

Collector & Emitter

A CORA Publication

May 1997

Volume 23, Number 5

Issue 267

50¢

Postmaster See Page 2
For Postal Information

Periodical Mail

**Are You An Internet Addict ?
Take the Test and Find Out**

NJ Ham Wins RFI Case

FCC Database Beta Test



**Upper Midwest Floods
No Communications Emergency**

**Hamvention Busses
Not as Many this year**

Collector & Emitter**Harold C. Miller, KB1ZQ****Editor****Linda G. Miller, N1LPN****Circulation Manager****Central Oklahoma Radio
Amateurs, Inc.****President: Harold Miller, KB1ZQ****V Pres.: Brad Nelson, KJ0W****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:

97/12

JOHN E. DOE, KA5ABC

1234 SW 56th STREET

RADIOVILLE, OK 74321-9876

The "97/12" means the year/month C&E subscription expires.

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.

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1. Aeronautical Center ARC Meets: 1930L, 1st Thursday, FAA, S. MacArthur, OKC Pres.: Bob Kremer, WA9FCT 381-3182 VP: Chuck Bryant, KB5ZVZ 737-0423 Sec/Tr.: Brad Nelson, KJ0W 793-9470 Editor:	11. Edmond Amateur Radio Society Meets: Odd Months, 1400L, 3rd Sunday, St. John's the Baptist, Even Months, Dinner, 3rd Friday Pres.: Jay Lytle KB5VDH 722-0981 VP: Joel Beasley, KB5PCF 359-6508 Sec: Sharon Thompson, KM5GV 844-6245 Treas.: J. B. Bogner, K0JF 341-8735 Editor: Joel Beasley, KB5PCF 359-6508
2. Oklahoma Central VHF ARC Meets: 1730L, 3d Thursday, Neighbor's Country Kitchen, 33 rd & N Classen, Oklahoma City Pres.: Jackelyn Olsen, KA5ENU 842-2305 VP: Ken Eason, KF5JS 789-2200 Sec: John Dome, KB5WVE 842-3493 Treas.: Jim Speck, W5AI Editor:	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: Sam Binkley, KL7V 942-2600 Treas.: Bob Kremer, WA9FCT 381-3182 E-mail: ocapa@juno.com	15. South Canadian ARS Meets: 0930L, 2nd Saturday, Red Cross Bldg North OU Campus, Norman Pres.: Michael McEwen, KC5GJL 329-2615 VP: Don Byer, KJ5KB 321-1673 Sec: Jeff Wyke, KE5EB 329-6762 Treas.: Sara Byer, KC5ABA 321-1673
6. Altus Area Amateur Radio Assn. Meets: 1900L 2nd Thursday, Southwest Technology Center, Altus, OK Pres.: George Mayteyko, AA1IJ VP: John Mealer, AB5WQ 563-9252 Sec: Lil Town, KC5CNA 477-4027 Treas.: Travis Houska, KC5SRK 679-3816 Editor: Dave Locke, KC5SII	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, KC5EZZ 332-1063 Treas.: Carlyle Gargis, KC5UNX
8. Choctaw Amateur Radio Club Meets: 1900L 3rd Monday, Eastern Oklahoma Co. Vo Tech, 4601 N. Choctaw Rd, Choctaw, OK Pres.: Mike McFarland, N5WNT 799-0612 VP: Duane Angles, KA5WRG 670-6163 Sec: Marie Harris, KC5HKB 390-8851 Treas.: Bill Tarkington, KC5ICR 390-8751 Editor:	18. Lawton Fort Sill ARC Meets: 1900L 1 st Tuesday, Great Plains Area Vo-Tech room 301, Worley Center. Pres.: Jim Arterberry, N5UJB 353-5722 VP: Kevin Johnson, N5WTS 357-2203 Sec/Tr.: Paul Goulet, KC5CYY 250-4247 E-mail: w5ks@rli.net
9. Wheatstraw Amateur Radio Club Meets: 1430L, 2 nd Sunday, Location Varies Pres.: Johnny Fish, K5GBN 893-2227 VP: Ray Barnes, AB5Z 274-3334 Sec/Tr.: Joe Garland, WA5FLT 893-2660 Editor: Ralph Wilder, WA5PFF 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 VP: Craig Boyer, AH9B 405-771-5929 Sec/Tr.: 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.: Harold Miller, KB1ZQ 672-7735 VP: Brad Nelson, KJ0W 793-9470 Sec: Forrest Rush, N5VWF 842-8486 Treas.: Perry Jenkins, KB5TOT 354-5075 Editor: Harold Miller, KB1ZQ 672-7735 E-mail: n1lpn@aol.com n1lpn@swbell.net

CONTENTS

Central Oklahoma Radio Amateurs, Inc.	3
Chit Chat	4
Oklahoma City Autopatch Association	6
Choctaw Amateur Radio Club	5
South Canadian Amateur Radio Society	8
Oklahoma DX Association	9
Edmond Amateur Radio Society	12
A.R.R.L. Bulletins	16
Up Coming Events / Announcements	18

Central Oklahoma Radio Amateurs, Inc.

Minutes of the CORA meeting for April 22nd, 1997.

The meeting was opened by the president of CORA, Hal Miller, KB1ZQ. There were 13 members present representing four clubs and two visitors. Justin, KM5IA and Jerry, KJ5KP.

The secretary's report was accepted as printed in the C&E without objection. The treasurer's report passed without objection.

Presidents Report. We are waiting on our accountants for the paperwork of our Non-profit status. Everything else is going smoothly.

C&E Report. More clubs are getting their minutes in by the deadline, and the editor appreciates that. We need more articles for the C&E. Also, if you have any information on hamfests, please get in touch with Hal or Linda.

Vice Presidents Report. Things are going well with the interference committee. If you are interested in the interference committee, contact Brad Nelson at KJ0W@juno.com.

Scholarship report. Scholarship applications are being received. The Joe Harding Memorial Scholarship application was in the March 1997 C&E; it can also be obtained by contacting Forrest Rush at N5VWF@aol.com or by calling (405) 842-8486.

Ham Holiday 1997.

Dealers. We have received four dealer reservations. WB0W, Inc.; Just For You; Itech; and Caps Unlimited.

Security. The same Explorer Post which handled last year's security will handle it this year.

Venue. Discussion was held about possible venues for the 1998 Ham Holiday / Oklahoma ARRL State Convention. No decisions were made.

ARRL sanction. As reported last month, we have obtained ARRL sanction for HH 97. We have also requested sanctioning to host the Oklahoma State Convention for 1998.

Programs. The following programs are confirmed for HH 97.

Mac, K2GKK/5	Advanced Packet
Tom, WA5AFM	Amsat
Dee, WD5FHR	Antennas
Forrest, N5VWF	Bingo
Jim, K5PER	ARES

The next meeting will be on the 27th of May at 7:30 PM at Salvation Army Divisional Headquarters at NW 50 and N. Pennsylvania Avenue. Hope to see you there.

Respectfully submitted,

Forrest Rush, N5VWF
CORA Secretary

CORA VE SESSION

April 21, 1997

The Salvation Army Divisional Headquarters was the site of yet another CORA sponsored VE session on the above noted date. At the usual time of 6:00 PM on the third (as always) Monday night of April the CORA VE team assembled for a test session. A beautiful Oklahoma Spring evening with the sunshine of the day giving away to the cool air was in store for those in attendance. Results from that evening of testing are as follows:

Test Elements Passed	- 5
Total Applicants-	-3
Applicants Upgrading-	-2

Individuals passing indicated elements:

Louis D. McCollom, KC5ECQ - 3B
Kenny Thomas, (no call yet) - 2
David Wilhite, N5AKU - 1C, 4A, 4B: #

1A - 5 wpm code, 1B-13 wpm code, 1C - 20 wpm
2 - Novice Theory
3A - Technician Theory
3B - General Theory

4A - Advanced Theory

4B - Extra Theory

Upgraded to: * Technician, ** Tech Plus, *** General, **** Advanced, # Extra

Congratulations to these Amateur Radio operators for upgrading! The planning, studying, and family support paid off in success. Offer your best wishes when you meet up with these individuals! Thanks to the Salvation Army for continuing to host the opportunity for hams to help hams join the ranks and upgrade. It is very special to have available the excellent facilities of the Salvation Army in a recognizable location with parking and other amenities to assist in the Volunteer Exam process. You must have the place and the people for the VE system to function. THANK YOU SALVATION ARMY for providing the place. The people consist of the CORA VE team which attend each and every session to make the evening go according to schedule. We appreciate you: CORA VE TEAM!

The May session will be on the Monday the 19th at 6:00 PM, at the Salvation Army Divisional Headquarters located at Penn and Northwest Expressway in OKC. Remember to enter the building on the southwest corner. Here is wishing all a good productive time in preparing for the May session. Study with winning on your mind.

de John Thomason, WB5SYT

Attention All Repeater Trustees and Concerned Individuals

The next Oklahoma Repeater Society, Inc. (ORSI) Meeting will be held on June 21, 1997 at 1:30 p.m.. Place will be the Salvation Army HQ on the Southwest corner of NW Expressway and Pennsylvania in Oklahoma City. Everyone is invited to attend.

Chit-Chat

by Linda Miller, NILPN

A chapter comes to an end...

Have you ever finished reading a book and wondered what was to happen to the characters if the story continued? Books are like windows. They give us just a short glimpse into an other world, people faced with life situations and how they meet those challenges. At the end of almost every story, everything is peaceful and life moves on for the characters and we are left to our imaginations. If we are lucky, the story continues in another book with the characters we have come to love and are like old friends.

In the real world, problems and challenges we face daily are not so easy to solve and work through as those in the make-believe world of books. I would say the toughest challenge we face as adults is when we decide to have a child and become a parent. It would be easy if we had a handbook and it handled everything we needed to know to be experts at parenting. The only handbook I found was the Holy Bible and it became my foundation. The Power of Prayer became my constant lifeline. I held close to my heart words of wisdom given by my grandmother. She said to follow what was in my heart of hearts, to never be afraid to say, "I'm sorry" and to handle everything I did with Love. Once a rule was set, stay with it or I would fail as a parent. Be honest, firm and not afraid to say 'no' when it was needed! Allowing a child to see your tears is not a sign of weakness but a sign of a caring and loving heart. Never discipline a child with anger but with understanding and mercy. She said my role as parent would constantly change with the passing of each year and to welcome each one with an open heart.

