARRL accredited and wish to be, contact John to find out the procedures to become ARRL accredited.

Hope to See You At The Hamfest!!

ARRL Bulletin 28 May 9, 1996

The following is a list of the FCC's most recently issued call signs as of May 1, 1996.

District	Group A Extra	Group B Advanced	Group C Tech/Gen	Group D Novice
0	AB0BS	KI0CS	++	KB0WHV
1	AA1PY	KE1EO	N1XFI	KB1BXY
2	AB2AW	KG2GV	++	KB2YSX
3	AA3OF	KE3WL	N3XHP	KB3BOP
4	AE4TZ	KT4PM	++	KF4JEE
5	AC5HR	KK5ZR	++	KC5UHB
6	AC6UL	KQ6FX	++	KF6DMG
7	AB7QN	KJ7XJ	++	KD7AAC
8	AA8WV	KG8WW	++	KC8DNZ
9	AA9SA	KG9GG	++	KB9NNQ
Hawaii	++	AH6OO	++	WH6DAW
Alaska	++	AL7QI	++	WL7CSZ
Virgin Is	WP2X	KP2CJ	NP2JF	WP2AID
Puerto Rico	++	++	++	WP4NLY

++ All call signs in this group have been issued in this area.

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Up - Coming Hamfest / Swapmeets

June 7, 8 & 9, 1996 - Ham Com, Arlington, TX. Currently largest hamfest in central U.S. with most all major dealers and manufacturers represented.

June 15, 1996 - Summerfest, Cookson, OK sponsored by Tenkiller Area Amateur Radio Club. See Flyer in this issue.

July 26 & 27, 1996 - Ham Holiday 1996 sponsored by Central Oklahoma Radio Amateurs, Inc. Door prizes, dealers, flea markets and plenty of parking. Planning still underway for this event. For more information contact:

Hal, KB1ZQ or Linda, N1LPN - 672-7735
CORA P. O. Box 95942 Oklahoma City,
OK 73143-5942
n1pln@aol.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

VE exams on 3rd Monday of each month sponsored by C.O.R.A. 1800 @ Salvation Army HQ at NW 50th and N. Penn, Oklahoma City.

VE exams on 3rd Saturday of each month are held at 0900 in Math Science building at Rose State College in Midwest City.

VE exams on 4th Tuesday of each month are held at 1800 in the Shawnee Public Library, 101 N. Philadelphia.

VE exams on 2nd Saturday of each month sponsored by SCARS are held at 1000 at the American Red Cross in on Westheimer Airport in Norman. Contact Jim Copeland, NW0K at 329-1681 for more information.

VE exams on 4th Saturday of each month are held at 1830 at the Altus Vo-Tech in Altus, OK. Contact Rick Alderete, AA5UU for details.

VE exams on the 2nd Sunday of odd numbered months sponsored by the Stillwater ARC at 1500 in the OSU Engineering North Building, Room 316. Contact Ken, K5KC (405) 377-7586 for details.

VE exams on the 1st Saturday of each month at 1430 in the Vinita City Hall sponsored by Northeast Oklahoma Radio Assn.

Hams from around the central Oklahoma area meet Fridays at 7:00 for supper, coffee, friendship and overall story telling at the Skyline Restaurant on 15th and Eastern in Oklahoma City.

ATTENTION WWII VETERANS:

Members of the 304th Signal Operations Battalion Pacific Theater will be holding a reunion 20-22 September 1996.

For more information contact:

Bill Schumann, KA5TUF

3517 NW 64th Street

Oklahoma City, OK 73116

PH: (405) 842-5469

On the Air

Listings of Nets on local repeaters or sponsored by CORA members:

ARES - Oklahoma County Thursdays @ 8:00 p.m. on 146.22/82.

Packet check-in on 145.07

Salvation Army - Second Saturday of the month @ 8:00 a.m. on 146.22/82.

