

September 2017 Issue Pony Express and the Telegraph

For the past 18 years members of the Crown Amateur Radio Association (the club at Honeywell Aerospace – Olathe) have been a part of the Hollenberg Pony Express festival near Hanover, KS. During this year's August 27th festival, K0ASA was again on the air as a Special Event Station and also as a participant in the KS QSO party (Washington Co). Our Telegraph Office gave festival visitors a chance to observe communication taking place via dots and dashes--which is something many have never seen before. Quite a number of visitors took advantage of the Morse code display on the front counter of the Telegraph Office to gain hands-on insight into what it is like to send Morse code with a straight key, bug and iambic keyer.



Enjoying the unusually mild temperatures, Jim, KØNK, stands ready to demonstrate the Morse code, from the early straight key and sounder up through an iambic keyer. Our Telegraph Office is just one of many displays at the festival that help depict life in early America.

Powered off of a deep-cycle marine battery, our HF station operated on 40m CW, and both CW and SSB on 20m. We explained to visitors that ham radio operators are the closest thing that exists to the telegraph operators of the 1860s. During the Sunday event, an off-center-fed 80m dipole fed with ladder line and a tuner, replaced the telegraph wires of the 1860s. Two telegraph operators were on duty for the five hours we were on the air: Charlie Hett, K0THN, and Jim Andera, KØNK. Visitor interest was high, and we spent more time in eyeball QSOs with the public than on-the-air QSO -- but we are not complaining. Telling people about our favorite hobby is as much fun as being on the air.



A highlight of the festival is the exchange of the mail pouch, the mochila, by Pony Express reenactors. As everyone learned in 1861, even the fastest horses and riders could not compete with the speed of the telegraph. The Hollenberg Pony Express station is said to be the only PE station in the nation that has been preserved and left on its original foundation.



Charlie, KØTHN, operates the Kenwood TS-50 using an iambic keyer. The wooden box below the table hid the lead-acid battery from view. Both the speaker and the headphones could be used simultaneously, allowing the public to listen to both sides of the QSOs.

Kansas Traffic Net Schedule

UPDATED September 5, 2017 22:37				
Days	Time	Mgr	Freq	Net Name
M, W, F	6:45AM	KB0PPQ	3920 KHz	Kansas Phone Net
Daily	7:00AM	WB0YWZ	3920 KHz	Kansas AM Weather Net
Sat, Sun	8:00AM	KB0PPQ	3920 KHz	Kansas Phone Net
Mon -Fri	12:30PM	KE0DL	7253.5 KHz	Central States Traffic Net
Daily	6:00PM	WB0YWZ	3920 KHz	Kansas Weather Net
Daily	6:30PM	KB0PPQ	3920 KHz	Kansas Sideband Net
Daily	7:00PM	NB0Z	3547 KHz	QKS CW NTS Traffic Net
Mon	7:30PM	WD0ESF	3547 KHz	QKS SS CW Traffic Net
Daily	10:00PM	NB0Z	3547 KHz	QKS CW NTS Traffic Net

Links for Kansas Hams!

ARRL	http://www.arrl.org
Kansas Section Pages and KAR's	http://ksarrl.org/
ARRL Midwest Director's Newsletter	http://www.arrlmidwest.org/newsletter/newsletter.pdf
Kansas ARES Pages	http://ksarrl.org/ares
Wichita NWS Skywarn	http://www.ict-skywarn.org
Kansas QSO Party	http://ksqsoparty.org
Newton ARC	http://www.newtonarc.org
Wichita ARC	http://www.warc1.org
Ensor Museum	http://www.ensorparkandmuseum.org/
S. A. T. E. R. N.	http://www.SATERN.salvationarmy.us
ARRL KS Section News Page	http://www.arrl.org/Groups/view/kansas
Wheat State Wireless Association	https://www.facebook.com/groups/WS0WA/
Sand Hills Amateur Radio Club, Inc	http://www.SandhillsARC.com
Jarbalo Amateur Radio Association	http://jara.signaleer.us

Silent Keys



NØQMB

James Virgil Lasseter, 94, of Spring Hill, Kansas, formerly of Olathe, Kansas, died Saturday, August 12, 2017. Funeral services will be 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, August 15, 2017 at Bruce Funeral Home, 712 South Webster, Spring Hill, KS 66083, (913) 592-2244. Visitation will be 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Monday, August 14, 2017 at the funeral home. Burial will be at Pleasant Valley Cemetery, Overland Park, KS with military honors. Memorial contributions may be made to Kansas Hospice Care or Boy Scouts Troop #86 of Olathe. Condolences may be left at <http://www.brucefuneralhome.com>

