

Collector & Emitter

Central Oklahoma Radio
Amateurs, Inc. Publication

December 2001
Volume 27, Number 12
Issue 322
75¢

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Collector & Emitter**Harold C. Miller, KB1ZQ****Editor****Linda G. Miller, N1LPN****Circulation Manager****Central Oklahoma Radio****Amateurs, Inc.****President:****V Pres.: Chuck Kanach, KC5EZZ****Secretary: Forrest Rush, N5VWF****Treasurer: Dave Duskin, NE5S****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:

2001/12 1 2 4 6 MZ
JOHN E. DOE, KA5ABC
1234 SW 56th STREET
RADIOVILLE, OK 74321-9876

The "2001/12" 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: 7:30 p.m., 1st Thursday, FAA, S. MacArthur, OKC Pres.: Clarence Warstler, KB5IBY 632-3545 VP: Sec/Tr.: Paul Solheim, WB7QIN 381-3574 Editor:	10. Oklahoma DX Association Meets: Hamfests and as announced in C&E. Pres.: Jim Hood, K5TT 405-732-6131 VP: Dave Ratliff, W5ATV 918-446-5957 VP: Jim Green, N5PMP Sec./Tr.: Jerry Chouninard, K5YAA 918-341-2659 Editor: Nelson Derks, AC5UP 918-451-1594
2. Oklahoma Central VHF ARC Meets: 11:30a.m., 2nd Wednesday, Home Town Buffet, 3900 NW 63 rd , Oklahoma City Pres.: Bill Noland, WA5FWD 354-5018 VP: Gene Hawkins, KA5CTN Sec: John Dome, KB5WVE 842-3493 Treas.: Jim Speck, W5AI 842-3055 Editor:	11. Edmond Amateur Radio Society Meets: 2:00 p.m., 3rd Sunday, Edmond Community Building 28 E Main, Edmond OK Pres.: David Wolf, KC5KJE 340-7486 VP: Dick Stinson, KK5XO 348-6542 Sec: Robert Coxsey, KM5GZ 478-5715 Treas.: Robyn Price, KD5ISC 324-2674 Editor: Curtis Foote, KC5GEP 359-6514 http://edmondsun.com/ears e-mail: k5eok@arri.net
4. Oklahoma City Autopatch Assn. Meets: 7:30 p.m., 3rd Tuesday, Salvation Army Bldg At 44 th Street & Bryant Pres.: Mark Hamblin, WL7FT 732-2087 VP: Mark Watkins, NM5W 340-8596 Sec: Clay Mayrose, WA6LBU Treas.: D.C. "Mac" Macdonald, K2GKK E-mail: ocapa@juno.com	
6. Altus Area Amateur Radio Assn. Meets: 7:00 p.m. 2nd Thursday, Southwest Area Vo-Tech Center, 711 W Tamarack Altus, OK Pres.: Dale Town, N5VX 580-477-4027 VP: Mike Schenkel, W5VXU 580-846-5578 Sec: Debbie Grime, KD5LMW 580-480-1252 Treas.: Fred Molledahl, AB5FS Editor: Lil Town, KC5CNA 580-477-4027	15. South Canadian ARS Meets: 9:30 a.m., 2nd Saturday, Red Cross Bldg North OU Campus, Norman Pres.: VP: Ed Berkowitz, N3US 364-8884 Sec: Bill Baker, N5UMH 366-8641 Tr: Jeff Wyke, KT5OK 329-6762 http://www.telepath.com/n5dkr
7. Enid Amateur Radio Club Meets: 7:00 p.m. 4th Thursday, American Red Cross 400 N Grand, Enid, OK Pres.: Dean Feken, KL7MA 580-336-3326 VP: Sam Cotter, KD5EUS 580-233-0048 Sec: Tim McAnally, KD5KTB 580-234-0948 Treas.: Dwayne Posey, KC5QVS 580-237-3218 Editor:	17. Ada Amateur Radio Club Meets: 9:00 a.m., 1st Saturday, Salvation Army Bldg 115 N. Oak St., Ada, OK Pres.: Charles Eiter, KC5TGA 580-436-4425 VP: Danny Coffey, KM5LB 580-759-2670 Sec: Darla Coffey, KC5RGU 580-759-2670 Tr: Scott Renes, KD5AJL 580-436-1369
8. Choctaw Amateur Radio Club Meets: 7:00 p.m., 3rd Monday, Eastern Oklahoma Co. Vo Tech, 4601 N. Choctaw Rd, Choctaw, OK Pres.: Chuck Kanach, KC5EZZ 390-2231 VP: Don Clark, KB5KWV 630-3006 Sec: Kay Hlozman, KB5VJR 391-3398 Treas.: Ron Ernest, WB9DAF 769-3207 Editor:	19. Tri-State Amateur Radio Group Meets: 7:30 p.m., 2nd Thursday, Woodward, OK Pres.: Larry Goodwin Sr. K5LHG 580-886-3283 VP: Gerald Bowman, W5AOK 580-994-5600 Sec/Tr: Robert Keith, W5ROB 580-994-5461 E-mail: w5okt@arri.net
9. Wheatstraw Amateur Radio Club Meets: 1:30 p.m., 2 nd Sunday, Location Varies Pres.: Leo Piel, WZ5H 580-886-2998 VP: Ray Barnes, AB5Z 580-274-3334 Sec/Tr.: Joe Garland, WA5FLT 405-893-2660 Editor: Ralph Wilder, Wa5PFK 405-623-5421	Central Oklahoma Radio Amateurs Meets: 7:30p.m., 4th Tuesday, Salvation Army Center At 44 th Street & Bryant Pres.: VP: Chuck Kanach, KC5EZZ 390-2231 Sec: Forrest Rush, N5VWF 842-8486 Treas.: Dave Duskin, NE5S Editor: E-mail: corahams@swbell.net

Deadline for January Issue of *Collector and Emitter* is Friday 28 December 2001. Send all Articles to *Collector and Emitter*, PO BOX 55600, Del City, OK 73115-5600 on 3 ½ inch floppy or e-mail to corahams@swbell.net. Articles received after the deadline may not be printed that month. (Job of C& E Editor is open! Please contact a CORA Officer if you are interested.)

Central Oklahoma Radio Amateurs, Inc.

Minutes of the CORA meeting for November 27, 2001

The meeting opened at 7:30 PM at the Skyline Café, the Salvation Army Citadel being closed on the coldest night in November. Two officers and five directors were present along with two guests. Forrest Rush, N5VWF, acted as Chairman of the meeting.

The president having resigned and the vice-president out of state, there was a discussion of C&E, but no formal action by the board.

There will be a Special Board Meeting of CORA at the Skyline Café on Saturday, January 12, 2002 at 1:00 PM. Those who would like to eat will gather there at 12 Noon.

OCAPA will contact Hal and Linda about helping with the December issue.

The CORA Board would like to wish all amateurs a Joyous Holiday Season and a Happy 2002.

73,
Forrest Rush
CORA Secretary

THANK YOU HAL AND LINDA

I would like to publicly thank Hal and Linda Miller for a job well done.

I recently assumed the position as Treasurer of CORA. I am only starting to understand the tremendous amount of work that Hal Miller (KB1ZQ) as President of CORA, Editor of the Collector and Emitter (C&E), Ham Holiday chairman, Treasurer (until I assumed the position, pun intended), and numerous other jobs, which include that Hal has done.

Hal and Linda (NILPN; Circulation Manager; associate editor, etc.) jump through hoops each month to produce the

finest ham radio club publication that I have seen in the forty plus years that I have been licensed. Putting an issue of the C&E together requires: gathering, writing and editing material; preparing the C&E master; delivering the master to the printer, retrieving the printed copies; preparing mailing labels; applying mailing labels (approximately 650 each month); sorting and bundling by ZIP Code; preparing documentation of ZIP Codes and quantities by ZIP Code that are delivered along with the C&Es; delivering the resulting bundles to the Post Office for mailing; preparing invoices for each of the clubs for the number of copies its members receive; and processing membership additions and deletions by club to keep the records straight. I am sure that I have left out some steps, but you get the picture. AND, this happens every month – what a tremendous burden for just two people. It definitely diminishes the pleasure that the hobby should provide.

There are ways to lighten the load. One such way would be to have the printer also take care of mailing. How much this would cost is unknown at this time, but I believe it would be well worth the cost.

We should raise the C&E subscription rate such that the C&E supports Ham Holiday and not that Ham Holiday supports the C&E. For less than the price of candy bar per month, we can keep the C&E at its current professional level. We should also express our appreciation to Hal and Linda for the outstanding job that they have done so far, and try to convince them to remain at the helm of the C&E.

Dave Duskin, NE5S
CORA Treasurer

Subject: A Comment from a Former EARS President

From: Milt Heflin <milt.heflin@ghg.net>
To: corahams@swbell.net

A friend from my early childhood in Fairfax, Les Johnston, KB5RV, now in Choctaw, mailed me the October & November issues of C&E. I have a certain attachment to Oklahoma hams. Edmond is my "second" hometown, I got my ticket there as K5KRM in 1957 under the mentorship of Harold Burks, W5WAH. I was also a charter member and the first President of the Edmond Amateur Radio Society formed in the late 50's.

Linda NILPN's article in the November issue, "December 2001: Last Issue" really struck a nerve. Unbelievable!! From the article, "Well, that recommendation (to raise C&E issue price to 75 cents) was bounced around for about a year until individual clubs sent in a counter recommendation to increase the monthly issue from forty cents to fifty cents....."

You mean to tell me that not too long ago you got this neat little publication for 40 cents a copy?!!! And, clubs countered with a 10 cent increase versus paying 75 cents an issue...and it took a year for them to arrive at that?!!! Please tell me that the EARS of Edmond, my old club, supported 75 cents an issue!!

Sounds to me like the near-sighted and uninformed (that means not willing to be or capable of being informed) ruled the day. As usual, the "silent majority" was probably silent again. No wonder NILPN and KB1ZQ resigned their C&E duties.

Seems to me you folks lost a good deal. What a shame! And for 35 lousy cents a month, if my math is correct!! Unbelievable!!

Milt Heflin
K5KRM since 1957
EARS Charter Member and First President
Houston, TX
milt.heflin@ghg.net

note...you have permission to use the above in your December issue if you wish...if not please pass to those of you that have worked hard on this. I am totally disconnected from all of this, except for my Oklahoma roots that run very deep, but I do appreciate and respect what you have done and were trying to do...the lack of support is really sad...and Un-\$#@%\$#-believable!

regards,
Milt

From the Editor's desk: Thank You for all the emails, cards and letters; they mean more than words could express to us. CORA has been around since 1974! The C&E has too and has had just 4 Editors and who will be the next one, we are not sure yet. Sometimes we must have faith that everything will work out as it should be. *Peace to you and yours and May the New Year be filled with many blessings for all!

Chit-Chat

By Linda NILPN

New Chapter/New Beginnings:

Usually, I write about new beginnings in the January issue. I try to encourage you to take stock of your life and to continue to grow as a person. I have used stories in the past that held a message or moral lesson within them to bring this encouragement to light. This is my January 2002 article, with the proper corrections added, early along with my December 2001 article tacked on. This time instead of encouraging you, I will be taking stock of my own life and sharing it with you.

I have no idea if there will be a January issue this coming year or not and have been debating with myself if I should continue writing this column if the newsletter does continue. I wonder too if I would be allowed to continue writing with the suggested changes that are currently being considered by the CORA Board. My column is one of the ones that falls under the heading "not club related nor am I a reporter from any CORA Club" and therefore considered expendable. So instead of worrying, I guess this will be the last column that I will write for now.

Well, I never dreamed that this day would dawn but here it is all the same. Funny isn't it, how time continues to move forever forward when sometimes we just want it to stop on a single moment in time so we could hold back change. Try as we might, things do change and we are forced to move forward with it, liking it or not.

What will I do now after giving almost 8 years of myself to you, the ham community, as the all purpose grunt of CORA, C & E Circulation Manager and Chit-Chat? CORA and this newsletter have become so much a part of our lives that it is hard to see what life was like without it. I had gotten into the habit of planning everything around it, it became a way of life.

Well, I have time now to start going through boxes from when we were hit by the tornado in 1999 and go on a treasure hunt in my garage. I have time to sew and with my dropping the pounds (almost 30 lbs to date since the end of July), I will

need to take up my clothes come springtime. I have time now to replant the flowerbed the tornado took back in 1999 in the front yard. I have time to learn how to can food, something I have always wanted to do. I have time to attempt to learn Morse Code and upgrade my ticket. I have time now to go home to San Antonio and not worry about meeting any deadlines. I have time now to keep a promise I made years ago to a dear friend named Kevin Lee (Later, I will share with you what that promise is).

I have been asked, over the years, if I had ever written anything before I started writing Chit-Chat for the C & E. Yes, I have written before writing Chit-Chat, but I have always been kind of closed mouth about it. I guess it is time to answer those questions that I have been too shy to answer in person.

In Jr. High, our music teacher challenged all of the Music & English Students to write a Song, words and music. I won and was surprised that I did. I entered the contest just for the fun of it. I was given \$35 and an Award Certificate.

In High School, Josh Fleming and myself were chosen to represent our school at UIL Writing Compositions. There was no real way to prepare for this event and we were competing against students from other schools from all over the state. We just walked in and were given a dictionary and a blue book and a topic and were given 3 hours to write a paper. I never placed lower than 3rd place and won State my sophomore year. I was drafted onto the School Debate Team shortly after that because my English teacher felt I could help our team win. We won City and Regional for 2 years.

In College, one of my English Professors noticed my ability to express my ideas with words and encouraged me to continue. He asked me to keep a journal and would ask if he could read it every few weeks. He is responsible for getting the college to bend its requirements concerning English Tutors and had me working, after completing just one semester of college, in that department.

I tutored Freshman & Sophomore College English specializing in Research Papers. He is also the same person who took some of my stories from my journal and had

them published in the college paper and in a book they printed each quarter of student essays and fictional short stories. He told me I had a gift and although I really wanted to believe him, I just didn't see it.

I ended up working with children and would make up stories and songs to keep their attention. They knew all of the classroom books by heart. When I would sit down and start telling a story none of them had heard before, everyone would become glued to their seats waiting to hear what happened next. The kids loved it and so did the parents. I never knew what the story would be when I sat down to tell one. Yet, my stories always seemed to fall into place with ease and taught a lesson.

I went on with my life and until Chit-Chat, I had not really written anything down since college. I was scared, and yes, I wondered why anyone would be interested in what I had to say. To be honest with you, I actually was hoping no one would notice my articles. I was rusty and had no idea what I was doing writing a monthly column. Kids I could relate to but this was a whole different age group and these were HAMS I was writing for each month! Hams I had always been in awe of most of my life and here I was writing a monthly column in your newsletter. Although I was a ham myself, that small little fact was one I overlooked.

For those of you who would come up to me and tell me how much you enjoyed my articles, I hope you can understand why I was so unsure of how to respond to your praise. Part of my reaction was shyness and part was just learning to accept the fact that my words touched others in ways I never dreamed.

I have, over just the past year, learned to see myself as a published writer. Strange, but I have been one since College but never saw myself as one until you helped me to see it. Thank You! The following in my gift to you...A slice out of a Fantasy Story (Novel) I have been writing. The story started to really unfold this past summer...

A few years ago, Kevin sent me a collection of drawings and asked me to create a story to go with them, a fantasy world made real from using the imagination. I gave my word willingly and thought why not, this could be fun! I could

not think of a better place or time to share just a slice of this story as it begins to unfold and setting the stage for the adventure to come. Here is a preview of...

"Between Two Worlds".

The path was easy to find and well worn from generations that walked it before me and who loved this same spot. The trees became thick and I could smell the earthy scent of the river. The water heated by the sun's rays, the decay of plants on the ground and the scent of wild flowers filled the air. Nature's music sung by birds came drifting down from the trees above.

The trees opened up and there before me was a grassy bank and the crystal blue river. A Freshwater Spring fed this spot a mile up river, so the water at this spot was always fresh and clear. Grandfather had told me once that this spot had been dug out to make this area deeper than the rest of the river. It was one of the first things our ancestors did when they came to this land. The stones were used to build the cabin. I could see the bottom and the catfish swimming among the rocks along with Carp and Sun Perch and minnows. A cool breeze gently glided on top of the water making tiny ripples across the surface.

It was so peaceful here. I walked down to the bank and sat down and just closed my eyes. Pictures and images from the past few months flooded my mind. The state of the farm was a puzzle that had no explanation...What was going on? Who had been caring for the place? Why did I have the strong urge to drop everything and come here? My eyes became heavy and I felt the beginnings of a headache coming on. If I just rested here a few minutes...

"Come and take my hand and let us run barefoot across the dew kissed grass Child! Hurry now, the sun is just beginning to awake and is now trying to chase away the darkness. I love this time when there is neither day nor night. For just a few seconds the doorway will open in the old oak tree in the middle of the field. We must not miss it!"

The sky was changing colors and streaks of light began to slice through the blackness. "Hurry child, do not stubble. My time is short and I must show you that which is known by few and that which we

have been entrusted to keep safe and to protect! You must never tell. You must never walk through the door. You must only share it's secret when you know your time is short like I know mine is now. Child, I could not pass this on to your father and although you are yet too young to understand what you are about to see, you will remember when the time is right. I promise you! Do not fear."

Gathering up a handful of my nightgown in my free hand I follow as Granny continues to pull me into the cornfield toward the old oak tree. "Child, we must hurry! We must run across the field, trying to beat the sun before it kisses the tree."

Out of breathe and wondering about this mad dash out into the night, my Granny stops, bends down and lifts my chin with both of her hands that I had come to love so well. The once shining blue eyes had now faded and grown dull with age. In a hushed tone she looks directly into my eyes and asks me for my Word of Honor to hold all she has said and is about to show me close to my heart of hearts and I silently nod my head yes. She says, "It is done as it should be and will continue to be until time is no more!" She moves her hands to my shoulders and turns me around and places me in front of her facing the oak tree.

Darkness and shadows is all I can see as the minutes tick by. The first rays of the day touch the branches and all of a sudden a bright, blinding silvery blue light seems to set the whole tree a blaze. Granny whispers in my ear to be perfectly still and watch...

Sparkling lights dance all around us and are cold as they touch my skin. The iridescent colors are almost too blinding to watch. My heart feels as if it is ready to leap out of my chest. I don't dare draw a single breath for I fear the dancing lights. I wonder if I am about to die and what is this Granny has taken me to see.

We stand as if frozen as the light became a doorway under the branches and into the space between the two huge trunks of the tree. It is like nothing I have ever seen before; it looks like a window into a strange place. Colors so bright and clear and I saw what I thought might be people, funny houses and plants, trees and was that a river of some kind...and then it was gone. I found myself blinking. Staring at

the tree, it looked as it always had. The cornfield was back and would be ready for harvest soon.

I turned around and looked up at Granny with so many questions ready to burst forth when she placed her finger to my lips and said, "No child. No questions and no answers will I give you. Tis not the time to be questioning that which is. Come now and back to bed with you. For what you have seen this morning will be stored as a dream and be locked away. One day you will remember and this moment that was thought to be a dream will be seen as it really was meant to be. Remember Child! Look for the book titled, Between Two Worlds, it is a journal passed down from mother to daughter ever since we came to this land. Read it my child and follow your heart!"

I woke up with a start wondering where was I? How did I end up on the riverbank? I was no longer 6 years old but a grown woman. The dream seemed so real. I could still smell the scent of Granny all around me. She wore Vanilla and they stopped making that scent in cologne years ago. Was it a dream or did it really happen? Goose bumps covered me from head to toe and all of a sudden I felt chilled to the bone. Copyright 2001 Linda G Miller, NILPN.

Ending comments:

In the coming months, I will be completing the story, "Between Two Worlds" I will dearly miss writing for you each month and wish with all my heart things could have been different. For now, I plan to work on the story I am writing before I begin writing for a newsletter again. Enjoy life my friends. Make each moment special and hope to hear you on the airwaves. Do email me and keep in touch!

God Bless,

88 to all and again Thank You!

This is Linda, NILPN signing off..