Michael, my 18 year old son, will graduate from Del City High School with Honors later this month. I have tried to prepare him for this moment in his life. Once he walks across that stage he will be passing from one world into another. Leaving childhood behind him forever and will be expected to become an adult as

he steps off that stage. He told me the other day it all seems a little scary to be graduating and leaving all that he knows behind. College will be a new experience with a different set of rules he will soon be expected to learn. It is the unknown that he is not sure of. Everything we do in life has an unknown factor, it is what makes life interesting.

His dream is to become an Orthopedic Surgeon and it will require many years of schooling and training. It will test him beyond what he believes himself capable of doing. I know he will meet every challenge head on. He is a hard worker and determined. He is not perfect. He does have his faults but is not afraid to admit when he is wrong. He says the only way to learn, is from your mistakes. "A man who makes no mistakes makes nothing," is one of Mike's favorite quotes.

As his mother, I sometimes wish the past years had gone by at a slower pace. I also wonder if I forgot to teach him anything or a skill he might need in the future. A friend said that the true measure of parenting is knowing that although we are imperfect, we give 110% of ourselves to the task at hand. The rest is up to the child on if they accept or reject your teachings. We have been blessed with a child who listened and expanded on what he learned from us as parents.

Mike is now facing the challenge of attempting to gather enough money through scholarships to be able to attend college this fall. He is looking into the possibility of holding down two jobs this summer and saving for college. His eyes are completely open and he knows the money is out there, you just have to find it. He does not plan to take out any student loans until he has completed four years of college. Medical school, may be another story. Time will tell what the future holds.

So as a chapter in Mike's life closes like that in a book, another chapter is about to begin. A new adventure is just waiting around the corner full of wonders beyond his dreams. Life moves on ...

Until next month...

FYI: A sick prank...

by Linda NILPN

This past Sunday, 20th of April, I received a phone call from a friend who's husband is stationed in Turkey. Her husband was very upset about the listing for my e-mail address in the "QRZ! Ham Radio Callsign data base CD-ROM." It had been out for 5 months so I didn't understand why he was so upset. We were waiting for the new one to be released any day now and was planning to use it as resource material for the mass mailing of Ham Holiday Fliers. The Dec 1996 disk contains a mean spirited bogus e-mail address for myself, listed for all the world to see, and that is what had our friends so upset. I knew nothing about it before they told me.

What had been printed without my knowledge or permission was an e-mail address that does not exist. It was sent in by an unknown individual as being factual and the company accepted it as fact and it became copywritten material. Measures are being taken to handle this in a professional and legal manner. It is not a question of 'if' we find the person who sent in this information, it is a question of 'when.' Records were kept. The internet has no privacy just like the ham bands. The difference is unlike ham radio, there is a record of the places you visit and send messages to when using the Internet.

What is sad is the fact that we have a few individuals within this ham community who are bent on self destruction. They are totally clueless on what it means to be an amateur radio operator. This act was childish and was done with malice and malicious intent. It was done to embarrass and humiliate me in a cowardly manner. It was meant to shock and hurt not only myself but those who know me. Anyone seeking information about CORA, the C&E or Ham Holiday will be unable to do so through e-mail if they depend on this data base and use my call sign looking for my address. The truth is that it is all about to backfire on all responsible parties involved. I wonder when the dust settles if they will think it was worth it after all.

The ham community here on the whole, has worked very hard to set aside our differences and work together. We have done what we were told was impossible and brought CORA back to be what it was created to be. A respect for one another has become the norm once more among our family of hams. Please do not let something as immature as what happened to me destroy what we have worked so hard to build. I believe that the party responsible is a very unhappy person, consumed by hate and jealousy, that they are attempting to hurt and humiliate me into leaving the ham community. The person who is responsible for creating and sent in a bogus e-mail address for me needs your pity not your anger.

I am just sorry that this has happened. My lawyer told me that when a person is doing good for the community, there will always be someone out there trying to tear down what you accomplish.

Net Addict's Reality Test!

Have you been spending more and more time using the Internet? Have your cheeks taken on that pasty white glow from overexposure to your computer monitor? How do you know if you're addicted to the Net and losing touch with reality? Take the Net Addict's Reality Test!

Answer the following multiple choice questions and check out your score to see if you should be concerned:

1. What do you think are good names for children?
 - a) Scott and Jenny.
 - b) Bill Gates IV.
 - c) Mozilla and Dotcom.
2. What's a telephone?
 - a) A thing with a round dial you use to talk to others.
 - b) A telecommunications device with 12 keys.
 - c) Something you plug into a modem.
3. Which punctuation is most correct?
 - a) I had a wonderful day!
 - b) I had a **wonderful** day!!!
 - c) I had a wonderful day :-)

4. You wake up at 4:00 a.m. and decide to:
 - a) Visit the washroom.
 - b) Raid the fridge.
 - c) Check your E-mail.

5. What are RAM and ROM?
 - a) A male sheep and a city in Italy.
 - b) Hulking stars of the WWF.
 - c) I need more of the former and should upgrade the latter.

6. To avoid a virus you should:
 - a) Stay away from people who sneeze and cough.
 - b) Never read E-mail titled "Good Times".
 - c) Use virus scanning software every time you boot up.

7. When you want to buy something hard-to-find you:
 - a) Ask friends where to purchase it.
 - b) Check out the Yellow Pages.
 - c) Go to Yahoo!

8. When you don't understand how to use a new appliance you:
 - a) Call the retailer.
 - b) Call the manufacturer's toll-free number.
 - c) Visit the manufacturer's Web site and look for the FAQ.

9. When you want to see all the beautiful people you:
 - a) Visit a club on a Saturday night.
 - b) Turn on the TV and tune in to Baywatch.
 - c) Check out the alt.binary news groups.

10. How do you introduce yourself at a party?
 - a) Hi, I'm Jane!
 - b) Hi, I'm a Taurus on the cusp.
 - c) Hi, I'm a 5'10" hot blonde with a super bod.

11. When you're interested in someone at a party you say:
 - a) Tell me more about yourself.
 - b) What's your star sign?
 - c) What's your Profile?

12. If you really like the person, you say:
 - a) Could you tell me your phone number?
 - b) What's your E-mail address?
 - c) Let's chat Private.

13. When I say spam, you think:

- a) Ham in a can.
- b) Unsolicited advertising E-mail.
- c) I mail bomb all spammers!

14. When you receive an AOL trial diskette, you say:
 - a) I don't need another mug coaster.
 - b) Great! I'll reformat and use it for backups.
 - c) Great! I'll sign up under a fake ID and use up the 50 hours.

15. When you want to research a reference you:
 - a) Open up a volume of your encyclopedia.
 - b) Slip Encarta in your CD-ROM drive.
 - c) Go to www.altavista.digital.com.

16. When you write a letter you:
 - a) Put pencil to paper.
 - b) Open Eudora.
 - c) Ask: What's a letter? Is it like E-mail?

17. Different types of text formatting include:
 - a) Writing and printing.
 - b) Underline and double-strike.
 - c) Bold and italic.

18. You correct errors using:
 - a) An eraser.
 - b) White-out.
 - c) Back space or delete.
19. You sign your name:
 - a) Best regards, John Smith.
 - b) See you in IRC, John_Smith.
 - c) Check out my home page for the cool links, johnsmith@aol.com.

20. To keep a copy of your letter you:
 - a) Insert a carbon and a second sheet.
 - b) Take it to the photocopier.
 - c) Check your Sent Mail folder.

SCORING: Give yourself zero points for each "a" response, five for each "b," and 10 for each "c".

If you scored 150 or higher, unplug your computer and log more hours in real life.

If you scored between 50 and 145, you're living a good mix of Net and reality.

If you scored under 50, you probably didn't read this far.



Oklahoma City Autopatch Association

Minutes of OCAPA Meeting April 15, 1997

Meeting called to order by John, N5SAM at 7:32 p.m.

Treasurer's Report. The treasurer's report was read by Bob, WA9FCT. A motion was made and seconded to accept the report as read. Motion carried.

Secretary's Report. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of the March meeting as published in the C&E. Motion carried.

CORA. Ham Holiday discussed. We will have to find another location for 1998.

Scholarship. Don, KC5BRO reports no requests have been received.

Equipment. The equipment trailer needs to be reorganized and the unnecessary things removed and stored.

Weather. John, N5SAM is the liason for channel 9 severe weather contact.

Technical Committee. The new controller has been installed on the 146.82 repeater and is working well. 444.3 is down due to antenna problem. 147.21 is still the primary repeater for auto patches.

ORSI. John, N5SAM reported on the meeting that was held in Douherty. A meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 21 at the Salvation Army HQ. The By - Laws are on the ORSI web site. Our 6 meter pair has been reinstated.

Field Day. Brad, KJ0W "volunteered" to chair the Field Day committee.

E-mail. E-mail to OCAPA via OCAPA@juno.com.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Submitted by Sam, KL7V

Garden Party

Several members of OCAPA met April 14th in the home of Sue Whilhite, KC5SMJ to exchange ideas and flowers from their own gardens. Everyone brought sandwich fixings and a good lunch was enjoyed by all. Those present were Carol Ayers, KC5EXR; Judy Macdonald, KA5BJS; Cheryl Brassfield, KB5WQR; and Mary Leath, KC5WFP. Plans were made for having another meeting in a month or two and we hope more will be able to come.

GOOD Morning!

There was this old lady who had lived a very simple life. She worked hard, was always kind and generous to others but was always poor. One day her fairy Godmother appeared and said to her that since she had been so kind and helpful to others all her life that she was going to grant her three wishes. The little old lady thought for a moment and then said "all of my life I have been poor. For once in my life I want to afford all the luxuries of life. I would like to be rich beyond my wildest dreams" And lo and behold as she spoke there on her bed appeared a trunk full of money. "And what would you like for your second wish?" said her fairy Godmother.