James was born in Columbia, Louisiana. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1942, and retired in 1962 as a Chief Petty Officer. In 1979, James earned a Bachelor of Science degree at Pittsburg State University in Vocational-Technical Education. He worked for the Bendix Corp., KCMO and taught electronics at the Kansas City Area Vocational-Technical School. He was previously active in Boy Scouts and was active in the local amateur (Ham) radio community - NØQMB. James was a certified Johnson County Emergency Communication Service weather spotter. He was a member of the Spring Hill United Methodist Church.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 50 years, Lillian, daughter Donna and sons Richard and Jerry, and three siblings. He is survived by his wife of 15 years, Joyce, sons James and Dean, nine grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

<http://brucefuneralhome.com/book-of-memories/3052935/Lasseter-James/obituary.php>

Terry Hoss, 72, Topeka, passed away Sunday, August 27, 2017.

Terry was born September 25, 1944, in Emporia, Kansas, the son of Donald and Virginia Hoss. Terry graduated from Topeka West High School in 1963 and Pittsburg State University in 1965, with an associate's degree. On July 22, 1967, Melba and Terry Hoss were united in marriage and enjoyed over 45 years together. Terry, KAØBHO, was active in many amateur radio organizations, functions and storm spotting. Terry enjoyed wood carving, water skiing, boating, fishing and camping. He was dearly loved and will be forever missed.



KAØBHO

Terry is survived by his sisters, Penelope Bartlett and Candela Reed (Philip); brothers-in-law, David Gillespie (Karen) and Kenneth Gillespie (Nancy); seven nieces and one nephew. Terry was preceded in death by his wife, Melba.

Visitation will be 11 a. m. to 12 p. m. Tuesday, September 5, 2017, at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614. Funeral service will be noon on Tuesday at the funeral home. Burial to follow in Penwell-Gabel Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to YLRL Scholarship Fund (Young Lady Radio League), sent in care of the funeral home. <http://www.kevinbrennanfamily.com/obituaries/Terry-Hoss/#!/Obituary>



S.A.T.E.R.N.

Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network

Latest Newsletter

<http://ksarri.org/satern>



ARES – Amateur Radio Emergency Service



Complete list of ECs and a printable State ARES map <http://ksarri.org/ares/>

<http://ksarri.org/ares/alphaks.php/>

<http://ksarri.org/distks.php>

AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE

MONTHLY EC REPORT

◆ Zone 4A – Brian KCØBS

AUGUST 2017 MONTHLY ARES REPORT TO DEC & SEC

Total of ACTIVE ARES members: 150 +0

Local Net Name: Johnson County ARES

Emergency Coordinator = Brian Short KCØBS 913-638-7373

Alternate Emergency Coordinator, Recruiting = Jim Andera KØNK 913-884-6613

Assistant Emergency Coordinators:

Herb Fiddick - ECS Liaison

George McCarville WBØCNK - Training, Drills

Matt May KC4WCG - IDs, MECC

Bill Gery KA2FNK - Recruiting, Technology

Darren Martin NØMZW - Net Manager

Brad Kelsey KUØFAN - Membership

Jesse Gonzalez KEØECS - CERT

Chuck Simpson KCØNUG - Rapid Response

Jim Andera KØNK - KCHEART

NTS liaison is maintained with the KS SSB Net:

Jim Andera KØNK

Terry Reim WAØDTH

George McCarville WBØCNK

Jim Cordill KIØBK

Debbie Britain ABØUY

Rich Britain NØENO

Wretha Galeener KCØHHO

Net Sessions: 50

QNI: 335

QTC: 0

5 nets = 2 Meter Voice

5 nets = 2 Meter SATERN Voice

5 nets = CW

5 nets = 6 Meter

5 nets = 2 Meter Voice Simplex

5 nets = PSK 31 SATERN

5 nets = APRS Packet

5 nets = 70CM

5 nets = 1.25 Meter

5 nets = SATERN 80 meter SSB

JOCO ARES & SATERN met on August 14 for their monthly meeting, which featured a functional exercise.

The attendees broke into 3 groups and had to find 15 commonly used ham radio items within the grounds of the Salvation Army.

The September meeting will feature a look ahead to the October SET.

All ARES members are encouraged to participate in this annual tradition.

We will also be attempting to use the newer notification system for this Monday's meeting....so expect an email an automated call on Monday afternoon.



