Hi gang, 92 degrees? It is only April 14 and I had to turn on the air. I hope you all enjoyed the QCWA photo supplied by Larry NØLL. Even tho I live here on the east edge of KS, I am a member of the 110 chapter. I am from North Central Kansas. My health has stabilized at this time and feeling good but weak. Be sure you see the flood photos sent to us by Don in North Dakota in the next paragraph. Click on the URL and see the results of a flood.

Folks, Here is what flat land flooding looks like. This is North of Grand Forks, ND on the Red River about 75 miles to the Canadian border. Don CLICK >>> http://www.cropnet.com/oslo2006/.

Kind of informational and interesting Put your birth date in the pop up window after you click on the link below . What happens is pretty interesting. It's also amazing how quickly it computes!! Click on the link below. http://www.frontiernet.net/~cdm/age1.html.

Don't miss the NEWS FROM FCC ABOUT CODE in a separate article below. IT is provided by Mike KØPY.

Tom WØEAJ has provided a way you can all see through the traffic cams here in KC. They up-date every 15 seconds and tell you what you are looking at. Just CLICK >>>

http://metroscan.net/traffic/ Tom

Larry WØAIB sent this one to find other hams in your zip code.
http://www.perconcorp.com/google_ham.html

Are you on the ALERT for emergencies in your SECTION...? You can be by having your computer's HOME page set up on http://www.arrl.org/ The ALERT box will appear on the right of your screen when you go on line, click it and UR there. This is also the page for the latest in ham radio happenings world wide.

73, Orlan w0oyh - UR ed

ARRL KS SECTION MANAGER
For the latest from your SM on what is going on in our section>>> Click http://www.arrl.org/sections/KS.html

Ron has posted some very nice photos of the recent hamfest in his home town.
Ron D. Cowan, KB0DTI
ARRL Kansas Section Manager:
kbodti@arrl.org

ARRL KS SECTION EMERGENCY COORDINATOR
04-01-2006
ARES ACTIVITY Kansas February
From the desk of K0BXF KS ARRL SEC
AERS nets ck-ins msgs
Zone sessions QNI QTC
1A 4 49 9
1G 4 39 0
2B 4 84 0
2D 2 15 0
2F 4 35 0
3A 3 27 0
3C - - -
3E 3 32 0
4A 38 257 13
4B 4 65 2
4C 12 93 10
4H - - -
5A 4 9 0
6E 3 20 1
6F 4 30 0
6G
totals
16 92 771 35
Chapter 110 QCWA net (N0LL) 4 sessions 40 QNI.
RACES 1 net 7 QNI counties represented Atchison, Johnson, Riley, Montgomery
Mitchell, Wyandotte and Shawnee.
ARMY MARS reported 809 man hours on the air and 587 messages originated.

Robert Summers KØBXF - ARRL Kansas Section Emergency Coordinator.
KANSAS STATE RACES OFFICER
Orlan,Here the KS RACES Report for April 6th, 2006
Stations checking in were:
NØENO Johnson County
ABØUY Johnson County
WBØQGH Johnson County
WØPBV Riley County
KBØDTI Linn County
NUØB Montgomery County
KBØAMY Brown County NC
7 QNI Ø QTC
73, Joseph WDØDMV - KS RACES Radio Officer
KANSAS ARES REPORTS
Zone C4 March 2006 Monthly ARES Activity Report
Total ARES members: 39

ARES Monthly Activity:
QNI (ARES): 71 QTC (ARES): 08
QNI (Non-ARES): 55 QTC (Non-ARES): 05
Wx Spotter: QNI 1 QTC 15

73s,
Paul Backs, KC0JCQ
Zone C4 E.C., Leavenworth County, Kansas

Zone 6E - Net Report March 06

Net Sessions ...........4
Checkins QNI ..........25
Stations participating: K0EQH, WB0QYA, AC0E, N0OMC, KC0AMF, N0KQX, N0OXQ, N0OMQ, W0HFG, N0OMJ
Rod K0EQH NCS

Zone 3A sessions = 4 QNI 33 QTC 0

I am setting up testing times for several working on their new license. Hope to have some upgrades and new Hams next month. I have completed my FEMA NIMS 100, 200 and 700 courses and will pick up a few more next month. I will also be attending a 3 day Exercise Design course in April sponsored by the KS Dept of Emergency Management.