The old lady thought again and said "you know, I have never been very desirable as a woman. I would like you to transform me into the most beautiful, young, sexy woman in the world." And lo and behold as she spoke, there stood the most striking, gorgeous woman where there was once an old lady. "And now for

your last wish" said the fairy Godmother. The old lady took her time, then finally said " Because I have never had a relationship I have never known the touch of a man or made love.

You see that old tom cat over there? I want you to turn him into the most handsome man in the universe with the build of a Greek God." And lo and behold as she spoke there before her was the most perfect man she could have ever imagined. He slowly approached her, picked her up in his arms, carried her over to the bed and gently laid her down. He then lay down beside her, took her in his arms and softly whispered in her ear. "Now, aren't you sorry you took me to the vet when I was a kitten?"

FCC DATABASE TEST

For a limited time, hams and others will have real-time access to the FCC's amateur database under a beta-testing program.

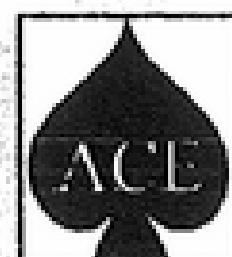
The Wireless Telecommunications Bureau has made the three databases available to the public at no charge for approximately 30 days.

Among the information available is the amateur application. It allows real-time query capability of the Commissions ham radio database.

The other programs include a frequency search program for 929 and 931 MHz and the database transaction downloads. The three applications will be available until May the 12th at:

<http://gullfoss.fcc.gov/beta.htm>

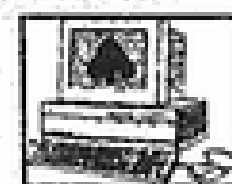
(Via FCC)



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Choctaw Amateur Radio Club

Choctaw ARC Meeting
21 April 1997

The meeting began a little after 7pm with fourteen members present and one visitor, Justin Soliday, KM5IA.

REPORTS:

The minutes were accepted as printed in the C&E. The treasurer's report was read and accepted.

TexNet--The radio used for the Choctaw node has been malfunctioning. John, K5CBP, has been troubleshooting it with the help of Ron, WB9DAY. The TexNet routing now goes to Aurora, MO. Ft Gibson was recently fixed.

YL--The net is still going fine.

OLD BUSINESS:

The club now has a Post Office box. It is P. O. Box 1992, Choctaw, OK 73020-1992.

Flooding--Don, N5ENQ, is currently working with the Baptist Men's Disaster Relief team in North Dakota. The plan is to provide support for a month with each team remaining for ten days. The frequencies being used for this concerning the telephone line. Bill, KC5ICR, will check on telephone rates.

NEW BUSINESS:

6Mtr antenna--Dave, WD5G, proposed we purchase a 6Mtr antenna. The motion carried.

Coffee Pot--The coffee pot we have been using for the swap meets quit working at

the last swap meet. It was decided to purchase a new one.

Following the meeting Duane, KA5WRG, demonstrated the logging software we will use at Field Day. It's an updated version of the program we have been using. He will bring it again to the next few meetings for further instruction.

73 de Marie, KC5HKB

UPPER MIDWEST FLOODS

Guided in many cases by ham radio operators, rescue workers in the upper mid-west used helicopters and other all-terrain vehicles to carry thousands of people from flooded homes. This, as rivers swollen by rain and melting snow devastated parts of Minnesota and North Dakota.

In the city of Fargo, volunteers including students worked around the clock to prevent the Red River from inundating the city. Ham radio operators, working with rescue operations kept track of the rising waters. Dale Cary, WD0AKO is Newslines Webmaster right across the river in Moorhead, Minnesota:

"This past week the hams have been stationed at the volunteer center, which has been the Civic Center downtown, also at the Red Cross offices, and the office of the Salvation Army.

They have been dispatched out to different areas around the F-M area, and checking with the different areas in the community to see how things have been going with constructing the dikes, if they needed more supplies, more manpower. And all the information has been relayed back to the volunteer center." WD0AKO

According to reports from the ARRL, a statewide Minnesota ARES High Frequency net was activated to assist the Salvation Army in the Minneapolis - St. Paul area. The Salvation Army is bringing in relief supplies for the Granite Falls area.

Hams are also providing communications to local Salvation Army chapters coordinating delivery of relief supplies to affected areas. Other amateurs are still busy reporting new flooding areas to the National Weather Service.

An informal ARES High Frequency flood net is being activated each evening at 5 PM Central Time on 3990 kHz. It's still on the air as this newscast is prepared.

A measure of relief was felt when the river's projected crest was lowered because of a previous reading of a stuck gauge.

NO COMMUNICATIONS EMERGENCY

If you are planning to travel to Minnesota to offer assistance in providing flood relief ham radio communications, please don't come unless you are specifically invited state emergency officials. This, according to Minnesota ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator Gary Peterson, N0ZOD. Gary says that operators from other states are not needed at this time.

According to his posting on the ARRL Section Emergency Communications internet remailer, somebody has put out a nationwide call for radio operators to report to Minnesota for flood relief communications. The problem is that this request was not cleared through or coordinated with state level emergency management and other operators from out of state are just not needed at this time.

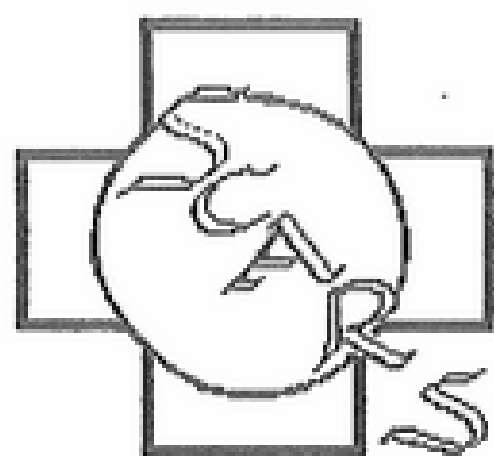
Peterson adds that hams in Minnesota appreciate your willingness to serve, but right now there is no need for outside communications help.

Peterson adds that if you received a call up to come to Minnesota, please e-mail back to him an acknowledge this recall.

Also, if you can pinpoint the who started this unnecessary out of state call up, please let him know the source. Gary Peterson's e-mail address is:

n0zod@deskmedia.com

(Via N0ZOD)



South Canadian Amateur Radio Society

(minutes for regular monthly meeting)

My sincere apologies to club President Mike, KC5GRZ for assigning him the wrong call sign in last month's minutes!! I thought he could take a joke!!

The April meeting of the South Canadian Amateur Radio Society was held on Saturday, April 12 in the Red Cross Building in Norman. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 am by club President Mike, KC5GRZ (not Mike, KC5GJL!!!!). The meeting began with introductions of all those present.

Ken, N5BEW, was first on the roster with the repeater report. Ken reported that the grounding system for the main repeater site had been greatly improved. The improvements seemed to cure the interference problems. Ken also recommended that the club purchase a repeater-type power amplifier with a continuous-duty rating. The P.A. in current use is not rated for continuous duty at the power level being used, and he was concerned that the amplifier may not be reliable during periods of heavy usage. Ken had researched several different amps, and provided the club with information on two models he considered as acceptable for our needs. After some discussion, a motion was made by Jerry, W7DAD, to purchase a new P.A. The motion was seconded and money was allocated for the purchase. Ken was given the authority to decide which model would be purchased.

The next order of business concerned the 2-meter radio being used for the club station. Don, KJ5KB, reminded us that the existing radio, a Kenwood TR-7600, is in need of extensive repair. The radio is old, and Don recommended that the club

replace the radio with a new one. Don's suggestion....a Realistic HTX-212, currently being closed-out by Radio Shack. The radio has a good reputation, and an even better price. Don had brought the radio to the meeting for all to see. Jim, NW0K, made the motion to purchase the radio. That motion carried, and the club has a new 2-meter radio (WITHOUT extended warranty!!!)

Throughout all of these discussions about new purchases, we relied heavily on the advice of the club Treasurer Sara, KC5ABA. She assured us we had funds available. Imagine her relief when our spending spree ended before the money ran out!!

No C.O.R.A. report was available this month.

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 am.

Jeff Wyke, KE5EB
SCARS Secretary

HAMVENTION BUSES

With many hams making final preparations to attend next month's Dayton Hamvention, one of the questions many are asking concerns transportation to and from the convention site. In part three of his special report on Hamvention 97, RAIN's Hap Holly, KC9RP asks event General Chairman Dick Miller, N8CBU, about parking, busses and cabs:

"On our webpage and in our flyer, we are quite explicit about busses. There will not, I repeat will not, be busses to the individual hotels. It is just not economically feasible to do this. We figured last year, realistically we had about 1200, maybe 1500 people to 1700 people that actually used the busses for three days. And the cost was exorbitant.

But what we have done. We have expanded the remote parking areas. We have the usual ones, the Forest Museum, the Salem Mall, Forest Park, but we have expanded to U.D. Arena and Dayton Mall. I have no doubt that we will have them.

