

Central Oklahoma Radio Amateurs, Inc. Publication

October 1998 Volume 24, Number 10 Issue 284 50¢

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Periodical Mail

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## D'X Files

Start of an Adventure

## **Digital Mode Communications**



September, 1955

Solar Flux Chart

ARRL Section Manager Report

Renew By WWW

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Editor
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## October 1998

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4. Ok	lahoma City Autopate	h Assn. Meets:	15.	South Canadian ARS	
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	and Penn, OKC (Back Door)	201 ADD 1	ln	North OU Campus, Norman	
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		D 11 1	4.5	22 1 1	
6.	Altus Area Amateur	Radio Assn.	16.	Broken Arrow ARC	
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	Center, Altus, OK			Community Center, 1500 S. M.	Main, Broken
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	V		17.	Ada Amateur Radio (	
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Deadline for November 1998 Issue of Collector and Emitter is Friday, October 30, 1998. Send all Articles to Collector and Emitter, 4216 Spiva Drive Del City, OK 73115-4424 on 3 ½ 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 September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1998.

The meeting was opened at 7:43 PM by the president of CORA, Hal Miller, KB1ZQ. There were ten directors present representing four clubs plus four officers, the VP being absent. The clubs represented were the VHF Club, OCAPA, Tri-State ARG, and SCARS.

Secretary's Report.

There were no official minutes last month.

## Treasurer's Report.

We have about the same amount in our account this year as last year to do Ham Holiday. CORA is in good shape, and the silent auction went well. The treasurer's report was accepted unanimously.

## President's Report.

CORA is doing fine. We are penciled in for the Hobbies, Arts and Crafts and Modern Living Building for 1999.

## Editor's Report.

The C&E is doing fine. Most secretaries and special contributors are getting their articles in on time. The Amateur Radio News Service has judged the C&E a SUPERIOR newsletter, which is their highest accolade.

## New Business.

It was moved by Bob, W5HXL and seconded by Jim, N5BEQ that CORA will accept the Enid ARC as a full associate member of CORA if the Enid ARC votes to join CORA. Motion passed without opposition.

### Elections.

This month CORA elections were held.

These are the results.

Hal Miller, KB1ZQ was elected president.

Thomas Webb, WA9AFM was elected vice-president.

Forrest Rush, N5VWF was elected secretary.

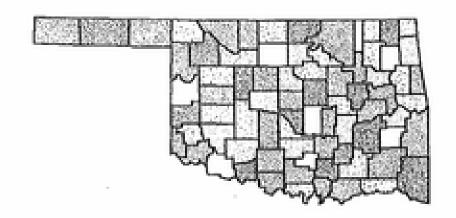
Perry Jenkins, N5PJ was elected treasurer. Congratulations to all!

## Next Meeting.

The next CORA meeting is scheduled for OCTOBER 31<sup>st</sup>, 1998. This will be a luncheon meeting held at the Skyline Café; lunch will be at 12:00 and the meeting will start right after lunch. Hope to see you there.

## Respectfully Submitted,

Forrest Rush, N5VWF CORA Secretary



## ARRL Oklahoma Section Manager Comments

First off, let me say congratulations to Hal, Linda and all the club editors of the Collector & Emitter on receiving a "Superior Rating" from the ARNS.

I noted with a bit of "I told you so" when the FCC came out with the 13 page Errata for their Notice of Proposed Rule Making on license restructuring. It seems their rewrite after the ARRL published their plan didn't quite get the ink dry when they realized that they had made significant errors in the document due to the hasty rewrite. However, this doesn't change a thing. For those that keep asking me, which way this is going to end up, I always have the same answer. That is, "It's going to end up the way the hams convince the FCC that it should end up". In other words "Respond to the NPRM". Let the FCC know how you feel about the proposals. Don't respond from your emotions, I personally don't think that will accomplish anything. State your opinions and then back them with sound and logical reasoning. You have until the 15th of January, 1999 to respond, but don't put it off. The easiest way to respond is over the Internet. Check out

the section web site at http://www.telepath.com/n5ok/ and click on "Announcements". You will find directions on how to respond there. If you would like to look over all of the proposals go to

http://www.arrl.org/news/restructuring/.

While your at it check out all of the pages on the Oklahoma Section web site. You will find announcements of upcoming amateur radio events, VE exams, amateur radio nets, cabinet members, links to amateur radio clubs, an ARRL link, and info on yours truly. Most important of all is the new picture gallery. It seems to be getting the most attention. It has pictures from Ham Holiday, the Altus Area Hamfest and Field Day 98. 73, Coy



## SET SET SET

Our simulated emergency test has been RESET. The new date is Saturday 17 October 98. Please mark your calendar and plan to participate. We especially want to solicit all new hams. That is if you have acquired your license within the last two years, we want you to join in and just be there. You don't have to do a thing if you don't want to. The starting time is 2 p.m. local time and will run until 10 p.m. Each entity, take note and decide on your evening meal. Submit your orders and choose someone to go get it.

Remember, at that time, turn on your radio to 146.82 down 600 and check in and you will be given instructions. Have your travel kits ready. Bring all that you know and think you might need.

73 Jim, K5PER OK. County EC.

## Chit Chat

By Linda, N1LPN

A friend sent me the following stories over the internet. With School back in full swing and the holidays just around the corner, I thought I would do something different this month by sharing these with you. I hope that you will be blessed by them as much as I. Children are little lights shining bright for all the world to see.

### Lessons kids teach us

The gift

We often learn the most from our children. Some time ago, a friend of mine punished his 3-year-old daughter for wasting a roll of gold wrapping paper. Money was tight, and he became infuriated when the child tried to decorate a box to put under the tree. Nevertheless, the little girl brought the gift to her father the next morning and said, "This is for you, Daddy."

He was embarrassed by his earlier overreaction, but his anger flared again when he found that the box was empty. He yelled at her, "Don't you know that when you give someone a present, there's supposed to be something inside of it?"

The little girl looked up at him with tears in her eyes and said, "Oh, Daddy, it's not empty. I blew kisses into the box. All for you, Daddy."

The father was crushed. He put his arms around his little girl, and he begged her forgiveness. My friend told me that he kept that gold box by his bed for years. Whenever he was discouraged, he would take out an imaginary kiss and remember the love of the child who had put it there.

In a very real sense, each of us as parents has been given a gold container filled with unconditional love and kisses from our children. There is no more precious possession anyone could hold.

"The Most Caring Child"

Author and lecturer Leo Buscaglia once talked about a contest he was asked to judge. The purpose of the contest was to find the most caring child. The winner was a four year old child whose next door neighbor was an elderly gentleman who had recently lost his wife. Upon seeing the man cry, the little boy went into the old gentleman's yard, climbed onto his lap, and just sat there. When his mother asked him what he had said to the neighbor, the little boy said, "Nothing, I just helped him cry."



"Two Nickels and Five Pennies"

When an ice cream sundae cost much less, a boy entered coffee shop and sat at a table. A waitress put a glass of water in front of him. "How much is an ice cream sundae?" "Fifty cents," replied the waitress.

The little boy pulled his hand out of his pocket and studied a number of coins in it. "How much is a dish of plain ice cream?" he inquired. Some people were now waiting for a table, and the waitress was impatient. "Thirty-five cents," she said angrily.

The little boy again counted the coins. "I'll have the plain ice cream." The waitress brought the ice cream and walked away. The boy finished, paid the cashier, and departed.

When the waitress came back, she swallowed hard at what she saw. There, placed neatly beside the empty dish, were two nickels and five pennies... her tip.

"Barney"

A four year old was at the pediatrician for a check up. As the doctor looked down her ears with an otoscope, he asked, "Do you think I'll find Big Bird in here?" The little girl stayed silent. Next, the doctor took a tongue depressor and looked down her throat. He asked, "Do you think I'll find the Cookie Monster down there?" Again, the little girl was silent. Then the doctor put a stethoscope to her chest. As he listened to her heart beat, he asked, "Do you think I'll hear Barney in there?" "Oh, no!" the little girl replied. "Jesus is in my heart. Barney's on my underpants."

"Discouraged?"

As I was driving home from work one day, I stopped to watch a local Little League baseball game that was being played in a park near my home. As I sat down behind the bench on the first-baseline, I asked one of the boys what the score was. "We're behind 14 to nothing," he answered with a smile. "Really," I said. "I have to say you don't look very discouraged."

"Discouraged?" the boy asked with a puzzled look on his face. "Why should we be discouraged? We haven't been up to bat yet."

"Roles And How We Play Them"

Whenever I'm disappointed with my spot in my life, I stop and think about little Jamie Scott. Jamie was trying out for a part in a school play. His mother told me that he'd set his heart on being in it, though she feared he would not be chosen.

On the day the parts were awarded, I went with her to collect him after school. Jamie rushed up to her, eyes shining with pride and excitement. "Guess what Mum," he shouted, and then said those words that will remain a lesson to me: "I've been chosen to clap and cheer."

Until next month...

Covertly employed by a government agency with no name, issued an international license with no restrictions, and sworn to achieve one goal: The exploration and understanding of the most extreme fringes of communications technology. You can join the adventures of Doug Xander, perhaps the most technically adept Radio Amateur in the world, by reading:



## Episode One: The Propagation Below

You are about to meet Oklahoma's least known but most technically advanced Radio Amateur. Who, for our purposes, will be known only as 'Doug Xander'. His home QTH gives no clue of his radio activities and, for reasons of national security, never will. You won't hear his signal unless he wants you to, nor will you find him listed in any FCC Database. 'Xander' carries the highest international license class granted by the UN Special Committee on Radio Communications... A license with absolutely no restrictions on frequency, mode, or output power. His true identity and call sign are known only to those who need to know.

Much of his station equipment is highly modified and built by entities known only to the most discreet intelligence agencies. Due to the nature of his activities he often uses technology that officially does not exist and a budget which, conveniently, does not officially exist. In short, Xander has resources and capabilities most of us will never see, use, or comprehend during our lifetime. The man has connections.

Many of the concepts described here will seem implausible at first, but rest assured they can indeed operate as claimed. The author of this series and the publisher of The Collector & Emitter assume no liability for death or damages caused by hapless readers who foolishly attempt to duplicate these concepts without fully understanding the technology and safety precautions. This is not a QST weekend build-it project, this is D'X Files.

At times, circumstance and technology combine in fortuitous serendipity yielding results far in excess of the most optimistic expectations... This happened several years ago when Xander journeyed to the secret government vaults secured deep within a New Mexico salt dome. Arriving

with his Security Clearance, razor sharp mental abilities and insatiable thirst for knowledge, Xander pored over countless documents searching for his next QSO on the edge of technology, his next entry in D'X Files.

As Xander explored deep within the government files, startling revelations became apparent. The true history of our planet spans thousands of millennia, but our written history is far shorter and often beyond our ability to comprehend. We've all heard of lost civilizations and may believe our ancient ancestors were technically unsophisticated. Considering the known works of the ancients against what may have been lost over the ages, he realized this view could be sadly shortsighted. Clever men find it difficult to explain how the great Pyramids of Egypt were built, others search for the remains of The Colossus at Rhodes or Phidias's statue of Zeus at Olympia to answer their questions.

What if the Great Libraries at Alexandria or Pergamum had survived the wars and political upheavals of the ancient world? What if you could read the Aetia by Callimachus and the works of Lucius or Theocritus to discover their knowledge had been passed on from long before the Egyptian, Greek or Roman Empires? Are some technologies so eternal in value and application they may have been invented many, many times throughout the ages despite their practice being lost in the dust of history?

As Xander read on, he found evidence that advanced civilizations of great technical prowess may have existed long before the limits of our earliest written history, and may continue to exist today! Despite the appearance of political hostility between the US and Soviet Union during the Cold War, the intelligence communities on both sides have cooperated covertly regarding issues affecting global security. Xander now had one of these Soviet files before him. The tale it told was almost beyond belief.

In the mid 1980's, the Soviets attempted to drill the deepest well in the world on the belief great reserves of hydrocarbons existed near the inner boundary of the earth's mantle. Siberia was a challenging location, but geologists knew there was a thin layer of mantle below the frozen tundra and the politicians knew any finds there would be well protected from foreign interests. As the well passed the 15,000 foot level, then ground slowly to the 20,000 foot level, a deep rumble shook the frozen forests and a great blast of noxious gasses burst from the well. Those nearby died within minutes from the gas and the forest downwind was scarred for miles. An Elite engineering corps of The Red Army was flown in to repair the damage.

