

Collector & Emitter

A CORA Publication

July 1998

Volume 24, Number 7

Issue 281

50¢

Postmaster See Page 2
For Postal Information

Periodical Mail

Special Meeting Of CORA on Door Prizes

Information Please

Euro English



Antigua, V2, Operation

Is Your License Up To Date

Ham Holiday Flier

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.

Dear Secretary / Treasurer:

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

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1. Aeronautical Center ARC Meets: 1930L, 1st Thursday, FAA, S. MacArthur, OKC Pres.: Bob Kremer, WA9FCT 381-3182 VP: Chuck Bryant, KB5ZVZ 737-0423 Sec/Tr.: Brad Nelson, KJ0W 793-9470 Editor:	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 Panton, WK5V 580-764-3599 Treas.: Nadine Panton, N5FMH 580-764-3599 Editor: Kenneth Monahan, KB5SOM
2. Oklahoma Central VHF ARC Meets: 1100L, 2nd Wednesday, Home Town Buffet, 3900 NW 63rd, 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: Steve Pierce, W5BIV 329-7978 Sec/Tr.: 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. Broken Arrow ARC Meets: 1830L, 1st Monday, Broken Arrow Community Center, 1500 S. Main, Broken Arrow, OK Pres.: Jeff Scoville KC5RTH VP: Bruce Burnette K5PX 918-455-2599 Sec: Joe Horn KC5VPO Tr: Harlan Kinney K9GDK E-mail: w5bbs@juno.com
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 580-726-3623 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 1st Tuesday, Great Plains Area Vo-Tech room 301, Worley Center. Pres.: Terry Oates, KR5IYB 580-492-5743 VP: Mark Ewell, KC5IZN 580-536-2777 Sec/Tr.: Danita Haney, KC5YYU 580-549-6717 E-mail: w5ks@rli.net
9. Wheatstraw Amateur Radio Club Meets: 1430L, 2nd 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: Steve Kuper, KC5RYT 722-5789 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 August 1998 Issue of *Collector and Emitter* is Friday, July 31, 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 June 23rd, 1998.

The meeting was opened by the President of CORA, Hal Miller, KB1ZQ. There were seven directors present representing five clubs plus all five officers present. The clubs represented were ACARC, VHF Club, OCAPA, EARS, and SCARS.

Secretary's Report. The May minutes were accepted as printed in the C&E.

Treasurers Report. The treasurer's report for April and May were accepted unanimously.

President's Report. The President made it back from Maine. All is well up there and he had a good trip.

Concerning HH 98; As of this date we have ten vendors confirmed coming to Ham Holiday.

C&E Report. Most clubs are doing a fine job of getting their material in before the deadline. If your club's material is not in the C&E, check with your club secretary. Look for Field Day reports.

Ham Holiday 1998.

Dealers. We have ten confirmed vendors at this time. Alinco is sending their portable display for HH 98. MFJ is coming; they represent MFJ, Ameritron, and Ventura.

Programs The tentative program for HH 98 is as follows:
Friday, July 24th, 1998
5:00pm - 9:00pm Ham Holiday open
7:00pm Craft Demonstration
7:45 pm QLF Contest
Midnight: Wouff Hong
Saturday, July 25th, 1998
8:00am Doors Open
9:30am Fox Hunt Begins/ AMSAT-AO-27 Demo /VE Testing Registration

10:00am Packet BBS Operations
11:00am Intro to SSTV/J. C. Penny
Fashion Show
11:30 am OKDXA meeting
12:00 noon LUNCH
12:00 noon VE Testing Registration closes/ ARES
1:00pm Getting Started in Amateur Satellites
2:00pm QRP 101
3:00pm ARES/ARRL Forum
4:30pm Silent Auction
5:00pm Doors Close

Fashion Show. For the ladies a J. C. Penney fashion show will be put on.

Security. The Midwest City Explorer Post has us on their calendar ; we will have night security for HH 98.

ARRL booth. QWCA will be handling the booth again this year. Stop by and check up on the latest offerings.

ARRL testing. Jim Copeland is handling VE testing again this year. Ham Holiday may have two sessions this year, final decision on that hasn't been made yet.

Royal Order of the Wouff Hong. The Wouff Hong ceremonies will be put on by the Tri - State ARG. Ceremonies begin at midnight on Friday night.

Scholarships. All applications are in; will have the name of our scholarship winner at the next meeting.

Prizes. Due to a new law passed by the Oklahoma Legislature, we are having our method of giving away prizes checked by a lawyer to make sure CORA conforms to the law. More next month.

Next meeting. The next meeting will be on Saturday, July 18th, 1998. Lunch starts at 12:00 at the Skyline Café at SE 15th Street and I-35. The meeting will start at 1:00 PM. Will cover all the last minute items right before Ham Holiday 1998. See You There!

Respectfully Yours,
Forrest Rush, N5VWF
CORA Secretary

Special CORA Meeting, June 30, 1998.

The special meeting was opened at 7 PM by the President of CORA, Hal Miller, KB1ZQ. There were nine directors present representing five clubs plus four officers present. The clubs represented were VHF Club, OCAPA, EARS, SCARS, and OKDXA.

PRIZES.

The Oklahoma Legislature has tightened the rules on raffles, drawings and games of chance. Effective July 1st, 1998, it becomes a felony to hold a raffle in Oklahoma. According to legal counsel that CORA has sought, and according to the Attorney General's office, the way we give out the Grand Prize, the pre-registration prizes, the scholarship prize, the door-prizes, and the bingo prizes are all raffles which are **illegal** under Oklahoma Law.

A Raffle in Oklahoma consists of three things; a prize, money or "consideration" and an element of chance to determine the winner. *CORA's prizes meet all three requirements.*

To comply with the law, CORA will **not** offer **PRIZES** at the upcoming Ham Holiday.

All donated items given to CORA by various vendors at Ham Holiday 1998 will be silent auctioned. The item will be on display; if you want it you **bid** on it. After an hour the winning bid will be announced. Money obtained through the silent auction goes to the Scholarship fund.

CORA will offer an ICOM 706, an Alinco DR-605T(Q) dual-band mobile radio, Alinco DR-M06TH 6 meter FM Mobile, ADI AT-600 Dual band HT, and a MFJ Antenna Analyzer, to be silent auctioned for the length of Ham Holiday. *You or your representative must be present to cast the winning bid. Also payment must be made upon receipt of the items. Payment must be Cash or Check; No Credit Cards accepted.*

Respectfully submitted,
Forrest Rush, N5VWF
CORA Secretary

A Note from the Secretary.

As secretary, I feel that I should have the names of every director of CORA. I don't. After Ham Holiday 1998, I would like to suggest to the Clubs that make up CORA that they elect their CORA directors. **Each club is entitled to three directors and three alternates.** Each director should try to make every CORA meeting or send his/her alternate. Then if the club secretary would send me the names of their directors and alternates with their addresses and telephone numbers, I as Secretary of CORA would be most grateful. Thank you.

Forrest Rush, N5VWF
CORA Secretary
E-mail: N5VWF@aol.com
Phone: 405.842.8486

C. O. R. A. will comply with the Law

Effective as of 1 July 1998 the State of Oklahoma statutes concerning Drawings, Games of Chance, Raffles, Lotteries, Prizes, or what ever you may call it, are now a FELONY. The statute has three elements that must be met to be a raffle or lottery. (The Sunday Oklahoman, June 14, 1998, pg. 1,3.)

First a "prize must be offered". Second, "consideration" (money or something of value) must be required. The third condition is "an element of chance must decide the winner." (Assistant Attorney General Mr. Neal Leader, phone conversation, 29 June 1998; Sunday Oklahoman, June 14, 1998, page 3)

An example is the courts in Oklahoma have ruled a theater was in violation of the anti-lottery laws when they held a drawing for prizes among those who bought tickets for the show. The people paid money to see the show (Consideration, money). A prize was offered (prize must be offered). A drawing was held to determine the winner (element of chance). Although they called it a drawing, it was ruled as a lottery by the courts. (Sunday Oklahoman, June 14, 1998, page 3)

CORA is a non-profit organization and each year at our hamfest, like all other hamfest held across the state, has offered door prizes, and held drawings for those who attended our show. We used money from tickets sold to pay for the rental of the building, the cost of utilities used while we rented the building, the prizes we gave away, the promotion of the hamfest, letters to dealers, rental of tables and chairs, and the list goes on plus we set aside seed money for the hamfest to be held the next year. Hosting a hamfest is expensive and trying but most people only get to see the end results of our hard work.

This year, due to the new wording of the Oklahoma Lottery statute, the CORA Board has decided to comply with the law. If we held any type of drawings at our hamfest we would be committing a felony because we charge admission into our show (Assistant Attorney General Mr. Neal Leader). There will be no drawings or games of chance held at our 25th Ham Holiday and the Oklahoma ARRL State Convention. We will instead hold hourly Silent Auctions and the money received from the auction will go toward our Scholarship Fund. The items up for Auction will be ham items and non-ham items. The Silent Auction is legal in the state of Oklahoma. We will not be able to hold our Bingo game either at the show this year. It falls under the same law and although we do not charge to play, we do charge to attend the show.

Hal, KB1ZQ made a promise to the clubs of CORA three years ago when he took over as President. He promised to bring CORA into the 90's and to operate within the laws governing us all. He did not make the law that now says our drawings are illegal and neither did Mr Leader of the Attorney General's office. The individuals we voted to represent us in the state legislation are the ones who are responsible for writing and passing this law.

They claim that we the people made our voices heard when we voted against the state lottery issue in 1994. This law is just enforcing what we voted. The problem is the new law will effect our lives in ways

we never dreamed of. It will prevent non-profit organizations from holding drawings to raise money for a worthy cause. The reason for holding drawing is irrelevant, they are illegal and a felony at this time in our state.

Our hamfest has been forced to change and I hope that people will continue to come even if we will no long offer any prizes. Personal note: I have attended hamfest across the state as well as in Texas and Kansas and all offered door prizes and held drawings. In all the years I have attended these shows, I have yet to win a prize. I have seen some who have won look at their prize with less than a smile on their face. This year, we will give those who attend an opportunity to take part in a silent auction and hopefully they will get something they really would like to have. The money from the auction will go into a Scholarship fund to be awarded to a young person seeking to better themselves and attend college. Depending on how much we raise, we may be able to award more than one scholarship next year.

VE Testing at Ham Holiday

There will be a split session for VE Testing on Saturday July 25th at Ham Holiday '98.

Candidates for testing need to bring their original radio license and a photocopy that will be retained, two forms of photo identification, any certificates of examination credits held (both the original certificate and a photocopy that will be retained), and the \$6.35 testing fee (exact change would be appreciated).

The morning session will begin at 10:00 o'clock a.m. and the afternoon session at 2:00 p.m. Registration will end :30 minutes after the scheduled starting times.

Candidates will be permitted to re-test on a failed element upon payment of a second testing fee and time permitting. Candidates taking Morse code examinations will not be permitted to record characters as dits and dahs.

ARRL-certified Volunteer Examiners who wish to help are welcome. They should

after contracting Jim, NW0K at (405) 329-1681 or e-mail jimhelps@juno.com before July 23rd.

Pre-registration is not required unless applicants are seeking testing variances or accommodations for handicapping conditions.

Information Please

A friend sent this and I want to pass it on to you all.

When I was quite young, my father had one of the first telephones in our neighborhood. I remember well, the polished old case fastened to the wall.

The shiny receiver hung on the side of the box. I was too little to reach the telephone, but used to listen with fascination when my mother used to talk to it.

Then I discovered that somewhere inside the wonderful device lived an amazing person - her name was "Information Please" and there was nothing she did not know. "Information Please" could supply anybody's number and the correct time.

My first personal experience with this genie-in-the-bottle came one day while my mother was visiting a neighbor. Amusing myself at the tool bench in the basement, I whacked my finger with a hammer. The pain was terrible, but there didn't seem to be any reason in crying because there was no one home to give sympathy. I walked around the house sucking my throbbing finger, finally arriving at the stairway.

The Telephone! Quickly I ran for the footstool in the parlor and dragged it to the landing. Climbing up I unhooked the receiver and held it to my ear. "Information Please," I said into the mouthpiece just above my head.

A click or two and a small, clear voice spoke into my ear. "Information" "I hurt my finger..." I wailed into the phone. The tears came readily enough now that I had an audience. "Isn't your mother home?" came the question. "Nobody's home but me." I blubbered. "Are you bleeding?"

"No," I replied. "I hit my finger with the hammer and it hurts."

"Can you open your icebox?" she asked. I said I could.

"Then chip off a little piece of ice and hold it to your finger," said the voice.

After that, I called "Information Please" for everything. I asked her for help with my geography and she told me where Philadelphia was. She helped me with my math. She told me my pet chipmunk that I had caught in the park just the day before would eat fruits and nuts.

Then, there was the time Petey, our pet canary died. I called "Information Please" and told her the sad story. She listened, then said the usual things grown-ups say to soothe a child. But I was unconsoled. I asked her, "Why is it that birds should sing so beautifully and bring joy to all families, only to end up as a heap of feathers on the bottom of a cage?"

She must have sensed my deep concern, for she said quietly, "Paul, always remember that there are other worlds to sing in." Somehow I felt better.

Another day I was on the telephone. "Information Please."

"Information," said the now familiar voice. "How do you spell fix?" I asked.

All this took place in a small town in the Pacific Northwest.

When I was 9 years old, we moved across the country to Boston. I missed my friend very much. "Information Please" belonged in that old wooden box back home and I somehow never thought of trying the tall, shiny new phone that sat on the table in the hall.

As I grew into my teens, the memories of those childhood conversations never really left me. Often, in moments of doubt and perplexity I would recall the serene sense of security I had then. I appreciated now how patient, understanding and kind she was to have spent her time on a little boy.

A few years later, on my way west to college, my plane put down in Seattle. I had about half an hour or so between

planes. I spent 15 minutes or so on the phone with my sister, who lived there now. Then without thinking what I was doing, I dialed my hometown operator and said, "Information, Please".

Miraculously, I heard the small, clear voice I knew so well, "Information." I hadn't planned this but I heard myself saying, "Could you please tell me how to spell fix?" There was a long pause. Then came the soft spoken answer, "I guess your finger must have healed by now."

I laughed. "So it's really still you", I said. "I wonder if you have any idea how much you meant to me during that time." "I wonder", she said, "if you know how much your calls meant to me. I never had any children and I used to look forward to your calls."

I told her how often I had thought of her over the years and I asked if I could call her again when I came back to visit my sister. "Please do," she said. "Just ask for Sally."

Three months later I was back in Seattle. A different voice answered "Information." I asked for Sally.

"Are you a friend?" she said.

"Yes, a very old friend," I answered.

"I'm sorry to have to tell you this", she said. "Sally had been working part-time the last few years because she was sick. She died five weeks ago."

Before I could hang up she said, "Wait a minute. Did you say your name was Paul?"

"Yes."

"Well, Sally left a message for you. She wrote it down in case you called.

Let me read it to you." The note said, "Tell him I still say there are other worlds to sing in. He'll know what I mean."

I thanked her and hung up. I knew what Sally meant.

Chit-Chat

Hello and how are you today? For those of you wondering if I have started a letter instead, sorry but the opening sentence is what I wish to explore.

How many times in a given day are we asking others how they are? It is amazing how many will always give the very proper answer in return, they are fine and a few will thank you for asking. I have asked people this question when they have slipped and fallen and know it must have hurt. It never fails but they always say they are fine. I usually will remain around as the person begins to limp away and will again voice my concern.

I have been told we are conditioned to respond with everything is fine even when it is not the truth. Are we afraid what others may think if we answered their question with honesty? Maybe they are asking the question out of habit and really are not concerned with the answer, we never know with certainty, do we?