We are doing something this year that has never been done. At least since I have been involved in Hamvention. There will be at the arena a taxi stand with a starter, a lady or gentleman there who will be able to help people get cabs. They will be stationed right there like in an airport taxi stand. And it is the same company that the Dayton Airport has. Now the event, the thing with this is they have made arrangements to have a flat fare to the various motels. The furthest ones, of course cost a little more, the closer ones a little bit less. But that is for a cab full. If you can put five people in the cab. The cost is \$10. The five people can split the \$10." N8CBU

For more information please go to the Hamvention pages on the world wide web. The address is:

<http://www.hamvention.org>

(Via RAIN, Dayton Hamvention)

TAPR PACK BASH

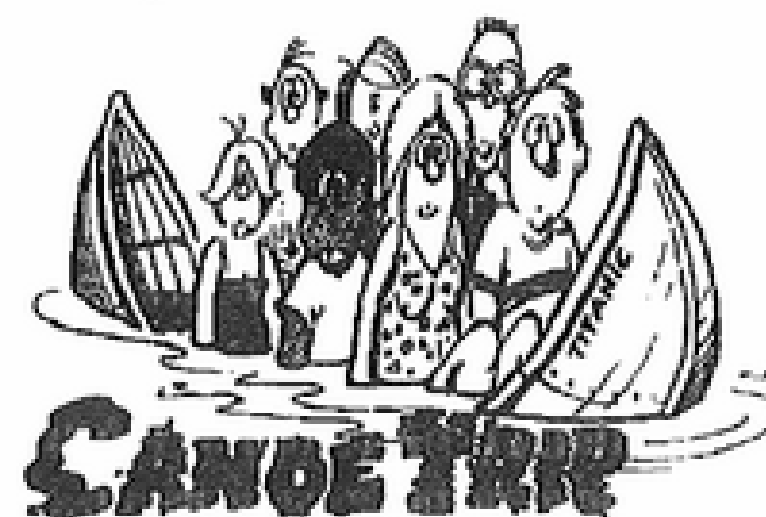
If you are a packet enthusiast attending Hamvention '97 then you won't want to miss out on the Pack Bash. That's the name for this year's packet social get together the evening of Friday, May 16th at the NCR Conference Center at 101 West Schantz Avenue in downtown Dayton. For more information please contact the:

Pack Bash
c/o Tuscon Amateur Packet Radio
8987-309 East Tanque Verde Road
Suite 337
Tuscon, Arizona 85749

The e-mail address is:

tapr@tapr.org

(Via TAPR)





OKlahoma DX Association

----- FROM THE PREZ -----

Hello everyone. Well spring is finally here. Time to cut the grass, kill the weeds, and build those antennas ... err, or is that cut the weeds and kill the grass while building and installing antennas! Ha I have heard of several stations improving their antennas and have heard of two new multi-tower contest stations being built this summer. The news is really exciting.

Congratulations to W5AO and NA5B on having great success in the recent 160 meter and WPX Contests. Of course, K5YAA continues to run up big scores. By the time you read this, the BS7H operation should be history. I hope everyone was able to make at least one contact.

I will be attending the Dayton Hamvention which is the greatest show on earth in the ham radio world. If you are there, look for me in the usual DX/Contesting hospitality rooms. I also plan to attend the Topband Dinner on Friday night.

Reminders - Election of officers at Ham Holiday, July 26 and OKDXA Banquet, November 8; both are in Oklahoma City.

73, Jim K5TT

----- DX NEWS -----

• Not much DX news this month

The big news this month will be history by the time you receive this issue. Hopefully, the late-April, early-May BS7H, Scarborough Reef operation has been indelibly etched in many, many logbooks and cards are already on their way to QSL manager W4FRU.

Other than that, there are no real "biggies" to report so this month's

submission will save the C&E some space! ha

However, there continues to be a lot of DX activity, and to some pretty good spots too! So if you have the time and the energy -- and not too much line noise -- you can be surprised and get some pretty good ones as spring turns into summer. Good listening!

• GO LIST editor reminds DXpeditioners to submit QSL data ...

John Shelton, K1XN, of Paris, TN, is the new editor of The GOLIST, QSL Manager List. John is making every effort to maintain The GOLIST as the defacto QSL info publication source book, but in order to do that he needs to hear from the DXpedition ops themselves.

John says, "I am trying to make the GOLIST the most accurate QSL route information available to the DX community. I am notifying many of the major managers and asking their assistance in updating my information to achieve this goal. It is a slow process, but one worthy of the effort."

Please help the entire Amateur DX community by reporting your QSL routes/addresses directly to John at golist@iswt.com.

If you forget John's email address just ask N5OGP to pass along your info. I maintain a mail group of all current DX bulletin editors and I try to advise them of all OKDXA-related DXpedition information.

• QSL mailing service

Several have asked about alternatives to managing your own QSLing activities. WF5E offers a well-know DX QSL mailing service. Info on his business can be viewed on this web site.

<http://www.seark.net/adxa/wf5e.html>

• ZS8IR QSLing info update

QSL manager Chris R. Burger, ZS6EZ reports that the ZS8IR QSLing has now been completed for all requests received during 1996. If you mailed your request before mid-December (and included

sufficient return postage), you should have received your cards, or be receiving them soon.

The plan is to be completely up to date before the end of March. The last cards are being mailed today (10 March), and should arrive within two weeks.

So, if you sent your card before early December, wait a few weeks before submitting again. If you sent your request later, it may be in the following batches, and you should have your reply before mid-April. (425DXN, 22 March)

----- OKDXA STUFF -----

• OKDXA badge update

As of press time (21 April), the OKDXA badge design is complete and in the hands of our manufacturer/vendor, Rick, NV5A, The Sign Man of Baton Rouge.

Those who pre-ordered and paid at the Tulsa Hamfest should have their badges in hand sometime in early May.

Rick is preparing an order form for OKDXA member use which will have a black & white example of the badge and all ordering/pricing information. When N5OGP receives the order-form an Association-wide mail out will be made and you can order your badge directly from NV5A.

I believe you will be duly impressed with the professional look and quality of this product. The OKDXA logo will be hot stamped on a medium gray blank for fine detail. Your first name and call sign will be routed (not etched!) in white. I hope the vast majority of our membership will order a badge and wear it to their respective Amateur radio functions. This is an excellent way to advertise your DX Association. Wear the OKDXA!

• Ham Holiday coming up in July

This year's Ham Holiday (OKC Hamfest) is scheduled for July 25 & 26. I have not heard the details as yet but I am assuming the location will again be the OKC fairgrounds.

As I'm sure most of you know, the OKDXA holds its annual election of

officers at this meeting. So it is time to start thinking about who will lead the Association for 1997-98. Officers elected on July 26 will take office on October 1, 1997, and will serve through September 30, 1998.

A nominating committee will come up with some prospects for Association consideration but, as always, nominations from the floor will be accepted. We do encourage nominations but we do ask that you first confirm the nominees willingness to serve.

• *VK0IR Video ordered*

The Association has ordered the 1997 Heard Island (VK0IR) DXpedition video. This 55 minutes saga is in NTSC VHS format, and has gotten "professional quality" reviews. We'll show it for sure at the November 8 Banquet and perhaps during some other gatherings.

If you would like to show it to your respective ARC or gathering, that can be arranged providing you promise to return the tape to N5OGP promptly and you pay for the shipping/packing both ways.

• *Welcome new members*

It is always good to welcome new members on-board. This month we welcome Justin Soliday, KM5IA, of Del City and Lu Fisher, K5YP, of Woodward. Justin and Lu boost the OKDXA membership to 99! Thanks to Justin and Lu and "welcome"!

• *Thanks to our Asst. NCS*

I always appreciate Robert Gillespie's (WB5KJE) willingness to help out with the Net Control duties. Coy, N5OK and Dave, KD5FX have also availed themselves to help when needed. This makes life so much easier! Thanks fellows!

• *New call signs in the OKDXA*

Bob Gibson, ex-W0RJS, of Norman is now sporting W5RG! I bet that stands for Robert Gibson! ha Neat call Bob and congratulations.

• *Email update/changes*

In the interest of saving space and printing costs for the C&E, I'll be running just email changes and updates. Here are

this month's changes and/or additions to the list.

Calhoun, Charlie W0RRY
w0rry@busprod.com
Carter, Bob K5EYT
k5eyt@juno.com
Cherry, Myron K4YA
cherry@cherokee.nsuok.edu
Fisher, Lu K5YP
fisher@pldi.net
Gibson, Robert W5RG
w5rg@juno.com
Kremer, Robert Jr. WA9FCT
WA9FCT@juno.com

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

• *Are corrections necessary?*

Your Sec/Treas. tries hard to record all the new calls and email addresses in the appropriate places -- there are several places! ha If I have missed getting your new call or email address updated in the membership roster or on the C&E mailing list please drop me an email or note and advise. Thanks!

• *Remember the "perpetual member" option*

Many, like me, have a hard time remembering to "re-up" their OKDXA membership in September ... and I'm the Treasurer! ha In sympathy, I've created a little check box on our OKDXA membership database which is labeled, "perpetual member".

If you wish you become a "perpetual member" all you have to do is notify me by email. Perpetual members will never be dropped from the roster unless they so request. In turn for this convenience, "perpetual members" must be willing to be bugged for their dues! ha I'll send email dues reminders to our perpetual members. If this sounds like it would be helpful for you (and you don't mind email duns! ha) then send an email to N5OGP and ask to become "perpetual". It's the next best thing to immortality! ha ha

• *Remember the 1997 Banquet*

As was mentioned in last month's newsletter, the membership voted at the Tulsa hamfest meeting to again hold the OKDXA Banquet in Edmond, OK, and to try to again to use the River Oaks Golf Club facility. The date is Saturday, November 8. I know that Bill Kennamer, K5FUV, manager of the ARRL's DXCC program, has already committed as a speaker/guest and Jim has made some inquiries to at least one other DXpeditioner. Our banquets have always been fun and the guests have always been world-class. Plan now to attend.

• *The GOLIST will donate subscriptions*

John Shelton, K1XN, the new editor the for The GO-LIST, has advised K5TT that he will be glad to donate 2 subscriptions for prizes at the November 8 Banquet. Thanks John!

----- MISCELLANEOUS -----

• *GOLIST starts distribution via email*

Ham radio's defacto DX QSL manager/route publication, The GO LIST, has started yet another method of serving it's subscribers. Besides the monthly paper, BBS, and diskette subscription, editor John Shelton is now providing the information via Internet email in the form of zipped files. For more information contact John at 901.641.0109 or by email at

golist@iswt.com

• *Sources for QSL information*

Here is a handy compilation of QSL info sources. Many require access to the World-Wide-Web. This info was sent out over the QSL Reflector by AA9DX.