Outfitted with high level protective suits, they capped the well and discovered the drill pipe had not been blown out but had fallen inward. This was highly unusual. Using improvised devices, they found well temperatures did not exceed 110 degrees Fahrenheit and were cooler below the 12,000' level. A laser probe found no bottom to the hole. They were left to speculate if they had drilled into an enormous cavern or into the outermost layer of the earth's core. The gas analysis was unlike anything they expected. Instead of the usual hydrocarbons, they found methane and ammonia compounds much like those we believe were common in our ancient atmosphere. Dim light was seen coming up from the bottom of the hole for several hours, a sensitive microphone received sounds not explained by RFI or preamplifier noise. Conflicting theories circulated within the Soviet scientific community for months afterward. Rumors leaked to the outside world were covered by a misinformation story planted for and repeated by TV Evangelists, that a Soviet oil well had drilled through the roof of Hell...

Xander suspected a different possibility.
What if there had been a First, Second, or Third Apocalypse long ago? What if civilization had been driven from the face of the earth to seek refuge below ground? Could a lost civilization survive below the earth for thousands, perhaps hundreds of thousands of years? Impossible? Perhaps. But, what treasures of wisdom awaited the first to make contact with them if they still existed... Xander decided this would become his next entry in D'X Files.

Xander considered his options. Seismic activity over the past decade had probably sealed the well in Siberia. However, he reasoned, any civilization sufficiently advanced in technology to prosper deep below ground might emit an energy trace which could be detected if someone knew how, and what, to look for. Short-path surface distance to Khatanga was only 4,921 miles, and even downtown Omsk was just 6,112 miles away, easily within the radio range of an OKDXA member. But, we're not talking about exploiting a nice band opening on 20. This would require DX propagation deep within the bowels of the earth.

Xander loved challenges. He knew ultra low frequency RF can penetrate the earth for moderate distances, perhaps a high gain directional array installed below ground would prove effective. He soon devised and optimized a sophisticated design using 3-D RF modeling software, then located a pair of Air Force B-52's about to be torn down for scrap. He requisitioned the wing assemblies. Late one moonless night, a Special Ops team built an RF transparent bunker 120' below his palatial estate then installed the four B-52 wings without arousing the suspicions of his neighbors. Arranged on a pair of motorized tracks mounted in a gimbal style mount, the array could be rotated to any direction or angle. Sensors located throughout the array allowed for precise near-field pattern optimization.

After modifying the B-52 wings into an ultra-broadband conical variation of the Alford Slot antenna with multiple ports at 2 degree increments, a hyper-sensitive wideband receiver was installed at each antenna. The receivers featured digital IF output and control through fiber optics. Preliminary tests in the AM broadcast band indicated a maximum forward gain in excess of 47dBd with the -3dB points at .023 degrees off-axis. Reception proved excellent both day and night. Either the array was performing beyond expectation, or the ground radials of a standard broadcast vertical radiate more RF than we suspect. One station in Oahu seemed particularly strong... A corroded radial?

After a few days of debugging the search & control algorithms on the symmetrical multi-processor DEC Alpha workstations, each with 16 Terabytes of drive storage, he was ready to try an automated search for subterranean RF... Gathering data in a real time digital stream allowed the pattern detection software to take full advantage of several artificial intelligence sub-routines including dynamic phasing for diversity or maximum gain.

Xander was pleased with the sensitivity of the array, but slightly disappointed as no unusual signals were detected. Had the experiment failed? Then, in a blinding flash of inspiration, he realized he was applying conventional radio theories to what could be a profoundly different method of energy dispersion.

Utilizing the full resources of The National Archives, including Einstein's unpublished lab notes, Xander theorized he should not be listening for coherent radio signals, but for energy patterns with allowance for geomagnetic distortions... Energy, he theorized, can propagate only if it has a thermionic impedance, perhaps a geological resonance of sorts, matched to the medium. Therefore, if he modified the array to allow tuning for variations in energy level and impedance rather than frequency... Could it work?

Each antenna was fitted with an array of Hassium sintered Niobium rods tipped with plasma tempered Strontium-Yttrium alloy impedance matching elements. Unfortunately, the lab prototype became prone to spontaneous cold fusion with a peak output of several megawatts from a box the size of a Kenwood TS-450SAT. Fortunately, the full size array displayed no instability. If it did, it could generate enough power to cause an end to our solar system as we now know it...

After installing pre-amplified wideband A/D converters at each antenna element and timing the fiber I/O lines to within .00015 picosecond at the four 64 channel MUX data integrators, he initiated a listening sequence. Within a few minutes he suspected the automated positioning routine was too sensitive to magnetic flux variations, but the artificial intelligence subroutines detected this and dynamically optimized the code. Xander watched as his creation took on a life of its own...

The system reset all four elements to their default vertical position, then rotated and optimized the array toward Novosibirsk. Xander noticed a pronounced increase in data activity on the MUX's. He initiated a data gathering sequence...

Data poured in from the array. Xander brought the H-P Super Mini on-line to see what, if anything, he was receiving. After a few minutes that seemed like hours, the master console monitor began tracing an energy dispersion spectrograph display which...

To Be Continued

## The QSO is out there.

Contents Copyright 1998 by Nelson Derks – KC5QVV "Illegitimus Non Carborundum Ipso Facto "



## OKlahoma DX Association

## Greetings from Sunny Broken Arrow...

Starting with this issue of the C&E, the OKDXA Newsletter is now edited by Nelson Derks, KC5QVV. Mark Byard, N5OG, will continue as our OKDXA Treasurer and Secretary. On behalf of the OKDXA I'd like to thank Mark for his many years of excellent work on these pages. I hope to continue the tradition of interesting and informative newsletters.

## From Da'Prez... By Bruce Burnette, K5PX

Bruce is currently working on thoughts so profound he believes the world couldn't possibly be ready for them until next month. Spend this month wisely by preparing yourself. Until then, follow his sage advice and Just Work 'Um... (-ed)

### OKDXA News...

- OKDXA Banquet coming up on 17th
   We are looking forward to the 1998
   OKDXA banquet on October 17 at the
   River Oaks Golf Club in Edmond, OK. C
   U there!
- Remember ... The OKDXA Net now meets at 9:00 AM. The pleasant early-AM propagation has made the OKDXA net much more enjoyable and profitable.
   We now meet at 9:00 AM every Saturday morning (except for major contest and hamfest weekends) on 3860 Khz, plus QRM.

## · Welcome new members!

This month we welcome two new members, Mr. Wayne Hudson, K5ZG, of Elida, OH, and Mr. Onis Cox, KC5RPC, of Edmond, OK. Wayne, a physician, grew up in Ponca City and is good friends with Bruce, K5PX. I don't have any bio info on Onis other than the fact that he knows the Winnards - WK5RW and KK5LH - so he must be a pretty good fellow! ha Welcome Wayne and Onis.

Current membership

The OKDXA roster currently boasts 104 members. Thanks to everyone for their support. I hope each of our 104 members will join with us again in 1998-99.

- Membership Drive progressing As of this writing (24 Sep) we have 45 renewals. This is really good considering your Sec/Treas. didn't have the mail out ready until mid-September! ha Thanks for the reups and the new memberships!
- E-mail update/changes
   Here are this month's changes and/or additions to the OKDXA e-mail list.

Burns, Bill W5SZ bburns@sirinet.net Carter, Bob K5EYT k5eyt@webzone.net Perry, Joe KE5SA ke5sa@lakecountry.net

If you are a member of the OKDXA with e-mail capability, and you wouldn't mind having it published in this NL, please email it to your Sec/Treas., N5OG. Thanks! (n5og@poncacity.net -ed)

## DXCC NEWS RELEASE...

 Marquesas and Austral Is. added to DXCC list September 9, 1998

For Further Information Contact: Bill Moore, NC1L

The ARRL Awards Committee has accepted a recommendation of the ARRL DX Advisory Committee to add the Marquesas Islands and the Austral Islands to the DXCC List. The additions will be effective with contacts made beginning 23:59 UTC on 31 March, 1998 and after.

The DXCC Desk will accept QSL cards for both the Marquesas and the Austral Islands beginning October 1, 1998. QSL cards received before that time will be returned without action.

 DXpedition to St. Peter & St. Paul Rocks, Brazil announced!

The NATAL DX GROUP has the pleasure to announce the January 1999 DXpedition to the St. Peter & St. Paul Rocks, PY0S, in Brazil.

There will be four operators: Randy WX5L, Karl PS7KM, Tino PT7AA and another operator yet to be announced plan to leave Natal, Brazil, in the second week of January 1999 with operation to commence 4 days later. The operation will last for 12 days, or 2 full weekends. All bands and modes will be utilized, with emphasis on RTTY, 6 mtrs and low bands (80 and 160 mtrs). The normal DX freqs will be used.

The calls will be ZY0SP for SSB/RTTY and QSL info: PS7KM. For CW, ZY0SZ and QSL info: PT7AA. Both calls via CB 1998.

Our total planned budget for the event will be US\$ 11,000.00, 70% of which, will be allocated for the boat rental. Due to these facts, we are hereby requesting donations to make this DXpedition possible.

Funds can be sent to WX5L Randy or RS7KM Karl via CB.

NATAL DX GROUP e-mail: ndxg@qsl.net

Karl Leite Natal, Brasil kleite@summer.com.br

• Two more great DXpeditions upcoming: E3 and FT5Z!

Eritrea and Amsterdam Island are not lightweight expeditions. Both countries rank near the top of most anyone's most-needed list.

Jacky, F2CW, recently activated Eritrea. Now a 2-week operation is planned for November 3-18. Twelve ops plan to activate E3 on all bands and modes. QSLing will be handled by INDEXA.

The second exciting Amateur radio destination this fall is lonely Amsterdam Island in the near-Antarctic Indian Ocean. FT5ZH will be the call for a month-long operation: November 26 through December 24! QSLing will be handled by F6KDF.

## A MOVING MESSAGE FROM N6EU...

Farewell from the Ruggieri family
 Russell Ruggieri, N6EU, writes the following ...

"Mark got your msg. I am sorry to report that as of 14 September I am no longer a resident of Oklahoma. I and my family of hams have moved to DM04 in Chatsworth CA. Please post a little blurb in the C&E for us. I will cherish my four years in Oklahoma and the friendly people that lived there. Best DX and 73 to all the OKDXA members."

The Ruggieri's

Russell, N6EU Rhonda "N6SKI Jennifer "KC5MMJ

(Note from the Sec/Treas. - I want to take this opportunity to wish the Ruggieri family "best wishes" on behalf of the OKDXA and to thank them for their unfailing support over the past years. 73 - Mark, N5OG)

### DX News...

Courtesy of the Ohio / Penn DX Bulletin. Editor Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW DX Bulletin No. 375 September 21, 1998 Provided by BARF-80 BBS Cleveland, Ohio Online at 440-237-8208 28.8k-1200 Baud 8/N/1 (New Area Code!)

ARRL Outgoing QSL Bureau

Starting January 1, 1999, the ARRL Outgoing QSL Bureau will increase its fees from \$4.00 to \$6.00 a pound, (150) cards. (ARRL Newsletter / B. Kennamer). The 10 card rate will remain at 1 US\$.

The W5 QSL bureau now supports a web site. Some of the sorters are on-line and provide their email addresses for contact. Check it out at http://www.datasync.com/~w5ue/mdxa/buro.html

## 3A, MONACO

"The 59(9) DXReport" states that Luc, I1YRL, will be active as 3A/I1YRL in October and November. No specific dates were given. QSL via I1YRL.

## 9H0, MALTA

The Dutch Amateur Radio Society (V.R.Z.A.) will be active October 3-18th.

The group of 24 hams will activate the Island of Qawra (EU-023) with five HF stations using their own 9H3 call on CW and SSB. A special club station call has been issued, 9H0VRZ. QSL Manager for this station is PA0JR, Andre van den Bos, Korianderweg 25, 9731 HW Groningen, The Netherlands.

## 9M6, EAST MALAYSIA

Ed, K8EP, will be operating 9M6AAC October 8-11th. Ed will be concentrating on CW but also some SSB. Operations will be on mostly 40, 20, 17, 15 and 10 meters. QSL route is via N2OO.

### 9N, NEPAL

The "DX News Sheet" reports that the following operators have been issued new licenses in Nepal: Khatri/9N1AB, Navin Mainali/9N1AC (previously 9N1CW), Mr. Sunuwar/9N1AD, and Gourish Kharel/9N1AE.

## 9Y, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Members of the Bavarian Contest Club (BCC) will be active October 15-31st. Operators will be DK6WL, DL4MCF, DL4MDO and DL4MEH, and will sign as 9Y4/homecall from Tobago Island. Operations will be on CW/SSB/RTTY with operations on 160-10 meters. They will also be a Multi-Single entry in the CQWW SSB Contest with a special call. QSL via their home calls.