The new Thomas County EOC is nearly complete. New Thomas CO Em Manager Jim – KC0HBR and I have been working the the project for several months. We need to install towers yet, but everything else is operational. An 80’ crank-up and 50’ Rohn will be installed this spring. It has an area for emergency dispatch, a separate desk with VHF, UHF, HF, APRS and WinLink for Amateur Radio comms, a Nortel digital phone system, with analog backup, cable TV and very high speed internet access. Across the hall we have a large conference area with digital and analog phones, wired and wireless computer network and cable TV. A new Allison emergency generator will power the entire complex. A second conference area with kitchen and showers is also available.

That’s about it for this month. 73,

Michael Albers K0FJ - EC Dist 3A

Here is the ARES report for MAR 2006 for ARES DIST 6F

3-5-2006 1 NET QNI-6 QTC-0
3-12-2006 1 NET QNI-7 QTC-0
3-19-2006 1 NET QNI-8 QTC-0
3-26-2006 1 NET QNI-7 QTC-0
TOTAL 4 NETs QNI-28 QTC-0
SKYWARN- There was no SKYWARN activity for March
Steve Benson NOBTH EC Dist 6F

ARES ALPHA 1 NETS 145.27 MHZ TOPEKA, KS. 2006

TUESDAYS AT 8:30 PM LOCAL
WAØVRS EC
MAR. 6 14 QNI 3 QTC
MAR. 13 16 QNI 2 QTC
MAR. 20 9 QNI 2 QTC
MAR. 27 13 QNI 4 QTC
ARES ALPHA call out 1 time during March for weather spotting
Steve WAØVRS EC ALPHA 1 ARES KANSAS

NEWS FROM FCC ABOUT CODE:
This came from the FCC yesterday, be sure to pass it around so everyone can start their Upgrades: International Press, Washington, DC.

Today, in an unprecedented move, the Federal Communications Commission issued an emergency reinstatement of Morse code requirements for all amateur and commercial radio
licenses. In addition, the amateur radio license structure has been reverted to 1985 standards. All codeless amateur and commercial licenses have been placed on a "conditional 30 day temporary permit" and all such license holders will have to pass an appropriate Morse code test by May 1, 2006 or face permanent revocation of their licenses.

All American registered commercial vessels are now required to have a crewman onboard that can copy Morse code at 13 WPM or they will be denied port clearance. A temporary provision has been made in the FCC regulations that will allow amateur radio operators that completed FCC administered Morse code tests prior to the implementation of the VEC program to meet this requirement. This generated such a demand for licensed amateur radio operators that the pay scale quickly escalated to $1000 per day for such services. In a bidding war, many major shipping companies have provided generous expense accounts, luxury accommodations on vessels, sponsorship of DX-peditions and immediate long term pension benefits.

In a related issue, this action has caused a significant shortage of Morse code keys, and surplus military J-38 keys that sold for a dollar each after WW II are now fetching upwards of $300 each on ebay, regardless of condition.

Mike KØPY April 1, 2006

**JOCO ARES & KSARDA Night SAR Drill**

Click for the bigger picture--Photos & Tracking Snapshots

The last of the pictures have been uploaded, so browse on by and check out the fun we had at our night time SAR drill.

http://www.ks0jc.com

You can also photos from our SSTV Net.

73

--

Brian Short, KCØBS
JOCO ARES EC

**HAM LICENSING CLASSES:**

I received this terrific message last evening:

Larry,

Wanted to let you know that we (Pilot Knob Amateur Radio Club, Leavenworth, KS) had 13 students show up at the PKARC study session today. They worked very hard throughout the day. The best news is that all 13 passed their exam on the first try. Not bad for the first time we've tried this class format. Students came from both KS and MO to attend the session.

We had a super turnout from the MO-KAN VE team who administered the exam.

We're following up with a New Ham Class on May 13. DETAILS AVAILABLE SOON ARE ON OUR WEB SITE ---- http://www.pkarc.org/

You certainly helped us get the word out, so thanks to you and others who let prospects know of the opportunity.
Dear Friends and Members,

Today is a great day for our club.
Today is a great day for the Ensor Museum.

