

Collector & Emitter

Central Oklahoma Radio
Amateurs, Inc. Publication

December 1999
Volume 25, Number 12
Issue 298
75¢

Postmaster See Page 2
For Postal Information

Periodical Mail

C&E Rate Increase Effective 1 Jan

Saturdays At GOFARS

Basic Electronics



OKDXA Y2K Contest

No Partial Calls

See Newline Page 24

Collector & Emitter**Harold C. Miller, KB1ZQ****Editor****Linda G. Miller, N1LPN****Circulation Manager****Central Oklahoma Radio****Amateurs, Inc.****President:** Harold Miller, KB1ZQ**V Pres.:** Tom Webb, WA9AFM**Secretary:** Forrest Rush, N5VWF**Treasurer:** Perry Jenkins, N5PJ**Web Page –**www.geocities.com/heartland/7332

Dear Subscriber:

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

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------|---|---|---|---|----|
| 99/12 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 6 | MZ |
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| RADIOVILLE, OK 74321-9876 | | | | | |

The "99/12" means the year/month C&E subscription expires.

Dear Secretary / Treasurer:

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

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| | |
|--|--|
| 1. Aeronautical Center ARC Meets: 1930L, 1st Thursday, FAA, S. MacArthur, OKC Pres.: Bob Kremer, WA9FCT 381-3182 VP: Chuck Bryant, KB5ZVZ 737-0423 Sec/Tr.: Brad Nelson, KJ0W 793-9470 Editor: | 11. Edmond Amateur Radio Society Meets: Odd Months, 1400L, 3rd Sunday, St. John's the Baptist, Even Month, Dinner, 3rd Saturday Pres.: Steve Kuper, KC5RYT 722-5789 VP: Curtis Foote, KC5GEP 359-6514 Sec: David Hartman, KC5UNO 210-5949 Treas.: Gary Carson, KD5CPL 751-0006 Editor: Curtis Foote, KC5GEP 359-6514 E-mail: kc5orp@juno.com |
| 2. Oklahoma Central VHF ARC Meets: 1130L, 2nd Wednesday, Home Town Buffet, 3900 NW 63rd, Oklahoma City Pres.: Bill Noland, WA5FWD 354-5018 VP: Sec: John Dome, KB5WVE 842-3493 Treas.: Jim Speck, W5AI 842-3055 Editor: | 14. Cimmaron Amateur Radio Assn. Meets: 1930L, 1st Thursday, WX5Y Playhouse 827 S. 13th, Fairview Pres.: John Medley, N5WVU 580-227-3534 VP: Kenneth Monahan, KB5SOM 580-227-3064 Sec: Dennis Painton, WK5V 580-764-3599 Treas.: Nadine Painton, N5FMH 580-764-3599 Editor: Kenneth Monahan, KB5SOM |
| 4. Oklahoma City Autopatch Assn. Meets: 1930L, 3rd Tuesday, Salvation Army Bldg NW 50th and Penn, OKC (Back Door) Pres.: Glynn Massey, N5WNL 631-2731 VP: Ron McCubbin, KC5QCV Sec: Forrest Rush, N5VWF 842-8486 Treas.: Mark Watkins, KD5CXP E-mail: ocapa@juno.com | 15. South Canadian ARS Meets: 0930L, 2nd Saturday, Red Cross Bldg North OU Campus, Norman Pres.: Dennis McCarthy, KC5EVH 447-2012 VP: Tom Miller, KD5ENL 321-7889 Sec/Tr.: Jeff Wyke, KE5EB 329-6762 |
| 6. Altus Area Amateur Radio Assn. Meets: 1900L 2nd Thursday, Southwest Area Vo-Tech Center, 711 W Tamarack Altus, OK Pres.: James Molledahl, AB5FS VP: George Mateyko, N1GM 580-266-3357 Sec: Ron Roman, KD5CYW 580-482-8446 Treas.: Fred Cramer, KC5SRJ Editor: Ron Roman, KD5CYW 580-482-8446 | 16. Broken Arrow ARC Meets: 1830L, 1st Monday, Broken Arrow Community Center, 1500 S. Main, Broken Arrow, OK Pres.: Wayne Hartsfield, KK5AT 918-357-2139 VP: Joe Horn, KC5VPO 918-451-0028 Sec: Jerry Pascal, KC5JKU 918-455-6514 Tr: Harlan Kinney, K9GDK 918-251-2672 E-mail: w5bbs@juno.com |
| 7. Enid Amateur Radio Club Meets: 1900L 4th Thursday, Enid/Garfield County Public Library, Enid, OK Pres.: John Turner, KA7GLA 580-242-6802 VP: Sec: Dave Chael, KC5GUD 580-242-3445 Treas.: Dwayne Posey, KC5QVS 580-237-3218 Editor: Dick Stricker, NJ5S 580-233-9869 | 17. Ada Amateur Radio Club Meets: 0900L, 1st Saturday, Salvation Army Bldg 115 N. Oak St., Ada, OK Pres.: Scott Renes, KD5AJL 436-1369 VP: Charles Eiter, KC5TGA Sec: Danny Coffey, KM5LB 436-1271 Tr: Finis Hallmark, KC5YGB 384-5470 |
| 8. Choctaw Amateur Radio Club Meets: 1900L 3rd Monday, Eastern Oklahoma Co. Vo Tech, 4601 N. Choctaw Rd, Choctaw, OK Pres.: Dave Downing, WD5G VP: Don McDown, N5ENQ Sec: Jim Harper, Treas.: Ron Ernest, WB9DAF 769-3207 Editor: | 18. Lawton Fort Sill ARC Meets: 1900L 1st Tuesday, Great Plains Area Vo-Tech room 301, Worley Center. Pres.: George Summers, KK5QY 580-355-6514 VP: Charlotte Cole, KB5OJV Sec/Tr.: Danita Haney, KC5YYU 580-549-6817 E-mail: w5ks@rli.net |
| 9. Wheatstraw Amateur Radio Club Meets: 1430L, 2nd Sunday, Location Varies Pres.: Neal Kappus, N5KCO 405-262-1151 VP: Leo Piel, WZ5H 580-886-2998 Sec/Tr.: Johnny Fish, K5GBN 405-893-2227 Editor: Jimmy Payne, W5JEP 580-496-2312 | 19. Tri-State Amateur Radio Group Meets: 1930L, 2nd Thursday, Woodward, OK Pres.: Jay Kruckenburg, KB5SOO 580-994-2751 VP: James Hand, W5JWH 580-994-6118 Sec/Tr.: Larry Goodwin Sr. KC5NZC 580-886-3283 E-mail: W5OKT@unibuilt.com |
| 10. Oklahoma DX Association Meets: Hamfests and as announced in C&E. Pres.: Larry Shima, W0PAN 405-721-8138 VP: Lu Fisher, K5YP 580-254-5641 VP: Sec/Tr.: Jerry Chouninard, K5YAA 918-341-2659 Editor: Nelson Derks, KC5QVV 918-451-1594 | Central Oklahoma Radio Amateurs Meets: 1930L, 4th Tuesday, Salvation Army Bldg NW 50th and Penn, OKC (BackDoor) Pres.: Harold Miller, KB1ZQ 672-7735 VP: Tom Webb, WA9AFM 737-6716 Sec: Forrest Rush, N5VWF 842-8486 Treas.: Perry Jenkins, N5PJ 354-5075 Editor: Harold Miller, KB1ZQ 672-7735 E-mail: n1lpn@swbell.net |

Deadline for December, 1999 Issue of *Collector and Emitter* is Friday, December 24, 1999. Send all Articles to *Collector and Emitter*, 4216 Spiva Drive Del City, OK 73115-4424 on 3 1/2 inch floppy or e-mail to n1lpn@swbell.net. Articles received after the deadline may not be printed that month. Questions please do not hesitate to call - 405-672-7735 / 405-650-9963.

Central Oklahoma Radio Amateurs, Inc.

Minutes of the CORA meeting for November 23rd, 1999.

The meeting was called to order by the President of CORA, Hal Miller, KB1ZQ. Three clubs were represented: OCAPA, EARS, and OKDXA.

Secretary's Report: The secretary's report was accepted as printed in the C&E.

Treasurer's Report: There was no treasurer's report.

C&E Report: It was moved by Ron, KC5QCV, that the price of the C&E be increased to 50 cents an issue, effective January 1st, 2000. This was seconded by Larry, W0PAN, and approved by the board of Directors of CORA.

The next CORA meeting will be January 23rd, 2000. Hope to see you there.

Respectfully Submitted,
Forrest Rush, N5VWF
CORA Secretary

CORA VE Testing

On Monday, November 15, the CORA VE session was held at the Salvation Army. As always, the session is held on the third Monday of the month at 6:00 PM. A very comfortable evening for those in attendance. Test results of the of the November session are as follows:

Applicants: 6
Elements Administered: 7
Elements Passed: 4
Number Upgraded: 3

Results of the Edmond VE session held on November 7, for the EARS students, are presented in the EARS article. The December session will be held on the 20th. Location is the Salvation Army Divisional Headquarters, which is located at the southwest corner of Penn Ave and Northwest Expressway in Oklahoma City. Thanks to the Salvation Army for hosting

the VE sessions and many other Amateur Radio events in OKC on a regular basis. Begin study now so you can be ready for the December session which is quite close to the time Santa Claus will be arriving to your QTH the CORA VE team will be able to pass traffic, in time, to the North Pole on your behalf. To help in your test preparation the web sites below are repeated from last month.

<http://w5ac.tamu.edu/ham-exam-v2/ham-exam.html>

<http://www.clicktron.com/ham/index.html>

(Site to request email test:)

<http://www.biochem.mcw.edu/Postdocs/Simon/radio/exam/html>

(To receive a test via email)

Send an email to exams@www.biochem.mcw.edu. In the body of the email, show generate novice - or- generate technician (or the theory exam you are studying) Within a short while, you will receive a return email with a test, followed by the answer key. Good Luck!

On behalf of the CORA VE team: John-WB5SYT

From The President:

Well the millennium is just about over, a new year, century and millennium is about to start. We here at CORA are wishing all of our readers a happy celebration of the coming events.

I have strived to make Joe Harding, Joe Buswell and the other past editors proud of what the Collector and Emitter has become. We are a well known newsletter and regularly receive compliments from folks around the country.

In this I want to thank all of those people that submit articles to be published. I also thank those that do regular contributions to the newsletter.

With the coming of the new year I am looking for some changes and additions. I would like to see someone involved in contesting to write a column for those interested in a different facet of the hobby. Maybe one or two of the internet surfers would do a column on the amateur radio websites found out there and how to

navigate them. I do my best but do not have the time or expertise to cover all of the bases.

Also in the new year we will be dealing and I admit to pushing Morse code. It appears that the Novice and Tech Plus licenses may go away and the technician class will stay. So now is the time to get prepared for the HF bands, as it is they are hopping with activity.

So Now is the time to prepare for the future. Get off your couches and start enjoying the hobby. There is much to be found in aspects yet to be experienced.

73 and Happy Holidays,
Hal, KB1ZQ / Linda, N1LPN / Mike, N1XSF

Notice to Readers

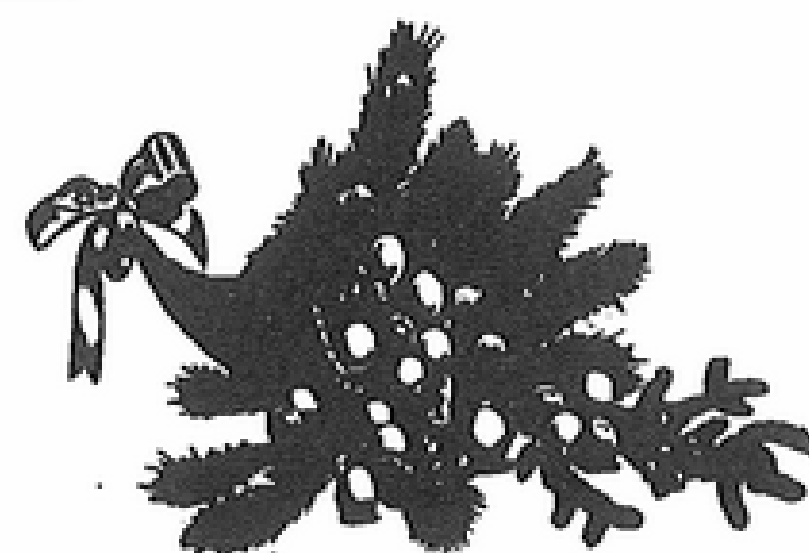
Effective January 1, 2000

The Prices for the Collector and Emitter will be as follows:
\$6.00 / year CORA Associates
(Club member of CORA Club)
\$9.00 / Year Subscription
(No Club Affiliation)

This was voted into effect by the Board of Directors on November 23, 1999.

Help Wanted Editors

Persons interested in Surfing the Internet and exploring the different Amateur Radio Sites. Want someone willing to write a column on the aspects of the internet and ham radio.



Chit-Chat

By Linda, NILPN

Houseplant Checklist:

Do you have any of these plants in your home that the family pet or a toddler could touch and chew on? This list of houseplants are poisonous and toxic for cats and little ones as well as the family dog. With the holiday rush, we sometimes do not keep as close of an eye on our pets and little ones as we should. Accidents happen when you least expect it and most could be prevented if we only knew. There are other plants that are harmful but these are the most common ones found in the home. (Elephant Ears plants are sometimes kept in planters indoors until they outgrow the pot.)

EXTREMELY TOXIC – Causes DEATH!

Castorbean
Water Hemlock
Poison Hemlock
Jimsonweed
Cherry
Yew
Easter Lily
Oleander
Rosary Pea

MODERATELY TOXIC – Causes SEVERE SICKNESS

The Aroid Family
Chinese Evergreen
Jack-in-the-pulpit
Elephant Ears
Taro
Dumb Cane
Philodendron
Devil's Ivy
Pathos
Skunk Cabbage
Bulbs
Lupine
Rhubarb
Azalea
Rhododendron
Tobacco
Larkspur
Hellebore
Milkweed
Nightshade
Horsenettle
Bittersweet
Spurges
Snow on the Mountain
Crown of Thorns
Candelabra Cactus
Buckeye

Black Locust

Not a Plant but a must to keep out of reach of Rugrats and pets: BEER, MIXED DRINKS, COFFEE and Spiked Punch. Their little systems are not set up to handle this stuff and it could be deadly if they get to drink any or life threatening. So please remember not to leave a glass just sitting on a table or floor. (A friend I went to HS with almost lost her 2 year old little girl on New Years Eve because no one knew she had gotten out of bed. She wandered into the living room, mom and dad had a few friends over and they were serving spiked eggnog with homemade Pizza. The little girl found someone's glass and drank it down. She went for a second glass and got caught at it. She was rushed to the AF Base ER room and it was not something I would want anyone else to experience. La Donna blamed herself for it years afterwards although her daughter did survive it.)

Have a safe holiday by remembering to make your home pet and children friendly. An hour of your time of making your home safe for all will be well worth it in the long run. Who wants to spend their holidays in the ER room or at a Vets office?

GOOD EATING...

Chocolate Cherry Cake

1 Chocolate Cake box mix
1 can of Cherry pie filling
3 large eggs
2 tablespoons water

Heat oven to 350 degrees
In a large bowl with a fork beat eggs and water until a foamy creamy texture. With a wooden spoon fold in Cherry pie filling. Slowly add dry cake mix and gently stir being careful not to break cherries. Mixture should look like a brownie mixture. Pour into a 9x13 pan that has been sprayed with Pam. Bake for 30-35 minutes. Remove from oven and allow to cool completely.

Icing

2 boxes of Jiffy Fudge Icing, mixed according to package direction and ice cake. Homemade fudge icing works well, the kind grandmother use to make. (Canned icings are a NO-NO.)

OR

Top with Cool Whip as icing and drizzle the top with chocolate syrup.

Store covered in fridge.

This cake can be made with a yellow cake mix instead of a chocolate mix. It is easy to make tastes great and a hit at potluck dinners. NILPN

Recipes:

Ron's Oklahoma Caviar (relish)

Mary Van Winkle, KC5UNW

2 cans black-eyed peas, drained. Chop fine and add:

1 large tomato
1 cucumber
1 ½ green bell pepper
1 or 2 bunches of green onions (opt.)
1 jalapeno pepper (opt)

Salt and pepper to taste

Garlic salt to taste

Combine all ingredients and mix well. Add 1 (8 oz.) Bottle of Wishbone Italian Dressing (oil, not creamy). Cover and refrigerate for 12 hours

Caramel Bars

Jerome Doerrie, K5IS

Preheat oven to 350°

1 package Betty Crocker butter pecan cake mix
½ cup margarine, butter or spread, softened
1 egg
1 squeeze bottle of caramel ice cream topping

Stir together cake mix, margarine, and egg; it will be crumbly. Press half of the mixture into the bottom of an ungreased 9x13 pan. Bake 10 minutes. Pour topping over crust; I use ½ bottle of the topping, and it works fine. Sprinkle with remaining crust mixture. Bake 20 – 25 minutes until light golden brown; cool completely. Cut into 6 rows by 4 rows. Makes 24 bars.

Church Window Cookies

Bobette Doerrie, N5IS

(Great make-ahead to carry dish! Really messy, but really beautiful! 3-4 doz.)

melt: 1 12-oz package of milk chocolate chips

½ C butter or margarine (70% fat or higher)
 stir in: 1 10½ oz package of miniature colored marshmallows
 1 cup chopped nuts

Spread on waxed paper: 3 can(9 -12 oz) moist coconut

Divide chocolate/marshmallow mixture into 3 parts on waxed paper. Roll each into a long roll, unwrap, and roll in coconut until coated on the outside. Wrap in foil and chill 24 hours or until solid. Slice thin. Can be frozen.

Holly Cookies

Bobette Doerrie, N5IS
 (really easy!) makes 3-4 dozen

Melt: ½ stick margarine
 30 white marshmallows
 add: 2 tsp vanilla
 1 tsp green food coloring (more or less)
 Mix in: 4 Cups cornflakes

Drop by spoonfuls on waxed paper; dot each with 2 or 3 red hot candies.

Pat's Cheesecake

3 (3-ounce) packages cream cheese, softened
 1 cup sugar
 1 egg
 1 homemade graham-cracker crust (not ready-made)

Topping:

½ pint sour cream
 2 tablespoons sugar
 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
 1 tablespoon lemon juice
 Mix together cream cheese, sugar and egg; beat until smooth. Pour into crust. Bake at 325 degrees for 20 minutes. Let cool. Combine all topping ingredients. Pour over baked cheesecake and return to oven at 325 degrees for 20 minutes. Chill well.

Hattie's Pumpkin Chiffon Pie

3 eggs, separated
 1 cup sugar, divided
 1 ¼ cups cooked, mashed or canned pumpkin
 ½ teaspoon ground ginger
 ½ teaspoon ground nutmeg
 ½ teaspoon ground cinnamon
 ½ teaspoon salt
 1/4 cup cold water
 1 tablespoon unflavored gelatin
 Baked, cooled pie shell

Whipped cream

Beat egg yolks in top of double boiler. Add 1/2 cup sugar, pumpkin, spices and salt.

Blend well; cook over simmering water until mixture coats a metal spoon.

In the meantime, add cold water to plain gelatin; let stand while pumpkin custard cooks. Combine the two mixtures, blending thoroughly; chill.