## A3, TONGA

The "DX News Letter" reports that Klaus, DJ4SO/A35SO, and Manfred, DJ7RJ/ (will receive his call upon arrival) will be active October 1-19th. They intend to operate with an FT-847 and IC-775DSP, no power amplifiers and vertical antennas (HB9CV on 6m) on 160-6 meters. QSL via the bureau to their homecalls.

## A3 AND 5W, TONGA / W. SAMOA

Gerard, PA3AXU, reports he will arrive in Tonga on October 21st. His call will be A35XU. He will stay in A3 until October 28th, then travel to Western Samoa. His call will be 5W0GD until November 8th when he will depart 5W for PA-land. Operations will be RTTY/CW/SSB with activity on the "normal DX-frequencies", including the WARC bands, and trial and error on the low bands (he has no amp).

## CN, MOROCCO

Ben, DL6FBL, will be active in the upcoming CQWW Contests. Listen for him October 20-25th as CN8MC (or CN2??) as a Single OP/All Bands/High Power entry. Listen for him November 25-29th in the CQWW CW Contest as CN8MC (or CN2??) as a Single OP/All Bands/High Power entry. He will be operating the WARC bands before the contests. QSL cards for SSB and CW will be automatically sent via the Bureau.

## FG, GUADELOUPE

Members of the Southern California DX Club (N6RV, K6RO, W6SR, N6ED, W6KK, and N6RT) will be active from IOTA NA-102 October 17-27th. They will be a Multi-Single entry in the 1998 CQWW SSB contest using the call FG5BG. They will be using FG/homecall on all bands (160-10 meters) before the contest, CW and SSB.

## HI3, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Operators ON4ANT, ON4GG, ON4AOI, ON4AME, ON4AMM (YL), ON4AWK, ON4CBA and ON5LW will be active October 20-27th. They will be in the CQWW SSB Contest as HI3/ON4ANT.

### P4, ARUBA

Jacobo, P43P will be active on all bands as P40B during the CQWW SSB Contest (October 24-25th). QSL information for P40B is: Jacobo Oduber, P.O. Box 685, Oranjestad, Aruba.

### V2, ANTIGUA

The Frankford Radio Club (FRC) has once again announced "Team Antigua" will be active again during October 20-30th and be a Multi-Multi entry in the CQWW SSB Contest as V26B. Before and after the contest the operators will be active using their own calls. Look for them on CW/SSB/RTTY on all bands (including WARC and 160 meters).

## VP9, BERMUDA

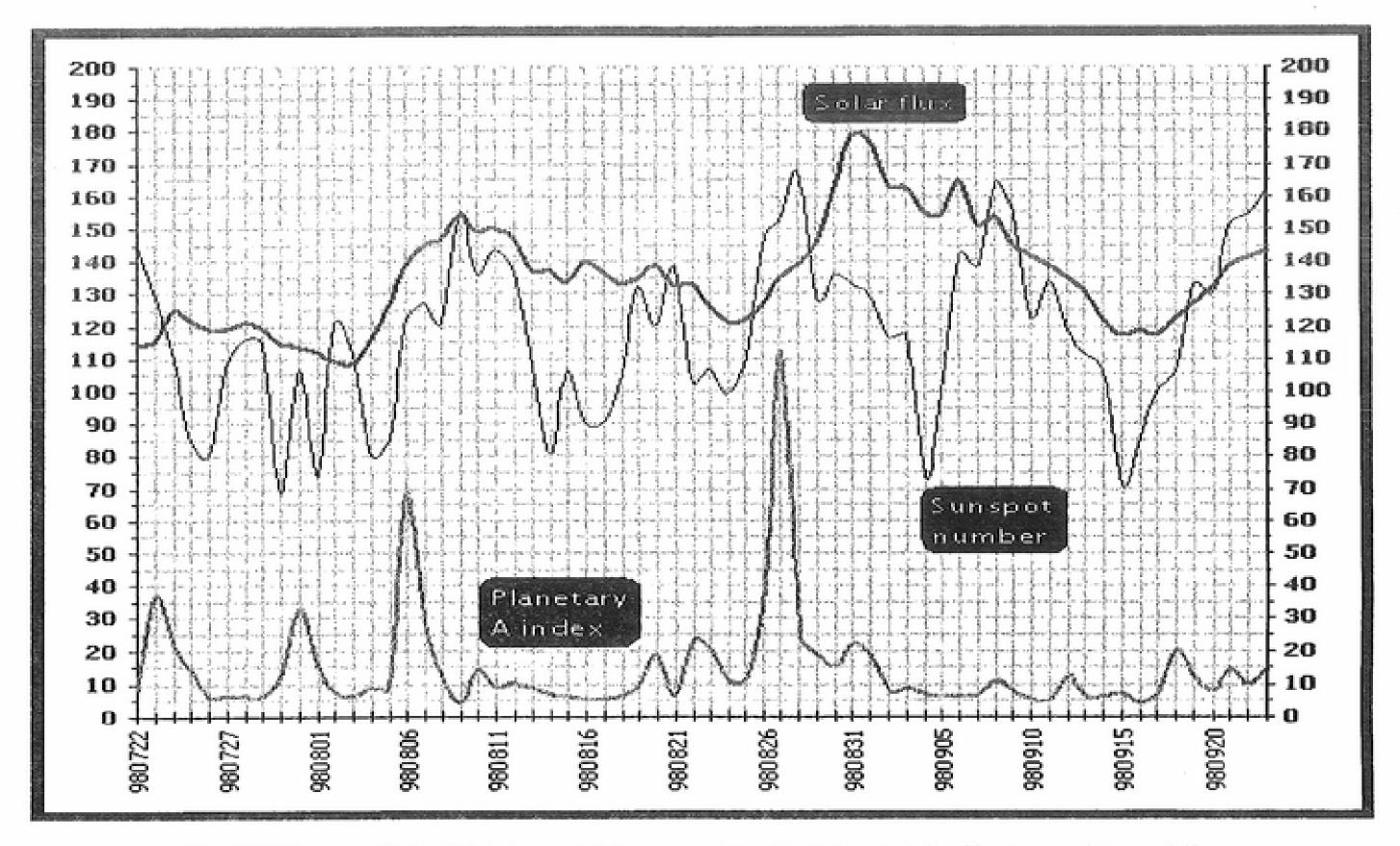
Seiji, JH6RTO/AH0R, will be active as AH0R/VP9 from October 15-17th. He will mainly work the WARC bands.

## C6A25FV CARDS

Delano, C6AFV, has just sent out about 2000 cards for his C6A25FV special

event call. He requests that if you have already sent a card, do not resend, and PLEASE make sure that the IRCs are stamped in the lower left. Successful DX'ers start early and stay late!
Excerpts and distribution of The OPDX
Bulletin are granted as long as
KB8NW/OPDX/BARF80 receive credit.

To contribute DX info, send InterNet Mail to kb8nw@barf80.nshore.org or aq474@cleveland.freenet.edu.



The DX Listeners Club of Kristiansand, Norway updates this Solar Activity Chart several times daily. Visit their web page at http://www.dxlc.com/solar for the latest solar conditions.

Stray Thoughts...

By Nelson Derks, KC5QVV

My favorite on-line auction continues to offer unusual items you won't find at very many HamFests...

Some Hams collect vintage QSL cards, and here's one from W1MK to W3DES regarding their QSO on June 6, 1932. W1MK is the Headquarters Station of the American Radio Relay League, Inc located at 39 LaSalle Road in West Hartford, Connecticut. The notation reads: "QRM bad, tks for card QSK". And you thought QRM was invented in the 1960's...

Another Ham offers an assembled CQrp HRX-40 receiver as designed by the Columbus QRP Club. Described as a small 40 Meter QRP receiver, I can't help but wonder how it knows which signals are QRP...

For those of you who collect military rigs, here's a BC-15A in very good original condition. As you recall, the BC-15A is a small airborne spark transmitter used for sending artillery direction info (a little to the left...) from an observation airplane. The Connecticut Telephone & Electric Company built this unit for the Signal Corps in 1918. That's WW I vintage. It sold for \$1,200.00 and rumor has it they were prone to arcing when keyed...

This doesn't mean the Heathkit DX-40 you threw out twice and rescued from the trash three times will be worth \$1,200 when it's 80 years old, but you never

know... On second thought, yes, you do. 50 years from now, \$1,200 might buy two large pizzas with CW and AM as legal as spark is today... (Heresy!)

I'm amazed at the prices some tube HiFi gear can fetch. You're probably aware of the McIntosh and Dynaco die-hards, but a recent auction ended with a set of four 6CA7/EL34 Amperex "Bugle Boy" tubes selling for \$795.00. With freight that's \$200.00 per tube. This wasn't a matched quad, just four new 60's vintage tubes in the box sold as-is. You can find plenty of Amperex and Mullard EL34's advertised on the 'Net in the \$35 to \$55 range but this auction got completely out of hand. When 6AU6's start going for \$100.00 each, I'll be selling my collection...

For those of you with broadcast Radio or TV experience, recent auctions included a McMartin B-19 FM exciter without the stereo generator on 94.7 MHz. High bid was \$202.50 which did not meet reserve. Video auctions included an Abekas D53A digital video effects generator, and a Sony BVH-2500 1" VTR with the digital TBC. Minimum bid for the Abekas was \$47,000.00 while the Sony was a paltry \$44,400.00. Tempting, but you could zero your radio budget for a month or two...

You can witness these acts of shameless capitalism at http://www.ebay.com. From the top menu go to Collectibles > Radio, or Photo & Electronics > Consumer Electronics / Video Equipment.

Avoid letting the XYL see what you're up to since there is an endless variety of Beanie Babies, Barbie Collectibles, and cute ceramic things. As of late September there were over 715,000 items up for bid. And you thought Dayton was huge...? As with most auctions, you're bidding on goods sold 'as-is' with no guarantee. You may be dealing with a seller who is less than honest, but I've had no problems so far. Use common sense and try to obey the three unwritten auction rules: 1) There will always be a bigger & better deal in the future. 2) Assume nothing other than your purchase will need some work. 3) Never bid against KC5QVV...

Successful DX'ers start early and stay late!

Want to become a member of the OKDXA? Contact Mark Byard, N5OG, 504 Foster Ave. Ponca City, OK 74601-2519 Have some DX news to share? Contact Nelson Derks, KC5QVV, 13410 South 128<sup>th</sup> East Ave. Broken Arrow, OK 74011 E-Mail n5og@poncacity.net or kc5qvv@gte.net - Visit the OKDXA Web Page - http://www.poncacity.net/n5og/okdxa

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## Edmond Amateur Radio Society

Happy October to everyone. Hasn't the weather been beautiful! Hope you had a chance to get to the State Fair. So much to see - so little time?

## Emergency Tower Party

Fun was had by all those present on the evening of Wednesday, September 23, 1998, when we met high atop the club station to take down the tower. It was listing about 20 degrees to the southwest after a storm two days prior blew through town. Those present were Lee, KA5WIS; Dee, WD5FHR; Jim, N5OHL; Bob, KM5GZ; Carl, KM5PA; Ken, N5TWC; and Steve KC5RYT. Dee was first up the tower once the hardhats were passed out. After realizing that the tower was listing even further to the southwest with the addition of Dee at the top, a rope was attached and a live body (or bodies) placed on the end of it to the northeast to hold the now-swaying tower in place. The notorious Oklahoma wind was out of the south and helped to stabilize things...for a while. Lee joined Dee, and after they fought with the crossarm for awhile, the gin pole to the roof of the Edmond Community Center lowered it. Next down was the center vertical antenna, then the Fritzel, followed by the top portion of the This proved to be a difficult tower. maneuver, since the center pole slid and locked into the next section of the tower.

So, here we were: two men up on the tower, the top portion laying over at 90 degrees, and lots of advice floating up from the roof about how to get that piece down. After much discussion and after an additional ten foot piece of pipe was handed up to the guys on the tower for leverage, it came down. The gin pole was lowered below the next section, Lee and

Dee worked their magic, and the next section proved much easier to remove. At this point in time, Jim was trying to determine how to reattach the Fritzel across the roof without the tower, and he succeeded.

It was now after dark. Only two sections remained, temporarily guyed down to the top of the building. The tower climbers were tired and we decided it was best to complete the rest of the project during daylight hours. Stay turned for future installments of this story, as the tower adventure continues!

## September Board Meeting

The September Board meeting was held at the Club Station on September 11th. There were 11 in attendance. The Secretary and Treasurer's Reports were read and approved.

Steve, KC5RYT reported that the October dinner meeting will be held at the new Golden Corral in Edmond on Saturday, October 17th. Since reservations are not offered, it is suggested that folks gather about 5:45 PM in front of the restaurant and enter together, in hopes of finding an area to sit all together.

Steve also suggested the Board consider the feasibility of sponsoring an annual Club hamfest, perhaps in February.

