

Collector & Emitter

A CORA Publication

May 1998

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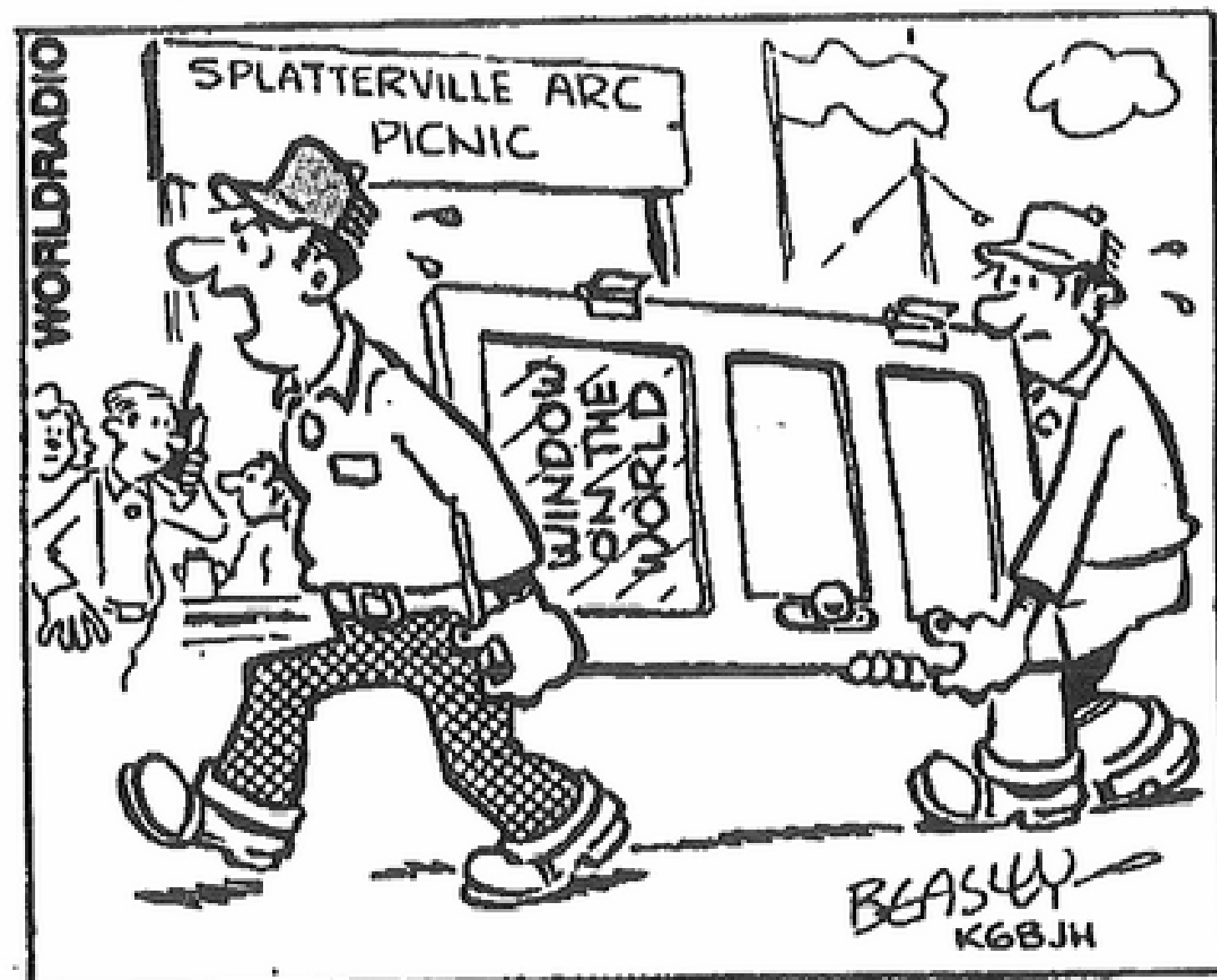
Postmaster See Page 2
For Postal Information

Periodical Mail

ARES: Why Are We Here???

VA Gov Signs Antenna Bill

Ham Radio Off Circus Train



I THOUGHT THE "DOOR PRIZE" WAS SUPPOSED TO
BE AN H.F. RADIO!

My Prayer

How to be Politically Correct

History of Time and Frequency

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, N5PJ**

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:

98/12	1	2	4	6
JOHN E. DOE, KA5ABC				
1234 SW 56th STREET				
RADIOVILLE, OK 74321-9876				

The "98/12" means the year/month C&E subscription expires.

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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:	14. Cimmaron Amateur Radio Assn. Meets: 1930L, 1st Thursday, WX5Y Playhouse 827 S. 13th, Fairview Pres.: John Medley, N5WVU 580-227-3534 VP: Kenneth Monahan, KB5SOM 580-227-3064 Sec: Dennis Painton, WK5V 580-764-3599 Treas.: Nadine Painton, N5FMH 580-764-3599 Editor: Kenneth Monahan, KB5SOM
2. Oklahoma Central VHF ARC Meets: 1100L, 2nd Wednesday, Home Town Buffet, 3900 NW 63 rd , Oklahoma City Pres.: Charles Greene, WA5JGU 943-5631 VP: Bob Ashby, W5HXL 942-5375 Sec: John Dome, KB5WVE 842-3493 Treas.: Jim Speck, W5AI 842-3055 Editor:	15. South Canadian ARS Meets: 0930L, 2nd Saturday, Red Cross Bldg North OU Campus, Norman Pres.: Dennis McCarthy, KC5EVH 447-2012 VP: Don Byer, KJ5KB 321-1673 Sec: Del Emis, KC5LKT 360-5837 Treas.: Jeff Wyke, KE5EB 329-6762
4. Oklahoma City Autopatch Assn. Meets: 1930L, 3rd Tuesday, Salvation Army Bldg NW 50th and Penn, OKC (Back Door) Pres.: Loyd Hargrove, AB5I 391-5723 VP: Sam Binkley, KL7V 942-2600 Sec: Austin McCaskill, NE5O 755-6522 Treas.: D. C. Macdonald, K2GKK 672-4947 E-mail: ocapa@juno.com	16. Meets: Pres.: VP: Sec: Tr: E-mail:
6. Altus Area Amateur Radio Assn. Meets: 1900L 2nd Thursday, Southwest Technology Center, Altus, OK Pres.: Ron Hughs, KC5UVC VP: Bob Casey, KC5CNC Sec: Alan Snider, KD5COH Treas.: Doc Barker, KM5IO 580-762-3623 Editor: Alan Snider, KD5COH	17. Ada Amateur Radio Club Meets: 1000L, 1st Saturday, Salvation Army Bldg 115 N. Oak St., Ada, OK Pres.: Scott Renes, KD5AJL 436-1369 VP: Dwight Myers, N0RIW 436-4755 Sec: Danny Coffey, KM5LB 436-1271 Tr: Finis Hallmark, KC5YGB 384-5470
8. Choctaw Amateur Radio Club Meets: 1900L 3rd Monday, Eastern Oklahoma Co. Vo Tech, 4601 N. Choctaw Rd, Choctaw, OK Pres.: Duane Angles, KA5WRG 670-6163 VP: Mike McFarland, N5WNT 799-0612 Sec: Treas.: Ron Ernest, WB9DAF 769-3207 Editor:	18. Lawton Fort Sill ARC Meets: 1900L 1 st Tuesday, Great Plains Area Vo-Tech room 301, Worley Center. Pres.: Paul Wardell, N5PYD 580-492-5743 VP: Mark Ewell, KC5IZN 580-536-4542 Sec/Tr.: Paul Goulet, KC5CYY 580-250-4247 E-mail: w5ks@rli.net
9. Wheatstraw Amateur Radio Club Meets: 1430L, 2 nd Sunday, Location Varies Pres.: Ray Barnes, AB5Z 580-274-3334 VP: Joel Bennet, KK5XS 580-328-5213 Sec/Tr.: Joe Garland, WA5FLT 580-893-2660 Editor: Ralph Wilder, WA5PFK 580-623-5421	19. Tri-State Amateur Radio Group Meets: 1930L, 2nd Thursday, Woodward, OK Pres.: Duane Henderson, KC5NID 580-994-2223 VP: Jay Kruckenburg, KB5SOO 580-994-2751 Sec/Tr.: Larry Goodwin Sr. KC5NZC 580-886-2383 E-mail: W5OKT@unibuilt.com
10. Oklahoma DX Association Meets: Hamfests and as announced in C&E. Pres.: Bruce Burnette, K5PX 918-455-2599 VP: Dave Land, KD5FX 580-762-8616 VP: Craig Boyer, AH9B 405-771-5929 Sec/Tr.: Mark Byard, N5OGP 580-762-1966 Editor: Mark Byard, N5OGP 580-762-1966	Your Club's Info Could be in this Space! If they were a CORA Member Club.
11. Edmond Amateur Radio Society Meets: Odd Months, 1400L, 3rd Sunday, St. John's the Baptist, Even Month, Dinner, 3rd Saturday Pres.: Jim Richardson, N5OHL 524-0456 VP: Steve Kuper, KC5RYT 722-5789 Sec: Sharon Thompson, KM5GV 844-6245 Treas.: Carl Shortt, KM5PA 359-1135 Editor: Sharon Thompson, KM5GV 844-6245 E-mail: ke5orp@juno.com	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, N5PJ 354-5075 Editor: Harold Miller, KB1ZQ 672-7735 E-mail: n1lpn@swbell.net

Deadline for May 1998 Issue of Collector and Emitter is Friday, May 29, 1998. Send all Articles to Collector and Emitter, 4216 Spiva Drive Del City, OK 73115-4424 on 3 1/2 inch floppy or e-mail to n1lpn@swbell.net. Articles received after the deadline may not be printed that month. Questions please do not hesitate to call - 405-672-7735 / 405-650-9963.

Central Oklahoma Radio Amateurs, Inc.

Minutes of the CORA meeting for April 25th, 1998.

The meeting was opened at 1:00 PM by the president of CORA, Hal Miller, KB1ZQ. There were ten directors present representing six clubs plus five officers present. The clubs represented were ACARC, VHF Club, OCAPA, EARS, SCARS, and LFSARC.

Secretary's Report.

The March minutes were accepted as printed in the C&E.

Treasurer's Report.

The treasurer's report was accepted unanimously.

President's Report.

Update on tower policy. CORA was billed for five towers, not four. Glenn Franklin's tower is still on the policy. His tower has been billed; the other parties involved in the CORA tower policy will be rebated.

C&E Report.

The club secretaries are doing a fine job in getting material into the C&E. Hats off to them for a job well done! Hats off as well to those amateurs who delight us with their articles and puzzles. Thank you!

ORSI:

Brad reported Oklahoma Repeater Society, Inc. has enacted new bylaws. The organization is Oklahoma's recognized amateur body which coordinated repeater frequencies in the state of Oklahoma. It is now divided into five districts; the OKC metro area, and four other districts which use I - 40 and I - 35 as dividing lines.

HAM HOLIDAY 1998

Tickets.

The ticket design has been finalized.

Buttons.

It was decided not to do buttons this year.

Publicity.

Tom Webb, WA9AFM, has sent publicity to all amateur magazines.

ARRL Booth.

This will be handled by the QWCA, which did such a fine job last year.

Bingo.

The budget for bingo prizes was increased

Confirmed Dealers.

At this writing we know the following dealers are coming. WB0W Inc.; MFJ; Caps Unlimited; D W Electronics

AO 27.

It is hoped we will have a good pass of AO 27 for those demonstrating satellite communications.

RV Spaces.

For those hams coming from outside the OKC area; the fairgrounds has a 400 space RV park with free hookups and showers. Cost is \$12.00 per night; the park is patrolled by fairgrounds security at night.

Joe Harding Memorial Scholarship.

The scholarship was printed in last month's C&E. All scholarship applications are due by June 6th, 1998. The scholarship is worth \$500.00. For any questions call Forrest Rush, N5VWF. You can contact him at (405) 842-8486; E-Mail is N5VWF@aol.com; Mailing address is PO Box 60252, OKC, OK, 73146.

Next meeting.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 26th, 1998 at 7:30 PM at Salvation Army Divisional Headquarters at NW 50 and N Pennsylvania Ave. All interested hams are urged to attend.

Forrest Rush, N5VWF
CORA Secretary

April CORA VE Session

On Monday April 20, 1998 the CORA VE session was conducted. Gee, what a beautiful day in Oklahoma City with a much needed rain followed by sunshine and clear air. Could not help but ponder that three years ago the relief and communication were in full swing from the OKC bombing of April, 1995. Amateur Radio and the Salvation Army played pivotal roles but despite our best efforts the pain was and is still, often, intense.

A good group of applicants were ready as were the CORA Volunteer Examiners. Nothing like the beauty of a Spring evening to bring out smiles and enjoyable visiting. Results from the April session is as follows:

Elements given-6
Elements passed-6
Taking exams-3
Upgrades-3

Amateur Radio operators taking tests at the April session were as follows:

Arnold Braker- passed 13 wpm code, General written and upgraded to General.

Justin Adams- passed Technician written, upgraded to Technician Plus.

Jean Harter- passed 13 wpm code, Novice and Technician written, upgraded to Technician Plus.

100 percent pass rate ! Congratulations to those taking the tests and to the always reliable CORA VE team in doing all the tasks before, during and after the session to make it all work out so well. Nice job all the way around. The next CORA VE session will be held on Monday May 18, 6:00 PM at the Salvation Army Divisional Headquarters. Entrance is on the southwest side of the Salvation Army building. This building is on north Penn near Northwest Expressway in OKC. Good luck in your test preparation. See you soon.

73 de John-WB5SYT

Chit-Chat

by Linda, NILPN

Springtime, the growing season...

As I look around me, I see a renewing of life in all it's glory and splendor. Trees are awakening after a long winter sleep. Flowers are beginning to splash the countryside with every color under the sun. Birds are gathering twigs and building nests. Rabbits have been sneaking into my yard to eat the tender plants in my very humble Vegetable Garden. People are coming outside into their yards and pulling weeds, planting flower gardens, and enjoying the weather. The neighborhood kids are once again playing basketball in our driveway and their parents know they are safe and welcomed to play here anytime.

I also know that many hams are busy climbing their towers and checking out their antennas, making any repairs necessary. High winds can keep the most dedicated ham on the ground but he can still find things needing to be repaired in his ham shack. Ham clubs are also having what is known as "Antenna Parties", checking out club repeaters, radios and antennas for wear and tear to repair as needed. If you happen to be a wife of a ham and have a garage you have just been waiting for his help to clean it out...good luck on getting it.

The radios come first. Not complaining, honest. The Spring is the perfect time to do tower work before the hot weather hits. A well maintained repeater system will be there when needed, bad weather is not a time for the radio equipment to go down just because no one was willing to work on it when they had a chance to. These radios may seem like a hobby for fun but they serve a very important function to the whole community as well. In times of bad weather, power outages and floods, a working radio can be the thin lifeline to getting help and information to those in need, the difference can mean saving of a life or not. Hams have always been the link in providing emergency communication during times of disasters and Oklahoma does have it's share of bad weather.

So Springtime is here once again, and everyone has plans on how it should be spent. As a wife of a ham, I worry when my husband climbs up our tower to check all the different antennas he has on it. This year, he plans to add a 6 meter beam antenna, he got it for me and my 6 meter radio. He says we will need to rent a crane to place the beam on top of his HF beam. Still, at the same time I feel secure with the knowledge he is doing it so the radios will continue working no matter what kind of weather.

You might get a call from your husband's club asking for his help on a Saturday morning, it is so tempting to not tell him too, be sure to not only give him the message but encourage him to go. Hams are also well known for their willingness to help out fellow hams with personal radio equipment as well as club equipment. Working as a team gets the work done in record time as well as being a learning experience for many on how to maintain radio equipment of their own. What is left for a wife to do? She could go with him on these outings, get in touch with other wives of the crew and plan a picnic lunch for everyone. She could plan to do something with friends while he is gone to help other hams. Either way, the garage can wait, it has lasted this long needing to be cleaned out, right? Enjoy the Spring, relax, and rejoice in all it's splendor. Storm season is just around the corner.

Words, the power of them...

There is a nursery rhyme I think everyone knows by heart. 'Sticks and stones may break my bones but words will never hurt me!' At one time or another, I believe that everyone has had this saying repeated to them by a well meaning person when someone has said something which hurt our feelings. I believe it is at that very moment we truly begin to see the power words have in our lives and how we view the world around us as well as each other.

At one time a person's word was his bond. Those that did not keep their word were dishonorable individuals, and word of their broken word spread faster than a prairie fire on a windy day. Today, our word is no longer enough to bind us in an

agreement, it must be in written form, signed and witnessed.

Words, full of hate and ugliness, can destroy a person's self confidence and feeling of self worth. Words, full of kindness and love, can give a person hope and peace. Words have a power like no other single thing on this earth.

There is another saying I grew up with, 'Think before you speak, for once said, you can never take back that which has been spoken.' In this time of rebirth, maybe it would better if people were more careful of what they said to each other and used words in a more positive way. Oh, what a better world this would be if everyone would encourage each other instead of finding fault with each other. Words, and how they are used can affect a person for a lifetime. Lets use the power of words carefully.

A book review...