Beat egg ' whites. Continue beating, adding ½ cup sugar a small amount at a time, until egg whites stand in stiff peaks. Fold into pumpkin mixture.

Pour mixture into baked pie shell and refrigerate. Serve topped with whipped cream. (My sister always spreads the whipped cream thinly over the top of the pie.)

Angel Fluff

¼ pound butter, softened
 ½ cup sugar
 3 eggs, separated
 3 tablespoons lemon juice (I usually use ReaLemon)
 1 pint whipped cream, divided
 1 large angel food cake, trimmed of brown edges and sliced in ¼ inch slices
 1 can Angel Flake coconut, (optional)

Cream butter and sugar. Add egg yolks, one at a time, beating after each addition. Add lemon juice.

Beat egg whites until stiff; fold into creamed mixture along with ½ pint whipped cream.

Line 9-inch x - 13-inch pan with half the angel food cake slices. Pour half the creamed mixture over the cake slices.

Top with remaining angel food cake slices, then cover with remaining filling. Spread remaining whipped cream over top of cake and sprinkle with coconut, if desired. Refrigerate 7 hours or over night (can be made ahead). Cut in squares. Serves at least 12.

Pink Cloud Pie

4 (10 ounce) packages frozen berries, thawed, drained (reserve 1 cup juice)
 12-ounce bag marshmallows
 1 pint whipping cream, whipped until stiff
 2 baked and cooled pie shells

Heat marshmallows with reserved berry juice in heavy saucepan until marshmallows are completely dissolved.

Cool to room temperature.

Fold whipped cream into marshmallow mixture. Then fold in berries until mixture is an even pink color. Pour into pie shells. Refrigerate at least 3-4 hours.

Double Fudge Pie

This no-crust pie looks puffy when it comes from the oven, but settles as it cools

1 1/3 cups sugar
 1½ tablespoons flour
 1/8 teaspoon baking soda
 3 (1-ounce) squares unsweetened chocolate
 5 ounces butter
 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
 3 eggs, very lightly beaten by hand
 Ice cream

Mix sugar, flour and baking soda thoroughly. Melt chocolate and butter together over very low heat; while chocolate and butter are still very hot, blend into mixed dry ingredients, blending only until mixture resembles the texture of sand. Add vanilla and eggs.

Generously grease 9-inch pie tin with vegetable oil. Pour pie mixture into prepared pan and bake at 350 degrees for 35 minutes. Top with ice cream.

Carol's Key Lime Me

1/3 cup key lime juice
 1 can sweetened condensed milk
 18-ounce container frozen whipped topping, thawed
 Graham-cracker pie crust
 Combine lime juice, sweetened condensed milk and whipped topping; pour into graham-cracker crust. Freeze.

Remove from freezer and you are ready to serve.

In part Un of this interview, Maximus DeXus (Max for short) described the early days of the Amateur Hobby and claimed to be the fourth Radio Amateur licensed by the Roman Empire. He still uses his original call, IV. KC5QVV continues the interview into the Middle Ages and beyond:

An Interview With: **THE 2,000 YEAR OLD RADIO AMATEUR** Part Deux

Q: As we move onward from the biblical era, what significant changes occurred in the hobby?

A: Unfortunately, the early days of being an Amateur were some of the best and peaked during the rise of the Roman Empire. As the Empire began to shrink under Hadrian the interest in DX declined as fewer people entered the hobby. The Dark Ages were particularly bad, as it was really dark back then. Working spark with a pair of radio rocks at night in the early days was good for DX, but when it's dark all the time you could stub your toe looking for a better set of radio rocks and you'd end up working QRP with pebbles. Like the old cliché says, even when you're 2,000 years old, life is still too short for QRP...

Q: When did things start to improve?

A: In the 800's people got tired of sitting around in the dark and started doing new things... The interest in DX began to grow again and there was more experimentation with new ways of communicating. In England, the local Hams started working with Crossbow Propagation...

Q: Crossbow Propagation?

A: Yeah, the English were really good at building crossbows and some of the better ones could send an arrow over a mile. Hams were quick to pick up on the technology and used to tie notes on their arrows and send them out. It worked pretty good, but they lost a lot of VE's at the testing sessions. And speaking of famous archers, William Tell was a Ham... He used to give fruits and nuts to Hams during the Holidays, but he could really

be a show-off... I can remember when he used to say "Hey, put the apple on your head and let me show you how I call CQ..." What A Character... I won't tell you what he used to do with the nuts.

Q: Were new techniques being developed in other countries?

A: Absolutely... In Switzerland, they used to work Alpen Horn DX. They built their horns over 30 feet long and used an early form of CW. Remember, they only had 'Dits' back then. The 'Dah' hadn't been invented yet... Did you know the 'Dah' wasn't used until 1247 when a European Ham made the first DX QSO into Russia? It's true... Swiss Hams would get up near the top of a mountain and start calling CQ down the valleys, but it took a long time to send a message. The echoes would bounce around forever and if you didn't put a long pause between characters it was almost impossible to copy. Chapped lips were always a problem, but Alpen Horn DX was starting to catch on until the avalanche of 807 when the Hams got blamed for it. I think it was during a contest weekend...

Many years later, RCA commemorated the early Swiss Hams when they numbered the first Beam Power Pentode with the year DX Alpen Horns were banned. If you have any Amperex 'Bugle Boy' tubes, take a close look at the artwork... That's a modern 9 pin Novar DX Alpen Horn.

Meanwhile, in Poland, they were working on Catapult Communication... The Hams would build these big catapults, or buy them at the Ostrogoth surplus store, then glue a note to a rock and send it out. The bigger the rock, the further it went. Novices used to be limited to 75 pound rocks, but later they went up to 200 pounds and it worked better than you might think. Let's say a Ham is outdoors working on his farm and hears a loud 'THUD' near his QTH... Hey, he thinks to himself, the band is open! Unfortunately, they had problems keeping the VE's alive long enough to finish a test session, and very few Net Control guys wanted to run more than one Net... Can you imagine what it was like to have a 100 pound rock come whistling in, inches from your head, then roll it over to read "In for the Count"? What a pisser! As for DX and Contesting, it was tough, very tough. Where do you think the radio term 'PILEUP' came from?

Q: What's an Ostrogoth surplus store?

A: What, you never heard of them? Are you sure you're a Ham? The Ostrogoths were a major empire until 370 when the Huns swept across Europe. Yeah, they fought with Attila The Hun in 451 (who was a big catapult operator in his day), but regained independence under Theodoric when he became the greatest of all the Ostrogothic Kings in 474. He's the guy who invaded Italy in 488 and slew Odacer, the Barbarian King. With all the invading and slaying and plundering and pillaging going on back then, you could pick up a good used catapult almost anywhere. Not like today when a used catapult isn't worth taking home... It's no wonder Hams don't use them any more! The best deals were at the Vandal surplus store, and they were all over Gaul around 406, but aside from the snooty clerks and inconvenience, you were never sure where their stuff came from...

Q: Were there differences between various cultures, in terms of Amateur Radio?

A: Sure there were; take the Byzantine Empire: (Please!) Not a single Ham except in Thessaloniki or Constantinople, and all they ever did was use fire to signal each other... A fire meant: "Hey, I'm on Fire." No fire meant: "Hey, I'm not on Fire." Would you believe some guys used to flunk the test? Then the Arabs invaded in the 670's and they got together to signal: "Hey, We're REALLY on Fire." Later that day they handed out certificates to each other for the public service operation... Then the certificates caught on fire.

The Saxons didn't have radio at all, which was good, because if there was something they needed more than Ham Radio, it was deodorant. The Teutons were famous as contest operators, but the Vandals were the most aggressive in the pileups. And the last thing you'd ever want to do is QRM a Germanic Hun or Visigoth Net. Remember when they wore those helmets that made them look like Satan, or Pat Buchanan? Talk about serious trouble, the best you could hope for was a Viking or Cossack station to come up on frequency and raise hell with them. The Cossacks weren't big on Ham Radio, but they were real good at riding horses and ran what was called 'The Cossack Internet' around 852 or so...

There wasn't any smut on their Internet due to a lack of interest, and if you've ever seen a Cossack woman back then, you'd understand why they swapped drawings of

their horses instead... The only thing worse than being a lonely Cossack was being a lonely Tatar... They didn't have horses.

Further to the East, the Mongol Hams used to make fun of the Japanese Hams because their rigs were so different... The JA's built millions of miniature Ham Catapults you could carry in your pocket. They called them "Handi-Pults", and although they didn't have much of a range, smaller rocks were plentiful and very easy to use when operating portable. You could carry a pocket full of QSO's wherever you went. As you might suspect, the messages had to be short, but they did compensate for the limited range with "Repeata-Pults" in the larger towns... I can't remember how they worked, but if you could hit the repeater with your rock it would go a lot further...

Q: Were there any famous Hams from this time we still hear about today?

A: Oh, yeah... Plenty of them. Up north in Valhalla there were Odin, Thor & Balder. No, wait, they were the Viking gods of war, thunder and light. I get that confused since I used to run a Johnson rig. I still have an old Viking helmet I picked up at a Vandal HamFest, the kind with the horns. I still wear it on contest weekends. Go ahead, QRM me, you morons! Check out the headgear and then decide if it's worth it! Thor still throws his hammer around Oklahoma every spring and Hams usually pay attention when he does... Ptolemy, the famous second century geographer and mathematician was a Ham, and the first DX'er. Probably because he was the only guy who could figure out how far a QSO was, and if Ptolemy said it was DX, it was DX... Carolus Magnus, known to you as Charlemagne, the son of King Pepin the Short, was also a Ham. By 800 as the King of the Franks he had conquered much of Europe and laid the groundwork for the Renaissance that ended the Dark Ages. He was a very snappy dresser, wore a lot of jewelry, and was a big catapult operator in his conquering days.

Q: Speaking of the Renaissance, was that a significant time for Amateur Radio?

A: Are you kidding? Was the Renaissance significant? "Yes" would be the greatest understatement of the Millennium! Before the Renaissance, Europeans didn't have right shoes or left shoes, they just had shoes... You bought them individually and they never matched. Toilet paper was

invented during the Renaissance and eliminated the need for shirts with extra-long tails. It was a time of great interest in the Arts and Sciences and revived study of Roman Law... And they needed it! Before then, Europe was a mix of small Feudal States that never got anything done. They needed a Caesar with Centurions! Have I ever told you about the impression the Roman Centurions made on Sicily?

Q: Yeah... In part Un, you talked about the Sicilian Ham named "Anus Maximus".

A: And a more befitting name has never been given. I could do an entire interview about Ham Radio during the Renaissance, it was such an interesting time...

Q: That's a good idea, but for now, can we talk about the Millennium?

A: Sure... We can talk about whatever you want; you're the one on the keyboard. I get a chuckle out of the Millennium thing every time it comes around. I'm not sure why such importance has been placed on 1,000 year multiples, but I think it's because nothing significant ever happened when a Century rolled over. Nothing bad happened in 1,000 despite predictions of great tumult, nor did anything happen in 1260 when the church re-calculated the End of the World... It's not a problem.

Around 500 or so, the monk Dionysius Exiguus was commissioned by the Pope to calculate the exact date of the first Easter and his calendar began with the year One. His calculation of a year was slightly long (the leap year hadn't been discovered) and the "Real" Millennium probably took place about three or four years ago. No one knows for sure what year it is, or the exact day anything happened 2,000 years ago... And I can't remember everything!

Q: Well... That was dull, but informative. Do you have any predictions for 2,000?

A: May you accidentally QRM a Visigoth Net and suffer the consequences... All I know is that last year I sent an e-mail to that Reba Filbin guy with an idea for a TV show called "Who wants to be a Radio Amateur?" featuring average people trying to win a Ham ticket by answering multiple choice questions like: "If a station in Ojai, CA keys up on 6 Meters to tap out a CQ in CW at the same instant a 6 Meter Op in Yarmouth, ME calls CQ using SSB, which signal reaches Bokchito, Oklahoma first?"

Q: I'm going to guess California...

A: If that's your final answer, *Bzzzzzzzzt!* You lose! --- It's neither, because the band isn't open! --- Hand over your license...

As for predictions, I've been following all the big media mergers lately and predict the ARRL will propose merging 20 and 15 Meters into a MegaBand called Twenteen Meters... What a concept... It will become The Roman Empire of HF bands. Guys on the Packet Cluster will ask "Is Twenteen open?" and the correct answer will be "Which end, top or bottom?"

I predict the FCC's License Restructuring proposal will include a waiver of the 5 WPM code test for anyone who can bench press a Collins R-390A/URR receiver ten times. And, they'll waive the 13 WPM test if you can do it while your ARRL Section Manager is sitting on the R-390A! Shortly after this proposal is adopted, Jesse "The Mouth" Ventura and "Stone Cold" Steve Austin become Hams at the first WWF Slapdown VE Session. Two months later, Yaesu introduces a line of WWF Logo HT's... Only nerdy teenagers buy them.

In August of 2000, a bizarre crop circle appears near Glendower, Wales. Careful study reveals it's the perfect outline for a 75 Meter Fractal Loop taken to the 7th iteration... A local Ham Club outlines the crop circle with 12 gauge wire, then uses it to QSO with Art Bell, W6OBB...

Q: 2000 sounds like an exciting year for Amateur Radio... Anything else?

A: If Dhulaghiri Annapurna in Kathmandu is reading this, I haven't forgotten about our QSO in 728 from the Swayambhunath Temple Special Event Station... And I'm still waiting for your QSL Card... Did you send it through the Tibetan Bureau?

I guess that about wraps it up for this year. Be sure to join us next December when Max says: "Giovanni Giacomo Casanova, Chevalier de Seingalt: WHAT A GUY !!!"

*Copyright 1998 - 1999
by Nelson Derks, KC5QVV*

Saturdays At GOFARS

By Jerome Doerrie, K5IS
Tri-State Amateur Radio Group

For longer than anyone could remember, an informal gathering of the locals would occur on Saturday afternoons at GOFARS. Lying John closed the front doors at 2 pm, but everyone knows to use the side door. Lying John's grandpa had started the business during the Great Depression. His father had carried on in the family tradition until he was called Home in an automobile accident. It is difficult to follow in Daddy's steps. Lying John does the best that he can, which pleases his customers.

Everyone in the area knows about GOFARS. Many customers drive 2 to 3 hours just to come to the store. Lying John always greets each customer with "Why don't you help me with the rent by buying a little something?" That's the way it has been for as long as anyone can remember.

The regular attendees make for a rather strange assortment of personalities. Highpockets is so tall he can be his own antenna tower! His main problem in life involves ceiling fans! The dentist, Doc, is an equal opportunity insulter. He spares no one. Red Eye Louie stays up all night chasing dx on 80 meters. Percy is usually covered with grease from the old mechanical teletype machines that he is fixing. "This new fangled solid state stuff is no good because you can't smell any grease. You gotta have grease." Then there's Gary, the expert. He is never wrong regardless how incorrect he is. He knows about everything! You won't have to ask, he will be telling you more than you want to hear. Dick likes to build his equipment. Some say that he is odd because he has sniffed solder fumes a few too many times. A technician class ham of two years at the age of 60 is called Kid. Everything is new and wonderful to him. The Perfesser teaches electronics courses at the Vo-Tech. Several others are irregular in their attendance: Gray Beard, the old timer; Lawyer Malloy, an attorney of questionable repute; and Janice, the local librarian who frequently goes trout fishing.

"Did anyone of you hear my conversation this morning with that K5IS?" asks Gary

"No," says Doc, "tell us about it."

"Well, he was traveling through town and was calling CQ on our repeater. I came back to him and told him that we don't call CQ. He asked me if I could read."

"Of course I can," I reply. "He says, prove it, as the operating section of the ARRL Handbook says that to call for a contact with another station that you should say CQ."

"I tried to tell him that we just give our call sign and say that we are monitoring."

"He says that he had been monitoring this repeater clear across the state and that he was ready to talk to someone. The FCC rules only require us to identify when we are transmitting, not when we are monitoring. So the term to use is CQ to call for a contact."

"Then I tried to tell him that it costs a lot to keep a repeater operating and that it was for the use of us dues paying members. Then K5IS asks if we had any old parking meters left at City Hall? He says that we should put out a parking meter at the city limits on each road into town, so that visitors like him could deposit some quarters towards the use of the repeater."

Doc says, "I bet he is one of them 'know coders.' They are ruining the hobby by expecting every one to have muscle spasms to make all them dots and dashes. You just can't trust them 'know coders' I tell you."

"I have been thinking," injects Kid.

"Wondered what that smell is?"

"Pee youuuu!"

"You remember how we all liked Betty. She was a code operator and a friend to each one of us. She never met a stranger. At her funeral, the front of the church was so full of flowers it was hard to get her casket in place. Well, I been thinking that if some of us hams would have sent our flower money to HandiHams*, we could have collected the \$195 camp fee for one of their clients to attend radio camp. It would have been a nice tribute to Betty."

"I have always worried about my call sign being forgotten. The sponsored new ham might be interested in getting and using the callsign of the silent key whose memory we are honoring," suggests Highpockets.

The Perfesser injects, "Lawyer could write up a proposal for a scholarship fund for us to consider at our next club meeting. It will do us good to have some new business."

"Yeah, let's do it."

"You are getting too sentimental for me," snorts Doc. "Besides, I always send an unsigned Christmas card with a \$10 or \$20 in it. It drives them crazy trying to figure out where it is from. Besides, this way, they don't have to use any of my money to write me a thank you note."

"Neat idea."

"Think I will go get a card."

"Me, too."

"Before you leave, I have a little something for you," says Lying John. "I will need a little help to pay for the repairs on my camera. It broke when I was taking your pictures to use in preparing this ham calendar for you. I have told Santa that each of you has intended to be good this year, so maybe he will bring you a little something. Merry Christmas."

This is the way it has always been and the way it will always be with Lying John needing a little help down at GOFARS, our Good Ol' Friendly Amateur Radio Store.

*Courage Handi-Ham Center
www.mtn.org/handiham/
3925 Golden Valley Road
Golden Valley, MN 55422



Edmond Amateur Radio Society

Birthdays:

The following EARS club members have December birthdays:

| | | |
|-------|-------------------|--------|
| 12-06 | Brad Keispert | KG5UK |
| 12-07 | Brian Keispert | KB5ODR |
| 12-07 | Charles Gawron | KA8VKR |
| 12-11 | Donna Reed | KB5KFW |
| 12-21 | Buford Ford | KC5MXE |
| 12-21 | David Hartman | KC5UNO |
| 12-22 | Arlister Milligan | KA5YPH |
| 12-28 | Judy Johnson | KM5QW |
| 12-28 | Sharon Thompson | KM5GV |
| 12-30 | Richard Vinson | N5QIT |

New Members:

I don't have a complete list of all the new members, so I'll defer to next month so we don't miss anyone. Quite a few class members have joined up, and I want to get them all recognized.

de Curtis Foote KC5GEP

Member Information:

To notify the Club of a change in your Call, Address, Phone number or E-mail address, please contact Sharon by E-mail at Sharon_Thompson@capitalland.com. Thank you.

de Sharon Thompson KM5GV

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS:

For the November board meeting, here is a summation:

Jim, N5OHL, and Linda, N5OJP Richardson talked about buying pre-cooked turkeys for this year's EARS Christmas Party. After discussion, the board approved the idea. The club will pay for the turkeys, and the proceeds from the dinner will go to the scholarship fund.