Lee, KA5WIS indicated that there is some occasional noise on the repeater phone line, probably due to the excessive dry conditions. Ken, N5TWC is working on programming the new controller. Jim, N5OHL indicated the packet rig at the Club Station is now running 60+ watts after installation of an amplifier.

Clara, KG5UG reported that the Fall Licensing Class would begin Sunday, September 13th at the Club Station. Ken Dunn, N5WKV of K & E Electronics will supply study manuals for sale to students.

Jim, N5OHL indicated that approximately 8 volunteers are needed for the Classic Car Show on September 19th at UCO.

Clara gave the Health/Welfare update and reported that Ken, N5WKV is

recuperating from pneumonia. Amy Shortt, KD5AVJ is recuperating from viral meningitis. Bob Hebert, N5SAG will be meeting with his surgeon on concerning September 21st some upcoming A surgery. special congratulations to Trish, KC5YBP and Steve, KC5RYT Kuper on the birth of their daughter, Cecelia Marie.

Lee announced that he is in need of many volunteers to assist with the UCO Homecoming Parade, to be held on October 3rd. Carl, KM5PA will arrange for the needed golf carts from UCO.

Edith, KA5YPX reported that the Club jackets have arrived and are being distributed to those who ordered. She presented a dozen sewn Club logo patches, which will be sold for \$4.00 a piece, with the proceeds going to the Scholarship Fund.

Jim, N5OHL indicated there needs to be 7 members on this year's Nominating Committee (5% of Club membership). The Nominating Committee will contact all Club members and present a slate of officers for membership approval at the November Business Meeting.

Jim also indicated that his busy schedule precludes his continuing as Net Manager and he asked for a volunteer replacement. Bob, KM5GZ volunteered and will take over these duties. The Board thanked Jim for his service in this position.

Clara asked if the Club would be renewing its membership in the OKDXA. After discussion, a motion was made and passed to renew membership in OKDXA at a cost of \$20.00.

Clara indicated the need for 8 volunteers to monitor the rest stops at this year's CROP Walk to be held on Sunday, September 17th.

Edith, KA5YPX said she will be glad to help with this year's Christmas dinner, but asked for someone else to act as Coordinator.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 PM.

## September Business Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 2:08 PM on Sunday, September 20th at St. John's. The minutes of the July Business meeting were read and approved. Carl, KM5PA gave the Treasurer's report, and provided members with copies of an Oklahoma 2m repeater map and applications for an Oklahoma Amateur Radio Operator's I.D. card.

V. P., Steve, KC5RYT announced that the October dinner meeting will be held at the Edmond Golden Corral on Saturday, October 17th. Folks should meet in the parking lot approximately 5:45 PM in order to all sit together.

Dee, WD5FHR reported that programming on the new controller is coming along well. It is a tedious and involved procedure. New sandbags have been installed to support the legs of the Fritzel antenna on the Club Station roof. Re-positioning of the antenna has resulted in improved SWR. Donated computers are being evaluated and labeled for future use in various Club activities.

Clara, KG5UG reported that licensing class has begun, with 21 eager students. There is a great group of instructors lined up this year. Clara asked for special recognition of Rick Tasetano, N5KLM whose recorded messages broadcast over KTOK always brings in the bulk of the students. Rick showed up the first week of class to introduce him self to the students and gives them a word or two of encouragement.

HF Committee Chairman, Dave Storey, K0TYC showed the group a photo album which will be used to keep the KC5ORP Club QSL cards, as the Club works toward W.A.S. and their DX contacts. Dave reported that Curtis Foote, KC5GEP set-up a van on Amateur Radio Awareness Day (September 19th) and made 10m contacts for the public, to publicize amateur radio. The highlight was a nice QSO with a Spanish operator.

Dave indicated that the Club would sponsor a Special Event station on November 14th to honor Oklahoma Statehood Day. Details are being published in QST. Dave encouraged members to come by the Club Station, which will be open on Sunday afternoons in October during the classes, as well as on Thursday evenings.

Edith, KA5YPX again asked for volunteers to handle communications for the UCO Homecoming Parade to be held on October 3rd. She showed some nice photos she took at this year's St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Clara, KG5UG asked for volunteers to man the rest stops at this year's CROP Walk to be held Sunday, September 27th. Money raised from the CROP Walk goes to World Hunger, as well as several local Edmond services.

Jim, N5OHL announced this year's OKDXA banquet to be held at the River Oaks Country Club on October 17th. A motion was made that the Club purchase up to two reservations to this banquet for Club members to attend and represent the Club, which is a member of OKDXA. The motion passed.

Allen Clark, N5PA gave a terrific slide presentation of his recent trip to Malawi with a missionary organization. He gave some fascinating statistics and an interesting geography lesson, too.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 PM.

## November Elections

Just a reminder that election of officers for 1999, will be held at the November Business Meeting on Sunday, November 15th. When the Nominating Committee contacts you this month, please consider how you can help in this coming year.

## Net Manager

The Club has a new Net Manager, Bob Coxsey, and KM5GZ. Bob will be keeping records on all E.A.R.S. nets: the Monday Night Information Net, the Siren Tests and others, such as Parade and Event nets, and Emergency nets. Please pass all your data to Bob so he can include it in the Club records. You can catch him on frequency or call and leave your message at his home (478-5715). Bob is seeking people interested in trying their

hand at Net Control for the Monday Info.

Net. Training is available, as well as forms and reference materials. This is a fun thing to do, and it also provides excellent experience in controlling a net.

Contact Bob today and tell him you'd like to give it a try. You'll be glad you did!

Remember, to tune in to the Monday Night Information Net at 8:00 on 147.135. Let us know you're out there.

## Boy Scout Jamboree-on-the-Air

Listen up for details of this year's Jamboree on the Air. Details will be announced on the Monday Night Net.

## Birthday Greetings!

EARS is happy to extend best wishes to the following club members as they celebrate their birthdays during the month of October:

10-01 KF5TM	J.D. Keeling
10-02 KC5YBP	Trish Kuper
10-03 KE6FCQ	John Schuncke
10-06 KC5SFE	Dirk Wilhite
10-16 N5KMJ	Jana Thomason
10-18 WA5PHJ	James Dawson
10-20 KB5KIU	Kyle Granger
10-21 KB5KIJ	Kathleen Stearns
10-25 WD5FHR	Dee Mize
10-28 N5DBM	Ken Stepp
10-31 KB5CDF	Steven Cornman

## New Member

Please welcome David Long, KD5FDW of Edmond. He is newly licensed. We are glad to have you!

## Health and Welfare Report

"Hi" to everyone. We want to extend our congratulations to the Kuper family, Steve, KC5RYT, and Trish, KC5YBP, the proud parents of a beautiful little daughter Cecelia Marie. Their bundle of joy arrived four weeks early on August 27, 1998 at 4:09am. She weighed 6 pounds 11 ounces and was 18.5 inches long. We wish the very best to both of you and your girls.

Kenneth Dunn, N5WKV is recuperating from pneumonia. He is feeling better, hoping to get back to work soon.

Amy Shortt, KD5AVJ has been recuperating from viral meningitis. She is

doing much better now and is able to get back to work.

Lee Vaughn, KA5WIS has been having problems for some time with a viral eye infection that damaged the retina. With medication and special care he is now doing much better. Lee, hope you continue to improve each day.

Bob Hebert, N5SAG had a consultation with his surgeon September 21st and was informed that his hernia would have to be repaired using a conventional surgical procedure. Since he always has a difficult time recovering from the anesthesia, he has decided to seek a second opinion to determine if a laproscopic procedure could be used to take care of his problem. Bob, we all hope things go well for you.

Please keep Kenneth, Amy, Lee and Bob in your prayers. We'll be chatting with you again next month. 73 to all de Clara, KG5UG

### Test!

DON'T CHEAT. This only takes 30 seconds. Work this out as you read. Don't read the bottom until you have worked it out!

\*\*Follow these 6 steps and it will amaze you...

- First of all, pick the number of days a week that you "would" like to go out (i.e., eat pizza, movies, whatever).
- 2. Multiply this number by 2.
- Add 5.
- Multiply it by 50.
- If you have already had your birthday this year, add 1748. If you haven't, add 1747.
- Last step: Subtract the four-digit year that you were born.

## RESULTS:

You should now have a three-digit number:

The first digit of this was your original number (i.e., how many times you want to go out each week).

The second two digits are your age! It really works.

This is the only year (1998) it will ever work, so share this with everyone you know

## Amateur Radio Newsline

Scientists shatter limit on overthe-air transmissions

Lucent Technologies has developed a fundamentally new technology that the company claims can boost the capacity of fixed wireless links by as much as 10 to 20 times, without increasing the bandwidth. Its called BLAST, and Newslines David Black, KB4KCH tells us that BLAST may even be applicable to ham radio use.

Sometimes taking another look at what is already understood can be valuable. That's what the Murray Hill, New Jersey, technology company did and BLAST was born by revisiting a 50 year old mathematical theory.

According to Lucent, the central idea behind BLAST is to exploit, rather than mitigate, multipath effects. Lucent says that helps achieve very high bandwidth efficiency a lot higher when you treat multipath as an ally instead of an adversary.

Researchers say it's possible to have several transmissions occupying the same frequency with each transmission having its own, essentially co-located, transmitting antenna. At the receiving end, multiple antennas are again used and there's a special computerized signal processing algorithm in use.

The algorithm separates the mutually interfering transmissions from each other. As a result, Lucent says the capacity of a given frequency band increases

proportionally to the number of antennas.

BLAST may be several years away from being available and even longer in amateur radio. Still, it could mean increased efficiency in packet radio backbone links and intertied digital voice repeater circuits. BLAST may also encourage experimentation in completely modes of amateur radio new The benefits communications. could include greater throughput for emergency, health and welfare and public service communications.

If you'd like more information about BLAST, you can find it at the Lucent Bell Lab's website. That address is in the printed version of this week's Newsline report.

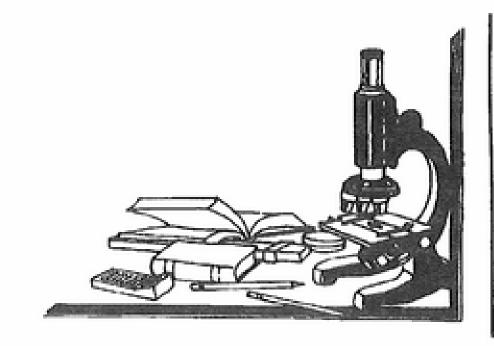
From Birmingham, Alabama, David Black, KB4KCH, for Newsline.

A BLAST prototype has been built to test the theory. The device uses an array of eight transmitting and twelve receiving antennas. During its first weeks of operation, it achieved unprecedented wireless capacity of over ten times the capacity of today's competing systems.

To read more about this remarkable technology, see: http://www.bell-labs.com/projects/blast/

and http://www.belllabs.com/news/1998/september/9/1.html"

(Via CGC Communicator and Lucent Technology Website)



## Altus Area Amateur Radio Association

Minutes of September 1998 Club Meeting

AAARA September Minutes

Meeting held at 711 W Tamarack Rd.

Altus, OK; 11 Sept 1998. Meeting called to order at 7:10 PM. by Ron, KB5UVC.

1. Intro.'s- Done

- Last months Minutes read, voted and approved
- 3. Treasurers Report read, voted and approved

Do to lack of members at this meeting, it was a short meeting, and a small get together with friends, we also had a visitor. Well, we hope that the Oct meeting will work out better.

Adjourned at 7:25 PM. Next Meeting on: 8 Oct. 1999 at 7:00 PM.

Typed by Ron, KD5CYW.

## Monthly Installment of "As The World Turns"

Editor's Note: October 1998 was to be a special article about Amateur Radio in England, written by G1KLZ (Doug), who England. lives in Lancaster, Unfortunately (isn't that always the case) his whole computer system decided to "take the big dive" last week, destroying, along with everything else, our article. He promises to recompose it and we hope to have it ready by November's issue. I am certainly excited about hearing of the many similarities and differences between the USA and England with regard to Amateur Radio operation. In lieu of this article, I submit for your pleasure, an article I recently wrote regarding various digital modes of communication. This includes 2-meter packet as well as many other forms.

## Digital Mode Communications By Alan, KD5COH Burns Flat Oklahoma

Last week I was checking the mailbox in my trusty MFJ1274 and came upon a very curious letter. It was from a friend, Apostolos (V1EDY) in Athens, Greece. He wrote me on the 29<sup>th</sup> of June and it arrived, intact, in my own mailbox nearly 3 months later. I think it most probably rode around on MIR all that time waiting for my beacon to be heard, although I may be wrong?)