I normally do not write book reviews, although I read between 3 to 5 books a week. I read about anything and I always have a book with me at all times. Mike has already stated that he will have to build me two more bookshelves this summer to hold my over flow of hardback books. The shelves he and Hal built two years ago are full. I collect cookbooks as well as reading and craft books. My oldest book is dated from the 1930's and is a Girls Scout Handbook, it was my aunts' when she was a scout. My oldest cookbook is from 1937 and is the revised copy from one written in 1931.

The book I would like to tell you about is a must have for anyone wishing to eat healthy, lower their fat intake, cholesterol, sodium and sugar intake and for the food to taste good in the process. The biggest complaint I have heard from many trying to change their eating habits is that they are too tired at the end of the day to spend all night cooking healthy meals. They want something easy to make and fast, they are hungry. This book does all of those things and so much more.

The book lists both the calories, fat, cholesterol and sodium per serving as well as the exchange count for those on the exchange meal plans. The book has 300

recipes and menus for special occasions or just for everyday meals. Most of the recipes take 30 minutes or less to make, a few require preparation time or marinating or being cooked in a slow cooker. The book has a special section which is educational and informative, written to help you better understand what is needed to make these changes in your life.

So, have I gotten your attention and interest yet? About anyone who has lost a few pounds these days is writing a how to book and many of these books and diets are not healthy. It is so confusing on what is the right path to follow when wanting to eat healthy. The author of the book I have found as my life line to eating healthy is M. J. Smith, Registered Dietitian. The title of the cookbook is "All-American Low Fat And No-Fat Meals in Minutes." She has written over 7 cookbooks as well and I have already ordered my second cookbook. "Around the World Low-Fat and No-Fat Meals in Minutes." I can't wait until it gets here.

If you are serious about changing your eating habits, this book makes it easy. To order her books through the internet or to find out more about her, visit her website at <http://agmail.com/lowfatkitchen> it is well worth a few minutes of your time, she is always updating it. To order by phone 1-800-848-2793. I am not sure but you also might be able to order the book from a bookstore, it would not hurt to call them up and ask.

I found this book by accident. My own dietitian suggested I stay away from recipes that did not have the nutritional values listed or the food exchanges. I was having to figure it all out on my own and that was time consuming. I looked through most of my cookbooks and the Weight Watcher ones listed the information but they took so much time to make. This little cookbook by M. J. Smith, RD had everything my dietitian required and the recipes are easy to create and taste great. Most have common everyday ingredients, nothing that cost an arm and a leg. So, I thought I would pass on my little find to you as a book review.

Enjoy and until next month....

Blinking CW

Word that not knowing the code can be expensive an expensive proposition. At least it was for one branch of the U. S. Military.

In the conflict between the pro and no-code segments of our hobby, one side usually brings up the argument that the military has abandoned the use of cw. In a recent set of sea trials by two vessels of the U.S. Navy, a combination of tests resulted in a total breakdown in conventional communications. Messages concerning maneuvers, course and speed had to be relayed in Morse code by blinker lights. This once common naval communications mode is evidently a lost art. Because the inability to quickly transmit and receive the messages involved resulted in an aircraft carrier backing into a cruiser at considerable speed. Damage to both ships totaled over \$10,000,000.

It's not known if the problem with the Navy's blinking light CW was on the transmitting or the receiving end.

(Via Amateur News Weekly)

Noisy planet

The blue planet Earth may be too noisy for radio telescopes. This, as radio astronomers say that signals from communications satellites, cellular phones and pagers are hampering efforts to search the skies.

One case in point involves the ten radio telescopes that stretch from Hawaii to the Virgin Islands. One astronomer at the University of Iowa, says that all this modern telecommunications equipment is operating in the upper UHF and microwave region are emitting radio waves are disturbing radio astronomy.

Some astronomers say the only solution is to limit the amount of RF that is emitted into the bands that they use to search the skies. Others go so far as saying that its time to start plans to build a radio telescope on the far side of the moon. This, they say will shield it from noise generated on the Earth and from satellite in Earth orbit.

(Via published news reports)

DX

In DX, Scottlands' Otley Amateur Radio Club will mount a Dxpediton to Bute Island for this year's IOTA Contest. The event takes place July 25 and 26th. Their entry will be Multi/Single. A special callsign has been applied for.

(Via QRZ-DX)

Red Cross Honors New York ARES/RACES

The American Red Cross chapter of Northeastern New York has formally recognized Amateur Radio's role during the January 1998 ice storm by presenting New York State RACES with its 1998 Good Neighbor Award. The award also acknowledged the hobby's continued support for the disaster relief agency.

At an April 28 ceremony in Albany, New York, former SEC Anthony Pazzola, WB2BEJ, and former DEC April Stack, K2ZCZ, accepted the award on behalf of all New York State ARES/RACES members who supported the ice storm operations. The Good Neighbor Award goes each year to an individual or organization outside of the American Red Cross that makes a significant humanitarian contribution to the local, national, or international community.

Pazzola and Stack, both communications officers for the chapter and members of the Northeastern New York Disaster Services Committee, received individual award certificates.

Pazzola and Stack will convey the award to New York State RACES Officer Ken Goetz, N2SQW, of Greene County at a ceremony this month. In addition to seeing North Country duty from the New York State Emergency Management Office, Goetz also advised amateur coordinators during the ice storm operation. The award will be on display in the New York State Emergency Management Office radio room--known to New York amateurs as "The Bunker".--

April Stack, K2ZCZ

(From ARRL Letter, 1 May 1998)



A. R. R. L. Bulletins

From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT
To all radio amateurs

ARRL Bulletin 29
April 24, 1998

Colvin Award to Swiss-led group for 3B7 DXpedition

An international group has received an ARRL Colvin Award grant to help fund a DXpedition to St Brandon (Cargados Islands) planned for May. St Brandon is part of the Republic of Mauritius in the Indian Ocean and is number 17 on the most-wanted list of DXCC entities. The ARRL Colvin Award Grants Committee voted to grant the Canton of Zug branch of the Union of Swiss Short-Wave Amateurs 5000 dollar(s) for the DXpedition. The group, under the leadership of Karl Graetzer, HB9JAI, has additional financial and in-kind support from Yaesu and Cushcraft, as well as from various DX clubs and commercial sponsors.

"We are very happy to have the contribution of the Colvin Award," Graetzer said this week. "It will help a lot."

Graetzer says all preparations have been completed and the team now is busy with flight cargo, customs formalities, and other activities. The group plans to arrive by boat on May 6 (gear will be ferried to shore by small boats) and to operate as 3B7RF from May 7 until May 17. Operation is expected to be continuous on all bands, including VHF, depending on propagation. Modes will include CW, SSB, RTTY and SSTV. Two individual sites will be set up with four operating positions. Fifteen operators from Switzerland, the US, Japan, and Israel will share on-the-air duties.

More information on the St Brandon DXpedition is available at
<http://www.3b7-brandon.ch>.

ARRL Bulletin 28
April 24, 1998

FCC assigns RM number, seeks comments on ARRL petition

The FCC has assigned a rulemaking number, RM-9259, to the ARRL's request for an FCC declaratory ruling equating band plan compliance with good amateur practice. The action is considered a bit unusual since RM numbers generally are assigned only to petitions for rulemaking, not to requests for a declaratory judgment.

The League's April 3 request asks the FCC to affirm that amateur operation that conflicts with established voluntary band plans and causes interference or adversely affects those operating in accordance with applicable band plans would violate FCC rules. The ARRL wants the FCC to acknowledge that hams should be familiar with--and should abide by--voluntary band plans applicable to the bands they operate and to state that those who don't operate in harmony with those plans are not operating "in accord with good amateur practice."

Comments on the League's request are due to the FCC by May 21. A complete copy of the League's petition may be found on the ARRLWeb at
<http://www.arrl.org/announce/declreq.pdf>

ARRL Bulletin 27
April 24, 1998

League supports lower vanity fee schedule

The ARRL says it supports the proposed lower fee to obtain a vanity call sign. The FCC proposed recently in its fiscal year 1998 fee schedule that vanity filers would pay just 12 dollar(s).90 for the ten year term, once the new schedule goes into effect later this year. That's the lowest fee in the history of the vanity program. Originally, vanity applicants paid 30 dollar(s) for the privilege of selecting a specific call sign. The fee jumped to 50 dollar(s) in September of 1997, just in time for Gate 3 filers but not in time for

Gate 4 filers to take advantage of the 30 dollar(s) fee.

In comments filed April 22 with the FCC, the League called the wide variation in fees over the life of the vanity program "clearly inequitable" and said the FCC should have handled the matter differently. The League called the proposed 12 dollar(s).90 fee "reasonable" and urged its adoption "as soon as possible."

ARRL Bulletin 25
April 3, 1998

Vanity fee to drop drastically

The fee to obtain an Amateur Radio vanity call sign would drop drastically under the FCC's proposed fiscal year 1998 fee schedule. If adopted, the new fee will be \$12.90 for the ten-year term, payable at the time of application for a new, renewal or reinstated license.

The new fee is contained in an FCC Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, MD Docket 98-36, Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 1998, released March 25.

The current vanity call sign fee is \$50.00 for the ten-year term. The FCC says it has no plans to refund the difference between the current fee and the new fee for applicants who submit applications before implementation of the FY 1998 fee schedule.

The FCC has calculated the new fee based on an expected 10,000 applicants during FY 1998.

The FCC says it will announce the effective date for the new fee either in the Report and Order that terminates the fee schedule rulemaking proposal or by a public notice.

ARRL Bulletin 24
April 2, 1998

Section Manager Recall Election Results
Members of the New York City-Long Island Section have recalled Section Manager Leonard Buonaiuto, KE2LE, in



VHF Club NEWS

W5LOW

Elmer Goekler Memorial
Station

Central Oklahoma VHF Amateur Radio Club

The Central Oklahoma VHF ARC held the April 15 meeting at Home Town Buffet, 3900 NW 63rd. Vice-President Bob, W5HXL called the meeting to order @ 1145 with 14 members present. It was noted that this was IRS day & all had already happily sent in their money. The treasurers' report was given by Jim, W5AI and approved. The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

There was nothing brought up under Old Business, and under New Business it was discussed that a couple of people could not make meetings on Thursday so the meeting date has been changed again, to the second Wednesday of the month, which will make the next meeting May 13th at 1100 @ the same Home Town Buffet.

A nifty "Get Well" card was made up by Norm, W5FLO on his computer, for Charlie, WA5JGU, our president. Charlie was in the hospital but since then has confounded the doctors again and was sent home. All signed the card to give Charlie their best wishes. Meeting adjourned at 1200, and then each person present was asked to say a few words about themselves and what was on their minds. Interesting bunch.

MFJ: A 75 year old man (ham?) saw his doctor and was counseled. The next day the doctor saw his patient coming out of a restaurant with a cute gal on his arm and said, "What's going on? I told you YOU'VE GOT A HEART MURMUR AND BE CAREFUL!". Old man says, "Oh, I thought you said GET A HOT MAMA AND BE CHEERFUL!".

The food was extra good, and no one over ate. (They said)

73, de J.R. KB5WVE

ARRL Bulletins (Con't)

a recall election. Today, the committee of tellers counted 699 yes votes and 347 no votes in answer to the single question on the ballot, should the Section Manager be recalled, yes or no. George Tranos, N2GA, has been appointed to complete the remainder of the term, which runs until January 1, 1999. The appointment is effective today. Tranos is immediate past president of LIMARC, an ARRL Life Member and Assistant Director. The first call for nominations in the regular Section Manager election will appear in the July 1998 issue of QST.

ARRL Bulletin 23

April 2, 1998

Ham radio eases tornado recovery in Minnesota

Ham radio operators from across Minnesota have been providing a link with the outside world this week after tornadoes struck two towns in the southern part of the state. Tornadoes flattened Comfrey, a farm community of about 500, and badly damaged the City of St Peter, population 9000 and the home of Gustavus Adolphus College. Electricity and telephone service were knocked out by the storm on March 29. At least two people were killed.

For Minnesota Section Manager Randy "Max" Wendel, N0FKU, this was more than a disaster that required the helping hand of ham radio. St Peter was his hometown, and the place where his parents still lived. Wendel and Minnesota SEC Gary Peterson, N0ZOD were among dozens of ARES members who responded.

Wendel and Peterson alerted other ARES members to be prepared to assist with communication, then headed for St Peter. ARES members from Rochester and the nearby Mankato area were among the others who turned out. Wendel himself arrived in St Peter after nightfall, using his ARES identification to get past state police barricades. Wendel found his parents safe and their home damaged. Others, including their neighbors, found themselves suddenly homeless.

Wendel said hams already had situated themselves at key locations, including the Nicollet County Emergency Operations Center, a shelter for victims, and at a sports arena. The ARES team set up an emergency base station at Gustavus Adolphus College. While most students were out of town for spring break, 28 students remained on campus and had no contact with the outside world.

During the next day or so after the tornado struck, ham radio was the only communication out of the city and the primary means to coordinate supplies into the city from the Red Cross in Mankato to the shelters in St Peter. The morning after the tornado, the Salvation Army arrived to distribute food. Hams provided logistical support for that effort as well. Other hams shadowed disaster assessment officials who went door to door throughout the city or handled net control duties at the EOC. Still others simply made themselves available as needed to cooperate in the recovery effort.

With typical ham ingenuity, Dave Kleindl, KA0BFP, scrounged enough materials to construct a temporary dipole to put a local broadcast station back on the air after its towers had been downed in the storm. With help from other hams, Kleindl also got a generator to a water tower that was still standing and reactivated the local VHF/UHF amateur and public safety repeaters.

"This event once again set a clear example of the importance of Amateur Radio during an emergency," Wendel said. Both he and Peterson stressed the importance of planning. Fortunately, the local government officials and agencies were aware of Amateur Radio as a resource. "When it comes to the unexpected, there is no time to explain who we are and why and how we can help," he added.

Wendel said that snow was falling in the stricken area on April 1. He expected ham radio involvement to end by the weekend as normal communication systems are restored.



WHY ARE WE HERE ???

EMERGENCY AND DISASTER COMMUNICATION

Amateur Radio exists because it qualifies as a service. Its existence depends to a great degree NOT on the service we have performed in past or on our simple potential for service, but ON WHAT WE ARE PERFORMING NOW and will CONTINUE to PERFORM in the FUTURE.

Therefore the ARRL in 1935 organized what we have today, Amateur Radio Emergency Service. In 1949 the National Traffic System came about. The emergency preparedness program of ARES is combined with the daily traffic handling program of the NTS into a single strong facility for rendering continuous service to the public. We as ARES members should strive to keep our emergency preparedness up to date by frequent drills and tests. (I apologize for not leading you into more of this activity.)

In an emergency the NTS is the vehicle for relay of traffic over medium and long distances while local ARES Nets take care of local communications. Close liaison is maintained between the two divisions.

In 1966 the ARRL directors recognized another division known as RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service). This division of radio service is in place but some areas such as OK City, it is not so visual. I need to do a survey to determine to what extent it is functioning.

There are also other amateur radio groups condoned by the league but the league does not presume to control their operation.

The league solicits any and all who are interested to any degree, in whatever way suits their individual inclinations.

I, personally, want to admonish every amateur to pick up the baton and run with us, with pride. Ours is a great heritage. Lets keep it going!

ARES is composed of licensed amateurs who have voluntarily registered through qualifications and equipment for communications duty in public service when disaster strikes. Every licensed amateur is eligible for membership in Emergency Service. The only other qualification is a sincere desire to serve. You do not have to be a member of ARRL or any other organization, or even ARES, to serve in disaster. But! But when you are joined with us in ARES, it diminishes greatly, the possibility we will be a disaster ourselves!

Emergency service activities in each ARRL section are under direction of the Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC) appointed by the Section Manager who is head of all areas of activity. Under the SEC are district emergency coordinators (DEC) with groups of cities and counties. Next is the emergency coordinator (EC) That's me. All amateurs in each community in a section, register with the EC. I represent you in dealing with relief agencies. Anyone can always contact me at 634-5235 for information of applications for ARES.

ATTENTION: I will be scheduling a meeting for Saturday, June 13, 1998 at 0930ish. This is for all amateurs. This is a discussion and planning meeting so mark your calendar and bring your input suggestions and questions. This meeting will be at the Salvation Army Headquarters Bldg at NW. 50th St and North Penn.

In respects to all the above, we are all indebted for privileges and opportunities that are ours in the greatest of all fun and service organizations. Please rebound, be rejuvenated and let us make this a great occasion. Thanks.

Jim, K5PER

ARRL Bulletins (Con't)

ARRL Bulletin 22

March 30, 1998

Spectrum Protection bill introduced

At the request of the ARRL, a bill has been introduced in Congress to ensure the availability of spectrum to Amateur Radio operators. The bill, HR 3572, the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 1998, would protect existing Amateur Radio spectrum against reallocations to or sharing with other services unless the FCC provides "equivalent replacement spectrum" elsewhere. The bill was introduced March 27 by Rep Michael Bilirakis of Florida, a Republican, with the cosponsorship of Rep Ron Klink of Pennsylvania, a Democrat.

If approved, the measure would amend Section 303 of the Communications Act of 1934 to preclude reallocation of any primary Amateur Radio allocations or diminution of any secondary allocations, and would block any additional allocations within such bands that would substantially reduce their utility to Amateur Radio, unless the Commission at the same time provides "equivalent replacement spectrum" to the Amateur Service.