Gary, KD5CPL reported that the club's cost for providing the C&E next year is increasing to 50 cents an issue.

Ken, N5DBM, says some of the club's EOC equipment may be unaccounted for. An inventory will be done. The club also is looking for someone to build a wood console to be used at the EOC.

Ron, KC5QCV reported that CORA is considering getting a smaller building at the State Fairgrounds for next year's Ham Holiday.

Sharon, KM5GV reported that the club recently added three new members and that membership renewal are running ahead of last year's pace.

John, WB5SYT reported that 15 new licenses were earned at the EARS test session in November.

John, WB5SYT also noted that the widow of a silent key in The Village donated some of his equipment to the club to be used for licensing classes.

PAST ACTIVITIES:

The 1999 EARS Amateur Radio class is history now. I think the number of new hams is up in the 17 to 19 range as of this time. Several more students are still testing to get their tickets, so that number will increase. Many thanks to all the students, instructors, and staff for the time invested and results accomplished. A good time was had by all.

The HF committee arranged for our Oklahoma Statehood Day Special Event Station to be set up in the rotunda of the state capital on November 13th. Quite a few hams came by and operated. I'm guessing in the vicinity of 400 total contacts were made, with the station causing a pileup on 10 meters. I think the operators at the club station enjoyed being on the good side of a pileup for a change. Many thanks to Dave Story and the HF committee for getting this event together.

The November business meeting was held at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church Sunday afternoon the 21st of November. Two longtime EARS members were elected to lifetime membership for their service to the club and community. The

two are Ken Stepp, N5DBM, and Dee Mize, WD5FHR. These two go way back beyond my tenure in the club. They have held most of the officer's posts in the club, along with continued long and distinguished service in their respective current jobs as Emergency Coordinator and Station Trustee. Thanks again for all the time and hard work! For those of you that weren't there, you missed some bargains on electronic and radio equipment, and some very good honey. You just should have been there!

Quite a few 1999 class members were at the meeting, also. Quite a few have also joined the club. I want to welcome ya'll on board, and hope you enjoy all our activities.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES:

The following will look familiar from last month. Colder weather is here. These activities will be a good opportunity to get the radio fired up. Can anyone out there still heat your shack with the filaments and tube cooling exhaust?

The December EARS Emergency Net will be at 11:00 AM Saturday the 4th of November. Be sure to check in, catch the training, and verify your radio operation for the following event:

The December Siren Test will be Saturday the 4th of December at high noon. The December Siren test will be the 4th of December at high noon. Baring cloud cover, the test will go on. Edith Vaughn KA5YPX always needs to hear from you if you can spend some time watching the sirens. Give Edith a call at 348-2961 to get a spot to watch and listen from.

Breakfast still happens each Saturday at 2nd and Coltrane in Edmond at the Country Kitchen some time around 8:30 to 9:00. Come by and visit about Edmond, the state of Oklahoma, and the world.

Don't forget about the Monday Night Information Net! Tune up on 147.135 mc. at 8:00 PM. All kinds of info come over the net? Bob Coxsey is the net manager. Give him a ring and he'll sign you up.

Every Thursday night is an open house at the club station starting about 7:00 PM. I made it by the other day, and it was a nice

face-to-face ragchew. Camping in Oklahoma, and RV's were among the topics discussed. Coffee was available, and so was a nice ham spirit. Drop by some Thursday night and get in on this yourself.

FUTURE EVENTS:

*Christmas Dinner at St John the Baptist Catholic Church.
December 4th at 6:00 PM.*

The EARS Christmas Party is coming up on the 4th of December. It will take the place of the Business meeting this month. Plans are being finalized, and there are still many ways to help. Make your plans now to be there. Bring all the family. Please RSVP to Gail Foote or Linda Richardson by phone or E-mail. Gossip still has it that Santa may stop by!

Board Meeting - 7:00 PM Tuesday, December 14th at Bricks. Come on by and see how the club operates. Make your voice heard. Next year is almost upon us, so the planning will begin.

The New Years Eve watch is going to be rolled out this month. Most of the club members were contacted early in the year for this public service activity. For those of you that weren't contacted or all the new members, please give Ken Stepp, N5DBM a call if you might be available to be on the air December 31st to greet the New Year with ham radio.

de Curtis Foote KC5GEP

HEALTH AND WELFARE:

Hi everyone,

By the time this article is in the C&E publication, Thanksgiving will be over. Hope it was a memorable and enjoyable time spent with family and friends.

This month I am reporting on a former member of our club: Glenn Reed, K7CAP (formerly KF5XB). He, Terri, N5SFM, and family moved to Phoenix, Arizona in 1997. Burt has always stayed in touch with EARS members and friends. Glenn has had health problems for the past several months. After test and a biopsy, the results and consultations the surgeon made immediate plans for surgery on Nov. 16th. He was still in the hospital on Monday the 22, doing as well as could be expected.

Please remember Glenn and his family in your prayers. We wish you a speedy recovery. God bless and keep all of you!

Hope all is going well for all our members. Let us all try to bring joy to someone's life. It could be a phone call to some lonely, a smile to someone down and out, or a handshake. It is a good feeling when it happens to you. May all of you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! May the joy and peace of the season remain with you through the coming year.

73 de Clara Grainger KG5UG

FINAL THOUGHTS:

Well, the year is winding down. It's the end of another year. Christmas coming soon. Same old story. Presents to buy, friends and relative to visit, and all the stress of the holidays.

A little extra has been added this year. This is 1999. The last time we'll celebrate with a "19" in the hundreds of years slot. One of the biggest celebrations in world history is coming on December 31st. What does it mean? I'm certainly no philosopher, but I can say this. Another year is about to start. We'll all find new things to do. There will be more change in our lives. And our radio hobby will be better than ever if we make it so. Have you run out of things to try in amateur radio? Have you worked all the possible countries (Alan, W5ERY may have!)? Have you done any public service lately? Have you led a committee in your club? Have you followed a leader for an activity in your club? Are you going to be out on the New Year's eve project? Have you done a project to improve your club? Spotted any storms lately? I can go on and on.

Amateur radio is a big hobby. With lots to do. Modes to try. Activities to enjoy. Activities to lead. People to enjoy. People to help. Let's look forward to our opportunities this coming year, and do more with amateur radio than ever before.

That's it for this month. Please send information for next month's C&E to Curtis Foote at cfoote@theshop.net or curtis.foote@nextel.com so I won't have to take up so much space.

Special Event Station

On Saturday November 13, EARS held a station in celebrating OK Statehood Day. The event was held at the State Capitol with antennas setup on the south side of the capitol. Governor Keating honored the special event and Oklahoma Amateur Radio operators by declaring the week of November 13 through the 20th as Amateur Radio week.

Total contacts made in the special event was approximately 400 as the bands were hot and quite a pile-up created by KC5ORP. Quite a number of DX stations and many states were in the contact count. Operators report the pleasure of being on the receiving side of a pile-up. QSL cards in industrial size stacks have started to come into EARS PO Box. The event certificate is to be quite a work of art with the state capitol in the backdrop. We hope to have the certificate on display soon. Approximately 35 Amateur Radio operators were a part of the event and allowed themselves to contribute to success of the event. Thanks to all that helped and contacted KC5ORP!

73 de EARS HF Committee

1999 Licensing Class

This years class has ended the classroom portion of their licensing effort. The class started on August 22 with the VE session on November 7. All sessions including the test were held at the Downtown Community Center. The Sunday afternoons during that time period were filled with instruction, intensity, and the challenge of learning the theory and code applicable to the Novice-Technician Amateur Radio license. What an effort by so many students, class members, CORA VE team, club members, as well as City of Edmond staff. A labor of love for all involved seeing so many do so well is plenty of reward.

Thus far the licensing class has resulted in 4 Technician Plus and 13 Technician licenses (including 1 20 wpm code and 1 general theory). We are very proud of this success while realizing the quick paced class required great effort on the students and support staff part. Listed below are the students finishing the course, call signs received, to date and note of perfect attendance (*) and new club member (#).

Ken Adamek

KD5IPF *

| | |
|-------------------|------------|
| Steve Brendemeuhl | |
| John Burns | KD5IOR * |
| Dick Crosley | KD5IPE |
| Philip Gresham | KD5IPH* |
| Kathryn Harris | # KD5IOX * |
| Tom Harris | # KD5IOY * |
| Nick Jewell | KD5IPA |
| Cathy Long | # KD5IOT |
| Tom Milam | # KD5IPG |
| Vince Miller | |
| Bill Nolan | # KD5IOV * |
| JP Nolan | # * |
| Duane Olinger | KD5IOS |
| John Plum | # |
| Robyn Price | # |
| Miguel del Santos | |
| Fred Selensky | KD5IOW |
| Earl Soliday | KD5IPC * |
| Everett Taylor | # KD5IPB * |
| Wayne Thornton | KD5IPD * |
| Galen Walls | # |
| Sabo Yakasai | * |
| June Zimmerman | * |

We expect many more call signs soon and upgrades! Look forward to providing the updates to you. The students were treated to a very special "Sunday Symposium" on November 14th. The afternoon was filled with discussions about Amateur Radio from club members on topics ranging from QRP operation, the Bertha Watson Scholarship, CW operation and awards available (you can do it!) to some encouraging words of welcome to Amateur Radio. Also, displays of home brew antennas, QSL collections, APRS operating, QRP equipment and EARS momentos including the recently received Worked All States award.

The above-mentioned symposium, also termed: Since class is over, what now? had more than 50 people in attendance and sure seemed enjoyed by all. Presenting and providing opportunity for hands-on displays included the following:

Stephen Kuper, KC5RYT - EARS Overview
 Joyce Wolf, KC5NBI - Scholarship
 Lee Vaughn, KA5WIS - Repeater Operation
 Dee Mize, WD5FHR - Antennas *
 Bob Coxsey, KM5GZ - Antennas
 Dave Storey, K0TYC - HF Operation
 Allen Watson, W5ERY - You can do it *
 Austin McCaskill, NE5O - QRP
 Johnny Sakaly, KM5GM - CW5
 Larry Traub, N5OL - CW Operation

Rick Tasetano, N5KLM - Meteorology
 Gary Ummel, KC5UWA - APRS
**EARS Life Member*

Join us in welcoming the new Amateur Radio operators. Thanks to everyone who helped in so many ways- a true group effort.

73 de EARS Licensing Staff

Basic Electronics

Today's scientific question is: What in the world is electricity? And where does it go after it leaves the toaster? Here is a simple experiment that will teach you an electrical lesson: On a cool, dry day, scuff your feet along a carpet, then reach your hand into a friend's mouth and touch one of his dental fillings. Did you notice how your friend twitched violently and cried out in pain? This teaches us that electricity can be a very powerful force, but we must never use it to hurt others unless we need to learn an important electrical lesson. It also teaches us how an electrical circuit works. When you scuffed your feet, you picked up batches of "electrons," which are very small objects that carpet manufacturers weave into carpet so that they will attract dirt. The electrons travel through your bloodstream and collect in your finger, where they form a spark that leaps to your friend's filling, then travel down to his feet and back into the carpet, thus completing the circuit.

AMAZING ELECTRONIC FACT:

If you scuffed your feet long enough without touching anything, you would build up so many electrons that your finger would explode! But this is nothing to worry about unless you have carpeting. Although we modern persons tend to take our electric lights, radios, mixers, etc. for granted, hundreds of years ago people did not have any of these things, which is just as well because there was no place to plug them in. Then along came the first Electrical Pioneer, Benjamin Franklin, who flew a kite in a lightning storm and received a serious electrical shock.

This proved that lightning was powered by the same force as carpets, but it also damaged Franklin's brain so severely that he started speaking only in incomprehensible maxims, such as, "A penny saved is a penny earned." Eventually he had to be given a job running the post office. After Franklin

came a herd of Electrical Pioneers whose names have become part of our electrical terminology: Myron Volt, Mary Louise Amp, James Watt, Bob Transformer, etc. These pioneers conducted many important electrical experiments. Among them, Galvani discovered (this is the truth) that when he attached two different kinds of metal to the leg of a frog, an electrical current developed and the frog's leg kicked, even though it was no longer attached to the frog, which was dead anyway. Galvani's discovery led to enormous advances in the field of amphibian medicine.

Today, skilled veterinary surgeons can take a frog that has been seriously injured or killed, implant pieces of metal in its muscles, and watch it hop back into the pond-almost. But the greatest Electrical Pioneer of them all was Thomas Edison, who was a brilliant inventor despite the fact that he had little formal education and lived in New Jersey. Edison's first major invention in 1877 was the phonograph, which could soon be found in thousand of American homes, where it basically sat until 1923, when the record was invented. But Edison's greatest achievement came in 1879 when he invented the electric company. Edison's design was a brilliant adaptation of the simple electrical circuit: the electric company sends electricity through a wire to a customer, then immediately gets the electricity back through another wire, then (this is the brilliant part) sends it right back to the customer again. This means that an electric company can sell a customer the same batch of electricity thousands of times a day and never get caught, since very few customers take the time to examine their electricity closely. In fact, the last year any new electricity was generated was 1937. Today, thanks to men like Edison and Franklin, and frogs like Galvani's, we receive almost unlimited benefits from electricity. For example, in the past decade scientists have developed the laser, an electronic appliance so powerful that it can vaporize a bulldozer 2000 yards away, yet so precise that doctors can use it to perform delicate operations to the human eyeball, provided they remember to change the power setting from "Bulldozer" to "Eyeball."

**OK
DX**

 Just
for the
Fun of It!

OKlahoma DX Association

From Da'Prez...

By LARRY SHIMA, WØPAN

Over the years, a Millennium didn't really mean a whole lot. Century changing might have had some impact on the thought process. My maternal grandmother was born in 1887 and was 13 years old at the turn of the last century. My oldest grandson, Andy, was born in 1987 and will be 13 years old at the turn of this century. Really gets you to thinking about all that has changed between 1900 and 2000. I have been fortunate to have been involved in the Amateur Radio hobby since 1953. One of my associates on the ARRL Board of Directors in 1970 was David Houghton, the volunteer Treasurer of the League for many years. His association with ARRL began in the 1920's as an employee and continued for over 50 years. He never got a license but was involved with ARRL almost from its beginning. One of my greatest experiences over the years was to visit with Dave and learn about the movers and shapers of Amateur Radio and ARRL over the years.

As each of us move into the year 2000 and beyond, what role will we play in shaping the future of Amateur Radio and ARRL? In 1970, I was 32 years old and the youngest ARRL Director ever elected to that office at that time. It took a major part of my time and efforts at a busy time of my life with a growing family and career. The importance of contributing to a hobby I had enjoyed for many years was enough incentive for me to get involved! Was I able to have an impact on Amateur Radio? You betcha – some research will show that the volunteer examiner program had its beginning from a motion I made and which passed in an ARRL Board meeting in the 70's. It wasn't until the 80's that the FCC implemented the program very similar to what I brought to the Board.

It is absolutely critical to the future of our hobby that younger people with vision and ideas look to the future of Amateur Radio and see how it can move into the new Century and Millennium. We must find



future leaders that look beyond today's technologies and techniques to find something that will keep our hobby fun and protected from the frequency mongers who only have profits in mind. The youth of today have the advantage of computers and technology that is only several decades old. This exposure to technology can lead to exposure to Amateur Radio if we present the opportunity. Junior High and High Schools are a good start. Volunteer to set up an Amateur Radio Station at the school and put in for a Vic Clark Youth Incentive Grant from the ARRL Foundation at ARRL HQ.

The leaders of tomorrow are the youth of today – let's get them started as Amateur Radio enthusiasts early in their life in order to perpetuate the hobby we all enjoy.

THE OKDXA IS HOSTING A Y2K COMPETITION FOR EVERYONE!

There are a number of Year 2000 competitions getting ready to kick off January 1st. December 1999 *QST* Page 47 announces 4 new DXCC Awards for the New Millennium. The OKDXA has decided to have one that should be a lot of fun for everyone and doesn't require a great deal of effort to participate in other than getting on the air. You won't even have to worry about those vicious contest pileups! The objective is to work lots of countries on all bands and all modes. The contest has 4 classes: DXCC Level from 0 to 150 (multiplier of 2 times), DXCC Level over 150 (a multiplier of 1 time), Power level of 125 watts or less (multiplier of 2 times), and Power level over 125 watts (multiplier of 1 time).

With a DXCC level of 0 and 125 watts of power, the participant can end up with a multiplier of 4 times.

The following BANDS are eligible for contacts; 160, 75, 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12, 10 and 6 Meters. Count 1 country per mode per band to determine your points.

THE OKDXA Y2K COMPETITION IS OPEN TO ALL OKLAHOMA HAMS. ALL CONTACTS MUST BE MADE FROM THE CONTIGUOUS 48 STATES. The summary sheet must be filled out and sent to WØPAN by April 30, 2000. For the latest rules and competition updates, visit our web site at: www.ponccity.net/n5og/okdxa/contents.htm

If you are not on the Internet, send an SASE to Larry Shima, WØPAN, 5908 Yale Drive, Oklahoma City, OK 73162 for the Competition Rules.

The winner in each of the 4 classes will receive an OKDXA T-Shirt and Hat. The over-all point total winner will receive a special plaque and a Lifetime Membership in the OKDXA. We might even have a special CERTIFICATE available for attaining a minimum total score. The Certificate details are still being finalized. Have some fun with this competition and you might just add some new countries toward DXCC.

Membership in the OKDXA is open to all Amateur Radio operators interesting in DX and Contests. Join us now!

— WØPAN

OKLAHOMA DX ASSOCIATION - Y2K COMPETITION

00:01 CST JANUARY 1, 2000 TO 23:59 CST MARCH 31, 2000

Name: _____ Call: _____

Street/Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ Phone: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

ENTRY CLASS: Class A: _____ DXCC Level = 150 or Less ⇒ 2X Multiplier
 (Check TWO: One for your DXCC Class B: _____ DXCC Level = 151 or More ⇒ 1X Multiplier
 Level, One for your Power Level) Class A: _____ POWER = 125 Watts or Less ⇒ 2X Multiplier
 Class B: _____ POWER = 126 Watts or More ⇒ 1X Multiplier

POINTS EARNED:

⇒ ONE POINT IS EARNED FOR EACH COUNTRY WORKED PER MODE PER BAND ⇐

| BAND | CW | PHONE | RTTY | OTHER |
|------------|----|------------------|------|-------|
| 6 Meters | | | | |
| 10 Meters | | | | |
| 12 Meters | | | | |
| 15 Meters | | | | |
| 17 Meters | | | | |
| 20 Meters | | | | |
| 30 Meters | | (Not Applicable) | | |
| 40 Meters | | | | |
| 75 Meters | | | | |
| 160 Meters | | | | |

Comments:

| | | | | |
|----------------|---|---|---|---|
| TOTALS: | + | + | + | = |
|----------------|---|---|---|---|

Country Total: CW Country Total: Phone Country Total: RTTY Country Total: Other Total Countries
(All Bands & Modes)

FINAL SCORE RESULTS:

| | | | | | |
|--|-----------------|---|-------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| X | Circle 1 or 2 | = | X | Circle 1 or 2 | = |
| Total Countries (All Bands & Modes) | DXCC multiplier | | DXCC Level Points | POWER multiplier | FINAL SCORE ! |

Signature: _____

Date: _____

I hereby certify that the score reflected above is an accurate and true representation of contacts made during the OKDXA Y2K Competition period. I understand that if I am a Class winner or the Overall Point Winner, I can either submit a log showing: Date / Band / Mode / Call Sign / Country / Country Number or I can have a member of the OKDXA review my log and attest to the accuracy of this summary sheet.