I love it when a person calls and is attempting to sale me something I have no plans of buying and opens the conversation with a simple, "how are you today?" I ask if they really want to know or is this an attempt to soften me up for their sales pitch? I usually hear silence coming through my phoneline or laughter. I tell them to have a nice day and wish them well, and mean it.

I find it refreshing to hear an honest answer. When we are honest with one another it is a sign of trust. Being truthful with one another is the first steps toward friendship. An acceptance of each other including our imperfections as well as our strengths is a step toward a richer life. So, the next time someone asks you, "how are you?", answer them with honesty. See what happens.

Hot weather and pets

It is here folks, the sun and the high temperatures of summer. Many people have pets and some are kept outside year around. They need water to survive as well as food. Water is very important and when the temperatures are in the 90's and 100's, it evaporates quickly.

Dogs will turn their water dish over to wet the ground just to find a cool place to lay down. Cats will chase birds out of a bird bath just to get a drink of water. The birds, in turn, will drive bomb the poor cat to try and get the bird bath back. Depending on how thirsty the cat is, I have watched a cat take repeated attacks from birds while it lapped up the water. Cats will drink from swimming pools if they can find one without someone in them.

I try to make sure I have a bowl of fresh water outside for the cats who happen to cross my backyard. Both Hal and I will add water to our neighbor's dogs water bucket during the summer months. I buy dog bones and also give them as treats. My neighbor gave their permission for the dogs to receive treats. I no longer have a dog and do not plan to own another one. Still, I spoil the ones next door to me.

It does not take much to make sure pets have enough water to drink. Hal made me a bird bath a few years ago and the birds have a blast using it. The extra bowl of water left out for the neighborhood cats keeps most of the cats out of the birdbath. The cats leave the birds alone, birds have a way of protecting themselves quit well.

The next time you go into the kitchen for a cool drink stop and ask yourself if the outdoor pet has enough water (if you have an outside pet). Take a few minutes and check. You pet will love you for it.

A small personal note:

With Ham Holiday close at hand and a few unexpected wrenches thrown in our direction, things are still holding together. Both Hal's and my family members are improving daily with their recent health situations. We would like to thank everyone for their understanding, calls, support, cards and prayers. Thank You!

This month, please read the Wheatstraw Club News. I have only talked to Goldie and Ralph on the phone but over the past few years they have become very dear to me. Their daughter, Carol passed away recently after a long illness. I wish I had met her. Her father shares with us in her own words, her faith, courage and love.

For Goldie and Ralph...God Bless you always.

Until next month...

INTEROFFICE INTERNET MEMO:

*** Attention ***

It's that time again!

As many of you know, each leap year the internet must be shut down for 24 hours in order to allow us to clean it. The cleaning process, which eliminates dead email and inactive ftp, www and gopher sites, allows for a better-working and faster internet.

This year, the cleaning process will take place from 12:01 a.m. GMT on Feb. 29 until 12:01 a.m. GMT on March 1. During that 24-hour period, five powerful internet-crawling robots situated around the world will search the internet and delete any data that they find.

In order to protect your valuable data from deletion we ask that you do the following:

1. Disconnect all terminals and local area networks from their internet connections.
2. Shut down all internet servers, or disconnect them from the internet.
3. Disconnect all disks and harddrives from any connections to the internet.
4. Refrain from connecting any computer to the internet in any way.

We understand the inconvenience that this may cause some internet users, and we apologize. However, we are certain that any inconveniences will be more than made up for by the increased speed and efficiency of the internet, once it has been cleared of electronic flotsam and jetsam.

We thank you for your cooperation.

Kim Dereksen

Interconnected Network Maintenance staff
Main branch, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Sysops and others: Since the last internet cleaning, the number of internet users has grown dramatically. Please assist us in alerting the public of the upcoming internet cleaning by posting this message where your users will be able to read it. Please pass this message on to other sysops and internet users as well. Thank you.

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Ada Amateur Radio Club

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 AM by our club president Scott, KD5AJL. Eighteen (18) members and guests were present the financial report was read and approved by the members.

Finis Hallmark says he needs information such as birth dates and ages on members over 70 years of age or under 16 years of age as they qualify for an associate membership for free. A committee was formed to look into changing the bylaws of the club to address how the associate members were to receive *Collector & Emitter*. And whether the club or the member should pay for the C&E subscription. The members of the committee are Roy Throne, KB5STV; Dwight Myers, N0RIW; and John Burchett, KC5EYC. This committee will also handle other problems concerning club rules and bylaws.

John, KC5EYC also gave an update on the repeater site the new towers are in place and now the Public Works Dept. and the Ada Amateur Radio Club have their antennas on new towers. This may prove very helpful during storms when the update will hopefully make it easier for members to get in with handheld units. A back up UPS system is also being considered for the various repeater's in the shed at the water tower. And an Emwin system is also in the works for our area.

Again many thanks to the City of ADA for the support and help over the years. A new UHF repeater is still in the works as time permits for Mason, WT5X to build the machine, thanks Mason. The courtesy tone and phone patch are being repaired.

The antennas on top of City Hall are badly in need of repair and we need to get together and schedule a work day or two and take care of these problems as these are needed for storm and emergency operations in the EOC center.

It was brought to our attention that we need to designate a person for the

Salvation Army net at 08:00 local on the 2nd Saturday of each month. The net frequency's are 146.820 (-) and 3.940 on HF.

We made some final plans for Field Day June 27-28 we assembled at the sight at 08:00 local to start preparations. We want to express our many thanks to Heartland Wireless for the use of their truck with the telescoping tower, and Criswell's for the use of their awning which was invaluable in the intense heat this year at the site.

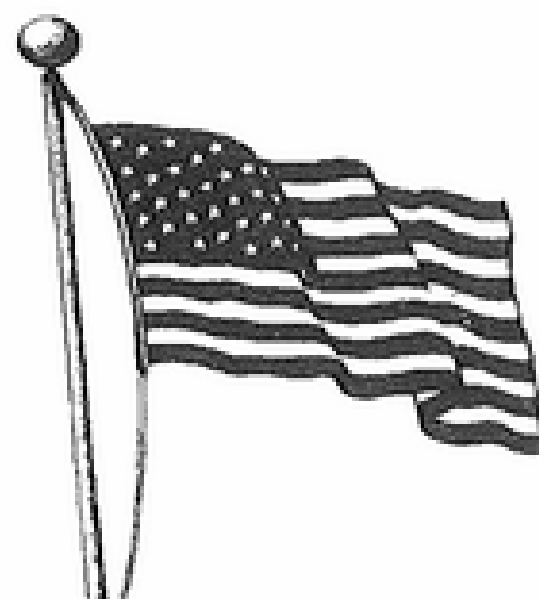
Also we really appreciate the ADA Airport Authority for the use of the field and the use of the airport facilities this year. Finis, KC5YGB brought a large awning which helped quite a lot, thanks Finis.

The EOC van was at the sight for a little work and heat relief when some became to hot. The smoked brisket brought by Charles, KC5TGA was some welcome relief from the hot day, also Dwight and Nancy handled the other food and soft drink needs helping to make things go smoothly. Our thanks to the many others who without their help things could not have run as smoothly as it did. Sam, KM5IY took many photos of the event so we can see how much fun we had after the weather cools.

On another less cheerful note it was mentioned at the meeting that Earl Johnson recently had surgery for arterial problems, and that O. J. Collins' wife had passed away we want them to all know that our prayers are with them.

We hope that all had a wonderful Field Day and will have a pleasant 4th of July.

Danny Coffey, KM5LB
Secretary ADA ARC



Letter's Station Heard On 40 Meters by Perry H. Jenkins, N5PJ

On June 17 from around 07:15 to 07:37 Z I heard a station transmitting in CW on or about 7.000 MHz. The station was sending "word groups" of 5 letters. The station periodical also used the prosign AR and ended the transmission with a period in CW. I would say the signal strength varied between S3 and S8 at my station location in Yukon, Oklahoma. I heard no station identification during the time I was monitoring.

I was curious if someone at the ARRL might know the origin and nature of the signals so I sent an e-mail to them. I was not sure who to contact so I e-mailed Technical Information Services (TIS). George Beloin, WA1PIX, ARRL Technical Information Service Coordinator forwarded my message to John Hennessee, N1KB in regulatory. John, N1KB, e-mailed me a message stating that "We have received quite a few reports of this same station and all of the reports are being forwarded to the FCC. We don't know the nature or origin of the signals yet." John also forwarded my message to Jay Mabey, NU0X, who is in charge of the ARRL Monitoring System (MONSYS) which forwards reports of foreign non-amateur interference to the FCC. Jay wrote that MONSYS has been reporting this stations' activity for about 4 months now. He also wrote, "We submit the details to the FCC every other month for their action." Jay says that you can send him information on signal strength and/or any additional data you can find out on the interfering station. His e-mail address is jmabey@arrl.org.

PC Makers Warn Of Windows 98 Problems

Three computer makers have notified customers about conflicts between their PCs and the new Windows 98 operating system. Dell and Toshiba are warning customers on their web sites to put off installing Windows 98 until they can make their machines more compatible. In addition, Compaq has posted a list of conflicts and work-arounds related to Windows 98 on its web site. Microsoft officials did not immediately comment on the warnings. Computer models affected <http://cnn.com/TECH/computing/9807/02/win.98.bugs.idg/index.html>

Altus Area Amateur Radio Association

June 1998 Club Meeting

Meeting held at 711 W Tamarack Rd. Altus, OK 11 June 1998. Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM. by Ron, KB5UVC.

1. Intro's- forgone

2. Last months Minutes- None on hand, Hold till next meeting (July).

3. Treasurers Report given.

Old Business-

4. Red Cross Van- Painted and still needs folks to help out. (would like to have at Hamfest) Still needs a bumper, tail light work and a lot of TLC. Any one interested contact Dave, KC5SII; Dale, N5VX or Bob, KC5CNC.

5. 70cm Repeater- no change.

New Business-

6. Field Day- Date 27-28 June (1800 Sat. to 2100 Sun) Place: In a field 4.5 Miles West of Altus on RT 62, (Signs will be made up) and there will be an archery demo in the front field going on. Contact: John, AB5WQ, or Dave, KC5SII (482-8625), and bring a friend, they can talk too on the radio.

7. Altus Bike Club- Stopped by and thanked the club members for providing help in crowd and traffic control on the June 4th race. They have 4 more races coming up, June 18th, July 2nd, 16th, 30th, starting at 6:30 p. m, please be there 15-30 minutes prior for last minute details and set up points.

8. Hamfest July 11, 1998- Sign up sheets, come on members it's our fest and we should do something to make it a great one this year, let's get active.

9. New Member in AAARA- Justin, KD5DYJ, Roosevelt, OK. A great OK welcome to you, and we will be waiting for a QSO with you.

10. Week of Field Day Proclaimed as Ham Week by Mayor of Altus, T. W. Grambling, a meeting with the Mayor will be June 16th at 9:45 AM.

11. Alan, KD5COH, has given up the position of Secretary and will retain his position of Editor. By a special vote on 11 June by the Officers and Members present, Ron, KD5CYW, is the new Secretary till the next election in January 1999.

(Thank you Alan for all the hard work you did to get us on a Web Page, and keep up the great articles in the C&E.)

12. MARS- Mike, N5VXU, Talked about this special group of hams. For more info contact Mike, N5VXU.

13. Yes, the 'New' FCC Form 610's are in, Just ask Ron, KB5UVC, or George, N1GIM, or any VEC's at the next test session for one.

14. Dale, N5VX, Talked about Ham Freq's being sold to other Org's that would like to see ham radio go by the way side. Lets get together and fight by joining ARRL, to keep the Ham Freq's that we have. (Thank you Alan for the letter that you sent on behalf of the AAARA members, well done.)

15. Adjourned at 8:03 PM.

Typed by Ron, KD5CYW.

Field Day 1998

The AAARA Club Field Day Activities were held at a location approx. 4 miles West of Altus Oklahoma on June 27-28.

A small but dedicated group of club members attended the outing and had A great time, making several new contacts. Next year will be even better!!

Thanks to those members who worked so hard pulling the event together!!

Altus, Oklahoma Hamfest 98

Well, the time is drawing near for the annual Altus Hamfest. It will be Taking place this year at the Altus Oklahoma Community Center on Saturday, July

11th. Registration is \$6.00 at the door, \$5.00 if you Pre-register. There may still be time to pre-register. Go to the AAARA Website at:

<http://www.aaara.jellybean.com> and click the HAMFEST Menu selection.

73s and see ya all at the Altus Hamfest!!!! De KD5COH Alan signing off until next month.....

3M: Hams should loose 5 GHz

One of the nations best known corporations says that hams should loose their 5 GHz allocation to Intelligent Transportation Systems communications.

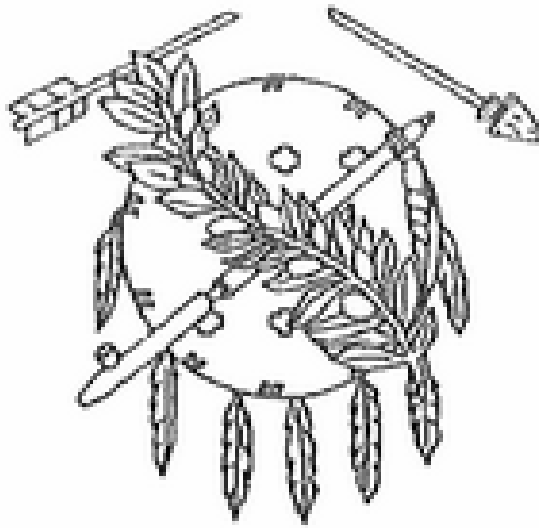
As reported last week, the FCC has proposed allocating 5.850 to 5.925 GHz for use by intelligent transportation systems. The Amateur Service has a secondary allocation at 5.650 to 5.925 GHz shared with government radar systems and non-government fixed satellite service uplinks. Under the proposal, dedicated short range communications or DSRC highway safety systems would share the band as co-primary users.

3M Corporation, a DSRC proponent, says that sharing is impossible. It says that a powerful amateur station could easily swamp out DSRC services and make these signals useless. 3M also argues that hams should be displaced from the band because they already have plenty of spectrum between 50 MHz and 50 GHz and make only light use of 5.9 GHz.

Meanwhile, In its comments, the ARRL questioned whether the 5.9 GHz band was appropriate for DSRC. The League urges the FCC to look into frequencies above 40 GHz. ARRL says that's where DSRC systems could avoid interference from other users.

The League also says that the ITS proposal and the FCC decision to deploy unlicensed National Information Infrastructure devices in the band could render 175 MHz of spectrum in the 5.8 GHz range significantly less useful to hams.

(Via ARRL, others)



Broken Arrow Amateur Radio Club

Words for the Prez By Jeff Scoville, KC5RTH

I would like to thank everyone who helped out and participated in the BAARC Field Day. All in all, it was very successful. Members persevered through the heat, finicky generators, and a couple of radio failures to make over 675 contacts on 5 different HF bands.

Special thanks go out to Wade Harris, KF5IF for his extra efforts in making Field Day happen. Wade spent countless hours reserving the park, getting out publicity, and coordinating what equipment would be at the site. Thanks also go out to Craig Rozell, Mr. "ARRL Publicity" for his work in getting Rescue Dogs of Oklahoma, Medivac Ground Crew (the helicopter was grounded for repairs, unfortunately), and Cindy Morrison of Channel 8 to visit our Field Day site.

Hats off to Broken Arrow Emergency Management for the hot dogs and hamburgers for the 5PM cookout. Additional thanks to BAEM for use of their generator when ours shut down at 3 AM.

Chuck McGeechie and Steve Bradley have already mentioned having Field Day 1999 on the top of Tiger Hill, possibly in the air conditioned radio building or the Police Department emergency operations vanAny volunteers to be chair? Guess it's a little early, but never hurts to plan ahead!

In the meantime, 73 to all!

June Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Jeff Scoville.

The treasury report was given and approved.

Committee reports

Net reports - All the nets have been very good the last few weeks.

Packet - Mark reported the node between Broken Arrow and Oklahoma City went down, but all is well now.

VE testing this Saturday - no report.

Old business:

CORA is out and should include our club information. Look for it in a mailbox near you soon.

For Reference - the CORA newsletter is called *Collector and Emitter (C&E)*

The Editor

A new club roster is out and available - please check it for accuracy and club membership dues for renewals.

Field day is coming up this month on the 27th & 28th. Wade, KF5IF has been coordinating and reports we'll be holding the event at Haikey Creek Park. Currently he has 5 volunteers signed up and is looking for more. Some equipment will be available and with the extra activities that are planned for the weekend it should be a great event. Hamburgers are being planned for dinner Saturday night - all are welcome, and please bring a side dish and join the fun. Wade says the cooking will start about 4:30, eating about 5. He could still use a grill and a good cook. Let's get out there and support the club. Some of the media will be out and we want to market some of the good work the club has done for the community especially with the weather system and nets that has been provided this spring.

Rooster day notes. It started with some rain and a bit of lightening, but otherwise was a great event. Wayne reported the members made over 160 contacts for the day with 2 radios and several operators that stopped by. Many thanks to Bob and Virginia for hosting the event at their home. The facilities were great, the food tremendous.

Virginia also mentioned she received a lot of great support from Kim, KC5DPY and thanks her for the help and assistance.

Jeff reported he has several of the new weather pagers available, so contact him for details.

Wayne reported that the antenna party at the tower was a great success. A good turnout and no one was injured. There will probably be some additional discussion about gluing the support to the top of the tower. Mark and Steve have the details on that - which we probably don't want to know about.

New Business:

The bill for the liability insurance came in. This is the general liability coverage for club members that might accidentally cause property damage during a club event. The bill is \$250. for the year. A motion was made by Mark, N5OBC and seconded by Tom, K5FRI. The membership voted and passed the motion to pay the bill.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30.

Submitted by,
Joe Horn, KC5VPO
Secretary

Whiskey Five Bravo Bravo Sierra

Was heard over and over at the BAARC site for the ARRL 1998 Field Day. This year's site was Haikey Creek Park at 113th and Garnett. The site was located between two large soccer fields, leaving plenty of room for antennas.

All bands were active, with roughly the same number of contacts being made on each. Twenty meters actually stayed open all night long!

Ten meters was "up and down" all day long. Even with the wild swings in the band, close to 100 contacts were made from the Novice/Technician station. Jeff Scoville, KC5RTH was the station foreman.

Wayne Hartsfield, KK5AT fired up the grill for the Saturday evening dinner, serving hamburgers, hot dogs. The hamburgers and hot dogs were courtesy of

Broken Arrow Emergency Management. The dinner gave many of us an opportunity to meet the families of our club members.

Wade Harris, KF5IF is still tabulating results, but it appears that we had at least 600 contacts. Wade worked very hard to get field day together, to make sure the club scored as many bonus points as possible, and to keep things running smoothly. Wade would like to thank everyone for their support of the Field Day activities. In return, the club would like to express its appreciation to Wade for his efforts in making Field Day extremely successful.

UPS Installed at Blue Water Tower

Jeff Scoville KC5RTH installed a brand new Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) at the 145.47 repeater site to aid in its reliability during power outages. The 146.91 repeater runs off the city's UPS at tiger hill. The city has backup generators at both sites for long term operations during blackouts.

The UPS at the water tower will not only keep 145.47 on the air, but will also keep the EMWIN 9600 baud transmitter and weather paging system located at the water tower. Since the UPS installation, there have been seven power outages ranging from a few seconds to several minutes. EMWIN/Weather paging didn't skip a beat.

The UPS is designed to keep everything "online" for approximately 20-30 minutes after power is lost. For longer power outages, a BAARC member will need to manually start up the backup power generator at the water tower.

Al Harper N4IDA is in the process of revamping a "bigger and better" UPS to allow for more than ½ hour before the generator has to be started. Look for more updates in future newsletters.

145.47 Machine "Hearing Again"

Due to a bad case of "desensitization" of the receiver on 145.47, it has been deaf

for the last 3-4 weeks. Due to the quick efforts of Mark Hogan and Nick Marsala in putting a temporary filter in place, the receiver is almost back to its full sensitivity. Further adjustments will probably bring 145.47 back to its old glory.

SWAP & TRADE



Sponsors' contributions to the HAM GRAM have helped offset the costs of publication and mailing. Please thank them for their support.

N4IDA, Al, is looking for a good base microphone. He wants to use it on a Kenwood TS-430. He can be reached via email at N4IDA@JUNO.COM.

K5FRI, Tom, is looking for Kenwood TR-9130 parts radio. He can be reached at 918-486-4811.

VE Testing is held the first Saturday of each month at the Church of Christ, 811 N. 4th St., Broken Arrow. Starts at 9:30 AM and lasts until everyone is finished. New hams and upgrades are welcome.

If you want to list one or more items for SWAP or TRADE in this newsletter you may contact any a club officer, the editor, or the net control operator on the regularly scheduled Swap and Trade Nets, which are held every Monday at 8:00 PM on the BA repeater, 146.910 Mhz.

Field Day Storms

Field Day is supposed to be a test for radio amateurs to see if they are ready to handle almost any kind of emergency communications. But for hams in seven states Field Day took on a new meaning as they responded communications black-outs. This, the result of fierce thunderstorms that swamped parts Eastern United States beginning early on Saturday, June 27th.

The squalls hit with little warning and brought severe flooding in an area stretching from Ohio to New England to West Virginia.

Winds reaching 60 mph downed trees and knocked out electricity to tens of thousands of homes.

Hams in several geographic areas were called out to provide communications as telephone lines went down and power failed at commercial radio relay sites. The extreme weather is also blamed for a train derailment and fuel spill.

The storms were also responsible for the deaths of at least five people. Two people were felled by a lightning strike. Another man was killed in Ohio, electrocuted by fallen power lines, while two others were swept away by raging rivers.

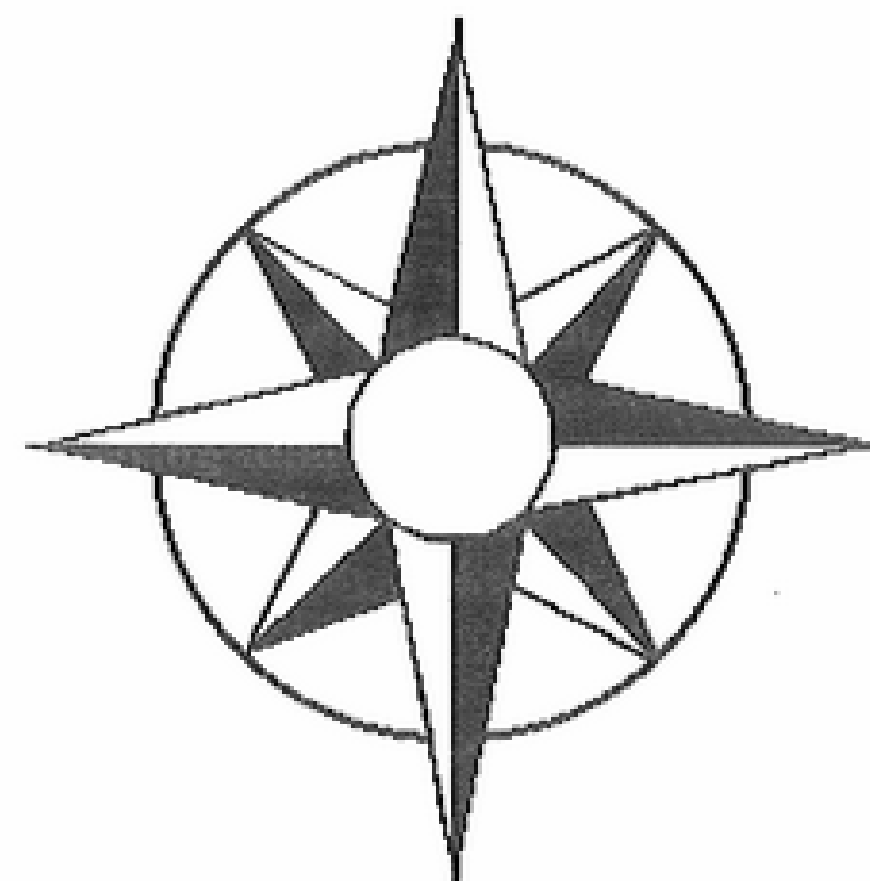
(Via listener reports)

Illinois Tornado

Illinois hams have respond in the wake of a June 14 tornado. According to Bob Crockett, N9KUT, ARES members in the Quincy, Illinois, area joined forces with the American Red Cross to assess the damage. The storm damaged homes in at least two subdivisions.

Five damage assessment teams, each accompanied by a radio-equipped amateur, fanned out to determine damage and injuries. Fortunately all turned out to be relatively minor. Two businesses, a public building, and about two dozen homes were damaged.

(Via N9KUT, ARRL)





Edmond Amateur Radio Society

Upgrade Congratulations!

Congratulations to our newest KerMudgeon, Judy Johnson, who is now KM5QW, after successfully upgrading to Advanced. (Formerly a KerChunker, KC5SMI) Well done, Judy! We're proud of you.

Privacy Reminder

Please remember when on the air that one should be most careful about mentioning if someone is going to be away from home or out of town. It can be a perfect opportunity to alert the less-than-honest who might be listening in, that homes are vacant and belongings are vulnerable.

Net Control Schedule for July and August

The following amateurs are scheduled as net control for the Monday Night Information Net, held at 8 p.m. every Monday evening on the 147.135 repeater. If you are interested in becoming a net control, contact Jim Richardson, N5OHL.

6-July	KC5YBP	Trish
13-July	WD5FHR	Dee
20-July	KM5GV	Sharon
27-July	WB5SYT	John
3-August	** OPEN **	
10-August	** OPEN **	
17-August	** OPEN **	
24-August	** OPEN **	
31-August	** OPEN **	

Birthday Greetings!

E.A.R.S. sends out a hearty "Happy Birthday" to these club members celebrating in the month of July:

07-03	KC5NBI	Joyce Wolf
07-06	KB5KPL	Paul Richardson
07-09	KM5PA	Carl Shortt
07-09	K5YKD	Earnest Wolf
07-12	KB5HXT	Mike Delaney
07-17	N5USO	Jason Snyder

07-18	KB5RR	Clarence Dollmeyer
07-19	KD5DBF	Charles Newcomb
07-20	KD5CPK	Richard Olsen
07-24	KD5AVJ	Amy Shortt
07-24	KK5LH	Toni Winnard
07-27	KB5BQN	Jo Ann Buswell
07-28	KA5YPE	Shelby Mize
07-28	W5CU	Sam Sitton
07-28	KK5XS	Joel Bennett
07-29	AA5JI	William Palmer
07-29	N5IJX	Robert Thomason

Health and Welfare Report

It is hard to believe the C&E deadline is here already. Old Father Time is clicking right along.

Sue Wilhite, KC5SMJ, mother of Dirk, KC5SFE, is doing great after having had a hip replacement.

Tommy Guinn, KA5WAV – his father Tommy is doing just fine after his angioplasty procedure of a couple months ago.

Hal Miller, KB1ZQ – his father is doing OK since his bypass surgery, and is also happy to let you know his ankle and foot are beginning to heal, so they don't think they are going to have to amputate.

Linda Miller, N1LPN – Her uncle is doing fairly well and is strong enough now to begin his chemo treatments. Her brother is doing OK after his knee surgery and has been able to go back to work. Her dad's exploratory surgery did not reveal the cause of his problem. He's on medication and is beginning to feel much better.

George Mastena, N5GFG is doing fine and is recuperating nicely from his bypass surgery. He and his wife are both in an assisted living facility doing OK. They are indeed blessed to have their daughter looking in on them.

Bob Hebert, N5SAG – he is doing a little better and was able to get out and go back to the mines for a short period of time.

All these folks are grateful for the cards from the members and friends, for their concern, thoughts and prayers. Hope things will continue to improve and get back to normal before too long for all of you. 73 de Clara Granger, KG5UG

Euro English (humor)

EuroEnglish

The European Union commissioners have announced that agreement has been reached to adopt ENGLISH as the preferred language for European communications, rather than GERMAN, which was the other possibility.

As part of the negotiations, the British government conceded that English spelling had some room for improvement and has accepted a five-year phased plan for what will be known as EuroEnglish (Euro for short).

In the first year, 's' will be used instead of the soft 'c'. Certainly, sivil servants will reseive this news with joy. Also, the hard 'c' will be replaced with 'k'. Not only will this klear up konfusion, but typewriters kan have one less letter.

There will be growing publik enthusiasm in the sekond year, when the troublesome "ph" will be replaced by 'f'. This will make words like "fotograf" 20 per sent shorter.

In the third year, publik akseptanse of the new spelling kan be ekspekted to reach the stage where more komplikated changes are possible.

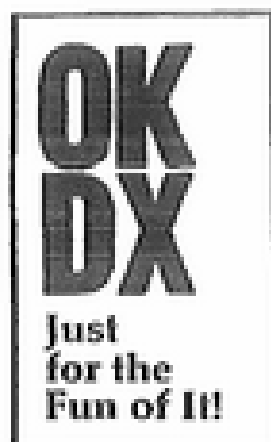
Governments will enkourage the removal of double letters, which have always ben a deterrent to akurate speling. Also, al wil agre that the horrible mes of silent 'e's in the languag is disgrasful, and they would go.

By the fourth year, peopl wil be reseptiv to steps such as replasing "th" by "z" and "w" by "v".

During ze fifz year, ze unesesary "o" kan be dropd from vords kontaining "ou", and similar changes vud of kors be aplid to ozer kombinations of leters.

After zis fifz yer, ve vil hav a reli sensibl riten styl. Zer vil be no mor trubls or difikultis and evrivun vil find it ezi tu understand ech ozer.

Ze drem vil finali kum tru.!!!



OKlahoma DX Association

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

by Bruce Burnette, K5PX

Whew! It is over. Field day 1998, it was 98 degrees, a heat index into the 100's, too many trips up the bleachers (we operated at a football field), and I got 2 hours sleep. Boy did we have FUN. Well I think we did. It seems that the older I get the longer it takes to recuperate from these little outings. Where were the kids? I remember the days when the only reason that I was invited to Field Day was to carry stuff. But, look around. It becomes painfully obvious that "we ain't getting any younger." I also went to "1964 The Tribute" recently, (this is the Beatles look alike group), one of the people with me said "this is a concert for our age." My comment to him was, "there is more gray hair & no hair here than long hair." How true it is! The Amateur Radio community is getting older fast. I read somewhere that a "Baby Boomer" turns 50 every 2 minutes. We have got to get the "kids" interested. But how? I keep telling myself that I am going to conduct a "upgrade" class, but I just keep putting it off. Procrastination, yes it's true. Maybe I can blame my lack of effort on age, work, (can't use the kids as an excuse anymore they are all gone), someone else will do it, or just plain laziness. But the bottom line is "we have to get up off our backsides and get the younger people involved." I will be the first to share the blame. Think about this, when was the last time you invited a new amateur (regardless of license class) to attend a meeting, hamfest, Field Day, or just come over to your house and play on the radio? Or let us go one step farther, when was the last time you tried to get someone interested in Amateur Radio (family members don't count)? We have to get the hobby moving again, or we will be moving. Don't forget what happened to 11 meters. Corporate America is out there waiting like wolves for our frequencies!

So, I've said all this to make us realize that we are the ones who will have to get the new guys. Nobody is going to do it for us. Not the ARRL, not your local representative, not the city governments, and certainly not the Federal government. So what is it going to be? Next time you are at your local club meeting go over to the "new" guy and invite them to something Ham related. Remember we all look like the "Old Guys" to the "New Guys".