Brian L Short, PMP,
PPL-SEL, KCØBS

Report prepared by:
Darren Martin NØMZW
Johnson County Kansas

◆ **Zone 6E – Rod KØEQH**

Kansas August 2017 ARES Report Zone 6 A, E & G

Total Nets.....5
Total QNI.....34
Total QTC.....1 (Net Report)

Stations participating: WBØQYA, NØOMC, NØKQX, NØOXQ, KØEQH
ACØE, NØKR, WØBYV, KGØVA
Alt Net Control....NØOMC

Several from western Kansas with Sand Hills ARC and Western Kansas ARC attended the Kansas ARRL State Convention/CKARC Hamfest. A good representation from this part of state.

Follows is a copy of message posted on Larry's List and sent to some others. It may have been picked up for use on KAR.

Several members from the area participated in the Kansas QSO Party, with some good results.

The Kansas ARRL State Convention/CKARC Hamfest is history.

We had a good time. There were 37 at the Saturday evening dinner at Martinellis. Heard some comments on service but none about quality or quantity of food served. They were short staffed and one was on his first day of work. Working with a bunch of amateur operators I'm sure was a challenge. We may change up the ordering process if we do it again next year. Let me know.

The program presented by Rod, KØDAS, on his work with Nauticos Corp, was very professionally done and I for one thought very interesting. I hope all enjoyed it.

On to Sunday:

Our annual "Left Foot Sending", -QLF-, was a success.

The winners were:

Jim, KØNK of Gardner was CHAMPION

Wayne, KDØWAT, of Andover, earned 2nd Place

Gary, "Gerb", KBØHH of Burlington took Honorable Mention

Our Judges were Rod, KØDAS and Jim, ACØE, both very experienced CW operators.

I want to thank all that attended the dinner and those that helped out with activities. If you have any concerns, comments please send me a note. THANKS.....

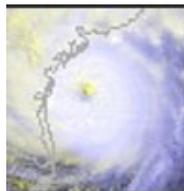
Rod Hogg

KØEQH

Pres. SHARC

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A False Sense of Security

Lessons Learned From Hurricane Harvey

Observations by Mike Urich, KA5CVH

Editors note: *This e-mail was used with permission. From the ARRL PR Reflector, this is an excellent summary from someone working in an active storm zone. Yes, Larry already ran this letter. I had it in the newsletter and told Mike in my e-mail that I anticipated his using it in the list. The fact remains it has excellent pointers for public information officers and the amateur radio community in public service.*

The public service agencies along the gulf coast has done a lot over the past 10 or so years to make their communications systems, not only radio but internet connectivity more robust and hardened. That combined with the requirement to go narrow band plus adding digital modes at the same time have made these systems more complex and with that comes more points of failure. In both the greater Houston and Golden Triangle portions of the Texas Gulf Coast, Hurricane Harvey did not knock out, or significantly impact the cellular telephone and data networks or the 700 & 800 MHz trunking public service systems. There were some threats but no significant impact.

As a result the utilization of ARES/RACES was not even a blip on the landscape in the response either during or after landfall. That doesn't mean we weren't prepared, we were in place, staffed and ready to go, just not needed as traditional communicators.

My concern is that not only will our served agencies find themselves lured into a false sense of security, so will the amateur radio community. We, the amateur radio community do have the ability to control one side of that equation. We can continue to train as hams. We can complete the "Introduction to Emergency Communication" (EC-001); Public Service and Emergency Communications Management for Radio Amateurs (EC-016); PR-101: ARRL Public Relations (EC-015). We can complete the FEMA IS100, IS200, IS700, IS800, IS026. Both ARES & RACES leaders should add IS300 & IS400. All should get into a DHS AuxCom class and again leaders should try to

do the DHS ComL course even if they never get DHS certified. As PIO's who also wear an ARES/RACES hat in addition to the PR-101 offered by the ARRL there is the FEMA IS042 and the GS289, GS290, GS291 courses.

In addition to the educational portion we need to continue to practice our on air skills. Personally I find most nets to be useless in the practicing of emergency skills. We are merely pretending that we are providing emergency communications while using your fixed station with your normally installed fixed antennas sitting in a climate controlled "shack". I contend that at least monthly all nets should be conducted with all operators taking their go kit to the field ... even if its just the Wal-Mart parking lot down the street and check in. Now I fully recognize that not every ham can go portable. But in an emergency such as we have just gone through here in the Houston area where maybe as many as one out of six homes are uninhabitable ARES/RACES leadership needs to recognize hams who can not go portable are not a resource to depend upon.

Continuing with observations from the past week we just went through, people do not listen to the instructions of the net control station. This wasn't just newbies ... this was seasoned extra class hams as well. God gave us two ears and one mouth to be exercised proportionally. And I observed NCS that lost control of the net, because they did not exercise good net control discipline. Presumably not to offend those not following instructions. Yes there is a balance there as we do not need to alienate volunteers but need to maintain control.