The bill points out that a basic purpose of Amateur Radio is to provide "voluntary, noncommercial radio service, particularly emergency communications," and that Amateur Radio has "consistently and reliably" provided emergency communication during and after disasters. The measure notes that the FCC has "taken actions which have resulted in the loss of at least 107 MHz of spectrum to radio amateurs."

HR 3572 has been referred to the House Commerce Committee. An effort is under way to enlist additional cosponsors for the measure.

The full text of the bill is available at

<http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z>

Altus Area Amateur Radio Club

Member Spotlight for May 1998

[Editor 's note: Dottie KC5EEO is actively involved in Ham Radio and in our club. She is Net Controller for our Ham Nets on Monday (7:30 146.640) and Wednesday (7:30 146.790) nights, she greets everyone each morning on the commute to work, she knows everybody's callsign and lately she has been involved in HF Nets. Kinda got used to her always being on 79 if you ever needed something or just wanted someone to talk to, but her HF experiences have been very good too!! As you know, Ham Radio means different things to different people and..... well, let me have Dottie tell you in her own words.....]

What Amateur Radio Means To Me

by Dottie, KC5EEO
Boydsville, Oklahoma

November 29, 1993 the call sign KC5EEO was first heard on 2 meters. Since then the great people of Ham Radio have helped me through my alligator days, the possum and armadillo sieges and, most recently, the hen and rooster invasion. To me they are a second family. I mourn the Silent Keys and am always ready to welcome new members into the family.

I owe all my radio capabilities to my OM KC5CNB (Ralph). Less I forget, much thanks to W7BD (Bob in Burns Flat) also. Amateur Radio is my link to the world and only if you were suddenly blind as I was can you know the full extent of my thanks.

73s.

Dottie, KC5EEO



Minutes Of 9 Apr 98 Meeting

1. Meeting called to order at 7:05 P.M. by club president Ron Hughes, KB5UVC.
2. Introduction of members and visitors present.
3. Minutes of last meeting reviewed and approved with minor typographical errors in call signs noted.
4. Treasurer's report read and accepted.
5. Hamfest report: Hamfest flyers back from printer and ready for folding and sorting to be mailed.
6. Rattlesnake Hunt report: Fred, KC5SRJ, announced the club has the ice concession again this year and ask for volunteers to help.
7. Red Cross Van report: No change in the status of the renovation since last report. Jerry, K5QM, reported he has a donated weather station waiting to be installed in the van. Agreement between the Red Cross and the AAARA has been finalized and signed by club president Ron Hughes, KC5UVC.
8. 50-50 drawing was won by Bob, KC5CNC.
9. Mobil Alligator Award was passed from Jerry, K5QM, to Janice, KD5BNO.
10. It was brought to the attention of the club that the refreshments for the meetings should be handled by different members on a rotating basis. Bob, KC5CNC, volunteered to bring cookies and coffee to the May 14, 1998, meeting.
11. Guest speaker for the evening was Doug Speheger, KC5JUS, from the National Weather Service at Norman. His presentation featured slides and a video detailing the life cycle of severe thunderstorms, from the circumstances necessary for their formation, through their build up in strength, and culminating in the formation and results of the tornadoes they might span. This informative presentation was followed by

a lively question and answer session. Our thanks to Mr. Speheger.

12. Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Note from the Editor:

The Altus Area Amateur Radio Association has had it's web site under development since about March 15th and went "on-the-air" on March 20th. As of this writing, there have been over 1500 logons, which is pretty darn good for a new venture.

Our site contains many links to other ham web pages and, in fact, was just added to the "Amateur Radio Webring", which gives us access to over 1000 ham radio sites! We also have satellite and radar weather information and pictures online, local weather from WEATHER.COM, EROLS, gee, all kinds of stuff. Even have implemented Infoseek's News Wire Service.

This has really been an international effort getting everything together: input from hams in the US, Greece, England and Australia; a Guestbook from Germany; a chat window from Australia; Telnet Connection Link from England. This has been, above all things, an excellent learning experience for those involved. On April 22th the site was awarded the "Best Cyber Ham Award" (can you see me patting my back?).

On April 25 we moved to a new location: www.aaara.jellybean.com may not be a pretty name but it sure gets the job done. Please log on and sign the "guestbook". The biggest challenge is to give you, the ham operator, tools you can use without throwing all kinds of unnecessary stuff at you. I believe we are getting there, but sure could use your suggestions. Check it out and send your suggestions, comments, etc to me (just click on the email graphic at the bottom of the HomePage).

73s and See Ya Next Month, when the subject chosen will be packet radio and other digital modes.

de KD5COH Alan, Burns Flat OK
Packet: kd5coh v wxford 145.070 Mhz

ALTUS HAMFEST 1998

Saturday, July 11, 1998 8:00 to 17:00

Altus Oklahoma Community Center
401 Falcon Road
Altus Oklahoma 73521

Pre-Registration Form

Registration will be available at the door for \$6.00 per person. Pre-Registration is available at a discount and will qualify you in the drawing for the Pre-Reg Prize: MFJ 259 Antenna Analyzer

To Pre-Register, please use this form (photocopies are just fine). Mail with check or money order to:

Altus Area Amateur Radio Association
PO Box 73
Altus, OK 73521
Attn: Hamfest Registration

Callsign: _____ Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Ham Pre-Registrations	_____	@ \$5.00 ea	\$ _____
Non-Hams Attending	_____	@ \$4.00 ea	\$ _____
Vendor/Fleamarket Tables	_____	@ \$6.00 ea	\$ _____
Total Remitted:			\$ _____

Schedule of Events

Pre-Reg Prize: MFJ259 Antenna Analyzer
Grand Prize: Dual-Band VHF/UHF Mobile Xcvr
Many other hourly drawings as well.

Friday Night, July 10

19:00 Facility Open For Vendors To Set-up

Saturday, July 11

07:30 Doors Open For Vendors

08:00 Doors Open To The Public

09:00 VE Testing Session At Petticoat Junction

You must supply copy of license, picture ID, and completed exam forms.

11:00 to 13:00 Woody's Barbeque Served

14:00 Boat Anchor Auction

Unwanted items are donated to this auction

One Ham's junk is another ham's treasure!

16:00 Grand Prize Drawing

Facilities and Directions

Housing

Altus Best Western	1-800-528-1234
Ramada Inn of Altus	1-800-2-RAMADA
Falcon Inn	1-580-482-4726

Food

Woody's BBQ	1-580-477-4756
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Electronic Dealer

Radio Shack of Altus	1-580-482-7755
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Directions

Go ½ Mile East of North Main Street on Falcon Road. When you get to Altus just hollar on 146.790 or 147.285 repeaters. We'll guide you on in!!! 73's



Edmond Amateur Radio Society

Board Meetings Move

Many members wishing to attend Board meetings have had a conflict with Wednesdays. In an effort to make the monthly Board meetings more available to people, the meetings will now be held on Fridays (usually the 2nd Friday of the month). The May Board meeting is/was held on Friday, May 8th at the Club Station. Listen to the Monday Nite Net for dates of future Board meetings.

April Board Meeting

A good time was had by all at the April Board meeting. Those who wanted to eat first met at Brick's restaurant at 6:15. Soon the room was full, the mood was light, and the meeting began. There were 16 members and guests present.

The Secretary and Treasurer gave their reports, which were accepted as given. A second request was made of all Board members and Committee Chairpersons to prepare a job description of their office.

Jim, N5OHL announced that on May 16th the Club will have an "Emergency Picnic Net," a Club picnic in which the place will be finalized that very evening on the 147.135 repeater. Watch for more details. It should be a lot of fun. The May Business Meeting will be May 17th at St. John's at 2:00 PM. Jim Purpura, KB5YHT of the National Weather Service will give a presentation on the weather links and emergency weather procedures.

Club Trustee, Dee, WD5FHR reported that a bookcase is now located at the Club Station and the Club is accepting donations of any ham-related books or magazines. They will be available for members to borrow. If you have any

items you are willing to donate to the Club, please contact Dee.

Lee, KA5WIS of the Technical Committee reported that the ACC850 controller for the 147.135 has poor audio and cannot be adjusted any further. This is an obsolete item and parts are no longer available for it. Discussion ensued on the needs of the Club and the features of various controllers on the market. Lee will prepare a cost estimate and present it at the May Board meeting for consideration. The Board also discussed other items which the Club should consider as part of their weather emergency services, such as weather software, Internet access and the upgrading of the Club's computer hardware. Estimates will be prepared and submitted to the Board.

Jim, N5OHL reported that the Bertha Watson Memorial Scholarship applications for this year are currently being reviewed by a three-person board, and a selection will be made later this month.

Dave, K0TYC, HF Committee Chairman reported that Field Day will be held June 27-28 at the Oak Cliff Fire Dept. This is an excellent facility for this purpose. Details will follow shortly. Mark your calendars and plan to participate in this fun event. The Board approved the purchase of the K1EA logging software which will coordinate with the ARRL's new Field Day requirements.

CORA Rep Ron, KC5QCV gave an update on plans for this year's Ham Holiday. Everything is going well and expectations are high for this year's State Convention event.

Sherry, KD5CPJ, Coordinator of the Calling Committee reported that calls and emails are going out regularly in an effort to inform Club members of upcoming events. If you have an email address or a recently changed email address, please notify Sherry or Trish KC5YBP at goodteam@ionet.net.

FLOWER POLICY - A discussion was held on various options regarding the

Club's acknowledgment of bereavement within the Club. A consensus was obtained. A motion was passed unanimously to establish a Club policy that flowers would be sent by the Club in the case of the death of a current EARS Club member only, when that occurrence has been made known to the Club; cards will be sent in other situations.

Clara, KG5UG reported that the Edmond Historical Society has requested that EARS participate in their upcoming NASA Exhibit to be held from May 1 to July 31. The Board agreed to be a part of this. Clara and Trish, KC5YBP have obtained information and display items from NASA and the ARRL. EARS will have a working radio on air for the opening night festivities on May 1, from 4:00-6:00 PM. Astronaut Tom Stafford will be present.

The meeting was adjourned when our President noticed the weary wait staff standing in the wings. A good time was had by all, and a large amount of Club business was transacted. Board meetings are conducted alternately between the Club Station and Brick's restaurant. All are welcome and encouraged to come be a part.

April Dinner Meeting

A good group showed up for the dinner meeting in April, which was held at Johnnie's on N. W. Expressway. There were a total of 26 Club members and 12 guests present and a whole passel of onion rings were consumed! Dave and Sherry Storey filled up two tables themselves as they were surrounded by several of their children and spouses, and a darling little grandbaby. It was good to see new members, Charlie Gawron, KA8VKR and Joe Watson, W5WBR, too.

After introductions were given all around, Steve, KC5RYT reminded everyone of the upcoming "Emergency Picnic Net" on May 16th. This will be a fun time where an available picnic location will be chosen on the air, at which time everyone on frequency will grab from the nearest fast-food place and head for the pavilion. Listen for details on the Monday Night Net.

Trish, KC5YBP described the Club's plans to be a part of the NASA exhibit to be held at the Edmond Historical Society beginning May 1st. She was elated when Kathleen, KB5KIJ offered her assistance with display items as this is right down her alley.

Dave, K0TYC reported on the 89er Day Special Event station which had been held earlier that day. A total of 50 contacts were made and 6 new states were added in the Club's quest for WAS. Several DX stations were also contacted, including Russia, Italy and Panama. A fun time was had by all.

After a time of meeting new people, chatting and catching up on the latest, the group dispersed to their various haciendas, as another gathering of the EARS clan came to a close. Mark your calendars and plan to attend the next hooplas: The Emergency Picnic Net on May 16th and the potluck dinner at Field Day June 27th. Hope to see you there.

73, Sharon, KM5GV

Oklahoma Blood Institute

As many of you are aware, the Edmond Amateur Radio Society maintains an "account" at the OBI. To keep that account active, a certain number of donations need to be given throughout the year in the name of EARS. Whenever you donate blood at any OBI location, be sure to indicate that you wish your donation to be credited to the EARS account. What does this mean to you?? Besides the obvious benefit to all when blood is donated, this offers you as a member of EARS, an additional benefit. Any active member of the Club, should they ever need a blood transfusion, should contact the OBI. After insurance has covered whatever portion it will pay, the OBI will pay an additional portion of what would normally have fallen on the Club member. So, keep this in mind - and participate in this worthwhile endeavor. If you've given already - give again. If you've never given - Try it, You'll Like it!!!

New Members

EARS is glad to welcome the following new members to the club:

Joe Watson, W5WBR
Mark Tyler III, W3GFJ
Jimmie Payne, N5VDY
Ken Dunn, N5WKV
Gary Carson, KD5CPL

Correction: In the last issue of C&E, the spelling of the name and call sign of one of our new members was incorrect. Please note Squire Luttrell, and his call is KA9KFC. Apologies to you, Squire!

Be sure to tell your on-air friends about our club, and encourage them to join us.

May Birthdays

Birthday candles will be lit this month for the following members of EARS:

05-02	KA5AGM	Harold Hall
05-04	KG5UG	Clara Granger
05-06	KM5LE	Charles Alden
05-07	KC5GFX	Evelyn Carder
05-07	W5RT	Tony Bissell
05-08	KC5YKH	Dwight Shrum
05-09	N5PYV	Donna Seible
05-11	KA5WHI	Mary Wells
05-17	K5GBF	Harold Plunk
05-17		Claire Kuper
(Editor's Daughter's First Birthday)		
05-19	KC5UWA	Gary Ummel
05-20	KA5WIS	Lee Vaughn
05-22	KC5ZBX	Wesley Foote
05-24	KB5HWI	Stefy Guinn
05-28	KB5YHX	Bev Johnson
05-29	W5ERY	Allen Watson



Health and Welfare Report

We would like to offer our deepest sympathies to Jim, N5OHL, Linda, N5OJP, Paul, KB5KPL and all the family in the loss of their loved one Fred Richardson, KB5MRU (Jim's father). Please keep this family in your prayers.

Bob Hebert, N5SAG had his appointment with his cardiologist about a week ago and the doctor determined he is not physically

able to be tested on the treadmill or to undergo any surgery at this time. He had to change his medication due to side effects, and the new medication seems to be keeping him more comfortable. Bob, with your positive attitude, we hope all goes well with you. You are being remembered in our prayers.

73 de Clara Granger KG5UG
CONGRATULATIONS !!

The Edmond Amateur Radio Society announces the winner of this year's Bertha Watson Memorial Scholarship.

Winner of the \$1,000 scholarship this year is Jennifer Stevenson, a senior at Santa Fe High School, who will be an English major at the University of Central Oklahoma this Fall.

Jennifer aspires to become a teacher, and is currently in the Teacher Cadet Program. Her scholarship will be presented to her on May 11th at an Awards Assembly at her school.

There were several applicants with exceptional credentials, and we want to thank all those who applied. We wish you all well in your future endeavors.

Our thanks to Joyce Wolf, KC5NBI for all her efforts in putting this together, and to all our members who contribute to the Scholarship Fund.

Congratulations, Jennifer Stevenson !!

ATTENTION

For information on the Edmond Amateur Radio Society and its activities, call the EARS HOTLINE at 359-1135 - Select "3".

If you have suggestions or comments or wish to leave a message - Select "1".

IQ Test(Humor)

Test your IQ! (answers can be found at the end of the EARS Article... Don't peek!)

Scoring:

20 Correct - Genius
17 Correct - Above Normal
15 Correct - Normal
8 Correct - Nincompoop
6 Correct - Moron
3 Correct - Idiot

1. Do they have a 4th of July in England?
2. How many birthdays does the average man have?
3. Some months have 31 days; how many have 28?
4. A woman gives a beggar 50 cents; the woman is the beggar's sister, but the beggar is not the woman's brother. How come?
5. Why can't a man living in the USA be buried in Canada.
6. How many outs are there in an inning (baseball) ?
7. Is it legal for a man in California to marry his widow's sister?
8. Two men play five games of checkers. Each man wins the same number of games. There are no ties. Explain this.
9. Divide 30 by 1/2 and add 10. What is the answer?
10. A man builds a house rectangular in shape. All sides have southern exposure. A bear walks by the house. What color is the bear? Why?
11. If there are 3 apples and you take away 2, how many do you have?
12. I have two US coins totaling 55 cents. One is not a nickel. What are the coins?
13. If you have only one match and you walked into a room where there was an oil burner, a kerosene lamp, and a wood burning stove, which one would you light first?
14. How far can a dog run into the woods?
15. A doctor gives you three pills telling you to take one every half hour. How long would the pills last?
16. A farmer has 17 sheep, and all but 9 die. How many are left?
17. How many animals of each sex did Moses take on the ark?
18. A clerk in the butcher shop is 5'10" tall. What does he weigh?
19. How many two cent stamps are there in a dozen?
20. What was the President's name in 1950?

HAM HIGHLIGHTS

This month I would like to introduce you to a Ham Couple - Dave, K0TYC and Sherry, KD5CPJ Storey. I know there are a lot of ham couples out there. Sometimes it may be because of interests which run along the same lines, and sometimes it may be that if you can't beat 'em, join 'em.

But no matter what the case may be, it is a special treat for couples to be able to share common activities such as communications events, ham fests, etc., as well as a real convenience to be able to keep in touch around town on their handi-talkies. So, this month I want to give you a peek into just such a couple.