- 1) Callbook (CD ROM only after 1997)
- 2) The GO-LIST (most pkt clusters and by subscription)
- 3) Buckmaster (most pkt clusters)
- 4) German Calls (Unofficial CB)
http://www.systemtechnik.tu-ilmenau.de/ham/dl_calls.html
- 5) Taiwan (BV calls)
http://www.systemtechnik.tu-ilmenau.de/ham/bv_calls.html
- 6) Finland (OH) Callbook
<http://www.zone.pspt.fi/oh/eng.html>
- 7) Guernsey Callbook

[http://www.guernsey.net/~sgibbs/ama-
teur-radio/gu-calls.html](http://www.guernsey.net/~sgibbs/ama-
teur-radio/gu-calls.html)
8) 425DXN Lookup (IK4LZH server)
[http://promet12.cineca.it/htlzh/
qsl.html](http://promet12.cineca.it/htlzh/
qsl.html)
9) University of Arkansas Server
[http://www.uar.edu/doc/hamualr/
call sign.html](http://www.uar.edu/doc/hamualr/
call sign.html)
10) US-Canada Callbook
<http://www.mit.edu:8001/call sign>
11) Luxembourg callbook
[http://ourworld.compuserve.com/hom-
epages/lx1no/rl_callb.htm](http://ourworld.compuserve.com/hom-
epages/lx1no/rl_callb.htm)
12) NO4J (Buckmaster on pkt cluster;
normal commands)
[http://www.jaxnet.com/~nf4j/
cluster.htm](http://www.jaxnet.com/~nf4j/
cluster.htm)
13) DL5MO Info
[http://www.systemtechnik.tu-
ilmenau.de/ham/hamqsl.html](http://www.systemtechnik.tu-
ilmenau.de/ham/hamqsl.html)
14) QRZ (has email addressed as well
as mail addresses)
<http://www.qrz.com/cgi-bin/webcall>
15) Email server, 1 callsign per line.
qsl-info@datasync.com

73 de N5OGP sk

MEXICO-OSCAR 30

The recently launched Mexico Oscar 30 ham radio satellite is now officially dead. This according to project managers who now say that the bird has apparently been lost for good due to a catastrophic on-board failure.

The satellite did make it to orbit and transmitted telemetry for about one day. It appears as if a crystal oscillator in the uplink receiver's first local oscillator never started oscillating. In other words, the satellite was totally deaf. Because it could not hear the commands on the uplink, battery charging parameters suitable for the unanticipated cold temperatures could not be loaded, and the satellite ran out of power. Later attempts to revive it were unsuccessful.

The satellite was built at the Autonomous University of Mexico in Mexico City by Professor David Liberman, XE1TU, and his students.
(Via AMSAT-NA BBS)

RS-16

Better news for the newest Amateur Radio satellite. RS-16 should be ready for general use in about two months. This, according to Russian space enthusiast Leonid Labutin, UA3CR, who says that this latest ham radio satellite is undergoing final testing right now. Once tests are complete it's expected that the Mode A transponder will be switched on.

RS-16 was launched as part of a compound satellite package called Zeya. In addition to the RS-16 package, the Zeya spacecraft is made up of an experimental navigation system, a number of experimental reflectors, solar panels and batteries.

(Via AMSAT-NA BBS)

"ROCKOON" LAUNCH FOILED BY RFI

An RFI problem has led to scrubbing the planned North Carolina launch from a balloon of an amateur rocket carrying amateur fast scan television and APRS systems.

The project is known as Rockoon. That's an acronym for a combined rocket and balloon. According to Bill Brown WB8ELK, at three minutes before the scheduled March 22nd liftoff, three loud pops were heard from the rocket gondola. It turned out that RFI in the gondola caused automatic descend system to fire prematurely.

Rockoon is a project of the Huntsville, Alabama L 5 Society and is made up of hams and space enthusiasts. That group spent the past two years developing and testing components for the rocket balloon flight. No new date has been set to try again, but one will be announced as soon as the RFI problem has been solved.

(Via ARRL Letter, VHF Reflector, others)

NJ HAM WINS RFI CASE

A major court win for a New Jersey radio amateur. A Superior court judge has ruled that FCC regulations prevent him from declaring that interference allegedly caused by ham operator Walter Kornienko, K2WK, Lafayette, New Jersey constitutes a public nuisance.

According to the April 16th edition of the Star-Ledger newspaper, Leopold and Karen Korins sued Kornienko last year. They claimed that Kornienko's transmissions from his 1,500 watt ham radio station were bleeding into their telephone lines, blocked television reception and even activated their electric garage door opener. Attorney Kevin Kelly, representing the Korins, asked Judge Reginald Stanton in Morristown to declare the situation a nuisance and direct Kornienko to cut back on his hobby.

But Kornienko's lawyer, Richard Clark, claimed his client had a right to operate under a federal license. He maintained that it was the Korins responsibility to shield their home from unwanted radio signals and that the New Jersey court had no jurisdiction in the case.

And Judge Stanton agreed. He told the Korins that neither he nor any state court had jurisdiction in this matter. He said that it is the FCC that controls everything to do with the operation of an amateur radio station under very extensive and broad laws. He added that federal government policy is aimed at encouraging the use of short wave radio for public safety and information purposes in times of disaster and to promote international goodwill.

(Via KF2TI, Star-Ledger)

UK BUST

An unidentified former United Kingdom ham says that he is guilty of violating that nation's radio law. According to the Radio Society of Great Britain the individual who was a licensed radio amateur at the time, has plead guilty to a charge that in December of 1994 he improperly used an apparatus for wireless telegraphy.

On February 21st he was sentenced by the Worcester Crown Court to serve 70 hours community service and ordered to pay the British equivalent of court costs and attorney fees. Also, his transmitter, antenna and some tapes were ordered confiscated and forfeited to the government communications regulatory agency.

(Via RSGB)



Edmond Amateur Radio Society

"Calling all hams!".....

The EARS Calling Committee has proven to be an efficient and useful way to communicate one-on-one with all the members of the EARS family. Usually, the original announcement of an event or need is made on the EARS Monday Night Net (147.135 at 8:00 PM), about one week before the Calling Committee person contacts all those who volunteered to help and gives them all the necessary details. This month they had "double duty" -- Information on our Dinner Meeting, and updating membership files. Thanks to each one of you for your cooperation. Working together sure simplifies things! The months roll around so fast, I know it may seem that we contact you often, but we hope you are pleased to be advised as to what is going on in your club.

The Calling Committee volunteers are as follows:

Toni Winnard	KK5LH
Linda Miller	N1LPN
Jennie Jim	KC5UIN
Onis Cox	KC5RPC
Barbara Kiespert	KB5DGH
Opal King	KB5BUK
Dee Mize	WD5FHR
Donna Seible	N5PYV
Judy Johnson	KC5SMI
Jim Richardson	N5OHL

A big THANK YOU to all of you for your time and efforts and a job well done. Keep up the good work. We can always use additional volunteers so if this sounds like a way you could help support your club, we would love to have your help. Call Clara at 341-2968.

With appreciation - 73

Clara Granger, KG5UG
Chairperson

We are pleased to report that several of our Club family are recuperating nicely from recent surgery. They include Bob Hebert, N5SAG who is pleased that he has recently been able to go back to work (on light duty). He is recuperating nicely and getting stronger every day. Frank Tassone, AA5GI is recovering from recent knee surgery. He said therapy is helping to strengthen his knee and he hopes the doctor will soon let him get back to work. Robert Thomason, N5IJX is reported to be much better after his surgery in late March, and is now back at work.

Our 73's go out to Onis Cox, KC5RPC our resident Packet expert, as he recovers from a recent fall. He is doing well, and hasn't been slowed down one bit in his HF packet efforts.

We offer our sincere condolences to Ray, KC5BTR and Bobbie Garrity in the recent loss of her father.

The stork has visited one of our newer members, Carl Shortt, KC5YKL and his wife, Amy. They are the very proud parents of a precious little girl named Jessica Ann, who entered this world on Friday, April 18th. Mama and baby are doing well and Daddy is bustin' his buttons, he's so excited. Congratulations, Carl and Amy.

Your EARS family wishes you all well. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

April Board Meeting

The monthly EARS Board Meeting was held at the Club Station on Wednesday evening, April 2nd. Thirteen Board members and interested Club members were present.

The minutes of the March Board Meeting, and the Treasurer's Report were read and accepted.

Dee Mize, WD5FHR, Club Trustee, reported that plans are underway to replace the hard line at the EARS 147.135 Repeater location. This replacement should greatly enhance the effectiveness of our repeater. Thanks to the Technical

Committee for the tireless hours they put in keeping the Club's equipment in good shape.

Club President, Jay Lytle, KB5VDH announced the then upcoming ORSI meeting which was held on April 6th in Dougherty, Oklahoma.

Jay also announced that at the March 19th EARS Business Meeting, the general Club membership expressed their desire to hold Field Day under outdoor, "emergency" conditions. Plans are being made to hold this event at Hafer Park in Edmond. More information will be forthcoming as the time approaches.

A few of the Club's YL's are working on a project to make vests available for the Club members to wear when they are assisting at the various Club service events. The easily recognizable attire will identify those who are participating as service and communication personnel and should aid in our efforts.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:24 PM.

- The May Board Meeting will be held at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, May 7th at the Club Station located at 28 East Main in the Downtown Edmond Community Center, in Room 216 - All are cordially welcome.
- The May General Business Meeting will be held at 2:00 PM on Sunday, May 18th at The Catholic Church of St. John the Baptist, located at 9th and Littler in Edmond. We look forward to seeing you there.

On Saturday, April 19th, Johnnie's in Edmond was the site of the EARS Dinner Meeting. Their meeting room was literally busting at the seams, as additional tables and chairs were brought in to handle the crowd. A total of 35 members and guests were present, and we had a chance to meet some of our newest members, too. Everyone seemed to be having a blast, as they munched on their "Ham"burgers.

We had the pleasant surprise of seeing Jim Richardson, N5OHL present ARRL

awards to several Club members who have had their licenses over 20 years. Congratulations to the following:

J.B. Bogner, K0JF licensed since 1964
 John Thomason, WB5SYT licensed since 1977
 Ray Wilson, W5TYR licensed since 1955
 Ernie Wolf, K5YKD licensed since 1959

A suggestion was made to present awards to the long-suffering wives of hams who have been licensed over 20 years! That idea seemed to be greeted favorably by about one-half the people present!!