I have made many friends around the world using various forms of "digital mode" communication. This article highlights a few of them and gives you a few "pointers" just in case you wish to pursue any of them at more length. This is, by no means, the where all and end all on the subject, but merely a short "tutorial" on the subject from the point-of-view of yours truly.

Back around February of this year I wanted to combine my two great loves, that for Amateur Radio and for Computers. As a computer teacher for the past 15 years, computers have become "second-nature" to me and the thought of working digital mode was thrilling indeed.

I live within "striking distance" of several digital repeaters, notably most Weatherford (WXFORD), Cheyenne (CHEY), Altus/Granite (ALTUS) and Woodward (WRD). This gives me a way to operate low-power (I typically run 5 watts or less on 2 meter digital) and still contact the world by linking up "digi's." I initially connected to the WXFORD digi and found several routes from there to OKC, where live a multitude of additional digi's (or should I say K-nodes because most of them, I think, are linked together into one huge network of stations). The neat thing about operating digital is that you learn by trying, if you make mistakes nobody usually knows. That is a big relief when you are learning your way around.

I soon discovered the "telnet" links available on a few of the area machines and was soon working New Hampshire stations on N1KIO's server. From there I could link literally anywhere in the world!
Really cool! I had soon made contacts
with stations in Greece (remember
V1EDY?), England, Australia, Portugal,
all over the place! Awesome! Just
imagine 2 meter DX on 5 watts (sort of, at
least).

Well, this really gave me the "bug" on digi mode and I soon found myself logging directly onto the "backbone" and making contact directly to BBS's (that means Bulletin Board Systems) worldwide. I even demo'd this discovery at one of our club meetings, which was just "ho-hum" to some members but very thrilling to others. Guess there's no pleasing everyone, but it's great if you can even please just a few!!

During my "Spring Break Week" I was determined to learn all I could (in a week) about the Internet (not just Web Browsing like most people think of when they hear "Internet" but the other modes as well). Here, in a few sentences, are some of the services available to anyone who wishes to try them out:

Telnet: A form of digital communication allowing people to communicate with Unix Servers and, through them, with other Radio Amateurs around the world. You can try this out yourself if you have an Internet Service Provider. 1. Connect to your ISP with your "dial-up network" program. 2. From the Windows 95/NT "RUN" line type "TELNET 44.52.1.1" 3. When connected to N1KIO in Farmington NH, log in with your call sign and use your first name as your password. 4. Follow menu options (including a great one to a 32000 channel Worldwide Ham Chat)

ICQ: A communications system originally developed by Mirabilis in Tel Aviv, Israel (and recently bought by AOL). You will need to log onto <a href="https://www.icq.com"><u>WWW.ICQ.COM</u></a> and download their software in order to use this service. Once installed, you will discover the many Radio Amateurs worldwide who also use this free service. Be careful, though, you may well get hooked on this one!!

IRC: Internet Relay Chat. Another widely used communication protocol with many access servers worldwide (including several in the OKC and Tulsa areas). This, too, requires a download of free software to use this free service. MIRC and Pirch32 are two of the better IRC programs. Many hams use this mode internationally as well.

File transfer Protocol is used to FTP: transfer files to and from your computer to another at a remote location. This protocol is especially useful for uploading files into your own file area on remote UNIX servers. This feature is built into Netscape and Internet Explorer, although there are many better programs out there for free (including my favorite, LeechFTP, which allows you to make many simultaneous connections and transfer masses of files all at once, quite a thrill compared to the "one-at-a-time" Netscape concept).

HTTP: The good old HyperText Transfer Protocol (this is the mainstay of the Internet community), which is the protocol that web browsers use to view the WorldWideWeb. If you have Internet, you most certainly already use this one, even if you don't realize it). The neat thing about HTTP is that it is now being used to transfer and view HTML files (Hyper Text Markup Language or Web Pages) over packet radio, thanks to G4RDE (Roger Barker) in England, who developed a packet client program called "WinPack". His version 6.0 and newer includes HTTP protocol and it is used quite extensively in England (and catching on here as well) by Radio Amateurs. Email me and I will be glad to help you acquire WinPack if you wish.

As I said, this article only scratches the surface of digital communications. "die-hard" there are some know packeteers out there who feel that if it involves the Internet or other backbone communications then it isn't worth the powder to blow it up. To them I can only say "Why don't you come join us in the 21st Century?" The lines separating Amateur Radio and other forms of communication have blurred to the point that you really don't know (or care for that matter) how your packet mail is carried, but only that it gets from point "A" to point "B" intact. I, for one, am glad that options for communicating with other Amateur Operators have grown this much in recent years and I am sure gonna take advantage of anything I find out there that helps me communicate more effectively.

73s from Burns Flat America

Come visit our Club Website sometime at www.aaara.jellybean.com

A future article will be devoted to the many resources available should you wish to set up your own club or personal World Wide Web Site.

## Worldradio's Noble on Restructuring

Worldradio Magazine publisher Armond Noble, N6WR, does not think the current effort to restructure the United States Amateur Radio service is necessary or wanted. Writing in the October issue of his magazine, Noble says that he opposes the dumbing down of Amateur Radio:

> "Everybody's using about the term Radio Amateur calling it dumbing dumbing down, down. So, I asked to anyone listening to your broadcast, Are you really proud of so many people think that Amateur Radio is dumbing down? And do you want

this?"; Armond Noble, N6WR

Noble compares becoming a ham with joining the Marine Corps. He says that in both cases it is a matter of upholding a lot of traditions. He also indicates that doing so has never been easy:

"Who values what's easy. There is no value attached to easy. There is no self pride. I think we're missing a lot self pride these days in overcoming obstacles."

Noble

Noble says that making it easy to get into ham radio is not going to bring in a lot of young hams. He says that kids are looking for things that provide a challenge. He also says that learning the Morse code as one of the best:

"One thing about the Morse code that it has done for many young people is that they saw it. They saw it as a challenge. They thought it was hard. They went and did it and they said Oh look, I can do that. Maybe I can learn to type, or I can play the trombone or what ever the next thing is. Instead of this wollowing around and I can't do that."; Noble

Noble realizes that he is the lone voice in the ham radio publishing arena that opposes restructuring, but he says that the quality of ham radio is far more important than the quantity of hams on the bands:

"We had this No-code Tech thing. They said this will, this is the salvation of Amateur Radio and 40,000 people got licenses. Very few got on the air. Very few upgraded. Very few bought equipment. And they haven't learned from that."; Noble

It does not matter if you support or oppose the current move to restructure ham radio. Before you file your comments to the FCC it might be a good idea read what N6WR has to say. His complete editorial comment appears on page 4 of the October 1998 issue of Worldradio Magazine.

(Newsline)

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## **Broken Arrow** Amateur Radio Club

### August Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Jeff Scoville and we immediately went into the evening's program. Chuck Myers, KK5IC showed videotape of some of the early days of the ARRL, and some footage of some of the early pioneers in amateur radio. On a personal note I found this trip down history lane to be very interesting and amazing how some of the engineers and technicians figured out some of the frequencies and antenna systems used during that period. Primitive by today 's standards for sure, but the technology and tools of the time were put to good use.

After the presentations and a short break we reconvened for the business portion of the meeting.

## Committee reports:

No ARRL nets have been done this month, but it was announced there will be an emergency training exercise in October.

The paging system is working Ok and we are waiting on a computer upgrade to add some improvements.

No packet radio report, and the scheduled nets are doing well.

The website is looking good. Jeff indicated he'd be trying a discussion group on the website for local questions and answers.

The engineering committee will be making some improvements to the .91 repeater as soon as some of the people can be available to go out to the site. There was some discussion at this point regarding some interference being caused by some of the local paging systems. Several ideas were brought up as to how to approach the problem - someone suggested we get some of our local media involved in our next

weather net to show how the interference can be a deterrent to communications especially during emergency conditions.

### Old Business:

The Boy Scout jamboree is scheduled in October and if you'd like to be involved in any of the activities contact Don Pugh, W5UUX at 251-0738 for additional details.

And speaking of websites the W5BBS web page can be found at www.qsl.net/w5bbs. Check it out - there are over 4500 sites available.

### New business:

Fund raising is a topic we all enjoy discussing and how to increase our club account for some possible future acquisitions and to help support some of the projects currently under discussion. The general membership kicked around some ideas from a pancake breakfast to auctions. Someone suggested auctioning off Jeff Scoville, but we figured that maybe taking him to a pawnshop might be a better idea.

An item for the October meeting will be to establish a nomination committee to look for our next years club officers. Interested in volunteering, Jeff contact Scoville, KC5RTH.

Since no one could think of anything else If you're interested in participating, call under new business we adjourned.

Submitted by,

Joe D. Horn, KC5VPO Secretary BAARC

Looking For A Few Good Officers

nominating The committee for 1999 officers will be appointed the at October club meeting. Please contact Jeff Scoville, KC5RTH at 251-0132 OT w5bbs@juno.com if you're interested in being the nominating committee chair or a committee member.

Nominees will be announced in the November meeting and the election will be held at our December meeting. Please try to attend both meetings!

## Simulated Emergency Training Saturday, October 3-4

It's time again for the annual Simulated Emergency Training (SET). This is a nationwide event sponsored by the ARRL to help prepare radio amateurs for possible disasters in their communities.

The BAARC has supported the event for the past four years in the Tulsa area. This year will be especially exciting, as there are expected to be communications not only on 2m voice, but also packet radio. Perhaps even a little bit of ATV work. There will be several "nets", including a weather net, disaster net, and hospital net. All will provide good practice in traffic handling.

This is also a good opportunity for the BAARC to put the new Broken Arrow EOC "to the test", with it's several pieces of equipment, including radios and computers.

Jeff Scoville, KC5RTH at 251-0132 or send an email to W5BBS@JUNO.COM.

1/2" - 7/8" - 1 5/8" Andrew LDF Hard line Connectors for Andrew LDF Hard line Rohn 25G Tower - New and Used HyGain Telex EX-14 Triband Beam

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## Lawton / Ft. Sill Amateur Radio Club

Minutes, Aug. 4, 1998.

Members present 25, Guest 7, Total present 32.

President Terry Oates, KB5IYB called meeting to order at 7:32pm.

Claude, KD5RQ brought a program on lighting safety.

## Reports:

Minutes and Treasurer reports were approved as submitted.

Education Committee: George Summers, KK5QY gave an up-date on the classes. It looks like we will have new members real soon.

Emergency Committee: Bob Sims, W5KCB Thanked everyone for the help on The Tour DeGotebo. He also gave an up-date on the .36 machine.

New Business: Bob Morford, KA5YED presented the club with a check from The Wichita Mountain Bike Club in appreciation for our help with The Tour of The Wichita's.

Birthdays and Anniversaries JUL and Aug.

7/13 Claude, KD5RQ

7/27 Claude & Bobbi Matchette

7/20 R.J., KC7ICM

7/21 Milton, WB5YZD

8/06 Gene & Kathy Watkins

8/16 James Reed Jr.

8/29 Harold, AC5QY

Minutes Sept 1,1998

Members Present 28 Guest 11 Total Present 39

President Terry Oates, KB5IYB called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

Special guest Coy Day N5OK, ARRL Section Manager brought a program on all of the changes before the FCC. We would like to thank Coy for coming to explain the 24 page report.

Reports:

Minutes and Treasures report approved as presented.

Education Committee: George Summers, KK5QY gave a report on the classes. We had 18 start and 14 finished the class. We have 6of those that have taken their test and have passed and others that are ready to take theirs. Congrats to all of the new Hams and welcome to a great hobby. He also thanked all of his teachers. I would also like to thank them you are all a great bunch of guys.

Emergency Committee: Bob Sims W5KCB gave us gave us an up-date on the .36 machine. It is ready to go up we are waiting on the climber. He also reminded us of the bike race at Snyder and invited new operators to join in the fun.

PICNIC: Oct 3, 1998 at the Bolder Recreation Area in the Wildlife Refuge. It will be potluck with NO COOKING (burn ban) bring food for your family and the a little extra. Everyone is welcome both members and non-members in the community. Activities will start at 3:00pm. Come gone in the FUN.

We have one anniversary in the month of Sept.

9/15 Bob and Virginia Sims

73's

Danita Haney, KC5YYU Sec./Treas.



## VHF Club NEWS W5LOW Elmer Goekler Memorial

Station

## Central Oklahoma VHF Amateur Radio Club

The Central Oklahoma VHF ARC held the September 9th meeting at Home Town Buffet, 3900 NW 63rd. Meeting was called to order by Bob, W5HXL, vice-president, since Charlie, WA5JGU is still some what under the weather. Meeting started at 11:45 a.m. with thirteen members present. Minutes of previous meeting were approved, but there was no Treasurers report since Jim, W5AI was in France. All agreed that were he there and made a report, we would have approved it.