Both Dave and Sherry were born in St. Louis, MO and grew up in that same area. They have 4 children and have been in the Oklahoma City area since 1982. Dave is the Service Manager/Technician for Home Choice Rent-to-Own. In the past, he has been a Diesel Electric Power Plant Operator/Trainer in the USAF and has an Associates degree in Communications Electronics. (Speaking of the Air Force, we need to ask Dave for the details behind his remarks about "almost being arrested by the local German Police the night before returning to the US.") Sherry has worked at a variety of positions at St. Francis of Assisi Parish in OKC.

This couple has many hobbies and interests. Of course, Dave has a great interest in electronics and electricity, as well as mechanics and carpentry, and stays as busy as he can with all of those. Sherry loves to travel and has a collection of rocks and minerals she has found in various states, as well as state charms for her bracelet. She is short only 11 states on the mainland, and hopes to someday add Alaska and Hawaii. As a child, Sherry was very active in 4-H and was honored in 1967 when she was selected as a State representative to the National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago. Sherry also enjoys anything to do with arts and crafts and is currently caught up in counted cross stitch. But the real obsession of her life is Genealogy, which Dave affectionately calls "digging up stiffs." (sounds like Dave, doesn't it?!) She has put together a really complete family history on the Storey's and has traced all 8 sets of great-grandparents back between 7 and 15 generations. Quite an accomplishment!

Dave was first licensed in 1957 as KN0TYC when he was 14 yrs. old. "I immediately nailed down a platform on the roof of the family home in St. Louis

and installed a 40-m Inverted Vee antenna. Shortly after that, the roof started leaking and I never could understand what had caused this to happen!!" He was exposed to ham radio by the members of the Cleveland High School Amateur Radio Club. He was also interested in commercial AM Radio and used to visit the Oldest AM Radio Station West of the Mississippi - WIL. He became friends with the Chief Engineer who gave him his Novice license exam. Dave tells us, "At one time I thought I would make a great disc jockey. My kids laugh because they found an audition tape of mine as a disc jockey. It had better not surface again!"

In 1958, Dave upgraded to Technician as K0TYC (also his current call) and amateur radio was his favorite pastime in high school. In 1995, Dave's employer changed hands and he found his evenings free. Sherry suggested he turn his free time back into amateur radio, which he did. Jim, N5OHL helped him get started again and gave him the incentive to upgrade. And upgrade, he did: General in '96, Advanced and Extra in '97.

During this time, Sherry found herself intrigued by ham radio, but thought of it as "his hobby." Sherry describes what changed all that. "The summer of '97 changed all of that with Dave's by-pass surgery. Dave and I went for a leisurely drive and ended up at Heyburn Lake State Park outside of Kellyville. I thought to myself, 'What if something were to happen to Dave. I don't know the first thing about that 2-meter.' At the EARS August dinner meeting, they announced that new licensing classes would start that fall, and my daughter said, 'There's your chance, Mom.' I joined the class, passed my Novice theory in October, and the Tech theory and 5 wpm on November 2nd with the rest of my class. My thanks to all who taught our class, the friendly smiles and the pats on the back with encouragement from all the EARS members."

Sherry says at the present time, she tinkers with 10-meter voice and 2-meter around town. Like some others in the Club, she was broken in at the November

Statehood Special Event station. The EARS group at the station had made contact with a missionary in South America. Upon learning that Sherry had just received her license, he wanted to talk with her and become her first DX. She says, "How can you forget someone with the Call HC5CB 'Hot Chocolate 5 Charlie Brown.'" She decided at that moment to upgrade to General. She is currently studying and expects to pass the theory and code within the next month or so. She is also enjoying the communications activities and recently was given a crash course in driving a golf cart when she and Dave helped with the St. Patrick's Day parade.

Dave is active in both phone and CW, and prefers 20 meters for consistent HF in the U.S. and 15 meters for CW. He operates off a TS-520SE Kenwood with a multi-band dipole. For 2 meters, he has an HTX-242 Radio Shack with a "KM5GZ 'J' Pole Special," plus a couple of ADI HT's. Dave says he is a member of the ARRL Old Timers, Ragchewers, and an official member of the Rebel Net.

Dave and Sherry are both active in the Club. Dave serves as the HF Committee Chairman and is active with Field Day and Special Events. Sherry is Chairman of the Calling Committee, and is thankful to Clara, KG5UG for being her Elmerette.

We asked Dave if there was any amateur radio issue he would like to comment on, and he shared that he would like to see the license classes re-done so that Novice required no code, was valid for 1 yr. only, with VHF privileges only. Tech with 5 wpm, valid for 10 yrs. with some HF and all VHF/UHF. General with 10 wpm, Advanced with 15 wpm, and Extra with 20 wpm, all with the same privileges as currently. He added that he feels volunteer organizations, such as ham radio clubs seem to take a back seat to people's other personal wants. He hates to see needed services struggling so hard for volunteers.

Dave and Sherry both had things to say to their friends in EARS. Here it is in their own words. Dave: "I would like to thank

the club for taking an interest in me and I hope to repay them the best I can." Sherry: "No one was prepared for the shocker of Dave's surgery last summer. I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all of the EARS members for just being there for our family."

Thank you, Dave and Sherry for the time and effort you both put in as you participate in the EARS activities. We look forward to serving alongside you in the years to come.

Well, folks, there you have it. A look into the lives and interests of a very special EARS couple, who celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary in 1997. We know they will continue to enjoy their mutual interest in ham radio for years to come, and we will all benefit from their knowledge, and their willingness to participate in the activities and services of the Club. Thanks for sharing your thoughts and history with us, Dave and Sherry. We feel like we know you a little bit better now.

73 to all de Sharon KM5GV

Edmond Historical Society Exhibit Explores Space

Edmond's Place in Space: The NASA Connection will splash down at the Edmond Historical Society (431 S. Boulevard) for a three-month long educational mission May 1 - July 31. This traveling exhibit, whose home base is the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, is geared toward educating the public about the history of space exploration and the contributions Edmondites and other Oklahomans have made.

The exhibit will include the History of Manned Space Flight, Edmond and Space Exploration, a Moon Rock, a Space Suit, Space Food, a photography collection entitled America From Space and a Current Events Time Line. The Edmond Amateur Radio Society is contributing a small exhibit showing the connection between Space and Amateur Radio. A live station will be on air during the opening ceremonies on May 1. Throughout the summer, special events will be ongoing in conjunction with the

exhibit such as the Space Food Tasting Party.

One of those Edmondites being recognized by the exhibit is J. Milton Heflin, Jr., who was named 1993 Astronaut of the Year by Countdown Magazine. Milt Heflin graduated Edmond High School and the University of Central Oklahoma in 1966 with a physics degree. He was later the lead flight director for the space shuttle Endeavor and its mission to repair the Hubble Space Telescope. He is one of the veterans of the Apollo program, and continues to carry the title of flight director for the space shuttle transportation program. You might recognize him as a Founding Member of the Edmond Amateur Radio Society, and its first president. Congratulations, Milt!

The exhibit will be open Monday-Saturday 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Thursday 10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m., and Sunday 1:00 p.m.-4 p.m.. Admission is free. More information can be found by calling the museum at 340-0078, or by visiting the website at:

<http://www.oklahoman.com/nasa>.

Ham Radio and MIR

When you ask someone who's not a ham if they know what Amateur Radio is, they'll often talk about some natural disaster or emergency that they knew ham radio operators had helped handle communications for. Ham Radio served as a vital link during the Russian Space Station Mir crisis last June when the Spektr module got rammed. For Mike Foale, KB5UAC, onboard Mir, ham radio was a valuable supplement to conventional Russian communications. Just hours after the Mir was dinged by an unmanned cargo rocket and the crew struggled to stabilize the ship, Mike used the ham gear onboard to talk to NASA managers and fellow astronauts at the Johnson Space Center W5RRR Amateur Radio station. To quote Matt Bordelon, KC5BTL, at Johnson Space Center: "When I got over to the W5RRR station, the room was packed.

Ninety percent of the room was licensed astronauts. A hush fell over the room as

Mir started its trek above the horizon over Houston. We didn't know if Mike would have the radios on -- available power was down to 50%, and all nonessential equipment was turned off. We didn't know if Mike would be terribly busy with taking care of problems. We hoped he was okay. Before we even had a chance to say Mike's call sign, he called us! Following a huge collective sigh of relief, astronaut Dave Leestma, N5WQC, (now a NASA administrator) took the mike, followed by several others during the 10-minute QSO. Each fellow astronaut gave Mike a pep talk and told him they'd be listening for him on future passes over the horizon, the next few days. Everyone was very thankful for the ham radio and the excellent link it provided. It allowed us to determine that Mike was indeed okay, and that the possible life-threatening situation was being handled by the crew members as best as could be.

73. Rosalie White, WA1STO (ARRL)

ANSWERS TO THE IQ TEST

1. Yes, it isn't a holiday however.
2. One per year
3. Every month has 28 days
4. The beggar is her sister
5. He's alive
6. Six, three per team
7. No, he is dead
8. They are not playing against each other
9. 70 (30 divided by one-half ($1/2$) = $30 \times 2/1$ (invert the fraction) = $60 + 10 = 70$)
10. The bear is white (polar bear) because he is at the North Pole
11. If you take away 2, you have two (the two you took away)
12. One is a fifty cent piece, the other is a nickel
13. You would light the match first
14. Halfway, then he is running out of the woods
15. One hour. You take the first pill immediately, then the 2nd pill in $1/2$ hour and the 3rd pill another half-hour later or one hour from the beginning
16. Nine
17. Moses didn't take any animals on the ark, Noah did
18. He weighs meat
19. Twelve
20. Bill Clinton

Amateur Radio Newsline

Nashville Tornado Ham Help

Ham radio operators in and around Nashville, Tennessee are still involved in the aftermath of tornadoes that swept through the area a week ago.

Amateur Radio springs into action as two tornadoes ripped through the Nashville, Tennessee area last Thursday afternoon the 23rd. Approximately 100 people were injured by flying glass and blowing debris. While one man who was hit by a falling tree in Centennial Park was listed in serious condition following the destruction of the tornadoes.

Amateurs were first called out at 7:00 AM by the National Weather Service to man the local Amateur Skywarn Net. Robert Harris, N4PQV was net control and said things got hairy even before the actual tornadoes hit.

"Earlier in the morning one of the storm cells we tracked through the Brentwood area. There were, there was one gentleman I do believe it was WD4ICI is a school teacher in Brentwood. And he checked in with net control who was me at the time. He checked in with net control to check on the status of a storm and with the National Weather Service help we had an operator at the National Weather Service that was looking at the local radar. With their help we had the students at that particular school go into their storm watch areas. At that particular time they put them in the hall ways and set them on the floor.

Then a little bit latter on another school just east of that location that we also did the same thing to. And there was a different ham that was local right there at the school had them in the same position because of the storm cells that moved through.

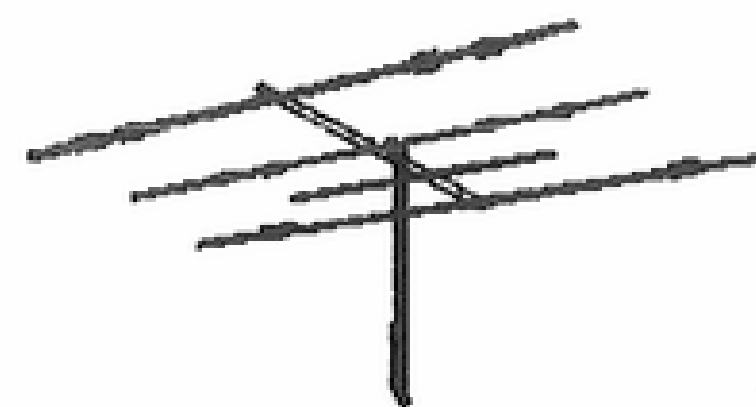
There were three different storm cells move through that particular area that morning. All three of which looked, from the National Weather Service, they looked

to be tornadic"; Robert Harris, N4PQV

Not only did amateurs man the Skywarn Net for 13 hours, they provided communications for the Office of Emergency Management, the Red Cross, and Damage Assessment teams after the tornadoes knocked out virtually all cellular and land based telephone systems.

Weather service officials say that more storms could threaten the area before the tornado season comes to an end. The hams say that they are ready if this should occur.

(Via Newsline)



Virginia Governor signs statewide Ham Antenna Bill

Hams in Virginia win an important victory as Governor Jim Gilmore signs into law that state's new Amateur Radio antenna bill that limits local regulation of Amateur Radio antennas. The measure requires local ordinances involving the placement, screening, or height of antennas to impose the minimum regulation necessary to accomplish the locality's legitimate purpose.

But it does not end there. The new law also sets a height of 200 feet as the regulatory minimum in localities having a population density of fewer than 120 persons per square mile. It also provides for a 75 feet regulatory minimum height in more densely populated communities. And best of all, localities may not regulate the number of support structures in either case. In other words, a ham can put up as many antennas as he or she wants.

Bob Ham, KK4IY, of Vinton, Virginia was the prime mover behind the bill. He worked with state Senator John Edwards of Roanoke to get it into the legislature and get it enacted into law. It goes into effect on July 1st.

(Via ARRL, others)

Ada Amateur Radio Club

April Meeting

The monthly meeting of the Ada Amateur Radio Club got under way at 9:20am at the Ada Salvation Army Center. We had 16 members and 1 visitor in attendance.

The treasurer's report was given and accepted without objection.

John Burchett gave a brief report on the work on the repeater antennas and said that it will soon be completed if the weather cooperates.

In other business we are still trying to get a current list of club members together for publication at a later date.

If you know of any changes in address or other information that we need to include about you please contact Scott, KD5AJL.

We had one guest in attendance Bill Myrick from Dallas who also kindly donated some hard line to the club.

Chris, KD5CCS gave a presentation and demonstration of a CW Keyer for use on a Handitalki or other FM equipment. If you are interested in building one Chris has diagrams or they can be found in a back issue of QST. This is a simple project and the parts can be obtained at Radio Shack stores.

A demonstration of packet radio was given by Roy Throne, KB5STV. This was very interesting as he had portable system in a laptop computer case, it consisted of a Compaq portable computer, a Kantronics TNC, and a Radio Shack HTX-202 handheld all running on batteries.

Another station was setup in the radio cabinet at the Salvation Army Headquarters. Roy showed how a callbook server could be accessed and several other very interesting systems.

There are many other exciting things that can be done but I had to leave due to prior commitments.

We hope everyone had a wonderful Easter.

Danny ,KM5LB
Secretary

P.S. Many thanks to the fine people who put the C&E together for running our missed Letter . Thanks Again

Newsline (Con't)

Alinco VHF+UHF "Credit Card" HT

Just in time for Hamvention '98, Alinco has announced the introduction of its new credit card sized dual band Handy-Talkie.

The DJ-C5T covers 144 to 148 MHz on 2 meters and 420 to 450 MHz on the 70 centimeter band. While only slightly larger and thicker than a credit card the HT does have an internal speaker and lithium ion battery. The tiny radio has 50 memories, CTCSS encode and decode, a removable rubber coated antenna and includes AM aircraft band receive.

Alinco says that the DJ-C5T has already won FCC type approval and is expected to be available at its dealers in mid-May. While no pricing has been announced, the company says that the anticipated "street price" of the radio will place it among the most affordable dual band HT transceivers.

(Via Alinco release)

Kit building at Hamvention '98

And kit building is making a big comeback in ham radio. In fact, its fast becoming the newest old fad to hit the service in years.

So as to accommodate the growing number of requests for more information in this almost lost art, Joe Eisenberg, WA0WRI of Lincoln, Nebraska is teaming up with some of today's hottest kit makers to host a first-ever Kit Builders forum at the 1998 Dayton Hamvention. Eisenberg tells Newsline that just like the song, everything old is new again:

"What we are going to do is to try to show people the fun of building kits. We will even try to have a soldering iron for someone to try his hand at building with. We are going to show all the fun it is to put together kits and then make QSO's using gear you have built yourself."; Joe Eisenberg, WA0WRI.

Eisenberg says that he will be joined by a number of today's popular kit manufacturers:

"We will have representatives from Ramsay Electronics, Ten-Tec, Elenco, the G-QRP Club and Electronic Rainbow."; Joe Eienberg WA0WRI.

WA0WRI's Kit Builders Forum takes place on Friday afternoon, May 15th at the Hara Arena in Dayton. For more information on this and other exciting Hamvention events, visit their website at: <http://www.hamvention.org>

(Via Newsline, WA0WRI)

Windtracks '98

It's spring and its time for hams to start launching and chasing more radio equipped balloon flights.

It was a perfect day for flying the blue skies of Indiana. Frosty temperatures greeted two dozen Green Field High School students as they prepared to launch Windtracks 16. A high altitude balloon experiment. The nine pound payload containing 3 amateur radio transmitters and equipment soared into the skies over central Indiana and began its 68 mile trek south east toward Kentucky. The balloon burst at 65,000 feet, but not before sending back sharp color pictures from its two onboard cameras.

Students at the high school and at a second elementary school in South Port, Indiana monitored the balloons progress via the onboard gps packet system.

Eight chase teams converged on a small farm near Milan, Indiana to recover the parachute and transmitter packages from the top of a 70 foot tree. It took nearly two hours to cut all of the packages free. Students at both schools ran all the radios used to communicate with the chase teams.

The next launch is set for 12:00 UTC on Saturday, April 25th from the Challenger Center in Brownsburg, Indiana.