OK, I'll get down off the soap box and continue with my "words of wisdom". We have a new Director (as opposed to a reflector...humor) for the Southeast part of the state. Ed, NA5B has graciously consented to fill the position left vacant when Lee moved to Baja Oklahoma (Texas). Welcome to aboard Ed!

Nelson, KC5QVV has agreed to accept the position of our newsletter editor. Thank you Nelson! This will take quite a load off of Mark. Speaking of Mark. It is a sad day when you see a person who many of us consider the bastion of conservatism, our "Rock of Gibraltar" so to speak (remember we trust him with the club's money) succumb to that low point in the realm of human decency. Yes it is true, our very own Mark fell to the temptress of Vanity, took the big leap and became N5OG. Congratulations on the new call Mark.

Remember Ham Holiday! Annual elections and such. Mark, N5OG, is chairing the nomination committee. If you want to run for office or know someone who would make a good officer (confirm with that person first) get in touch with Mark and get them on the ballot. Hope to see all of you in Oklahoma City! 73 Bruce, K5PX

THE CONTEST CONTINUUM

Building a Contest Station, cont.

by Coy Day, N5OK

Computer controlling your station for contests is the only way to go if you are going to be competitive. There are many software packages available on the market. For access to some of these check out the following URL:

http://www.qth.com/ka9fox/links_software.shtml

Make sure that the software that you chose, is compatible with your computer and equipment, that it will do what you want it to do and that it covers the contests that you want to operate. Many contest stations use more than one program in order to cover all the contests. For the most part I use CT by Ken Wolfe, K1EA. Most of these programs are available via the Internet at the URL mentioned above. Some of them have a shareware version that you might want to try. Others may have a trial version with limited capability that you can download.

As far as installing the software goes, each one has it's own peculiarities. Just be sure you follow the instructions carefully. Some require the loading of TSR's, (Terminate-and-stay-Resident programs) that interface between the software and hardware. Some will only work in DOS others are designed for use with Windows. Some require a sound card with external speakers.

There are also some hardware issues that you must address. To control your transceiver you have to have a cable tied to one of the serial ports of your computer on one end and to the transceiver on the other. Some transceivers require a computer interface device in order to communicate with the computer. This cable allows the software to react to changes at the transceiver and to change frequency, mode, split, etc. from the keyboard.

If you wish a DX Packet Cluster connection, then you need a cable ran from a serial port to your packet TNC. This may also require the use of a TSR interface. If you want the software to control your CW keying you need to construct a CW interface cable. Most folks tie this to a printer port since the serial ports get used up quickly. This cable requires a small interface circuit consisting of one or two transistors and resistors. These circuits are available commercially but are very simple to construct and the circuit details are included in the docs with most contesting programs.

Okay, so you get all this installed, what's it going to do for you? To start with, it

takes care of all the logging, dupe checking and score keeping for the contest. All you have to do is enter the call sign and report information and hit enter. The time, frequency, mode, multiplier, etc. are all entered in the log for you. It will also key the transceiver send the CW exchange information, QSL the contact, and then call CQ. If you prefer SSB contests, you can install a DVP (Digital Voice Processor) it will perform basically the same functions on phone. The main thing here is time savings. The time it takes to make a QSO is taken to the bare minimum.

Here are some of the commands used by CT to give you some idea of its capability:

F1 - Send CQ message
 F2 - Send exchange message
 F3 - Send confirm message
 F4 - Send mycall
 F5 - Send his call
 F6 - Send cl?
 F7 - Send ?
 Enter - Log QSO
 Ins - F5 and F2
 "+" - F3 and <Enter>
 Alt-F1 - band down
 Alt-F2 - band up
 Alt-F9 - CW speed down 2 wpm
 Alt-F10 - CW speed up 2 wpm

You can also monitor any number of windows that tell you all kinds of information about how you are doing in the contest. Your rates (how fast you are making contacts), needed zones/countries, band maps, multiplier check sheets, current summary, etc. all can be available at the push of a button.

You might say that it seems like a lot of buttons to memorize. Yes, and it would not be fun to be in the middle of a contest looking up what buttons to hit while the guy on the other end is trying to figure out where you went. I have two ways around this. First I mark up my keyboard. Above the function keys, I have a card taped to the keyboard with what each of the function keys do. I have it marked in levels, F, Alt-F, Ctrl-F and Shift-F. I also use address labels to cut out key labels for the critical keys that are used most often. Primarily the Ins and the + keys. The

second way to deal with all this memory work is practice. There are several contest practice programs available. I prefer PED, which is available on the aforementioned URL. This is good practice for your CW copying speed and handling pile-ups as well.

I also recommend using a laptop. I got started using a laptop to control the rig on DXpeditions. After I got the hang of it, I preferred using a laptop. I find that they generate less RF noise than a PC and therefore don't cause interference on the bands and they take up less space in the operating room. Granted the keyboard is a little smaller and takes a little practice to get used to but the advantages outweigh that limitation. You can find used laptops at some of the computer stores that take old ones as trade-ins. Some 486's with black and white screen are available for around \$200.

If you like to run multiple transceivers during a contest, some of the software programs allow you to do that. All you have to do is set up each station running the software and hardware required, and then link them together through serial ports. You can then switch back and forth between the stations or run them simultaneously.

A word of caution! Although computers speed up the contest operation considerably they also add another source for errors. Now added to copying errors you have the possibility for keyboard errors. For those of us that don't use a keyboard that much this error can be considerable. This gives another reason for practicing with a program such as PED. In addition, now that we submit computerized logs, it is very easy for the contest sponsor to sort through your logs for errors and disqualify you if you have too many.

Regardless of whether you contest seriously or just for fun, computerizing your operation can add to your number of contacts, minimize the book keeping, help with QSL chores, etc. and make your contesting more enjoyable. Also, no matter what your level of effort, send in your logs and be sure and list the OKDXA

as your club affiliation. Who knows you may have the thousand points that are needed to bump us up a notch in the competition.

Many don't enter contests because they don't like losing. My suggestion is that you work at beating your own records. Don't worry about competing against others. However, Work hard at beating your own records. The next thing you know you will be winning.

ANTIGUA, V2, OPERATION

by K5TT and W5AO

article by K5TT

In the fall of 1997, I once again succumbed to the urge to take a DXpedition. To keep things somewhat simple, I decided to keep the search limited to the Caribbean or Central/South American area. Also, I did not want to carry and setup antennas. I began searching the Internet and publications for a station available to rent for one of the major contests. Well, I found that the big four contests, CQWW DX CW/SSB and ARRL DX CW/SSB, were booked years in advance. I found several stations were available for some of the other contests.

One particular station intrigued me. It was setup in Antigua and used by the Frankford Radio Club from Pennsylvania. They use the call sign V26B and had been very successful in the big four. Various other individuals had operated there with good success also. I saw a picture of the station and its 6 towers on the Internet. It has monobanders for 40 through 10 up to 90 feet high and wire antennas for 160/80 meters. A beam antenna is also available for the WARC bands. I called Sam, WT3Q, and found that there had been a recent cancellation and the station was available for the CQ WPX CW Contest in May. I immediately reserved it and made a deposit.

Sam chose this location and started building the station several years ago. He and the FRC have built it to what it is today. Antigua, being one of the most easterly islands in the Caribbean, is strategically good for working Europe, Africa, and the Middle East. Of course, the path to the US is quite good also. The

FRC set a new world record in the 1998 ARRL DX CW Contest from the station in the multi-multi class. I was convinced that the station works.

I did not want to operate the contest as a single op for several reasons. One being that I am getting too old to operate a contest straight through. So, I asked several CW contest operators to go along. Most could not get away at the time. But, Dave Horn, W5AO (ex N5CG) was available. That should be no surprise to anyone who knows Dave. He has made two trips to Palau with the OKDXA Group and is always ready for a contest. An FT-990 and an amplifier are provided at the station, but not knowing their condition, we opted to take our own radios and take a chance on the amplifier being good. It sure is nice to not have to take antennas and amplifiers. Sam helped with licensing and obtained our V26TT and V26GG call signs for us.

On May 25, my non-ham but adventurous wife, Karen and I boarded the first of three flights to get us from Oklahoma City to St. John, Antigua. Dave, W5AO would depart the following day. We had checked two very heavy hard sided bags with miscellaneous gear such as coax jumpers, interconnecting cables, headsets, and meters as well as a few clothes. The challenge was carrying and stowing the four carry-on bags. These bags contained gear such as FT-990, IC-706, 12V power supply, 2 computers, key, keyer, and power cords. Surprisingly, we had no problem getting all this through airport security.

We knew the most difficult part of the trip would be the first departure out of Oklahoma City. Our first flight was on a rather small turbo-prop American Eagle plane to Dallas. The plane is not large enough to bring normal carry-on bags in the cabin. The crew takes the bags as you board and places them in the cargo area. This caused me great concern. We had placed fragile tags on everything which usually makes them a target. Karen and I did manage to carry the FT-990, 386 computer and Pentium computer on board and got them under the seat. At the Dallas arrival, we had to take the four

carry-ons aboard a bus to get to the terminal. While boarding the bus, we all watched in horror as the gorillas pitched the checked bags out the plane door onto the concrete pad. We then had to go 18 gates to get the flight to Miami. Although we were doing quite well with the roller type bags, a gentleman offered to take us in a cart. That sure made it faster.

We arrived in Miami and much to our dismay, we had to go back to the main terminal, through security, and take a train out to another terminal with all this "necessary" gear I brought. After about an hour wait, we were informed that there was a gate change. The race was on. A hundred people going from one gate to another. We had to take the train back to the main terminal, go back through security (I shuttered each time), and to yet another terminal. All this with this valuable stuff that was breaking out backs and arms.

Well, anyway, we made it to Antigua with all the junk I brought, arriving about 8:00 p.m. Everything made it except both our checked bags were damaged. The Antigua Customs Officer seemed to single me out to harass, but I expected that. He kept insisting that I was there on business as he looked through our bags. I don't know what difference that makes. But, I just kept smiling and trying to explain what I was doing there.

I had previously called the property owner and knew that he had taken his granddaughter to Jamaica for medical treatment. So, I called his son, Darrel, to pick us up. He took us to a super market to get bottled water and a little food. We found food quite expensive. This little trip was \$100 US. He showed us around St. John a little then took us out to the station at about 11:00 p.m. We knew the house was primitive by our standards but was better than most housing on the Island. The first night was a little uncomfortable since the owner was away and had not prepared things for our arrival. Things like turning on the water and the air conditioner were not done. I turned on the provided radio and worked about a hundred stations on 40 meters before going to bed.

The next day, Darrel got things going in the house. I started unpacking the gear and setting up the station. The air conditioning in the house was quite a luxury. The only other places that were air conditioned were the banks and casinos. I understand that some hotels have air conditioned rooms but their lobbies and restaurants were not.

Karen and I had planned to go site seeing prior to Dave's arrival. So, Darrel fixed us up with Mr. Wilton King who took us about 20 miles away to the historic English Harbor area. He toured us through the Nelson's Dockyard National Park and dropped us off at the hotel/restaurant area for lunch. We had read about the old Admiral Inn dating back to 1788 and wanted to have lunch there. The lunch on the patio over looking the harbor was very nice and the pumpkin soup was as great as advertised. (Be sure to bring you credit card) We also were introduced to the local beer, Wadale, which was quite good, mainly because it was cold. We were learning how hot it is in the afternoon. That evening, I got the station setup for two operators and started to operate a little more seriously myself.

The next day, we had another new experience. The station is out in the country about 7 miles from St. John on one of the main highways. Taxis and buses come by quite often but are difficult to identify. Taxis look like regular cars and buses are typically Nissan vans with no markings. Also, they are going by at about 60 miles an hour. Taxis are quite expensive, \$7 each way to town. So, Darrel flagged down a bus for us and we went to town. From that day on, we rode the bus quite often, even Karen by herself.

We had read about Hemingway's Restaurant and decided to go there for lunch. It was great. We got to know the owner and staff after a few days. We could watch the cruise ships and the "boat people" from the restaurant. We went to the super market for another major expenditure. We finally found Dave's required Dr. Pepper. Then caught a taxi to pickup Dave at the airport. Unfortunately, he did not get detained as we did and had been waiting on us for an

hour. He was glad to finally get there. His trip had taken him to Houston then to Newark (yes, New Jersey) where he spent the night in the airport, then to St. Martin before arriving in Antigua. (the things we do to be able to afford these trips) He immediately started to operate. (no surprise there) He unpacked a day or two later, sort of.

We had a great time operating before the contest. There was no need for amplifiers with the monoband antennas. Working stations from every corner of the world was routine. JY, 9K2, 9V and 5B4 stations come to mind. The only challenging area to work was Japan. Working people on those weird bands like 12 meters was fun. There is a 500,000 watt BBC HF Broadcast radio station less than 2 miles away that gave us a little problem, but bandpass filters took their signal out. The BBC was quite easy to hear even on the telephone.

Roy Carty, the property owner, returned before the contest and helped us with a few last minute details. However, the 10 meter beam was stuck on South. We were unable to get it loose or turn it on Europe or USA. That was the biggest disappointment.

We were all set when the contest started about an hour and a half after Antigua sunset. We opened on 40 meters with Roy's Alpha 76 Amp and the 2 element beam at 90 feet doing a super job into Europe. The pileup was awesome. You haven't lived until you have tried to control a European pileup. (control?) We were going as fast as we could go with Dave and I trading off every hour or two. We were running about a hundred Q's per hour for the first few hours. The WPX contest requires the exchange of a serial number which really makes it tedious and slower. Most times we had a pileup to work on some band. There seemed to be no end to German and Russian stations.

We had noticed on the days prior to the contest that at midmorning, propagation seemed to go away on all bands. The same thing happened during the contest for about an hour both days. The contest breakdown is shown in this column. With

just two operators, we got very tired. There were times when my brain would go to "Pause". Of course, that's when someone who knew me would be calling. There is no way to describe the intensity of the contest. It almost never let up. We had a great time!

One of the most dreaded things in a contesters' mind is a power failure. We were not immune. The only power failure that occurred during the 10 days we were there was on Saturday night during the contest. Fortunately, the station and house transferred automatically to Roy's backup generator. We were without power for less than two minutes.

We had hopes of winning North America Multi-Single but the NP4Z group beat us by 500 Q's. They must have been flying. Felipe is capable of doing that. In looking at the reported scores, we are currently third in the world. We may have a top five finish and are pretty sure of a top ten finish. We are very happy with that. This was our first serious contest effort from a DX location. We learned a lot.

While Dave and I contested, Roy took Karen up to Pineapple Beach for the day. There is a very nice beach and first class resort there. She enjoyed it. I rode up there to pick her up. It was beautiful.

The day after the contest, I was burned out. Karen and I took off for the beach at the Royal Antigua Resort. This is where the V26B operators stay for the major contests. It is very nice. The sun is very hot on the beach. We then took a taxi over to Miller's by the Sea. This was the highlight of our trip. Miller's is a beach front restaurant. We sat on the patio and watched the sun set in the surf while sipping a couple of Rum drinks. It just doesn't get much better than that. They served lobster and T-bone steaks for about the same as US prices. (a pleasant surprise)

The next day, we all three headed into town for a cooked breakfast. We sort of found a traditional breakfast. (it was good) We did our last minute picture taking and T-shirt buying. Then it was back to the radios for a few more Q's.

That night we celebrated the success of the operation with pizza delivered from the Big Banana Holding Company.

Dave made almost 5000 Q's outside the contest and I made about 1850. I had too much fun! During the contest, we had 3558 (plus 91 dupes) bringing the total Q's to about 10,400 for the operation. The cards are already pouring in.