There was no New Business but under Old Business the same plea went out to see if anyone could do something about some cooler weather or maybe some rain, or both. Still no help.

Om MFJ, the jokes related did not seem all that funny, so maybe next month.

The food was extra good, with some of us having two or more deserts.

73, de J.R.KB5WVE

## Cyberspace license renewal

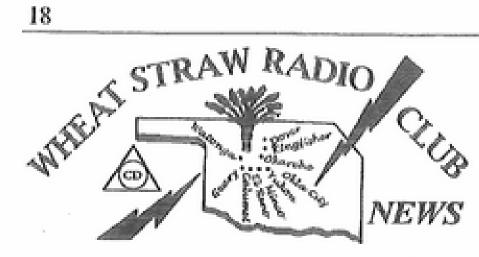
Renewing your ham radio license has gotten a lot easier since the FCC came to cyberspace. Now a days, all you have to do is go to the FCC website, locate the electronic renewal form, fill it out and go 'click.'

But how well does the system work. Recently, Newslines Andy Jarema, N6TCQ, found out: "A little more than a week ago I signed onto the website, did my license renewal. It knew who I was and all that good stuff just by callsign. Today I received my license in the mail." Andy Jarema, N6TCQ

To renew your ham license electronically simply take your web browser to: http://www.fcc.gov

and use the search engine to find the electronic form 610.

(FCC, N6TCQ)



## Wheatstraw Amateur Radio Club

September meeting:

The September Wheatstraw Club Hamburger Fry ended up being moved very quickly. When we got up the morning of the 13th, outside was drizzling rain. Goldie and I got to talking about the slippery red mud forming outside and how it might effect our outdoor meeting and cook-out.

I turned the TV on to get the weather report. Channel 9 Weatherman said, "the rain will move into Blaine County." I called Ray, AB5Z and told him what I had learned, not what I knew.

We decided to have the meeting and Hamburger Fry inside the American Legion Hall. The open net was a start to letting the membership know of the change. Ray talked to the net controller quickly. I got on the phone and the word soon spread. After all our hard work and praying for rain, we received 24/100 of inch of rain fall.

The meeting was held at 5:00 p.m. The Hamburger Fry started at 6:00 p.m. The meeting did not last long, so we had time to share a few good stories. The only problem we seemed to have was one we had no control over. It seemed everytime we got to the climax of a story, the train would come barreling down the tracks and we would miss the best part of the story.

We finally got to hear a story told without the train interrupting. Here it is.

A farmer observed a young man who had gathered a wagon load of corn. The wagon had turned over and the young man was trying to raise the wagon back up.

The farmer from across the road went over and said, "son, it is dinnertime and

the wife has it ready, lets go and eat." The young man replied, "I don't think my dad would like that." The farmer insisted they go eat and then they would get help for righting the wagon. Finally the young man said, "well, we are not getting anywhere with trying to move it ourselves, so I guess I can go eat."

As they were eating, the young man said, "I shouldn't be doing this, I know my dad is going to be awful mad, he is not going to like this."

The farmer asked, "You keep talking about your father, saying he will get mad and he would not want you eating with us. Just where is your father?"

The young man said, "OH! he is under that load of corn over there with the overturned wagon!"

Other stories were told and all were good ones. There were twenty people present and one visitor. Vera Pharis from the Longdale area. She came with a friend. Everyone enjoyed the evening. It was 8:00 p.m. when Goldie and I got home.

The next meeting to be held on October 11, 1998 will be in Calumet, OK. As of this time, and having a deadline to keep, this reporter does not have the exact location our meeting it to be held. It has not been confirmed but I think it will be at the city hall which is one block south of the 4 way stop then 1/2 block west; the same place we have been holding it in the past.

Do check into the Wednesday Net at 9:00 p.m. We will announce the location for the October Meeting on the net. You are all invited to come out and join us at our next meeting. We always have a great time.

Ralph, WA5PFK

from W5YI REPORT: 1 September 1998 Possible changes to the telegraphy

requirements and the written exams for amateur radio operator licensees.

Background: There are currently six license classes of amateur radio operator licenses. The higher the license class, the expertise the licensee must more

demonstrate by examination and the greater the frequency privileges the amateur operator is authorized.

Novice licensees pass a slow speed telegraphy examination and a written exam to have limited frequency privileges. The Technician class license holder privileges increase and may use any of 17 frequency bands above 50 Mhz. A holder of the Technician Plus license have additional privileges in 4 shortwave bands, between 3-30 Mhz. The General class license carries privileges in all 27 amateur bands. Advanced class license privileges include 275 KHz of additional spectrum in the high frequency (HF) bands. The privileges of an Extra class license include access to an additional 175 KHz in the HF bands. The class for which each examinee is qualified is determined by the degree of skill and knowledge in operating is a station that the examinee demonstrates at the examination.

The last restructuring of the Amateur Radio Service rules took place in 1989 when the FCC rules were completely rewritten to create a more meaningful and easy to use body of regulations since then, many new communication techniques have emerged and this is an opportune time to add flexibility to the Amateur Radio Service Rules.

Now at this time the FCC, ARRL, and the NPRM are thinking about phasing out the Novice, Technician and Technician Plus with no code. It has not happened yet, but I look for it to happen in the near future. Like it or not, I think we had just as well be ready for it. In 1997 the FCC received only 961 applications for the Novice class licenses. By comparison they received 21,416 applications for the no code license.

Interested parties may file comments on or before December 1, 1998 and reply comments on or before January 15, 1999 with the appropriate agencies.

Ralph WA5PFK

A little Chuckle or 2

Granted ...

I'm an attorney, and one day in divorce court I noticed a laconic cowboy as he took the stand at his hearing. "You allege there are irreconcilable differences between you and your wife," the judge asked, "is that true?" "Yep," came the reply. "could you tell the court what they are?" the judge inquired.

There was a moment of silence as the cowboy turned the question over in his head. "Well, your Honor," he said finally, "I just don't much like her boyfriend." The divorce was granted immediately.

## Long dessert..

The new bride was proud as she could be of her first pie, a doughy mess about 2 feet long. "What's this?" hubby gulped. "It's a pie, darling." she answered. "A bit long isn't it?" he asked. "Long? Of course it's long, dearest. It's Rhubarb Pie!"

## Meal on Wheels ..

Two mice went to heaven, but had trouble getting around on the soft fluffy clouds, so God gave them roller skates. Soon, two cats arrived. A few days later, God asked the cats how they were. "We're doing great," they replied. "Plenty to eat too, We had meals on wheels just the other day!"

## Message board...

A man was on his way home from work the other day, when he passed a church message board that read; "Where do you want to spend eternity-Smoking or Nonsmoking?"

## The law...

A minister parked his car in a No-Parking Zone and attached the following not to his windshield: "I have circled this block 10 times. I have an appointment to keep. Forgive our trespasses." When he

returned, he found a ticket along with this reply; "I've circled this block for 10 years. If I don't give you a ticket, I lose my job, Lead us not into temptation."

### I loved that old chair...

When a person gets up in years, they look at old things that have been passed down from generation to generation. Some consider it junk that should be hauled off to the wash out down on the creek. Maybe their spouse will not part with them. Much of the time we do not realize what some old item means to the family or how it served the relatives, Like an old chair.

I bow with reverence to the chair everytime I see it sitting there. It's used so often and it's not fair 'cause no one says 'I love you chair.'

We sit in it to read the news and we sit in it to tie our shoes.

We sit in it each time we eat and even just to rest our feet.

When we need to rest, what would we say if we would have to stand all day? We push it aside without a care and no one says,' I thank you chair.'

The dog jumps up to take a rest; the cat knows just what place is best; the baby goes, when he can crawl and climbs in it, wet pants and all.

Grandma sits in it to take her nap or with baby on her lap. She finds a lot of comfort there but never says, 'thank you chair.'

We sit in it to use the phone, we sit and think when we're alone.

What would we do without a chair out on the lawn to get some air?

Now that it's old and this we know, out on the trash pile will it go. It's cushions sag, it's back is weak. It's arms are wobbly; it's legs, they creak And I can see it laying

there and no one says, 'Farewell old chair, you served us well; you served us good and now you're just a pile of wood.'

You gave your life into our care and now I say, 'Thank you old chair.'

Rocky Mountain VHF Net

The Rocky Mountain VHF Plus net is alive and well at 02:00 UTC on 144.22 MHZ using upper sideband. Net control stations follow the compass from North, East, South and West for check-ins. The net is quite popular and averaging at least fifteen check-ins from the Rockies to the Mid-West states. For more information visit the nets web page at:

http://members.aol.com/nrclog/index.html (VHF Reflector)

## Engineers to meet on DTV

Television engineers -- many of them hams -- will gather in San Antonio, Texas on September 23rd. This, to share information and plans for the upcoming transition to digital broadcasting. Called Implementation '98, the conference is a special session for broadcast engineers that covers critical issues to consider in order to meet FCC mandated implementation deadlines.

This engineering seminar takes place from 10 a. m to noon, just hours before the Edward R. Murrow Awards Ceremony kicks off the 1998 Radio and Television News Directors Association International Convention and Exhibition.

## Alleged Mitnick supporters hack NY Times

The web page of The New York Times was disrupted on Sunday, September 13th by a group claiming to support imprisoned hacker Kevin Mitnick, N6NHG. An editor discovered the trouble at 7:50 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time, and the page was repaired.

The group claiming to have hacked the site calls itself Hacking for Girlies. Their alleged postings ridiculed several members of the Times staff including reporter John Markoff. It was Markoff who wrote the book "TakeDown." "Takedown" details the search for N6NHG.

(NY Times, others)

(press release)

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## Oklahoma City Autopatch Association The Big Signal

## Elections.

Last month OCAPA had its elections. These are the results.

Glenn Massey, N5WNL, was elected President. Keith Baker, KI5XA, was elected vice-president. Forrest Rush, N5VWF was elected Secretary and D. C. "Mac" Macdonald, K2GKK was reelected treasurer. Congratulations to all!

## Old business.

Last month Coy Day, N5OK, Oklahoma Section Manager, came to OCAPA to answer questions about the proposed changes to amateur radio's license structure. For details consult the September and October issues of QST.

## New Business

The meeting started at 7:38pm.

Secretary's Report.

There was no secretary's report.

Treasurer's Report.

We are in good shape. The treasurer's report was accepted unanimously.

Technical Committee.

No representative available; report tabled to the October meeting.

CORA Report.

CORA's elections are on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. Last month, CORA discussed Ham Holiday 1998 just past.

Weather Net.

There was general concern about the fact OCAPA has not been activated by KWTV during some of the recent stormy weather. A motion was made to have a delegation

made up of Tom, WA9AFM, Brad, KJ0W, and John, N5SAM meet with KWTV about the weather net and also meet with their PR staff about how OCAPA can support KWTV activities.

We need to do more public service; Besides, it's fun!

SET test.

The Simulated Emergency Test, or SET, is scheduled for October 17<sup>th</sup>, 1998. The time will be from 2 PM to 10 PM. This will be a BIG affair; K5PER has got EMSA, the National Weather Service, the police and metro area hospitals all involved in this.

It's practice like this that made our Amateur Radio Activities work as smooth as it did during the OKC Bombing. So come out and support the Amateur Radio Emergency Service and participate in the SET test.

## Repeater.

As soon as it can be arranged, we are going to look at the repeater to see what damage it sustained during the tornado. There was general discussion about the coax on the tower now, and the need to replace it with a single run. We will know more after the technical committee has checked the repeater out.

## Christmas Party.

We are looking for a good site for the OCAPA Christmas party, which will be on December 15<sup>th</sup>, 1998. Come with ideas at the next meeting, which be on October 20<sup>th</sup>, 1998 at 7:30 PM at the Salvation Army Divisional Headquarters on NW 50<sup>th</sup> and Pennsylvania Ave.

This month we had just 18 members show up. I know you can do better than that!