HF 3900kHz; Packet 145.07

AMTOR @ 8:30 a.m. 14.064mHz

Night Owl - Daily @ 10:30 p.m. on 146.07/67 with alternate 146.325/925.

OKC Swap-n-Shop - Saturdays @ 10:00 a.m. on 146.22/82.

Geritol - Daily @ 8:00 a.m. on 145.41 minus input.

Edmond Info - Mondays @ 8:00 p.m. on 147.135/735.

QCWA Chp 63 VHF - Thursdays @ 7:00 p.m. on 145.41 minus input.

QCWA Chp 63 HF - Sundays @ 8:00 on 3856.5kHz.

Wheatstraw - Wednesdays @ 9:00 p.m. on 146.01/61.

Purcell - Mondays @ 8:00 on 145.19 minus input.

Cimmaron - Tuesdays @ 9:00 p.m. on 145.45 minus input.

YL Net - Tuesdays @ 8:00 p.m. on 147.09 plus input.

Running the legal limit by "Huck" Huckabee, AA5BU

Most of us Amateur Radio operators have at some time wished for a "full-powered rig" -- especially when we hear stations that don't hear us. I recently worked a station on the West Coast who had a four-element beam on an eighty-foot tower, running legal-limit power. I was running 50 watts to a whip antenna on the roof of my RV. Afterward I thought, "We each received good signal reports, yet he ran thirty times more power." I wondered if his investment was in the same proportion. And I wondered, "Is he having proportionally 7 more fun?" Still, most of us would like to "fire a big gun."

Not long after WW-II, when military-surplus radio parts were cheap, I built a kilowatt CW transmitter for 40 and 20 meters. It was great! It blanked out all the radios and TV's for blocks, and neighbor's fluorescent lights blinked my Morse -- with their switches off!

My home required a new circuit to supply the rig. The input stage of my receiver burned up, and the odor of hot transformer varnish permeated the house. I even had to warn my small children, "Don't touch the window screens when Dad is on the radio." What fun!

But that old equipment wasn't efficient; it drew 700 watts on standby, and nearly 3,000 watts key-down! That wasn't bad in the winter, but in the summer's sweltering heat, my attitude quickly shifted to, "Who wants to nursemaid 3000 watts of heat through a hot Texas night?"

So I gave the rig to a young ham, and built a new one that ran 200 watts. Unfortunately, it and the receiver together consumed - and dumped back into my shack -- 200 watts key - up and 550 key down. That's still too much for a Texas summer.

Today I'm down to 50 watts. And seriously considering going QRP.

from the February '96 Austin (Texas) ARC "AARC- Over" Mickey McInnis, KB5YAC Editor

DAYTON CROWD SMALLER BUT ENTHUSIASTIC

The 1996 Dayton Hamvention is history. This year's event took place three weeks later than in past years, in part to avoid rainy, cold weather that had plagued the Hamvention the past few years. (Another more pragmatic reason was to avoid a possible conflict with the local hockey team's use of Hara Arena and Convention Center if they made their league's playoffs.) While some rain still fell the first day, Friday, May 17, it didn't seem to trouble the opening day crowd. Weather during the rest of the weekend was unseasonably hot and humid, however. Crowds of flea marketers took refuge in the shade of the few trees around Hara Arena.

The official tally: 30,368, down some 6% from last year, according to Sheila Markland, KF8YD, who was among those in the Dayton Amateur Radio Association who helped to bring off this year's Hamvention. Officials blamed the lower head count on the new date, where it conflicted with some graduations and proms, and on the fact that May 17-19 turned out to be "the first good weekend" of a wet spring, and some took advantage of the sunshine to plant gardens and enjoy other outside activities.

Visitors turned out from all parts of the US and Canada, as well as several other countries around the world. Badges bearing exotic call signs are not uncommon among Dayton Hamventioners, and this year was no exception.