Hams can view live and archived pictures of Windtracks flights via the web at:

<http://www.windtracks.org>
(Via Amateur News Weekly)



Lawton / Ft Sill Amateur Radio Club

HamFest 98:

The folks in Lawton have done it again when it comes to putting on a successful Hamfest. It was certainly good to see so many friends from the City and Wichita Falls venture to Lawton for a visit. Timing was perfect, you could also see a car show, Latino Dancing and lets not forget about the oldest Passion Play in America at the Easter Pageant held each year in the National Wildlife Refuge. Our own Andy Wallace, KC5GHH, of KSWO TV7 hosted their annual program "THE FIFTH SEASON" held in the Mall, did I forget to tell you that the weather cooperated to the fullest too! If you ventured to Lawton to visit us and complimented your visit with any one of the other events you certainly had a great weekend, we certainly enjoyed your presence.

There were several brand new hams that came out of the testing room along with a bunch of upgrades. Lawton has been making an extra effort to attract women into our hobby. It is good to see that our efforts are paying off. Amateur Radio is the one hobby that best prepares a young man or women for the world of the high tech industries available or those just being developed. After all, what other hobby allows you to develop confidence, communication skills, work with X-Ray, Amateur Television, Microwave, bounce a signal off the Moon, talk to an astronaut or assist during an emergency and a host of other topics that round out the amateur radio experience.

Success started with chile, KB5KKJ; a crock of beans, W5PML; and cookies provided by KC5YYU. We learned a long time ago that providing a meal for any

and all during setup goes a long way. Setup is big project and there is plenty that must get done. Hats off to Bob Morford, KA5YED Hamfest committee chairperson.

June Elections:

The Officer Nomination Committee chaired by Bob Morford, KA5YED has searched the club roster and located talented people that have agreed to serve if elected. Nominations will be announced at the May meeting. Nominations can be made from the floor at the May meeting too. The member being nominated from the floor, should be present if at all possible. This allows that nominee an opportunity to accept or decline the nomination.

Classes are on the way.

The life of any organization is dependent upon the ability to continue to bring fresh ideas to the table. KC5IZN and KK5QY have organized a class that will begin informally during Field Day and have their first class beginning on July 11 and continue for 6 Saturdays after that. This class will happen even if there is only ONE person interested in learning how to become an Amateur Radio Operator. They will meet in one of the training rooms donated by Memorial Hospital from 9 a.m. until about noon each of those Saturdays. This will be a no cost class except the cost of the book. Additional materials will be provided by the club, copy expenses and other miscellaneous items so as not to overly burden the student. Please do what you can to assist in teaching when called upon. Lets make sure that we all do our very best to encourage and welcome each potential new operator into our hobby.

Executive Board:

Currently a painting crew is completing the work necessary to return the checked water tower to FAA standards. There is no doubt that the 146.91 repeater is in need of serious antenna repair. Without pointing any fingers at who shot Johnny, the Executive Board met to discuss the problem and decided to authorize the expenditure of funds so that when the painting was completed, we could repair and replace any and all damaged antenna equipment. We are guests on city

property at the leisure of the city and want to make certain that we continue to be welcome guests.

Renewal/Membership:

Its time to either cut bait or fish. Elections are coming up in June and your voice needs to be heard. Here is the current voting membership roster. If your call sign is NOT here you are not eligible to vote in the election of officers in June. Renew your membership NOW. Elections determine the direction and priorities the club will take. Make your voice count. Contact me immediately if you have paid your dues and do not see your CALLSIGN. During the day I can usually be reached at (580)250-4247. Dues are \$24 Single, \$35 Family and \$6 Students (under 18), \$7 Associate (non-voting) and were due at the 1st of the year. If you have not paid your dues, please take a moment to renew your membership and mail your dues to: LFSARC, POB 892, Lawton OK 73502. If you choose to NOT renew your dues, you may directly subscribe to the C&E as this will be your last issue.

The following members are on record as being eligible to vote in the up coming election. AB5BW, AC5EB, K4ABN, KA5DXR, KA5FWZ, KA5YED, KB5GDE, KB5IYB, KB5KKJ, KB5PPZ, KB5QEF, KB5SMT, KB5TPX, KB5VKF, KB8VXA, KC5CYY, KC5EIU, KC5EOO, KC5ERZ, KC5GHH, KC5GVE, KC5HJU, KC5HJV, KC5HSP, KC5IZN, KC5JAU, KC5MNN, KC5NVT, KC5NVU, KC5NVV, KC5PZJ, KC5SVR, KC5TTX, KC5WOY, KC5YYU, KC5ZNB, KC5ZYZ, KC7ICM, KC7OPP, KD5BTL, KD5CYI, KD5RQ, KE5MK, KJ5AA, KK5QY, KK5WV, KM5NU, N5AUK, N5ECB, N5PYD, N5RXF, N5SAO, N5UJB, N5WTS, N5WTV, W5KCB, W5OJO, W5PML, W5SZ, WB5FWJ, WB5GVZ

The following members are on record as being associate members. K5YZK, KB5RCL, KB5RDB, WB5EQR, WB5YZD

Notes from the Vice-President

Many thanks to all who participated in HAMFEST. By all reports it was an overall success. This was a busy weekend

with club members all over the Lawton / Ft. Sill area supporting the HAMFEST, the Easter Passion Play at the Holy City and representing amateur radio at Central Mall in conjunction with KSWO - The Fifth Season where we had many inquiries and sign ups for amateur radio classes. Too numerous to mention those involved so kudos to all!!!

The St. Jude Bike Ride went extremely well. All present had fun and the weather was wonderfully cooperative. A record number of bike riders entered this year. As always when going through the refuge we are on "Buffalo Watch" and had a temporary "Buffalo Warning" until the Park Rangers skedaddled them with a blast on their sirens. It was clear riding thereafter. Next up -- the Tour de Meers on May 23rd -- mark your calendars!

Our thanks to Bill Wyatt, N5WO of the Oklahoma Mesonet Project who gave us an update on the project at our last club meeting. The presentation was most informative and done live on the INTERNET. Bill reviewed the basis of the OK Mesonet Project, construction of each MESONET site of which there is at least one in every county in Oklahoma and how that data is collected, transmitted, analyzed and distributed. Bill also used the INTERNET to describe previous tornadic supercells giving us insight to development and progress of these storms. Our thanks to Bill again who took time out of a busy schedule to share with us the latest in weather technology which is unique to Oklahoma. Check out his webpage <http://radar.metr.ou.edu/bwyatt> The Oklahoma MESONET is at <http://okmesonet.ocs.ou.edu> Check them both out!

Teckla Hacker, Director along with Ginger and Mark Jennings of the Great Plains Chapter of the American Red Cross were introduced to the members of the club and a presentation was made regarding the range of services offered by their organization. They have been very active not only here in Comanche County but also around the US with all of the recent tornadic outbreaks in the southeast. We welcome them to our club and hope to see at least three more licensed amateurs soon!

The W5KS - ARES Severe Weather Net was activated one time since our last club meeting in April. Most of the activity seems to be in the eastern part of Comanche County. Systems continue to move in from the west coast so let's keep our heads up! After the recent 4.2 earthquake we can now say we just about have it all in SW Oklahoma! More info at <http://www.ou.edu/special/ogs-pttc>

Dennis McCarthy, KC5EVH of the National Weather Service mentioned the new weather radios with Specific Area Message Encoding (SAME) which now allow the radio to activate only for programmed counties. I have personally purchased one and it is GREAT because the alert sounds only for coded areas and not the entire listening area. Ask me about this system which is also referenced at the National Weather Services web pages.

PROGRAMS

May -- APRS and GPS, Nominations for Club Officers

June -- Preparation for the Tour of the Wichitas and Field Day, Election of Club Officers

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 23rd -- Tour de Meers (W5KCB)

June 8th -- VE Testing GP Vo-Tech Rm 222 (KD5RQ)

June 21st -- Tour of the Wichitas (W5KCB)

June 27th & 28th -- Field Day @ McCord Baseball Field, Cameron University (KC5IZN)

July 11th -- Technician Class starts @ Comanche County Memorial Hospital (KK5QY)

July 25th -- Ham Holidays in Oklahoma City (CORA)

Saturday Morning Breakfast at WhataBurger on 28th and Cache @ 0900 local

NETS

W5KS SW Oklahoma ARES NET Thursday 1900 local 146.91(-)

KD5BTL Commuter Net Daily 0700-0800 local 147.39

73 de KC5IZN (Mark)

Newsline (Con't)

Ham Radio bumped from Circus Train

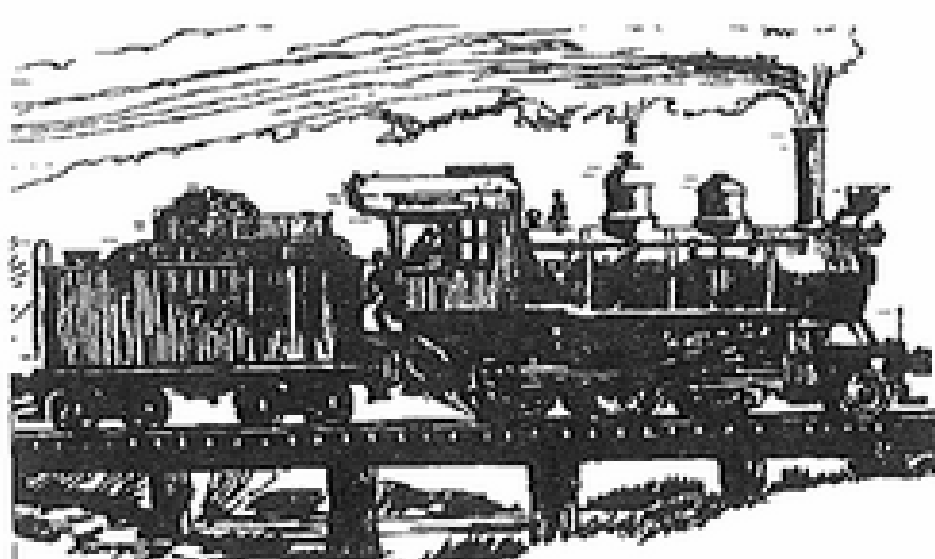
After thirty years of dedicated service, ham radio has been kicked off the annual run of Wisconsin's Great Circus Train to make way for commercial communications. Circus World Museum which sponsors the annual rail event cites severe space limitations for its decision to drop ham radio in favor of an offer of free digital and analog communications services.

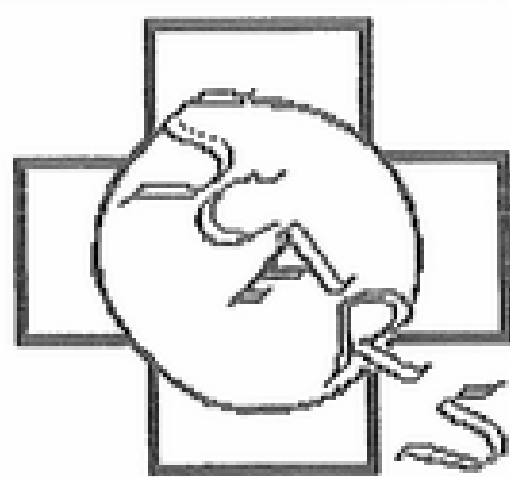
The Great Circus Train runs each summer between Baraboo and Milwaukee. Baraboo is where the Ringling Brothers Circus got its start in 1884. Milwaukee is the site of Wisconsin's annual Great Circus Parade.

Ham radio first came aboard the circus train in 1965. This, when an ARES member named Don Evenson, K9JYX, got permission to install a VHF station in one of the cars. That station relayed messages to an High Frequency mobile station that was chasing the train. As the years progressed, improvements in VHF technology simplified communications. In 1994 onboard HF gear was added to complete the ham station on the rails.

But now that's all gone. The museum says that it evicted the hams because it is attempting to eliminate as much clutter as it can from the train cars. This, to open up more space for the passengers. As a result, all communications will be provided by a commercial communication supplier named Primeco instead of the Wisconsin amateur radio community.

(Via various sources)





South Canadian Amateur Radio Society

Regular Meeting - April 11, 1998

The April meeting of the South Canadian Amateur Radio Society was held on Saturday, April 11, at the Red Cross Building in Norman. The meeting was called to order at 0930 by Vice President Don, KJ5KB. Club President Dennis, KC5EVH, and Secretary Del, KC5LKT, could not be present at the meeting.

Repeater Report: Ken, N5BEW, was not present at the meeting. It was agreed that the repeater seems to be working fine.

Treasurer's Report: Jeff, KE5EB, reported a healthy balance in the club account. The new club rosters were made available to all - better late than never!

Don, KJ5KB, encouraged members to sign up as Red Cross volunteers. Don also asked for one or more volunteers to take care of the donuts and the raffle prizes for the meetings. He and Sara will be moving to Ohio at the end of May. Don also advised us that Del, KC5LKT, had taken a job which requires him to work every Saturday - making it necessary for him to resign his position as Secretary, effective immediately. That brought up the topic of electing a new Vice President and Secretary, but the action was deferred until the May meeting.

With no old or new business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 0950.

Jeff Wyke, KE5EB
Treasurer - SCARS

My Prayer

Lord help me to relax about insignificant details beginning tomorrow at 7:41:23 am, p.s.t.

God help me to consider people's feelings, even if most of them ARE hypersensitive.

God help me to take responsibility for my own actions, even though they're usually NOT my fault.

God, help me to not try to RUN everything. But, if You need some help, please feel free to ASK me!

Lord, help me to be more laid back, and help me to do it EXACTLY right.

God help me to take things more seriously, especially laughter, parties, and dancing.

God give me patience, and I mean right NOW!

Lord help me not be a perfectionist. (Did I spell that correctly?)

God, help me to keep my mind on one th -
- Look, a bird -- ing at a time.

God help me to do only what I can, and trust you for the rest. And would you mind putting that in writing?

Lord keep me open to others' ideas, WRONG though they may be.

Lord help me be less independent, but let me do it my way.

Lord help me follow established procedures today. On second thought, I'll settle for a few minutes.

Lord, help me slow down and not rush through what I do.

Dear God, help me to finish everything I start

Amen

How to be Politically Correct

by Frank Jacobs in MAD #312

Don't call that schlub "a fatty," for it's simply not allowed;
He's now 'physic'lly expansive" or "nutrition'lly endowed;"
That clod repeating seventh grade? He's not a knucklehead;
"Scholastic'lly persistent" is the phrase to use instead;
Don't talk of "dwarfs" or "midgets" both are terms you should revise;
Today they're known as "persons of a nonexcessive size;"
You'll find you're not offending any group or race or sect
As long as what you're saying is Politic'lly Correct.

Our nation has no "Indians" in case you haven't heard,
"Indigenous Americans" is now the term preferred;
Don't call that drifter "homeless" that's the no-no of the year;
He's "a worker in transition" or "an urban pioneer."
Don't call that guy in women's clothes a weirdo or a freak;
He's "a fashion nonconformist with a life-style that's unique."
No lack of sensitivity will anyone detect
As long as ev'ry comment is Politic'lly Correct.

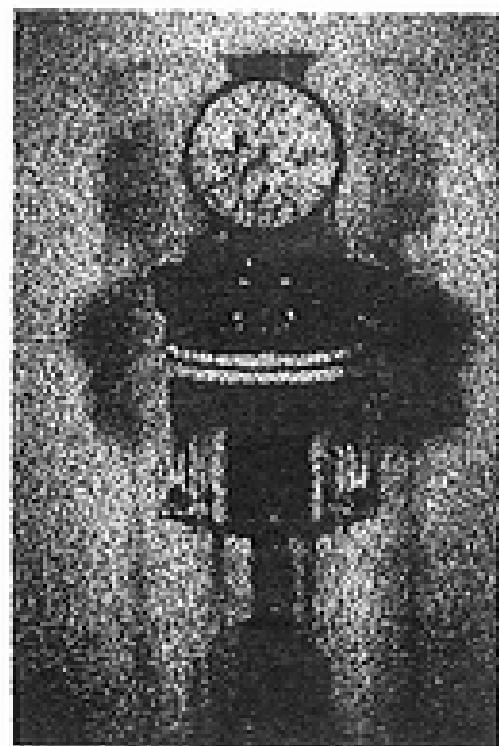
To psychopathic killers nicer labels we're now giving;
They're "gentlemen who specialize in terminating living;"
Don't call that creep a "rapist" he might think you were unkind;
He's "a sexual crusader" who's "assertively inclined;"
As for all those scuzzy pushers hooking kids throughout the land,
They're now "inner-city merchants with a product in demand;"
So make certain that you're careful with the words that you select
And we guarantee you'll always be Politic'lly Correct.

History of Time and Frequency

D.B. Sullivan, J.A. Wessels, Time and Frequency Division, Boulder, CO

There exist several very good sources for information on the history of time and frequency at NIST. The most elementary of these, which also gives some general history of timekeeping, is the short booklet "A Walk Through Time" prepared for interested persons visiting the facilities of NIST. This history is amplified in a general way in the book "From Sundials to Atomic Clocks" by James Jespersen and Jane Fitz-Randolph (Dover, New York, 1982) and in much greater detail in the book "Achievement in Radio" by William F. Snyder and Charles L. Bragaw (Government Printing Office, Washington, 1986). All of these are authored by NIST staff.