Today is especially great for the memory of Marshall H. Ensor, and sister, Loretta Ensor, whose W9BSP and W9UA calls created such awareness over the 1920s & 30s airwaves of amateur radio. We are excited to let you know that today, the FCC granted our MEMO club the W9UA call of Loretta Ensor. Our club Secretary summed it up best in a congratulatory e-mail:

“That is about the best news I have had in a long time. Really great we got BSP and UA back where they belong.” Anyone wishing the complete text, email me at >>> w0oyh@arrl.net

SILENT KEYS:

NAØF - Harry Grant, Kingman
K3RRY- Charlotte Hart, Oberlin
NØFFO - Harold Tanquary - Wichita I didn't receive any Obits this month. Orlan w0oyh - ed.

ARRL KS STATE CONVENTION AUGUST 20, 2006

Hi Orlan, the Central Kansas Amateur Radio Club has a new web site: www.centralksarc.com Also we have applied for the 2006 ARRL Kansas State Convention of August 20th. Pretty much the same fun and games as last year. Spread the word if you would.

Thanks and 73,
Ron WA0PSF
112 North Douglas Drive
Salina, KS 67401
Phone: 785-827-8149
Email: rtremblay@cox.net

Ha-Ha-Ha-Ha-Ha-Ha

Law of Selective Gravitation: First observed, aboard ship, at night...
A screw, removed from a piece of electronic equipment, will fall into the least accessible portion of the equipment, coincidentally, where the High Voltage section happens to reside. Retrieval of the screw will entail a total powering-down of the ESSENTIAL equipment (typically, the surface-search radar, during extreme fog), removal of the heaviest part from the rack, and inversion of the equipment (by 3 or more personnel). Upon this act, a loose piece of wire (which had been inside the equipment since original manufacture), will then fall to an equally inaccessible place, requiring a repeat of the process, but in reverse.
NOTE: As an addition; upon replacement of all of the covers, and reinstallation of the equipment into the very inconvenient rack-space, a spare screw will be discovered. It's placement and origin will NEVER be determined, and it will be "lost" out of a porthole, into a wastecan, or in the "spare hardware" box.

Tom WØEAJ

A lady at work was seen putting a credit card into her floppy drive and pulling it out very quickly. When I inquired as to what she was doing, she said she was shopping on the Internet and they kept asking for a credit card number, so she was using the "ATM thingy." TKS to Jim WØEB for this one.

Burma Shave

Thanks to Bob KØBXF for these............

NO MATTER THE PRICE A GUY WHO DRIVES AT INTERSECTIONS
NO MATTER HOW NEW A CAR WIDE OPEN LOOK EACH WAY
THE BEST SAFETY DEVICE IS NOT THINKIN' A HARP SOUNDS NICE
IN THE CAR IS YOU HE'S JUST HOPIN' BUT IT'S HARD TO PLAY
Burma Shave Burma Shave Burma Shave

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

[ Orlan - I sent this to you, just prior to your compuker going belly-up, so not sure if you ever got it or not... if it's a repeat, ignore it ] Tom...

http://byrg.net/eaj/majicband.html

My good friend Olan---> Thank you for including me in your mailing list for KAR. Even though, I'm not a HAM I enjoy reading it very much. It seems to me, you guys have a very strong Brotherhood.
I am so sorry to hear of your Brother's battle with diabetes.
Please tell him I will include him in my prayers. My wife (of 57 years) was recently diagnosed with adult onset type 2 diabetes and we are praying, it never gets past this stage. So far she has it under control.
Again, thank you for including me in the mailing.
GOD bless, Jerry in Miami, Fl. I have never met Jerry, he is a navy buddy of Don in ND who use to live in KC who was a Hammond organ customer of mine.