While no major HF transceivers debuted at Dayton (perhaps a function of the sunspot minimum), several manufacturers were promoting new products, some not quite available. Among them were ICOM's IC-821 all-mode VHF/UHF transceiver (an upgrade of the IC-820), Standard's C5900DA, a three-band mobile (6 and 2 meters and 70 cm) and its C156 2-meter hand-held (to be priced below \$200), AEA's halo antenna for 6 meters and its IDR-96 440-MHz 9600-baud packet radio, MFJ "Travel Radios" for 75 and 40 meters (available "soon"), Ten-

Tec's new 811A amplifier, Kenwood's TM-261 2-meter mobile and Yaesu's FT-3000M high-power 2-meter mobile. Yaesu celebrated 40 years in Amateur Radio during the Hamvention. Sales were brisk of the ARRL's new CD-ROM containing QST, QEX and NCJ for 1995, which was demonstrated for hundreds of Hamventioners.

Possibly also as a result of low sunspot activity, while DXCC applications were about even with past years, the number of cards was down by about a third, according to ARRL DXCC Manager Bill Kennamer, K5FUV. DX Forum attendance was off too, he reports.

On the other hand, ARRL Repeater Directory Editor Jay Mabey, NU0X, says the ARES forum drew 100 or so and "the discussion was energetic." Another 60 or so attended the Repeater Coordination forum and got an overview of progress toward establishing a single point of contact between the FCC and the various coordinating entities in the US.

The ARRL forum on Sunday morning attracted a good crowd, including President Emeritus George Wilson, W4OYL, who enjoyed seeing so many friends after a stroke caused him to miss last year's Hamvention. WRC-99 was uppermost on the minds of forum attendees, whose questions were ably answered by President Rod Stafford, KB6ZV.

As the opening date of May 31, 1996, for the first gate of the vanity call sign program approached, many hams stopped by the ARRL booth to pick up FCC Form 610V packages. Judging from the number of requests, interest in the program is high, and the FCC will have its hands full processing applications for Gate 1 and subsequent gates, which the FCC has not yet announced.

SETI League executive director Paul Shuch, N6TX, was the Hamvention banquet "speaker" Saturday evening. Shuch entertained with songs and included numbers about the search for extraterrestrial intelligence, Carl Sagan and the "Big Ear" antenna developed by

John Kraus, W8JK, who was among those being honored. AMSAT-NA President Bill Tynan, W3XO, was named the Dayton Hamvention's Ham of the Year. Kraus was a Special Achievement Award winner, and Bill Orr, W6SAI, was named Technical Excellence Award winner. Neither was able to attend, however. Bob Dixon, W8ERD, subbed for Kraus while Joe Schroeder, W9JUV, spoke on Orr's behalf. More than 1000 attended the banquet.

Our thanks to the many who visited the ARRL booth at Dayton to just chat, pick up an FCC form or a League membership or award application, or to expand their ham radio libraries. We enjoyed meeting all of you!

TEEN HAM ARRESTED ON SCANNER CHARGES

Greg Godsey, KF4BDY, a 16-year-old ham from Hopkinsville, Kentucky, was arrested May 11 by local police who charged him with carrying a scanner that could receive police radio frequencies. His Radio Shack HTX-202 2-meter transceiver was confiscated. At a court appearance May 14, he was bound over for trial on June 4. The judge reportedly didn't hear any arguments concerning whether the law was broken, possibly because the arresting officer wasn't present.

According to reports, Greg, the ARES EC for Christian County, Kentucky, and a ham since last summer, was detained by Hopkinsville Police. The officer indicated that when he arrived, Greg "was talking on a radio that is capable of receiving police frequencies. I verified this by keying my radio, which broke the squelch on [Greg's] radio."

Greg denies the charges and says his radio has not been modified and cannot receive or transmit outside of the 2-meter band. He has sought advice from the ARRL in resolving the matter. ARRL Regulatory Information Branch Supervisor Norman Bliss, WA1CCQ, says the Kentucky law exempts equipment possessed by a licensed Amateur Radio operator that is capable of receiving police frequencies.