C&E EDITORING COMMENT:

To attempt to keep the newsletter to 32 pages was a challenge this month for me. I normally try to allow each club their own separate page and add filler articles as needed. With the 32 pg. restriction, that practice went out the window this month. I apologize to all clubs and their membership for any inconveniences this might have created on you finding your club news. ~ NILPN

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

D'X FILES

Episode Twenty One: Working The DX From The Ground Up...

Xander has a love-hate relationship with summer. Like many of us, he appreciates the long daylight paths on the upper HF bands, but there are times when the heat is too much for Ham jobs like burying ground radials. As fate would have it, a warm day in May would be the beginning of one of Xander's most infamous entries into... *D'X Files*.

As every active Ham has surely noticed, late winter brought a series of solar flares that shut down what should have been some of the finest DX weekends of this cycle. From Atoka to Anchorage, Bristow to Barstow and Lawton to Labrador, OM's struggled through the DX Drought of 2001. Many blamed it on 'conditions' and puzzled over the lack of propagation while others just let the dust gather on their rigs. Little did they suspect that geomagnetic flux conditions were only a small part of a larger picture... Read on to learn more...

Few Hams have a better understanding of the Radiating Arts that Xander and, as so many of us know, there are few antennas totally independent of ground reflections and the counterpoise effect of the earth. Effective antennas are often found on wet or highly conductive mineral-laden earth. Salt marshes and tidal ponds near coastal areas are famous for providing some of the strongest signals on the bands, an RF advantage denied to many of us in the Midwest. Xander knows there are ways of approaching this level of performance, but no perfect substitute short of a fortune in ground radials has ever been devised.

As Xander was pondering this dilemma, he was struck by one of his now-famous Blinding Flashes Of Inspiration... If the standard cure for a poor ground is to cover it with radials, could there be a way of utilizing a more natural and self-installing material to provide the same benefit? A few e-mails to the OSU Extension office

in Spokogee returned a series of web page links to some of the most aggressive studies in plant hybridizing. For the next few weeks, Xander plunged deep into the depths of DNA manipulation to devise a unique, fast growing, low maintenance plant material unlike anything on earth.

By late June the solar flares of spring were becoming a fading memory and the DX bands were on their way toward recovery. Many OM's began to hear an occasional opening that gave them hope, but little did they realize that on a 17 acre plot near Earlsboro an experiment was underway that would change the course of their DX futures. By utilizing the most advanced theories of genetic mutation ever devised, Xander created a computer simulation program that could accelerate the natural selection process by hundreds of years to achieve his goal: A hybridized variant of Bermuda grass capable of drawing enough trace metals from the soil to give the grass superior ground plane characteristics. The idea was simplicity itself... How many times have you pulled Bermuda rhizomes from your flowerbeds that measured eight feet or longer? That's a quarter wave on Ten Meters, and just the beginning of what could become an Amateur's best friend... Or their worst nightmare. Within a week after planting, the first sprouts of RF Optimized Ground Plane Bermuda poked through the topsoil and began absorbing the generous rays of the sun. Carefully timed feedings of Copper, Aluminum, and Iron Nitrate in the test plots were scheduled along with a modest amount of irrigation. The RF Optimized Bermuda grew with incredible vigor.

As part of the study, Xander installed a series of vertical radiators throughout the fields in the most common patterns: Monopoles, Four-Squares, Binomial and Directional Arrays plus the always-popular Shunt Fed Tower dotted the

landscape. Careful measurements of feed-point impedances at each radiator were taken twice daily and plotted throughout the growing season. Within a month or so, they approached the theoretically perfect values near 20 Ohms at resonance. Not a single radial was installed; only a modest ring of copper flashing material buried a few inches below the surface was needed to couple the antenna to the turf. Xander soon began his on-air testing and several QSO's on the low bands returned signal reports of Near-Biblical magnitude despite a QRP transceiver. Rumor has it that Xowolski stopped by during Field Day to make 160 Meter DXCC within an hour at sunset on Saturday night, but the cards have yet to be confirmed...

About that time, many local Hams noted a steady drop in signal levels on their favorite bands. Naturally, they blamed it on conditions, but it did seem curious that the bands tended to improve on Saturday afternoon and deteriorated throughout the week. Meanwhile, Xander was working more Top-Band DX into the southern hemisphere than the rest of us can dream about during the dog days of summer.

It was on a sizzling Saturday afternoon in August when Xander had nearly finished mowing the test field. He noticed someone was parked near the fence and trying to get his attention. It was a local Ham we'll call "UW" who stopped by to admire the antenna farm. A few moments of friendly conversation later, 'UW' was parked near the Four Square Array and running a short length of RG-213 to the mobile HF rig tucked under his dash. As the sun began to drop toward the western horizon, Xander finished mowing the last section while 'UW' worked the CW pileups from South Africa and Australia on the low end of 80. Please note that 'UW' wasn't trying to bust a pileup, 'UW' was the pileup. DX like this is routine for Xander, but 'UW

was so thrilled that he could barely handle the key after a few dozen Q's... His hands trembled as he told Xander about the DX he had just worked and couldn't find the words to express his incredible gratitude. It must have been difficult for 'UW to contain his excitement while operating, as Xander couldn't help but notice that his car seat had become noticeably... Damp.

What 'UW didn't realize is that he hadn't experienced the full capabilities of the test range. It wasn't until a few days later that Xander analyzed the collected data to find that the radiation pattern is related to the height of the RF Optimized turf. Over the next few weeks he found he could adjust the mower height to fine-tune the take-off angle of the primary lobes. This was an interesting development as taller grass promoted the lowest angles of radiation for DX work, while a shorter cut favored domestic contacts... He could adjust the mowing height for a contest and hold any frequency he wanted all weekend.

It was a Thursday night when Xander's phone rang. Xowolski had just returned from the monthly ShaZamaHamaTronics Amateur Radio Club (SHTARC) meeting at the Snort & Choke Smorgasbord of Spokogee, and had some bad news to report... The meeting was dominated by conversations about the deteriorating band conditions over the past few months. Some club members even mentioned that local broadcast Radio & TV signals were far below normal, and getting worse. She couldn't help but wonder if this was related to Xander's organic ground plane. While casual observations like those heard at a club meeting are less than scientific, one held great significance: No Ham near the internationally famous DX Vortex of Beggs, OK had made a DX contact in over 60 days. This has never happened before in recorded history. Something was definitely going on, but her conversation ended on a light note as Xowolski told him about the guy with a wild story about a tower farm and a freak band opening. There was no end to the story, as he got so excited that he had to run to the bathroom before he could finish...

Xander was up late that night surfing the web for DX spots and propagation reports from the past 60 days to see if he could determine a pattern. Without a doubt, the

central states within a 300 mile radius of Earlsboro had become almost completely DX-Free. He had to search about 1,200 miles out before band conditions returned to normal. This made no sense, as he had logged fabulous DX results during the same time period. By dawn, Xander was on his way to the test site with a calibrated field strength meter tuned to a weak AM broadcast station. As he walked onto the RF Optimized Bermuda grass there was an increase in the signal level. The farther he walked, the stronger the signal became. Perhaps he was hearing parasitic radiation from the towers, or could it be something else? Choosing a site far from the nearest tower, he discovered that placing the meter on the grass peaked the signal to near overload. As he walked back out, the signal returned to normal. Lowering the meter to the ground outside the test site reduced the level to near-zero. It was then that he realized the thatch of the grass was acting like an RF Sponge... Not only was the RF Optimized Bermuda an excellent reflector for the transmitted signal, but it could attract incoming signals as well...

Of course! This explained why he was the only one working DX last summer, and why it took over 1,000 miles to reduce the effects of the grass. The turf was simply so attractive to RF that any signal within the skip zone could be drawn off-axis and into his antenna farm, never to be heard from again... He had grown an RF Black Hole!

Little did Xander realize there was more to the story... Within a few days, the dry months of June and July ended with heavy downpours by mid August. Most unusual, but the local farmers had no complaints. As the lawns of Earlsboro started to turn green again, a small tuft of RF Optimized Bermuda that had hitchhiked home in the front fender of UW's vehicle was waiting patiently near the edge of his driveway. Dormant since his visit to Xander, all it needed was a little moisture for a chance to take root. Within days it had infiltrated the lawn and was sending out runners at a prodigious rate.

Thanks to poor band conditions and being permanently spoiled by Xander's array, 'UW had taken to running full power on the few occasions when he attempted a QSO. That night he got in to a local rag-chew on 75 Meters that lasted well into

the wee hours of the morning. Little did he, or anyone else, realize that RF had a significant effect on the growth habits of Xander's Optimized Bermuda grass... In his testing, Xander rarely ran more than five or ten Watts of power. With the kind of signal reports he had been receiving, there was no need for more. But, he had been wondering about the concentric rings in the grass whenever he mowed... Had he measured them against his operating frequencies, he'd find they matched the current nodes for that wavelength. The stronger the RF current, the faster the grass grew. At low power levels the effect wasn't significant enough to fully engage his superb cognitive abilities.

By mid-morning when 'UW tried to go outside for the newspaper at the end of his driveway, the grass had grown over much of the house and about 20 feet up the tower. Like a houseplant that leans toward a window, the mutant grass had detected a nutritious RF source and was aggressively growing toward it. Not only had it covered the shack side of the house, but it was working its way into the shack through the coax runs... Think of this as one more reason why you should use a Balun to reduce feed line radiation. Realizing he'd need outside help cutting through the RF Optimized Bermuda, 'UW grabbed his HT to key up the local 2 Meter repeater...

This was a big mistake, and I'll spare you the nasty details. Let's just say that 'UW cut more grass in one day than most of us will during a lifetime, and it could be a while before he keys a transmitter again... His last QSO was that traumatic.

As the cool days of fall turned into winter Xander saw a progressive decline in the effectiveness of his test antennas. Other Hams noticed an increase in DX activity. Apparently the grass only works when it's growing. By late October the bands were back to normal. Meanwhile, in Earlsboro, a second tuft of grass worked loose from a rocker panel near a lawn... Where it will remain dormant... Until spring.

The QSO Is Out There

Contents Copyright 1998-2001 by
Nelson Derks - AC5UP / ex-KC5QVV
" Illegitimus Non Carborundum
Ipso Facto "



South Canadian Amateur Radio
Society
Norman, Oklahoma

Based on the premise "Better late than never", the November meeting of SCARS was held at the Norman Public Library on Saturday, November 24th. 21 members were present and one XYL. Glad to have you Jean.

The meeting was called to order by Pres. Tom KD5ENL and self introductions were made. Treasurer Jeff KT5OK reported we had \$ in the bank and it was time to start taking membership renewals. As a reminder we did vote to raise the dues to \$25 per year.

Ken KC5OU gave the repeater report and sadly the UHF machine is down. Probably receiver problems. We discussed several options. Have it repaired, replace it or forget about it. Regrettably it is not used very much and the antenna needs to be reoriented on the tower. It was decided to take it to TD's for evaluation and estimate of repair. The VHF repeater is OK.

Some club members have been in dialog with both the Red Cross and the City of Norman as to offering input in the Red Cross purchase of some mobil equipment and how we might be of assistance to the city in times of emergency. Some good things could come out of both.

Joe W5PNO reminded members of the weekly OU surplus sale each Tuesday at 11:30 AM at the Monitor St warehouse. Items from dishes to computers to desks and office equipment can be found at bargain prices.

Bill KD5DOB and Lyeal W5SJC gave a CORA report which could best be summed up by reading the last C&E. The tone at our meeting was that efforts toward Ham Holiday should definitely be continued as long as there is attendance. Publication of the C&E or similar publication was

desired but possibly be made available by some means other than mailing to each member.

Our meeting place obstacle has been eased by the offer by Jim WD5HPU to meet at the Episcopal Church and the offer by Louis KC5ABI to meet at the Moose Lodge. We could use either of these sites on our usual 2nd Saturday morning whereas the Red Cross might possibly be available on a Sunday afternoon and this was not definite. After the discussion we voted to accept the nice offer by the Moose Lodge and will meet there on the 2nd Saturday of January. We will have our Christmas party at Furrs Cafeteria on Tue Dec 11th at 6:30 PM. This will serve as the December meeting as well. I hope all members will mark the calendar for this get-together and come and enjoy the evening. Rather than the club buying gifts this year it was decided that everyone bring something. Limit the expense to only several dollars OR better still, use this as an opportunity for someone else to enjoy a treasure from your "Shack".

It won't be long until it's time for the Ham Class again. David N5LCL will be the point person for this program. Jud W5JA is stepping down after holding this class for a number of years. So thanks to Jud and help support Dave. It was moved and seconded that the club pay for the new ARRL videos which will more closely follow the textbook for achieving a Tech Class license. It will probably start in late January. More on this later.

That concluded our business and we adjourned.

73 de N5UMH
Bill

A personal note thanking Hal for all the years of effort put into CORA, Ham Holiday and the C&E. Many regret that things could not have been worked out to the satisfaction of all.



Oklahoma City Autopatch Association

Vice President – Thanks everyone for attending the November meeting. We had a good turnout and lots of good discussion. Alton, KD5KVQ gave us a briefing on his experiences in New York City after the bombing and brought pictures for us to see. Thanks Alton and we are glad to have you back.

I want to welcome three new members to OCAPA.

Steve, KD5JSB Chuck, KB0YJR and Robert, KD5QFO.

We are glad to have you and hope you can participate in some of the upcoming activities that we have planned.

OCAPA is planning to start VE testing again soon. We are getting a team together and hope to see many upgrades in the near future. OCAPA is an ARRL affiliated club and I would like to encourage anyone that is not a member of ARRL to join. The ARRL provides amateur radio with many services and a great magazine to enjoy also. I would also like to encourage anyone who is a member of the ARRL to take advantage of the ARRL email forwarding service. With so many internet service providers, it makes contacting each other much easier if all you need for an email address is (call sign)@ARRL.NET.

I hope to see everyone at the meeting Christmas dinner in December. It will be held at Hometown Buffet off 74th between Penn & Western and if you get lost, just key up the mike on .82 and someone will talk you in. Date is December 18th and time is around 6:30 pm. A good time will be had by all. Remember to bring something for the drawing if you want to participate in the drawing. We have some very unusual items show up occasionally don't we WL7FT?

I hope everyone has a Merry Christmas.
73 de Mark, NM5W

Phil's Best Gift?

© 2001 Jerome Doerrie, K5IS

It seems in every direction we turn, there is a reminder to buy this or that for the "ultimate" Christmas present. This over-commercialization of Christmas bothers me. I decided to write a story that combines Ham Radio and the "real" value of life to conclude this series of C&E articles. We Hams are passionate about our radios. We try to put our radios everywhere we can think of, on bicycles, autos of all descriptions, motor cycles, human carried, just where-ever. The photograph of WA0TKJ's truck shows how to decorate with antennas for 144, 222, 432, and 1296 MHz. Dean likes to give out grid squares from all over the southwest. How many radios can a person put in a van? High frequency, 50, 144, 222, 432, 902, 1296 MHz, packet, and satellite equipment are in the back of this van. In the third photograph, it was Fred's, WB5ZRC, turn to be the rotator while I was the radio operator doing 432 MHz in the Rocky Mountain National Park in Colorado. Now, to start the story.

"Grandpa, tell us a story."

"Yes, Grandpa, and tell about bears, grrr."

"Thomas, it's winter and bears are asleep now."

"No they are not, they have to see what Santa brings, then they can go to sleep."

"Okay, now let me tell you a story about Phil, a Ham radio operator, Mt. Evans, and his gift when it wasn't even Christmas."

"Yea, Grandpa, please begin now."

I have known Phil for a number of years and talk with him regularly. He is serious about the VHF bands and from his home about 70 miles southeast of Denver in Genoa, Colorado; his station puts out good signals. Genoa has the Tower Museum and from the tower you can see the states of Wyoming, Colorado, Nebraska, South Dakota, and Kansas. If there was a higher spot in the Oklahoma and Texas panhandles, you could see them, too. While this is a good location, on VHF, the higher the antenna, the better for contacts. At 14,267 feet you won't do much better than Mt. Evans, about 40 miles southwest

of Denver, and it has a road for driving to the top.



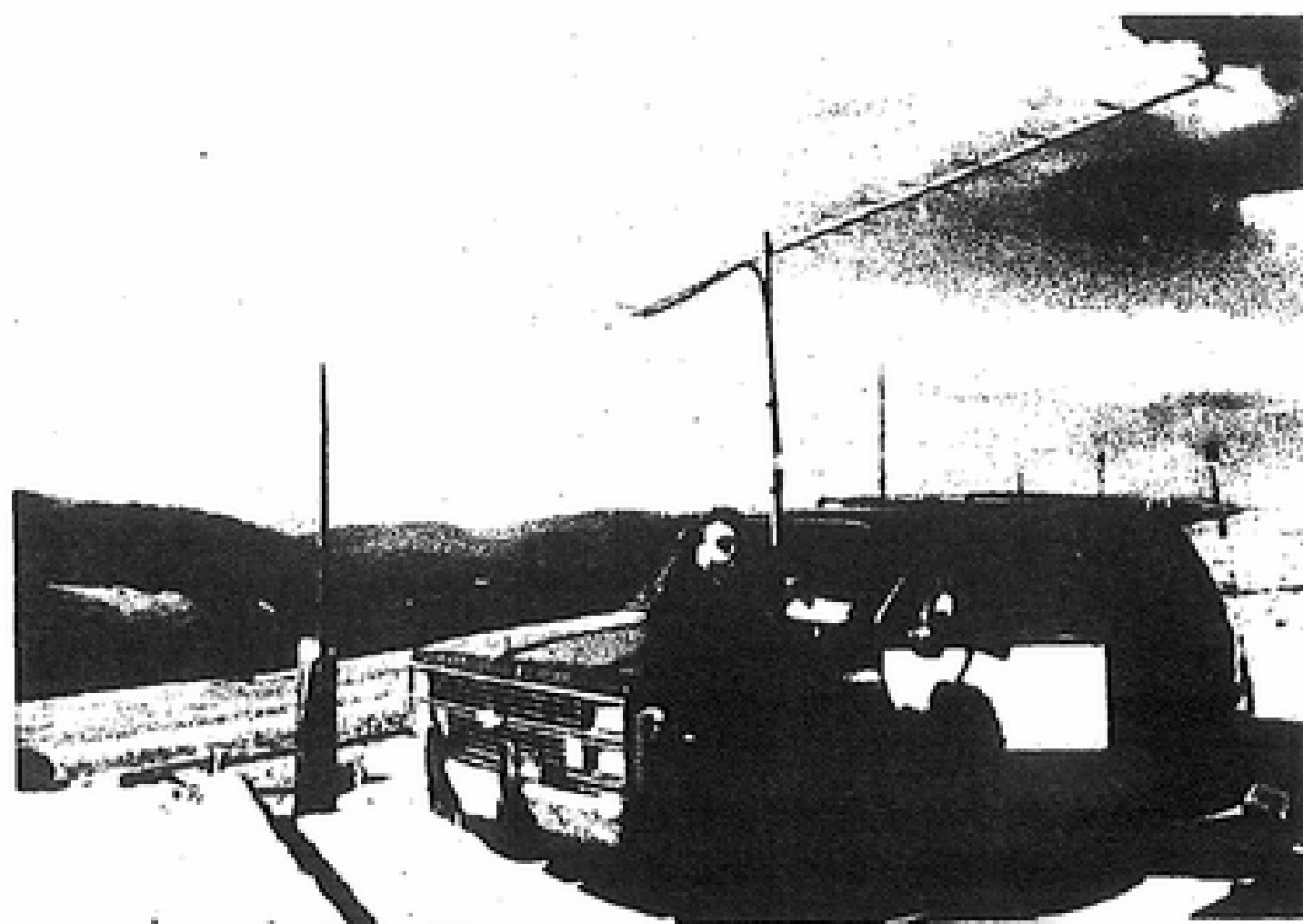
The mountain was named for the second governor of the state of Colorado. In 1910 a road was proposed for reaching the summit. In 1917 construction began. Progress was slow because work could only be done for two to three months a year. The road was finished in 1927 and paved during the 1930's. One takes exit #240 in Idaho Springs onto highway #103 to the south going 14 miles to Echo Lake. Pay a \$10 fee and take highway #5. Visible on the mountain are 2000-year-old Bristlecone pine trees that were living at the time that Jesus was born. Above the timberline, where the trees stop growing, the mountain is sheer cliffs and there are no guardrails on the road. It is a long ways down if you fall off the road! Summit Lake is at 12,700 feet and is frozen most of the year and thaws only in July and August. It is 5 more miles to the parking lot on top. On a clear day one can see an area 5 times the size of Switzerland!