Your entry must be postmarked by April 30, 2000 and mailed to: Larry Shima, WØPAN
 5908 Yale Drive
 Oklahoma City, OK 73162-7533
 GL and Thanks for your participation in The OKDXA Y2K Competition !

Secretary / Treasurer Report

By JERRY CHOUINARD, K5YAA

I'm pleased to report 50 members have already reup'd for this year and not one arm has been twisted... So far... But let's not forget December is the "Last Chance" to renew your OKDXA Membership and guarantee your C&E continues to arrive without interruption. You'll find my mail addresses at the end of this newsletter and I look forward to seeing your renewals. As for business stuff ---

We have a New Member...

ROBERT ARMSTRONG, KCSVGX of Woodward, OK. (kc5vgx@pdi.net) When you hear Robert on the air, be sure to key up and welcome him to the Association!

And a Callsign Change...

JAMES P. DAWSON WA5PHJ to **N5JPD**

Plus a couple of address changes...

ALAN CLARK, N5PA
4025 Craft Lane
Laurel, MS 39440-1268
E-Mail: n5pa@arrl.net

MAC and JUDY MacDONALD Jr.
K2GKK and KA5BJS
P.O. Box 15462
Oklahoma City, OK 73155-5462

[Mac says this is their new address until they can get a new house built at the old address - the one lost in the OKC tornado]

In closing, I'm pleased to step in and take over for Mark, N5OG in the Secretary / Treasurer position. He and I have been conversing quite a bit lately and thanks to his responsiveness the 'passing of the books' is well underway. It will take a couple more weeks before I am completely established, but the membership can rest assured I will make every effort to take good care of the OKDXA business. We should all give a hardy Thanks to Mark for his many years of service!

— K5YAA

From Da' Editor...

By NELSON DERKS, KC5QVV

It's a mixed bag of thoughts for this "Last of the 1900's" edition of the OKDXA Newsletter... Since I'm a '01' guy, you won't be seeing the millennium word from me for another year. The New York Times considered January 1st, 1901 as the start of the 20th Century, and when your computer flips back to 1900 in a few weeks you'll be ready for it... Like déjà vu all over again, I

Collector and Emitter, December 1999

just hope we do a better job on the 20th Century the next time around... And, for all the math hounds reading this, did you notice that November 19, 1999 was the last full date using all odd numbers until November 11th of 3111...? (11/19/1999 to 11/11/3111) I hope it was a very odd day for you as it's a long haul until the next...

Getting back to Amateur Radio topics, I hope you've been giving some thought to new ways of promoting our hobby to the general public... A recent W5YI report shows a very slight rise in the number of licensed Amateurs over the past year. Perhaps in response to improving band conditions, the lure of easy DX attracts new licenses and upgrades alike, but the increase is so slight that it may evaporate when the down side of the solar cycle has the opposite effect. Some of us blame computers and the Internet for attracting hobbyists away from the radio arts, but try a little experiment before you decide how little interest there is in Ham Radio...

Grab the big knob on your HF rig and take it for a slow spin from 25 through 28 MHz on a weekend when 12 and 10 Meters are sounding good... You're listening to the largest and most popular HF band (often called the "Freeband") which, on a typical weekend, is packed with hundreds of signals. Aside from contest weekends, 10 Meters often sounds quiet by comparison. A good argument can be made that for many "Freebanders" their interest in DX is far stronger than plans to study for a Ham license, but the urge to radiate is clear. Sure, you'll hear a few Hams in there who haven't quite made the upgrade to Tech Plus (but still appreciate the joys of HF propagation) while others are prime 'New Ham' candidates... They tweak their rigs, plant towers and solder PL-259's just like the rest of us, but without the benefit of a license... And that's fixable... I suspect our best response is to get the word out and see how many we can get licensed.

(Side Note: Don't be surprised if you hear a few broadcast stations in narrow FM... Like Tampa talker WFLA AM-970 on 25.870 MHz or the gospel station on 26.470 MHz. Your guess is as good as mine why they're rebroadcast on 12 Meter FM...)

A recent bulletin from the ARRL (look for it in this Newsletter) tells me we could see a license restructuring proposal from the FCC by late this year or early next. I'm

looking forward to reading it, as it could become an incentive for new Hams. If your club hasn't organized a license class recently, give it serious thought. It's the only way we're going to preserve this hobby and could be a terrific Y2K project. There has to be someone who spent the 20th Century unlicensed and doesn't want to start the 21st Century the same way... How's that for an incentive and slogan?

And speaking of incentives, Ten can be a blast when it's feeling good. Earlier this year I worked 32 countries on a Contest Saturday using a modest station without breaking a sweat, and last month I worked AA3C trying out his new mobile on 10 FM. It's a rig I wasn't aware of, a Radio Shack HTX-10, and sounded good on FM. I cruised up to their web site and found it runs 25 watts SSB and FM, 7 watts AM, has five memories, is about the size of a Uniden HR-2510, draws 5 amps at 13.8 vdc and sells for \$149.99 at your local RS. Assuming reasonable performance, a Ham on a budget could "Work the World For Under \$200" and enjoy doing it!

— KC5QVV

OPDX Bulletin - Internet Edition

The Ohio / Penn DX PacketCluster
Editor Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW
Provided by BARF-80 BBS Cleveland, OH

3F, PANAMA

Cam, HP1AC reports his special operation as 3F1AC commemorating the transfer of the Panama Canal to the Republic of Panama has a new QSL address. This 3F1AC operation will begin on December 1st and continue through January 5th 2000. All cards to HP1AC must go to: Camilo A. Castillo, P.O. Box 0860-00144, Villa Lucre, Panama. Please note his drop mail address in Miami, Florida is no longer good for QSL's and QSL's arriving at his old Box number in El Dorado will be forwarded to the Box in Villa Lucre.

3W, VIETNAM (and XU)

Members of the Tallinn Youth Radio Club (TYRC) ES1AKM and ES1AX will be active from Saigon starting December 4th until January 4, 2000. Their call may be 3W6KM but it is not final. Activity will be on all bands and modes. QSL via ES1AX CBA. Jack, ES1AKM plans to be active from Cambodia (XU) for two weeks after the 3W operation. A call has not been assigned, but XU7AKM is possible.

4S7, SRI LANKA

The "DX News Letter" announces that Felix, DL7FER is expected to spend time here until Christmas and will operate CW and SSB on 40 through 10 Meters. His call won't be known until he arrives on the island. QSL via bureau to DL7FER or direct to: Felix Kuntzsch, Auf dem Berg 12, D-35745 Herborn, Germany.

9X, RWANDA

Vladimir, RE3A was heard on 10 meters signing 9X3/RE3A. QSL to: P.O. Box 899, Moscow 127 018, European Russia.

C2, NAURU ISLAND

Jack, VK2GJH and Nev, VK2QF plan to be active in March and April as C21JH and C21/VK2QF. Activity will be mainly on 6 Meters with some HF. QSL via CBA.

GJ, JERSEY

Bert, PA3GIO will be active from here (IOTA EU-013) as GJ/PA3GIO/p or /m, December 11-16th. Activity will be on 10, 12, 15, 17, 20, 40 and 80 Meters. QSL via the Bureau to PA3GIO. Visit Bert's Web page: <http://www.xs4all.nl/~pa3gio/GJ99/>

GU, GUERNSEY

Jim, G00FE will be active as GU00FE from December 8th until December 13th, primarily for the ARRL 10M Contest. He will be active on other HF bands outside of the contest, most likely 15 and 20 Meters. His contest callsign will be MU0C. QSL info for GU00FE and MU0C as follows: Bureau cards to the GU bureau, (NOT via G00FE please) Direct cards can be sent to G00FE at his callbook address.

HF0, SOUTH SHETLAND ISLANDS

"The 59(9) DXReport" states SP3GVX will be active next year from the Polish Antarctic Base on King George Island as HF0OL. QSL via SP3WVL. Listen for Oleg, R1ANF to be active as R1ANF/A from the Chinese Antarctic Base "Great Wall" on King George Island. QSL via RK1PWA. By the time you read this, Danny, LZ2UU as LZ0A might be active from the Bulgarian Antarctic Base on the Livingston Islands.

OH9, FINLAND

The jolly old elf himself, Santa Claus, will be active as OH9SCL, December 17-19th, from Rovaniemi before making his worldwide Christmas tour. Activity will be on all bands and modes with real time logging on the Web. For more information, visit:

<http://www.oh9scl.com> or send E-mail to: oh9scl@sral.fi

PY0S, ST PETER AND ST PAUL ARCHIPELAGO (Delayed Again!)

The NATAL DX GROUP reports their DXpedition has been rescheduled for April of 2000. The Brazilian Navy postponed due to the reconstruction of the anchorage which were destroyed by heavy seas. It should be completed by the end of March, 2000. (probably!) The Natal DX Group sends apologies to those who may have been disappointed and they hope to work them on their next DXpedition.

V6, MICRONESIA

Hide, JM1LJS will be active as V63LJ from Ponape from December 26-31st and possibly until January 4, 2000. Listen for activity on 80-10 Meters CW & SSB. QSL via JH8DEH, Akira Miyata 4-28-5, Minami Nishi 23 Jyou, Obihiro 080-2473, JAPAN.

VK0M, MACQUARIE ISLAND

The "DX News Letter" reports that Alan, VK0LD is currently on contract with the Australian Antarctic Research Division and will be active until January 2001 from Macquarie (AN-005) and possibly other Australian Territories. A special callsign (VM0xx) is possible from December 1999 through January 2000. Although this is NOT a DXpedition, Alan has many years of DX experience and is used to working pile-ups. There is no QSL manager at present. A Web site is under construction at: <http://www.geocities.com/vk0ld/>

YU8, YUGOSLAVIA

Andy, RW3AH will be in Kosovo during the next 2 years using the call YU8/9X0A. QSL info is currently not known.

ZM7, CHATHAM ISLAND

Lothar, DJ4ZB will operate from January 31st through March 3rd as ZM7ZB. His activity will be mainly on 10 Meters using a Quad antenna. Suggested frequencies are: 28395, 28495, 28595 and 28460 kHz.

ZF, CAYMAN ISLANDS

The "DX News Letter" reports that Bruce, N6NT is active as ZF2NT through at least May 2000. He has been heard on 12M on or around 24900 kHz after 2300z. QSL via G3SWH.

IOTA NEWS

AF-NEW The Italian team of I8IYW,

IK8UHA, IK8VRH, IK7XIV, IZ7ATN, IZ0CKJ and IS0JMA plan to operate from Giftun Island, an Egyptian island in the South Red Sea Group and new IOTA. Their call will be SU9DX and be active in May 2000. They are looking for sponsors to help with the estimated cost of 10,000 USD for the 5 day operation. If possible, they may activate a second new IOTA, Tawila Island, an Egyptian island in the North Red Sea Group. QSL Manager is IK8UHA: Antonio Barbato, PO Box 5039, 80144 Naples, Italy. For more information E-mail su9dx@qsl.net or visit their web site: <http://www.qsl.net/su9dx>

AF-067 Listen for Jim, G3RTE; David, G3UNA; Rob, 5Z4RL; Ian, 5Z4IC; Graham, 5Z4GS and Phil, G3SWH to activate Wasini Island. (also counts for Kenya in DXCC) Activity will be both SSB and CW for a week in mid March 2000. Wasini has been activated only once before during the 1993 IOTA contest.

NA-201 A group of Cuban Hams will activate Cayo Breton (Jardines de la Reina Archipelago) from December 9-13th using CW & SSB on 80, 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12, 10 and 2 Meters.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

Dennis Motschenbacher, K7BV reports that on October 24th he took trusteeship of Woodwind, WP2Z, a magnificent station perched on the tallest peak of St. Croix Island. Steve, KU9C will continue as QSL Manager. Larry, KE2VB has done all the Contesters and DX'ers a major favor in getting this Caribbean rental station up and running (a job Dennis promises to fulfill with the same commitment and devotion). Millions of contest points have been scored from this station with millions more to come. For more details, visit their Web site at: <http://www.qth.com/windwood/>

DOUG XANDER HAD A COLD THAT WEEKEND... REALLY, HE DID...

Jeffrey Steinman, N5TJ (35 years old) piloted EA8BH to a new claimed single-operator, all-band world record of some 27 million points in the CQWW SSB contest. This score included the passing of the 10,000 QSO mark for the first time in the history of the CQWW contest for a single operator. Jeff operated the full 48 hours, leaving behind the previous world record at 0900 UTC on Sunday--only 33 hours into the contest. What made the score even more incredible was that it was Jeff's first

operation from this end of the Atlantic. Interviewed immediately after he had cut the finish line, Jeff's only comment was "Wow!". Jeff hadn't anticipated running a score this high. Jeff's host and EA8BH licensee, Martti, OH2BH commented: "I had put my money on Jeff and he met and exceeded my expectations, but I am not surprised. Jeff worked so well with his support team which allowed each and every element to contribute to his bottom line!" The station utilized dual Yaesu FT-1000MPs and automatic Acom 2000A amps. The audio for the entire contest was recorded. 36 stations worked EA8BH on all 6 bands, and more than 150 on 5 bands. QSL EA8BH via OH2BH: Martti Laine Nuottaniementie 3 D 20 FIN-02230 Espoo FINLAND

6-BAND QSO's with EA8BH:

6V6U, DF4RD, EA9EA, ES5Q, F6KDF, GIØKOW, HC8A, HG6N, IH9P, IO2A, JY9QJ, K1TTT, K1XM, K3LR, K5MR, K9NS, KC1XX, MUØBKA, NQ4I, OH1F, OH2U, OK5W, OT9A, OT9L, R1MVZ, RM6A, RU1A, RW2F, SV1DKR, UU7J, V26B, VY2SS, W3LPL, W3PP, ZA/S57AW, ZXØF

"LAST TWO" CRACKDOWN

Reports from "Newsline" and "QRZ DX" indicate the practice of using the last two letters of your callsign as a quick ID is not legal under Part 97 according to FCC Enforcement Chief Riley Hollingsworth. He states, "All we said was that if only the last two letters are given, it doesn't meet Part 97". Hollingsworth pointed out that if a calling station using an abbreviated ID is never acknowledged or given a chance to give a complete callsign, a legal ID would be lacking for that communication. To be strictly legal, stations using a suffix-letter ID always must identify at some point in the communication with their complete callsign. Stations using a two letter suffix ID always must identify within the first 10 minutes of the communication (and each 10 minutes thereafter) with a complete callsign. You can hear Hollingsworth discuss this issue (via Real Audio) on the Web at: <http://www.rainreport.com/>. You can also find a clarified version of Hollingsworth's comments on the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.net>.

LICENSE RESTRUCTURING R&O?

SB QST ARL ARLB088

ARLB088 Amateur restructuring details possible by year's end

Knowledgeable sources in Washington say the amateur license restructuring issue has moved to the front burner at the FCC, and a Report and Order could be released before the end of 1999.

The Amateur Radio community has been awaiting license restructuring--known officially as the 1998 Biennial Regulatory Review of Part 97 (WT Docket 98-143)--for nearly one year now. While no one has mentioned a hard-and-fast date to wrap up the long-awaited proceeding, reports from several sources suggest that the RO draft is in its final stages and could be complete within a month or so.

During a recent visit to top FCC officials in Washington, League officials pressed again for early action on the license restructuring rulemaking. They were assured that the issue was not stalled and that the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau was "working very actively" to move restructuring along. There is no information on what the anticipated Report Order will contain.

The restructuring debate generated more than 2200 comments to the FCC, many of them from individual amateurs. Once the FCC approves the Report Order, a Public Notice will be issued, and the actual R&O will be released, probably within a few days. NNNN

SPECIAL EVENT STATION

The Catalanian Ham Radio Union, Television of Catalonia, and YAESU will be active on the air December 11-12th from the TVC studios using the special call EG3TVC. This call promotes the "8th Edition of The Marathon of TV3" dedicated to collecting funds for organ transplants and incurable diseases. They will operate on HF, VHF, UHF, Meteor Scatter and Satellite. Visit their Web pages <http://www.urc.es> and <http://www.urc.es/eg3tvc.htm>

ZULU MILLENNIUM STATION

Listen for M2ØØØA to be active on all bands (HF, 6M and 2M) using 5 stations from December 31, 1999 to February 29, 2000 by the Cray Valley Radio Society (CVRS) to celebrate the Millennium from the Greenwich Meridian in South East London, England. Skeds with other groups planning special Millennium activity are invited. Any licensed amateur who plans to visit G-land early in 2000 can operate

M2ØØØA after becoming a temporary member of CVRS for \$4.00 (US). Special awards will be available. QSL via G4DFI: owen.g4dfi@virgin.net. For further info contact Bob Treacher (Chairman) via E-mail at: brs32525@compuserve.com or visit: <http://www.qsl.net/m2000a>

VK9RS DXPEDITION STAMPS

The "Australia Post" will print a limited quantity of commemorative (and legal) 45 cent Australian stamps. This will be a dual stamp featuring the VK9RS DXpedition from the Rowley Shoals in September of 1999. For Amateurs interested in stamp collecting, this stamp will be mailed on a returned envelope to Amateur Radio operators and SWL's only. Send email requests to: vk6lc@iinet.net.au or to postal address: 9 Abinger Road, Lynwood, 6147. Western Australia. VK9RS Manager: Malcolm K. Johnson, VK6LC.

SVENSK IRC's

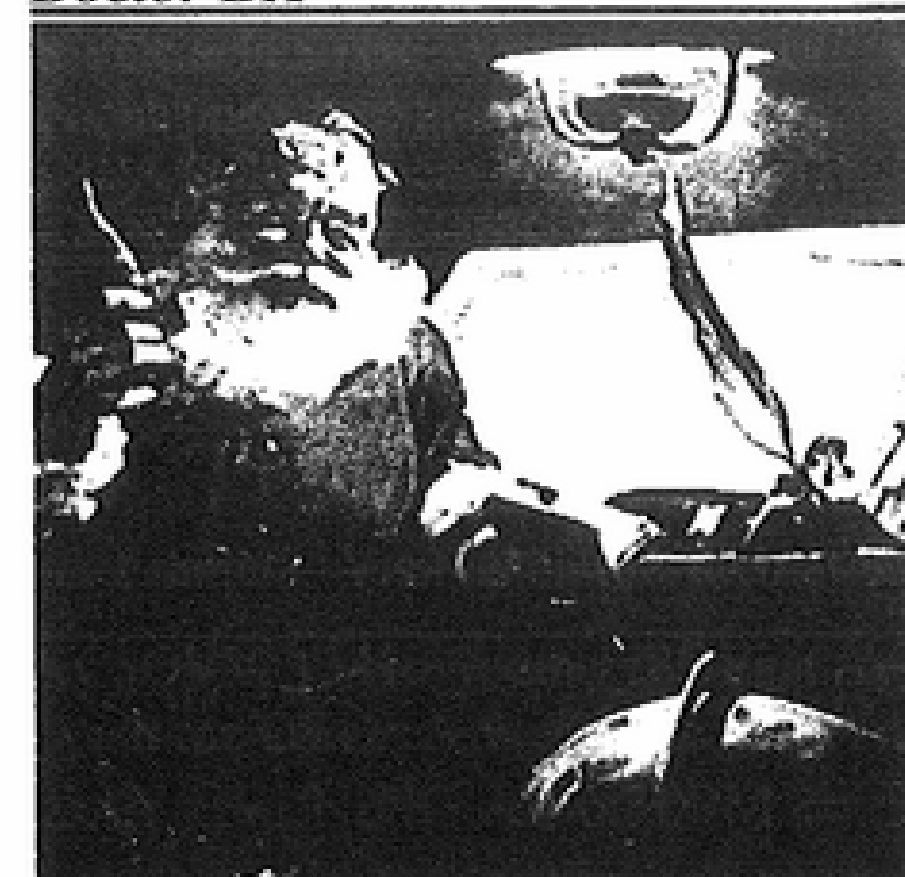
Leif, SMØBFJ, QSL Manager for 9U5D, says those who request QSL's from 9U5D and enclose an IRC for return postage should be aware the IRC must be post marked by their post office. Otherwise, it is not valid at the Swedish post office.