Then it was time to go home. We all had mid-afternoon flights out of Antigua. Karen and I were an hour late getting to Puerto Rico. We had to claim our luggage and go through US customs. By that time, American Airlines said that we had missed out next flight. They sent us with our 6 pieces of luggage to stand in line with all the others who also missed their flights. After about 20 minutes, a lady came out and asked who all had missed the Chicago flight; about 8 of us had. She said to follow her quickly. We took off in a run, luggage and all, into the main terminal, through security (this was the only time I got stopped), and 8 gates down the concourse. As we arrived, they said the plane was very full and I probably would not be able to find storage for the four carry on bags. I talked them into letting me stow two of them in the first class cabin, so all was OK. We were off on a 6 hour flight to Chicago that seemed to last all night. After a plane change, we arrived back in good old OKC somewhere around mid-night. Dave took his same routing on Continental through Newark, this time spending the night in the Houston Airport. He arrived about 10:00 a.m. the next day without one of his bags. Of course, he was in a super mood at that point.

BOTTOM LINE: We had a great time. We had challenges and overcame most of them. The trip was tough, as they usually are, because of taking equipment. We had no damage to any equipment. The people are standoffish but not rude; when approached they are friendly and helpful. The Island has one of the lowest crime rates in the world. Hotels, resorts, and food are among the most expensive in the world. The station worked great. The house is very modest. There is an inexpensive hotel nearby. Driving is truly

dangerous. The station is isolated; nothing to walk to. The weather is hot and the sun is powerful.

The V26B station is available to rent the year round. It can be seen on the Internet at:

www.frc-contesting.org/v26b/index.html
The station and house rent for \$125 per day. If you are interested in operating a super DX station and having a little adventure, please contact me. Of course, I have no business/personal interest in the station. I am only interested in helping you have some fun. American and Continental Airlines fly there. Jim, K5TT

• V26TT results - 1998 CW WPX Contest

Callsign: V26TT

Location: Antigua

Category: Multi-single

Mode: CW

Power: 1500 watts

Call signs of ops: K5TT and W5AO

Club: OKDXA

Band	QSOs	Points
160	0	0
80	0	0
40	1143	6032
20	1162	296
15	1231	3518
10	22	63

Total 3558 12579
x 795 multipliers = 10,000,305

After several DXpeditions this was our first serious contest effort from a DX location. We learned a lot, were overwhelmed at times, got very tired, and had great fun. We are very pleased with our results and surprised to be called by 90 dupes. Thanks to all who worked us! Jim and Dave

VRZ, to China. Old timers may recall that VP6 used to belong to Barbadoes before it became independent. (from the *The ARRL Letter*, Vol. 17, No. 22)

• K7K web site up and going

Check out the 1997 Kure Island operation's web site at ...

<http://www.qsl.net/ct1eeb/index.htm>

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

• 1998 OKDXA Banquet date changes

We have had to change the date for this fall's OKDXA banquet in Edmond. The new date is October 31 ... yes that is Halloween ... so Bruce's 3-piece polyester leisure suit will fit right in! ha! We are sorry for any inconvenience this has or might cause. Another super program is being lined up as I type so we hope you will be able to attend. Jim Hood, K5TT, has volunteered to be our banquet coordinator since he is so good at it, he lives in OKC, and ... he volunteered! ha

• New OKDXA web site address

The OKDXA web site URL has changed reflecting my new e-mail userID. Just drop the "p" out of my call and you have the new URL ...

<http://www.ponccacity.net/n5og/okdxa>

• Lee's new address

As mentioned in last month's newsletter, former SE Director, Lee Ward, W5UDA, has moved to Weatherford, TX. For those who would like to keep up with Lee's exploits here is his new address and telephone.

Lee Ward, W5UDA
203 Meandering Way
Weatherford, TX 76086-2731
Phone 817-596-5580

• Ham Holiday this month

This year marks the 25th anniversary of Ham Holiday! You can check out all the details at ...

<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/7332/hh98.html>

If you are not a web browsing kind of person, see the flier in this month's newsletter.

The OKDXA will hold our annual business meeting, including our Election of Officers, Saturday morning. The tentative time right now is 9:30 AM.

• New editor to start with Oct issue

Mr. Nelson Derks, KC5QVV, of Broken Arrow has volunteered to edit our monthly contribution to the C&E starting with the October issue. Nelson is also a member of the Broken Arrow ARC and does some writing for their NL. Thanks Nelson! Nelson's e-mail address is kc5qvv@gte.net. Contributors should start sending their "copy" to Nelson in mid-September for the October issue.

• Earlier net time?

Summer conditions have just about shut down our weekly 80 m net due to the late morning meeting time of 11:00 AM. That D-layer is just too tough by that time with ol' Sol getting up by 6:20 AM.

I have sent out an e-mail to those members online asking if a change to 9:00 AM would work out. I have received 6 responses to date and all are very favorable to the move to 9:00 AM. Here is the message ...

Ladies and Gents,

We are in the summer doldrums and facing "no copy" conditions on our Saturday morning 80 m net. I don't like messing with tradition (ha) but we had a chat on the net today about possibly moving the net time earlier in the morning, say at 9:00 AM.

The advantages would be:

- 1) better propagation year-round, and especially in the summer,
- 2) would allow net participants to participate and then get on with the Saturday plans, and
- 3) Might get more participation.

A disadvantage might be that that band would be obviously busier and we might have to QSY up the band for a clear spot. Also it might crimp the styles of those who go out for Saturday morning breakfast.

Anyway, I'll mention this in the July NL and we can get a consensus at the Ham

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

• New prefix for Pitcairn

The new prefix for Pitcairn Island in the South Pacific is VP6. The British possession changed its call sign prefix from VR6 to VP6 on May 1. Call sign suffixes will remain the same. As part of the reversion of Hong Kong to China, the British government also ceded the international ITU prefix block, VRA-

Holiday meeting. If we don't get too many threats we'll probably try an earlier time. Think about it and let me know.

• **Congrats to AB5UA**

The voice of Earlsboro has struck again! ha Clif, AB5UA, has just received his CW DXCC certificate. Our hearty congratulations to Clif!

• **Bill is climbing the ladder**

Bill down in Burn's Flat, W5VW, reports that card number 307 trickled in this month. Congrats on the climbing total Bill!

• **Call sign change**

Your Sec/Treas finally got vain enough and ordered a new call sign! ha Mr. N5OGP is now a shortened N5OG.

• **E-mail update/changes**

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

Byard, Mark N5OG

n5og@poncacity.net

Winnard, Richard WK5RW

wk5rw@aol.com

Winnard, Toni KK5LH

kk5lh@aol.com

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!

----- MISCELLANEOUS -----

• **N5OK will serve again as our OK Section Manager**

Coy reports, "I got a nice letter from Rick Palm today. Since they received no other nominations, I was pronounced elected. Bet that saved them a few dollars in postage and ballots, and etc."

I know we all appreciate Coy's service to the hobby and especially to the OK Section!

• **That's all for July!**
73 de N5OG

**Worked All States Net Handles
Emergency Traffic**

The 3905 Century Club 40 Meter Late Net (7.2335) was broken on Friday Evening May 29th (May 30th in Zulu), at approximately 0500 by a distress call from a 32 foot cabin cruiser, the Lucky Strike. The captain of the boat, W5IA, reported 2 Children and 3 adults on the boat and that she was adrift, without power and taking on water 33 miles off the coast of New Jersey, East of the Barnegat lighthouse.

Net control N7OKM, Hugh in Oregon was assisted by N1TP, Tom in Florida and W5LZ, Paul in Oklahoma, KO6CS, Bill in California and KK5CP, Dan, Mobile in Minnesota and several others.

Hugh very professionally relayed the information to the Coast Guard in Seattle which then made contact with the Coast Guard in New Jersey. A helicopter was dispatched from Atlantic City by 0540 and began a 40 minute trip out to the vessel to provide assistance. By 0620, the Coast Guard reported that the helicopter was in the area and by 0630, the emergency situation was resolved.

Kudos to Hugh and the entire net for handling the traffic in a professional manner, exemplifying one of the finest tradition of emergency communications in Ham Radio. Also, special mention to the other 25 stations who checked in to the late net and stood by while Hugh and team relayed the emergency traffic.

Well done Hugh and team!

(The 3905 Century Club is a WAS and DX Awards Net that has 11 different nets on 40, 80 and 160 Meters when operational. The early 40 Meter Net meets 365 days a year on 7.2335 Mhz from 0000-0400z, often followed by a late Net on the same frequency from 0400-0700z)

Steve Lipman, AD6AB
Foster City CA

Added note from Jim N5OHL: I have heard some hams to me say they do not like HF nets like this. That's fine, you can

choose not to participate. But here is a fine example of what a net can do if called upon. The boat captain W5IA knew he could rely on the Century Club operators. I have been checking into the Century Club nets since 1989 and now have many new friends. Well done Century Club!

Is your license up to date?

It is estimated that 20% of the ham license addresses are incorrect. That may mean that coordinators records are also incorrect over time. If the FCC gets a mailing back as undeliverable they can revoke the license per 97.23(b), but if coordinators get one back, hopefully we have a system alternate of can call on their repeater. At the same time it might be nice to advise the repeater owner that he risks not having his license and there for coordination unless he updates the FCC with a good mailing address.

Currently you can only renew your ham license via the internet if it is about to expire within 90 days. I asked the FCC if they intend to also add change of address as required per 97.23(b). and they said yes and to mean while to visit their web page on the subject at

<http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls>

So until then, you can down load a pdf file form 610, fill it out and fax it in to (717-338-2693) or mailed back to the Commission: FCC 1270 Fairfield Rd Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245 or call 1-800-418-3676 and request a 610 renewal form mailed.

Tom O'Hara W6ORG
tomsmb@aol.com



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MAHA

We carry MAHA's new line of radios – the 2m HT, the dual band HT and the ultra compact 2m HT. We also carry their NiMH batteries, chargers and the docking boosters which can give your HT the power of a mobile!

LARSEN

We carry mounts and antennas by Larsen, including 2m, dual band, and a variety of mounts, including NMO, magnet, glass mount and others.

ARRL

During the hamfest, we are giving 5% off the cover price on the following publications as long as stock lasts:

Repeater Directory
Operating Manual
Antenna Book
Handbook
Now Your're Talking
Extra Class Manual
General Class Manual

YAESU MINI-SPECIAL!!

Yaesu VX-1R –smaller than your pager!! Very limited quantities! \$310.00.



Oklahoma City Autopatch Assn.

OCAPA Meeting Minutes, June 16, 1998

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 by Loyd AB5I.

Following introductions, Kirk KA5GSI read notes from QST about a petition supporting the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 1998.

The Treasurer's report was approved.

The minutes of the May meeting did not make it to the C&E to be published and the Secretary was not present to review the minutes. In his absence, John N5SAM was ask to take notes of the meeting.

Jim K5PER discussed the emergency communication open house held on June 13 and reminded us that emergencies could happen at any moment and that we must be prepared. There was additional discussion of the severe storms from the past week-end.

Loyd turned the meeting over to Don KC5BRO Field Day Chairman. Don plans setup beginning at 8. Brad KJ0W will get the logging computers in sinc. John N5SAM will get the 3 towers up (with lots of help). Cheryl KB5WQR volunteered to help cook stuff on the grill. Glen N5WNL and Carol KC5EXR have planned the food. The traditional pizza feast will be at 6 Sat evening. The club call, W5MEL, will be used for the primary stations and KC5EXR used for the novice/tech station.

There were 26 folks at the meeting. FIELD DAY activity planning filled the rest of the meeting.

For the Secretary,
John Brassfield N5SAM

Field Day

Field Day '98 has come and gone and the sunburns will have also gone away by the time you read this. OCAPA's Field Day effort was held at the Deer Creek School at NW 206th St and MacArthur Blvd. We operated class 2A with separate HF stations for CW and SSB. We also had a Novice/Tech HF position, plus operations on 6 meter SSB, and satellites. Preliminary approximate totals were 650 for CW, 475 for SSB, 135 Novice/Tech, 20 plus on 6 meters and about a half dozen or so on the satellites. With the bonus points added in our total should be in the vicinity of 3700 to 4000 or so.

We ate well, as usual. Smoked brisket on site for Saturday's lunch; pizza for Saturday's supper; sausage, scrambled eggs, biscuits and gravy for Sunday breakfast; brisket, ham, turkey sandwiches plus trimmings for Sunday's lunch after tear-down was complete.

I heard of no injuries more serious than pinched fingers. Of course, there were quite a few cases of sunburn to previously unexposed or underexposed skin. We had all the ice water and other drinks needed to preclude serious dehydration, although it became quite difficult to keep up with the loss of body liquids due to temperatures which ran to the century mark on both Saturday and Sunday.

An absolutely TREMENDOUS job was done by Don, KC5BRO and his wife Carole, KC5EXR in the planning and execution of the facilities and feeding. Of course, there were lots of helpers who contributed many man hours to making it all happen. Loyd, AB5I and Terry, K5HP brought a travel trailer and motor home respectively for use as air conditioned relief stations (and weather alternate quarters) for the CW operation. Ed, WA5YDF brought his motor home which served as the HF SSB operating position. Jim, K5PER brought his travel trailer to serve as the satellite operations position as well as the rig and antenna system needed to put it all on the air. The Novice/Tech and 6 meter operations were under gazebo shelters which, while not air-conditioned, did at least provide great ambient air ventilation and shade from the direct sun.

Beam antennas were erected on 30 foot Rohn towers for all three of the HF operations. Additionally, several wire antennas were put up. The full-wave loop for 40 meters worked very well indeed. We learned that we need to repair our wire antennas for 80 and 40 meters. Not all things worked perfectly, but all problems were either solved or worked around.

All in all, it was a successful operation. Our co-chairpersons have said we need to find replacements for next year. That this will be a difficult task, is definitely an understatement of the first order!

We had four new members plus a "retread" sign up in the club at Field Day. Please welcome these new members when you hear them on the air. They are: Larry Bevis, KC5ADP; Jim Speck, W5AI; Mark Hamblin, WL7FT; David Duskin, WA0JCI; and Daniel Carter, KC5YPJ. WELCOME ABOARD!

73 de Mac / K2GKK
OCAPA Treasurer

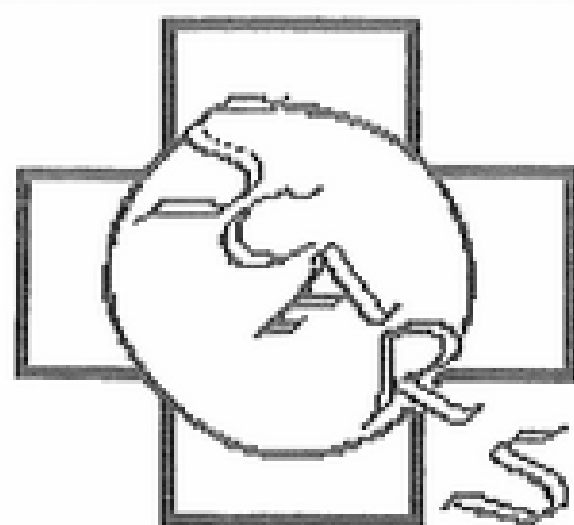
Field Day 1998.

Field Day for me started about 8:30 AM when I got to Deer Creek Schools, the Field Day site for OCAPA. I brought with me my TS-130S with external VFO and my MFJ Versa Tuner II. This has been the Novice Tech station for the past couple of years. Helped put together the yagi antennas and helped in raising one of the towers.

It's the fellowship at a Field Day Site that I love the most; that and the food that gets provided every year. Brisket sandwiches with all the trimmings for lunch (Don, you deserve a medal), Pizza for dinner (the pizza makers had to work overtime) with plenty left for those who man the radios through the night.

Boy, was it hot! I got my annual sunburn, for my arms have the color one associates with a cooked lobster. But I enjoyed myself thoroughly and I hope all who did Field Day enjoyed themselves too.