Phil has used the technique of linear loading on the elements

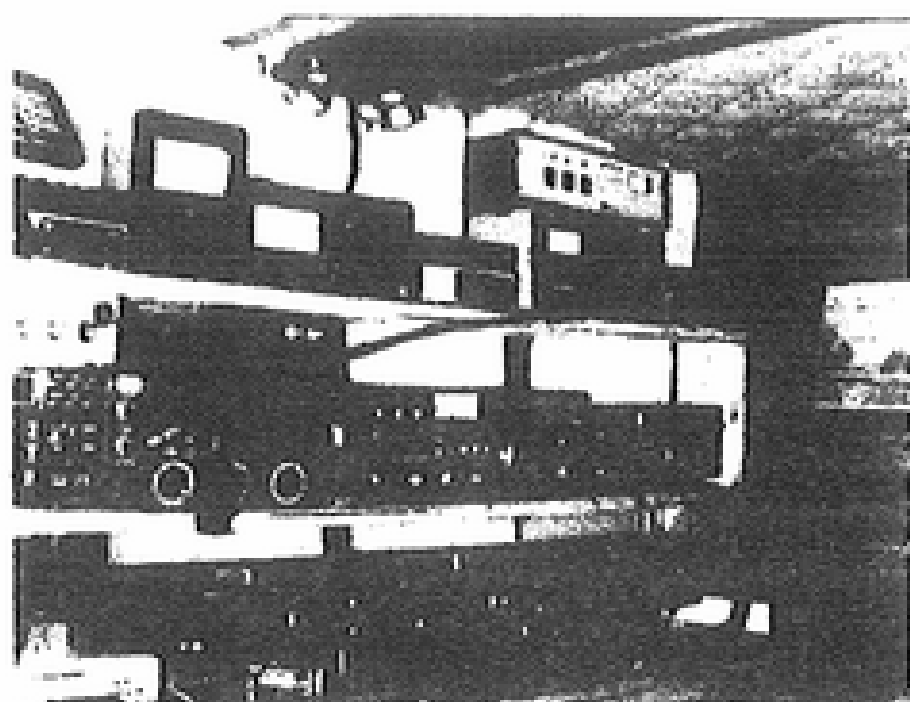
of a six meter beam antenna so he has mounted it along with antennas for 2, 220, and 432 on the top of his suburban. Last year in late May, he put his radio equipment in the "Burb" and made a trip to the top of Mt. Evans to check everything out before the June VHF contest. While he was radioing on the summit, the wind started blowing. The wind was making so much noise that several

stations on 6 meters reported hearing it in the background. With the chill factor, it would not take long for a wind to suck the life out of a person. The day had started out hot and Phil was wearing shorts. The clouds were starting to roll in, causing patches of fog, and the wind felt like knives cutting away the clothing. It was time to get off the mountain. In the back of the Burb, Phil had long pants, a mountaineering coat, blankets, food, water, flashlight, spotlights, and with good working radios he felt safe. There plenty of gas left in the tank.

Turning the headlights on bright, Phil guided the Burb onto the road to begin the descent. It was difficult to see, and the



large boulders that make up the rock field that tumbles down from the pinnacle were barely visible on the right side of the road. Phil was driving straight into the screaming wind when, suddenly, something stumbled out of the rocks and nearly fell in front of the Burb. He slammed on his brakes, stopped, set the emergency brake, and got out to see what was in front of him. He found a young woman very lightly dressed in only a windbreaker, shorts, and sandals,



stumbling toward him. She was very pale and her face was ice cold. Phil quickly placed her into the Burb, turned the heater on high, and wrapped a blanket over her. In a few minutes she regained enough strength to unfold her story in broken English. There were four of them, three women and a man. They had left at noon on a very warm day to hike up the mountain. They had gotten lost and decided to go on up to the summit to regain their bearings. Once on top they would follow the road down, but the wind and clouds arrived before they reached the top. One woman was having severe headaches and stopped frequently for rest and told the others that she just wanted to lay down and sleep for a while. They decided to split up, the man stayed with her to help her descend, while the other two were to find their way down to the car and come back up to find them.

Phil was higher than many of the two-meter repeaters in the area. He could not access any of the machines. In desperation he pointed the Burb towards Colorado Springs and put out a call on 50.125 MHz. Luckily, WA0LSH* was still monitoring on frequency. Phil quickly explained the situation. LSH didn't waste any time in contacting the Gilpin county sheriff's office, alerting Alpine Rescue, and having an ambulance dispatched. However, it would

be at least an hour or more before anyone could be on the mountain. The hypothermic girl probably did not have another hour. Something needed to be done and done quickly!

In the fog, Phil managed to find a mountain access road that led toward the boulder field. With honking horn and flashing his headlights off and on, he slowly drove toward the rocks as the wind blew the sounds away in the wrong direction. He was about a quarter mile away from the big rocks when the road became impassable. Phil shut his headlights off and starred into the darkness around the boulders while honking the horn. Twilight was fading and it was becoming dark on the foggy mountain. Each year many hikers get into trouble because they do not carry additional clothing and food with them while hiking on what starts out as a pretty day. Storms often develop quickly. It seemed that Mt. Evans was about to claim some more lives this night. Phil thought he saw something almost visible against a big boulder. Something moved. Could it be a human? Looking hard, it was a silhouette of a man! While he flashed the headlights, Phil had the woman with him get a blanket and flashlight. They tried to run and stumble toward where the man had been seen, so many long feet away. They found a woman that was barely walking, ashen white and could only mumble. The man seemed to be okay. She almost collapsed into the blanket. The three of them half carried her back to the warm car.

Phil used the radio alert the others hams on frequency that these two had been found and that they were coming down the 14 miles and would meet the ambulance at the Echo Lake parking lot.

The other person had just reached the car when Phil arrived with his passengers.

*This is an unassigned call.

The cold woman was examined and shortly released upon warming up. When asked if she was surprised to find someone to help her on top of the mountain? "No, you are the ranger that works here aren't you? You have all the radios!"

She had no idea how lucky she was that some silly Ham operator was out testing his equipment while working a few new grids on VHF!

"Wow, Grandpa, aren't you proud to be a ham?"

"Yes, and this Christmas we celebrate life, love, and fellowship. And remember that Hams always walk tall, always."

OCAPA NEWS CONTINUED:

****Special Note**OCAPA Christmas
Party 18 November 01 1815 PM
Home Town Buffet I-240 & Western.**

OCAPA President, Mark Hamblin, WL7FT brought the meeting to order at 7:30. There were 20 members and 2 guests present. The meeting began with member and guest introductions.

Minutes from the October meeting were approved

Treasurer's Report was read and approved.

Salvation Army Donation - OCAPA President Mark Hamblin, WL7FT presented Alton Gardner, KD5KVQ a check for \$ to be used as needed. Alton stated that it would be put to good use.

Technical Committee - Power Supply has been ordered and should be by end of week. (Note Supply did arrive and has been installed).

CORA - CORA is looking for a Vice President and Editor for the Collector and Emitter.

OKC Memorial Marathon - Mark, WL7FT attended a Marathon planning meeting. APRS will be used and there have been minor changes to the route, more to follow.

Salvation Army Station - Proposal fell through do to contractor concerns. They are looking for another contractor.

Swap Net - Net Controllers needed. Contact Clay WA6LBU or Mark WL7FT if you would like to help out for 60 minutes a month.

DXCC Card Checker - To have an official card checker, OCAPA must have 25% or more of the membership that is DXCC. If you have DXCC contact Dave, NE5S.

VE Exam - Team is ready to go. First session will be held after the first of the year.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:45 PM

Respectfully Submitted
Clay Mayrose, WA6LBU
OCAPA Secretary

**BIRTHDAYS:**

Here are the December birthdays for EARS members:

12-02 William Garthoeffner W5QMP
 12-06 Brad Kiespert KG5UK
 12-07 Brian Kiespert KB5ODR
 12-10 Randy York AI5Y
 12-11 Carrol Rooker
 12-15 J.P. Nolan
 12-20 Brandon Hamlin KC5MCH
 12-21 Buford Ford KC5MXE
 12-21 Jason McGee KB5EYE
 12-22 Arlester Milligan KA5YPH
 12-27 Ginefer Christy KD5MGC
 12-28 Judy Johnson KM5QW
 12-28 Sharon Thompson KM5GV

Happy Birthday!

CLUB WEBSITE:

Take a look at the URL for the club website: www.k5eok.org. There is a lot of information, and even a membership application (new or renewal). Check it out to keep up.

NOVEMBER CLUB MINUTES:

Edmond Amateur Radio Society
 Club Meeting Minutes
 October 18th, 2001
 General Meeting & 2002 Elections

The Meeting was called to order by Club Vice President Dick Stimson KK5XO at 2:00 PM.

In attendance were: Robert Coxsey KM5GZ, Clara Granger KG5UG, Clifford Cooley N5CSJ, Dick Stimson KK5XO, De Stimson KD5LSK, Kathleen Stearns KB5KIJ, A.C. Adams KA5WGV, Dave Storey K0TYC, Sherry Storey KD5CPJ, Robyn Price KD5ISC, Ed Price KA8NBG, Bruce McCubbin KD5LVV, Earnest Wolf K5YKD, Kathryn Harris KD5IOX, Tom Harris KD5IOY, Dirk Wilhite KC5SFE, Clarence Dollmeyer KB5RR, Brad Kiespert KG5UK, Barb Kiespert KB5DGH, Diane Roth KD5OFU, David Richard KD5QFT, Lee Vaughn KA5WIS,

Ron McCubbin KC5QCV, Curtis Foote KC5GEP, Earl Soliday KD5IPC, Sam Sitton W5CU, Charles Odell KD5NWS, Steven Christy N5ZQ, Sue Osborne KD5HKZ, Terry Deas W5WTD, John Thomason WB5SYT, Dee Mize WD5FHR, Ken Snyder N5TWC, Brad Thomason AC5CQ, Buford Ford KC5MXE, Justin Soliday W5VR, Jim Richardson N5OHL, Danny Osborne K5ISN.

Health & Welfare: Clara Granger KG5UG read a card from Danny & Sue Osborne thanking the Club for remembering them on the loss of Danny's father by sending them a card. Ray Wilson W5TYR has had knee surgery & is having some pain with it. Terry Vernon KC6DLI's wife is doing better. Bill Hoag K5URM's wife is feeling better after having radiation treatments.

Secretary: Robert Coxsey KM5GZ nothing at this time.

Treasurer: Robyn Price KD5ISC said she had patches for sale. She said renewals for 2002 are coming due. The ARRL forms need to be renewed. She said the Club can only keep money from new members that join the ARRL. She said if anyone wants an updated Roster, to let her know. Also she has Part 97 books for sale.

Club Station: Dee Mize WD5FHR said he had the inventory finished. He has had inquiries about joining the Club. He said the Club Station was doing okay. Emergency: Ken Stepp N5DBM not present.

Board Members: Terry Deas W5WTD nothing at this time. Ed Price KA8NBG said the State Hood Day Special Event had 225 contacts. Steven Christy N5ZQ said he had called Johnny Salaky KM5GM & he had said he would start another CW-5 Net in January. Tom Harris KD5IOY nothing. Curtis Foote KC5GEP nothing. Jim Richardson N5OHL showed the Route 66 Certificate that the K5EOK Club had received. He gave it to Dick to display. Jim also had a certificate for John Thomason WB5SYT. It was the A1 Operators award. You have to be recommended by 2 other A1 Operator Award recipients to receive this.

Dick said the next Board Meeting was December 11th. Also the Christmas Dinner will be December 15th at 6:00.

Nominating Committee

Dick read the List of nominees for the 2002 Edmond Amateur Radio Society

Board Members. He then asked if there were any nominations from the floor. There being none, Clarence Dollmeyer made a motion that the nominations be stopped. It was seconded. A vote was taken & it was voted & approved to accept the Nominating Committees listing.

The new Board Officers for 2002 will be: President Dick Stimson KK5XO, Vice President Brad Thomason AC5CQ, Treasurer De Stimson KD5LSK, Secretary Bruce McCubbin KD5LVV. Board Members at large: Sam Sitton W5CU, Ed Price KA8NBG, Brad Kiespert KG5UK, Terry Deas W5WTD, Mike Delany KB5HXT.

Classes: Clara Granger KG5UG said the classes started August 19th. She asked the class members for a review of the teachers & got a good approval from them. The class started with 9 & finished with 18. 11 have passed there Technician test. Clarence Dollmeyer KB5RR said he joined the Club when John Thomason's son was 12 years old. He has had a great time but is leaving for Denver Colorado to be close to family. He has been here 20 years & will be missed by all.

Dee Mize WD5FHR said there had been an incident in the Community Center. The water fountain on the second floor had been torn from the wall & was leaking into the first floor. It was almost into some files. He called the City & they came & fixed it before anymore damage occurred.

Ron McCubbin KC5QCV said Cora was alive & well. Ham Holiday is still on schedule. He said the C&E has no Editor. Buford Ford KC5MXE said the Guthrie repeater 147.105 was up & running.

A motion was made to adjourn. It was voted on & approved to adjourn at 2:33 PM.

Minutes written & submitted by:
 Club Secretary 2001
 Robert Coxsey KM5GZ

PAST ACTIVITIES**Technician Licensing Class 2001**

The class of 2001 sponsored by the Edmond Amateur Radio Society was completed about a month ago, carrying on

a tradition of about 23 consecutive years. The class started August 19th and the VE testing session was held on October 21st, 2001. Steve Christy, N5ZQ, held a special testing session for our students and any one else who wanted to test at the Edmond Downtown Community Center. Students completing the class successfully are:

Zachary Bryant	KD5QFN
Jolie Carter	KD5QFM
Steve Durall	KD5QFR
Bobby J. Hester	KD5QFW
David Johnson	KD5PXJ
Randy M. Kring	KD5QFP
Ryan M. Kring	KD5QFQ
Leland B. Pierce	KD5QFS
David L. Richard	KD5QFT
Diana L. Roth	KD5QFU
Matthew T. Tasetano	KD5QFV

We are very proud to have had these students with the desire and determination necessary to become licensed Amateur Radio Operators. They were committed, accepted the challenge, worked hard, attended all the classes possible and did the home study necessary each week in spite of all the other obligations they had. Their dedication has truly been an inspiration to all who worked and helped them through the licensing process. We are all so proud of your success.

Congratulations!

In order to keep the course moving on schedule the Instructors and Club members support made a great difference. The Instructors were:

Rick Tasetano	N5KLM
Earnest Wolf	K5YKD
Lee Vaughn	KA5WIS
Jim Richardson	N5OHL
Curtis Foote	KC5GEP
Dick Stimson	KK5XO

Harold Wells	WA5ZKX
Steve Christy	N5ZQ
Brad Thomson	AC5CQ

Thanks to each of you for all the time and effort you put into you preparation for the benefit of the students. One could just see the love you had for the hobby shining through. Keep up the good work.

The symposium was held on October 28th. The students and club members in attendance had an interesting and fun time and it also served as a learning experience. The presenters were:

David Wolf	KC5KJE	-EARS Club
Joyce Wolf	KC5NBI	-Scholarship
Johnny Sakaly	KM5GM	-ARRL
Steve Christy	N5ZQ	- 2m operations-do's and don'ts
Robert Coxsey	KM5GZ	- 2 mtr Net operations
Dick Stimson	KK5XO	and Brad Kiespert KG5UK- QRP

HTs, Mobile rigs, HF Rigs, Antennas and HF QRP were all available, for the students to eyeball and converse with those demonstrating them. Some students left there knowing exactly what they would purchase as their first radio. They enjoyed the opportunity to get to visit with the club members and ask questions. A job well done Steve and thanks to all the club members who assisted you.

We had the students to fill out an evaluations at the end of the 4th class, the 7th and after the symposium We appreciate your cooperation and input which is used in planning for the class of 2002. We are always looking for ways of making a good thing better.

Thanks to Rick Tasetano, N5KLM, for getting our press release ready to be broadcasted and his support in recruiting students. It is a proven fact most of the students hear of EARS classes because of Rick. Thanks to All: EARS Staff, students, instructors, presenters, and club members who supported and helped in setting up the class room and all the many

other jobs that got with being ready and making things move along smoothly. It was working together willingly and with a smile that make this class special.

73 & Happy Holidays!

The class of 2001 staff

FUTURE ACTIVITIES:

Be sure and check the Monday Night Net, or www.k5eok.org for updated information on these events.

The following will look familiar from last (and every) month.

The December Siren Test will be on December 1st at noon. The January Siren Test will be on January 5th at noon. The year is winding down, but our readiness shouldn't wind down. Please let Edith KA5YPX know you can watch (hear?) a siren when she asks, so she won't be short of watchers. Call her at 348-2961.

Friday Lunch is not an official club function, but you can enjoy good food and company each Friday noon at the Delta Café on 33rd in Edmond at noon. Contact KM5GZ or KK5XO for more information.

Breakfast is an official club function each Saturday at Perkins on South Broadway around 8:15 on each Saturday morning. Maybe as late as 8:45. Someone will be on the repeater to guide you in.

The club station is open on Thursday nights for general use. Lots of equipment to try out, and lots of eyeball QSO's to be had.

Don't forget the Monday Night Net. You can check in every Monday night at 8:00 PM on the 147.135 (positive Tx offset) repeater. Bob Coxsey KM5GZ is the net manager. This net is the best resource in Oklahoma for keeping up with what's going on in the area amateur community. Come check in and see what's going on.

The next Board Meeting will be at the Edmond Community Center at 7:00 PM on December 11th. Come and see how the club is governed.

The December Club Meeting will be our annual Christmas Dinner at St. John the

Baptist Catholic Church at 6:00 PM on December 15th. The club will provide the turkeys, and you provide other dishes. Admission is \$5.00 for adults and older children, with all proceeds going to the EARS Bertha Watson Memorial Scholarship Fund. I understand there will be some donated door prizes. Santa Clause has also put this event on his itinerary this year. This is a fun family event, so do make plans to attend.

HEALTH and WELFARE:

Hi everyone,
Hope your Thanksgiving Day was an enjoyable one with family and/or friends. I'm sure you all had many things to be grateful for and had been showered through out the year with many blessings.

Ray Wilson, W5TYR, had knee replacement surgery in late Sept. All went well and was undergoing physical therapy. In mid November he had a slight set back, went in to the doctor on the 19th and had that problem taken care of. With continued therapy his recovery is going fine.

Terry Vernon, KC6DLI, his wife, Jo Anne, has rheumatoid arthritis that has also affected her lung. She is doing a little better this past week.

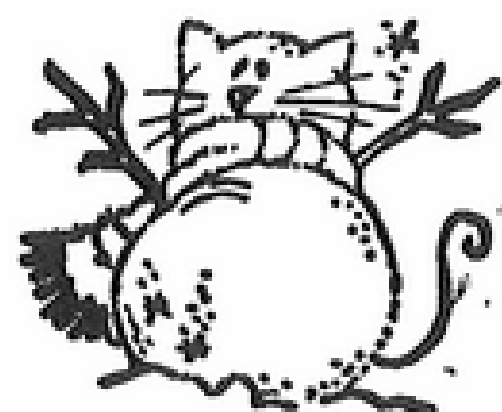
Terry and Jo Anne, Ray and Merle want to thank everyone for the calls, cards and concern for their welfare.

Hope both of you improve and be assured you are in our thoughts and prayers.

May each of you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

73 de Clara Granger KG5UG

That's it for this month. Please send information for next month's C&E to Curtis Foote at cfoote@theshop.net.