SOLAR ACTIVITY UP

Solar observer Tad Cook, KT7H, in Seattle reports that solar activity was up a bit during the period of May 9-15, with the average sunspot number about 20 points higher than the previous week's, and solar flux up less than three points. The most disturbed days were May 13 and 14, when the A index was 13 and 15. Otherwise, conditions were stable.

Last fall we were excited to report sightings of the first sunspots from the upcoming Solar Cycle 23. Now the NOAA Space Environment Service Center has changed its report and is not expecting the new cycle to begin until later this year.

Watch for the solar flux to dip below 70 in late May, then rise above 70 after June 2, peaking in the mid-70s around June 9. Conditions should be very stable through May 27, then an active geomagnetic field is expected around June 7 and 10.

Sunspot numbers for May 9 through 15 were 17, 33, 53, 35, 38, 30 and 26, respectively, with a mean of 33.1. The 10.7-cm flux was 76, 77.5, 76.5, 73.6, 72.7, 71.8 and 70.9, respectively, with a mean of 74.1.

HAMS DEFEND HOBBY

A single sentence in the June issue of Ladies Home Journal that cast Amateur Radio in a bad light prompted strong reaction as hams rallied to the hobby's defense. The magazine has gotten the message and promised a correction for the unintentional error. In case you missed it, here's what happened. In LHJ's Consumer News department on page 86, an item regarding cordless telephones states: "There is little you can do about static, except to report those who cause it--illegal airwave users, such as amateur radio stations--to the FCC."

Barbara Leeson, KK6QM, was among those who wrote the LHJ editor to set the record straight on the "illegal airwave users" point. "It's important to place the blame for interference where it properly belongs, on the substantial portion of

consumer electronic products sold in the US that are designed with a cheap price rather than interference in mind," she wrote. Leeson advised consumers to read the FCC's Interference Handbook. ARRL Public Relations Assistant Jennifer Hagy, N1TDY, also wrote the magazine to say that the FCC has determined that cordless telephones and similar "poorly designed devices" are "operating improperly as radio receivers." Hagy pointed out that "if the interference is caused by problems in consumer equipment, there is little that can be done to the transmitter to cause the problem."

ARRL Laboratory Supervisor Ed Hare, KA1CV, comments that LHJ readers referred to the FCC will be disappointed because the FCC recently made clear that it no longer intends to respond to RFI complaints involving consumer devices unless it knows the interference was a result of FCC rules violations. Hare says the FCC will tell the complainant to contact the manufacturer of the consumer equipment instead.

Ladies Home Journal explains it got its information during a telephone interview with the Consumer Electronics Manufacturers Association (CEMA).

HAM BUG BITES FAMILY AT SCIENCE MUSEUM

What do you do at a science museum? Get your ham license! Three-quarters of the Miller family of LaBelle, Florida, did just that. When the family visited the Museum of Science and Industry (MOSI) in Tampa, they wandered into the ham radio station there. Everett Hale, KA4IQZ, showed them the equipment and gave them ARRL literature for prospective hams. Bob, the dad, and oldest son Frank, 16, started studying and became KD4VTL and AD4RD, respectively. Mom, Janice and son Jim, 14, followed suit and got KD4ZIX and KE4PQH, respectively. Recently, the two youngest children got their licenses. Sarah, 11, earned KF4HCG and Peter, 9, became KF4HCF. They've since encouraged two friends to get licensed, too. Twins Tim and Tom, 13,

have not yet gotten their tickets, but Janice says they keep trying to encourage them.

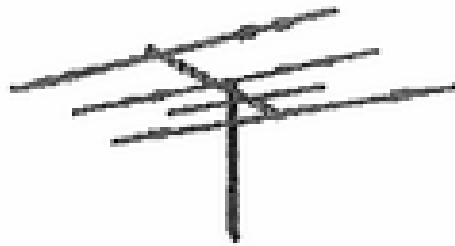
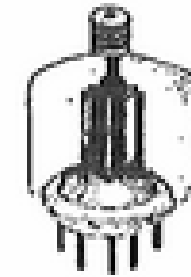
As Bob put it, "If you don't want to get interested in ham radio, don't stop at the ham shack in MOSI. But if you do, it might be the beginning of something!" (Bob is now an ARRL volunteer examiner.)