4L80, BOOTLEGGER

Lars, OZ1HPS reports there is no callsign 4L80. Any operation using this call is a pirate. Only 4L8A and 4L8T are legal in the 8 area. Lars is QSL Manager for 4L8A.

Excerpts and distribution of The OPDX Bulletin are granted as long as KB8NW / OPDX / BARF80 receive credit.

Doctor DX



Santa makes his list, then checks it twice, to see if AB5UA was naughty or nice...!

Dear Doctor DX:

Is there really a Santa Claus?

Signed: Desiree Xowolski

Dear Short Stack:

When you're a DX'er taking a few days off from work over the Holidays and the Solar Flux hits 250, you bet your Bencher there is! Maybe this will help explain:

T'was the eve before Christmas, and into the night, a Ham was checking connectors, to make sure they were tight...

The bands had gone silent, not a signal in sight, a most unusual occurrence, was something not right? Checking his transceiver, being careful and slow, nothing was out of place, nothing the Old Man could know. He listened for minutes, perhaps longer... Maybe... Then heard a faint signal, a VK, or VE?

He fired up the linear, to call a CQ, in hopes that his signal might somehow get through... He sent out his call, ten times, maybe more, but nothing came back, nothing above the noise floor. Then, from the corner of his eye, a sight I hope you'll never see, the plates of his 572B's were glowing red, as red as could be! Oh No!

He shouted, my antenna won't load, too much plate current can ruin a Triode!

He sprang to his feet, a VOM by his knee, then began checking voltages, both AC and DC. The amp was in good shape, a beautiful device, but no linear can load a Tri-Bander when it's covered with ice! He measured the coax, with clip leads so handy, and found 200 ohms across the line, a sunny day sure would be dandy...

From out in the yard, he heard something clatter, then sprang to the window to see what was the matter... The light of the moon on the new fallen snow, gave a Q-5 luster to objects above, and below. He looked in amazement, surely this was an illusion, but something was circling his tower, a flying object in confusion? Then a moment later, as his wondering eyes did clear, he could see it was a miniature sleigh, and eight tiny reindeer...

With a little old driver, so lively and quick, the OM knew in a moment, it must be Saint Nick! More rapid than eagles, his coursers they came, as he whistled and shouted, then called them by name... Now Icom! Now Yaesu! On Comet and

Kenwood! Now Ten-Tec and Cushcraft, Alinco and Belden! Fly to the top of the tower, to the tip of the beam, check carefully this antenna, and work as a team...!

With a sleigh full of Ham gear, how carefully they flew, as they installed a six element Yagi, so shiny and new! A rotor was mounted, then bolted in tight, as thirty feet were added to the tower, what a marvelous sight! New coax was run to the shack with great care, as five cables, and twelve bands, soon would be there!

The Ham was dazzled, eyes wide with delight, when he heard the jolly Elf say: "Check your SWR, Old Man, it should be just right!" He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle, and away they all flew, like the down of a thistle. He could hear Old Saint Nick chuckle, as he flew out of sight, shouting...

"Five By Nine DX To All, On This And Every Night!"

— KC5QVV

Want to become a member of the OKDXA? Contact Jerry Chouinard, K5YAA, 7477 Heather Dr. Claremore, OK 74017

* Our monthly C&E Special from your friends at FUBAR ShaZamaHamaTronics of Broken Arrow *

Improved for more DX! THE NOMATUNER II ANTENNA TUNER

Year 2000 Compliant, Y2K OK !!!

THIS HAS TO BE THE MOST SIGNIFICANT PRODUCT WE'VE EVER OFFERED !!!

You spend HOURS, DAYS, perhaps WEEKS setting up your Holiday Lighting Display...

Wouldn't it be nice to use all that wire as A SUPER HIGH-PERFORMANCE DX'PERT ANTENNA SYSTEM ???
Well... NOW YOU CAN! By using the ShaZamaHamaTronics NOMATUNER II you can work all the DX you want
...while your holiday lighting FLASHES YOUR FESTIVE AND CHEERFUL "CQ DX" in CW !!!

(or in every neighborhood telephone up to three blocks away using SSB and AM)

With the NEW ADJUSTABLE PHASE ANTENNA PORT you can DECORATE THE TREES IN YOUR YARD
INTO POWERFUL REFLECTORS for a SUPER-CONCENTRATED SIGNAL IN YOUR FAVORITE DIRECTION !!!

As Cletus B. Liddley, A5LID of Bokchito, OK says: "The plastic Santa on my roof burst into flames... This is really powerful!"

CALL 1-900-I-AM-A-LID TO ORDER YOURS TODAY !

Be Sure to mention you saw it in the Collector & Emitter – Visit us on the Web at <http://www.tommychong.com>

Have some DX News? Contact Nelson Derks, KC5QVV, 13410 South 128th East Ave. Broken Arrow, OK 74011
E-Mail to: k5yaa@aol.com or kc5qvv@gte.net – Visit the OKDXA Web Page <http://www.poncity.net/n5og/okdx>
OKDXA NET ⇒ EVERY MONDAY EVENING AT 6:30PM ⇐ 3860 kHz +QRM

***Best Wishes for A Joyful Holiday Season to You and Yours from
THE OKLAHOMA DX ASSOCIATION!***

Enid Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of the November 1999 Enid Amateur Radio Club *Special Session*
Thursday, 11 November 1999 670
Oakdale Drive Enid, Oklahoma

The Enid Amateur Radio Club was called into *special session* at the residence of Dick NJ5S, by John KA7GLA at 7:00 p.m., 11 November 1999. (The meeting was preceded by a meeting of the Board of Directors, who also met in special session at 6:00 p.m.) Members in attendance were: President John, KA7GLA; Dave, KC5GUD; Dwayne, KC5QVS; Dennis, KB0GBD; Bill, N5YVH; Dick, NJ5S; Bill, KC5OKG; Sam, KD5EUS; Eldon, KC5RRS; Al, KD5BA; Mike, KC5TFA; Dale, WD5GUG; Fred, N5QJX; Dan, KM5DH.

New Officers: The special session was called primarily in order to nominate and elect a new group of club officers for the upcoming 2000 calendar year. The nominating committee presented the following group of nominees for the following offices: For President: John KA7GLA (his *second* consecutive term), for VP Sam KD5EUS, for Secretary Dave KC5GUD (his *second* consecutive term), and for Treasurer Dwayne KC5QVS. The club (probably fearing further nominations from the floor. ed), quickly voted unanimously to approve the nominations. Sam KD5EUS was a current member of the Board of Directors, and his resignation was then accepted enabling him to serve as the club Vice President.

Board of Directors Vacancies: Several Board of Directors vacancies were then filled as follows: For a new full five year term: Dan, KM5DH until 2004, (who by the way *narrowly* defeated Bill, KC5OKG for the position), and Al, KD5BA, elected to fill the unexpired term of Sam, KD5EUS until 2000. (Editor's note: following the special meeting, the Board of Directors accepted the resignation of Jeff, N5UBY - his unexpired term will be filled by Mike, KC5TFA until 2002). So if you're still confused, here's the fallout

of who's on the Board of Directors and the year of membership expiration: Al, KD5BA - 2000; Dave, KC5GUD - 2001; Mike, KC5TFA - 2002; Eldon, KC5RRS - 2003, and Dan, KM5DH - 2004.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report was read, and approved. There was no correspondence.

Old Business:

Club Call Sign WA5QYE: the club voted to *keep* the club call sign WA5QYE, which we've held for many years.

Club Inventory: Dick NJ5S, Club Trustee, read a detailed report of club property and assets. A line-by-line review of each piece of inventory was presented, and was approved by the membership. Dick recommended the purchase of a new Polyphaser® lightning arrestor for the VHF repeater. The club, recognizing the value of lightning protection, voted to purchase *two* lightning arrestors, one for each antenna location (north location, and Johnson elevator location).

Hard line repayment: The club voted to reimburse Dick NJ5S for the purchase of the 7/8" hard line material last month.

Power Supply: Eldon, KC5RRS made a special mention thanking Tom and Fred for their generous donation of a power supply to the club!

Honorary Membership for N5QJX, N5LWT, KC5QVS: Bill, KC5OKG, then recommended to bestow *honorary membership status* to the following members: Fred, N5QJX; Tom, N5LWT; Dwayne, KC5QVS. A discussion of the difference between "*honorary membership*" and "*friend of the club*" (as specifically delineated in the club constitution) ensued. In the end, it was universally accepted that honorary membership was very appropriate to these individuals, who have unquestionably provided service of exceptional significance, and have strongly supported the club and the advancement of the ham radio art in the Enid area for many years. As a result of this honorary status, membership dues will not be assessed,

however these individuals will retain voting privileges. A special thanks to Fred, Tom and Dwayne for their ongoing support of the Enid Amateur Radio Club!

1999 Christmas Social: The Christmas social was planned and agreed to as follows: Thursday, 2 December 1999, Western Sizzlin' Restaurant, 6:30 p.m. A telephone call/postcard-mailing follow-up will be conducted to determine a more precise number who will be able to attend.

1999 Hamfest Review: Tom, N5LWT reported (by mail) that attendance was up by 11 (not much, but better than down like some of the others). How's *this* for a grocery list: We served 50 dozen doughnuts, 10 gallons of special *hamfest brand*® beans (they keep a lonely ham company on the way home from the hamfest), 400 hot dogs (most served with our specially formulated hi-power RF enriched chili) and over 800 cups of coffee! Tom and Fred wanted to thank everyone both for their help and attending. The building has already been secured for next years *ENID HAMFEST 2K* scheduled for Saturday 4 November 2000!

Y2K Preparations: John, KA7GLA reported that formal letters from St. Mary's and Bass Hospitals have been received, requesting our in-person participation for emergency preparedness on New Year's Eve, 31 December 1999. Several members will be needed at each hospital, and several are needed for "standby" status (and will be called by radio only if needed). In addition to the hospitals, one member will be required for the following locations: EOC, Troop J Highway Patrol, and the Garfield County Emergency Management John, KA7GLA. Eldon, KC5RRS; Dan, KM5DH; and Bill, KC5OKG volunteered to help! Hopefully it will be a quiet evening, but we're unsure of exactly what will happen. Be prepared!

New Business:

Fireworks: Volunteers are needed for Friday evening, 26 November for the annual *Enid Lights Up The Plains*. Al, KD5BA will head up the group, who will meet at the Conference Center, 5:30 p.m.

Our charter is to provide crowd control, and to act as safety observers.

Equipment donation in memory of N5LHU: Mrs. Cornelsen, widow of Abe, N5LHU, recently donated a Yaesu 2m and Cushcraft Ringo Ranger antenna to the club in Abe's memory. New hams in our club will be given the opportunity to use equipment owned by this legendary radio amateur! A special thanks to her for this very thoughtful and generous donation to the club.

CORA: The club then discussed our future participation in CORA. Discussion centered on benefits of membership, and the monthly publication, *The Collector and Emitter*. The C&E is published well in advance of our monthly meeting, and as a result, many members are not "reminded" in a timely manner of an upcoming club meeting (which, by the way, has been scheduled for the fourth Thursday of the month since Marconi was club president ed). A motion was made to allocate funds for postcard mailings to remind members of an upcoming meeting. The group agreed to try this for several months to see what happens. Dick, NJ5S, graciously agreed to publish the postcards. A final motion was made, seconded, and *unanimously approved* to retain membership in CORA.

145.29 Repeater: Dick, NJ5S discussed plans to resurrect the 145.29 repeater. Citing interference problems with the El Dorado, Kansas repeater on the VHF (hey, they have "zero" call signs like KB0GBD, what do you expect ed), and a desire to have a locally owned high-power repeater, Dick outlined the strategy to get the repeater back on the air. Dick and Dwayne purchased a GE Master 2, and are in the process of testing the unit on high power for future installation. When everything works just right, the unit will be *donated* to the club! Now you know why these guys deserve honorary membership status! We can look for .29 to be on the air sometime later this year!

A motion to adjourn was made and thankfully approved at 8:45 p.m.

Our next regular club meeting will be

conducted on Thursday, 27 January 2000 at the Red Cross Headquarters building. See you there in the next millennium!

73's!

Dave, KC5GUD

The FCC vs. WA4JTK - Letter number four

The FCC's has written a forth letter to Alan Strauss, WA4JTK, of Carol City, Florida. This, regarding his operation as net controller for the 14.247 DX Group Net.

The November 19th note comes in response to a letter from Strauss to the chief rules enforcer Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH. A letter that apparently questioning earlier notes to him. Also asking about alleged statements credited to the FCC regarding net operations and callsign suffix only identification.

In his latest letter to Strauss, the FCC's Riley Hollingsworth reiterates that an earlier letter should be looked at as a warning that the FCC does not consider this matter closed. It also reminds Strauss that the FCC will continue to monitor the DX nets operations. Also that the FCC will expect the net to share the frequency and not commandeer it from already ongoing Amateur Radio communications.

Regarding station identification. Strauss had apparently questioned statements attributed to Hollingsworth that were allegedly made to at least one other ham. To quote Hollingsworth's response:

"our letter does not conflict with statements made to Mr. Wilson regarding

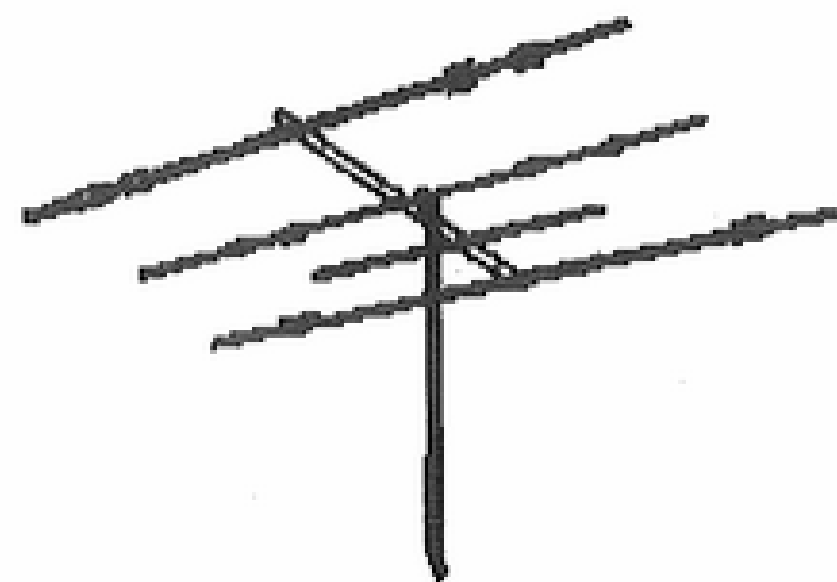
proper identification. Our letter to Wilson plainly stated that stations must comply with Part 97 of the Commission's rules."

Hollingsworth continues by saying what he has said before. That a station identifying by only two letters of its callsign, that is not recognized or acknowledged so that it can eventually give its callsign within the time limits of Part 97, is in violation of the rules. He adds that as long as Part 97 is complied with, it does not matter how a station identifies in the meantime, so long as it is not deceptive.

Hollingsworth's letter also reminds Strauss of something else in his earlier letter. A statement that two-letter identification, where Part 97 is violated, must not be condoned by his net group. (FCC)

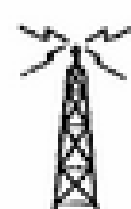
Business Report - KLM Gone?

A ham antenna company calls it quits and makes the announcement on a ham radio Internet Remailer. We start this weeks business report with word that yet another ham radio peripherals supplier is gone. According to reports on the VHF Reflector, KLM Antennas has reportedly left the Amateur Radio supply business as of October 31st.



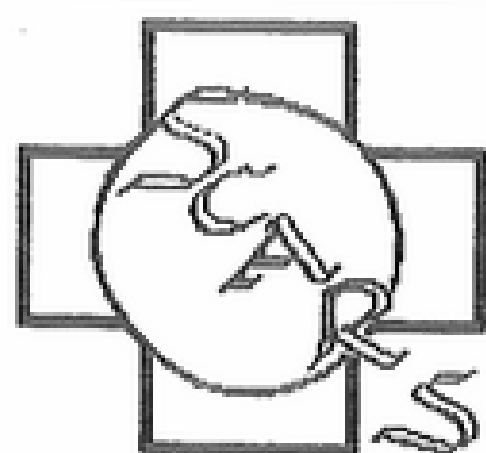
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e-mail: km5qx@juno.com





South Canadian Amateur Radio Society

Regular Meeting - Saturday, November 13, 1999 Red Cross Building - Norman
The meeting was called to order at 9:35 by Club President Dennis, KC5EVH

Repeater Report: Per Ken, N5BEW, the in-town link (146.46) is down due to receiver problems. It is an intermittent problem, which seems to come up from time to time. Ken will find the cause and cure it.

C.O.R.A. Report: Tom, KD5ENL, raised discussion concerning the cost increase for the Collector and Emitter. A motion was made and passed to offer our Club's approval for an increase of 10 cents per issue, to be effective Jan, 2000. We shall see how other clubs voted and get the final word from C.O.R.A. at the next meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Jeff, "unknown5someone" reported the account balance. All is well, except that I have become a victim of the new FCC ULS system!! Since the meeting, I have received authorization for my new vanity call (WY5KE). I was under the impression, due to a previous notice, that my application for that call had been dismissed, so I submitted another application on the advice of FCC technical support. They could not figure out the problem, either, but suggested that I select an alternate vanity call just in case. I did so, and it is very probable that my call will change AGAIN in the next few weeks. Who knows????? The FCC appears to be getting their act together now, but when it all comes out in the wash, I will most likely own the callsign, KT5OK. How did I get from WY5KE to KT5OK, you may ask? It's a long story, but yes, it does have a lot to do with the local news-talk radio station!! I'll keep you in suspense for now. I think I'll like that call better, anyhow, because as Peter, N5UWY advised me in his last email, people will probably not

hear WY5KE, but rather WISKE when it is said over the air. We shall see!

Boy Scout Troop 241: Bob, N5KVG, wanted to extend a big, "Thanks!" to the Club for assisting with the recent Jamboree-On-The-Air. Club members donated time and equipment. Bob informed us he now has four scouts who are very interested in getting into Ham Radio! Thanks to all who participated!