CARC Minutes:

Choctaw Amateur Radio Club (CARC) Regular Monthly Meeting was held on November 19, 2001 at the Eastern Oklahoma County Vo-Tech. A quorum was met and business conducted as follows.

The Choctaw Amateur Radio Club meeting was called to order by Vice President Don Clark, KB5KWV, at 7PM. Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Members introduced themselves. There were no guests.

Net control for the meeting was Don McDown, N5ENQ. There were no check-ins.

Reports:

Secretary's report- The President wanted amend the minutes to add the vote count for the Dues motion in October's minutes. He wanted it to read - The vote was 6 in favor and 1 against, the Club Officers did not vote. The minutes were accepted as amended.

Sick Report- Dave WD5G and his wife Vicki were involved in an accident out of town, luckily no one was seriously injured. And they are both back home safe and sound.

Treasurers Report- Treasurers report was given and accepted.

YL Net Report- Still going, with a remark that we need more check-ins.

CORA- Bill N9SQV and Larry K5VVD went to the meeting. They told about the President resigning from the Collector/Emitter. Discussion followed about the meeting. Motion made to support CORA in the raising of price for the Newsletter. Motion passed.

VE Testing- Choctaw Amateur Radio Club will have a VE testing session on Jan. 12th Saturday at the Choctaw Community Center, that is just north of NE 23rd St. on Choctaw Road.

Old Business:

Tech discussion group will be discontinued for December and January. It will start back up on the first Thursday of February.

Foxhunt is postponed until the spring.

Christmas luncheon- It will be at Golden Corral on December 8th at 12:30.

Swap meet- It was mentioned that a group might like to join us and share the expense of the room, since the price had jumped up so much. This was put in form of a motion and passed. The Swap meet is set for February 23rd.

Nominating Committee- The slate of Officers presented to the group from the Nominating Committee was:

President- Chuck Kanach, KC5EZZ, Vice President- Bill Tarkington, KC5ICR, Secretary- Kay Holzman, KB5VJR, and Treasurer- Larry Brewer, K5VVD. It was moved to select the slate of officers by acclamation. Passed.

New Business:

January meeting- The school will be closed for the January meeting, so it was voted on to meet at Spencers BBQ. President Chuck KC5EZZ found out that the building would be open and we could meet there. A motion was made to have the meeting back at the school in January. It passed.

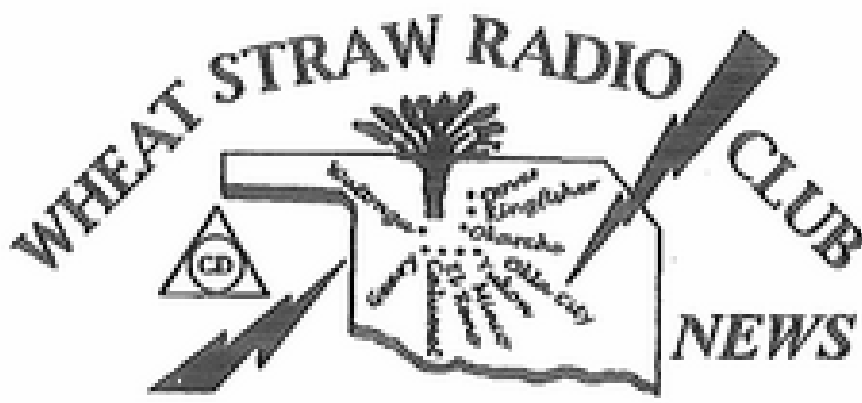
CORA meeting- Bill N9SQV and Bill KC5ICR will go to the next CORA meeting.

December meeting- President Chuck KC5EZZ wanted to know if the Christmas luncheon would take the place of the December meeting. A vote was taken and it was decided to let the Christmas luncheon take the place of the December meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully Submitted
Kay Holzman, KB5VJR

CARC Secretary



WHEAT STRAW NEWS

The November 11th meeting was held at Dover in the fellowship hall. We had seventeen counting two friends who are regulars. A prayer was given at one thirty by Ron WD5HUT.

After that everyone began to chow down. At 2:30 our president called the meeting to order. Joe WA5FLT read the September minutes. He had no minutes of the November meeting. WA5PFK handed him the C&E where Ralph had taken the minutes and put them in the C&E.

Joe WA5FLT then read the November minutes. Just maybe Joe had not read the November issue of the C&E. The first thing on the docket was a discussion about the troubles we are having with our new repeater, we have had trouble for about two months. Leo said, "Bill thought maybe the trouble was the duplexers." We don't know who Bill is. I think he lives at Woodward. At one time I had his name and phone no. I have been hunting for it, and can't find it. WD5HUT Ron and Joe WA5FLT went down after the meeting the 11th, but we still have the problem. Some one should have the papers on the warranty, if we find the problem.

December 9th will be our Christmas dinner and meeting. Besides the meeting the new officers will be elected, or if you are not there you may be railroaded. Then we are having a Christmas party that I never have had. The ladies all buy gifts for a lady; the men will all buy gifts for men. No gifts are to be over \$5.00. If all of you buy me a gift for \$5.00, just think I may get \$200.00 worth of gifts. That is doubtful. HA!

The Christmas dinner is being catered by the End-O-Main. The dinner plus tea, or coffee, or water and sales tax will be \$7.45. Bring your sweetheart, you may not get to buy her or his dinner that inexpensive again.

As you find out how many you are bringing, let Ralph know. He has got to

report the number to End-O-Main so they will know how much food to cook.

The January Wheat Straw meeting will be held at the Gold Bank in El Reno. If you are coming in on I-40 highway turn off at the Country Club Road. Go north on Country Club Road. The bank is just south of Braums. Turn in north drive of the bank parking in the back. We have to go in the back door to the meeting room.

The February meeting will be on the 10th. We think it will be at the City Hall. We do not know yet. We will try to let all of you know before time for the meeting. If it is there, stop at the red light in the middle of the intersection. Go west from there two blocks, I think, but you will pass a large tree on the north side of the road. Turn north between the tree and the mini stop just past the street. Do not pass the mini stop; turn before you pass it. The City Hall is about two blocks north, but you will see the sign on the building. The parking lot is on the south side of City Hall.

The March meeting will be in March. Details will follow.

Nominations for elections in December were for the president, year

2002. Ray AB5Z nominated Ron WD5HUT. Wanda KC5GTW moved that the nominations for president cease. For vice president, Ernie KC5VKF nominated Velma WA5UJQ. It was seconded by Wanda KC5GTW. For secretary-treasurer, Wanda KC5GTW nominated Joe WA5FLT. For reporter, Ron WD5HUT and Ray AB5Z both nominated Ralph WA5PFK at the same time.

Ray AB5Z made a motion we adjourn, seconded by Alice WA5UEW. Meeting adjourned.

Ralph WA5PF

Collector--& Emitter

Goldie and I got married early in 1946. Our daughter was born in 1947. Our son was born in 1949. That was our family. Carol, our daughter, died from cancer in 1998. Goldie died suddenly from a heart attack, without saying a word.

Outside of my family the greatest love and joy has been amateur radio. All the close family I have left is my son and family, with Carol's children.

When John was a youngster he came to me wanting to go to school and learn the amateur radio. Myself, I had never heard of it. John explains what he knew about what he had learned. So I decided to take him to Bus Blum's School down at Calumet, OK. He had some good boy friends that wished to go too. We started to school, getting our novice license.

Before long we went back to school to learn our technician license. From that time we were on our own. Getting my general license was the greatest thing that has happened to me outside of my family. Being a member of the Wheat Straw Amateur Radio Club has been a great part of my life. I feel they are my family.

It seems there is some conflict on how to cope with the C&E going in the red. Having to take money from the Ham Holiday fund to keep it going. Here in Watonga coffee costs me 65 cents a cup. If I skip seven cups per month, It saves me \$4.55. To raise the C&E up in the black, you will still have \$1.55 left.

The first member's dues of a family living at home is \$12.00 Just that one person will put us in the black. The other members of the family would stay the same. The percent of the reading of any magazine or paper that is less than the percent of the C&E I read the most of all.

To the ones of you who think the C&E should cut the pages, or put onto a computer. What about the people who love to read and respect our fellow amateurs? Some do not have computers or the extra money to purchase one. I think that would be a selfish move. If one person in each household would eat sandwiches for just one time a month, when they usually go out for dinner, you would save more than the three dollars.

A young boy eleven years old is eligible to join the Boy Scouts of America. Right off he is taught the scout sign, the scout oath, and scout laws. The scout oath is, "On my honor I will do my duty to God and my country, and to obey the scout law, to help other people at all times. To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight".

I am not mad at anyone, I just think if you cannot try to continue supporting the C&E, then resign and let someone on the board who will try to work with CORA.

At the Wheat Straw meeting, the club voted to try to help support the C&E if Hal would take the editors position again with CORA's support.

Ralph WA5PFK

RECIPES:

Each year, hams are invited to send in their favorite recipes to share with us all. Sorry but these are the only ones I was sent this time around. Enjoy!

Vegetarian Stuffed Shells

Ingredients:

1 box of jumbo pasta shells
1 cup of soft tofu
1 cup of ricotta
1/2 cup of grated low-fat Parmesan cheese
1 1/2 cups of low-fat mozzarella cheese, shredded and divided
3 Tbsp. onion, finely minced
1 egg
1/4 tsp. of oregano
1/4 tsp. of thyme
1/4 tsp. of basil
1/4 cup fresh mushrooms, finely minced (optional)
3 cups of your favorite tomato sauce or Spegetti Sauce

Directions:

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees.
Boil a pot of salted water. When it reaches a full boil, add the pasta shells. Cook according to the time on the package. Remove from the heat and drain.

While the pasta shells are cooling, mix together the tofu, ricotta, Parmesan cheese, 1/2 cup of the mozzarella, onion, egg and the herbs. Fold in the mushrooms.

Individually stuff each of the shells with the cheese mixture. I find that this is easiest (cleanest) to do with a pastry bag. If you do not have a pastry bag, a teaspoon will work almost as well. I like to fill my shells completely full. As you fill the shells, place them in a baking dish.

Once you have made as many shells as you would like, pour the tomato sauce into the dish, covering the shells. This may take a little less or a little more than 3 cups

of sauce, depending on how many shells you make and also what size dish you use. Sprinkle the remaining mozzarella on the shells and cover with aluminum foil.

Bake for 25-30 minutes. Serve with a fresh green salad and fresh baked bread.

Black Cherry Tart

8 oz. cream cheese, softened
1 1/2 tsp. honey
1 can (15 oz.) Bing cherries, drained and liquid reserved
2 tsp. cornstarch
2 Tbsp. red currant jelly
1 Tbsp. lemon juice

For the crust:

1 cup graham cracker crumbs
2 Tbsp. ground almonds
1/2 tsp. cinnamon
4 Tbsp. melted butter, softened

Directions:

To prepare the crust: Combine the cracker crumbs, almonds and cinnamon. Stir in the butter. Evenly press the mixture into the bottom of an 8-inch tart pan with removable bottom. Bake at 300 degrees for 15 minutes. Cool.

To prepare the filling: Beat together the cream cheese and honey. Spread evenly over the crust. Cut the cherries in half. Arrange, cut side down, on cheese layer.

In a saucepan, combine 8 tablespoons of the reserved cherry liquid with the cornstarch. Stir in the jelly and lemon juice until well combined. Bring to a boil over low heat, stirring constantly. Reduce heat. Simmer 2 minutes longer or until thickened. Spoon the hot glaze over the cherries to cover completely.

Chill for 2 to 4 hours before serving.

Slow Cooker Macaroni and Cheese

A recipe from Mr. Food® that I cut down the Cal. count down & made healthy as well as a few changes

Ingredients:

8 ounces macaroni, cooked & drained
4 cups (16 ounces) low-fat sharp Cheddar cheese, grated
1 can (12 ounces) skim evaporated milk
1 1/2 cups 1% milk

1/2 cup of Egg Beaters Eggs (equal 2 regular eggs)
1 teaspoon salt (optional)
1/2 teaspoon black pepper

Directions:

Spray inside of slow cooker with a non-stick cooking spray. Place the cooked macaroni in a 3 1/2-quart (or larger) slow cooker. Reserve 1 cup of the cheese, add the remaining ingredients carefully mixing it until well blended. Sprinkle with the remaining 1 cup cheese, then cover and cook on the low setting for 5 to 6 hours or until the mixture is firm and golden around the edges. Remember that when cooking in a slow cooker: do not remove the lid or attempt to stir it until it is done cooking.

Serves: 4 to 6.

This is great served with a garden salad or mixed vegetables and fresh bread.

HERB RUBBED TURKEY

By Ralph WA5PFK

This is for a 14-16 pound turkey: This rub locks in the flavors and can be used on other types of meats.

2 tablespoons of rubbed sage
1 tablespoon of salt
2 teaspoons of curry powder
3 teaspoons garlic powder
2 teaspoons of celery seeds
1 teaspoon of paprika
1/4 teaspoon ground mustard
1/4 teaspoon of allspice
3 bay leaves, crumbled

In a bowl combine all of the spices, mix well. Rub half of the seasoning mixture in the cleaned turkey cavity. Rub remaining mixture over the outside of the bird on the skin. Put the turkey into a roasting bag and cook for about 2 1/2 hours. Using a cooking thermometer cook to 185 degrees. I use the turkeys with a pop up indicator already and they are done in 2 1/2 hours. Moist and good eating! It never misses!





Altus Area Amateur Radio Association
Mail: AAARA, PO Box 8863, Altus, OK
73522-8863

General Meeting held at SWTC, 711 W.
Tamarack Rd., Altus, OK.

President's Letter and Minutes from October.

Hello Folks,

It's getting near the end of the year and we have to start looking at a couple of things, the Christmas Parade and the Christmas Party. I've asked Jackie Dickerson (KD5EDP) to make contact with the police department concerning the Christmas Parade and as soon as I know anything at all I'll share it with you. Hopefully we can help out in the same way as last year.

In case you don't remember, we helped get the floats off of Broadway and into the appropriate parking lot so that the parade didn't back up and grind to a halt. The police appreciated our efforts and I hope we'll be as organized this year as we were last year. Of course last year we used the Mobile Command Center (MCC) as our base of operations. Most of you know that the MCC is not operational due to engine problems. I'm making arrangements with Marvin Gordon (KC9VF) to have the van repaired by the time of the parade. Keep your fingers crossed. I'd like to thank both Jackie and Marvin for their efforts and support of our club.

Now the Christmas Party. I guess the big question here is whether or not we want one this year. My vote will be for having one. I've never been to one yet that I didn't enjoy it. The food has always been good and the fellowship superb. I'll be asking one of you to chair the Christmas Party committee (usually just a one person committee). The job can be as simple as finding a restaurant that will reserve a spot for our group around Christmas time or as complicated as arranging a private meeting with catered food. That will be up to the Christmas Party committee.

Well, that's about all I have for now. Remember the club meets every 2nd Thursday of the month at the Southwest Area Vo-Tech and ARES meets every 4th Thursday of the month at the North Main Fire Station. Come join us.

Dale Town, President, AAARA

Meeting: Thursday, October 11, 2001,
Minutes by Debra, KD5LMW.

The Altus Area Amateur Radio Association was presided over by the president, Dale, N5VX, with 7 members attending.

James, AB5FS, gave the treasurer's report.

Last month's minutes were published in the C&E. We did not have printed copies available for this meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

ARES meetings are the fourth Thursday of every month with the next one being October 25th.

The breakfast meeting will be held at the Sunrise Café on Broadway on October 27th at 8:30.

Our membership roster is now current. We have 41 AAARA members with 21 of those also being ARRL members.

Our next test date is Monday, November 26th. Testing will be held at the Votech at 6:30.

Lawton's next club meeting is to be held Tuesday, November 6th, 7pm at their Votech.

NEW BUSINESS

The 146.79 repeater was down for a few days, the problem has been fixed thanks to George, N1GM and Jerry, K5QM.

Mike, W5VXU who used to be the MARS librarian has about 1800 books on older radios, instruction and service manuals, some test equipment manuals, etc. Contact him if you are interested in any of these books.

The possibility of raising the cost of club dues was discussed with a decision to try and vote on that at next month's meeting.

Dale, N5VX has been offered the opportunity of parking our communications van at the Highway

Patrol impound yard. That will be discussed further at a later date. We are still having an overheating problem, probably due to a broken fan belt. And the alternator still needs to be replaced.

Several of our Ham operators who are Red Cross Damage Assessment trained went to Cordell on Tuesday to help out after Monday's tornado.

NEW STUFF/EVENTS

Our club was asked to provide communication support for this year's Quartz Mtn. Bike Fest coming up this weekend. We discussed it and decided that regretfully, we just did not have the time to prepare for it. Dale, N5VX will speak to their coordinator and possibly we can help them with next year's event.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:05pm

President's Letter and minutes for November.

Hello everyone and Merry Christmas, It seems, from what I hear, that this will be the last article for the C&E. It's sad to see a publication like the C&E go out of print, but because my wife and I put out a similar publication for the Central Oklahoma Grotto (a cave related publication), I understand the problems that go along with publishing something of this magnitude. My thanks to those whose labor made the C&E possible for so long.

It's been quite a year for the Altus Area Amateur Radio Association. We've participated in several events including the Altus Car Show, the Christmas Parade, and the Parade of Lights in Lawton. Several of our members responded to the disaster in Cordell and assisted the Red Cross with damage assessment.

We enjoyed Field Day as usual and some of us went to Lawton and visited with the Lawton/Ft. Sill ARC on that day and participated in a fox hunt. We brought the Mobile Command Center on line allowing our club to establish an emergency command post for the Red Cross or any agency that might need emergency communication in a four county area. On a smaller scale, we even changed the club logo and had t-shirts and polo shirts made for those members who desire them. There is still a lot to do, so let's all keep up the good work and press on with an eye toward the future.

The one thing that I'm most proud of is our new found relationship with the Lawton/Ft. Sill ARC. I've said for years that we need to establish a relationship with the Lawton folks and it seems that the time has finally come. They are a great bunch of people with many skills and ideas that can enrich our club in many ways. Whatever we do in the future, I hope our members will continue to foster this relationship as it can only benefit both our clubs. There is always strength in unity. For those of you who haven't been to one of their club meetings, they meet on the first Tuesday of every month at 1900 hours at the Vo-Tech on Lee Blvd. Make the short trip, join their club too and double your monthly ham radio fun.

That's about all I have. Hope to see you at our Christmas Party on the regular club meeting night at Luigi's in Altus. They will serve a traditional Christmas buffet for \$8.95 per person.

Respectfully,
Dale Town, President, AAARA

Meeting: Thursday, November 8, 2001,
Minutes by Debra, KD5LMW.

The Altus Area Amateur Radio Association was presided over by the president, Dale, N5VX, with 16 members attending.

James, AB5FS, gave the treasurer's report.

Last month's minutes were made available on the table at the back of the room. They did not get printed in the C&E again last month.

OLD BUSINESS

This month's ARES meeting will be held on the fifth Thursday of the month at the Fire Department on Main. Our emergency coordinator position is still open. If you are interested in taking this position, contact Dale.

The breakfast meeting this month will be held at the Sunrise Café on Broadway come if you can, it's scheduled for Saturday, November 17th at 8:30.

Fred, KC5SRJ, has books available at the back of the room. Cost plus one dollar shipping and handling. Fred is also still taking orders for polo and T-shirts. Contact him if you are interested in placing an order.

Please remember that there is a fund for repeater maintenance. You can give repeater funds to Dwight Dennis, Lauren Sims, or Don Hayes at 1st State Bank. There is a donation box set up on the back table where you can drop off a check or cash if you'd like.

MARS is officially in building 566 on the air force base. They are still in need of an HF radio. If you have a radio to donate, or to loan, see Ed Gabbard, KD5DPK.

NEW BUSINESS

Our next test date is Monday, November 26th. Testing will take place at the Vo-tech, 6:30pm. Lawton offers testing through the W5YI folks on even numbered months if you need to test before our next date.

The van still needs a little work. Marvin Gordon, KC5VF volunteered to put in a new alternator in hopes of correcting the overheating problem it's been having.

Ron Hughes, KB5UVC gave a presentation on transmitter hunting with some antenna ideas.