Hope to see Everyone at the next meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

> Forrest Rush, N5VWF OCAPA Secretary

## MIR back on frequency

MIR is back on 145.985 MHZ. Pat Gowan, G3IOR, reports that, after a short period on 145.935 MHZ, Mir voice and packet operations within range of the United Kingdom have returned to 145.985 MHZ. Pat says that he does not know why the 145.935 MHZ frequency was tried. (G3IOR)

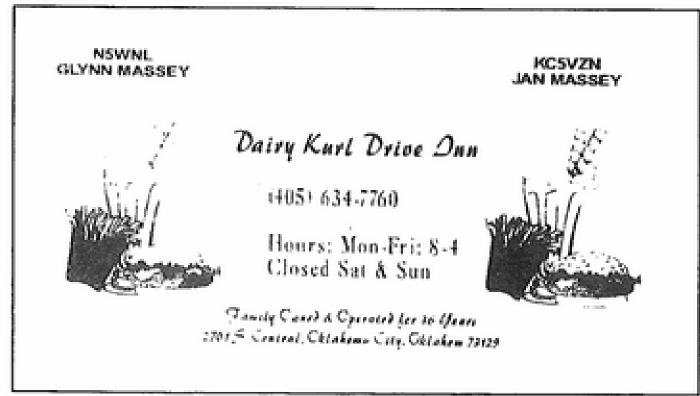
## VK Holiday

And what happens if you are an Australian ham on holiday and looking for contacts in another part of your country? One ham did just that and as Graham Kemp, VK4BB of Q-News tells us, the results were not what he anticipated.

"VK3 and VK2 holidaying in the area put into his scanner all the local VK3 repeaters, left it on scan for 5 days and during that period heard just 7 stations.

However, a highlight was to work a VK5 mobile in Victoria whom he came across with his callsign displayed in the rear of his car announcing he was listening to 146.55 simplex. Very clever, well done.", Grahm Kemp, VK4BB

Let's hope our VK2 friend has better luck next time he takes a holiday. (Q-News delivered in RealAudio)





## A. R. R. L. Bulletins

From ARRL Headquarters Newington, CT To all radio amateurs

ARRL Bulletin 78 September 24, 1998

Florida hams continue hurricane vigil as Caribbean begins recovery

As hams in Southern Florida wait for Hurricane Georges to make up its mind, preparations continue on along both Florida coasts to deal with the storm's effects. Mobile home residents in the Broward County-Fort Lauderdale and Miami-Dade County areas have been ordered evacuated. As many as 500,000 people in low-lying areas have been urged to seek shelter on higher ground. The storm was sitting over the eastern end of Cuba at 1500 UTC Thursday.

The Hurricane Watch Net remains active on 14.325 MHz to coordinate storm reports with W4EHW at the National Hurricane Center. Hurricane Watch Net Manager Jerry Herman, N3BDW, says the net got good reports from Cuban hams Wednesday evening. "CO2KK, Arnie, was passing radar data and observations that the Hurricane Center was not getting from official sources," he said. Georgia Section Manager Sandy Donahue, W4RU, handled net control duties on the net Wednesday evening.

"The storm is taking a toll on operators who are beginning to get tired," Herman reported. "We have also lost Don, PJ8DM, on Saba, whose station was knocked out by the storm."

Another net is handling health and welfare traffic on 14.283 MHz.

Southern Florida Assistant SEC Jim Goldsberry, KD4GR, reports he is holding two daily sessions of the Southern Florida ARES Net, mornings and evenings on 3940 kHz. If it becomes necessary to activate the Florida Emergency Operations Schedule, the net will shift to 7242 kHz during daylight hours (at the net's discretion), Goldsberry said.

The Broward County emergency operations center was activated Thursday morning. Broward County RACES Officer Robin Terrill, N4HHP, is contacting ARES and RACES members to assist at shelters, if needed. N4HHP also is providing communication for the EOC inanticipation of a full activation.

Hams also are coordinating with the Red Cross. In addition, Broward County EC Harold Sanderson, KT4XK, has been holding special sessions of the Broward County Emergency Preparedness Net to keep area hams informed and ready. Hams also are reported in active preparations in other coastal counties. Two hams were reported ready to maintain their locations on Big Pine Key, although authorities have evacuated the Florida Keys.

Meanwhile, hams in Puerto Rico are assisting in the aftermath of Hurricane Georges, which inflicted heavy damage in parts of the Commonwealth earlier this week. Some amateurs have been able to return to the airwaves. "Hams have made a difference here," reports Rafael Medina, NP3HA, in Guaynabo. Medina says he used the WP4KYP UHF repeater to make contact with WP4EZC who, in turn, contacted his relatives to inform them his family was okay. "I also use the repeater to contact people on the center of the island to gather information and needs form the counties there," he said. He also reports VHF repeater traffic to coordinate local needs. "Civil Defense is using hams to operate the repeater to gather information from different regions of the island," he said. "They are providing service to the police and medical services." Medina said government agencies are taking advantage of communication capabilities provided by ham repeaters that have remained up. Power was knocked out over much of Puerto Rico, and telephone service remains spotty.

According to Internet reports, Hurricane Georges took out five ham radio towers at the QTH of well-known contester Pedro Piza, NP4A.

ARRL Bulletin 77 September 23, 1998

Florida hams brace for Hurricane Georges
Hams in Southern Florida were standing by
Wednesday afternoon, ready to respond as
Hurricane Georges moves toward the US

from the Caribbean. At 1900 UTC the storm's eye was located approximately between the islands of Hispaniola and Cuba.

Southern Florida Section Emergency Coordinator Manny Papandreas, W4SS, said he expects the Southern Florida Emergency Net to activate Wednesday evening. He said it appears that Hurricane Georges could end up affecting the Florida Keys and then Florida's West Coast, but the storm's precise course was uncertain Wednesday afternoon. "We don't know where this thing is going to go," he said. "All the local nets have been activated almost every evening. Everything so far in the section is on standby."

Residents and visitors to the Florida Keys were evacuated Wednesday and some schools were closed. A hurricane watch remains in effect for South Florida from Deerfield Beach southward on the East Coast and from Bonita Beach southward on the West Coast, including the Florida keys. The hurricane's destructive winds and rains cover a wide swath.

Papandreas said SKYWARN nets are standing by on both Florida coasts as the storm approaches to track any tornadoes it might generate. "The SKYWARN operators are extremely valuable, particularly during the daytime, for tornado warnings," he said.

Meanwhile, the Hurricane Watch Net on 14.325 MHz has been keeping track of the storm and filing its reports with the National Hurricane Center via W4EHW. KE4JCU/HH4 in Haiti reported that his location was on the back side of the storm with high winds from the due south. "I don't want to overestimate it, but it's really howling through here," he told the net control. US Amateurs on other HF nets have been handling health and welfare traffic for concerned relatives in the US.

More than two dozen people are reported dead in the Caribbean islands hit by the storm. Reports indicate many parts of Puerto Rico are without electrical power.

Virginia ARES, which provides communication support during emergencies to American Red Cross Headquarters, has downgraded the level of its activation. The Virginia ARES activation was reduced from Level III to Level II as commercial communications improve in US territories affected by the hurricane. Virginia ARES/RACES Director Frank Mackey, K4EC, says Virginia hams monitor various emergency nets and report relevant information via the Internet or packet through Virginia ARES to the Red Cross. The Red Cross uses the information to plan its disaster response.

## ARRL Bulletin 76 September 22, 1998

Hurricane Georges hits Puerto Rico and moves on

Reports from the Caribbean indicate the worst is over in Puerto Rico in the wake of Hurricane Georges, which wreaked extensive damage to the island Commonwealth. "It looks like Puerto Rico took it pretty hard," said Hurricane Watch Net Manager Jerry Herman, N3BDW, in Miami.

The Hurricane Watch Net is active on 14.325 MHz and receiving reports on the storm's progress and effects. The storm is headed for landfall today on the island of Hispaniola, which includes the Dominican Republic and Haiti. Herman said the storm should lose some strength as it moves over the mountains there today, but added that it could regain strength once it clears Hispaniola.

In Puerto Rico, Ruth Madera, KP4ENJ, near San Juan reported "trees are down by the hundreds" and some roofs were damaged. The apartment house where she and her husband Victor, KP4PQ, live suffered minimal damage, but the estimated 110 MPH winds shook the building, Madera said. Victor Madera, an ARES member, said local hams made use of KP4ES at the National Weather Service. He said there was not much rain, but heavy rain is forecast. "We have the SKYWARN group working, we have ARES working," he said.

Tens of thousands of Caribbean residents took refuge in shelters. "This time, the residents went to the shelters the day before," Victor Madera said. At least five people died in Puerto Rico. Another death was reported on St Kitts. The storm churned up 20 foot waves, knocked over power lines, broke windows, downed trees, and blew away roofs. Victor Madera said power is out at his location, and they have no water either. But telephone service has been mostly operational, minimizing the need for ham radio backup.

In the Netherlands Antilles, Don McGehee, PJ8DM, reported a 175 MPH wind gust on Saba when the storm passed by earlier this week. Some damage was reported in the British Virgin Islands, but the US Virgin Islands reportedly suffered only minimal damage.

Virginia ARES has activated to provide the American Red Cross Headquarters near Washington, DC, with communication support associated with Hurricane Georges. The Level III activation is a general callup (CQ) for emergency assistance, according to Virginia ARES/RACES Director Frank Mackey, K4EC. ARES membership in the activation area should contact their ARES officials or representatives as soon as possible. Local repeaters should be monitored for assistance requests and notifications.

As part of this callup, Virginia hams will monitor various emergency nets and report via the Internet or packet relevant information through Virginia ARES to the Red Cross. The Red Cross uses the information to plan its disaster response.

## ARRL Bulletin 75

September 21, 1998

Hurricane Georges hits Caribbean Islands
As of 1 PM EDT today, the eye of Georges
was passing near the island of St Croix. It
was due to strike Puerto Rico by 5 PM EDT.
Puerto Rico Section Manager Guillermo
Schwarz, KP3S, reports that island amateurs
are waiting and monitoring hurricane net
frequencies.

Maximum sustained winds are near 110 mph, making this is a strong Category 2 storm, which could generate a significant storm surge. Georges is expected to remain a dangerous hurricane during the next 24 hours. Press reports indicate the storm's powerful winds already have ripped off roofs and downed power lines. Residents were said to be taking refuge in shelters in Puerto Rico and in the US Virgin Islands. Both US territories have declared states of emergency and activated National Guard troops. Areas in the storm's path may expect similar damage. Small craft may be torn from moorings in unprotected anchorages.

Several nets and stations are expected to play roles in the emergency and recovery phases. These include National Hurricane Center station W4EHW, the Hurricane Watch Net on 14.325 MHz, a Salvation Army (SATERN) net, and the Antilles Emergency and Weather Net on 3815 kHz. Other nets are likely to be active. US Virgin Islands SM John Ellis, NP2B, was reported on the Hurricane Watch Net using a dipole strung in his house. The Hurricane Watch Net control op is still looking for hams in the affected areas. Amateurs are advised to avoid transmitting on relief net frequencies unless directed to do so by net control stations.

As expected disaster welfare inquiries begin to swell, the National Red Cross requests that amateur operators in and outside the affected areas refer clients and inquiries to local Red Cross chapters. If chapters refuse to process inquiries because a moratorium is in place, amateurs can record information using ARC Form 2079h, available from ARRL HQ. When the moratorium is lifted, the operator should forward the completed forms to the local ARC chapter for service. When amateurs accept an inquiry, they must advise the client of the above procedure. Clients must also be advised to expect a delay in reply depending on the extend of damage the telecommunications to infrastructure.

In accordance with standard ARC procedures, a moratorium of at least 48 hours will be imposed on all inquiries for US territories in the Caribbean following Hurricane Georges. National Red Cross requests that no inquiries be sent to these locations during the moratorium. Also, during the moratorium, clients should be advised not to call Disaster Services, National Red Cross Headquarters.

## ARRL Bulletin 74 September 17, 1998

FCC adopts Universal Licensing System Amateurs can say good-bye to the familiar FCC Form 610 series. The FCC has adopted its long- proposed Universal Licensing System, which will replace the Forms 610 with a new Form 605, the Quick-Form Application for Authorization in the Ship, Aircraft, Amateur, Restricted and Commercial Operator, and General Mobile Radio Services. Applicants may continue to use the old forms for six months after the new rules go into effect, however. An effective date will be announced when the FCC issues the official Report and Order.

The FCC also adopted proposals to permit automatic reciprocal licensing of foreign hams wishing to operate in the US, pursuant to recent international reciprocal operating agreements.

The FCC said the ULS will "fundamentally change" the way the Commission receives and processes wireless applications and makes licensee information available to the public. The rules adopted September 17 will--in the FCC's words--"consolidate, revise, application license streamline" and procedures for radio services under the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. The FCC last November began initial collection of licensee data to populate the ULS. Using the ULS, applicants and licensees will be able to file, modify, and renew electronically. Access to the ULS is via

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

When the FCC first aired its ULS plan, some licensees expressed concerns because ULS registration would require applicants to provide a Taxpayer Identification Number, typically a Social Security Number. In its public notice, the FCC assured that "all TIN information will be kept confidential."

The FCC's action consolidates 40 existing forms into four ULS application forms, including the new Form 605. Electronic filing in the ULS will not yet be mandatory for the Amateur Service. Hams will have the option of filing electronically or on paper. However, electronic filing via the ULS will be required for Volunteer Examiner Coordinators in the Amateur Service. Mandatory electronic filing requirements go into effect July 1, 1999 or six months after the use of ULS in a particular service-whichever is later.