Ham Radio Classes: Per Dennis, KC5EVH, the O.U. Amateur Radio Club will begin classes Monday, January 17, 2000. Classes will run from 7 - 9 PM each Monday through March 6, 2000. The classes will be held at the Weather Service building, and Dennis reminded everyone to park in the south lot only.

Annual Christmas Dinner Party: This year's Christmas party will be held on Tuesday, December 7 at Walton's BBQ in Goldsby. To get there, just go south on I-35 to the Goldsby exit (exit 104). Exit and proceed west about 2 blocks. The cost will be \$8.00 per person. See you there!

Red Cross Communications: Marc, KC5YWM, pleaded for help from anyone interested in assisting with communications operations for Dec. 31, 1999 (Y2K communications operators). Call Marc at 579-0349 if you can help. No special experience necessary.

Membership Renewal: This is a reminder that ALL club memberships will expire at the end of December, 1999. Unless changes are made between now and then, the dues will remain the same; \$20.00 per year/single membership/includes one Collector and Emitter subscription. \$21.00 per year / family membership / includes one Collector and Emitter subscription. There is talk about raising the Collector and Emitter subscription rates, but nothing has been set in stone at this time, and the first rate increase may not affect our dues. Please start planning for prompt renewal this year. If you have already renewed, and the Club needs to increase dues,

you will be contacted and advised of the increase. In case you are reading this BEFORE the Christmas dinner party, please do not plan on renewing at the Christmas dinner. I want to enjoy the evening with all of you, and I do not want to conduct business there. You may renew at the regular meeting on Saturday, December 11, or you may send your renewal to SCARS, PO Box 720993, Norman 73072. Thanks!

The meeting was adjourned at 1020.

Jeff, WY5KE for now
SCARS Secretary/Treasurer

U.S. Navy abandons Radioman rating
First the United States Military decided it no longer needed to use the Morse Code. Now the Navy is about to do away with the last vestige of its ties to traditional terrestrial two-way communications. This as it announced that it is abandoning the rank of Radiomen.

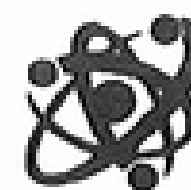
In a not so unexpected announcement dated November 4th, the Navy said that the rating of Radioman would be changed to Information Systems Technician, effective immediately. The announcement said that the Navy made the change because doing so is consistent with ongoing efforts to properly man and train its personnel to handle the changing environment of the information age.

But the Navy has made one concession to the past. It says that in keeping with the tradition of the Radioman rating, the rating badge of electronic sparks associated with the rating is being retained for the new Information Systems Technician.

(Hudson Loop, TWIAR, published news reports)

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Ada Amateur Radio Club

Season's greetings from the Ada Amateur Radio Club. November 6, 1999 meeting was held at the Ada Salvation Army Headquarters on Oak St in Ada, OK. The meeting was called to order by Scott, KD5AJL club president, at 0920 with 15 members in attendance. The finance report was passed around and approved nomination was accepted and seconded.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Hon. Wes Watkins
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Re: H.R. 783

Dear Representative Wes Watkins

Writing as one of the nation's more than 650,000 licensed radio amateurs, I urge you to co-sponsor HR 783 the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 1999.

This bill, introduced by Representative Bilirakis, is a nonpartisan, non-controversial measure designed to help protect the radio frequencies used by amateur radio volunteers in our state and elsewhere to provide emergency communication, technical experimentation and recreation.

Your co-sponsorship of HR 783 will help ensure amateur radio's public service role for the people of your congressional district.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Please take the time and write a letter to Wes Watkins and let him hear from you on HR 783. With 650,000 licensed amateur radio operators across the United States, if each one of us will take the time and let our representative know that we want him to co-sponsor HR 783, the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 1999. We

don't want to lose our radio frequencies used by amateur radio volunteers in our state and elsewhere to provide emergency communication, technical experimentation and recreation.

December 27th & 28th the EOC will be open 12 hours a day and December 31 and January 1, 2000 will be kept open 24 hours a day and going to have a party for the new year. Any questions concerning the EOC, contact John Burchett, KC5EJC EOC director.

We are also asking everyone not to pick up the telephone on December 31 at 12:00am, this will cause the phone lines a lot of problems.

Its election time and our nomination committee has the following nominations for the year 2000 club officers:

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| President: | Steve Wilson, |
| KD5DKZ | |
| Vice-president: | Charles Eteir, KC5TGA |
| Treasurer: | Marie Wilson, |
| KD5EXM | |
| Secretary: | Darla Coffey, |
| KC5RGU | |

December's meeting Saturday the 4th at 0900 will hold the elections.

A little information was also brought up at our last meeting by Wendell Walker, W5WYN that Paul Thompson, N5PT, started the Ada Amateur Radio Club. We don't take the time and stop and think about those who was in the club all those years ago and many of them has passed away now. I thought it was interesting to know who started the Ada Amateur Radio Club.

Meeting was adjourned at 1000 and following the meeting a VE test session was held and congratulations to Marie KD5EXM who is now a tech plus passed her 5 word per min. Code.

Darla Coffey, KC5RGU
Ada Amateur Radio Club

APRS tracks down stolen car

For most of us, having a car stolen is a traumatic experience. But for one Canadian ham it became more of the thrill

of the chase. Newsline's Fred Vobbe, W8HDU, has more:

When Bill Guthrie, VE6OLD of Bentley, Alberta, Canada woke up to find his van missing from his driveway, he did one thing before he called the police.

Bill ran down to the computer, and had a quick peek. Almost instantly, the APRS beacon in his car told Bill's computer that his vehicle was enjoying a leisurely drive around the town of Red Deer.

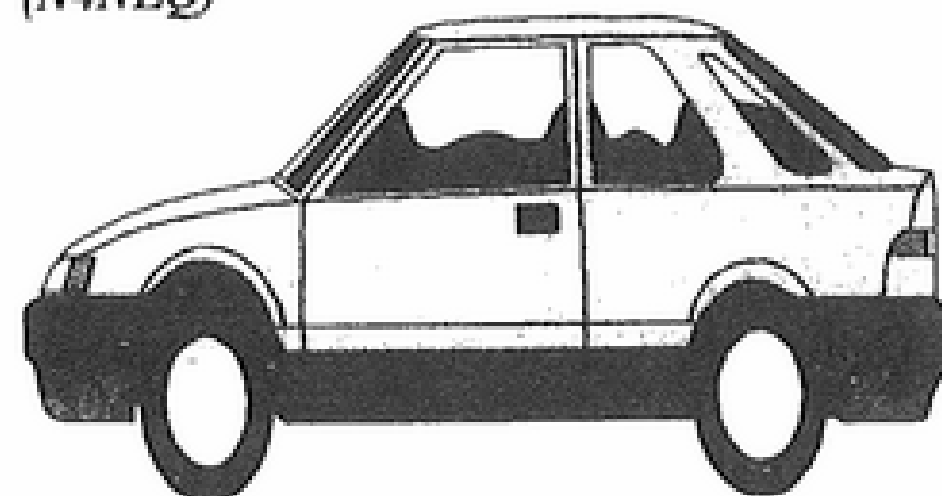
Then, calmly, Bill picked up the phone and called the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. He reported the stolen van, adding that they could recover it and catch the thieves if they sent someone the red to the Red Deer location.

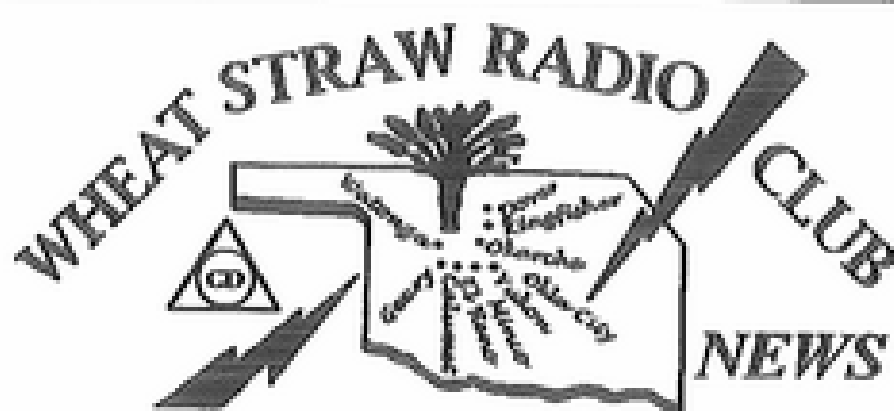
They did, and the arresting officers got even more than they were looking for. It seems some young teens needed a vehicle to haul their loot from a recent spate of break and enter robberies. Not only did the alleged thieves get caught red handed for grand theft auto, but the stolen goodies in the van tied them to those other crime scenes as well.

But that's not all. Obviously, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police wanted to know how the owner of a stolen vehicle could possibly know where it was. That was an opening for VE6OLD to begin explaining the magic of Amateur Radio's Automatic Position Reporting System. He also invited some of the officers to his house to demonstrate how APRS works. The mounties were impressed.

From Lima, Ohio I'm Fred Vobbe, W8HDU, reporting for Newsline.

This is the second time we've heard of APRS helping retrieve a stolen vehicle. The first occurred in San Diego a couple years ago.
(N4NEQ)





Wheatstraw Amateur Radio Club

Meeting was called to order at 2:30 by our president Neal, N5KCO. About everyone got there early and a lot of visiting went on. We really enjoyed it.

There were 16 present with no visitors. Johnny, K5GBN, read the minutes of the previous meeting. No corrections or additions. Minutes were approved as read.

The club is still talking about cable for the club tower. Jim, W5JEP said, "He had heard about a It's a wire and cable company in southern part of Oklahoma City on Sunny Lane road. They are stocking lots of wire and cable.

Leo, WZ5H has also been looking for cable, but hasn't come up with any so far. Jim, W5JEP suggested someone check at Stroh's army surplus in Oklarche. They may have it. The cable is 3/16 th that is on the tower.

The Christmas dinner was discussed. Everyone is invited. You do have to be a member of the Wheat Straw Amateur Radio Club to have dinner with us at the End-O-Main. The Dinner will start at 1:30 PM. giving people a chance to go to church and come on. The cost of dinner, desert, salad bar, tax and all will cost \$8.60, unless you get a clean plate to go back for seconds. Then it will cost you double. You can go back for seconds but use your original plate. The dinner is December 12th 1999.

We need to let the End-O-Main how many, so check into the nets on Wednesday nights at 9:P.M. and turn your number of persons in to net control.

The next meeting will be at the Christmas Dinner also elections for the year 2000.

Be sure and pay your dues if you have not already done so.

We also talked about the C&E for a little bit. The meeting closed for refreshments. The refreshments were very good and lots of them

Ralph WA5PFK

Sense Of Humor Helps Gardeners by Wayne Mackey

Published in the Oklahoma City Times,
Thursday March 31, 1983

Today is the end of the month all right, but I will not comment on whether March is going out like a lion or a fuzzy little pussycat. For this is Oklahoma, and March might change it's zany mind before our newspaper lands on your porch or its immediate environs.

But regardless of what March does, April comes tomorrow - and April is for gardening. Ah, yes, for growing things!

If you too, would like to take up the rake and spade with us other 38 million Americans who weed and seed in the back yard, why, welcome! Why should your back be spared?

Before you fully comment yourself, however, writer Henry Beard and artist Roy McKie, offer in "Garden's Dictionary" an alphabetical guide to gardening. Among their definitions are these:

Annuals: Any plant that dies before blooming.

Bee: Generic name for stinging insects, most commonly the honeybee. Contrary to popular belief, bees almost never sting unless they are mating, feeding, resting, swarming, leaving the hive or returning to the hive.

Crab grass: Extraordinarily tenacious garden weed. The only method of controlling it is the lawn howitzer, a small turf mortar that fires a tapered projectile with a 10-pound, shaped thermite charge. If the root piercing shell strikes the plant directly at its center, it will kill the weed about half the time. The resulting crater can be; an attractive fishpond.

Eggplant: Purplish, meaty vegetable whose taste when cooked has been compared to burnt liver, fried sandals, scorched clams and mud.

Garden: One of a vast number of free outdoor restaurants operated by charity - minded amateurs in an effort to provide healthful, balanced meals for insects, birds and animals.

Green Thumb: Common condition suffered by gardeners in which the skin of the thumb develops a greenish hue as the result of handling amounts of currency at nurseries.

Hardy: A plant is said to be hardy if it remains alive in a nursery long enough to be sold.

Perennial: Any plant that, had lived, would have bloomed year after year.

Seed: Costly but highly nutritious form of bird food sold in handsome packets printed with colorful pictures of vegetables and flowers.

Vegetables: Many individuals are reluctant to raise animals for food, dreading as they do the inevitable emotional turmoil that accompanies the conversion of a pet into lunch. With vegetables, here are a few hints; Never talk to a plant you intend to eat; When digging potatoes, avoid eye contact; do not pet soft-headed vegetables like lettuce and cabbage; don't give your melons and pumpkins names, and always apply fertilizer with a mechanical dispenser rather than by hand. Hoo Boy!

Bernie Hoberecht up at Watonga says that be understands Herschel Walter is going to return to the University of Georgia—and buy it.

Wanna McNeill of Oklahoma City says a friend on the telephone woke her up the other morning to ask her what the word for sleeplessness was. "Insomnia," Mrs. McNeill told her. And it didn't strike Mrs. McNeill as funny for about 30 minutes -- When she suddenly discovered she had it.

History of Taps

American Legion Auxiliary National news

I like Memorial Day itself, the melancholy strains of taps trace their roots to the Civil War. After a battle near Richmond, Virginia in which his Union troops suffered heavy casualties. Brigade Commander Colonel Daniel Butterfield was struck with a deep sadness, inspired

by his sorrow, he hummed a melody, which an aide transcribed into musical notation. That night the company bugler played the song to honor fallen comrades.

Later at a military funeral; Union-officer's, had Taps substituted for the customary rifle volleys at the graveside, fearing ceremonial gunshots would invite an attack from edgy Confederate troops.

In 1874 the United States Army officially recognized Taps. In 1901 it was the funeral dirge for General Butterfield as he was laid to rest at West Point (where his white marble monument still stands.)

Today it remains the nation's requiem to soldiers, not only marking the end of the day but also, denoting the end of a life given in service to this great country.

Ralph WA5PFK

Veterans Day being this month has made me change my mind what I had planed to write.

In our normal language we speak of World War I, World War II and the rest of the wars. I would like to remind you of the Revolutionary War and the Civil war. The Revolutionary War, soldiers fought their own ancestors, and maybe close relatives. The soldiers were poorly equipped, fed and night quartered. At Valley Forge the soldiers' small log huts hewn by axes and the cracks were packed with mud to try to keep warm in the winter. Some soldiers froze to death, some lost feet or a foot and leg by freezing and amputated to save their life.

In 1964 I visited the valley it was a terrible sight. At that time the huts were still there. The beds were built like a long feed trough for feeding horses nailed to the log wall. The outer side was about twelve inches high to prevent the soldier from falling off.

I feel the Civil War left the most heavy laden hearts of all. Look how the women and children were treated at the farm and plantations were abused.

When I was a little boy, we observed another special Veterans Day in Chattanooga, Tenn. it was a day set aside to honor our Civil War Veterans.

Chattanooga was an important center of Confederate activity, and a great many

Civil War battles were fought in and around the city. The battles for Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, and deadly Chickamauga.

Nestled in the valley on the outskirts of Chattanooga is the small creek called Chickamauga: its Indian name is said to mean "River of Death." That's what it was in September 1863, when one of the great Battles of the Civil War was fought there. In two days of bloody fighting, the loses for both sides combined exceeded 35,000 men killed missing and wounded. It was said the creek ran red with blood during the battle.

A few survivors of that great engagement and other Civil War battles still lived in Chattanooga in April 1930. Each year there was a celebration in their honor and to commemorate the end of the War in April 1865.

Over the years, the number of veterans grew smaller, and by the 65th anniversary in 1930, the number had dwindled even more.

I will always remember that particular Veterans Day and the parades down Market Street. The honored fighting men were now old men in their 80's with long flowing beards and black hats. Some carried their rifles and wore their battered old uniforms. Many hobbled along on their peg legs. It was a touching spectacle for me as a boy, even though I am a veteran of World War II and many years have passed, I will always remember the unofficial Veterans Day we used to celebrate in April. by Denton Dabbs

I still believe the Civil war could have prevented if the president could have forced a meeting with selected Union and Confederate sides working out a solution that would been satisfactory with 30th sides.

Ralph WA5PFK

It's time to change to a more pleasant subject for a smile

ONLY IN AMERICA

Only in America ...can a pizza get to your house faster than an ambulance.

Only in America ...are there handicap-parking places in front of a skating rink

Only in America ...do people order double cheeseburgers, a large fries, and a Diet Coke.

Only in America ...do banks leave both doors open and then chain the pens to the counters.

Only in America ...do we leave cars worth thousands of dollars in the driveway and leave useless things and junk in boxes in the garage.

Only in America... do we use answering machines to screen calls and have call so we won't miss a call from someone we didn't want to talk to in the first place.

Only in America... do we buy hot dogs in packages of ten and buns in packages of eight.

Only in America, ...do we use the word "Politics" to describe the process so well: "poli" in Latin

DOG TALE

A man was very busy, installing a doggy door for his Great Dane, A neighbor came over and said, "Aren't you afraid a thief will get in with such a large door?" The man stopped working and looked at his neighbor and said, "with a doggy door this big would you go through it."

CENTSIBLE

Q. What breed of horse is on a new 25 cent coin portrayed for Delaware?

A. It's a quarter horse.

Ralph WA5PFK

AO-27 pirate ops

XE2BSS and XE2EKY say over the AMSAT BBS that they are hearing pirate operators on the AO 27 satellite. According to the two Mexican hams, the stations are actually transmitting on 145.850 MHz simplex for commercial purposes and are apparently unaware that the are being relayed world wide through the AO 27 bird. They say that they believe the signals are coming a city near the border called San Luis in the Mexican state of Sonora.

(AMSAT BBS)



Oklahoma City Autopatch Association

Minutes of the OCAPA meeting of November 16th, 1999.

The meeting was opened by the president of OCAPA, Glynn Massey, N5WNL. Introductions were made.

Secretary's Report: The minutes were approved as published in the C&E.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report was accepted.

CORA Report: CORA intends to invite Mr. Hollingsworth of the FCC to Ham Holiday 2000. It intends to invite an Astronaut who is also an Amateur to Ham Holiday 2000. The next CORA meeting will be November 23rd, 1999. The meeting after that will be on January 25th, 2000.

C&E Report: It was moved that OCAPA inform CORA that OCAPA felt that the price of the C&E should be raised from .40 cents an issue to .60 cents an issue.

Technical Committee: The Technical Committee had no report.

JOTA: The following were recognised for their participation in JOTA. WA9AFM, N5WNL, N5VWF, WD0GTU, WA6LBU, KJ5GX, and KB6IFP.

Christmas Party: The Christmas Party will be on December 21st 1999 at the Hometown Buffet on 1012 SW 74 in OKC. The party begins at 7 PM. Be There!

New Business

It was moved and seconded that OCAPA dues be raised from \$25.00 to \$30.00 effective on a member's next renewal. This will require that Section IX and Section XII be amended. Section IX reads: "Dues are \$25.00 per year." Section XII-3-

b reads: "Membership dues shall be \$25.00 and payable on an annual basis." These are to be amended by striking \$25.00 and replacing it with \$30.00 This will be on the agenda for The OCAPA meeting on January 18th, 2000.