Lawton will be having their Christmas Parade and Boulevard of Lights Festival on Friday the 16th of November and have welcomed us to come and help them with communications.

Also, Lawton's next club meeting will be Tuesday, December 4th at 7:00 at their Vo-tech.

Mike, W5VXU has paperwork for application to become a 501(C)3 organization. He's going to check it out and see what we'd have to do to get that project going.

NEW STUFF/EVENTS

The Altus Christmas parade is the 2nd of December. We need at least 10 volunteers if we are going to help out with communications like last year. Talk to Dale to volunteer.

Be thinking about the December meeting. We usually have a Christmas Dinner and need someone to plan that.

MEETING ADJOURNED – 8:30pm

HAMS AND THE COMMUNITY WE LIVE IN

By Ron Roman, KD5CYW
Altus, OK

Today's life is changed from the Sept 11, 2001 as we all know. The need for us, Ham radio operators, are at more of a level to be there for our neighbors at a moments notice. Being there to help in the time of need is what most folks in a situation really need, and, as Hams, we can do some things at a level to get the message across. Some of our roles may be Emergency Response, or helping out in the events that they may have. The skills the Ham has as communicators go beyond just a radio and a hat with a call sign. We do have a plan with the City here to stage at various areas around at central points to aid citizens about their questions and concerns on where to get help. Some of the best things we do are functions with the City; we have two right now and that is the Christmas Parade which is normally the 1st Sunday afternoon in December, and the Car Show Cruise in the Spring.

Some of the functions we do in the parade is marshaling, that is at the end of the route we let the bands, floats, cars, trucks, tractors, horses, and you name it know what road to take off to the Disassembly Area. The local streets that feed into the roadway they use are closed so the parade folks taking up all the lanes can get to the area, so hence it becomes a busy one way street. We are there to provide a watchful eye at the intersections for folks trying to get out, but keeping the traffic from entering. We also keep the traffic flow going so it does not block up the Main Road and the Disassembly Route Road; some parade participants try to break down or stop to unload on the DRR, so we must let them know why and they normally get to the DA to do that. We normally get questions from folks on where is so and so, or the float of such and such is at, we sadly tell them we don't have that info, but we do try with the other Radio operators out there spotting, sometimes with good results and a happy person with a Thank You. We have had Ham's from Lawton help us out, and look forward to their help again, afterward we go somewhere to eat and relax, and talk about things Ham related or not.

At the Car Show Cruise is a little different it is a Friday to Sunday event, we provide corner spotters, back street mobile patrols, and a central command post. The corner spotters are for look out of any car that may break down and need to clear the cruise road and use a side street to get out

of harms way, or if some car is not obeying the rules of the show and they get reported in to the central command post, and the officials deals with them. Sometimes in the closed cruise you get folks with out the proper ID in the dash as they "crash" they cruise, so that gets reported in as well. As back street patrols, it is being the eyes that keep the rubber burners from doing things that may hurt someone else and them as well. The central command post is our Mobile Communications Center Van which has Ham, and other VHF radios in, during this event the City provides us with a radio to contact them direct. We also have provided cover secured parking for cars overnight at a enclosed building, this is as a fund raiser for us, and peace of mind for the car owner (in the 2000 show, a hail storm did some damage to many cars) knowing we have folks there guarding. The MCC is parked overnight and it is a good time to set up the HF gear and chat on the HF or listen in to a short-wave station broadcast. It has been a fun weekend in the past, and some of the City officials enjoy us being there to help out.

These are just a few of the things what we do here, but then they know the spring time weather makes a nasty appearance, we are out there helping to spot the storms, and see and verify for the National Weather Service in Norman, OK what they are seeing on radar. This is a big help to the City and our neighboring counties that we are known as some of the best spotters out there to give info on what is happening. Just not the City folks listen in, so do the ones with the scanners set to Weather Spotters on the Net, they do listen closely. Field Day is a way to get in the public eye, for them to stop by and say hello to the ones they hear out storm spotting.

Where have we gone in a few years from not being known to the city, to where we are now? The Hams who have made this happen by being noticed as very organized is in being who we are, to provide the services we give to the folks we help as volunteers. Overall a little time and getting to know the ones who head up things help when the right attitude is there. We are here for the ones we call neighbors and friends.

73's
Ron Roman, KD5CYW
Altus, OK

THE ADA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWS



ADA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

I would like to send a THANK YOU!!! to Hal / KB1IZO, and Linda / N1LPN, for all the time and work and long hours every month, that they put into putting together the clubs newsletters and getting them all mailed out. We all will really miss getting the Collector & Emitter, I know that you are also ready for a break.

The Ada Amateur Radio Clubs monthly meeting was held on the 3rd of November, at the Salvation Army Headquarters, 115 North Oak Street, Ada, OK. The meeting was called to order at 0903 local time by club president Charles / KC5TGA, with attendance of 12 members.

TREASURER REPORT: Scott / KD5AJL, presented the treasurer report for the month of October and November, was passed around among the members at the meeting, motion was made and seconded to accepted the reports as presented.

REPEATER REPORT: An update was given on the status of the new repeater it is in and Mason / WT5X, is setting it up and learning how all of the programming works on it at his house before moving it to the repeater site. As of November 12' 2001, Mason / WT5X, and Sam / N5IY has the repeater on line and functioning, it is working really well. There has been some changes in the codes to access the time and to use the phone patch, if you want a print out I will have some at the December 01, meeting or let me know I can mail you a copy. We owe a big THANK YOU!!! to Mason / WT5X, for all of the ling hours and time he has spent setting up the repeater and keeping it going, him and Roy / KB5STV, take care of any problems that come up with the repeater.

SALVATION ARMY: Major Cook with the Salvation Army is looking for people to assist with ringing bells for donations for the Christmas season, its that time of the year when the Salvation Army does a lot of good for people less fortunate and in need of help and it being the Holidays it is a very busy time of the year for them. If you would like to donate some of your time and help out please contact Major Cook, 115 North Oak Street, Ada, OK. If you don't live in this area and would like to help out contact the Salvation Army in your area.

HAMFEST: The Ada Amateur Radio Clubs Hamfest will be held of February 09' 2002, at the AGRI-PLEX (small animal building), 1 mile from Ada Municipal Airport, Admission: \$2 / Tables: \$5. For more information or to reserve a table contact, Charles / KC5TGA, 580*436-4425 or Darla Coffey / KC5RGU, 580*759-2670.

NET: Tuesday nights at 8pm local time on 147.285+ is net night. Everyone is encouraged to check in on the net and let everyone know that your station is up and ready and available in case of an emergency situation. Everyone is welcome to check in on the net and we would be very happy to hear from everyone.

CLUB ELECTION: December 01, meeting we will be holding election for the 2002 term for club officers.

Motion was made and seconded the meeting adjourned at 1030 local time. We meet the first Saturday of each month at 0900, at the Salvation Army Building, 115 North Oak Street, Ada, OK. Everyone is welcome to attend we have breakfast at the meeting.

I wish for everyone to have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Ada Amateur Radio Club Secretary
Darla Coffey / KC5RGU

Enid Amateur Radio Club

Enid Amateur Radio Club (EARC)
Minutes – Thursday, November 15th, 2001

President: Dean Feken-KL7MA

Vice President: Ralph Gandy-N0NOU

Treasurer: Theresa Locke-KC5TTD

Secretary: Tim McAnally-KD5KTB

Minutes of Meeting:

President Dean (KL7MA) called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm Thursday, November 15th at the American Red Cross building. Everyone was welcomed and there was one guest, Dean's wife, Zona. There were 14 present including: Theresa Locke-KC5TTD, David Locke-KC5SII, John Turner-KA7GLA, Tim McAnally-KD5KTB, Dean Feken-KL7MA, Al Fox-KD5BA, Dan Voth-KM5DH, Greg Veit-KD5MFY, Ron Clinton-WD5HUT, Bill – KC5OKG, Clint – KB5OEQ, Ralph – N0NOU, Frank – KC5PCI and Mike – KD5OFF.

John made motion to accept the October minutes as published in the C&E. Ron seconded the motion and the motion was passed by the members.

Treasurer Report: John provided a Treasurer report. Ralph made a motion to accept the report and Clint 2nd the motion. The members accepted the report.

Repeater Status Report: A new controller was installed by Dean, Greg, Ron and Ralph. We can not link the 145.29 and 444.4 repeaters. They will normally not be linked. During events and nets they will be linked as needed. John and Ron and others will be working towards the installation of an antenna and repeater at the hospital. Darren has resigned from this team so we are looking for someone to join the group. Someone with a technical background is preferred but anyone with the time and energy to learn will be considered. Big thanks to all those who are part of this team to maintain our repeaters and equipment. Excellent job highlighted by how well the repeaters are working.

Training Report: Dean reported the Extra class has had 4 students and the class is on its last week. Two students, Ron and Greg have already passed the Extra class. Congratulations. There will be a test session in December. There are plans to have another Technician class in January and if there is interest, Sam will be holding a code class in January also. Ralph will help Dean with the Technician class.

Activities & Upcoming Events: Al updated us on the Enid Lights up the Plains event scheduled for Friday after Thanksgiving. John will be leading the event while Al is out of town. Those helping with the event should check in at 5:00pm. Fireworks begin at 7:00pm. We will gather at the Mark Price arena. Bill will announce this on the Monday night net.

ARES & Red Cross: The ARES group will continue to meet the 4th Saturday of each month at the McDonalds by the Mall at 8:00am. Darren has resigned as ARES coordinator and Ralph has accepted the position. Nets will continue on Sunday at 3:00pm on 145.29 and 444.4 linked and HF net at 4:30pm on 3900.

Old Business:

Ralph is working on additional insurance. An updated inventory list is needed by December 1st. John will provide an inventory list for Ralph. Ralph will get the insurance paid and submit paperwork for reimbursement. John is coordinating the Christmas party scheduled for December 6th at the Amarillo Grill at 6:30pm. Dan provided a report on the effort to get APRS and Packet repeaters setup. Two TNC's will be needed. John made a motion for the club to buy 2 KPC3+ TNC's. Al seconded the motion and the members approved it. Other equipment already exists or is being donated or built. Thanks to Dan, Dave and Ralph for their effort.

Al will get an updated copy of the bylaws with changes to Tim for distribution.

New Business:

Dean asked that a Financial committee be formed to create a financial policy statement and recommendations about

club spending. Dean asked the Treasurer to place 50% of the current monetary holdings of the club into an interest bearing savings account pending recommendations and procedures from the Financial committee. The committee includes Ralph (an officer), Theresa (An officer), Greg (A board member), Mike (a club member) and an open position to be filled by another member after this position is announced on the Monday night net. Future fund requests excluding emergency repeater repairs will be tabled until the next regularly scheduled meeting in January.

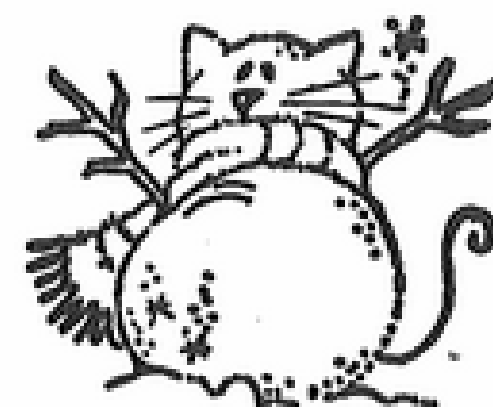
There were brief discussions on future programs, club logos, club dress (hats, jackets, etc)

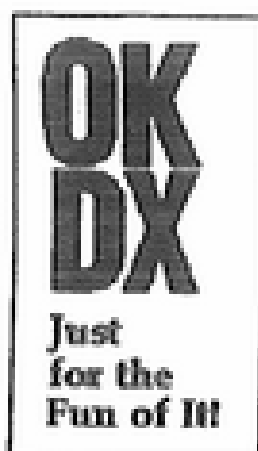
Bill asked what was needed for a Quorum. Dean indicated for voting purposed just a majority of those present at the meeting. Tim will distribute copies of the Bylaws and constitution to members after they are updated from the recent change.

There was discussion on the C&E being discontinued after the December issue. For the short term we will collect email addresses from members and distribute the minutes to them. Other members may pick up the minutes at Dwayne's store or we may have to mail some of them. Tim will coordinate this. EARC Members with email need to send a message to Tim at 'kd5ktb@arrl.net'.

Ron made a motion to adjourn and John 2nd the motion. Dean adjourned us at 8:47pm.

Respectively submitted by Tim McAnally-KD5KTB EARC Secretary/Editor





Oklahoma DX Association

December, 2001

From Da' Prez

By JIM HOOD, K5TT

Well, here we are with December showing on the calendar and another Christmas just around the corner. Be sure to be good little boys and girls and have your list of Ham goodies ready to go. Dave, W5AO gave the club an early present from VP5 by posting his CQWW CW contest score to the OKDXA. Working 15 Meters only, he logged 3,603 Q's, 35 Zones and 110 DXCC Entities for a total of 1,329,070 points. That's a fine piece of work, Dave!

I understand that this may be the last C&E, at least for a while, and I encourage you to subscribe to the OKDXA Reflector during the interim. Instructions for subscribing can be found on the OKDXA web page at

<http://www.qsl.net/okdxa/contents.htm>.

We will be posting OKDXA news in the Reflector and possibly some items on the web page itself.

In the little time I have had to be on the air this fall, conditions seemed to be excellent. At times, 10 Meters has been fantastic. By the middle of November, Six Meters was pretty hot. I have personally heard some good openings into Europe, Japan, South America and the Caribbean. This is virgin territory for me. I am now beginning to understand why people get so excited about Six. At the other end of the spectrum, 160 Meters is also having some good days and the JA's are beginning to come in pretty loud just before sunrise. I have heard Texans working into JT. If you are bored with the usual five bands, give these two bands a try. They are exciting.

I apologize for being preoccupied with family matters this fall. I am starting to get back to normal, time wise, and plan to initiate some club activities soon. I see that plans are progressing quite well for the Oklahoma QSO Party in March, 2002. Thanks to the Tulsa area guys for their work. Details will be coming out soon.

I hope that everyone has a joyous holiday season and that the Ham Santa Claus is good to you.

—K5TT

Secretary / Treasurers Report

By JERRY CHOUINARD, K5YAA

Nothing new to report, but I understand there is a prediction of heavy traffic near crowded shopping malls to be followed by falling prices later this month. For those of you wise enough to appreciate the peace and serenity this season can bring, I admire you. As for me, I'll be receiving a very fine present in March. The TARC has announced that the next Green Country HamFest will be held near my QTH at the convention center in CLAREMORE on the weekend of March 15th and 16th. Visit <http://www.greencountryhamfest.org/> for all the details.

That's just one week before the Oklahoma QSO Party and a great chance to stock up on 450 Ohm ladder line and PL-259's in anticipation... You're also invited to stop by the OKDXA Meeting... March will surely be a great month to be an Oklahoma Ham, just like every other month... I hope you will make the best of this season and the year to come!

—K5YAA

From Da' Editor

By NELSON DERKS, AC5UP

On behalf of the OKDXA and myself, I'd like to thank Hal and Linda Miller for their many years of dedication to both CORA and publication of the *Collector and Emitter*. During the three years I've edited the OKDXA Newsletter, not one edition of this newsletter has been missed or failed to arrive in my mailbox and I've had nothing but cooperation from Hal & Linda. Almost all of our conversations have involved ways to improve the C&E. Dedication like this should be valued and congratulated by any organization lucky enough to find volunteers willing to dedicate so much of their time toward promoting this hobby.

Thank You!

I trust the C&E will continue as a welcome visitor to Oklahoma mailboxes. This is the largest Amateur Radio publication in the state and it promotes more than just the participating clubs, it promotes the hobby.

Well... Here we are again... At the end of another year. And what a year it has been. We started with excellent band conditions, then suffered through a series of solar events that made some of us so hungry for DX that I began hearing pileups on 20 Meters for EA's. A few months earlier

those Q's would have been passed by in favor of something more 'exotic'. I'm pleased to say those days are gone and the bands are definitely back in business. On Halloween night some of us worked what could have been the first truly serious Six Meter F2 opening of the cycle. East coast stations worked Europe and Africa with relative ease while mid-November brought a spate of openings into Alaska for Five-Landers. Of course, I missed almost all of this, but there were some mighty fine log entries being made by those paying attention. I tend to mention activity on Six because if Six is open, the bands are *really* open... In late November I got a call from DX Dan, WG5Z tipping me to his recent QSO with HC8N on 50.104 MHz from Galapagos Island. No, I didn't make the Q, as I could barely copy the signal, but it was remarkable that HC8N was the only signal on the band at that time. It's getting weird out there, so check the bands often and keep an eye on the DX clusters. There will be some fine DX worked before this cycle is over and, like N5UW, I plan to get my share. How about you?

—AC5UP

OPDX Bulletin - Internet Edition

The Ohio/Penn DX PacketCluster

Editor Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW

Provided by BARF-80 BBS Cleveland, OH

3D2/R, ROTUMA

Tony, 3D2AG is active until January 10, 2002 on 10 & 20 Meters, CW/SSB usually starting around 0130z. Listen on 28022, 28495, 14024 and 14195 kHz. QSL direct to 3D2AG via CBA.

4W, EAST TIMOR

(Attention Stamp Collectors)

Carlos, CU3FT calling as 4W/CU3FT was heard on 12 and 20 Meters, 24945 kHz around 1215z and 20 Meters on 14240 and 14210 kHz after 1100z. QSL Manager Jose, CT1EEB announced that QSL's for 4W/CU3FT have been arriving at his PO box at a rate of 4 to 5 a day. You can send your card via CT1EEB: Jose Emanuel Ribeiro de Sa, P.O. Box 79, 3860 Estarreja, Portugal. Carlos also adds that if you collect mail stamps you can request your card directly from Carlos in East-Timor (UNTAET mail stamps will be issued once full independence is achieved next May 2002), Carlos's direct address in East-Timor is: Carlos Poinho, Apartado 93, Dili, Timor-Leste / East-Timor.

5A, LIBYA

Abubaker, 5A1A reports there have been many pirate 5A stations on the air over the past few months. The following stations are the only ones who are legal:

5A1ASC - Assaker Club station. QSL via DK4HB (Mr. Rolf Blauert) direct or buro.

5A1A - Abubaker Alzway; QSL direct or via the bureau.

5A1TA - Tark Abu Kris. QSL via EA3GIP (Mr. Fidel Leon), direct or buro.

5A1HA - Haytm Hashim. QSL via DJ9ZB (Mr. Franz Langner), direct or bureau.

Abubaker asks that you PLEASE be patient with the new operators, especially as they improve their English.

5U, NIGER (Update)

Paolo, IZUIY reports a web site has been created for their upcoming DX'pedition to Niger scheduled for January and February. The URL is: <http://www.qsl.net/niger-2002>. There is survey on-line to help them understand which bands and modes are needed. Additional information will be uploaded when available, the dates and call signs will be announced soon.

9L, SIERRA LEONE

Zbyszek (Zbig), SP7BTB is now active as **9L1BTB**. He is currently working for the UN in Freetown and was heard recently on 40, 20, 17, 15 and 12 Meters SSB. QSL via SP7CDG.

FO/A, AUSTRAL ISLANDS

Leo, **K8PYD** and Jon, **WB8YJF** plan a DX'pedition from here until December 14th. They plan to operate mostly RTTY and some CW (Leo may pack a mic if any room is available.... Hi) on 80-10 Meters. Jon, **WB8YJF** will sign as **FO0SEV** and Leo, **K8PYD** as **FO0FRY**. All cards are to be sent to their home call signs. They hope to provide a new one for those who may need the Australs on RTTY.

JD/O, OGASAWARA

Three stations were active in November, one probably a pirate (JD1XX). **JD1BIA** was active on 6 and 15 Meters, **JD1BKZ** was active (RTTY) on 20 Meters after 0830z or 1030z. Listen on 21275 kHz (or lower) after 0530z or later for stateside QSO's starting around 2300z.