The very earliest NIST work in the area of time and frequency took place within the Weights and Measures Section in Washington. One of the first objectives was the testing of watches and other timekeeping apparatus. In 1904 NIST purchased a very stable pendulum clock, the Riefler Clock from Clemens Riefler in Germany. This clock served as a time interval standard until 1929 when it was replaced by the Shortt Clock a double pendulum clock developed at Edinburgh Observatory and fabricated in London. This mechanical standard was replaced only a few years later by standards based on electronic methods.



NIST's initial involvement in electronic time-and-frequency methods was spurred by problems encountered in the early days

of radio broadcasting in the United States. Commercial radio broadcasters were having difficulty keeping their broadcasts "on frequency" because they lacked adequate frequency standards. This requirement launched NBS into the development of inductance-capacitance wavemeters and then Quartz-Crystal Frequency Standards.

In 1923, in order to meet the growing needs of the broadcast industry, NIST initiated radio broadcasts of frequency signals that continue to this day, although these now include time information as well. NIST Radio Broadcasts originated from a series of locations initially on the East Coast and later in Colorado. In the process of restating and expanding the mission of NIST in 1950, the Congress recognized the importance of this activity by including the function of "broadcasting of radio signals of standard frequency" Current NIST radio signals now emanate from Broadcast Stations WWV and WWVB located just north of Fort Collins, Colorado and from Broadcast Station WWVH located on the island of Kauai, Hawaii. The characteristics of the signals broadcast from these stations are well described in the publication NIST Time and Frequency Services. This publication also provides details on several other time-and-frequency dissemination services including the GOES Satellite Time Code Service and the Automated Computer Time Service (ACTS).

The broadcast of timing signals from satellites, the GOES service, originated in 1975 when the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) initiated its weather satellite program. GOES is an acronym for Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellites. NOAA was in need of modest accuracy time signals for telemetry purposes, so NIST and NOAA joined forces to produce this service as a simple addition to the weather satellites. NOAA provides the satellite channels and the uplink station, while NIST provides the time signal and satellite location information which are linked to the satellite. Responding to more recent requests for a simple means for setting clocks in computers, NIST developed ACTS, a telephone time service

providing for automated setting of computer clocks at modest accuracy levels. More recently NIST has developed an Internet Time Service that serves the same purpose. Use of both of these services is growing very rapidly.

A major event in this NIST history was the development of the first Atomic Clock in 1949. This atomic clock was based on an absorption line in the ammonia molecule. An atomic clock is really just a frequency standard in which a running count of oscillations is recorded. This distinction between atomic clock and atomic frequency standard is analogous to the pendulum clock where the pendulum frequency standard is used to drive an escapement mechanism that keeps track of the ticks thus producing a clock. From the very beginning of this program, it was believed that atomic beam methods offered the best approach to an atomic frequency standard, and indeed the next seven Atomic Frequency Standards produced by NIST were based on beams of cesium atoms. This and similar work elsewhere in the world eventually led in 1967 to a an international redefinition of the second as "the duration of 9 192 631 770 periods of the radiation corresponding to the transition between the two hyperfine levels of the ground state of the cesium-133 atom." Improvements in NIST Frequency Standards over the next five decades proceeded at a rapid rate (accuracy improvement of better than an order of magnitude every ten years) culminating in today's standard, with an accuracy of better than one second in six million years (5 parts in 10^{15}). NIST-7 differs from its predecessors in that the process used for selecting and detecting atomic states involves laser-manipulation rather than magnetic-deflection methods. This was the first major change in design for cesium-beam frequency standards.

Beyond these developments, NIST is looking toward atomic frequency standards based on Stored Ions contained in electromagnetic traps and cooled to near the absolute zero of temperature. Devices based on such stored ions have the potential for improving accuracy by better than a factor of 1000. The key to these future standards is the laser

manipulation of the atomic states and motions of the atomic particles. This dependence on lasers has prompted NIST to start work on the lasers themselves. These must be further developed, modified, and simplified so that they can be used to more effectively manipulate atoms in the desired manner.

Concurrent with the development of more recent NIST atomic standards has been the development of methods for transferring time and frequency over large distances with the full accuracy of the most accurate standards. Without such transfer capability, these new atomic standards would serve no useful purpose. In the early 1980's, NIST developed the first really successful, high-accuracy technique for transferring time using satellites. This technique, called GPS Common-View Time Transfer is now the standard method used to coordinate time among the various major timekeeping laboratories of the world. Still more accurate transfer is achieved using the method of Two-Way Time Transfer a method developed in part by NIST.

With the growth of the standards and measurement methods over many years, the organizational structure of NIST's program changed. Early work took place within the Weights and Measures Section, the Electricity Division, and then the Radio Laboratory in Washington. In 1954, radio work at NIST was moved to the new Boulder Laboratories in Colorado where the work continued under the heading of the Time and Frequency Section of the Radio Standards Laboratory. In 1967, growth of the program led to the formation of the Time and Frequency Division. The final phase of the move of the WWV and WWVB radio broadcasts from the East Coast to Colorado was achieved in 1966.

An interesting aside in this history is the 1980 award by the television broadcast industry of an Emmy for contributions to the development of Closed Captioning for the Hearing Impaired. NBS work on this topic started out as a method for dissemination of time through TV broadcasts.

SAREX SCRAMBLING TO FILL THOMAS' DANCE CARD

With only weeks to go before US astronaut Andy Thomas must return to Earth from the Russian Mir space station, efforts are under way to schedule as many Mir-school contacts as possible. Thomas, who's KD5CHF, is scheduled to end his tour aboard the aging Russian space outpost in early June.

On tap for May so far are Mir Amateur Radio contacts with schools in New Hampshire, South Africa, Texas, Tennessee, and, possibly, Connecticut. The South African contact will occur during the Africa Telecom 98 conference, to demonstrate how Amateur Radio on Mir--and eventually aboard the International Space Station--can benefit education. Attempts also are being made to firm up contact schedules with school groups in Australia. The Australian government has issued Thomas, a native of Adelaide, the special call sign VK5MIR.

Thomas has been especially active in recent months catching up on the backlog of school contacts, which were halted after serious technical problems cropped up aboard Mir in 1997. He has also managed a few casual contacts. Nearly all of the activity has been on 70 cm.

The Mir crew has been preoccupied the past few weeks with repair work that included a series of space walks that precluded Amateur Radio activities. Last week, Mir's cosmonauts and ground controllers fired up the station's new thruster engine. The engine keeps Mir's solar panels properly oriented toward the sun. Cosmonauts Talgat Musabayev, RO3FT, and Nikolai Budarin, RV3FB, completed three space walks during April to replace the thruster.

COLLINS PAPERS TO UNIVERSITY OF IOWA LIBRARIES

The papers of the late Arthur A. Collins (1909-1987), founder and president of Collins Radio Company, now part of Rockwell International Corporation, have been deposited at the University of Iowa Libraries, Iowa City. An electronics pioneer, Collins founded the Collins Radio Company in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The company began producing Amateur Radio equipment in 1933. Collins later expanded to other specialized areas of electronics including aviation, navigation, broadcast and general communications.

During World War II, Collins Radio supplied electronic equipment for the military. Later, Collins was the major communications supplier for the US Manned Space Program. When Admiral Richard E. Byrd planned his expedition to Antarctica in 1933, he selected Collins to build the transmitters he used to keep in touch from the South Pole.

The Collins collection fills 33 large boxes with documents covering the years 1932 through the late 1970s. Materials include correspondence, subject files, photographs, notebooks, corporate annual reports, product literature, product drawings and other working papers. The collection is currently being processed, which involves arranging, preserving and describing the materials so that they will be available to researchers. Processing could take up to a year. For more information on the collection and its contents, contact the University of Iowa Libraries, Department of Special Collections, tel 319-335-5921, <I>-- University of Iowa; thanks to ARRL PIO Chuck Gysi, N2DUP

1631 SE 15th

677-9001

Skyline Restaurant
"country cooking"

Bryan, Cindy, Jennifer and Jessica



OKlahoma DX Association

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

by Bruce Burnette, K5PX

Hello out there in radio land. It is that time of the year when a lot of us start getting sweaty palms, can't concentrate and generally get really hyper. No, it is not in anticipation of some contest or a "Rare" one showing up on the bands it is almost time for DAYTON! The Mecca of amateur radio, a place where every amateur MUST visit during their lifetime. It is hard to image over 30,000 amateurs in one place at one time. Millions of knobs to turn, it is a plethora of electronic gadgets, doodads, and doo-hickeys. Wow, some of the stuff there is even useful! This year Ed, NA5B; Dave, KK5I and yours truly are going to make the trek up north. I'm making my "want" list now. If you have never been, you need to experience Dayton at least once.

Field Day is looming on the horizon. A group of us from this end of the state are going to operate in Broken Arrow, from the South Intermediate High School. Anyone that would like to operate with us is more than welcome. Right now we are leaning toward 2A, but we could add more transmitters if we have the ops. Speaking of Field Day, I have spoken to the Governor's office and Governor Keating is going to proclaim June as Amateur Radio month in Oklahoma. This will get the OKDXA, and amateur radio in general, some free press. We should have a picture in the July or August QST.

It is not too early to start thinking about our business meeting at Ham Holiday in OKC. Anybody interested in running for office? We can always use good people to hold a club office. As of now our meeting is set for 9:30 AM, but this could be subject to change. I hope to see everyone there.

WPX CW is the end of May (K5TT & W5AO) are going to be in Anguilla for that one. It looks like Jerry, K5YAA won the 5th call district as a single op and Ed, NA5B won the 5th call district for 40 meters. Way to go guys! Ham Comm in Dallas is the first weekend in June (the Rangers are at home that weekend, you can kill 2 birds with one stone).

Well, that's it from here. I'll try to represent the OKDXA proudly in Dayton. Until next time, just work um! 73 Bruce, K5PX

THE CONTEST CONTINUUM

Building a Contest Station, cont.

by Coy Day, N5OK

I puzzled for some time over the question of why the ANC-4 had such a sharp, deep null on the linear loaded sloper and a very broad, shallow null on the delta loops. Finally, after reading the manual over several times, I came to the conclusion that it had to do with the number of receiving elements. The sloper was a single source phased against a single sense antenna. Whereas the delta loops were in effect 4 vertical elements, all spaced about a quarter wavelength apart. So the ANC-4 was able to cancel out the noise coming to one or more of the vertical elements but not all four at the same time.

I also found that sometimes the sloper seemed to have two nulls. I supposed that this was a result of having more than one noise source. Of course all of this was on 80 meters and was not a factor on the other bands. Having this null experience with the sloper caused me to realize how nice it would be to be completely rid of this noise. This sent me hunting for the noise source. Over the next two weeks I learned a great deal about noise.

First I tried using the car radio with it set to the AM broadcast band. This didn't work very well. I could hear the noise and I could tell what section of high line that the noise was on but I couldn't pinpoint it. I couldn't hear enough noise on the 2 meter rig. So I decided to put the IC-706 in the car with the Hustler mobile antenna and see what I could do with that.

I tuned it to 80 meters SSB and headed for one of the noisy areas. The S meter soon went off the scale. I then realized that this wasn't going to work. After driving around for a couple of hours, I had it narrowed down to a 2 square mile area. I drove home a bit tired and disgusted.

The next day, I got a fresh start and as I approached the noisy area and the readings went off the scale, I tried different bands to see what the noise was like. On 40 meters the noise that had been off the scale on 80 dropped to about 20 over S-9. As I drove up and down the lines, I could watch the S meter and tell if the noise level was increasing or decreasing. If it was decreasing, I would turn around and go the opposite direction. When I crossed other high lines, I would watch to see if there was a sharp jump in the noise level. If it did jump I would turn right and follow the lines to see if it increased or decreased. If it decreased, I would turn around and go back. Sometimes it would drop off both directions. I would then go back to the intersection and continue. By using these simple rules, I was able to find an area where the S meter went off scale on 40 meters. I then went to 20 meters but soon ended up on 10 meters. On 10 meters I was able to get within 100ft of the problem area.

At this point, I spotted some lightning arresters that were about in the middle of the area. When I drove up next to them, I switched to 2 meters SSB and I could hear the noise. As I drove away, the noise faded very rapidly. I drove back to the arresters, killed the engine and got out of the car. I could hear the arresters arcing. I got the numbers of the pole, noted how many poles that it was from the nearest intersection and headed for the electric company office. I explained to them what I was doing and what I had found. The lady that I talked with said that they had gotten in some new lightning arresters and they were having a lot of problems with them. That explained a lot! No wonder all of this noise started all at once and seemed to come from every direction. She picked up the microphone and dispatched someone to fix it. It was that easy. I went home with this wonderful

feeling that I was going to be able to listen to 80 meters noise free. Not!

I checked later that evening and again the next morning and found that the noise was still there. I loaded up and headed for the site of the bad arrester and found that they had replaced it. It was absolutely quiet. So off I went. Now that I knew the technique, it was much easier. I found two more bad arresters this time. They were about 3 miles from the other site but were only a quarter mile apart. One of them I could see was obviously broken. Both of them, made audible arcing noises when I got out of the vehicle. This time, I called the electric company. Again, they said no problem and took care of both of these the following day. This did quiet the 80 meter band considerably. The noise level dropped from S-9 to a level that now ranges from S-5 to 7. When I put the ANC-4 to work, it reduces it even more.

I stopped by the electric company a few days later to personally thank them and they thanked me! They wanted to know how I was able to find these bad boys as they were unable to find them with their equipment. I gave them a rough rundown and then added that I didn't mind finding them as long as they would replace them. We had a deal.

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

• Remember the upcoming OKDXA V2 operation

Jim Hood, K5TT, reports, "Dave, W5AO, and I will be operating from Antigua, V2, from May 27 until June 3, 1998 including the WPX CW Contest. We will be using the calls V26GG and V26TT respectively. We will be operating from the Frankford Radio Club station which has 5 towers and antennas for 160 through 10 meters including WARC Bands. This is the station where FRC set a new multi-multi world record for the ARRL CW Contest this year. We will be very active on all bands and will be looking for OKDXA members. QSL's go to K5TT for V26TT and to Box 88, Morris, OK 74445-0088 for V26GG. Be sure to say hello when you hear us. Jim, K5TT

• Temotu, Austral Is. , and Marquesas Is.

With the DXCC 2000 rules going into effect the new 350 km separation-buy-water rule may create some new DXCC countries.

The Temotu Islands, also known as the Santa Cruz Islands, are part of the Solomon Islands chain. The South China DX Team operated from Temotu using the call H40AA, April 1 through April 12. Jim Smith, VK9NS, joined the fray as well operating as H40AB from Pigeon Island. The H40AA cards go to OH2BN. H40AB request go to Jim's home call.

Kan, JA1BK, and Father and son team Bob, W6RJ, and Rob, W6KR, took turns operating from two districts in French Polynesia - The Austral Group and the Marquesas Group. Kan used FO0MIZ on both island groups. His QSL manager is VE3HO. Bob and Rob used FO0FI on the Australs and FO0FR on the Marquesas. Their QSL manager is K6SLO.

Bob See, N5PC, says, "they'll never be new ones ... because I'll have the cards in my back pocket."! ha ha ha Lets hope Bob is pleasantly surprised!

It was great fun working these potential new ones!

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

• Election of officers at the Ham Holiday meeting

Our annual election of officers is just a couple of months away. Please be thinking about this important meeting. If you would like to serve the OKDXA in the role of an officer please advise our President Bruce Burnette, K5PX.

• Congratulations to the AB5I team!

Congratulations are extended to Loyd, AB5I, for winning the West Gulf Division Plaque in the Multioperator CW Class of the 1997 ARRL Sweepstakes Contest. Loyd and his operator team of K5TT and KJ0W attained the highest multioperator station score in the West Gulf Division by making 892 QSO's and working all 79 Sections.

• Welcome new members!

We take this written opportunity to welcome Charles Floyd, W5JE, from Mountainburg, AR. Charles is an MD and we welcome him to the OKDXA!

• E-mail update/changes

Here are this month's changes and/or additions to the OKDXA e-mail list.

Floyd, Charles W5JE
chfloydmd@pol.net

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

• 1998 OKDXA Banquet date

The 1998 OKDXA Banquet has been set for November 14, 1998, at the River Oaks Golf Club, east of Edmond, OK. This is the same location of the first two banquets.

• Sympathies extended

Jim Hood, K5TT, provides this SK report

"N5HSQ, Al Crowder, became a silent key on April 6. Al was the father of N5RJM, Ruth Guida, and father-in-law of John Guida, NJ1V. Al and lived near Little Rock. I had the opportunity to meet Al on the air and I must say that he was one of those unforgettable characters. He thoroughly enjoyed amateur radio and was quite active in the local clubs. He will be missed but long remembered by those who had the opportunity to know him."

Jim, K5TT

• Would the OKDXA like to help UB5FCW/9U acquire an antenna?

The following info is supplied by Gary Gompf, W7FG, in Bartlesville ...

Hey Guys -

Six months or more ago I received an e-mail note from Vladimir G. Oskrogo (voskrogo@bi-network.com), who is a Russian UN worker in Burundi. He found my Vintage Manuals web site, and was asking for help in restoring a Collins KWM-2A he found in a bombed out building. The following couple months

we corresponded weekly concerning transfer of funds, \$80 US\$. Three months or so ago, a check was received from the Bank of 9U land. Collins repair manuals were immediately sent to him plus a few books he wanted. Plus I filled the box with miscellaneous literature and literature of early 60's that was destined for the big can in front of the house. The items were sent to the UN in NY, so postage was not a problem.