Forrest Rush, N5VWF



South Canadian Amateur Radio Society

Minutes - SCARS
Regular Meeting - June 13, 1998

The June meeting of the South Canadian Amateur Radio Society was held on Saturday, June 13, at the Red Cross building in Norman. The meeting was called to order at 0925(?) by Club President Dennis, KC5EVH.

C.O.R.A. Report: We received an update regarding Ham Holiday from Louis, KC5ABI. Members are encouraged to contact Louis if you can be of assistance with setup. Ham Holiday runs Friday, July 24, 5-9 pm and Saturday, July 25, 8am-4pm at the Fair grounds Hobbies, Arts and Crafts building in OKC.

Treasurer's Report: Jeff, KE5EB, reported that the account is in good shape. The ACTUAL balance was given this month!! Sorry for the error. (See June Collector and Emitter).

Storm-Spotter Update: Dennis, KC5EVH, advised us of a new repeater in the Newcastle area. The frequency is 147.315 (+) PL 127.3, and is very easy to hit from Norman - even with an H.T. The repeater is linked with several VHF and UHF repeaters, and should be quite useful during weather-related events.

Repeater Report: Either I was late to the meeting, or it started early! I did not hear the repeater report, but the repeater is working great, so I will assume that is all I should report. Ken, N5BEW, will correct me if I am wrong!

Field Day: By the time you read this, we will all know how Field Day went. We had all the right stuff and a place to use it, so we will see how it goes!

The meeting adjourned at 1005.

Jeff, KE5EB
SCARS Sec/Treas.

USS Salem Event

Robert Callahan, W1QWT, asks that we mention that on July 18th and 19th that the USS Salem Radio Club will sponsor a special event. During that period some fifteen ships will fire up both old equipment and modern gear to make amateur radio contacts. Included will be stations on cruisers, battleships, aircraft carriers, destroyers, submarines, and merchant ships. For more information go to:

<http://www.uss-salem.org>
and use the link to the Salem Radio Club.
(Via W1QWT)

The Preservation Of The Nauga

It's an all too familiar story...a harmless forest creature hunted to near extinction to satisfy greedy industrialists and uncaring consumers. Such was the fate of the harmless Nauga from the late 1940's until the mid 1960's. The Nauga, a vegetarian mammal native to the tropical rainforests of South America became a target of the automobile and furniture industries world-wide, when it was discovered that their hides made fine upholstery material. The advent of Naugahyde, and the enormous consumer demand for it, put terrible pressure on the Nauga population, and by 1965, Naugas had been harvested to a very dangerous point: only two males and one female remained, as far as researchers could ascertain. As a result of the efforts of the now defunct Save the Nauga Foundation, the Nauga was saved, despite the unfortunate death of one of the males at the hands of the second male in a battle over breeding rights. Five other Naugas were discovered, and in a primitive compound in Belize,

dozens of volunteers worked over a period of 12 years to restore the Nauga population to about 498.

This work was continued, even after the demise of the Save the Nauga Foundation, supported by private donations directly to the volunteers at the compound. In June of 1987, the last of the Naugas from the compound were released into the forest, and the effort was deemed a success, with an estimated Nauga population in excess of 5400. If only the story ended there, all would be well. But, sadly, the Nauga is again threatened.

This time, it is not external pressure, but a genetic flaw which has its origin in the limited gene pool available at the time the first efforts to save these creatures began. This new scourge threatening to wipe out the Naugas is a recessive hemophiliac gene which has developed over several generations and now affects almost one out of every three Naugas. The deathrate is climbing at an alarming pace. Vital and expensive genetic research is needed now to save these creatures for posterity. You can help.

The obvious solution is research to isolate the gene(s) responsible, and a carefully regimented program of selective breeding. The first volunteers are already reopening the compound, and the first stages of this massive program have begun. But this effort cannot be undertaken without financial support. So we turn to you for help. Join the Society for the Preservation of the Nauga. You will receive a membership card, and a newsletter describing our efforts, as well as reprint of this document so that you may share this story with your friends and enlist their aid in this vital undertaking.

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VHF Club NEWS

W5LOW

Elmer Goekler Memorial
Station

Oklahoma Central VHF Amateur Radio Club

The Central Oklahoma VHF ARC held the June 10th meeting at Home Town Buffet, 3900 NW 63rd. President Charlie, WA5JGU had the meeting called to order at 11:45 with 15 persons present. 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 the calling committee was thanked for their efforts to increase member attendance. Again, there was a member in hospital for surgery and those present expressed that he was in their thoughts.

MFJ: One of the members remembered that when he was young he asked his mother, "Mom, do you think it is good family genes that I am bigger than the other kids in fifth grade?" She replied, "No, I think it is because you are sixteen years old."

The food was extra good, and we know of at least two members who over-ate.

73, de J.R. KB5WVE

JOTA Help Needed

Dr. Richard Blake is the boy scout rep for the 'Last Frontier Council' of the Boy Scouts of America. His phone number is 405-794-6457. He is coordinating the getting together of the amateur radio operators and the various 'troops' of scouts. The Scout Jamboree on the Air will be Saturday Oct 17, 1998 and Sunday Oct 18, 1998.

Amateur radio ops will be needed in the following counties of Oklahoma by the 'Last Frontier Council.'

Hughes, Seminole, Pottawatomie, Southern part of Lincoln, Oklahoma, Logan, Cleveland, McClain, Canadian, Grady, Stephens, Jefferson, Cotton, Comanche, Caddo, Tillman, Jackson, Kiowa, Greer, Harmon, Beckham, Washita, Custer, and Roger Mills.

At the same time, there will be activity by other councils that cover other counties in Oklahoma.

The numbers are in: The numbers are bad

Some startling statistics about the growth -- or lack of growth in Amateur Radio.

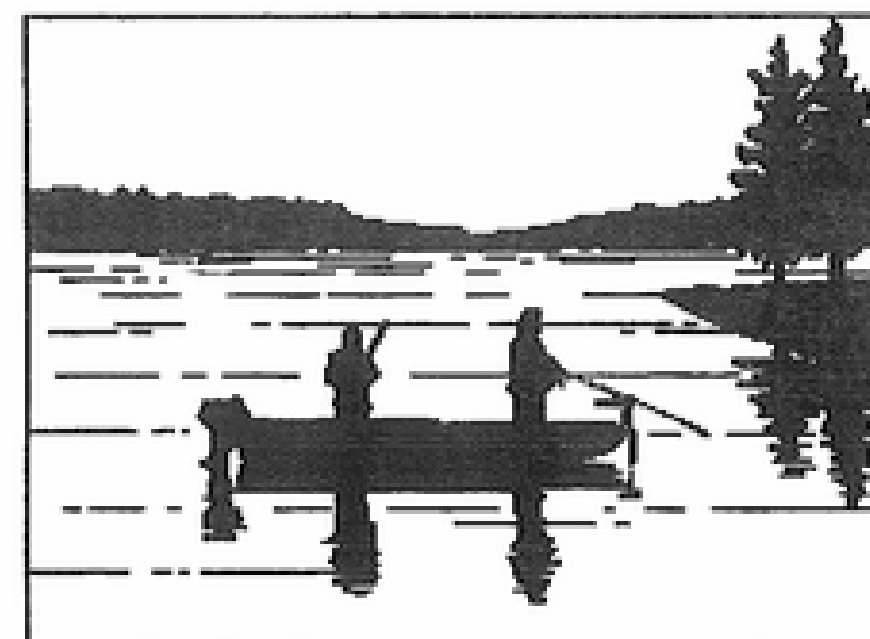
The July 1st edition of Fred Maia's W5YI Report says it all. According to Maia -- who is also the nations second largest VEC -- the total number of U.S. licensed Amateur Radio operators grew by less than one percent in the period from June 1997 to June 1998. This is the smallest gain in the issuance of new ham radio licenses since record keeping began in 1978 and it does not take into account an estimated 41,000 amateurs whose licenses have expired but are being carried on the

books under the federal two year grace period.

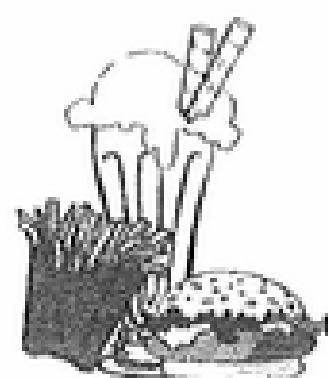
Even more startling is that license classes that require an applicant to show proficiency in the Morse code showed a net loss of 2.3 percent. In fact, the only good news says Maia is with the basic codefree Techs. Their numbers grew again by an unexpected seven 7.5 percent. In simpler terms, one in every four hams now licensed is a codeless Tech.

Maia says that the number of people taking Amateur Radio examinations peaked in 1992. That was the year following the introduction of the codeless Technician class and during that period 115,852 applicants were tested. Since then the number has been steadily decreasing. It reached its low point in the period from June 1st 1997 to May 31st, 1998. Only 61,245 people were examined during that time frame. That says Maia is nearly a fifty percent drop. It also does not bode well for the long term growth in ham radio in the United States.

(Via W5YI Report, FCC)



NSWNL
GLYNN MASSEY



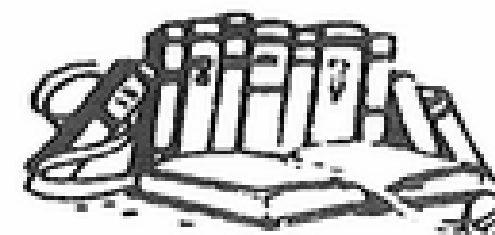
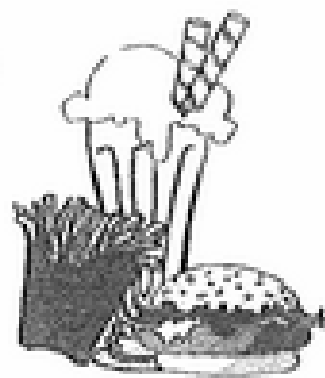
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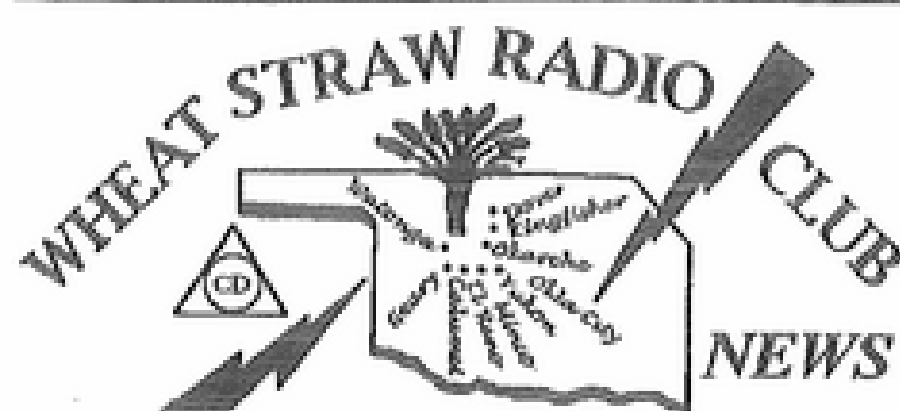


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Wheatstraw Amateur Radio Club

Meeting minutes

The meeting of June 14, 1998 was held in Diver, OK with 21 members and guests present. Our guests were Ivan, Jeanie Stewart and grand daughter, Catlin. Stu, K5DSR and Alice, WA5UEW family.

The meeting was called to order by Ray, AB5Z.

We had a very interesting conversation about the weather we have been having here this past month. Talk covered the tornadoes, hail and high winds we all experienced in one form or another recently. Many people had property damage, some severe.

Leo, WZ5H brought up the idea about having a hamburger fry at the September 13th meeting. After it was discussed, Leo WZ5H made a motion for the club to have a hamburger fry at the September meeting. Seconded by Joel, KK5XS. Motion carried. The place has yet to be decided.

Tom, N5IKN made a motion for the club to send a \$40.00 memorial in the memory of Carol, Goldie and Ralph Wilder's daughter. Motion was seconded by Jim, N5VDY. Motion carried.

The July 12th meeting will be held at the Watonga State Bank in the Community room, where we have had it many times. Located north of the Phillips 66 Station, 1 and ½ blocks north, turn west in alley to parking lot. Come in the south door. Handi-caps may use the east door, if locked just peck on the glass and someone will open it for you.

Motion was made to adjourn for refreshments, seconded and carried. After the meeting people visited and enjoyed the bounty good refreshments.

Minutes were recorded by Mary, KB5FOR in the absence of the club reporter.

Ralph, WA5PFK

In Memory of our daughter Carol

I believe Carol made leaving her families, friends, relatives, and all who visited her during her illness, easier for herself and all who loved her...to let her go.

Before she was bedfast, she did lots of research reading and used the computer in planning her passing. During her research, she came up with the following.

Heaven's Grocery Store

I was walking down life's highway a long time ago.

One day I saw a sign that read, "HEAVEN'S GROCERY STORE."

I got a little closer, the door opened wide, And when I came to myself, I was standing right inside.

I saw a host of angels, they were standing everywhere.

One handed me a basket and said, "My child, shop with care."

Everything a Christian needed was in that grocery store, And all you couldn't carry, you came back the next day for.

First I got PATIENCE: LOVE was on the same row.

Farther down was UNDERSTANDING, you need that everywhere you go.

I got a box or two of WISDOM, a bag or two of Faith.

I couldn't miss the HOLY SPIRIT for he was all over the place.

I stopped to get some STRENGTH, And COURAGE to help me run this race. By then my basket was getting full, But I remembered I needed some GRACE.

I didn't forget SALVATION, for salvation - that was free.

So I tried to get enough of that to save both you and me.

Then I started up the counter to pay my grocery bill, For I thought I had everything to do my Master's Will.

As I went up the aisle, I saw PRAYER: I just had to put that in,

For I knew when I stepped outside, I would run right into SIN.

PEACE and Joy were plentiful, they were on the last shelf.

SONGS and PRAISE were hanging near, so I helped myself.

Then I said to the angel, "Now how much do I owe?"

He just smiled and said, "Take them everywhere you go."

Again I smiled at him and asked, "How much do I owe?"

He smiled again and said, "My child, Jesus paid your bill a long time ago."

The end

About Carol...

Carol compiled some thoughts for the day to help her through her illness. Some she wrote herself, others were copied from different sources, and others she rewrote to fit her needs. I want to share with you a few of her very special thoughts for the day. She faced death with grace, her eyes open and made every minute count while she was here on this earth. She made all of her own arrangements, bought her burial plot, headstone, clothes and jewelry. She chose her pallbearers and planned the complete funeral service.

As long as Carol had strength, anyone going out the door to leave after visiting with her, she would always say, "thanks for coming and I love you." She always said, "the Hospice people were the sweetest group of people she had ever known."

Thoughts For The Day

Life is not a problem to be solved, but a gift to be enjoyed.

It is better to look ahead and prepare, than to look back and regret.

Two things are bad for the heart; running up hill and running down people.

When life knocks you to your knees, You're in a position to pray.

We must always have old memories and young hopes.

A good way to forget your troubles is to help others out of theirs.

Don't miss the magic of the moment by focusing on what's to come!

Don't expect God to use you as a lighthouse somewhere else, if He can't use you as a candle where you are!

The road to success is always under construction and filled with pot holes!

Admitting mistakes is not a fault; failing to correct them is.

Nothing is more frequently opened by mistake than the mouth.

If you want to feel rich, just count all the things money can't buy!

One dark cloud can hide an awful lot of sunshine.

Of all things you wear, your expression is the most important.

If God gives you a handicapped baby don't get discouraged, love and teach it, and the baby will grow into a beautiful person.

If someone gives you a lemon, make lemon-aid with it.

And she wrote many more....