JT, MONGOLIA (Attn: Top Banders)

Ken, **K4ZW** is finally on the ground in JT-land after a couple of long flights. He will be using a Titanex vertical on 80 and 160 Meters in the evenings, local time. Listen for **JT1/K4ZW**.

KH4, MIDWAY ISLAND

A DX'pedition is being planned for June with activity on 160 through 10 Meters. <http://community.silverlink.net/midway/DXpedition.html> for more info.

OQ, BELGIUM (Special Prefix)

Many Belgian stations are on the air using the "OQ" prefix instead of the usual "ON" or "OT" prefixes. The Belgian telecom authorities issued the prefix in celebration of the birth of Princess Elisabeth. This permission is until December 31st. Egbert, **ON4CAS/NITOI** and UBA Awards Manager, reports that two "OQ Activity Days" are being organized. They urge all Belgian Hams to make as many QSO's as possible on Sunday, December 9th and Saturday, December 22nd from 0700-0800z 80m CW only, 0800-1000z, 80 and 40m SSB, 1200-1900z and all other HF bands, all modes, 1900-2200z. This is not a contest and there will be awards for both Belgian and foreign Hams & SWL's. The aim is to give everyone an opportunity to make a Belgian contact. Logs should be sent before January 15th to: Egbert Hertsen, **ON4CAS**, Postbus 85, Mechelen 2, B-2800 Mechelen, Belgium or e-mail to: on4cas@arri.net or egbert.hertsen@pandora.be

P5, NORTH KOREA

Yes, P5 is active. What a way to end the year with a treat for DX'ers around the world to hear. A station in North Korea, which ranks #1 on most everyone's most wanted list, appeared on the bands in mid-November. Actually, attempts were made as early as November 4th (according to Bruce, **KK5DO**'s Web page) but with no success. The reports indicate that Ed, **4L4FN** who works for the UN World Food Program, has tried over the last 2 years to get permission to operate. He has finally received verbal permission to bring his equipment to North Korea. He is currently active as **P5/4L4FN**. However, a verbal permission is not good enough for DXCC credit. The Web page states that Ed is awaiting written permission that should arrive around Christmas. At present, Ed is only active on SSB using a dipole. His favorite frequencies are 14205 and 28575 kHz (running split, 15-35 kHz up), but he seems to be having best luck on 10 Meters. Suggested times are between 1400-1500z and 2200-2300z. His short operating times are due to the job that occupies 12 hours of Ed's day. During the winter months there are many power outages and he may not

be able to get on the air. He will be leaving around Christmas time (December 22nd-January 18th) to return home for a short vacation. On his return he will bring a PSK232 modem for the digital modes. It was also mentioned that a Butternut Vertical and a Bencher keyer will be shipped to him on November 19th. QSL via **KK5DO**: Bruce Paige, PO Box 310, Alief, TX 77411, USA. For updates on operating times and announcements, as well as a log search, go to Bruce's Web page at: <http://www.amsatnet.com/> The frequencies (14205 and 28575) and times (1400-1500 and 2200-2400z) remain his most active. West Coast and Midwest stations seem to have the best chance.

R1, ANTARCTICA

Oleg, **R1ANF/mm** is aboard the vessel "Grigoriy Mikheev" and heading south. The ship will make stops at the Canary Islands and Montevideo, Uruguay, before heading to King George Island. Oleg, who will be the station leader of the Russian Antarctic base "Bellingshausen" will be there until March of 2003. His equipment consists of an FT-900 (100w) transceiver and an R-6000 multiband vertical antenna. He has plans to activate the Chilean base "Ripamonti" as well as "Pedro Cerda" (CE9) and probably "Des. Navy Deception (LU/Z) Bases on Deception Island" in January 2002. QSL's for **R1ANF/mm** are via **RK1PWA**.

TI9, COCOS ISLAND (Update)

You may want to check out the web page at: <http://qsl.net/ti2hmg/cocos.htm> for some great photos and information on this island that's part of Costa Rica. The **TI9M** operation will start on February 17th and last for 12 days. A team of 15 operators will be active on 160 thru 6 Meters on CW, SSB & RTTY.

TM0, FRANCE

Patrick, **F6OIE** will be using the special call **TM0A** from January 19th through February 1st on all HF bands including the WARC bands CW & SSB (CW only on 30 Meters). He will enter the "French REF Cup Contest" as an "A" category station during the last weekend of January. QSL via **F6OIE**, direct or Bureau.

VK, AUSTRALIA

(80m DX Window Expanded)

The WIA has approached the Australian Communications Authority (ACA) with a plan to expand the 80 Meter DX window

by a sharing arrangement with commercial users. After considerable dialog, the ACA has decided to make a change in the 3776-3800 KHz band segment. The ACA plans to reallocate the segment to the Amateur Service on a primary basis starting 1 January 2004. Commercial users will be moved to existing land mobile spectrum adjacent to the new amateur band by the end of December 2003. The Australian operators are presently limited to a 4 kHz segment around 3798 kHz.

XW, LAOS

Hiro, JA2EZD calling as XWØX is active on 15 Meters CW around 21031 kHz between 2345-0030z. Reports indicate he has a new 24-Meter tower and a Kenwood TL-922 amplifier at his office station in downtown Vientiane. His is expected to be active on 40, 20, 15, 10 and 6 Meters with plans to include the WARC bands. There are also plans for some RTTY operation with equipment donated by JA7MYQ. QSL via Hiroo Yonezuka, P.O. Box 2659 Vientiane, Laos.

YA, AFGHANISTAN

It has been reported that well-known DX'er Peter, ON6TT is back in Kabul. He is setting up communications for the U.N. personnel. Knowing Peter, we are sure he will try to receive permission to operate from this country.

YL, IRAQ

Roger, GØMMI was recently active from the YIIBGD club station on 17 Meters. Check 18145 kHz after 1400z. QSL via GØMMI.

ZD8, ASCENSION ISLAND

Jim, N6TJ will be active as ZD8Z until December 18th. No further info available.

ZK2, NIUE

Mike, KM9D and YL Jan, KF4TUG have been very active as ZK2MO and ZK2TO, respectively. Their activity seems to cover 80-10 Meters and the WARC bands. Mike works mainly CW while Jan operates SSB. QSL both call signs via OM2SA.

ZS7, ANTARCTICA

Reports indicate the ZS7ANT SANAE Base is back on the air with a new operator named Anton who passed his exams under the supervision of the SANAE base commander via a telephone call to South Africa. Anton's new call sign is ZS4AGA and he will be active until February 2002. Plans are in the works to organize a traffic

net for WABA DX'ers. Other stations on the air from Antarctica are: CE9NKR, CE9MFJ, EM1HO, EM1KCC, KC4/N3SIG, KC4AAA, KC4USA and VKØKMT.

IOTA News

OC-NEW Operators Nando, IT9YRE; Maury, IZ1CRR and Erminio, IZ8AJQ are planning an operation to Sonsorol Island for February 6-13th with the call T88SI. Activity will be mainly SSB from two stations on 20, 15, and 10 Meters. Erminio will operate CW and Digital.

SA-052 Rene, DL2JRM and Daniel, DL5SE will be active from San Lorenzo Island (Peru) January 3-13th, hopefully as 4T4I and 4T4X respectively. If they can not use 4T4 call signs they will sign as homecall/p. QSL via home call signs (4T4I via DL2JRM, 4T4X via DL5SE).

HFØ, SOUTH SHETLAND ISLANDS

Miroslaw Stefanski, SP7JKW will be active during the entire year of 2002 as HFØPOL from King George Island (IOTA AN-010, WW loc. - GC07SU). He will operate CW, RTTY and PSK-31 plus a little SSB on all HF and WARC bands. QSL via SQ5TA: Artur Tabaszewski, ul. Wiejska 100, 26-606 Radom, Poland. Visit: <http://www.qsl.net/hf0pol> -or- <http://qtc.radio.org.pl/>

KL7, ALASKA (IOTA Activity)

John, KL7JR will be operating on 10 Meters (only) from Kaktovik, Alaska on Barter Island December 13-18th. His plans include the ARRL 10 Meter Contest and a Ham radio demonstration at a school. Barter Island (AK-044S, NA-050 and North Slope County / 2nd Jud. Dist.) is 120 miles east of Prudhoe Bay in the Beaufort Sea. QSL via CBA (QRZ.COM). Listen for him on 28495 kHz +/-.

LIGHTHOUSE ACTIVITY

Jim Buffington, K5JIM and Publicity Chairman for the Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society (ARLHS) reports all participants in the Lighthouse Christmas Lights QSO Party (LCL 2001) will be eligible to receive a Harbour Lights miniature lighthouse collectible. The event will take place from December 22, 2001, through January 2, 2002. Harbour Lights, an ARLHS sponsor, has donated one lighthouse miniature from their "This Little Light of Mine" series for each LCL 2001 participant. All one has to do to

receive the miniature is submit a valid LCL 2001 log confirming contact with at least one lighthouse or one ARLHS member and 3 USD to cover the cost of postage and handling. Complete details can be found at: <http://www.arlhs.com/>. The ARLHS was founded in 2000 by Jim Weidner, K2JXW in response to the large demand by Ham Radio lighthouse buffs. The membership now stands at over 400.

CHICAGO HARBOR LIGHT TO BE ACTIVATED

- One of the contacts most wanted by lighthouse chasers will be available early next year. The Metro Amateur Radio Club (MAC) of Chicago will activate Chicago Harbor Lighthouse, Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society USA #171, on February 9th and 10th, 2002. Special event station K9Y will be operated from the Columbia Yacht Club, according to Mike Dinelli, N9BOR. A special QSL will be available. The usual ARLHS frequencies will be used:

SSB - 3970, 7270, 14270, 21370, 28370

CW - 3530, 7030, 14030, 21030 and 28030 kHz.

Questions can be sent to: mac@qsl.net

Miscellaneous News

MARCONI SPECIAL EVENTS

Commemorating Marconi's experiments between 1901 and 1931, special event station IY1SP will be on the air until December 31st. The station was heard on 10 Meter SSB on various frequencies. QSL via I1FNX, direct or via the bureau.

To celebrate the 100th anniversary of the reception of the first transatlantic signal on Signal Hill in St. John's, Newfoundland, the Society Of Newfoundland Radio Amateurs (SONRA) will be operating with the special call sign VO1S during the month of December, 2001. Special QSL cards will be designed and printed for all contacts made during the month. Cards will be sent via the bureau as of March 1, 2002. Anyone wishing to receive a card directly can do so by providing a SASE before this date to the club address: SONRA, Box 23099, St. John's, NF A1B 4J9, Canada. In addition, the club will be operating for a 24-hour period (0000 to 2400Z) December 12 highlighted by the official contact with Poldhu at 12:30 pm local time (1600Z). A certificate will be awarded (include SASE) for all contacts made during this 24-hour period. For more information, visit: <http://www.sonra.ca/>

The Marconi Radio Club, W1AA and The Falmouth Amateur Radio Association plan to celebrate the Marconi world historical event. December 12, 2001 will mark the 100th anniversary of the first Trans-Atlantic radio transmission by Guglielmo Marconi. That signal was a series of "S S S" transmitted in CW across the Atlantic from Poldhu, Cornwall England to St John's, Newfoundland. The Marconi Radio Club will be using the call W1AA/CC between December 11-16th from Cape Cod, Massachusetts, U.S.A. the location of Marconi's 1903 Trans-Atlantic radio station. Marconi's 1903 call was "C C". www.qrz.com/database?callsign=w1aa is the web site for W1AA/CC operating times, frequencies and modes.

During the month of December, Nuccio, IØYKN and Simone, IZØBTV will be using the special call IUØM in celebration of the first wireless contact across the Atlantic Ocean. QSL by bureau or direct to QSL Manager IØYKN, Nuccio Meoli, Via Della Stazione, SNC, 04010 Cori, Lt, Italy. Alfredo, IK7JWX will be active on weekends in December with the special call sign IR7GM to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Guglielmo Marconi's wireless contact across the Atlantic Ocean. QSL via the bureau or direct to IK7JWX.

DXCC NEWS

Bill Moore, NC1L and ARRL DXCC Manager, reports the following:

- Documentation for ZK1NJC, North Cook Island, has been approved for DXCC credit. It was on the bad list for lack of documentation. The documentation has been reviewed and is now OK for DXCC credit. Anyone who has submitted it and had it rejected can contact the DXCC Desk and they will be able to update their record without having to submit the card again. If not, it can be sent in the next submission. For corrections contact DXCC at: dxcc@arrl.org

- T5X (Somalia) has been on hold waiting for supporting documentation. This has been received, and T5X is now being accepted for DXCC credit. Anyone who had this card rejected during a recent submission can contact DXCC for an update to their record at: dxcc@arrl.org Or, it can be sent with the next submission for credit.

- The New QRP DXCC Award will start in 2002. The QRP DXCC certificate is given for working 100 different DXCC entities on the DXCC List while operating

with a transmitter power of 5 watts or less. Applications will be accepted beginning January 2, 2002. Contacts may have been made at any time since November 15, 1945. This award is not endorsable and certificates will be dated, not numbered. The applicant must certify the authenticity of log information for contacts with 100 entities using 5 watts or less. No QSL cards are required for this award. This award is separate and distinct from the traditional DXCC award program. Credits are not assigned to other DXCC awards. This award is available to all Amateur Radio operators anywhere in the world. The standard DXCC rules apply to this award. The award application and an alpha-numeric list of 100 contacts is required in order to facilitate processing. The fee for this award is 10 USD. This includes all postage and handling fees. For more information and the forms, visit: <http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc/qrp/index.html>

Gerard, PA3AXU reports the DXCC desk has finished reviewing the documentation for his 2001 Pacific trip as T3ØXU, C21XU, and 3D2XU. All operations are "OK" for DXCC credit and a picture QSL has been ordered. QSL via: G.A.M.C. Dijkers, NAPO 550, 3509VP Utrecht, Netherlands. Also, visit his Web Page at: <http://www.qsl.net/pa3axu/2001>

(November 16, 2001) - New DXCC Entity - Ducie Island. The IARU has announced the addition of its latest member-society, The Pitcairn Amateur Radio Association (PIARA). In March 2001 the PIARA filed an application with IARU Region 3 asking for membership in the IARU. This matter went to a vote of the IARU member-societies worldwide in June, and the result of the vote was announced today. As a result of the addition of PIARA as an IARU member-society, a new DXCC Entity has been created. Under DXCC rules, an entity that is represented by an IARU society gains the status of "Political Entity." In changing from a geographic separation to a political DXCC Entity, certain distance requirements for additional separations change. As a result, Ducie Island, a part of the Pitcairn Islands, becomes a new DXCC Entity. Effective 0000Z, November 16, 2001, Ducie Island is added to the DXCC Entity List. Only QSO's dated November 16, 2001 and later will count for this Entity. QSL cards for

DXCC credit will be accepted beginning June 1, 2002.

Ducie Island in the South Pacific is the 335th DXCC entity. The island has been activated previously for the Islands On The Air program (as IOTA OC-182) these earlier contacts will not count for DXCC.

DUCIE DX'PEDITION CANCELLED

On November 19th, the PIARA Ducie Island DX'pedition team turned back to Pitcairn due to stormy weather conditions. Between the rough seas and having to shut down the diesel engines to clean the fuel filter every few hours, it was just too risky to attempt a landing. As they were heading back to Pitcairn, the team began making plans to operate in the upcoming CQWW Contest from Pitcairn. According to pilot station Dr. Bill, N6GNX the team made it back to Pitcairn OK, however, once on the island the PIARA Ducie Island team decided not to operate during the CQWW weekend from Pitcairn. The diesel fuel problem necessitated a dozen stops on the trip back to Pitcairn alone, and it was decided that it would be prudent to head back to Gambier Island on November 22nd. Before leaving, Kan, JA1BK donated all the antennas, masts and two generators to the Pitcairn Island Amateur Radio Association (PIARA) for a future DX'pedition. While on the island, Mike, K9AJ and Vince, K5VT (who are medical doctors) were able to work with several patients as the number of doctors on Pitcairn went from zero to two. Visit: <http://www.qsl.net/wd4nbg/ducie.htm>

PIRATE ACTIVITY

Maurice, F5NQL and DX Web page editor (<http://www.uft.net>) reports that Marc, ON6AA says his call is regularly pirated by an operator who signs F/ON6AA using CW or RTTY. The signals probably come from southern France.

144MHz DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

Derek, GØNFA has finished returning the 144MHz Daily News Bulletin back to its original Web site at: www.144mhz.co.uk/ and <http://members.aol.com/g0nfa/144news.html> Your comments on the new look are welcome. Send E-mail to Derek at: g0nfa@aol.com

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ARRL CONTEST CALENDAR

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QST Contest Calendar — K5TR, Editor

WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 15-16

ARRL 10-METER CONTEST

see November 2001 *QST*, page 104, or
www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/rule-s-10m.html. Summary follows:

Object: For Amateurs worldwide to exchange QSO information with as many stations as possible on the 10-meter band.

Date and Contest Period: Second full weekend of December. Starts 0000 UTC Saturday; ends 2400 UTC Sunday, Dec. 15-16, 2001. All stations operate no more than 36 hours out of the 48-hour period. Listening time counts as operating time.

Contest Exchange:

W/VE stations (including Hawaii and Alaska) send signal report and state or province (District of Columbia stations send signal report and DC). Novice and Technician Plus stations sign /N or /T on CW. If used, you must indicate /N or /T on your summary sheet. DX stations (including KH2, KP4, etc) transmit signal report and sequential serial number starting with 001. Maritime mobile stations send signal report and ITU Region (1, 2 or 3).

Scoring: Count two points for each complete two-way phone QSO. Count four points for each two-way CW QSO. Count eight points for CW QSO's with US Novice or Technician Plus stations signing /N or /T (28.1 to 28.3 MHz only).

Multipliers: (per mode, phone and CW). The 50 US states (plus DC). Canada [NB (VE1, 9), NS (VE1), QC (VE2), ON (VE3), MB (VE4), SK (VE5), AB (VE6), BC (VE7), NT (VE8), NF, (VO1), LB (VO2)], YT (VY1), PE (VY2) NU (VY0). DXCC entities (except the mainland US, Canada, Alaska and Hawaii). ITU regions (maritime mobiles only).

Final Score: Multiply QSO points by total multipliers (the sum of states / VE provinces / DXCC entities / ITU regions per mode). Example: KA1RWY works 2245 stations including 1305 phone QSO's, 930 non-Novice CW QSO's, 10 Novice CW QSO's, for a total of 6410 QSO points. She works 49 states, 10 Canadian call areas, 23 DXCC entities and a maritime mobile station in Region 2 on phone and 30 states, 8 Canadian call areas, and 19 DXCC entities on CW for a total multiplier of 140. Final score = 6410

(QSO points) \times 140 (multiplier) = 897,400 points.

WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 21-22

OK DX RTTY CONTEST

Sponsored by the Czech Radio Club, 0000Z through 2400Z Dec 22. SOAB, SOSB, MOAB, SWL categories. Work stations once per band (3.5-30 MHz according to IARU band plan); no time limit. Exchange RS and CQ Zone. QSO Points: 80 and 40--3 pts on same cont, 6 pts different cont, 20-10--1 pt same cont, 2 pts different cont. Score is QSO points \times DXCC entities plus OK stations (count each once per band). For more info visit: <http://www.crk.cz/eng/DXCONTE.HTM>.

Logs must be postmarked by 15 January to Czech Radio Club, OK DX RTTY Contest, PO Box 69, 113 27 Praha 1, Czech Republic or e-mailed to: MILOS@TESTCOM.CZ.

AGB ACTIVITY PARTY

CW / Phone, sponsored by the Activity Group Belarus, 2100Z-2300Z Dec 21. SO-QRP and HP-CW, -SSB, -Mixed, MS Mixed Mode and SWL categories. Frequencies: CW 3510-3555, SSB 3700-3750; calling frequencies: CW 3540; SSB 3720 kHz. There are no time limits and a station may be worked once per 15-minute segment starting at 2100Z. AGB members exchange RST, serial number and AGB number, non-members exchange RST + serial number. QSO Points: same continent 1 pt; different cont 3 pts; AGB members count 5 pts. Score is QSO points \times AGB members + DXCC entities. For info visit <http://www.qsl.net/euleu/>. Logs must be e-mailed or postmarked by Jan 11 to Igor Getmann, EU1EU, PO Box 143, Minsk 220005, Belarus, or euleu@qsl.net.

WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 29-30

RAC WINTER CONTEST

CW / Phone, sponsored by the Radio Amateurs of Canada, 0000Z-2359Z Dec 29. Frequencies: CW--25 kHz up from the band edge (check on the half hour); Phone--1850, 3775, 7075, 7225, 14175, 21250, 28500, 50 and 144 MHz for both modes. SOAB-LP, SOAB-HP, SOAB-QRP, SOSB, MO categories. There is no time limit. VE stations exchange RST and Province, VE0 and non-VE stations exchange RST and serial number. QSO Points: Outside Canada--2 pts, VE/VE0 stations count 10 pts, RAC stations 20 pts (work stations once per band and mode). Score is QSO points \times VE provinces and

territories (count each once per band and mode). <http://www.rac.ca/CANWIN.htm> Logs must be postmarked by Jan 31 to Radio Amateurs of Canada, 720 Belfast Rd, Suite 217, Ottawa, ON K1G 0Z5, Canada or e-mailed to VE7CFD@rac.ca.

STEW PERRY TOP BAND

DISTANCE CHALLENGE

CW, sponsored by the Boring Amateur Radio Club, 1500Z Dec 29 to 1500Z Dec 30. SO and MO categories with a power multiplier. Operate for a maximum of 14 hours. Exchange grid square only. QSO Points: 1 pt + 1 pt for every 500 km distance calculated between grid square centers (see Web page for calculation information), QSO's w/ QRP stations that submit a log count double QSO points. Score is QSO points \times Power multiplier ($<5\text{ W} \times 4$, $5\text{-}100\text{ W} \times 2$, $>100\text{ W} \times 1$). Visit <http://www.jzap.com/k7rat/stew.html> for more. Logs must be postmarked by Jan 31 to Boring Amateur Radio Club, 15125 SE Bartell Rd, Boring, OR 97009, or e-mailed to TBDC@CONTESTING.COM.

ORIGINAL QRP CONTEST

CW, sponsored by the QRP Contest Community, 1500Z Dec 29 to 1500Z Dec 30. SOAB-VLP ($<1\text{ W}$), -QRP ($<5\text{ W}$), or -MP ($<20\text{ W}$) categories. Operate for a maximum of 15 hours with up to 2 off periods on the 3.5, 7 and 14 MHz bands. Exchange RST, serial number & category. QSO Points: 4 pts if log is submitted; 1 pt otherwise. Multipliers: 2 pts for DXCC entities from submitted logs; 1 pt otherwise. Score is computed by log checkers. Postmark logs by Jan 31 to Dr Hartmut Weber, DJ7ST, Schlesierweg 13, D-38228, Salzgitter, Germany.

DECEMBER 31 – JANUARY 1

ARRL STRAIGHT KEY NIGHT

See the announcement in *QST* or at <http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/skn.html>.

When I think about my early days in CW, I can't help but fondly remember Dr Mac--WA4VNV (later N4IX and now an SK). I had agreed to take over from him as the editor of the local club newsletter, and he had agreed to keep this neophyte 13-year-old supplied with copy. The only caveat was that he would only send me his material for *Smoketest* (club newsletter) over the air in CW. It was a sneaky way to force me to increase my code proficiency, but it was effective. And boy, could he

make that old straight key sing. Thanks, Dr Mac!

When was the last time you cleared a bit of the rust off your fist and tried some code the good old-fashioned way--via the straight key? In this era of digital communication, keyboarding, FM and electronic keys, once a year many excellent operators bring the past to the present and participate in the annual ARRL Straight Key Night. If but for a brief 24-hour period, it is a trip to a nostalgic time, much the same way an old soldier tries on his old uniform. For others, it is an excellent opportunity to try their hand much as their Elmers did in the past.

The object of this friendly event is to enjoy some good, old-fashioned QSO fun, using straight keys. The emphasis is on rag-chewing rather than on fast contest-type exchanges. SKN 2002 begins at 7 PM EST December 31 and runs for 24 hours through 7 PM EST January 1 (0000-2400 UTC January 1, 2002). When participating in SKN 2002, instead of sending RST before sending the signal report, send the letters SKN, to indicate your participation and to clue in passersby who may be listening that SKN is going strong. Following SKN, send the Contest Branch a list of stations worked, plus your vote for the best fist you heard (it doesn't have to be one you worked). Also, include your vote for the most interesting QSO you had or monitored, as well as any interesting comments you have for the Feedback section of the SKN 2002 write-up. Entries may be e-mailed to the Contest Branch at StraightKey@arrl.org or may be sent via regular mail to SKN, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.

Entries for SKN 2002 must be received by January 31, 2002. Votes for "Best Fist" and "Most Interesting QSO" will be tabulated and included in the April 2002 issue of *QST*. If you have questions about SKN, please visit the Contest Branch Web Page at <http://www.arrl.org/contests> or contact contests@arrl.org.

WIAW QUALIFYING RUNS

10 PM EST Friday, December 7, and 9 AM EST Wednesday, December 26. The K6YR West Coast Qualifying Run will be at 9 PM PST Wednesday, December 5 (10-40 WPM). Check the WIAW schedule for details.

There are a number of short contests celebrating the New Year. For more information, visit the Web sites listed.

NEW YEAR SNOWBALL CONTEST

Sponsored by the Activity Group of Belarus (AGB) <http://www.qsl.net/euleu/>

SARTG NEW YEAR RTTY CONTEST

Sponsored by the Scandinavian RTTY Activity Group (SARTG)

<http://www.citytorget.com/sartg/>

AGCW NEW YEAR CONTEST

Sponsored by the DL CW Activity Group (DL-AGCW), <http://www.agcw.de/>

WEEKEND OF JANUARY 4-6

ARRL RTTY ROUNDUP

See page 112 of December 2001 *QST*, or www.arrl.org/contests/

KID'S DAY, PHONE

Sponsored by the Boring Amateur Radio Club, 1800Z to 2400Z Jan 5. Frequencies: 28350 to 28400, 21380 to 21400, 14270 to 14300 kHz, and 2-Meter repeaters with permission of repeater control ops. Exchange name, age and favorite color. If the operator has changed, a station can be contacted again. No scores or logs are required--every participant is eligible to receive a colorful certificate--send a 9x12 SASE to: Boring Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 1357, Boring, OR 97009. For more information, <http://www.jzap.com/k7rat/>

WEEKEND OF JANUARY 11-13

North American Qso Party, CW

Sponsored by the *National Contest Journal*, 1800Z Jan 12-0600Z Jan 13 on the 160-10 Meter bands. SOAB-LP and M2 categories with max power 100 W, operating a maximum of 10 hours (off times must be at least 30 min and M2 entries may operate the entire contest). Exchange name and SPC. Score is QSO's x States + Provinces + NA DXCC entities (count each once per band). For more info: <http://www.ncjweb.com/naqprules.html> Logs must be postmarked by Feb 12 to Bob Selbrede, K6ZZ, 6200 Natoma Ave, Mojave, CA 93501 or e-mailed to cwnaqp@ncjweb.com

Japan International DX Contest, CW

Sponsored by *Five Nine Magazine*, 2200Z Jan 11-2200Z Jan 13, work JA stations only. Frequencies--160, 80 and 40 Meter bands (20, 15, 10 Meter contest in April); remember that JA's can operate between 1810-1825 and 1907.5-1912 kHz. SOAB-

LP/HP (<100W/>100W), SOSB-LP/HP, MS, Maritime Mobile categories with 30-hour time limit for non-JA stations (off times min. of 60 min). 10-min rule applies to MS entrants--see web site. Exchange RST and CQ Zone, JA stations send prefecture number. QSO Points: 160--4 pts, 80--2 pts, 40--1 pt. Score is QSO points x JA prefectures (maximum of 50 per band). For more information visit <http://www.jzap.com/jelcka/jidx/jidxrule-e.html>. Logs must be postmarked by February 28 to JIDX Contest, c/o Five-Nine Magazine, PO Box 59, Kamata, Tokyo, 144, Japan or e-mailed to jidx-log@dumpty.nal.go.jp

Hunting Lions in the Air, CW / Phone

Sponsored by the International Association of Lions Clubs, 0000Z Jan 12-2400Z Jan 13. Frequencies: 80 thru 10 Meters, work stations once per band regardless of mode. SOAB and MS categories. Exchange RST and serial number, Lion club members also sign /L or "Lion" and send name, district and club name. Melvin Jones Memorial Club (W7YU/MJM) members sign "Melvin." QSO Points: non-Lion station--1 pt, with Lions--5 pts, 20 points for MJM club members, 50 points with W7YU/MJM. Score is QSO points x number of Lions clubs (count only once). <http://www.sarl.org.za/public/contests/lionita.htm> Logs must be postmarked or e-mailed by Jan 31 to Lion Rad Handfield-Jones, ZS6RAD, Lions Club of Midrand, PO Box 1548, Halfway House, 1685, South Africa. aiatolla@hotmail.com or rad.handfield-jones@pixie.co.za

JANUARY 19th

070 CLUB PSK CONTEST

Sponsored by the Penn-Ohio DX Society, 0000Z-2400Z Jan 19. 80-10 Meters. SO-QRP, MP (<50 W), HP (<100 W). Exchange RST, serial number and SPC. Each QSO counts 1 pt. Score is QSO points x DXCC entities (count each only once). For more information visit: members.aol.com/n3dqu/podxc070.htm Logs (with dupe sheet if >100 QSO's) must be received by Feb 19 by mail to Steve Dominguez, N6YIH/7; 070 Club PSKFEST; 5657 Elkhorn Ave, Boise, ID 93705-2817, or by email as a text (.txt) file to spdomingue@aol.com.

WEEKEND OF JANUARY 19-20

ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes

See page 111, December 2001 *QST* or <http://www.arrl.org/contests/>.

North American QSO Party, Phone
1800Z Jan 19-0600Z Jan 20 (see Jan 12-13). Logs must be emailed or postmarked by Feb 19 to Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, 4225 Farndale Ave, Studio City, CA 91604 or ssbnaqp@ncjweb.com

MI-QRP CW SPRINT

Sponsored by the Michigan QRP Club, 1200Z 19 Jan-2359Z 20 Jan. 160 through 6 Meter bands, SOAB, entry classes A (<250 mW), B (<1 W), C (<5 W), D (>5W). Exchange RST, SPC, and MI-QRP number or power output. QSO Points: MI-QRP members are 5 pts, non-member W/VE are 2 pts, and DX 4 pts. Score is QSO points \times SPC (count each once per band, US/VE do not count as entities). If homebrew RX or TX, multiply by 1.25. If both RX and TX are homebrew, multiply by 1.5. Visit <http://www.qsl.net/miqrpcub> Logs must be sent to L. T. Switzer, N8CQA, 427 Jeffrey Ave, Royal Oak, MI 48073-2521 or n8cqa@att.net

WEEKEND OF JANUARY 25-27

CQ WW 160-Meter Contest, CW

Sponsored by *CQ Magazine*, 2200Z Jan 25-1600Z Jan 27 (Phone portion is Feb 22-24). SO-QRP (<5 W) -LP(<150 W) -HP, MO categories; no time limit. Enter as MO if packet or spotting nets are used. Exchange RST and SPC. QSO Points: own entity--2 pts, same cont--5 pts, diff. Cont--10 pts, /MM stations count 5 points, but no multiplier. Score is QSO points \times states + VE call areas + DXCC entities (KH6 and KL7 count as DXCC only). Visit <http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/cq160rules.html> for info. Logs (Cabrillo format preferred) must be emailed (no paper logs) by Feb 28 to cq160@kkn.net

KANSAS QSO PARTY

1800Z Jan 26-1800Z Jan 27 on any band and mode. Categories are SOAB and MS or MM, no time limit. Kansas stations exchange RST and county (HF) or grid (VHF); others exchange RST and SPC or grid. QSO Points: HF--SSB 1 pt, CW--2 pts, all other modes 3 pts; VHF 2m--SSB/FM--1 pt, CW/AM--3 pts; 6m/220-SSB/FM--2 pts, CW/AM--4 pts; 440-SSB/FM--3 pts, CW/AM--5 pts; 902 and higher--8 pts; ATV, digital, EME or other modes above 50 MHz--10 pts. Score is HF-QSO points \times counties (count only once), VHF--QSO points \times grid squares (count only once), total score is HF + VHF + 1000 points for each QSO with KØS.

<http://www.ksarrrl.net/qso/2002ksqso.htm> for more info. Logs must be postmarked by Mar 1 to Kansas QSO Party c/o Rick Carver, WAØKS, 13425 W 56th Terrace, Shawnee, KS 66216 or e-mailed to wa0ks@arrrl.net

REF FRENCH CONTEST, CW

Sponsored by the Réseau des Emetteurs Francais, 0600Z Jan 26-1800Z Jan 27 (Phone contest is Feb 24-25). Contact French stations (including Corsica, Overseas Territories and EU Council station TP2CE) on 80 through 10 Meters. Categories are SOAB, MS and SWL. Non-French stations exchange RST and serial number, French exchange RST and department number or prefix. QSO Points: different continent--3 pts, 1 pt otherwise. Score is QSO points \times departments and prefixes (count each once per band). For more info visit <http://www.ref.tm.fr/> Logs are due by Mar 15 (CW) or Apr 15 (SSB) by mail to Réseau des Emetteurs Francais, REF Contest, BP 7429, 37074 Tours Cedex, France, or by e-mail to f5lbl@ref-union.org

UBA CONTEST, PHONE

Sponsored by the Royal Union of Belgian Amateur Radio, 1300Z Jan 26-1300Z Jan 27. Contact ON stations on the 80-10 Meter bands according to the IARU band plan. Categories are SOAB and SOAB-QRP, SOSB, MS, no time limit, and packet is allowed for all classes. Exchange RST and serial number, ON stations will add their province abbr. QSO Points: QSO's with ON stations--10 pts, with other EU--3 pts, outside EU--1 pt. Score is QSO points \times ON provinces + ON prefixes + DXCC entities (count each once per band). Visit <http://www.uba.be/> for more info. Logs must be postmarked within 30 days of the contest to Michel Le Bon, ON4GO, UBA HF Contest Manager, Chée de Wavre 1349, B-1160 Bruxelles, Belgium or e-mail to berger@cyc.ucl.ac.be

BARTG RTTY SPRINT

Sponsored by the British Amateur Radio Teletype Group, 1200Z Jan 26--1200Z Jan 27 on the 80-10 Meter bands. Categories are SOAB, MO and SWL. Operators with a Top Ten log in the past three years must enter as an Expert. Exchange serial number only, each QSO counts for 1 pt. Score is QSO points \times DXCC entities + W/VE/JA/VK + continents (multipliers count only once). For more info visit <http://www.bartg.demon.co.uk/> Logs in

Cabrillo format must be received by 1 Mar by mail to John Barber, GW4SKA, PO Box 611, Cardiff, CF24 4UN, Wales (only logs with 50 or fewer QSO's may be submitted as printed logs) or by email to ska@bartg.demon.co.uk with the call and entry class in the subject line and the log included as an attachment.

WIAW QUALIFYING RUNS

Thursday, January 3 and 9 AM EST
Wednesday, January 23. The K6YR West Coast Qualifying Run will be at 9 PM PST Wednesday, January 9 (10-40 WPM). Check the WIAW Schedule for details.

DEC / JAN CONTEST SUMMARY

(Courtesy Of Bruce Horn, WA7BNM)

DECEMBER, 2001

TARA RTTY Sprint	1800Z, Dec 1	0200Z, Dec 2
TOPS Activity	1800Z, Dec 1	1800Z, Dec 2
80m Contest	1800Z, Dec 2	0100Z, Dec 3
Tennessee QSO Party	1800Z, Dec 2	2400Z, Dec 2
QRP ARCI Holiday	2000Z, Dec 7	1600Z, Dec 9
Spirits Sprint	2200Z, Dec 7	0300Z, Dec 10
ARRL 160-Meter Contest	0000Z, Dec 8	2400Z, Dec 9
Six Club 1st Winter Contest	0000Z, Dec 15	2400Z, Dec 16
PSK31 Death Match	0000Z, Dec 15	2400Z, Dec 16
ARRL 10-Meter Contest	0000Z, Dec 15	2400Z, Dec 16
OK DX RTTY Contest	0000Z, Dec 15	2400Z, Dec 16
28 MHz SWL Contest	1400Z, Dec 15	2300Z, Dec 21
Croatian CW Contest	2100Z, Dec 15	1059Z, Dec 26
AGB Party Contest	0830Z, Dec 29	2400Z, Dec 29
DARC Christmas Contest	0000Z, Dec 29	1500Z, Dec 30
RAC Winter Contest	1500Z, Dec 29	1500Z, Dec 30
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	1500Z, Dec 29	1500Z, Dec 30
Original QRP Contest, CW	1500Z, Dec 29	1500Z, Dec 30

JANUARY, 2002

AGB NYSB Contest	0000Z, Jan 1	0100Z, Jan 1
SARTG New Year RTTY Contest	0800Z, Jan 5	1100Z, Jan 6
AGCW QRP Winter Contest	1500Z, Jan 5	1500Z, Jan 6
ARRL RTTY Roundup	1800Z, Jan 5	2400Z, Jan 6
Japan Int. DX Contest, 160-40m	2200Z, Jan 11	2200Z, Jan 13

Midwinter Contest, CW	1400Z - 2000Z, Jan 12
North American QSO Party, CW	1800Z, Jan 12 - 0600Z, Jan 13
NRAU-Baltic Contest, CW	0530Z - 0730Z, Jan 13
NRAU-Baltic Contest, SSB	0800Z - 1000Z, Jan 13
Midwinter Contest, Phone	0800Z - 1400Z, Jan 13
DARC 10-Meter Contest	0900Z - 1059Z, Jan 13
LZ Open Contest, CW	1200Z - 2000Z, Jan 19
MI QRP January CW Contest	1200Z, Jan 19 - 2359Z, Jan 20
North American QSO Party, SSB	1800Z, Jan 19 - 0600Z, Jan 20
ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes	1900Z, Jan 19 - 0400Z, Jan 21
CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW	2200Z, Jan 25 - 1600Z, Jan 27
REF Contest, CW	0600Z, Jan 26 - 1800Z, Jan 27
BARTG RTTY Sprint	1200Z, Jan 26 - 1200Z, Jan 27
UBA DX Contest, SSB	1300Z, Jan 26 - 1300Z, Jan 27
Kansas QSO Party	1800Z, Jan 26 - 1800Z, Jan 27

Doctor DX:

Dear Doctor DX:

It's a holiday tradition at our house to set up the model train set and I've been thinking about adding some new features to the layout. Can you suggest anything?

Signed: Geriatric Adolescent

Dear Jerry:

As a high-tech aficionado of the electronic arts, start with a steady DC voltage on the rails. Then add a superimposed AC signal like Ethernet. Let your imagination soar...

DIGITAL MODEL TRAINS HELP ENGINEERS

By DAVID L. MARGULIUS

New York Times, November 1, 2001:

SAN LEANDRO, Calif. -- AT a rail yard here across the bay from San Francisco, a Southern Pacific freight train gives a quick horn blast and begins its run across the Central Valley of California. Nearby, a brightly painted Art Deco passenger train chugs and clangs as it climbs past gold rush landmarks like Emigrant Gap on its way across the Sierra Nevada.

The train sounds mix with the excited voices of grown men playing railroad engineer on a Saturday morning. "I'm in the hills, I'm coming down... I'll stop in Roseville." "You're rolling again." "Hey,

you've got to keep an eye on your train!" From the noise, or a quick look around, you wouldn't guess that the San Leandro Historical Railway Society is playing with high-tech. Yellowed railroad mementos hang on the walls of a restored 1898 train depot, now home to the club's three-level model track layout. The scenery and accessories evoke the 1950's, the decade of transition from steam to diesel.