By the way, there's another tale behind how the museum got its ham station. When making a delivery to the museum, Clark Evans, WA4DLL, spotted a car with Amateur Radio plates, and discovered Ed Artest, AD2K, worked at MOSI. The two talked and decided the museum needed a ham station. They asked former Sen Barry Goldwater, K7UGA, to write a letter to the museum, and that, says Clark, "opened the door." Yaesu and local hams donated the needed equipment and antennas for HF, packet, satellite and weatherfax. The MOSI station recently got the call sign, KE4ZRS, and volunteers now teach licensing classes on site.--Rosalie White, WA1STO

HARRY M. NEBEN, W9QB, SK

Harry M. Neben, W9QB, of Palm Harbor, Florida, died March 29, 1996. He was 77. Originally licensed during the 1930s as W9YVZ, Neben joined the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) during World War II, in part as a result of his ham radio experience. During the war, he set up radio stations throughout Europe and carried a little suitcase HF radio, state of the art for its day. Later, as an electrical engineer, he worked for Tucker Motor Cars (dramatically chronicled in the film, Tucker) as well as for Amphenol Corporation and Sunbeam Corporation. A life member of the ARRL, he authored several QST articles on SSB developments, test equipment and antennas. Neben also was active with the Quarter Century Wireless Association.

Material from The ARRL Letter reproduced and credit is given to The ARRL Letter and The American Radio Relay League.

*TENKILLER AREA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB***2ND ANNUAL SUMMERFEST****SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 1996****0700-1630****LOCATION: T.A.C.O. BUILDING, COOKSON, OK**
(LOCATED ON LAKE TENKILLER)**\$3.00 Admission****\$5.00 Inside Tables****Tailgating FREE (with admission)****PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED! Tickets available at the door.****Grand Prize - Allenco 2m HT****Talk-in on the 1 4 5 . 2 1 0 Repeater**

Directions: (From I-40) Exit 297 (Vian). Go North on Hwy. 82 to Cookson. (From Tahlequah) South on Hwy 82 to Cookson. At the Cookson Firehouse, turn west and follow the signs to the airport. Turn left at the airport road. T.A.C.O. is located on the right at the end of the road. Free parking available.

FURTHER INFORMATION: **MIKE CLEMONS, KE5NU** (918)463-3287
CLYDE STOTTLEMYRE, W5TQE (918)457-5959
DICK WELLS, KH6FHS (918)457-3463

Return this portion to reserve your table(s) (Remember tables are limited.)

Name _____ Call _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Number of tables _____ @ \$5.00 each = _____ (enclosed)

Mail to: Tenkiller Area Amateur Radio Club (TAARC)
P.O. Box 234
Cookson, OK 74427

June 1 to June 29, 1996 Schedule of Events:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 10:00 a.m. Ada ARC
2	3	4	5	6 7:00 p.m. Aeronautical Center 7:30 p.m. CARA	7	8 9:30 a.m. SCARS 10:00 a.m. SCARS VE Exams
9 2:30 p.m. Wheatstraw	10	11	12	13 Altus Area ARC 7:30 p.m.	14 Flag Day 	15 9:00 a.m. VE Exams (RSC) 11:00 a.m. VHF Club 1:00 p.m. TAARC
16	17 6:00 p.m. CORA VE Exams 7:00 p.m. Choctaw ARC	18 7:30 p.m. OCAPA	19	20	21	22 Field Day
23	24	25 7:00 p.m. Shawnee VE Exams	26	27	28 C&E Deadline 	29 1:00 p.m. CORA Lunch Meeting



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