Well Bob, I continue to admire your sense of fair play, but if the past is any indicator, and from what I still hear from MARS folks in say Texas and New York, the 2571 message figures remain an example of the old adage: "figures lie and liars figure" IMO... 2571 messages in January in Kansas by Army MARS huh? The majority of which were likely monthly participation reports and then what were the others? MARSGRAMS? Or machine to machine retransmits from one member to another that each system counts? We still counting e-mails too? It appears that the Army MARS situation has not change based upon what one reads in QST and Bill Sexton's drum beating in World Radio etc. and in e-mails with Associated Radio's Dan Harlow and others like Chuck Magaha. But I respect your efforts to continue to keep the emergency communications capability alive. I do the same here in southern Colorado with the NWS SKYWARN and PERT as needed, although CAP has similar problems due to adherence to NTIA requirements and associated costs, so I let my LTC status lapse. Another problem is we don't have many tornadoes here and snowfall measurements or wildfire reports go in by computer or phone... Best to you, Caroline and the Kansas Army MARS members and other E-comm operators.

**********

ARES-SEC Report of January 2006 activity
Always good to hear from you Jack.

Orlan, I found them all except JOEL. Thanks for the answer, I am sorry to say that I took a trip to Maryville, MO a month ago and it was a quick trip and I didn't have time to get into KC. I did not even get there to see my cousin. I didn't have enough time due to conditions beyond my control.

I am going to come again soon and will make time to get into town, I have an IBM Think Pad and it is taking some time to get used to it so excuse me if there are any mistakes.

I am glad your problems are under control. I have had sciatica trouble for 6 months and I think I have that under control. Isn't it amazing HE doesn't give us any more than we can handle. How blessed we are.

Thanks for the KAR letter. The thing about the Boeing man and the hams lets us know that the World is very small and getting smaller all the time. Of course you hams have known that for years.

I have been kind of busy the last few weeks. Grand daughter and her husband bought a home in Fargo, ND and we have been in a few times to help as much as we can. It is a fixer upper and that takes a lot of old time doodling to cut some corners that a regular carpenter would not do. But after it is covered with sheet rock who knows? HA HA.

Bless you and yours and keep looking up!!!!

Don

Orlan, we conducted a simulation test with our local 2m repeater down here at Ft. Scott with just the few of us regulars. We called in on the repeater, then went to a simplex frequency. It worked pretty good for some of us on low power handhelds from vehicles, talking to one another.

73, Keith

Hi Orlan: Thanks for the KAR enjoyed how the gang on QKS is doing..I still monitor them and TEN..If no one there and there is QTC for here then I'll jump in.

Have not worked mike in tiwan yet but keep listening...I listened to "live from the Grand Ole Opry"on a 1922 TRF receiver last night...coming out live from Nashville and station WSM.

---

Tom, I use to set with dad and listen to the Grand Ole Opry on a 1931 Philco in the late 30s. It is not like that today. I remember when it was a "clear Channel" station coast to coast.

Do you remember KVOO out of Ok City and the "Sleep Walkers Serenade" late night hollering down their rain barrel (reverb unit). Use to listen to them when I was out late in my old 39 Chevy. There were lots of clear channel stations back than.

In the 40s I had a RCA 4 tube portable that used a 67 1/2 volt battery as big as the radio guts. I could hear those stations from all over the country on it while on camp outs and only the built in antenna. It was really fun to see how many stations you could hear coast to coast.

I use to come home from grade school and listen to the 15 minute "Terry and the Pirates", Gene Autry, Gang Busters, Intersanctom and its squeaking Door sponsored by Roma Wines.

Do you remember the sound of Jack Bennies draw bridge going down so he could get across the mote to his money?

I still can hear Hitler ranting and raging for hours over the "transatlantic cable" and rebroadcast in the US. Castro long rampages reminded me of him. That was fun. Had not thought of those things for years.
Hi Orlan, Sorry to hear about your brother, but I hope all is well now. I did pass on the information about Mike, KØPY planning to be on the air from China to a number of people here. And yes, after a lot of help from my wife, we did finally find all the "30 books of the Bible".

Please check out this story on our web page concerning Jerry, KH6HU, from Hawaii; http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2006/03/16/1/?nc=1 . I think you will like his reference to "divine intervention". As he mentions he was at HQ when I first came here, he is a great guy and we always enjoyed swapping stories from the Midwest. He was originally from Minnesota and then moved to Hawaii. He and his wife gave us a personal tour of Yale before she finished her studies there. So I can honestly say I attended Yale, hi, hi.