Yet here, as across the country, the model train has met the microprocessor. Each locomotive carries a thumbnail-size circuit board packing more processing power than the computer that went to the moon on Apollo 11. The days of watching trains just run around in circles are over. "It's getting closer and closer to running the real train," Pat LaTorres, a club member, says of the new technology, called D.C.C., for Digital Command Control. "You have to work around each other, use the crossovers from track to track, to have a fast train overtake a slow one. I was hooked when I first tried it." The technology enables several trains to run on a single layout without cumbersome wiring or the central control station that was previously necessary. More people can run trains at the same time and everyone is closer to the action, thanks to hand-held throttles that look like television remote controls.

Suddenly, a loud noise. Eric Gonzales, a high school senior, has rear-ended his 1940's vintage steam Nickel Plate Railroad passenger train into Barry Chinn's diesel-pulled freight train, causing a commotion. "O.K., who's driving?" Mr. Chinn yells. "My fault," the Nickel Plate engineer says, using some manual intervention to solve the problem. "I thought it was on the other track. Anyway, no caboose on the train — no injuries." Collisions are not the only aspects of model railroading that have become more lifelike with digital technology. Customized sounds like "blowing down the boiler" (venting dirty foam, which blocks the transfer of heat in a steam engine), can be downloaded to locomotives from a PC. Running lights from a specific era, like the pulsing Mars Light on 1940's diesel engines, can be simulated for effect. Accessories like signals, switches, snowplows and cranes can more easily be brought to life.

The new technology has even won over veterans like Vern Cumins, 84, who has

been a model railroad enthusiast since 1933. "This is the greatest thing — the sounds, the control," he says. "When I started, the cars were made out of wood blocks." On this Saturday morning, Mr. Cumins, Mr. Chinn, Mr. Gonzales and a few other club members are each running one train on the club's layout as they walk around the perimeter, occasionally making an adjustment on hand-held throttles that control speed, direction, sounds and light. For hard-core modelers, entire railroad performances can even be scheduled and run, using PC-based software programs like Railbase Professional and Computer Dispatcher Pro. Many clubs run highly disciplined monthly "operations" sessions that simulate the running of the real railroad, complete with rule books, job titles, timetables and waybills. Some carry out pre-assigned orders, assembling trains in the yard and delivering cars and goods to model factories.

To make it feel more like the real thing, club members wear radio headsets during the operating sessions as real engineers would, even though they are only a few feet from one another. "American model railroaders like to see themselves as engineers," said Norm Stenzel, sales manager for Digitrax, a leading vendor of Digital Command Control equipment. "In your mind you're simulating what the guy on the ground is doing. You're the total train crew. You're in the cab. You're on the ground throwing turnouts" (to switch from one track to another). All this is made easier by the new technology, which was developed in Europe in the early 1990's and has gained momentum lately because of falling prices. Digital Command Control intersperses digital control signals with the power current running along the track, allowing modelers to send instructions to specific locomotives or other devices equipped with a tiny decoder (typically an integrated chip with an eight-megahertz, eight-bit central processing unit and two or four kilobytes of read-only memory). The decoders receive their instructions from the users' hand-held throttles via a small master controller unit typically hidden away and optimally connected to a PC so the trains can perform more functions.

"It's like Ethernet on the rails," said Mark Gurries of Silicon Valley Lines, a model railroad club in San Jose, Calif., that is building a D.C.C.-enabled layout. "We're

running packets of information on the track continuously. It's allowed people to take whatever they have and enjoy it more." Ranging in price from \$10 to \$300, Digital Command Control decoders support a wide range of features and functions. Many manufacturers are now shipping locomotives with built-in decoders or slots for easy installation. The decoders are compatible with hardware from any manufacturer complying with the standard, which means that any D.C.C. locomotive can run on any D.C.C. layout. The better-known manufacturers include North Coast Engineering, Digitrax, Lenz of Germany, Atlas Model Railroad Co. and Model Rectifier. Complete systems including decoders and controllers can range from \$150 to \$1,000. That is only part of the \$5,000 to \$20,000 a serious hobbyist or club might invest in a garage-size or larger layout, including track, roadbed, scenery and lumber but excluding rolling stock. (For the less dedicated, a

non-digital Christmas-tree-type starter layout can be had for about \$40.) At most model railroad clubs, members run trains from their personal collections on which they have typically spent \$1,000 and up.

So what's next on the upgrade path for model railroaders? Some scoff at the new Microsoft Train Simulator, a PC-based software program that allows armchair engineers to run six trains over 600 miles of routes. Yet one of the most popular toys at the San Leandro club is a locomotive with a video camera that transmits on a UHF frequency to a television in the next room. When the train is running, onlookers crowd around the television to see the "cab level" view of the layout whizzing by. "We always thought the trains weren't going that fast," said the club president, Thomas Blinn. "But when they get going 40 to 50 miles an hour, you get dizzy watching the TV. That camera locomotive was the best \$400 we ever spent." At the Silicon Valley Lines club, where most

members work at high-tech companies, Chris Erickson, a member who designs hardware at Apple Computer, predicted that the next generation of D.C.C. would support two-way communication. This would include tracking and positioning capabilities similar to satellite-guided navigation to allow inventory management as sophisticated as that of a real railroad. He also envisioned miniature motors that will enable windows to open, fans to spin, passengers to move around, and so on. "You're dreaming now," interrupted Mr. Gurries, the club's D.C.C. expert. But then, Mr. Gurries reflected: "The fact that you can sit there and show off is kind of what it's all about. It's like hot rods — one-upmanship. Where does it stop? It stops when your wife says:

'You spent how much?' "

—Doctor DX

* Our monthly C&E Special from your friends at FUBAR ShaZamaHamaTronics of Spokogee, OK *

Improved Again For 2001! THE NOMATUNER IV ANTENNA TUNER

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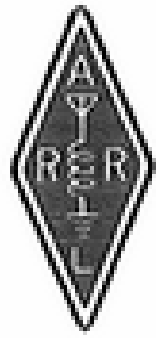
Have some DX News? Contact Nelson Derks, AC5UP, 13410 South 128th East Ave. Broken Arrow, OK 74011

E-Mail to: k5yaa@aol.com or ac5up@vei.net – Visit the OKDXA Web Page at <http://www.qsl.net/okdxa>

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A. R. R. L. Bulletins

From ARRL Headquarters
Newington, CT

ARRL Bulletin 53 November 30, 2001

New Amateur Extra class question pool released

The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators' Question Pool Committee has released a revised and expanded Amateur Extra class (Element 4) question pool into the public domain. The new question pool becomes effective July 1, 2002, and must be used to generate all Extra class written examinations administered on or after that date. It replaces the Extra class question pool released April 15, 2000--the day Amateur Radio "restructuring" became effective.

The new Element 4 pool expands the number of questions by more than 20 percent--806 questions--as opposed to 665 in the current Extra class pool, and it contains more technical material. More than half of the questions cover electrical principles, circuits, signals and emissions.

The 50 questions in an Extra class examination are drawn from the question pool consistent with FCC rules and according to a formula that specifies the number of questions to be asked from each of nine topic areas. Applicants must correctly answer at least 37 questions to pass.

The new Element 4 question pool is available on the ARRL Web site, <http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/pools.html>. The just-released Extra class question pool will remain valid through June 30, 2005.

The Question Pool Committee now will turn its attention to developing an outline for the Technician class (Element 2) question pool. A draft Element 2 syllabus is scheduled for public release and comment next spring. The QPC invites suggestions for the Element 2 syllabus and question pool revision.

Questions and comments about the QPC's work can be directed to, Chairman Scotty Neustadter, W4WW, w4ww@arrl.net; ARRL VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, vec@arrl.org; Fred Maia, W5YI, w5yi@w5yi.org; and John Johnston, W3BE, johnston.john1@worldnet.att.net

ARRL Bulletin 52 November 29, 2001

Comments due February 12 in "Band Threat" proceeding

Comments are due February 12, 2002, in the FCC Notice of Proposed Rule Making and Order in ET Docket 01-278. Reply comments are due on March 12, 2002. The proceeding deals in part with a potential band threat to the popular 70-cm band from Part 15 RF identification devices proposed for deployment between 425 and 435 MHz.

SAVI Technology, which markets radiolocation and wireless inventory control products, told the FCC it needs the rules changes to satisfy customer demand for increased RFID system capabilities. The FCC has proposed to allow operation of RFIDs as unlicensed Part 15 devices in the 425-435 MHz band with transmissions of up to two minutes at field strengths now only permitted for extremely short-duration, intermittent control signals.

The ARRL has argued that under the Communications Act of 1934 the FCC lacks authority to permit unlicensed devices with substantial interference potential and that such devices must be licensed. The ARRL also is looking into the interference potential posed to 20 meters by a proposal to increase the maximum emission levels permitted by Part 15 devices operating at 13.56 MHz, as well as the maximum level of out-of-band emissions.

Commenters are advised to read paragraphs 20-27 of the NPRM&O, which is available on the ARRL Web site, <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2001/10/19/1/290a11.html>.

Interested parties may file comments using the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System, <http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html> (search using "01-278"). Commenters should include full name, US Postal Service mailing address, and

applicable docket or rule making number--in this case ET 01-278.

It's also possible to e-mail comments via the ECFS. To obtain e-mail filing instructions, commenters should send an e-mail to ecfs@fcc.gov and include the words "get form your e-mail address" in the body of the message. A sample form and directions will be sent by reply e-mail.

ARRL Bulletin 50 November 20, 2001

Mail disruptions lead to vanity processing suspension

Recently announced changes in mail handling procedures at the FCC's Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, office have effectively halted processing of Amateur Radio vanity call sign applications. The FCC has processed vanity applications received through October 14. Vanity applications received after that remain on hold for now.

"We understand that mail directed to the FCC Gettysburg office beginning October 15 was being held pending the start of special handling precautions to address any biohazard contamination concerns," said ARRL VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ. He said the FCC is tracking the receipt date for each piece of mail.

Because the FCC gives equal priority to paper and electronic vanity applications, all vanity processing was being suspended until the mail situation is resolved. Citing a need for heightened security measures, the FCC announced November 14 that it had moved the Gettysburg office's mailroom offsite, to the rear entrance of 35 York St, Gettysburg, PA 17325.

The FCC did not announce, however, that mail received at Gettysburg starting October 15 had not yet been opened, pending arrangements to handle it without the possibility of endangering personnel. Jahnke said vanity processing should resume once the FCC begins to open its mail backlog. Just when that might happen is not yet known. Vanity processing typically takes 18 days.

Jahnke said the mailroom situation also could affect some Amateur Radio renewals. He said amateurs who filed for renewal in a timely fashion may continue to operate beyond the expiration, if the

mail delays cause the license to lapse before the renewal occurs. He said applications from those filing for renewal near the end of their two-year grace period will be accepted for processing if they get to the FCC before the grace period expires.

ARRL Bulletin 49

November 16, 2001

Vice Director election results announced in three ARRL divisions

Ballots were counted today at ARRL Headquarters in contested races for vice director in three ARRL divisions for the 2002-2005 term. The Committee of Tellers has certified the results of these contested elections.

In the Pacific Division incumbent Vice Director Bob Vallio, W6RGG, of Castro Valley, California—a retiree—garnered 1924 votes to beat back a challenge from physician Gerald D. Griffin, K6MD, of Pacific Grove, California. Griffin polled 1225 votes.

A ham since 1952, Vallio, 65, was SM and, previously, Section Communications Manager of the East Bay Section and is completing his second year as Pacific Division Vice Director.

In the Southeastern Division, Georgia SM and retired TV traffic coordinator Nelson E. "Sandy" Donahue, W4RU, of Atlanta, Georgia, outpolled West Central Florida Assistant Section Manager and computer programmer-analyst Paul J. Toth, NA4AR, of Seminole, Florida, 2783 to 2305. They were contending for the seat being vacated by Vice Director Evelyn Gauzens, W4WYR, who decided not to seek a new term after 22 years of service.

A frequent hamfest and convention attendee, Donahue, 56, is in his third term as Georgia SM and has been an Assistant Director since the mid-1980s. He's been a ham for more than 40 years.

In the Southwestern Division, San Diego Section Manager and train operator Tuck Miller, NZ6T, of National City, California, defeated electrical engineer Edward J. "Ned" Stearns, AA7A, of Scottsdale, Arizona. The vote was 2485 to 2208. Miller thus gains the vice director's position being vacated by Art Goddard, W6XD, who ran unopposed for director upon the retirement of Fried Heyn, WA6WZO. Heyn has served as director since 1984.

A ham since 1991, Miller, 48, has served as San Diego SM since 1998 and is active in the Amateur Radio Emergency Service.

Vallio, Donahue and Miller all are ARRL Life Members.

In addition to Goddard, those unopposed for directors' seats were incumbents Jim Maxwell, W6CF, in the Pacific Division; Walt Stinson, W0CP, in the Rocky Mountain Division; Frank Butler, W4RH, in the Southeastern Division and Coy Day, N5OK, in the West Gulf Division.

Vice directors' positions who went unchallenged in this election cycle were incumbents Warren G. "Rev" Morton, WS7W, in the Rocky Mountain Division; and David Woolweaver, K5RAV, in the West Gulf Division.

All unopposed candidates were declared elected. New terms for all successful candidates begin at noon January 1, 2002, and run for three years.

ARRL Bulletin 48

November 15, 2001

FCC Announces Mail Changes for Gettysburg Office

The FCC's Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, office has moved its mailroom offsite. Effective immediately, all overnight couriers—including FedEx and UPS—require the "ship to" address for the FCC Gettysburg office to be Rear entrance, 35 York St, Gettysburg, PA 17325.

The FCC said it's trying to balance accessibility with the need for heightened security and encouraged its customers to make full use of the Commission's electronic filing systems. The Gettysburg office is where Amateur Radio applications are processed and licenses issued by the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. It's also where Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth has his office.

The change does not affect US Postal Service deliveries. The FCC said the USPS will continue to accept and will divert all mail addressed to 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg—the office's physical location—to the off-site mailroom. Until November 30, the FCC itself will divert overnight courier deliveries to 1270 Fairfield Road to the new off-site mailroom.

"This new off-site mailroom facility does not affect applications or any other filings

requiring a fee," an FCC Public Notice said. Unless paid on-line using a credit card, amateur vanity call sign fees go to the FCC's contractor in Pittsburgh. Requests for amateur fee refunds, however, are sent to Gettysburg.

The FCC also said the staff at the Gettysburg filing counter at 35 York Street will not accept hand-delivered documents enclosed in envelopes. The filing counter is open weekdays 8 AM until 4:30 PM. Originals and copies of each official filing must continue to be addressed to the Commission and held together with rubber bands or fasteners. "Stamp and return" copies will be provided as long as they clearly accompany each individual filing.

Filings requesting confidential treatment under the Commission's rules must also be filed without envelopes. The staff at the filing counter will enclose such filings in an FCC envelope labeled "confidential."

Questions concerning the FCC Public Notice should be directed to the Building and Facility Management Specialist, rhewitt@fcc.gov or 717-338-2535.

ARRL Bulletin 47

November 14, 2001

W1AW seeking 40-meter reports

Maxim Memorial Station W1AW has made some hardware changes to its 40-meter bulletin/code practice transmitter and now is seeking signal reports.

Reports should note location, time of reception, mode, signal strength and quality. Use of the standard RST system is acceptable.

Mail reports on a postcard to W1AW 40-meter reports, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. E-mail reports may be sent to w1aw@arrl.org.

W1AW's schedule calls for Morse practice Tuesdays through Fridays, 9 AM Eastern and Morse practice/bulletins Mondays through Fridays 4-6 PM Eastern, both on 7047.5 kHz. The weekday digital transmission begins at 6 PM Eastern on 7095 kHz. A phone bulletin is transmitted daily at 9:45 PM Eastern on 7290 kHz.

The complete W1AW operating schedule is on the ARRL Web site, <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw.html>.

TRI-STATE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB W5OKT NEWS

The Tri-State Amateur Radio Club's November Meeting was held at the Northwestern Electric Building in Woodward OK. Elections were held for the 2002 club officers.

President: Larry Goodwin Sr, K5LHG
Vice Pres.: Gerald Bowman, W5AOK
Sec/Treasurer: David Maas N7HRT

Our annual club Christmas Party will be held on Thursday, December 13th at 7:00pm in the Northwestern Electric Building. I am told that Santa might make an early appearance, so bring the little ones and young hams to voice their wishes early.

The Friday Night Nets are currently being held on an alternate repeater, 145.39(-)88.5 tone until the 147.36(+)-88.5 repeater is in operation again. The club welcomes all amateurs, members or not, to join us at 9:30 pm on this net.

VE Testing is provided by the club as needed on the second Saturday of each month in Moreland OK. To make arrangements to test: CONTACT Jim NW5OK, PH# 994-6118 or Gerald, W5AOK, PH# 994-5600.

I invite all to visit our Webpage to keep up with our club events and happenings.

<http://www.digitalcupboard.com/w5okt>

Submitted by
Dave Maas, N7HRT

ANNOUNCEMENTS

VE Exams are held on the 4th Saturday of

Each month, at Edmond Community Center, 28 E Main, Edmond. Starts at 10:00 AM. For more information contact Steve, N5ZQ at 405-749-9533

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, NWOK 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 Knights of Columbus Hall in Altus, OK. Contact George Mateyo, NIGM for details.

VE exams on the 1st Tuesday of the month sponsored by the Stillwater ARC at 7:30 P.M. at the Red Cross Building, 505 S. Main. Contact Mike Crane, KC5GJN @ kc5gjn@hamsnet.net

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 HWY412 & Garland Rd., across east from Atwoods store. The testing is PREREGISTER ONLY. Contact Tom Worth, N5LWT @ 580-233-8473.

On the Air

Listings of Nets on local, repeaters or sponsored by CORA members:

ARES - Oklahoma County Thursday @ 8:00 p.m. on 146.22/82.

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 at 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 Monday Night ARES Net Monday @ 7:00 p.m. on 147.150MHZ.

Enid Amateur Radio Club Monday Night Net @ 8:00 PM on 145.29 / 444.400 Linked repeaters

W5HXL Memorial Net - Thursday @ 7:00 p.m. on 145.41 minus input.

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

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

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

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

Oklahoma Oklahoma Training Net - Daily @ 5:30 P. M. on 7120 kHz (CW Net)

T-SARG NW OK - Friday @ 9:30 p.m. on 147.36+ with an 88.5

Oklahoma Baptist Hams Net - Sunday @ 2:00 p.m. on 7.273 kHz

Do you know of an upcoming event within the ham community?

Please e-mail us the information at corahams@swbell.net

We can only print the announcements sent to us and we need your help to keep everyone up to date and informed. Thank you

Nolen's Accounting & Tax Service, Inc.

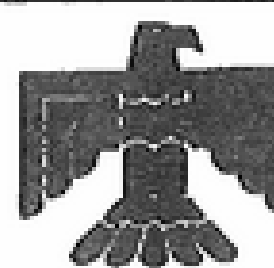
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December 02, 2001 - January 12, 2002

CORA Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
December 2 2:00 PM Red Cross Ve Exams	December 3	December 4	December 5	December 6 7:00 PM Aeronautical Center ARC	December 7	December 8 9:30 AM S. Canadian ARS 10:00 AM EARC Ve Exams 10:00 AM SCARS VE Exams
December 9	December 10	December 11	December 12 11:00 AM OK VHF ARC	December 13 7:00 PM Albus Area ARA 7:00 PM Tri-State ARG	December 14	December 15
December 16	December 17	December 18	December 19	December 20	December 21	December 22
December 23	December 24	December 25	December 26	December 27	December 28	December 29
December 30	December 31	January 1	January 2	January 3 7:00 PM Aeronautical Center ARC	January 4	January 5 9:30 AM BAARC Ve Exams 10:00 AM Ada ARC 2:30 PM Vinta VE Exams
January 6 2:00 PM Red Cross Ve Exams	January 7	January 8	January 9 11:00 AM OK VHF ARC	January 10 7:00 PM Albus Area ARA 7:00 PM Tri-State ARG	January 11	January 12 9:30 AM S. Canadian ARS 10:00 AM EARC Ve Exams 10:00 AM SCARS VE Exams

November 01

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

December 01

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

January 02

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

February 02

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		