Within a few weeks he was needing parts for the old Collins! I helped him contact those who had the parts, and etc. By this time the e-mail notes are being exchanged every few days or so.

A month ago, he got the KWM-2A operational, since then the e-mail notes have been daily and sometimes multi per day! He's been on the air as UB5FCW/9U mainly on 15 meters. His perfected antenna is now a 5 meter wire hooked to the end of his 6 meters of coax, he's bummed.

Vladimir is really getting fired up with his success from 9U. Already 40 QSO's on 15 meters in only 5 days (Full days by the way!!) I would like to find him a small tribander beam, that could be packaged to go via U. S. Postal system to NY.. Do any of you out there have a TA-33 or similar antenna you'd be willing to GIVE with Postage top him?? If I had it would have been in the mail by now, but don't have here.. Plus he's going to need some coax for it, RG-58 would do just fine!! That I can buy and get to him.

Other issue, he's been using me as QSL manager - I don't HAVE the time to handle this. Any one in OKDXA want the job. If so they should e-mail him.

Concerning the Antenna issue, feel free to communicate with him at the e-mail address at top of this note. If someone has an antenna, but will not give it away, I'll pay a reasonable price to help Vladimir out.

Vladimir is the Central African IS/IT guy for the UN. Therefore is being shuned by the Radio UN folks, no different in Corp. America! An example ... it's taken him

nearly three weeks to borrow a directional coupler for HF to use for a few hours to tune his long wire!!!

Over the past 6 months he's been in a lot of African countries, and I'd imagine he'll be packing the KWM-2A on the trips.

Hoping a decent antenna can be found.
73's Gary W7FG

----- MISCELLANEOUS -----

N5OK DX PacketCluster gains Internet link

Steve Sampson, N5OWK, from Moore, has recently donated a 24 hr/day internet link to the N5OK web site! Coy also reports that Steve moved his 2 meter link to 144.910 just to accommodate the cluster.

Coy urges the N5OK Cluster users to contact Steve and thank him for his generous help! Steve's business web site is at

<http://access.usa-site.net/>

His personal site is at

<http://access.usa-site.net/~ssampson/>

• Try the Moscow DX Cluster!

Hi Friends! For those who are interested in getting through to Moscow DX Cluster try telnet 195.58.32.134

73s, Harry RA3AUU

• New CIA countries list

Those friendly spooks at Langley have recently (20 March) issued the 1997 [!] edition of the CIA World Factbook at

<http://www.odci.gov/cia/publications/factbook/>

Data on each country includes much to interest a DXer. DXers will recognize many entries in the CIA countries list at

<http://www.odci.gov/cia/publications/factbook/country.html>

- Bouvet, Glorioso & Kingman Reef are all included, though still no mention of Scarborough!

Correctly listed are some places which DXCC misnames, e.g., British Indian Ocean Territory (DXCC=Chagos Islands) & Australia's Coral Sea Islands Territory (DXCC=Willis Island).

Maps seem to be improved; there's an interesting one showing Spratley's island groups.

73, Steve GU3MBS 24 March

• W5 QSL Bureau changes address

Coy, N5OK, provides this new address for the 5-land incoming QSL bureau. Be sure to keep envelopes on file. Also remember to keep envelopes with past calls on file for several years.

ARRL W5 QSL Bureau
Magnolia DX Association
P.O. Box 999
Wiggins, MS 39577-0999

• Check out Coy's new pix

Coy purchased a flatbed scanner and has changed a photo and added a photo to his Section Manager page. The added photo is an aerial view of his home and antenna farm provided by a K5YP fly-by. Coy has worked hard with Photoshop to try to make the towers visible. Lu flew over near sunset and the contrast is low.

<http://www.telepath.com/n5ok/sm.htm>

7th Annual New Orleans International DX Convention

OKDXA member Frank Smith will present two programs at this year's NOIDXC. Franks provides these comments

"This will be the 7th Annual New Orleans International DX Convention to be held August 14-16 at the Royal Sonesta Hotel, right on Bourbon St. The Royal Sonesta Hotel has been ranked among the world's top ten hotels by Conde Naste Traveler Magazine. Of course they get special rates for the hotel.

The NOIDXC is hosted by the Delta DX Association. Info is via Don Boudreaux (504) 737-9733, Silvano Amenta KB5GL (kb5gl@aol.com), or w5jyk@aol.com

Programs includes, so far ...

- North Cook ZK1XXP by Tom Harrell
- Palmyra/Kingman by Dr. Chuck Brady N4BQW
- H40AA by ?
- Kure K7K by AH0W/OH2LVG
- Laos XW30(A) by AH0W/OH2LVG
- Libya 5A28 by ?

There are always several technical presentations and the ARRL usually has a program, this year with Bill Kennamer K5FUV.

Everyone who has attended the past six years will tell you this is the BEST DX Convention anywhere and certainly the best organized. The Saturday banquet is a gala affair with jazz musicians from New Orleans and includes the honoring of the DXer of the Year and other presentations, usually one last DXpedition show by the DXer of the year. Two years ago OKDXA's own Dr. Vince Thompson K5VT was the honoree.

And the banquet feast is really that: it's the only banquet you'll ever attend where the food is really gourmet stuff - not the usual leathery chicken just taken out from the freezer hi hi."

Navassa this year?

K8RF has announced plans to activate KP1 later this year. Check out the details at

<http://home.fuse.net/k8rf/>

ZL9 in 99?

Yet another significant operation in planning is Campbell Is. Here is there first press release

The Kermadec DX Association DXpedition to Campbell Island in January 1999, represents possibly the last chance for many years for a QSO with this DXCC entity and IOTA island (OC-037). The New Zealand Department of Conservation is restricting access to the island greatly

and its only with representation at the highest level of New Zealand government and continued hard work by team leader Ken Holdum that permission to visit the island has been secured. Added to this of course is the remoteness of Campbell Island located as it is in the sub-Antarctic ocean.

An international team has been assembled, a team which should ensure that DXer's in all parts of the globe are expertly catered for.

The team lineup includes

- ZL2HU - Ken Holdom
- ZL2TT - Ron Wills
- ZL2AL - Lee Jennings
- ZL2DX - Chris Hannagan
- VE3XA - Brian Biggings
- K3VN - Al Hernandez
- EI6FR - Declan Craig
- N6MZ - Michael Mraz
- JH4RHF - Jun Tanaka
- GI0NWG - Andrew Williamson
- ZL2URN - Jason Christensen

QRV from Campbell -

The team will depart New Zealand on Jan 5th 1999 arriving Campbell on the 9th. We will remain QRV until the 25th of January. Its hoped that this timing will allow all adequate time to QSO ZL9CI on the bands and modes they wish. SSB,CW and RTTY will all be used and maximized use will be made of openings with the more difficult parts of the world. Extensive propagation forecasting is being done and this together with information from strategically located pilot stations should be of great assistance.

Pilot Stations -

The following Pilot Stations have been appointed and email, packet addresses, and etc. will follow in a further bulletin.

West coast USA - Ron Lago, AC7DX
East Coast USA - Don Greenbaum, N1DG
Europe - Rob Cummings GI0KOW
Japan - we are looking!
Oceania - we are looking!

There will also be a Campbell Island reflector courtesy of VE7TCP which will be online about 60 days before the operation starts.

Budget -

The total budget for the ZL9CI DXpedition will be in the region of \$85,000 of which the members of the team have contributed \$33,000.

Some examples of the expenses are Boat Charter - \$65,000

Generator - £3000

Fuel - \$1000

Fee for use of Met. buildings - \$1250

Transport team/equip in NZ - \$5000
and the list goes on and on.

So far we have received donations of about \$11,000 from DXers and clubs. However we still require almost \$38,000 to meet the expected costs of mounting this DXpedition.

Contributions from DXers and DXing Clubs would be gratefully accepted and can be sent to either

The Kermadec DX Association
PO Box 56099

Tawa
Wellington
New Zealand

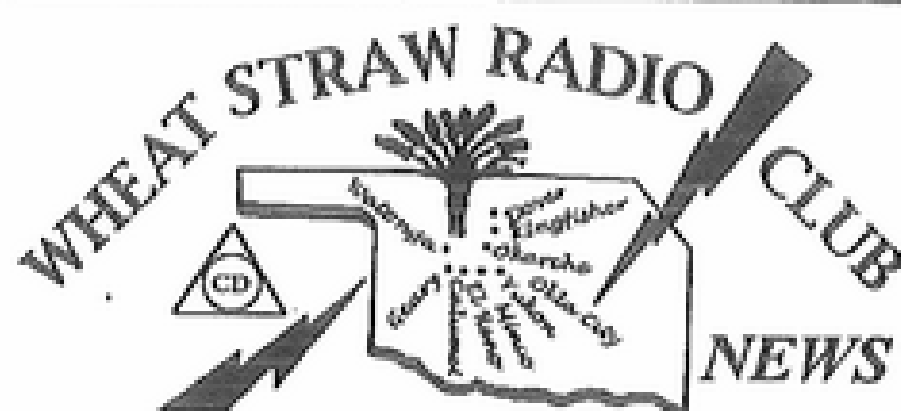
or

The Kermadec DX Association (Europe)
167 St. James's Road
Greenhills
Dublin 12
Ireland

All donations will be receipted and in the event of the DXpedition not proceeding be returned.

We would be delighted if DX editors would publish this information bulletin as widely as possible and DXers bring it to the attention of their clubs and fellow DXers.

73 on behalf of Kermadec DX Association and Campbell DXpedition team. Declan Craig - EI6FR



Wheatstraw Amateur Radio Club

April Meeting

Well, the weather was prefect and we got to have the April 12th meeting, which was Easter Sunday at Calumet, OK. Our last two meetings were postponed due to bad weather. The meeting was called to order by Johnny, K5GBN in the absence of Ray, AB5Z. Ray had planned on being there but something came up at the last minute and he was unable to attend.

We have been experiencing a minor problem at times with our repeater. When it does happen it is for a short period of time and when no one is using the repeater. It is being looked into.

Ralph, WA5PFK talked about a personal check he received through the mail. After some discussion, the check was donated to the Wheatstraw ARC to use toward expenses. The check was from out of state.

Those celebrating Birthdays are:

Sue, KB5TNE	5/11
Coy, N5OK	5/14
Earnie, KC5VKF	4/21
Harold, KA5WHJ	4/27

May your day be blessed with sunshine and love. Happy Birthday to all.

The second Sunday of May is Mother's Day, the 10th. Neal, N5KCO made a motion we move the May meeting date to May 17th, 1998. Motion was seconded by Ralph, WA5PFK. Motion carried. We have reserved a shelter in the Red Rock Canyon for our May meeting this year. Ralph offered to take Stu and Alice from Watonga, to the canyon and back for the next meeting. It will be a covered dish dinner meeting. Starting to eat around 1:30 p.m. and the meeting should start around 2:30 p.m. as usual.

Visitors are always welcomed, just remember to bring along a covered dish to share. Come, join in on the fun, you will be glad you did.

Ralph, WA5PFK

A Time to be thankful in Newton, KS

Four year old Aubrey Cashion loves her dogs, Ruthie and Ginger. The feeling is mutual.

Recently, Aubrey wandered from her home and was lost overnight in a wooded area. Morning light brought searchers in a Kansas Highway Patrol helicopter. They spotted Aubrey bedded down with a dog on either side of her.

Aubrey explained, "I snuggled down in the grass. Ginger was on one side and Ruthie on the other side." Harvey County Sheriff Byron Motter said, "the girl was a little damp, but the dogs were soaked."

Aubrey's parents indicated Ginger and Ruthie will be living high on the hog henceforth.

Something Different

Goldie took some venison out of the deep freezer, sliced it thin and then marinated it to enhance the flavor. When the meet was ready, she placed it in the dehydrator and made it into jerky. It is too bad that she can no longer eat jerky. It sure was good eating. I like homemade jerky.

Passing on a message....

Joel, KK5XS said to tell Johnny, K5GBN that he had put up a large size Birdhouse and already had his first resident move in that same evening.

To the Rescue...

Riding in a propeller plane, the passengers saw three of four engines conk out. The cabin door opened and the pilot appeared with a parachute on his back. He told the group, "Keep calm folks, and don't panic. I'm going for help!"

To tell the truth

Father looking over his son's report card: One thing is in your favor. With these grades, you could not possibly be cheating."

A fanatic: A person who's enthusiastic about something in which you have no interest in.

A Bore: A person whose life is like an open book, one you don't want to read.

OUR AMERICAN FLAG, OLD GLORY

The American Legion, and others have urged Capitol Hill to have the right to determine if Old Glory should be protected by a constitutional amendment.

Senate Joint Resolution 40 was introduced February 4 by Orrin Hatch and Max Cleland. The proposal has the same language as the amendment that cleared the House of Representatives on June 12, 1997: The Congress shall have power to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States.

Hatch, a Utah Republican and long-time champion of the flag amendment, echoed the majority of citizens sentiments when he introduced SJR-40 on the senate floor. "The effort to restore legal protection to our National Symbol is a movement of the American people." Led by The American Legion, numerous civic, Veterans, and patriotic organizations have joined together in the Citizens Flag Alliance to build support for a constitutional amendment to restore the historical protection of our flag. Forty-nine states have passed resolutions urging Congress to send the flag protection amendment to the states for ratification. The will of the people should not be frustrated by this body.

For nearly a century, the will of the people and their views of flag protect had prevailed. The federal government and 48 states had flag protection laws. Those laws were invalidated in 1989 when the Supreme Court ruled that flag burning is protected as a form of free speech under the constitution's First Amendment. Congress responded by passing the Protection Act of 1989, which the high court later ruled unconstitutional.

To this day when our flag is being presented by the Color Guard and a band is playing our National Anthem, it sends cold chills through my back and body. Veterans, or most of them, share a deep

feeling of pride, love and respect for our nation's flag. The flag represents all they hold dear and cherish above all else, it motivated them to protect this great country of our and the flag itself.

Who is the Supreme Court? Who are the Supreme Court Judges? The Supreme Court is a group of judges who are appointed by the President of the United States. Congress approves or rejects any appointee they may find questionable. Becoming a Judge on the Supreme Court is for life. Being appointed for life means that new judges are rare and we can have 3 to 5 different Presidents before there is an opening within the Supreme Court. These judges are paid with our tax dollars, the citizens of this country. They are the ones who have the final say in the interpretation of the Constitution Of the United States and our laws.

Now that the Supreme Court ruled that flag burning is protected under the Constitution's 1st Amendment, I feel sadden by it. When Terry Nichols was arrested for bombing the Federal Building in Oklahoma City, it was reported that he did it because he was mad at the A. T. F. and the F. B. I. for the tragedy at Waco, Texas concerning the Davidian Cult. I wonder, if Mr. Nichols case is taken to the Supreme court, will they rule him not guilty? Would they say that he was exercising his Constitutional right of 'free speech' under the 1st Amendment and therefore within the law?

I have often wondered what our founding fathers reaction would be if they were here today and saw the directions this country has taken? I would love to know their thoughts on how our Constitution and laws have sometimes been twisted around until their true meaning is no long clear.

"The Supreme Court has forced the American people to accept flag desecration," notes Patrick Brady, chairman of the C. F. A. 's Board of Directors. Mr. Brady said, "We're not trying to force people to respect the flag. We're simply asking that Congress let the people decide this issue. The proposed amendment restores to the people the

right to protect the flag from physical desecration."

Mr. Brady notes that no other proposed constitutional amendment has a "real chance" of passing in the 105th Congress. The flag amendment has the support of both Senate Democrats and Republicans. At this time, 60 Senators had signed on as co-sponsors of SJR-40; it's projected that at least 64 Senators currently support this amendment, with several others undecided.

Congress can create one uniform statute for the entire nation. I think we should let the American people decide this issue.

What can you do now? Pick up a piece of paper and a pen, write your Congressmen and women who were elected to represent you. Write each one individually and sign it. Ask your Spouse to do the same. The key here is the more letter sent in the more likely our voices will be heard. Group letters may not hold as much weight, and may be counted as one voice no matter the number of people who signed it. If you do not know who represents you in Congress or the Senate, ask at your local Library, Chambers of Commerce or the newspaper. Look up their addresses in the phone book.

If you do not have a flag at your home, go and buy one and fly it proudly. If you own a flag which has seen better days, please do not throw it in the trash. Call your local American Legion and they will put your flag to rest with honor and with respect. The service is free for the asking.

A final note: I wish for all to know that no one has talked to me or made any hints that I should write on this subject. It was decision only. Ralph, WA5PFK

Oatmeal Fruit Cookies

(This is a diabetic recipe with no sugar, artificial sweetener or salt.)

1 cup of Sifted flour

1 teaspoon baking soda
1 cup of water
½ cup of pitted dates
½ cup of peeled and chopped apples
½ cup of raisins
½ cup of margarine or butter
1 cup of quick cooking oats
2 eggs beaten
1 teaspoon Vanilla
½ teaspoon walnuts or pecans

Sift flour, baking soda together; set aside. Over medium high heat bring water, dates, apples, and raisins to boil. Reduce heat to low, simmer 3 minutes. Remove from heat. Add margarine, stir until melted.