Ray Wilson, W5TYR gave an excellent presentation about this season's weather spotting. He asked for volunteers willing to commit to manning weather-spotting locations in time of weather watches. With the severe weather season upon us, it is imperative that we gear up now to meet this challenge. Anyone wishing to volunteer their services in this effort, please contact any of the Club officers or Ray Wilson. Spotters and back-up volunteers, as well as net controllers are badly needed.

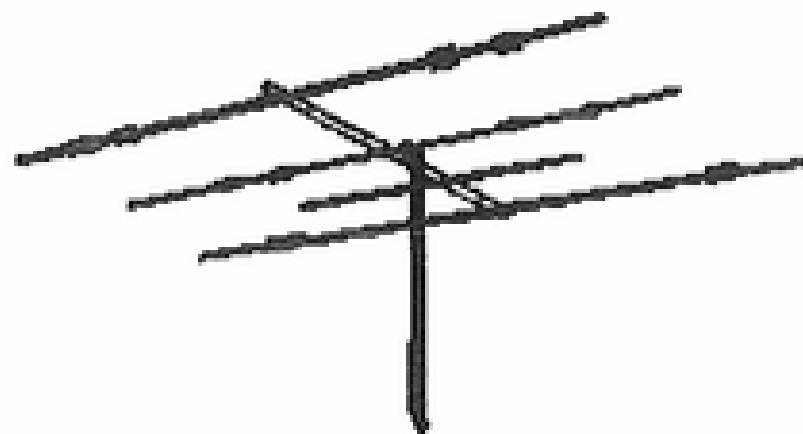
The EARS Club Station is open every Thursday evening from about 6:30 or 7:00 PM to about 9:30 PM. Jim Richardson, N5OHL and Dave Storey, K0TYC have opened the doors wide for anyone wanting to make some HF contacts, seek some good advice, or just to shoot the breeze with others with like interests. Several recently upgraded amateurs have had the opportunity of bringing in their newly-acquired rigs to have them checked out. On a recent Thursday evening, Dave Storey made contact with a Russian amateur RA9JW on the Club's Yaesu 757 on 20 meters. That happy Russian ham will soon be receiving one of the Club's KC5ORP QSL cards. So, if you find yourself sitting around the house some Thursday evening, jump in that car and come join us at the Club Station. We'll rag chew a while together, and you'll be glad you came.

Submitted by Sharon Thompson, KM5GV
 EARS Club Secretary

A Mighty Pretty Antenna

About eighteen months ago Hickory and I strolled into St. John's Church, but we weren't there for a confirmation class. It was a wonderful fall day outside, but from the sound of things, a million people were occupying a million chairs and sipping cool sodas, and they all had the same idea I had.

This was the class of 95, and we were going to become amateur radio operators, and communicate with the world! Everyone started filling out the necessary paperwork, but I was shy and felt awkward about asking someone to help me with this. However, I didn't have to ask for the help, and I didn't have to wait long before the assistance that I needed was offered to me. I had heard the announcement of this class on the radio, and even though I was still wondering what I was doing there, and how I was going to accomplish my goal, I felt that I was on the crest of a wave, and that I would get launched in spite of myself.



You all know the story. With the help and encouragement of a few classmates, the class of 95 prevailed, and we received our licenses, and got on the air sooner or later. On the evening that I took my tests for the novice license, and passed them, I thought at that was the happiest day of my life, and that I had the comet by the tail. I felt that a celebration was called for, so with a little help from a couple of friends, we did it! About a month later I passed the technician theory examination.

The momentum of these achievements left me for awhile. I let myself be bogged down with confusion about the kind of rig I should have, the kind of antenna I should have, the cost, etc. I had just about

decided to give up the hobby, stick with the two-meter rig which I was so proud of because it was such a wonderful gift, and then the old grapevine began to tremble with the sound of voices heard just above a whisper about starting a class for upgrade to general after the new novice and tech plus class ended in '96. I had expressed the desire for this class in a voice that all could hear, and when I heard that the class was really beginning, I was reminded again that miracles do happen, and that I could get the upgrade.

This was a very enthusiastic class on the part of the students as well as the instructors, and the time flew by, but when the fateful day arrived for taking the test, I don't know if any of us felt that we would pass the code test. Well, we did pass the tests, and even though I was so nervous that I said I would never go through this again, I felt so elated when I knew that I had passed that the first thing I said was, "Now I have to get ready for my extra."

I must share with you that on the day of the test I received many phone calls of encouragement and support and pre-test congratulations that one would think I was about to deliver my first-born. On the evening of our second celebration, after we had passed the general class tests, and Hickory and I strolled into the dining room of The Bricks, and all of us were cheering each other and full of high spirits, I felt that I had climbed onto the comet's back.

Well, about a month has passed since that wonderful day. I was granted permission to have an antenna on the roof of my apartment, so I now have a wonderful Kenwood 440 S rig with a Ten Tec G5RV antenna. None of us can possibly accomplish what we do without the help and encouragement of our friends in the EARS club. Jim, N5OHL had found my rig for me, and he was as excited as I was when it arrived, and he came out and set it up for me. Incidentally, if you want to know about a stealth antenna, ask him, because he is the master of that art. As soon as my antenna arrived, John, WB5SYT and Bob, KW5GM came out on a rainy evening and started the

installation. They really worked on stealth that night; so much so that the neighbors thought that they were using the ladder to move their things in upstairs. That is how good these guys are. Everything is working now, and we were still talking about it when we were at the dinner meeting at Johnny's last night. I would encourage everyone who can to come to those meetings. It is a good time to visit and to get to know each other better. It is wonderful to talk on the air, but a pat on the shoulder is great, too. When I am surrounded by all these wonderful people, I hope that there is some way I can return their favors. I can't forget Sharon, the lady who sat beside me last night, who spent countless hours helping me study for my test. I keep thinking of the extra code test, but I know that I don't want to trip over the "advanced" rung of the ladder. Don't worry; I'm comin'.

Judy Johnson, KC5SMI

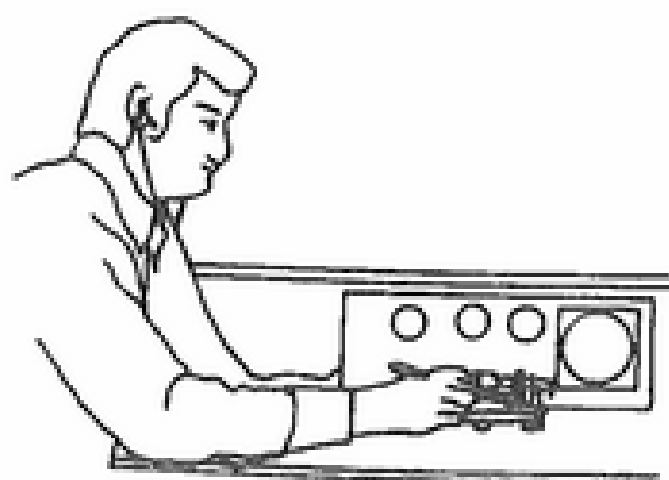
Ears Club Station:

Over the past few weeks Thursday nights at the club station have been quite busy with normally 8-10 folks joining in on the activities. Steve, KC5RYT and Trish, KC5YBP brought their recently - purchased Kenwood TS-130 HF rig up to have it checked out. Looks like a real bargain has been made. Keith, KC5TPC also made a great bargain. He showed us his like-new Kenwood TS-520. It is one of the best I have ever seen - not a scratch anywhere. But good thing we checked it out. Looks like a pair of 6146's need to be replaced, but that will be done easily. Propagation over the pole is getting better, Dave, K0TCY managed to work a Russian station on 20 meters using the club rig and Fritzel dipole. He was so pleased with the contact that he forgot to work the station with his own call too! Oh well, maybe next time Dave. Larry came by also one evening using his new call N5OL to work a few Caribbean stations on CW. Have you got a question or radio that needs to be checked out? Bring it up to the club station on Thursday when the station is open between 6:30 PM until around 10 PM.

73 de Jim N5OHL

Saturday Mornings

For some time, several years that is, the EARS gang has gathered on Saturdays mornings to have a sip of coffee and a bite of breakfast (actually more than a sip and a bite!) at Gambill's Country Kitchen on east Edmond Road and Coltrane. It has been the site of various numbers of club members and guests from just a few to 15 or more. Always a good time regardless of the count in attendance. It has been a very successful site of visiting about every possible topic from alpha to omega. No agenda: just gather and kick in your two cents, or more, worth of words, wisdom or lack thereof. Usually a fair amount of each in existence at the Saturday morning sessions. You can learn the latest about club members Amateur Radio ventures, new rigs, old rigs or plans for same. Upcoming club activities usually come up somewhere in the conversations or plans for installing a new antenna or the latest in repeater happenings.



Often family members join club members for the visiting and to join in enjoying the good country breakfast abundantly available on the menu. It is quite enjoyable to see spouses, and kiddos come and be a part of the fellowship-since we pride ourselves on being a family oriented group. Good time to relax and visit with club members families and to be brought up to date on their lives, trials and tribulations. You get the idea: COME JOIN US at Gambill's on Saturday mornings. On a recent Gambill's time we learned about club members using what might be labeled atypical antennas. How about the rain

gutter HF antenna that is producing contacts, QSL cards and the necessity for some explanation! We also heard the review of a recent HF antenna installation that generated some puzzling looks and comical questions from neighbors. We were told that one of the neighbors peered intensely at the antenna for several minutes and inquired, " Does that eliminate cable TV?" The reluctant EARS members pondered the implication of the question and answered, "I hope not, but let me know if it does." You are beginning to get the idea that stories told at Gambill's and summarized here often have some basis in the truth.