The Officers of OCAPA wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Respectfully Submitted,

Forrest Rush, N5VWF
OCAPA secretary

Amateur Radio Newsline

These first few articles should be of interest to anyone running a net or participating in one.

The Editor

No partial calls anymore

United States hams may not identify using only the suffix of their callsign, even if it is in the heat of battle trying to work a rare and exotic DX station. So says FCC ham radio rules enforcer Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH. Newsline's Bill Burnett, KT4SB, in Miami has this report:

"Our position is that the practice of stations ID'ing with only the last two letters of their callsigns is not legal under Part 97." Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH

The not so gentle reminder of how the FCC expects United States hams to identify their transmissions comes in a letter to Alan Strauss, WA4JTK, of Carol City Florida. Strauss is a regular net control operator for the 14.247 MHz DX Group. Hollingsworth recently wrote Strauss concerning complaints that the 14.247 DX Group. The FCC has received complaints that this net monopolizes that frequency and interferes with ongoing communications when starting its net operations.

Hollingsworth's letter was primarily to tell Strauss that the case will remain open, and that the FCC will continue to monitor operations of the net.

Hollingsworth also reminded WA4JTK that Amateur frequencies are shared

spectrum and a net has no greater rights than any other licensed operator on any given frequency. As such, a net has no right to take over a frequency from legitimate ongoing communications unless the frequency is voluntarily relinquished. If the frequency is not so relinquished, and the net changes frequency, it must exercise good Amateur practice in choosing an adjacent frequency that does not disrupt the existing communications.

But it was in closing his letter to Strauss that Hollingsworth has set the stage for another major change in the way all United States licensed hams operate. Since the advent of DX spotting nets in the 1970's, it has become common practice for hams to use only their callsign suffix when getting onto a net list or contacting a DX station. This is especially true in pile-up conditions and most contest operations. Speaking on the RAIN Enforcement Log report, Hollingsworth and the FCC are saying no more:

"The problem with identifying by the last two letters of the callsign is that if the station is not acknowledged and the contact made with the DX station, then you have the station making a transmission, or maybe several transmissions, without a full identification." Hollingsworth

Hollingsworth says that the practice of identifying using only the last two or three letters of an Amateur callsign is a violation of Part 97 of the Commission's rules. That a station identifying by only part of its assigned callsign is not complying with the clearly written rules regarding station identification, and such practice must not be condoned by Strauss or his group.

In other words, the FCC is ordering Strauss, and by inference, all other net operators to ignore any station that identifies by using only his or her callsign suffix. The FCC is also telling the rest of the ham community that there could be severe penalties if this warning is ignored.

From Miami, I'm Bill Burnett, KT4SB reporting for Newsline.

According to discussions heard on the air, the DX and contest communities are upset by the FCC deciding to enforce the full callsign rule. They say that contest scores will plummet and the number of stations

making contact with rare DX operations will diminish as a result.
(FCC)

Partial callsigns: What the FCC Rules say

I'm Robert Sudock, WB6FDF, with a follow up to last weeks story regarding the use of partial callsigns to identify your station.

As reported, in a letter to net control operator Alan Strauss, WA4JTK, and later on the RAIN Report the FCC's Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement, Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, stated that if only the last two letters of a callsign are given, that station identification doesn't meet the requirements of the Amateur Service Part 97 Rules. Hollingsworth also pointed out that if a calling station using an abbreviated callsign suffix is never acknowledged and given a chance to give a complete callsign, a legal station identification would be lacking for that communication.

This report brought a flurry of cheers from many DX'ers who have been fighting the partial callsign problem for years. But it has also been very controversial with some other DX operators, some contest operators and the control stations for numerous foreign DX spotting nets. Some of the control operators for these nets are very vocal in opposing full callsigns. They say that a full callsign wastes time. And there are even reports that some overseas net operators are turning away U.S. stations that try to sign in using their full calls.

But the bottom line is that hams in the United States is that they are not regulated by the DX operators government. Rather United States hams fall under the guidance of the FCC. It is the FCC that has determined how and how often a United States license holder must identify. Its covered under Part 97.119(a) of the United States Amateur Service Rules. Its also something that all U.S. hams are supposed to know and it reads as follows:

"Each amateur station, except a space station or telecommand station, must transmit its assigned callsign on its transmitting channel at the end of each communication, and at least every ten

minutes during a communication, for the purpose of clearly making the source of the transmissions from the station known to those receiving the transmissions. No station may transmit unidentified communications or signals, or transmit as the station callsign, any callsign not authorized to the station."

The operative words appear to be the reference to identifying at the end of a transmission. Also identifying every ten minutes if a single transmission exceeds that length of time.

By way of example. Suppose you call another station, or, sign into a net using only the last two letters of your call. You are acknowledged but never given a chance to make another transmission. As a result, you have violated section 97.119(a).

To make your transmission legal, you must find a way to properly identify at some point in the communication with complete call. And, in the heat of the battle for a rare DX contact or in dealing with some non U.S. nets that might not be so easy.

For Newline, I'm Robert Sudock, WB6FDF, reporting.
(*Newline, FCC Part 97 Rules*)

FCC fallout: New coordinators spring up

The FCC's D'wana Terry's letter that calls for more diversity in ham radio repeater coordination is already having an impact. Newline's David Black, KB4KCH reports:

You can add yet another repeater coordinating body to its ever growing list of who is assigning repeater frequencies in Southern California. This one calls itself the Southern California Frequency Management Group. It currently serves only the 70 centimeter band and says that its purpose is to challenge the decision of the Southern California Repeater and Remote Base Association to change 70 centimeter repeater bandplan from 25 kHz to 20 KHz spacing.

The leadership of the new group are the same people who's letter to their congressman brought the response from the FCC's D'wana Terry. They say that the Southern California Frequency

Management Group represents what they see as a majority view in the local ham community. One that favors adoption of 12.5 kilohertz spacing in the 70 centimeter repeater subbands. SCFMG eventually sees coordination of repeaters 6.25 Kilohertz spacing once technology allows.

SCFMG claims that its approach will more than double the number of available repeater frequencies in the geographic area. This they say, will reduce congestion, and allow for additional interested parties to install new repeaters in the region.

But even with the D'wana Terry letter now on the public record, the Southern California Frequency Management Group will probably to face an up-hill battle for public recognition. The coordination body it is challenging -- the Southern California Repeater and Remote Base Association is considered one of the most politically entrenched organizations of its type that exists anywhere in the nation. SCRRBA has the all important recognition of the National Frequency Coordination Council and through NFCC the defacto recognition of the Federal Communications Commission itself. It also has a high level of visible support from its coordinated repeater owners and from the elected Southwestern Division ARRL officials.

On the other hand, the SCRRBA decision to adopt 20 KHz spacing has been met with open disdain in other parts of the country. As reported in Worldradio Magazine, hams attending last August's Huntsville Hamfest who are involved in 70 centimeter FM activity called the 20 KHz plan a cruel hoax. They say that the rest of the nation will almost assuredly adopt 12.5 KHz spacing with Northern California possibly leading the way. This would effectively isolate Southern California as a 20 KHz island in a 12.5 kilohertz world. And most important, 12.5 kilohertz also appears to be the plan that Arizona will opt for even though that state has been a traditional SCRRBA allies.

From the south-east bureau in Birmingham Alabama, I'm David Black, KB4KCH, reporting for Newline.

Most communications experts agree that its all but impossible to place an FM voice signal into a narrow 6.25 on 70 centimeters or a splinter 7.5 KHz channel on 2 meters. These channels are spaced to

close and would cause massive interference to adjacent operations. Also, there is no plan to market ham gear that will operate on either of these two untried standards.

(Newsline)

Ham Radio may join the internet in the U.K.

United Kingdom hams may be permitted direct connection of their stations to the Internet by years end. This as the nations radio regulators look for ways to encourage more people to join the hobby. Jeramy Boot, G4NJH, has the story from Nottingham England:

David Hendon, Chief Executive of the Radiocommunications Agency on the 29th of October announced the start of a two month consultation period hopefully leading to limited amateur radio access to the Internet by the turn of the year.

Mr Hendon, speaking at the 'Making Connections' roadshow in London spoke of the important role amateur radio had, in the past, played in encouraging young people to take up a career in radio engineering. He spoke of the decline of amateur radio world wide and he emphasized the need to make amateur radio an attractive pursuit for young people to take up. Linking amateur radio to the Internet would be an important step forward.

It is hoped, subject to licensing considerations, that limited access perhaps via the Repeater Network would be in operation by Christmas. However, he stressed that this would just be the start. The amateur community would be consulted fully to ensure the best possible use was made of this initiative.

Jeramy Boot says that more details on the project will be released by the Radiocommunications Agency in the near future.
(FCC)

More club calls canceled

Meanwhile, the FCC notified James Schliett, W4IMQ, of Cedartown, Georgia that it is accepting his request to cancel eight club station call signs for which Schliett was the responsible party. Schliett has requested he be

allowed to retain W4CAN and W4HTS as club station call signs. He has been asked by the FCC to provide further information on these two call signs so that a decision on their disposition can be made.

The agency has also notified Thomas R. Reynolds, KF6UJP, of Covina, California that it is canceling four club station call signs granted to him in the last six months. The FCC said Reynolds failed to reply to a September 15 request that he provide justification in writing for the four club station calls.

(FCC)

No license - Stay off the air

The FCC has told a former San Antonio, Texas ham to stay off the air or face the consequences that come from operating without a license. In a November 3rd letter to Roger G. Morgan, the FCC says that it has evidence that the former KB5URM is continuing to operate radio equipment and is the source of malicious interference with repeater operations in the San Antonio area.

Back on May 20th, was ordered to appear before the FCC in Dallas for a retest. He did not show up and his license was canceled on August 30th. Now the FCC is telling the former ham that it knows he is still on the air and warning him that he will face a fine, criminal prosecution and a seizure of his radio gear if he continues to be heard on the air.

(FCC)

Hams take over as phone line is cut

Hams in and around Redwood City, California sprang into action on November the 2nd. This after a contractor laying fiber-optic lines caused an outage that affected nearly 5,000 people and knocked out 911 emergency response phone service in parts of San Mateo County.

San Mateo Sheriff's Department spokesman George Barry said that phone service was out from about 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.. He says that his department dealt with the outage by using amateur radio operators to relay information. They were backed up by cellular phones, extra deputy patrols and walk-in centers at area fire stations to manage emergency situations. Barry says that there were

about 20 requests for service during the telephone outage.

A spokesperson for Pacific Bell, said the outage affected 4,700 telephone lines. Customers were able to make local calls, but 911, information and long-distance services were unavailable.

(Repeater Owners Remailer, Published News Reports)

British Radio hoax endangering air travel

A search is under way in the United Kingdom for what authorities are calling a radio hoaxter who is putting the lives of air travelers at risk. Q-News Graham Kemp, VK4BB, reports:

A wireless operator is endangering thousands of aircraft passengers and crew by transmitting bogus control tower instructions to pilots flying in and out of a major British airport.

Airline chiefs say the hoaxter, who broadcasts on the same frequency as air traffic controllers, has given false orders to pilots on the ground at Manchester Airport and has issued dangerous instructions to airborne captains approaching the airport to suddenly climb or descend.

In one case, it is understood he gave a pilot clearance to line up for a take-off that would have caused a catastrophic collision. When the captain checked the instruction, air traffic control said no such order had been issued and told him to halt the aircraft immediately.

A major hunt is underway for the man, who is thought to have broadcast from a car park at or near the airport.

British aviation authorities have changed the frequency used at Manchester airport. They have also put out an airmens notice to pilots. It says, be alert.

(Q-News)

Olympics wants Ham Satellite band

The planners of the upcoming Olympic games in Australia want access to a ham band. According to VK2YC, Australian telecommunications regulators are in discussion over a request from the International Olympic Organizing

Committee for use of frequencies in the 5.7 GHz Band for television broadcast links during the Olympic Games. The frequencies that they want are from 5650 to 5670 MHz. These are the same ones that will be used by the upcoming Phase 3D ham radio satellite which is slated for Launch on an Ariane 5 booster early next year.

(Q-News)

5 GHz and the Sidney Olympics follow-up

Hams in Australia may be able to keep telecasters from using a part of the 5.6 Gigahertz band that falls in the Amateur Satellite Service. As reported last week, those planning tv coverage of the 2000 Olympic games have asked for temporary loan of the terrestrial 5 gigahertz ham band. But it is shared with an international ham satellite allocation and broadcasters may have to look elsewhere. Q-News Graham Kemp, VK4BB, has more:

Olympics wants 5 GHz. Our story last week of a request from the Olympics for a portion of the 5 GHz band was read by Paul Renaldo, W4RI from the ARRL who has past along some more info on this issue. He says there might be some basis for gently asking the Australian Administration to avoid the band 5.650 to 5.670 GHz, the Amateur Satellite Earth to Space allocation.

Perhaps with the suggestion to consider an alternative of 5.670 to 5.830 GHz. This would clear the Amateur Satellite Band, but may conflict with something else locally such as an ISM at 5.800 plus or minus 75 kHz.

Reporting for Newslines and Q-News I'm Graham Kemp, VK4BB.

Whether or not this argument will work still remains to be seen.

(Q-News)

Houston AMSAT Net loses satellite feed

Houston AMSAT Net Manager Bruce Paige, KK5DO, tells Newslines that the end of November will mark the end of the nets live feed by satellite. That's when the satellite time provided by Mike Reynolds, W0KIE, on the General Electric One satellite's Wisdom Channel will be lost.

Paige says that the termination of the feed is the result of The Wisdom Channel moving towards more digital signal processing. This says Paige requires the audio subcarrier that the net has been using. As a result, the final Houston AMSAT Net by satellite will air on November 30, 1999 at 8PM Central Standard Time. It will run for 30 minutes and will mark the end of this particular satellite feed.

Paige does say that he is working on getting a new C-Band satellite channel and hopes to have it on-line before the first net in December. He says that if it all comes together in time, the December 7th Houston AMSAT Net will mark the nets 300th satellite feed.

(KK5DO)

Repeater owners Technical Net

If you are repeater owner or are thinking of putting a system up, then tune your high frequency radio to 14.309 MHz every Tuesday evening at 8 PM Eastern time. The reason? That's the home of the newly created Repeater Technical Information Net and as those who have already signed in will attest, it provides a wealth of information for current or new repeater owner operators. Again the time and frequency for the Repeater Technical Information Net is 8 PM Eastern, Every Tuesday evening on 14.309 MHz in the 20 meter band.

(Repeater Owners Remailer)

Is Amateur Radio Restructuring imminent

Closer to home, the American Radio Relay League says that the release of a report and order by the FCC on restructuring the United States Amateur Radio Service is imminent. Rick Lindquist, N1RL, of the ARRL Audio News has more:

Knowledgeable sources in Washington say the amateur license restructuring issue has moved to the front burner at the FCC, and a Report and Order could be released before the end of 1999.

The Amateur Radio community has been awaiting license restructuring - known officially as the 1998 Biennial Regulatory Review of Part 97 (WT Docket 98-143) - for nearly one year now. While no one has mentioned a hard-and-fast date to wrap up the long-awaited proceeding, reports from several sources suggest that the report and

order draft is in its final stages and could be complete within a month or so.

League officials pressed again for early action on the license restructuring rule making. During a trip to D.C. they were assured that the issue was not stalled and that the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau was "working very actively" to move restructuring along.

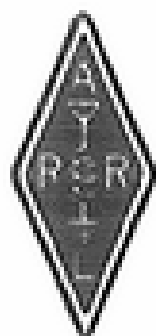
Whatever its final form - and no one has hinted at that - license restructuring poses significant implications for Amateur Radio and its future direction and growth. On August 10, 1998, the FCC proposed to phase out the Novice and Technician Plus licenses, leaving just four amateur license classes in place - Technician, General, Advanced, and Extra. The Commission also asked the amateur community to express its opinions on Morse code requirements for licensing and testing, but offered no specific recommendations.

A month earlier the ARRL Board of Directors, attempting to get the jump on restructuring, issued its own plan to calling for four license classes and for "refarming" Novice/Tech Plus subbands to provide additional spectrum for higher class operators. Under the League plan, the Technician license remains unchanged, and the General would become the entry level ticket to HF operation. The ARRL proposed Morse code requirements of 5 WPM for General and 12 WPM for Advanced and Extra class.

The restructuring debate generated more than 2,200 comments to the FCC, many of them from individual amateurs. FCC officials have cited the huge volume of comments, which continued to arrive long after the comment deadline, as another factor in the length of time it's taken to deal with the restructuring issue.

The League says that the decision to approve and release the Report and Order could come at an FCC monthly meeting, but some predict it will be handled as a Memorandum Opinion and Order.

(ARRL)



A. R. R. L. Bulletins

From: ARRL Headquarters
Newington, CT
To: All radio amateurs

ARRL Bulletin 92
November 24, 1999

FCC Denies League's Request for Stronger Federal Preemption Policy

The FCC has turned down a 1996 ARRL petition asking the Commission to go further in compelling state and local governments to reasonably accommodate Amateur Radio and apply the least restrictive means to regulate amateur antennas and activity. However, in denying the petition, designated RM-8763, the FCC did offer some words that may be helpful to amateurs.

The requested rules changes would have expanded and clarified PRB-1, the Federal preemption of state and local regulation spelled out by the FCC in 1985 and since incorporated into the laws of several states.

Specifically, the League called on the FCC to amend Section 97.15(e) of its rules to say that any state or local antenna restrictions limiting ham radio antennas to heights below 70 feet would be "presumed unreasonable" unless the state or local authority could show its restrictions were necessary for health, safety or aesthetic reasons.

Further, the ARRL asked the FCC to clarify that local government's role in applying PRB-1 was to accommodate ham antennas rather than to balance local interests against Federal interests in "effective public service amateur communications." The League also wanted the FCC to acknowledge that it "has no less interest in the effective performance of an Amateur Radio Station" in an area regulated by deed restrictions, covenants, or condominium regulations than by zoning ordinances. It also asked the FCC to preempt overly burdensome conditions and excessive costs localities might

require in connection with amateurs' antenna installations.

In its denial, in an Order released November 19, the FCC said it would not be "prudent" or "appropriate" to set a height standard for amateur antennas and supporting structures "because of varying circumstances that may occur" for differing antenna configurations.

"We believe that the policy enunciated in PRB-1 is sound," the FCC said, noting that PRB-1 does not specify a height limit. The Commission also said it did not want to mandate specific provisions that localities must include in zoning ordinances.

"We continue to believe that the standards the Commission set, that is 'reasonable accommodation' and 'minimum practicable regulation', have worked relatively well," the FCC said. The Commission applied that same philosophy to the imposition of fees, zoning laws and other conditions that localities might impose on amateur antenna installations.

The FCC also said its policy with respect to restrictive covenants already is clearly stated in PRB-1, which excludes restrictive covenants in private contracts as "outside the reach of our limited preemption." The FCC did say that it "strongly encourages associations of homeowners and private contracting parties to follow the principle of reasonable accommodation" with respect to Amateur Radio. But it drew the line at proposing specific rule changes to bring private restrictive covenants under the umbrella of PRB-1.