We would like to thank everyone who sent flowers, cards and kind words to the family and us. With lots of love, Goldie and Ralph, WA5PFK

The Day the Sprinklers Sent CQ by Steve Altig, N7IF

What an afternoon. Sending CQ with the sprinklers doesn't get a ham very far. It only gets strange looks from the neighbors, and the occasional curious earthworm. But, you need a little background.

After discussion with my wife, with retirement just a few years away, and a pending move to the country we reached the conclusion that it would be a good idea for me to rejoin the ranks of Amateur Radio Operators. I had held a General class license (WA6ISW) back in the '60s, but it had expired while I was in the

Army, and then family and career became time priorities.

So, I bought a copy of Ham University(c) and began to study the code and technical elements, hoping to get my Novice license and later upgrade to General. The more I studied, the more I began to think I would try to take all the elements qualifying me for a General instead of working up to it.

The big day, March 1, 1997, arrived. There was a big crowd taking various Amateur Radio tests on this day, my day. An entire Scout troop, a group from a school, and an assortment of others, of which I was one.

"We are going to begin with the code tests, and after they begin, no one can leave the room." Said the Volunteer Examiner in charge.

"Who is taking the 20 wpm test?", she asked.

The fellow in the seat next to me raised his hand. After some more instruction, the test began. I listened to the 20 wpm code test, copied about 1/3, and began to worry. When the 13 wpm test began I breathed a sigh of relief when words flowed from my pencil to the paper.

"Anyone want to go for one minute of solid copy," asked the Volunteer Examiner.

I raised my hand. He took my paper and began to go over it in detail. "Looks good," he said and gave my paper to the other VE's at the table.

"One minute solid copy," he said. They looked up at me and looked back at the paper. After a few minutes they were also nodding and saying things to each other like, "Start here" and "Looks good" and "No problem." Then they looked at me and said, "You passed."

What a relief. Element 1b passed. Now on to the technical elements.

Element 2. PASSED. Element 3A. PASSED. Element 3B. Waiting and sweating. PASSED.

What a feeling. Walking out with my CSCE showing completion of all required elements for a brand new General class license felt great. Now to get equipment, antennas, and all of the other necessary "stuff" to get back on the air. My license came from the FCC a few days later and I was now KC7UXA.

How things have changed! It's a long way from a Heathkit DX-40 to a modern solid state transceiver. Scary stuff! My biggest problem though was how to deal with the homeowners association restrictions on antennas. I convinced myself that a random wire antenna, nailed to the eaves of my house was the way to go.

Everything was connected. Power supply, transceiver, antenna tuner and key all ready to go. I was ready. Power on, tune the antenna and try an 80 meter CQ. Out to my shack comes my wife. "There is something wrong with the plumbing," she cries. "Come quick. The pipes are banging and crashing"

I went into the house and listened but heard nothing. She insisted they had been making horrible noises. I stood in the doorway of the house and had her key down a few times and she was right, as usual. Sounded like someone was pounding on the pipes. This was disaster. All my work and study, not to mention money, and now this.

After some thinking and discussion with other hams, it turns out the RF from the transceiver was activating the solenoids in the sprinkler system for our yard. I asked my wife to go watch the sprinklers while I transmitted. What a sight for the neighbors to see water spurting out of the sprinklers to the rhythm of "CQ CQ CQ."

In the end it all worked out and now I am back on the air and have worked 13 states in the weeks since everything came together. Oh yes, I do get the occasional "hi hi" when I tell other hams that my antenna is a random wire nailed to the eaves of my house 12 feet off the ground. But the best part is IT WORKS..

P.S. Since this story was originally written in April, 1997, the writer has upgraded to Extra and is now AB7VZ, and now has new vanity call N7IF.

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A. R. R. L. Bulletins

From ARRL Headquarters
Newington, CT
To all radio amateurs

ARRL Bulletin 46
June 26, 1998

FCC amends rules for U-NII devices on 5 GHz

The FCC has amended its rules for Unlicensed National Information Infrastructure (U-NII) devices operating in the 5-GHz range under Part 15 of the Commission's rules. In 1997, the FCC made 5.15 to 5.35 and 5.725 to 5.825 GHz available to U-NII devices under Part 15 of its rules. Amateur Radio shares part of the spectrum involved, from 5.650 to 5.925 GHz. U-NII devices would provide short-range, high-speed wireless digital communication.

In response to industry petitions for reconsideration and clarification, the FCC has amended Part 15 to permit fixed, point-to-point U-NII devices in the 5.725 to 5.825 GHz band to operate with up to 1 W maximum transmitter output power and directional antennas of up to 23 dBi gain. The Commission will specify transmit power limits as a function of the channel bandwidth. A logarithmic equation would determine the power permitted. "This action will not increase the maximum power permitted by U-NII devices, but merely scale permissible maximum power to the bandwidth used," the FCC said.

The FCC said it will consider higher gain antennas for U-NII devices for longer-range community networking. In its comments, the NTIA expressed concerns that high-power government radar systems could interfere with the unlicensed devices, but otherwise supported the use of higher-gain antennas for fixed, point-to-point U-NII devices in that band.

The ARRL has argued that longer-range links will interfere with amateur operations and are a significant departure from Part 15, which requires that interference potential of unlicensed devices be subject to "reasonable regulation" so as to not interfere with licensed services. One industry petitioner, Apple Computer, said the ARRL has not demonstrated that U-NII devices present any real threat of interference to ham operation.

The FCC said it would maintain the power spectral density limits adopted in the original report and order.

The FCC also revised its rules to express U-NII out-of-band and spurious emission limits in terms of absolute radiated power levels, regardless of antenna gain.

The FCC advised manufacturers "to consider the proximity and the high power of non-government licensed radio stations," including amateur stations, when choosing operating frequencies during the design of their equipment.

The complete text of the FCC Memorandum Opinion and Order, released June 24, is available on the FCC Web page at <http://www.fcc.gov/Bureaus/Engineering/Technology/Orders/1998/fcc98121>

ARRL Bulletin 45
June 19, 1998

Hams eat smoke in Florida

Florida ARES and RACES teams--usually focusing on the annual hurricane season that began June 1--have instead found themselves dealing with tornadoes, floods, sink holes, drought, and, most recently, devastating wild fires.

On June 6, several wildfires spawned drought broke out almost simultaneously in Flagler, Seminole, Brevard, and Lake counties. The Flagler fire consumed nearly 1700 acres, destroyed 19 homes, and damaged others. As a result, part of I-95 was shut down and the Red Cross set up a shelter with Amateur Radio Support. The Lake and Brevard fires consumed a large area but only minimal damage to homes.

In Seminole County an ARES-RACES net was activated, and the Red Cross opened a shelter close to the fire zone. Seminole County ARRL PIO Norm Lauterette, WA4HYJ, reports that nearly 300 residents were evacuated from the 1800-acre Geneva fire zone, and nearly 60 others took refuge in the shelter. In addition to tracking the flames, hams helped to check on the whereabouts of individuals, handle medical needs, and report the condition of homes and property. Most evacuees were allowed to return to their homes June 7. In all, 54 homes and structures were destroyed in the four Central Florida fires.

On June 16, Alachua County ARES/RACES responded to a call for help from the county's emergency management office after brush fires broke out in an approximately 16-square mile area. As of June 19, the fires had burned more than 11 square miles and forced evacuation of the entire town of Waldo--some 1100 people in all. Hams assisted at shelters, in the EOC, and on the scene. At least a dozen hams have participated in the fire emergency in Alachua County.

Jeff Capehart, KE4NIV, an ARES and SKYWARN member as well as a volunteer firefighter, said severe thunderstorms passed through the area in the midst of the fire and evacuation, so a SKYWARN net was activated on top of the ARES net. Capehart says the rain brought some relief and helped to control the fires.

ARRL Bulletin 44
June 18, 1998

New vanity fee set

The vanity call sign application fee will drop to \$13 effective September 14, 1998, according to Terry Johnson in the FCC's Office of Managing Director. The new fee will be for the ten-year term, payable at the time of application for a new, renewed, or reinstated license. The current vanity call sign application fee is \$50. Earlier this year, the FCC had proposed dropping the fee to \$12.90. The actual fee was "rounded up," Johnson said.

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 the new fee schedule goes into effect in September.

The FCC released its revised schedule of regulatory fees for all services for fiscal year 1998 this week, and it's soon expected to be available on the FCC's Web site. The Commission is required to collect almost \$163 million during FY 1998.

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

ARRL Bulletin 43

June 17, 1998

FCC proposes 5.9 GHz allocation

The FCC has proposed allocating 5.850 to 5.925 GHz for use by intelligent transportation systems (ITS). The Amateur Service has a secondary allocation at 5.650 to 5.925 GHz with government radar systems and nongovernment fixed satellite service uplinks. Under the proposal, dedicated short range communications (DSRC) highway safety systems would share the band as coprimary users.

The FCC seeks comments on the need for nationwide operational standards and channelization and on the potential for DSRC operations to share with other services.

The June 11 NPRM was in response to a rulemaking petition from the Intelligent Transportation Society of America (ITS America) requesting the allocation on a coprimary basis. Proponents said the band is optimal for DSRC on the basis of propagation, consistency with international allocations, and compatibility with existing users.

ITS America, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting ITS, has worked with the ARRL and others to develop a sharing plan. The League has said it is prepared to work with ITS entities to resolve spectrum sharing issues.

In its comments, the ARRL questioned whether the 5.9 GHz band was appropriate for DSRC and urged the FCC to look into frequencies above 40 GHz,

where DSRC systems could avoid interference from other users. The League said the ITS proposal and the FCC decision to deploy unlicensed National Information Infrastructure (U-NII) devices in the band could render 175 MHz of spectrum in the 5.8 GHz range significantly less useful to hams.

3M, a DSRC proponent, argued that hams could be displaced from the band because they already have plenty of spectrum between 50 MHz and 50 GHz and make only light use of 5.9 GHz. 3M suggested a powerful amateur station could "swamp out" DSRC services.

The FCC said interference problems that might crop up could be resolved by changing the frequency of the amateur operation, by power reduction, or by using directional antennas.

Possible ITS applications include what's known as automated roadside safety inspection. This would permit transmission of vehicle safety and other data between roadside inspection stations and commercial trucks moving at highway speeds, the FCC said. Another potential application, incident management operations, would use roadway sensors and DSRC-equipped vehicles to more quickly detect traffic congestion and dispatch any emergency personnel or take other action. Other emerging DSRC applications include traffic control and en-route driver information systems.

ITS DSRC transmissions would be "narrowly focused and rapidly dissipating signals," according to ITS America. The FCC proposes a maximum of 30 W EIRP for DSRC systems.

Comments on ET Docket 98-95 are due 75 days after publication in the Federal Register. The complete NPRM is available on the FCC Web site at

<http://www.fcc.gov>.

ARRL Bulletin 42

June 16, 1998

KITWF appointed New England Vice Director

ARRL President Rod Stafford, W6ROD, has appointed Michael N. Raisbeck,

KITWF, of Chelmsford, Massachusetts, as New England Division Vice Director. The appointment is effective immediately. Raisbeck will complete the term of former Vice Director Don Haney, W9WW (ex-KAIT), who resigned when he moved out of the division earlier this year. The term expires January 1, 1999.

Raisbeck is vice president of Ready-to-Run Software Inc, with duties in corporate management and as general counsel. His wife, Susan, is WN1V. Raisbeck graduated from Northeastern University in 1976 with a bachelors degree in electrical engineering, from Suffolk University Law School in 1981 with a JD (cum laude), and from the University of Massachusetts in 1989 with a masters in engineering management.

Raisbeck is fluent in Italian and has a working knowledge of Spanish.

Members may contact Raisbeck at 85 High St, Chelmsford, MA 01824; e-mail k1twf@arrl.org

ARRL Bulletin 40

June 2, 1998

ARRL files against LMCC

The ARRL has asked the FCC to immediately dismiss efforts by the Land Mobile Communications Council to gain primary access to 420 to 430 MHz and 440 to 450 MHz as well as other UHF allocations. The LMCC recently petitioned the FCC to reallocate the two 70-cm segments from the federal government to the Private Mobile Radio Service. Amateur Radio enjoys the use of 420 to 450 MHz on a secondary basis. In comments filed on RM-9267, the League said the LMCC proposed the switch "without establishing technical compatibility between PMRS operation and incumbent radio services in any of the bands sought."

The League said that existing federal government use of the spectrum precludes PMRS operation at 420 to 450 MHz. According to the ARRL, the petition fails to demonstrate any basis to withdraw the two band segments from federal use nor any compatibility between PMRS operation and either federal government

or Amateur use. In addition, the League said, the petition fails to justify displacing established amateur operations. The League pointed out that the amateur community uses the band for public service and public safety functions and that hams have "substantial personal investment" in equipment that's in regular use there. The ARRL urged the Commission to throw out this portion of the LMCC petition "without further consideration."

The League backed up its arguments by citing documents from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), which manages federal spectrum. "NTIA has made it quite clear that there is no possibility of additional sharing of the 420-450 MHz band, and the unique relationship between Federal radiolocation uses and the Amateur Service cannot be duplicated by PMRS users," the ARRL said.

The ARRL said that the LMCC petition was premature because it did not take adequate account of the benefits of spectrum refarming already initiated. The League said PMRS users should adopt already available spectrum-efficient technologies to maximize their use of existing allocations before seeking additional spectrum at the expense of other users. The League also said that PMRS users should look into using the Commercial Radio Mobile Service (CMRS). A copy of the League's comments is available at <http://www.arrrl.org/news/bandthreat/RM-9267/arrrl-cmt.html>

ARRL Bulletin 39

May 29, 1998

Sen Barry Goldwater, K7UGA, SK

Former US Senator, onetime presidential candidate, and noted radio amateur Barry Goldwater, K7UGA, died May 29. He was 89. Goldwater had suffered a stroke in 1996 and had been in failing health.

A staunch conservative, Goldwater was the 1964 Republican presidential nominee and served five terms in the US Senate. He also authored the book *Conscience of a Conservative*. Goldwater retired from

politics in 1986. His home was in Scottsdale, Arizona.

As a Senator, Goldwater's legacy included several pieces of Amateur Radio-related legislation. In 1964, Goldwater's bill to allow reciprocal operating agreements between the US and other countries was signed into law. It was his work on the bill that prompted the Arizona Senator to renew his interest in ham radio after a long absence.

Goldwater's 1964 presidential campaign tried to tap into his ham radio connections with a "Hams for Barry" fundraising effort. He took time out of the campaign to address the ARRL National Convention in New York City, on the occasion of the League's 50th anniversary. In his remarks, Goldwater reminisced about his youthful foray into Amateur Radio as 6BPI. He was first licensed in 1921, and joined the ARRL in 1923. "You can't imagine what a relaxation ham radio is for me," the campaign-weary Goldwater told the gathering. He related how, during the GOP Convention earlier that summer, he'd made several hundred contacts from his hotel room using a borrowed Collins S-line. The convention presented Goldwater with a certificate of appreciation for his work on behalf of the hobby (see QST, Oct 1964, p 80). Goldwater lost the 1964 election to Lyndon Johnson.

While serving as chairman of the Senate Communications Subcommittee in 1981, Goldwater introduced landmark legislation proposing several changes to the Communications Act affecting amateurs. In 1982, Congress finally approved and President Reagan signed what came to be known as the Goldwater Amateur Radio legislation, enacted as Public Law 97-259. The measure established the Amateur Auxiliary and the volunteer examination programs, permitted 10-year license terms, and exempted Amateur Radio from the secrecy provisions in the Communications Act. The Goldwater bill also ended years of Congressional wrangling and authorized the FCC to set RFI susceptibility standards for home electronic devices.

A year later, President Reagan signed into law a bill including a Goldwater amendment that allowed the recovery of costs in the Volunteer Examiner program (the FCC didn't authorize the plan until months later, however).