One Saturday morning discussion was held regarding a specially obtained antenna with components originating in only deep dark corners of the world. One could only wish the parts of the antenna were locally available. As talk continued and emotions peaked about the excitement of the antenna it became apparent that Curtis (KC5GEP) had completed exhaustive research, with help from Wes and Gail, on the antenna. He reports to have used said antenna on 80 meters and successfully made contacts. Curtis even recently demonstrated the antenna indoors at the club station with Wes gladly (not) providing antenna structural support (where was Gail?). Quite an antenna. I almost forget to mention the name of the antenna originally brought to light at Gambill's. Drum roll please..... SLINKY! Yep, you recall a slinky- Curtis will be available on an irregular basis at Gambill's to answer your technical question about the slinky. Come and visit your friends on Saturday mornings and join in the fun.

73 de John-WB5SYT

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677-9001

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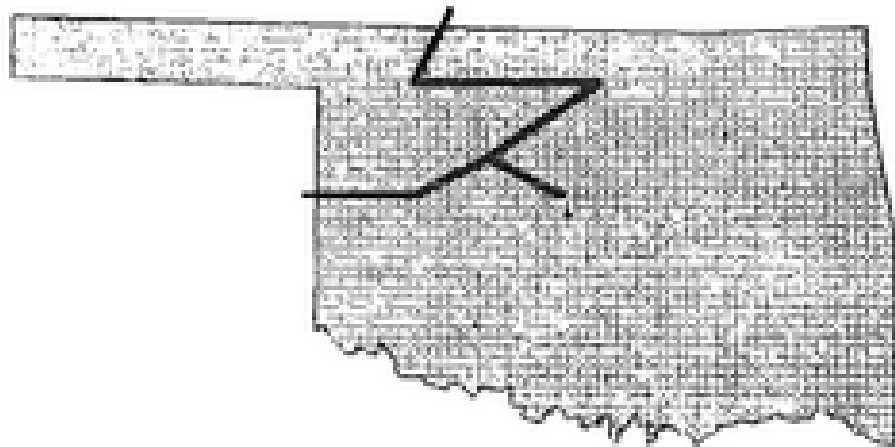
Bryan, Cindy, Jennifer and Jessica

What ?

Northwest Passage Link/Weather Watch
If that's a mouth full to say then you haven't heard any thing yet.

The NW Passage Weather Watch (the names not official. It's just what I call it) is in operation the SE leg of the link system is located in Edmond ,OK. On the 443.425 KA5WAV Machine.

The National Weather Service From Norman Inputs and receives weather from the system. The Links travels a northwesterly direction. The first stop of the trip is Watonga, Ok on the 146.745 Machine. The trail branches out with a trip to Enid on the 443.200 machine. And to Woodward on the 444.950 machine. The trail departs from Woodward to Fort Supply on the 147.120 machine. We travel on to Lavern on the 444.925 machine. Leaving Lavern its a quick hop to Cold Water Kansas via a remote base on 147.555 . Where input from the National Weather Service at Dodge City Kansas can have their say.



What a trip! but that's not all. Soon to be heard will be Elk City on the 146.76 machine. Along with that work is being done to link up with Fargan Ok on the 145.150 machine which is the connection to the Texas Cap Rock system.

The primary Purpose of this Weather Watch System is as the name implies WEATHER. There isn't a long list of rules. Nothing has been etched in stone at this time They will be coming as the need arises. As every one knows weather is the number one priority When weather isn't a factor Give it a shot ! try it out .

When using the system there are a few things you must know. There is a 6 second turn around time on the system . From the time the system is unkeyed by a user it takes six seconds for all the

equipment to switch around for the next user to use. Its a long way to Cold Water Kansas and just as long on the way back to Edmond. On key up you need to pause for a 3 count before talking to insure that the folks on the other end hear all of what you say!

There has and is a lot of hard work and expense put into this system by a lot of people My hat's off to all who helped make it what it is and what it will be. Thanks again 73 !

Lee KA5WIS

UK REPEATER CURFEW

Still in the UK, word that a curfew is in place on the West London, GB3WL two meter repeater. This, due to ongoing jamming and other malicious interference.

Under the terms of curfew operation the repeater is now available only between 06:00 and 19:00 hours local London time. This allows its regular mobile users to continue to use it during the working day, while denying those who abuse the repeater the opportunity to do so during the evening. GB3WL which operates on European repeater channel pair R1.

(Via GB2RS Newscast)

ON AIR CODE DEBATE

The April 27th edition of Len Winklers' Ham Radio and More radio program will be a preview of Len's Ham Radio Open Town Meeting forum slated for the Dayton Hamvention on May 17th. On April 27th, Len will have two of the forum participants, Fred Maia, W5YI and Nancy Kott, WZ8C debating code versus no-code. They will also be taking calls from listeners.

Ham Radio and More airs live Sundays at 6:00 PM eastern time on many local commercial stations on WWCR Shortwave at 12.160 MHZ.

(Via Newsline)

MACYS - NO MORE**CONSUMER ELECTRONICS**

Macy's is effectively out of the consumer electronics business. This with an announcement that the department store is going to drop the sale of television sets, videocassette recorders and stereo gear.

According to news stories, a spokesman for the department store chain says it's phasing out its electronics departments because they require too much of an investment of money and management time. The company says the extra space will be used to sell more men's and women's clothing and home furnishings.

Macy's says it expects the electronics departments to be gone within several months.

(Via Press Release)

GROVE TAKES RCMA

Grove Enterprises has take over the Radio Communications Monitoring Association Journal subscription list. Monitoring Times will be sent to each former member of scanner monitoring group in place of the now defunct RCMA Journal. RCMA members who have changed their mailing address should send their new address and RCMA membership number to the:

RCMA Mailing List
c/o Grove Enterprises Inc

Box 98

Brasstown, North Carolina 28902

(Via ARRL Letter)

Jim Nolen
Enrolled Agent

Jimmie Nolen
Steve Moore

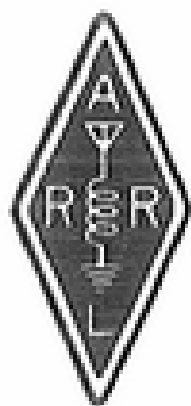
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A. R. R. L. Bulletins

From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT
To all radio amateurs

ARRL Bulletin 21
April 18, 1997

Ham radio excluded from CB enforcement bill

At the request of the ARRL, Amateur Radio has been specifically exempted from a bill submitted April 17 by US Sen Russell Feingold (D-Wisconsin) that would give states and municipalities authority to enforce the FCC's CB regulations. Feingold's bill, designated as Senate Bill 608, originated with efforts by the Beloit, Wisconsin, City Council--responding to long-standing CB interference complaints--to pass an ordinance allowing local authorities to enforce FCC regulations. The bill is aimed at reducing radio frequency interference stemming from the use of unauthorized equipment or frequencies by CBers.

In presenting his bill, Feingold told his Senate colleagues that he has received RFI complaints over the past several years from numerous Wisconsin communities "in which whole neighborhoods are experiencing persistent radio frequency interference."

If approved by Congress, Feingold's bill would amend the Communications Act to allow state or local governments to enforce regulations that prohibit the use of CB equipment not authorized by the FCC (such as high-power linear amplifiers). As it now stands, no license is required to operate on the 11-meter Citizens Band, but the FCC does have strict requirements on the type of equipment that CBers can legally use. Feingold's bill would preserve the federal preemption of all other telecommunications matters. It would

exclude FCC-licensed services, including Amateur Radio, from state or local oversight.

Also at the ARRL's request, the bill calls upon the FCC to provide "technical guidance" to states and municipalities in detecting and determining violations. Those affected by a state or local enforcement decision would be able to appeal to the FCC. ARRL asked Feingold to add this provision as final safeguard for amateurs who might be erroneously prosecuted despite the bill's other exemptions for amateurs. Feingold's bill also would not preclude the FCC from enforcing its own regulations as they apply to CB.

Feingold called his bill "a common-sense solution to a very frustrating and real problem which cannot be addressed under existing law."

ARRL Bulletin 20
April 17, 1997

ARRL calls on FCC to privatize handling of malicious interference complaints

Citing "a substantial need to improve and increase the quantity and quality" and timeliness of enforcement in malicious interference complaints, the ARRL has called on the FCC to "create a streamlined, privatized enforcement process" to handle and adjudicate the most serious Amateur Service rules violations. In a petition for rulemaking filed March 28, the League asked that the FCC change its rules to permit members of the volunteer Amateur Auxiliary to bring evidence of malicious interference violations directly before the FCC's Chief Administrative Law Judge. The Chief ALJ would be authorized to determine if the complainants have a valid case, to issue show-cause orders, and to designate complaints for hearing.

The League recommended that the FCC capitalize on the volunteer resources available through the Amateur Auxiliary to relieve the evidence-gathering burden in such cases. If the rules changes are approved, the League said it would likely assist members of the Amateur Auxiliary in preparing and submitting complaints and in presenting cases at administrative

hearings. "The increased use of volunteer resources would seem to be entirely appropriate in the Amateur Service, which involves avocational use of radio only," the ARRL concluded.

While noting that most hams obey the rules, the League said Amateur Radio needs the Commission's help "in a very few, persistent, serious enforcement cases" but has not been getting it in recent years because of the FCC's staff and budgetary limitations.

"Indeed, notwithstanding the best efforts of the Commission over the past several years, there has been no resolution of the four or five most serious cases brought to the Commission's attention," the League said in its petition. Even in some of the cases the FCC did act upon, the League said the Commission did not go far enough to make the problems go away permanently. The League cited a case in New Orleans where fines against several amateurs were reduced but remain unpaid and uncollected. "There is a widespread, and growing, perception that administrative forfeitures are not collectable," the ARRL said, pointing to the complex, time-consuming method of collecting fines that is required by federal law.

The ARRL noted that while the FCC suspended one ham's license in that city in 1996, it failed to look into malicious interference charges against at least two other hams in that area. The League said examples like these send a message that the FCC won't enforce Amateur Service rules in malicious interference cases. "Malicious interference problems, if left unchecked, tend to spread and increase in intensity," the League said. The ARRL suggested that a series of "visible, successful enforcement actions" would deter rules violations and promote self-regulation.

The ARRL also suggested that some FCC policies get in the way of timely, effective enforcement. Current Wireless Telecommunications Bureau policy requires the Commission to independently corroborate evidence gathered by Amateur Radio volunteers. "The policy often acts as an absolute obstacle to any enforcement

activity whatsoever," and it demoralizes volunteers who view their efforts as wasted.