The lowest common denominator is still V/UHF FM and 40/75 meter phone. While the digital modes can bring value they can not replace our lowest common denominator as not every ham is so equipped. As our served agencies communications systems have become more complex with more points of failure, we do not need to repeat that model less we set up to fail as well. Outside of the major metropolitan areas many of these more elaborate digital modes will not see the light of day.

Every ham needs to have a "brag book" This phrase was coined by a friend and new ham, KG5MBB, who says every CERT team member and every ham should have a brag book with copies of any license or certificate in it to present to anyone who may wish to review their credentials.

Now we've done our part, how do we get our served agencies on board? We can force them to do anything and the more we try to force ourselves upon them the more likely the chance to alienate them. It is my opinion that nothing does more to gain their respect than documented training from recognizable organizations. Understanding your served agencies communications system whether a simple 5 channel narrow band FM or complex multi-site 700 MHz P25 and being able to discuss where amateur radio can fit into their system to either back up or take load off their system helps. Opening up your brag book and explaining that you understand ICS, and our place in the system and are continuing to learn more. Volunteer to participate in any of their drills, and not just as a radio operator, any position. My city runs several a year as we are in a large petrochemical complex and I've been everywhere from in the EOC to an observer/evaluator in the field.

Bottom line ... every region of the country will be different and there is no one simple answer. We all need to find what works best for ALL of us. OK rant over ... I have the NOMEX on and awaiting all incoming flames. But more importantly I value your input. In addition to being a PIO I am also the ASEC for training in STX and saw some giant gaping holes this past week that we need to work on.

Mike Urich KA5CVH
<http://ka5cvh.com>

STX ASEC - Training <http://arrlstx.org/>
PIO Harris County ARES <http://www.harriscountyares.org/>

We may be Volunteers,
But we're professional.



Tom's Key Strokes - WØEAJ

Denver, Co. Displaced Kansas Neighbor
and very gud friend.!

daileyservices@centurylink.net



The HotShot DX Op

It's 1965, and we've just resurrected W6DCM, the ham club at the Fleet Anti-Submarine Warfare School in San Diego. We have a small "club" of guys, and of course, there's always ONE who not only THINKS he knows everything; he'll also TELL YOU he knows everything.. not the least, about how much DX he's worked.

So, one day, one of the guys has his brand new Heathkit 20m monobander out in his car, and testing it on a dummy load - then, we get a great idea.

Mister DooFus (we'll call him), is in the shack, so we run inside, panting and out of breath, and say "Quick, put the S-line on 14.270... there's a Six Victor station calling, and I'll bet you can get him".... so Mr. Doofus, immediately filled with excitement, pushes everybody aside and tunes up the S-line + 30S-1 (full KW plus) linear and you can barely hear this "DX station" calling CQ... Doofus calls and calls "6V6GT, 6V6GT, this is W6DCM... over over"... FINALLY the 6V6 comes back with a very thick and unidentifiable accent, and Doofus yells out loud "I got him, I got him".... a very brief time thereafter, our buddy with the monobander, shuts the radio down, turns off the car, and comes back inside. The air is fraught with tension, and we look at Doofus and crack up... I mean, we're laughing our rears off, and almost falling down... so Doofus asks "What's so %\$#@!! funny?"... to which we reply "You worked a TUBE, idiot.. a 6V6GT is an audio output tube. We were on a dummy load so we'd sound weak!"

...and that's the truth

Tom - WØEAJ

*The callsign is now held by a fellow who actually was AT the station at one time, but...

Why you should replace OLD capacitors... and ALL of 'em

Yes, boys and girls - there are two kinds of radio repairers/restorers... those who have had caps blow up and those who will. The last time I had electrolytics blow up in my face was at KING RADIO Corp, back in the 60s. They still had a few tube-radios going out the door, and in spite of good quality control, there were always a couple who were either marked backwards (+ and - reversed) or simply INSTALLED backwards.

Powered by these 85 pound non-regulated DC supplies called NFBs, you simply turned the variac knob on the front up, and got 'er up to either 14vdc or 28vdc, depending on the radio. Yes, yes, we got lazy and simply turned the power switch on after a while, but occasionally, you WOULD get "surprised".

Move up to yesterday - I've been working on boatanchors for some years now, and ALWAYS replace EVERY cap (except for micas, most of the time). I had a Panoramic Industries PR-1 on the bench... a 1957 version of the legendary Hallicrafters Panoramic display, as used by the US military (primarily