At one point in his ham radio career, Goldwater operated as K3UIG from his Senate office and as K7UGA when he was home in Arizona. He called his Arizona ham shack "bash-hal-ne-ae," which he said was Navajo for "music from iron" or "metal that talks."

Goldwater was a life member of the ARRL. He was elected president of the Quarter Century Wireless Association in 1971. A pilot during World War II, he held the rank of General in the Air Force Reserve and was an active member of Air Force MARS. During the Vietnam War era, Goldwater handled hundreds of thousands of phone patches. He also held a pilot's license and occasionally operated aeronautical mobile.

In 1983, Amateur Radio paid homage to Goldwater as "its governmental protector and advocate" by establishing the \$5000 ARRL Scholarship to Honor Barry Goldwater, K7UGA. In announcing the scholarship, then-ARRL Washington Area Coordinator Perry Williams, W1UED, said that Goldwater's Amateur Radio involvement had "brought joy to thousands of members of the armed services stationed overseas, and through his professional career, he has exemplified the principles of commitment and service to one's country and fellow citizens."

Then-FCC Chairman Mark Fowler said the Amateur Radio community was lucky to have Goldwater as its "elder statesman" in government and noted that the FCC often had Goldwater review ham-related proposals before it took action on them.

The Goldwater scholarship, administered by the ARRL Foundation, is awarded each year to a deserving radio amateur to encourage a spirit of achievement and dedication in the field of communication.

ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, said that of amateurs in the public sector, Goldwater was "without

peer." Southwestern Division Director Fried Heyn, WA6WZO, called Goldwater "a super ham" who was "concerned about the future of Amateur Radio."

Goldwater's first wife, Peggy, died in 1986. The couple's two sons and two daughters and Goldwater's second wife, Susan, are among his survivors.

Space Bulletin 010

June 26, 1998

SAREX will not fly on Glenn mission

NASA has scuttled plans to include the Space Amateur Radio Experiment (SAREX) payload aboard STS-95 this fall. That's the flight that will carry US Senator and astronaut John Glenn into space. Five schools, four in the US and one in Japan, had been tentatively lined up for Amateur Radio schedules to talk with the shuttle crew during the highly publicized October mission. Glenn, the first astronaut to orbit Earth, will be 77 when he returns to space later this year.

NASA flight managers also removed nine other "secondary" payloads because of time constraints on the already-busy mission. NASA expressed regret at having to drop the educational SAREX payload.

Two hams--US Astronaut Scott Parazynski, KC5RSY, and European Space Agency astronaut Pedro Duque, KC5RGG, of Spain--will be among the international crew aboard STS-95.

"We're really disappointed," said ARRL Educational Activities Department Manager and SAREX Working Group Member Rosalie White, WA1STO. The Glenn flight had generated a good deal of enthusiasm within the ham radio community. Schools to be included had only recently been notified that they would be on the list. White said the US schools involved now will be first in line for consideration on future missions, such as STS-93 early next year and the International Space Station.

Future shuttle missions are heavily loaded with activities involving construction of the ISS. Eileen Collins, KD5EDS, the commander of STS-93, is said to be enthusiastic about the possibility of including SAREX on her flight. Amateur Radio also is

an official payload aboard the International Space Station.

Space Bulletin 009

June 16, 1998

Phase 3D won't fly this year

Phase 3D will not fly this year. AMSAT says the Phase 3D Amateur Radio satellite will not be aboard when the Ariane 503 launch vehicle goes into space this October. In addition to the Atmospheric Reentry Demonstrator, the European Space Agency will launch a dummy Eutelsat payload instead of Phase 3D, according to a joint ESA/CNES/Arianespace news release. Arianespace is a commercial company that markets Ariane launches.

"Essentially we were bought out by strategic and commercial interests," said a glum AMSAT-NA Vice President Keith Baker, KB1SF.

AMSAT-DL President Karl Meinzer, DJ4ZC, says it's clear to him that Arianespace wants to retain the option of swapping a real Eutelsat payload for the dummy right before launch. "We simply could not compete with this by our offer of 1 million dollars and some moral justification of not flying ballast," he said. "So we wept some, and, that done, let us now look forward."

In January, ESA agreed to carry Phase 3D as a backup on Ariane 503, if it could not find a paying customer, or to use its "best efforts" to get Phase 3D on another flight if a paying customer came along. As it turned out, however, Arianespace agreed--in a surprise move--to cover 40 million dollars in Ariane 5 development funds resulting from the failure of the Ariane 501 test launch. In return, Arianespace asked to be allowed to pick the secondary payload for Ariane 503, the last in a series of qualification flights.

"This is obviously very disappointing news," said AMSAT-NA President Bill Tynan, W3XO. "We must, however, persevere and continue our present course to get the satellite tested and ready for a launch. And we pledge to do so."

Baker said AMSAT is continuing to look for a suitable launch opportunity and now is looking at "other agencies" instead of limiting itself to ESA's Ariane program. "We're standby passengers," he said.

Meinzer said he thinks the chances "are not bad" that Phase 3D will get aboard an Ariane 5 flight next year. "But also in parallel we should and will pursue other launch options," he advised the Phase 3D team. "Although in the short term we have a problem, in the medium term I am reasonably optimistic. So keep your fingers crossed."

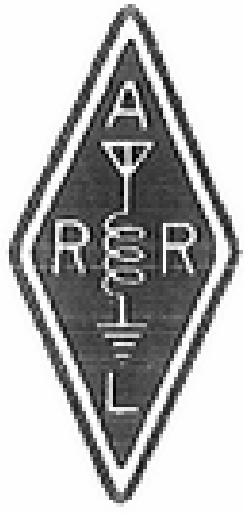
Meinzer said Arianespace put a 10 million dollar price tag on a launch, a figure he called "clearly out of reach." But he also held out the hope that ESA would negotiate further and that the German government might be willing to help with funding.

For the immediate future, Baker said, AMSAT plans now to continue preparations to make Phase 3D flight ready. The satellite is undergoing final construction and testing at the Phase 3D Integration Lab in Orlando, Florida. "Obviously, we will have to evaluate our options on how best to place the satellite in temporary storage," he said.

The Ariane 503 announcement is the latest setback for Phase 3D. AMSAT has been trying to find a ride for Phase 3D for the past couple of years and, until now, had pinned its hopes on the Ariane program. AMSAT-NA was forced to restart its Phase 3D fundraising effort late last year after determining that it still needed at least another 270,000 dollars to meet its share of the Phase 3D costs. More recently, AMSAT-NA has been offering hams--for a 25 dollar minimum donation--the opportunity to fly their QSL cards into space aboard Phase 3D. Participants' QSL cards will be scanned and put on a CD-ROM aboard the satellite.

Baker says it's too soon to tell how the latest turn of events will affect fundraising.

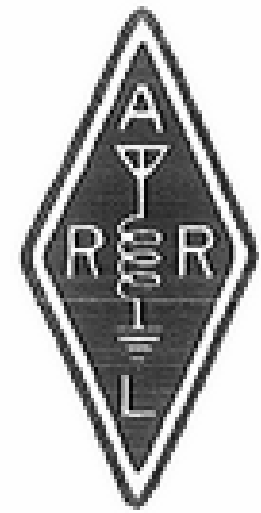
Phase 3D came closest to a launch aboard Ariane 502 last year but was bumped after it could not complete necessary structural modifications in time to meet the launch schedule. The changes became necessary at the eleventh hour after ESA imposed more stringent vibration and stress standards on Ariane 5 payloads.



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ARES, Packet Programs



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TOTAL _____

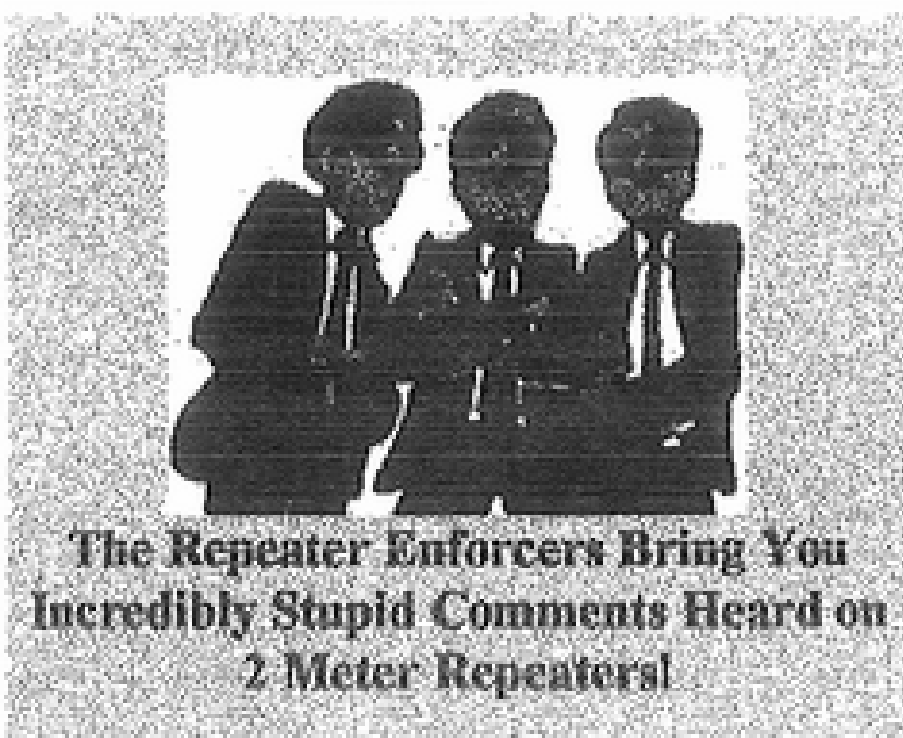
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**The Repeater Enforcers Bring You
Incredibly Stupid Comments Heard on
2 Meter Repeaters!**

These are quotes, people...believe it or not!

If you don't like this page, don't blame me. I didn't make this stuff up. Don't confuse the messenger with the message. I'm only reporting things that were heard, no doubt, by many others. I've heard it said that this sort of thing will scare off the new hams...give them mike fright...whatever. I might point out that when you don't know what you're talking about, mike fright could be a good thing. But, as shocking as it may be, only 4 or 5 of these stupid comments, were made by new hams. Most of them were made by people who have been amateurs for from 3 to 20-odd years!

I should also point out that a high percentage of these comments have nothing to do with amateur radio per se, but demonstrate ignorance of everything from geography to basic manners. If you feel badly when you read these comments, don't blame me. Blame those who made them!

"You should never solder the shield in the connector when you're puttin' a connector on your coax. Just screw it on there, and solder the tip." *Anybody out there believe this one...anybody except the cbers, that is?*

"I don't have to upgrade. I got plenty of QSL cards from CB. I ran 500 to 1000 watts on CB. Nobody but Nobody could cover me up. I was a big time CBer" *Is that not a sorry state of affairs when a no-code brags about his illegal CB activities on 2-meters? Stupid enough to have done these things, but stupider yet to brag about it! (Contributed by NE8W.)*

"You all aren't ID'ing. The rule is every ten minutes! One of these days, they're goin' ta get ya!" *This comes from a ham who operates on eleven meters illegally, with an illegally modified amateur transceiver...a ham who also tries to sell everything from honey to used cars on the air! He's made himself a laughing stock, and then gets mad when people laugh! Stay with eleven meters, good buddy.*

"Must be a band inversion or sumthin'" *Said upon hearing an out-of-town repeater on frequency.*

"Is the frequency in use? Is the frequency in use?" *This is good practice on HF. But on repeaters, it marks you as a lid, since there is very little one way skip on repeaters!*

"Do you think the FCC turns the bands on and off somehow?" *No. Personally, I think the U. N. does it!*

"The code is like a bunch of birds chirpin'. They know what it means, but don't nobody else understand it." *Well, you sure don't, good buddy!*

Very irate at hearing someone sending MCW over a repeater: "It's illegal to send code up here on the repeater! It's against the rules!" *This self-appointed expert on the rules doesn't know that cw is legal anywhere on any amateur band!*

On being told that some of his CB practices are illegal: "There's no rules on CB anymore." *The rules are still there. It's the enforcement that's lacking.*

Discussing changing the finals in his tube-type rig: "People keep telling me that I have to neutralize the tubes before I put them in the radio." *Right! This guy has been a ham for God knows how many years. He probably doesn't even own a handbook, so he couldn't look it up. Never mind, he should have known it anyway!*

"I've got a 12 inch rubber duckie with 7 db. gain. It's better than a Ringo Ranger." *This from an extra class ham! Unbelievable! (Contributed by K8MH)*

On hearing someone describe a 2 meter mobile antenna as being a 34 inch magmount, our subject asks, "Is that a quarter wave?"

"Can anybody give me a signal report?" *Does he want a report on his signal on the input frequency? Does this lid know what a repeater is?*

Here's an interesting exchange. Ham#1: "Are the sunspots going to go up, or stay the same?"; Ham#2: "I don't know. I haven't had the low bands on for two months. There's not much going on."; *First of all the sunspots are on the rise, and anyone with a real interest in the subject would know it. Secondly, at that very moment (about 8 am), there were spots for Chatham Island, Howland Island, and Wake Island on the cluster. Nah...not much going on!*

"You're full quieting into the repeater, but there's not much carrier." *The carrier is the signal that quiets the repeater. If anyone can figure out this one, e-mail me so I can get some sleep. Things like this keep me up at night!*

"Which President ordered the dropping of the A-bomb...Truman, or LBJ?"; *(Contributed by NE8W)*

"I have to go 10-100, good buddies." *Whatever that means. (Contributed by NE8W)*

One of the newer dxers in town was discussing his recent contact with Macedonia and asked if anyone knew where it is (geographically). One of the local career no-coders responded authoritatively, I think it's up near Cleveland.; Does it get any worse than this? Probably.

Stay tuned.

These quotes are to be considered humor in this context. I needed filler for this issue and this was one of many things sent to me I have left out some quotes.

The Editor

Up Coming Events

JULY 11 1998 MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY ARRL Hamfest Sponsored by PHD ARA, Kansas City, MO Contact: Bob Roske, WA0CLR PO Box 28954, Kansas City, MO 64118-8954 816-436-0069 E-mail: wa0clr@juno.com
<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: n1lpr@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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							16	23				21	28
							30	31				28	29

CORA Events

July 1998

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 7:00PM-7:30PM Aeronautical Center 7:30PM-8:00PM Cimmarron ARA	2 7:00PM-7:30PM Aeronautical Center 7:30PM-8:00PM Cimmarron ARA	3 10:00AM-10:30AM Ada ARC 2:30PM-3:00PM Vinita VE Exams
4						
5 2:00PM-2:30PM American RC VE Exams	6 9:30AM-10:00AM Broken Arrow ARC	7 7:00PM-7:30PM Lawton/Ft Sill ARC	8 11:00AM-11:30AM Oklahoma VHF Club	9	10	11 9:30AM-10:00AM South Canadian ARS 10:00AM-10:30AM SCARS VE Exams 3:00PM-3:30PM Stillwater VE Exams
12 2:30PM-3:00PM Wheatstrow ARC	13	14 7:00PM-7:30PM Altus AARC 7:30PM-8:00PM Tri-State ARG	15	16	17	18 9:00AM-9:30AM STBC VE Exams 12:00PM-12:30PM CORA Last Before HH98
19 2:00PM-2:30PM Edmond ARS	20 6:00PM-6:30PM CORA VE Exams 7:00PM-7:30PM Choctaw ARC	21 7:30PM-8:00PM OCAPA	22	23 5:00PM-9:00PM Ham Holiday 98 Opens	24	25 8:00AM-5:00PM Ham Holiday 98 11:30AM-12:00PM OKDXA@ HH98
26 6:00PM-6:30PM Shawnee VE Exams	27	28	29	30 5:00PM-6:00PM C&E Deadline	31	