While noting that malicious interference cases often attract a lot of attention within the amateur community, the League said ham radio can be "justifiably proud" of its history of voluntary rule compliance. "The overall level of compliant behavior among amateurs has not deteriorated over the years," the League emphasized, citing fewer than 10 active malicious interference cases in the US at present.

ARRL Bulletin 18

April 2, 1997

FCC issues changes in Amateur Radio rules (Part 1)

In response to three petitions for rulemaking, the FCC has adopted changes to the Amateur Service rules that—among other changes—will make it easier to obtain 1x1 call signs for special event stations and harder to get a club station license. Other amendments to the rules included in a Report and Order released April 1, 1997, will allow hams to append special designators either before or after their call signs—or both, and will recognize, but not require, the use of a session manager at Volunteer Examiner testing sessions.

The FCC declined to give examination credit for formerly held licenses, and turned down an ARRL request for a lifetime operator's license.

Under the new amendments, the FCC will allow a licensee to substitute a self-selected call sign from the block of 1x1 call signs for temporary use during a special event operation. The station must

announce its regularly assigned call sign at least once an hour. The special event call signs will be coordinated and issued by outside volunteer entities, not by the FCC. The Commission will announce later when and how volunteer entities may volunteer their services. The chief of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau then would certify volunteer entities to serve as amateur station special event call sign coordinators, who would issue 1x1 calls from a common, online special event call sign database. By definition, a 1x1 call sign consists of a single prefix letter, K, N or W; the region number, 0 to 9; and a single suffix letter, A to W, Y and Z—750 call signs in all. The FCC turned down a suggestion that would have limited special event call signs to stations licensed to Amateur Extra class operators.

In proposing to increase the eligibility requirements for a club station license, the FCC said it was "important to determine that the applicant for a club station license is a legitimate radio club and not just a person seeking to acquire additional call signs." Under the rules changes, the FCC has raised the eligibility requirement from at least two members to a minimum of four. Applicants for a club station license must have a club name, a document of organization, management, and a primary ham radio purpose that's consistent with FCC rules.(END OF PART 1)

ARRL Bulletin 17

April 2, 1997

FCC issues changes in Amateur Radio rules (Part 2)

Responding to a petition by the National Conference of Volunteer-Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC), the FCC said

VECs could elect to designate a session manager if they wanted to, but they would not be required to do so. The Commission's new rules recognize the VE session manager function but emphasize that the three Volunteer Examiners at a test session would still be held "jointly and severally responsible for the proper conduct of each examination administered."

Another change will allow hams to include a self-assigned indicator before, after or both before and after the assigned call sign when identifying. Current rules only permit using such indicators after the station's regular call sign. Self-assigned indicators include those used to indicate location or type of operation, such as /KP2 when operating in the US Virgin Islands or /m when operating in a vehicle. They also can denote participation in an unusual event or other atypical station operation, according to the FCC.

Citing mostly negative comments, the FCC decided against allowing exam credit for formerly held amateur operator licenses. The Commission also said "no" to the ARRL's suggestion that the operator license be valid for the lifetime of the holder. The FCC said operators would still have to renew their station licenses every ten years and that it did not want to maintain a separate database to keep track of station license expirations.

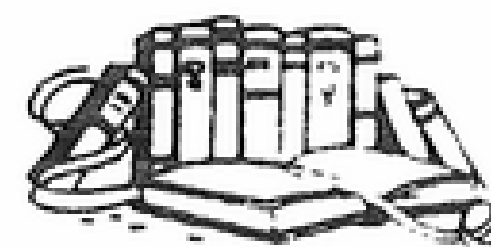
The FCC announced all of the rules changes in a Report and Order, FCC 97-99, adopted March 20 and issued April 1. The amendments become effective 30 days after the Report and Order is published in The Federal Register.(END OF PART 2)

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Up Coming Hamfests / Swapmeets

Ham Holiday '97 - July 25 & 26, 1997 sponsored by CORA. See advertisement in this newsletter.

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 by appointment only on 4th Tuesday of each month at 1800 in the Shawnee Public Library, 101 N. Philadelphia. Call J. W. Drummond at 275-3935 for more information.

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 Tuesday of even months are held at 1830 at the Altus Vo-Tech in Altus, OK. Contact George Mateyo AA1IJ 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.

VE exams on the 1st Sunday of each month at the American Red Cross 6th and Lincoln for more information call Jim, N5BEQ at 232-2299.

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.

6 meter check in 52.525 Mhz simplex

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 3855.0kHz USB.

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.

HAM RADIO BUSINESS DOWNTURN

Last week we told you about the severe downturn in the sale of higher profit desktop ham radio equipment in the United States. There are a number of industry observers who believe that it could lead to some Pacific Rim suppliers abandoning the U. S. market.

The question then arises if one were to pull away from North America what happens to it? The answer is that any who do will not just survive but may even do better than continuing to

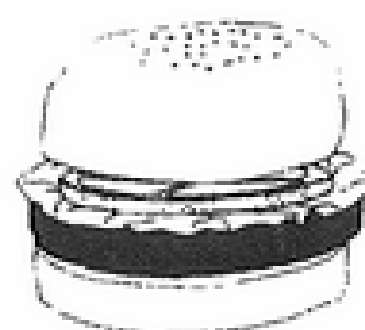
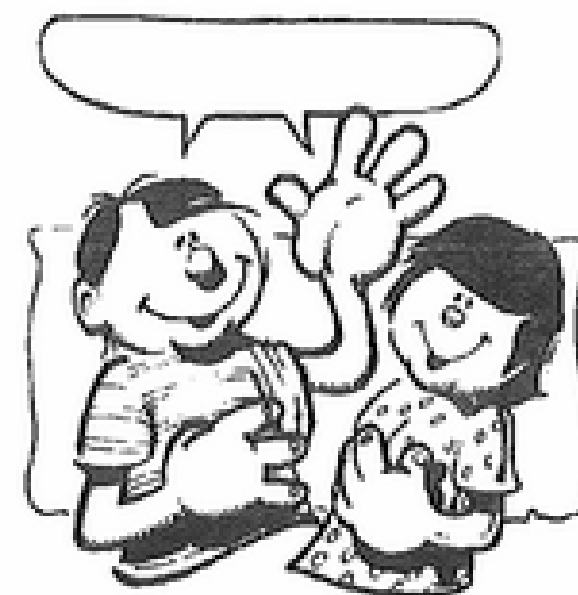
deal with marketing to United States hams.

There are two reasons for this. First is the huge market in Japan where no-code hams are permitted to operate SSB phone on the high frequency bands. In case you are not aware, Japan has more than six times the number of hams than the United States. And, unlike hams in North America, most Japanese radio amateurs purchase the newest and latest desktop high frequency transceiver as soon as its available. They are also used to paying full price with no discounts.

Also there is the burgeoning South American and European markets. Again, discounting is unheard of and getting in line to be the first with a new model radio is very common.

And most of the same Pacific Rim manufacturers that bring you ham radio gear also sell high mark-up two way land mobile equipment. That market is exceedingly strong worldwide and offers profit margin that are generally quite high.

(Via Usenet)



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HAM
HOLIDAY
97

Main Drawing Prizes
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Pre-Registration
Award
Flea Market setup
starting at noon
Friday and 7AM
Saturday
Flea market opens 5PM
Friday, 8AM Saturday

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May 18 to June 21, 1997 Schedule of Events:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
18 2:00 p.m. EARS	19	20 7:30 p.m. OCAPA	21	22	23	24
25	26 Memorial Day 	27 7:00 p.m. Shawnee VE Exams 7:30 p.m. CORA	28	29	30 C&E Deadline 	31
June 1 VE Exam(ARC)	2	3 6:30 p.m. LFSARC	4	5 7:00 p.m. Aeronautical Center 7:30 p.m. CARA	6	7 10:00 a.m. Ada ARC
8 1:30 p.m. Wheatstraw	9	10	11	12 7:00 p.m. Altus Area ARC	13	14 9:00 a.m. VE Exams (RSC) 09:30 a.m. SCARS
15	16 6:00 p.m. CORA VE Exams 7:00 p.m. CARC	17 7:30 p.m. OCAPA	18	19 5:30 p.m. VHF Club	20	21

STS-83 REDUX

While nothing's certain yet, NASA is investigating the possibility of reflying the STS-83 SAREX mission as early as July. According to a posting on the AMSAT bulletin board by writer Phillip Chien, KC4YER, if it happens, it will be the fastest post-Challenger turnaround for a shuttle, and the most rapid turnaround for a shuttle crew ever.

(Via AMSAT-NA BBS)

APT GOES HOME

Astronaut Jay Apt, N5QWL, recently went home to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania for a visit. His trip took place on March 23rd and while there he gave a free lecture at the Carnegie Science Center.

According to Bill Davis, KA3HPQ, Apt had an excellent program and mentioned both ham radio and SAREX. Jay also stated that he would never fly in space without Amateur Radio.

(Via ARRL)

DX

In DX, The Cuban VHF Group is making plans once again for participating in the ARRL's June VHF QSO Party. They would like to know if it is worthwhile to put in a special effort on the 1 1/4 meter band. The currently have doubts about 220 to 225 MHz as in past contests they have only worked five or six stations. If you will be active on 1 1/4 meters during the contest contact Jose Amador, CO2JA by e-mail to:

co2ja@co2bqq.ispjae.edu.cu

Also, those active on 2 meter moonbounce will be interested to hear

that SM5DIC, is now active as 5X1D from Uganda on 144 MHz. He uses 300 watts to a 17 element antenna and has already made a contact with W5UN.

Finally word that CY9AA DXpedition is a go for June 26th to July 3rd. Operation will be 160 through 10 meters SSB and CW, plus SSB on 2 meters near 114.200 for North America and 144.300 for Europeans. The group will also have an breakable QSK beacon on 50.101 MHz and will take time to listen on for stations calling on the United Kingdoms 4 meter band as well.

(Via various DX sources)

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