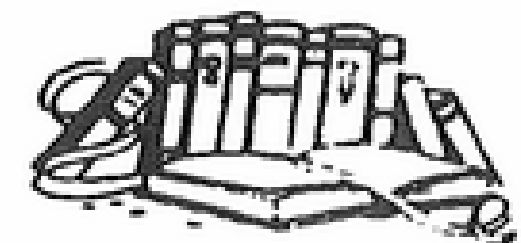
Pour into large bowl, cool slightly. Stir in flour and baking soda mixture, oatmeal, beaten eggs, vanilla and chopped nuts until well blended. Cover and refrigerate overnight. Drop by heaping teaspoon 2 inches apart on greased cookie sheets.

Bake in a 350 degree oven for 12 to 14 minutes. Cool on racks. Store in refrigerator in air tight container. Makes 52 cookies.

May 10th is Mother's Day

Please take time out of you busy day and remember all that your mother gave you while growing up. Let her know how much you love her. Be thankful for your mothers with honor whether they are still with you, or passed on into a better place.

Ralph, WA5PFK



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Choctaw Amateur Radio Club

*Minutes Choctaw Amateur Radio Club
April 20, 1998*

The President opened the meeting at 7:07 PM.

Reports:

Secretary: The Club still does not have an elected Secretary, and no one took minutes of the last meeting, so there were no minutes to be approved.

Treasurer: The Treasurers report was approved as presented by the Treasurer.

YL Chairperson: The YL Chairperson was not in attendance, but several of the members who monitor the repeater frequency stated that the YL net is still going strong.

Repeater Committee: The repeater is still up and running, but our amplifier has not yet been repaired. We are awaiting parts from the Manufacturer. We have obtained an air conditioner for the building which will be installed when the weather warms up.

Texnet Chairperson: The Texnet system is up and running in good shape. Bill Crossland commented that while on a camp out at Fort Gibson, he easily got into the Texnet system and was able to connect back to Choctaw with no problems and it was fast.

Old Business:

The VP presented a proposed charter modification, which was accepted in principle pending very close editing. and Three Directors were elected Les Johnston, Don McDown, and Bill

Crossland. Les Johnston was elected as the Principle Agent.

Bill Crossland brought up the question of adding a voice module to the repeater controller. He recalled that this was discussed about six months ago with no action. After considerable discussion, the membership voted to add the voice module, and authorized the Treasurer to make the purchase.

New Business:

Field Day was discussed, with Don McDown agreeing to bring his last equipment list printout to the next meeting and the members were asked to come to the next meeting prepared to detail what equipment they can provide. We need to finalize the Field Day plans by the next meeting. The Nicoma Park City Park has been reserved for the event.

John Mathis and Larry Brewer mentioned having a man named Paul Spencer attend the next club meeting and present a program titled "WHAT IS EMWIN". From the discussion, it appears that this will be a very interesting program. All members are urged to attend the May 18, 1998 meeting at 7 PM at the Eastern Oklahoma County Area VoTech.

The meeting adjourned at 8:13 PM.

Minutes submitted by Bill Crossland, N9SQV

Newsline (Con't)

FCC comes down on unlicensed ops

The FCC has gone on the war path against unlicensed stations. On April 2nd, the Commission issued Orders to Show Cause and Notices of Opportunity for Hearing against five people the agency says are operating unlicensed FM transmitters and are refusing to follow government orders to shut them off.

Hit with the notices are unlicensed operators in Lender Texas, San Marcos, Texas, Cleveland, Ohio, Oroville, Washington and Chewelah, Washington. All are charged with continuing unlicensed FM broadcast operations. This, despite warnings from the Commission that the unlicensed radio transmissions

were in violation of Section 301 of the Communications Act of 1934.

Each operator has been notified that he faces a possible fine of \$11,000 and each has been told that he can request a hearing before the FCC.

(Via FCC release)

Mann removed from MIREX

Miles Mann, WF1F, the Director of Educational Resources for the Mir Amateur Radio Experiment or MIREX appears to have been relieved of all official duties with the group.

In a public notice posed to the Amsat North America bulletin board, MIREX President, Dave Larsen, N6CO, says that as of Tuesday, April 21, 1998, Mann is no longer a member of nor a spokesperson for MIREX. Larsen says that any actions or comments made by Mann as of April 21st, are to be considered to be of his own volition and not those of "MIREX"

No reason was given by Larsen for Mann's removal from his post but Larsen did say that he regrets Mann will no longer be a part of the MIREX team.

(Via N6CO, AMSAT-NA BBS)

Three East NY DEC's quit

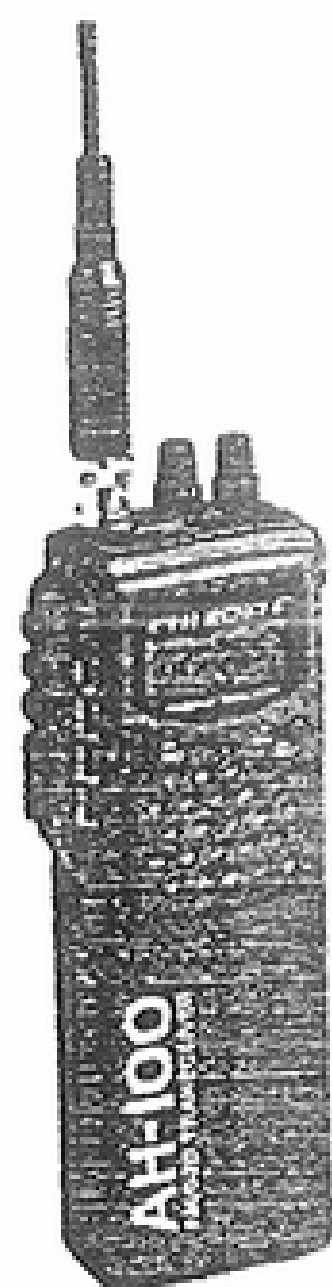
Three Eastern New York Section Amateur Radio Emergency Service officials have quit their appointments as District Emergency Coordinators. The three resigned from the program "en masse" in an e-mail message sent to ARRL Field Services Manager Rick Palm, K1CE.

Those leaving the program are District Emergency Coordinator for Administration and Operations April Stack, K2ZCZ, Northern District Emergency Coordinator Tom Wozneck, N2SQO, and Central District Emergency Coordinator Ken Goetz, N2SQW. Goetz also serves as the New York State RACES Radio Officer.

No reason was given for their decision resign.

(Via Hudson Division Loop)

SALE ON HT'S!!



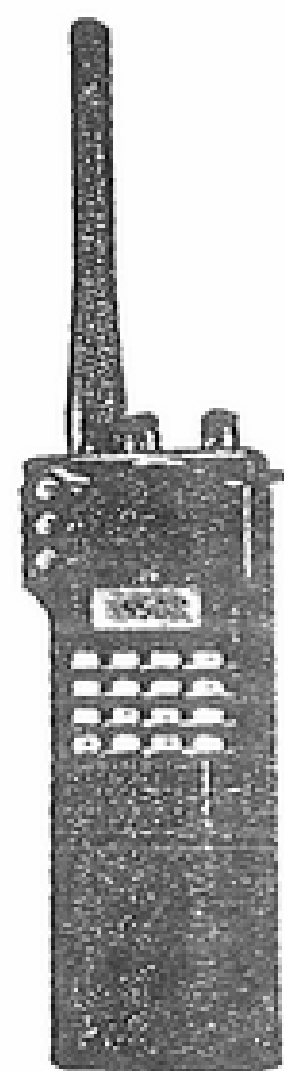
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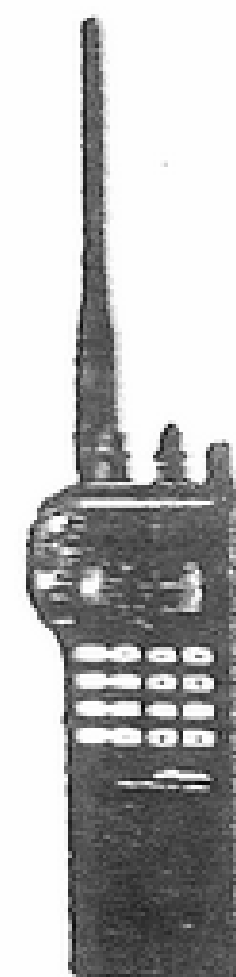
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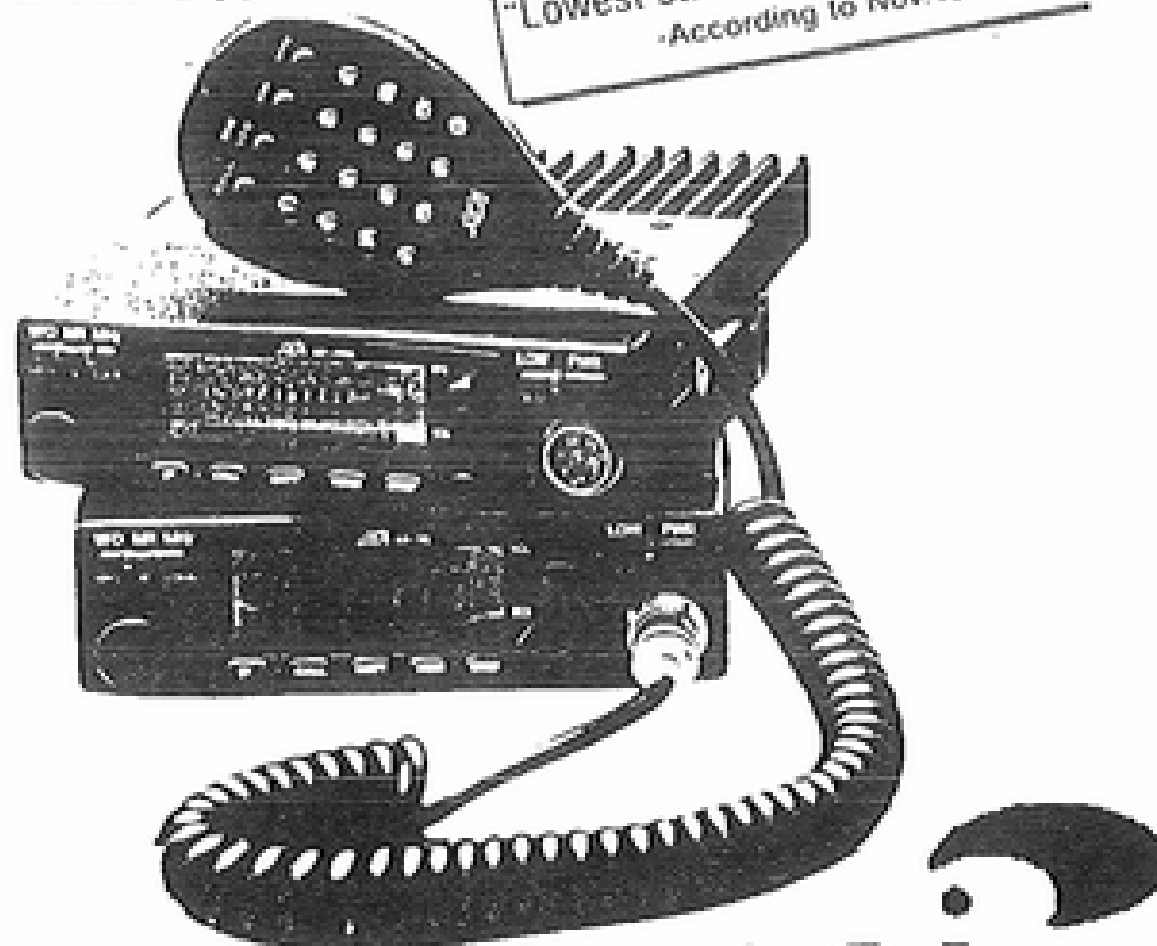
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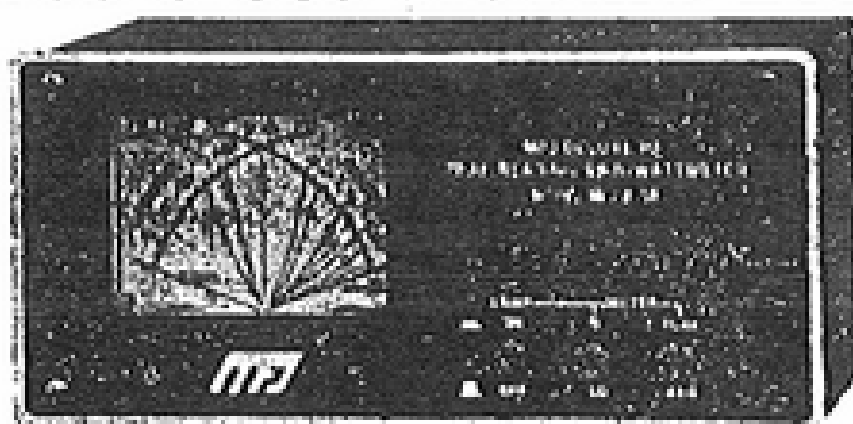
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Up Coming Events

May 16, 1998 Arkansas; Fort Smith
Sponsor: Fort Smith Area Amateur Club
8AM - 4PM (set up at 7AM) Location:
Forth Smith Civic Center (Behind Holiday
Inn Down Town) 55 South 7th Street
(talk in 146.640 -) for more info call
Kelsey (KK5KU) 501 452-2525 or
kk5ku@juno.com

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mail: wa0clr@juno.com
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a.htm](http://www.tfs.net/~caltman/phdara/phdar
a.htm)

July 11, 1998 Altus, OK 73521 Sponsored
by Altus Area ARA, Altus, OK Contact:
Ronald Hughes, KB5UVC Rt. 1, Box 192,
Altus, OK 73521 580-482-7994

JULY 19 1998 Washington, MO ARRL
Hamfest Sponsored by Zero Beaters ARC,
Washington, MO Contact: Keith Wilson,
K0ZH 1100 North Commercial, PO Box
215, St. Clair, MO 63077 314-629-2264

JULY 24-25 1998 OKLAHOMA,
OKLAHOMA CITY Oklahoma State
Convention, Sponsored by Central
Oklahoma Radio Amateurs, Inc. Contact:
Harold Miller, KB1ZQ 4216 Spiva Dr.,
Del City, OK 73115-4424 405-672-7735
E-mail: n1lpn@swbell.net
<http://www.geocities.com/heartland/77332>

August 15, 1998 Chanute, KS, Sponsored
by Chanute Area ARC, Contact: Charlie
Ward, WD0AKU 2808 South Santa Fe,
Chanute, KS 66720 316-431-6402

August 16, 1998 Salina, KS, Sponsored
by Central Kansas ARC, Contact: Ron
Tremblay, WA0PSF 12 North Douglas
Dr., Salina, KS 67401 785-827-8149
E-mail: tremblay@midusa.net

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 at Southern Temple
Baptist Church, 1821 S High, OKC. Talk
in on 146.76 MHz. For more information
contact Audie, AA5GB @ 799-9916.

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,
N1GM 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

SW Oklahoma - Thursdays @ 7:00 p.m.
on 146.31/91.

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

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

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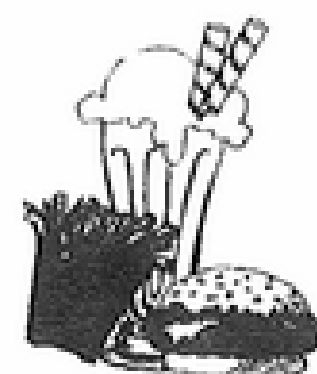
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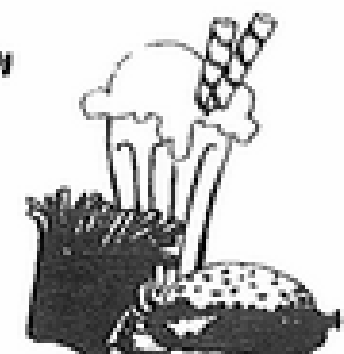
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May 10 to June 13, 1998 Schedule of Events:

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

International - Help catch a U.K. Thief

In international news, word that police in the United Kingdom are asking hams around the world for help in solving a robbery that took place at about 22:00 UTC on Friday, March 27th in the town of High Leigh near Cheshire. Witnesses say that those involved in the crime were using two-way radio gear to communicate with someone that they believe to be an accomplice.

The police say that have no idea of what frequency band the criminals may have been talking on or where the third person was located. They are asking anyone who may have heard a suspicious conversation to call Detective Sargent Lowe or Detective Constable Ryder at the Winslow police barracks. The phone number is international dialing plus:

01-224-613-643.
(Via GB2RS)

International - Hard politics in VK-LAND

Meanwhile, from down under comes news that Peter Naish, VK2BPN, is the new president of the Wireless Institute of Australia. Naish defeated incumbent Neil

Penfold, VK6NE, at what can only be termed as a tumultuous annual meeting of the society that took place on March 28th and 29th in Melbourne.

According to Australia's Q-News, The meeting got off to a tenuous start when a major portion of the business agenda was declared out of order. This, because it was publicized improperly before the meeting took place.

When parts of the agenda finally were taken up, a politically volatile proposal was introduced. Some divisions want voting rights for divisions at Federal Meetings to be based on the number of

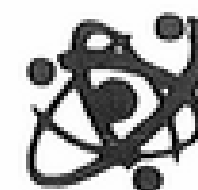
members in a division. It was voted down for the second time in two years.

The overall meeting agenda could not be completed within the two days scheduled to complete it. As a result and the group will reconvene at a later date.

(Via Q-News)

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