An official Report and Order detailing the FCC's actions is expected to be released soon. The FCC's Public Notice is available on the FCC Web site at

http://www.fcc.gov/Bureaus/Wireless/News Releases/1998/nrwl8040.html

## ARRL Bulletin 73

September 17, 1998

League asks FCC to hold the line on conducted emissions

The ARRL has asked the FCC to hold the line on current conducted emission limits below 30 MHz from unlicensed consumer

electronic and industrial, scientific, and medical devices operating under Parts 15 and 18 of the Commission's rules. Interfering devices include such common household appliances as computers, TV sets, and microwave ovens. Conducted emissions result from RF voltages imposed on the a. c. power line, which can, in turn, act as an antenna. In general, the current conducted emission limit is 250 uV.

In comments filed in response to a Notice of Inquiry on conducted emission limits below 30 MHz in ET Docket 98-80, the League said the proliferation of Part 15 and 18 devices over the past decade as resulted in what it called "a marked increase in RF noise from conducted emissions generally." The ARRL said it "wholeheartedly agrees" with a tentative FCC conclusion that some limitations continue to be necessary to control interference to licensed radio services in the HF range.

The League said that current Part 15 and 18 limitations are "not sufficient" to prevent interference to hams from conducted emissions. The League said it would be "most inappropriate" to consider relaxing the limits "unless and until the consumer electronics industry is provably able to properly respond to the interference problems."

licensed HF services results from conducted emissions, "it is especially important that the Commission retain what minimal protection exists from the present regulations."

The League has already called on the FCC to not relax line-conducted emission limitations at 2.4 GHz and has recommended a 300meter distance limitation from residential areas if the FCC adopts the relaxed conducted and radiated emission limits it proposed in a separate proceeding (WT Docket 98-42). That proceeding focused on updating regulations for Part 18 RF lighting devices.

## ARRL Bulletin 72 September 17, 1998

League says 75 MHz too much for DSRC The ARRL says the FCC is proposing too much spectrum at 5.9 GHz for deployment of Dedicated Short Range Communications

(DSRC) systems for intelligent transportation system (ITS) applications. The League's comments follow a June 11 Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ET Docket No 98-95) in which the FCC proposed setting aside 75 MHz--5.850 to 5.925 GHz for use by ITS on a coprimary basis. The Amateur Service has a secondary allocation at 5.650 to 5.925 GHz, sharing with government radars and nongovernment fixed satellite service uplinks.

The League suggested that if the FCC goes ahead with a 75 MHz allocation, it should compensate by elevating remaining Amateur and Amateur Satellite allocations at 5.650 to 5.725 and 5.825 to 5.850 GHz to nongovernment primary "to insure against future preemption by nongovernment services with higher allocation status."

The ARRL said it's not apparent from the FCC's NPRM that 75 MHz of spectrum is necessary. The DSRC allocation at 5 GHz in Europe is only 10 MHz wide, the League pointed out, and the FCC Notice does not account for the disparity "between that bandwidth and the claimed need for 75 MHz for unspecified future DSRC applications." The League said the Commission ought to explore the opportunities of frequency reuse and the availability of the 902-928 MHz band for some DSRC functions.

The League concluded that because most In earlier comments, the League questioned interference from Part 15 and 18 devices to 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 also recommended that the Commission mandate prior coordination between ITS America (a nonprofit ITS promotional organization) and the League or restrict DSRC facilities to those using "listenbefore-transmit protocols and frequency-agile transmitters with roaming channel selection."

> Possible ITS applications include various highway safety systems, including traffic control, automated roadside safety inspections, enroute driver information systems, and systems where DSRC-equipped vehicles could be equipped to more quickly detect traffic congestion and dispatch emergency personnel or take other actions.

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

A complete copy of the League's comments is on the ARRLWeb at

http://www.arrl.org/announce/RM-9096cmt.html

## ARRL Bulletin 71

September 11, 1998

South Texas hams brace for Tropical Storm Frances

Hams in South Texas have activated HF emergency nets on 40 and 75 meters as Tropical Storm Frances hit the Texas coast from the Gulf of Mexico early Friday. The storm, which is not expected to become a hurricane, is packing 65 mph winds. Torrential rain and high tides caused flooding in coastal areas and damaged beachfront homes. Residents of some coastal areas had to evacuate.

ARES has activated 7.285 and 3.873 MHz for daytime and nighttime emergency traffic, respectively, and 7.290 and 3.935 MHz for daytime and nighttime health-and-welfare traffic, respectively.

South Texas Section Manager Ray Taylor, N5NAV, has asked the FCC to declare a communications emergency to keep the net frequencies clear for the next few days.

Taylor reports one person has died as a result of the storm.

## ARRL Bulletin 69

September 5, 1998

Question pool changes put on hold

Citing "almost certain and imminent restructuring of licensing," the Question Pool Committee--the group that formulates the questions that show up on Amateur Radio examinations--has put further changes to the question pool on hold until restructuring issues are settled.

ARRL/VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, says the decision includes

postponing the Advanced class question pool update, scheduled for revision and release this year for implementation next July 1.

The Committee says restructuring could cause anything from making a few rules

questions unusable to "total deletion of one or more question pools or even combination of two or more of the present question pools into a differently configured question pool."

The decision to put further revisions to the question pool on hold had majority support of the National Conference of VECs. The QPC will postpone its current question pool review schedule "until the direction of such restructuring is more certain," QPC Chairman Ray Adams, W4CPA, said in a statement.

Adams said the QPC would announce when it's decided to resume alterations to the question pools. "The action required by that decision could range from a simple resumption of rewriting of the question pools much in the same manner as we have in the past to issuing any necessary supplements containing the changes to each of the question pools in use to combining certain pools in whatever manner may be dictated by the Commission," he said.

## ARRL Bulletin 68

September 4, 1998

New vanity address for paper filers

Effective September 14, there's a new address at Mellon Bank for vanity call sign paper application filers who submit Form 610V and FCC Fee Remittance Form 159 with the vanity fee via the US Postal Service.

The new address is FCC Wireless Bureau Applications, POB 358130, Pittsburgh, PA 15251-5130.

Electronic Form 610V Vanity Call Sign filers will continue to send Form 159 with the vanity fee to FCC Amateur Vanity, POB 358994, Pittsburgh PA 15251-5994.

A reminder: The vanity call sign filing fee drops from 50 dollar(s) to 13 for dollar(s) applications filed on or after September 14, 1998.

The FCC in Gettysburg reports it has processed vanity applications received through August 14.

## ARRL Bulletin 67

September 4, 1998

Earl downgraded; some ham activity continues

Hurricane Earl has been downgraded to a tropical storm after coming ashore in the Florida Panhandle. The storm is moving northeast toward Georgia with winds of just 45 MPH. The storm dumped nearly two feet of rain. Two fishermen are reported missing in Florida. Trees were downed, some street and residential flooding has occurred, and some areas were reported without electricity.

Hams in Northern Florida deployed at shelters and emergency operation centers in anticipation of the storm. ARRL Northern Florida SEC Nils Millergren, WA4NDA, reports the Northern Florida Emergency Net on 3.950 MHz has been closed but is ready to reactivate if needed.

In Florida's Capital District, a VHF emergency net was active and weather spotters were posted. Other hams are assisting at shelters, at the county EOC, and at the National Weather Service.

EOCs and shelters in Jackson, Walton, and Washington counties also have Amateur Radio support, and a VHF net was active in Jackson County.

### ARRL Bulletin 66

September 2, 1998

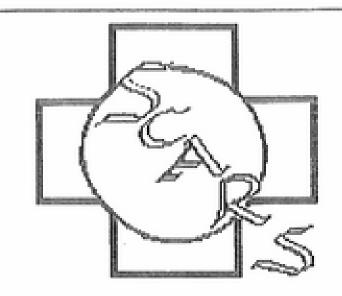
Gulf Coast hams bracing for Hurricane Earl

Upgraded from a tropical storm September 2, Hurricane Earl has changed direction, prompting hurricane warnings along the Gulf Coast from Mississippi to Florida. Hurricane or tropical storm warnings extend on either side to New Orleans and to the Florida Keys.

Northern Florida District Emergency Coordinator Nils Millergren, WA4NDA, reports Bay County, Florida, already has opened two shelters for possible evacuees. The shelters, the Bay County Sheriff's Office, and Bay Medical were said to be using Amateur Radio Support. The telephone system is "clogged." Wind and rain had reportedly picked up in the Florida Panhandle this morning. Schools in the Florida Panhandle and in Alabama coastal areas closed early.

Weather forecasters say the storm surge near the storm's center could be 5 to 7 feet above normal tides, and 10 inches of rain is possible.

Before the storm changed course, voluntary evacuations already had begun along the Louisiana coast.



## South Canadian Amateur Radio Society

Minutes - SCARS regular meeting -September 12, 1998

The September meeting of the South Canadian Amateur Radio Society was held on Saturday, September 12, at the Red Cross building in Norman. Approximately 30 members gathered between 9 and 9:30 a.m., and the meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

Repeater Report: Ken, N5BEW, reported that the "in-town" (minus offset) antenna has been removed from the OU stadium to make space needed by the University. Ken said that he would be able to reconfigure the dual band antenna already

used for the UHF repeater to accommodate continued operation of the minus offset receiver. (Editor's note: Since I was able to access the minus offset receiver the following Tuesday with my HT, it looks like Ken did a great job of making the change.)

CORA Report: Louis, KC5ABI, provided a detailed review of statistics for HAM Holiday '98 and complimented the members who participated, especially all of the helpers with the flea market. Louis reminded everyone about the CORA meeting scheduled for September 22, and that he is always looking for interested SCARS members to participate in the CORA meetings.

Classes and Workshops: Peter, N5UWY, reported that the OU Club will organize entry-level classes again for the coming year, probably starting in January at the National Weather Service building on the OU North Campus. In past years, the classes have been held on Monday evenings. Helpers will be needed. Ed, N3US, suggested that we organize a couple of workshops, maybe on Sunday afternoons, where interested members could work from kits to assemble code

practice units. Ed said that he would look into obtaining the kits so we can schedule the workshops at the next meeting. Jim, NW0K, reminded everyone about entry-level classes to be conducted by the EARS club in Edmond, starting Sunday, September 13.

Christmas Party: After an informal discussion, the consensus was to schedule the Christmas Party for the same time, same place as last year. David, N5KUJ, will make reservations at Furr's Cafeteria in Norman for 7 p.m. on Tuesday, December 8.

Tuesday Night Net: Brett, KD5DXT, announced that he would start conducting a net on Tuesday evenings on the 147.06 repeater. (Editor's note: I forgot to make a note the time, but I think it's 7 p.m.)

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:00 a.m., followed by a testing session conducted by Jim, NW0K, and the VE team.

Submitted by

Dennis, KC5EVH SCARS President

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Failure to file or publish a statement of ownership may lead to suspension of second-class authorization.

PS Form 3525, September 1995 (Reverse)

## **Up Coming Events**

October 2-3, 1998 NWAARC Hamfest for 98. at the Jones Center For Families in Springdale AR. e mail me at shyde3@juno.com for more information or call 501-524-4797

October 3, 1998 Kansas State Convention, Wichita, KS Stan Weir, KB0SHB 132 Anita Dr., Haysville, KS 67060-1114 316-524-2568 E-mail: kb0shb@juno.com http://www.feist.com/~warc

October 23-25, 1998 Texoma Hamarama, Kingston, OK Herb Sleeper, WB5PHM 8144 Carriage Ln., Wichita Falls, TX 76306-4115 Phone:940-855-5820 E-mail: retmarine@cst.net www.qsl.net/KC5SIG/HAMARAMA

November 7, 1998 - Enid Hamfest 1998 Sponsored by Enid Amateur Radio Club, Enid, OK for more information contact

Tom at 580-233-8473

## 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 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.

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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month at 1430 in the Vinita City Hall sponsored by Northeast Oklahoma Radio Assn.

VE exams on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month at the American Red Cross 6<sup>th</sup> 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

Oklahoma Training Net - Daily @ 0000Z on 3692.5 kHz (CW Net)

Oklahoma Section Net - Daily @ 0030Z on 3692.5 kHz.

## W3XO recovering

Bob Carpenter, W3OTC reports that AMSAT North America president Bill Tynan, W3XO returned from a month's vacation in Europe a day late. This after Bill spent the extra night at an orthopedic hospital in Frankfurt getting his fractured right wrist attended to. Carpenter says that Tynan broke it at the Frankfurt airport on the way to catch the plane home.

(W3OTC)

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