The part of the FCC's Order that may prove most helpful is the assertion that PRB-1 precisely stated the principle of "reasonable accommodation." Some courts have held that a local authority can merely balance its own interests against those of the amateur. PRB-1 states that local regulations involving placement, screening, or height of antennas based on health, safety, or aesthetic considerations "must be crafted to accommodate reasonably amateur communications, and to represent the minimum practicable regulation to accomplish the local authority's legitimate purpose." In its Order, the FCC said that given PRB-1's explicit language, "it is clear that a 'balancing of interests' approach is not appropriate in this context."

The ARRL Executive Committee will review the Order at its December 4 meeting to determine what further action is appropriate.

ARRL Bulletin 91
November 24, 1999

NWS/ARRL On-Air Event Set for November 27

Upwards of 60 amateur stations will be on the air from National Weather Service offices on Saturday, November 27--the final Saturday of the Atlantic hurricane season--as part of the National Weather Service Special Event. The event, sponsored by the NWS and the ARRL, is aimed at recognizing the contributions amateurs make to the NWS during threatening weather. It will provide an opportunity for NWS personnel and amateurs to learn more about each other and their capabilities in severe weather situations.

NWS personnel at various US locations will be on the air under the supervision of a licensed control operator. The event also will allow NWS offices to test back-up communication in anticipation of any Y2K-related problems.

The objective is for Amateur Radio operators at NWS sites to work as many other amateur stations as possible. The event will run November 27 from 0000 UTC to 2400 UTC. Participating stations will operate on 80, 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12, 10, 6, and 2 meters. Although it's expected that most contacts will be on SSB, all other modes--including FM, CW, RTTY, and PSK31--may be used. Repeater contacts also are invited.

Operators will exchange their name, QTH, and a one or two-word description of the weather at the operator's location (for example, "sunny" or "partly cloudy"). A script will be transmitted at regular intervals to announce the purpose of the event and to provide QSL information.

A Web site, <http://www.crh.noaa.gov/gld/radio.htm>, provides operating instructions, a list of participating site stations, and QSL information.

Operators eligible for a QSL certificate should send a self-addressed stamped envelope to the National Weather Service,

920 Armory Rd, Goodland, KS 67735. The NWS will create the certificate, check the logs, and issue the certificates based on a percentage of NWS stations worked.

For more information, contact Scott Mentzer, KB0WPY, at the NWS: scott.mentzer@noaa.gov; 785-899-2360; or Steve Ewald, WV1X, at the ARRL: sewald@arrl.org; 860-594-0265; or visit <http://www.crh.noaa.gov/gld/radio.htm>.

ARRL Bulletin 90 November 23, 1999

Section Managers Elected

Ballots were counted November 23 at ARRL Headquarters to determine the results of contested Section Manager races in Alaska, East Bay, and Tennessee.

In Alaska, challenger Larry "Kent" Petty, KL5T, of Anchorage defeated incumbent SM David W. Stevens, KL7EB, 169 to 116.

In East Bay, incumbent SM Bob Vallio, W6RGG--who was elected Pacific Division Vice Director on November 19--defeated Don Smith, W6NKF, 337 to 245. Vallio may not hold both offices, however. Once he has chosen, the other office will be filled by appointment.

In Tennessee, incumbent SM O.D. Keaton, WA4GLS, defeated Lee Hall, NY4T, 645 to 501.

Candidates in seven other sections ran unopposed and have been declared elected: In Alabama, Bill Cleveland, KR4TZ; in Western Massachusetts, Bill Voedisch, Jr. W1UD; in Delaware, Randall Carlson, WB0JJX; in New Mexico, Joe Knight, W5PDY; in Santa Barbara, Robert Griffin, K6YR; in Michigan, Richard Mondro, W8FQT; and in Kansas, Orlan Cook, W0OYH.

Terms of office for all candidates begin January 1, 2000. Contact information for all ARRL Section Managers is on page 12 of any issue of QST.

ARRL Bulletin 89 November 19, 1999

ARRL Board of Directors Election Results

The ARRL Great Lakes Division will have a new Director and Vice Director in January, and there are new faces in

division leadership positions in the Dakota, Midwest and Pacific divisions.

The ARRL Committee of Tellers for the election of Directors and Vice Directors for the 2000-2002 and 2000-2003 terms met at ARRL Headquarters November 19 to open and tally ballots submitted by ARRL members in the affected divisions. Balloting for Director occurred in the Great Lakes and Midwest Divisions. Balloting for Vice Director took place in the Atlantic, Great Lakes, and Pacific Divisions.

In the Great Lakes Division George Race, WB8BGY, was the victor in a three-way race to again serve as Director. The tally showed Race--the current Great Lakes Vice Director--nosing out current Great Lakes Director Dave Coons, WT8W, by 101 votes--1700 to 1599. Challenger Murray Scott, KE8UM, garnered 1302 votes.

In 1995, Race--the Great Lakes Vice Director since 1990--assumed the Director's position when former Director Al Severson, AB8P, now a Silent Key, resigned. In 1997, Race was defeated for election to the Director's post by Joe Falcone, N8TI. Falcone resigned just three months into his term, elevating then-Vice Director Coons to Director. Race subsequently was named to again serve as Vice Director. Earlier this year he filed nomination papers seeking to regain the top job in the Division.

Gary Johnston, KI4LA, will be the new Great Lakes Vice Director. He defeated Lawrence Solak, WD8MPV, 2498 to 2010. Race and Johnston will serve three-year terms.

In the Midwest Division Robert W. Walstrom, W0EJ, defeated John Seals, WR0R, 2050 to 766, for a three-year term as Director. Walstrom--an ARRL Life Member--will replace retiring Director Lew Gordon, K4VX.

In the Atlantic Division, incumbent Vice Director Bernie Fuller, N3EFN, beat back a challenge from John Buchanan, KW3X. The vote was 3047 to 2038. Fuller will serve a three-year term.

In the Pacific Division race for Vice Director, Robert Vallio, W6RGG, won a three-way race over Jettie Hill, W6RFF,

and John Ronan, III, K3ZJJ. Vallio polled 1278 votes to 1186 for Hill and 1155 for Ronan. An ARRL Life Member, Vallio--who's currently East Bay Section Manager--will serve a two-year term.

Several candidates were unopposed and were declared elected. They include incumbent Directors Kay Craigie, WT3P (Atlantic), Rick Roderick, K5UR (Delta), and Frank Butler, W4RH (Southeastern) and incumbent Vice Directors Bruce Frahm, K0BJ (Midwest) and Evelyn Gauzens, W4WYR (Southeastern).

Incumbent Directors Tod Olson, K0TO (Dakota) and Brad Wyatt, K6WR (Pacific), also decided not to seek re-election. Incumbent Vice Directors Jay Bellows, K0QB (Dakota), and James Maxwell, W6CF (Pacific), will move up to Director in their respective divisions. Newcomer Twila Greenheck, N0JPH, was unopposed to become the Dakota Division's new Vice Director.

Terms of office for all successful candidates begin at noon January 1, 2000.

No candidate was nominated for the Delta Division Vice Director position, now held by Henry Leggette, WD4Q. The ARRL Articles of Association provide that "Should the office of Vice Director be vacant, the vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the President."

ARRL Bulletin 88 November 12, 1999

Amateur restructuring details possible by year's end

Knowledgeable sources in Washington say the amateur license restructuring issue has moved to the front burner at the FCC, and a Report and Order could be released before the end of 1999.

The Amateur Radio community has been awaiting license restructuring--known officially as the 1998 Biennial Regulatory Review of Part 97 (WT Docket 98-143)--for nearly one year now. While no one has mentioned a hard-and-fast date to wrap up the long-awaited proceeding, reports from several sources suggest that the RO draft is in its final stages and could be complete within a month or so.

During a recent visit to top FCC officials in Washington, League officials pressed

again for early action on the license restructuring rulemaking. They were assured that the issue was not stalled and that the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau was "working very actively" to move restructuring along.

There is no information on what the anticipated Report Order will contain.

The restructuring debate generated more than 2200 comments to the FCC, many of them from individual amateurs. Once the FCC approves the Report Order, a Public Notice will be issued, and the actual R&O will be released probably within a few days.

ARRL Bulletin 87

November 4, 1999

It's as easy as IOY

Nominations for the ARRL Instructor of the Year awards are due to section managers by January 31.

It's simple to nominate an exceptional ham radio instructor, teacher or recruiter to receive one of the four annual awards. A nomination form is available on the Web or by mail. Each award nomination requires endorsements and testimonials from others.

Two of the four annual awards honor instructors. The ARRL Professional Instructor of the Year award recognizes paid instructors, such as those teaching through adult education, while the Herb S. Brier Instructor of the Year Award recognizes an unpaid volunteer instructor. The ARRL Professional Educator of the Year award recognizes a teacher who incorporates ham radio into a school curriculum. The ARRL Excellence in Recruiting award goes to a person who has gone the extra mile to introduce others to

Amateur Radio.

Award winners receive a handsome plaque and recognition for their time and effort in service to the ham radio community. Runners-up get certificates.

To get an Educational Awards Nominating Application, visit <http://www.arrl.org/ead/award/application.html> or contact Jean Wolfgang, telephone 860-594-0219; e-mail jw Wolfgang@arrl.org.

ARRL Bulletin 86

November 4, 1999

West Central Florida Section Manager Appointed

Dave Armbrust, AE4MR, of Sarasota, Florida, has been appointed to serve as the first Section Manager for the new West Central Florida Section. In consultation with Southeastern Division Director Frank Butler, W4RH, and the West Central Florida Section Committee, ARRL Field Services Manager Rick Palm, K1CE, named Armbrust to serve a nearly one-year term. He'll assume office when the new section becomes effective January 15, 2000, and his term will run until January 1, 2001.

West Central Florida Section Committee Chairman Paul Toth, K2SEC, was pleased with Armbrust's selection. "I am confident Dave will be an effective Section Manager," he said. "He has my full support."

For his part, Armbrust, 43, was champing at the bit. "Watch for great things from the West Central Florida Section," he told Palm and Toth this week. "We intend to make it a model section."

Armbrust said the new section, approved by the ARRL Board last month after a

lopsided vote by the affected counties earlier this year, already enjoys a strong sense of unity. "We are all looking forward to making this section second to none," he said. The West Central Florida section consists of Charlotte, DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pinellas, Polk, and Sarasota counties.

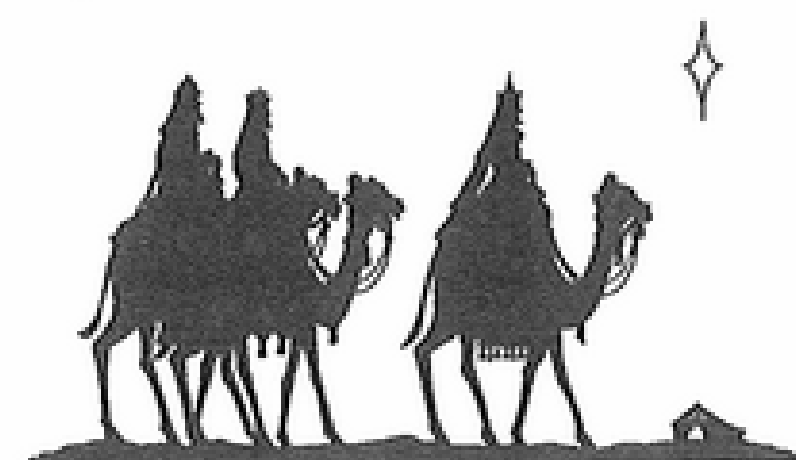
Armbrust is available via e-mail at ae4mr@arrl.net or by telephone at 941-923-1688. His address is 1641 Baywinds Lane, Sarasota, FL 34231-3040. The West Central Florida Section Committee's Web site is at <http://www.qsl.net/wcfla>.

Congratulations Rosalie

A word of congratulations to a longtime friend and supporter of ham radio and ham radio in space. It comes with word that Rosalie White, WA1STO, has been named to head ARRL Field and Educational Services, effective November 11th.

Rosalie's appointment, announced by the League's Executive Vice President Dave Sumner, K1ZZ, fills the gap left by the departure of Rick Palm, K1CE. Palm has gone into semi-retirement in Florida. November 10th was Rick's last day at ARRL Headquarters.

(ARRL)



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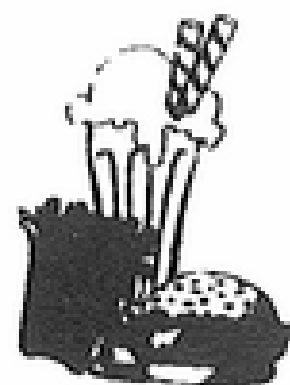
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Up Coming Events

December 11 1999 - Oklahoma City, OK
QCWA Chapter 63 is sponsoring a Tail Gate Swap Meet from 9:00 to 11:00 AM. Free Admission! The new location is NW 47th and May Ave, Oklahoma City Contact Gene, K5DLE, at 405-341-8289, for details.

Tulsa, OK ARRL West Gulf Division Convention NEW LOCATION - Riverside Airport Campus Tulsa Tech 801 E 91st St, Tulsa OK Talk-in on 145.11 - 600 or 443.850 + 5MHz PL tone: 88.5 Pre-registration CUT-OFF date is March 17th 24 hour HOTLINE (918) 622-2277 - e-mail: megriffin@ionet.net General Info: n5wx@qsl.net

ANNOUNCEMENTS

VE exams on 3rd Monday of each month sponsored by C.O.R.A. @ Salvation Army HQ at NW 50th and N. Penn, Oklahoma City at 6 PM local time. Doors will be locked at 6:30.

VE exams on 3rd Saturday of each month are held at 9:00 a.m. at Southern Temple Baptist Church, 1821 S High, OKC. Talk in on 146.76 MHz. For more information you can contact Audie, AA5GB @ 799-9916.

VE Exams are held 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 are held at 10:00 A.M. after the SCARS meeting at the American Red Cross in on

Westheimer Airport in Norman. Contact Jim Copeland, NW0K at 329-1681 or e-mail jimhelps@juno.com for more information.

VE exams on 4th Tuesday of even months are held at 6:30 p.m. at the Altus Vo-Tech in Altus, OK. Contact George Mateyo, N1GM for details.

VE exams on the 2nd Sunday of odd numbered months sponsored by the Stillwater ARC at 3:00 P.M. in the OSU Engineering North Building, Room 316. Contact Ken, K5KC (405) 377-7586 for details.

VE exams in Enid are done on odd months starting with the month of January. On the 2nd Saturday at 10:00 AM at the Oklahoma Natural Gas Co located at the corner of HY412 & Garland Rd., across east from Atwoods store. The testing is PREREGISTER ONLY. Contact Dick NJ5S 580-233-9869

VE exams on the 1st Saturday of each month at 2:30 P.M. in the Vinita City Hall sponsored by Northeast Oklahoma Radio Assn.

VE exams on the 1st Sunday of each month at the American Red Cross 6th and Lincoln for more information.

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 - Thursday @ 7:00 p.m. on 146.31/91.

North Central Oklahoma meets on the first and third Monday of the month at 7:30pm on the 147.150 rep

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

HF 3941kHz - AMTOR @ 8:30 a.m. 14.064MHz

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

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

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

Enid Amateur Radio Club Monday Night Net Monday @ 8:00pm on 147.150MHZ.

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

QCWA Chp 63 HF - Sunday @ 8:00 on 3855.0kHz USB.

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

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

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

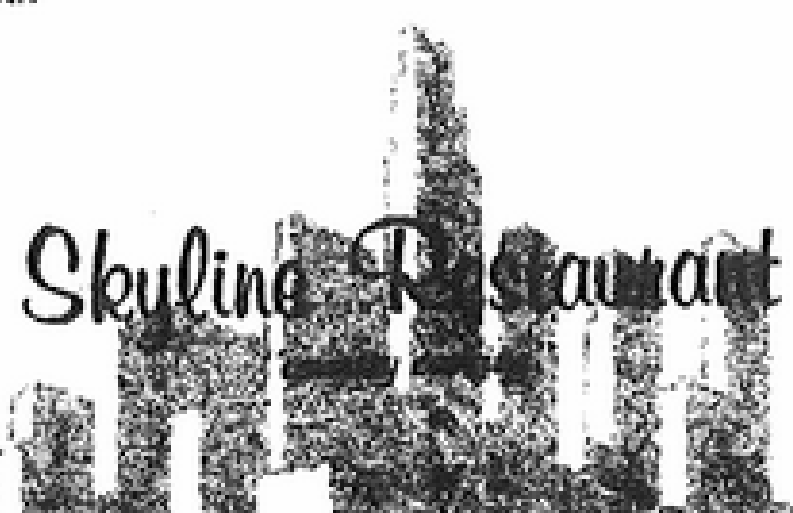
YL Net - Tuesday @ 8:00 p.m. on 147.09 plus

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

Oklahoma Section Net - Daily @ 0030Z on 3692.5 kHz

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December 05, 1999 - January 15, 2000

CORA Events

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|---|--|--|--|---|
| <i>December 5</i> 2:00 PM Red Cross Ve Exams | <i>December 6</i> 7:00 PM LFSARC | <i>December 7</i> 11:00 AM OK VHF ARC | <i>December 8</i> 7:00 PM Albus Area ARA 7:00 PM Tri-State ARG | <i>December 9</i> 9:30 AM S. Canadian ARS 10:00 AM EARC Ve Exams 10:00 AM SCARS VE Exams 3:00 PM Stillwater VE Exams | <i>December 10</i> | <i>December 11</i> |
| <i>December 12</i> 2:30 PM Wheatstraw ARC | <i>December 13</i> 7:00 PM LFSARC VE Exams | <i>December 14</i> | <i>December 15</i> | <i>December 16</i> | <i>December 17</i> | <i>December 18</i> 9:00 AM SBC VE Exams |
| <i>December 19</i> | <i>December 20</i> 6:00 PM CORA VE Exams 7:00 PM Broken Arrow ARC 7:00 PM Choctaw ARC | <i>December 21</i> 7:30 PM Oklahoma City APA | <i>December 22</i> | <i>December 23</i> 7:00 PM Enid ARC | <i>December 24</i> | <i>December 25</i> |
| <i>December 26</i> | <i>December 27</i> | <i>December 28</i> 7:30 PM CORA Meeting | <i>December 29</i> | <i>December 30</i> | <i>December 31</i> 5:00 PM Collector and Emitter Deadline | <i>January 1</i> 9:30 AM BAARC Ve Exams 10:00 AM Ada ARC 2:30 PM Vinita VE Exams |
| <i>January 2</i> 2:00 PM Red Cross Ve Exams | <i>January 3</i> | <i>January 4</i> 7:00 PM LFSARC | <i>January 5</i> | <i>January 6</i> 7:00 PM Aeronautical Center ARC 7:30 PM Cimmaron ARA | <i>January 7</i> | <i>January 8</i> 9:30 AM S. Canadian ARS 10:00 AM EARC Ve Exams 10:00 AM SCARS VE Exams 3:00 PM Stillwater VE Exams |
| <i>January 9</i> 2:30 PM Wheatstraw ARC | <i>January 10</i> 7:00 PM LFSARC VE Exams | <i>January 11</i> | <i>January 12</i> 11:00 AM OK VHF ARC | <i>January 13</i> 7:00 PM Albus Area ARA 7:00 PM Th-State ARG | <i>January 14</i> | <i>January 15</i> 9:00 AM SBC VE Exams |

November 99

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