73 and take care, Chuck KØBOG ARRL HQ

Well... I finally get to see what Gary - WAØEAF, looks like. See, my old call was WAØE AJ, and his being EAF, we got our Novices in the same month, back in '62. I have a QSL card from him, but never got to see his face.

Tom - WØ "Electric Apple Juice" From QCWA photo special.

Orlan, Thanks for the latest issue of KAR. It is always informative. I would like to comment on the Walmart story sent in by Jim WØEB. The story is probably true but Jim got the list of players wrong. He and I were both morse intercept operators in the Army yeas ago so I think I know the "correct" order of the players. It was two women in line and Jim was the checker! hi hi. Sorry to hear about your brother's malady and glad to hear you are bearing up well. Hope to see you in Salina in August!

73,
Jim ACØE Jim is one of Kansas fine CW tfc handlers.

Hi, Orlan, I'm ashamed to say I could find only about half of them (BOOKS). Would love to have the answers. THANK YOU! That was really neat. You can email them to me at.......... THANKS! TAKE CARE!

SHARON KCØHHU Yep, KAR could use a few more of those Sharon.

Hello Larry, (w0aib)

I'd like to let everyone know the result of our attempt to get a needed antenna tuner to our friend, Radek, -SP5TVK the Polish ham in charge of communications at the military air base near Minsk.

The end result of our effort is that by now, Radek has probably received the LDG AT-11 tuner as well as a Diawa swing needle meter found on QRZ web site at a reasonable price. Ron Hauser, KC0TLN had the tuner as surplus at his shack. Another generous guy among us, Jim Douglass, AC0E, of Garden City KS., forwarded a $10.00 check to help Radek with shipping cost.

I thank you, Larry as well as Ron and Jim for helping me in this project. "Hams helping hams".

73 to all.
Larry Woodworth W0HXS
(Note from W0AIB: Larry is Director of the Ensor Museum)

Hello to all I wanted to share this information with you I have found a guy in Wichita that works on Rotors hear is the information.

Steve Rotors Sales & Service www.antenna-rotors.com Steve Kerns kc0sme 112 east 43rd St south
Wichita Ks 67216 316 210 1977
your full service rotor shop sales & service for most American types of rotors we buy / sell /trade/ rotors we have new and used rotor for sale.
we all know what it is like to have a rotor that quits working Steve has the parts in stock to repair the rotor I hope that you will tell your friends about Steve like I have done 73' David Ki0nn TU David for this info.

This is my first Great Granddaughter. Can't wait to hold her. Madison Taylor Capellino was born Tuesday March 28 at 11:03 pm. She weighs 8 lb 15 oz and is 21 inches long... Helen WA6KHD Congrats Helen..!

Enter the callsign of the Non-Directional Beacon (NDB) or VOR station, and find out where it is.

http://www.airnav.com/navaids/ Friends sent this to us. Think about this one ! ! ! ! !

On Wednesday of next week, at two minutes and three seconds after 1:00 in the morning, the time and date will be 01:02:03 04/05/06.

That won't ever happen again.

You may now return to your (normal ?) life. Sent by Robert Haneke WGOQ - ARRL KS DEC

Thanks for the picture Orlan. Enjoyed seeing a lot of familiar faces in it. 73, Mike K0TQ in Indiana. X/KS-er.

Thank you Orlan--A very nice photo. These guys look to be real down home folks. Sorry you're not in the photo but I will place it in my collection anyway.

Have a very Happy Easter.
Go with GOD!! Jerry TU Jerry..!

Orlan, Sri to here of the health problems. Forgot to say the QCWA chapter is Kansas chapter 110. Guess there is 3 or 4 QCWA chapters in Kansas

Larry N0LL Thanks agn for the teriffic QCWA photoa Larry.
Thanks for sending the information and picture. Nice to hear Dave, WOFCL is the president, since he hails from our old stomping grounds of Great Bend. I passed this along to see if they might use it in QST. We took part in the recent Sky Warn training offered here at headquarters and found it much the same as back home except they need more spotters since it's hard to see very far here because of all the trees. : ).

73 and take care, Chuck KØBOG Yah, your another displaced Kansan.

W0OYH, W0ME has emailed the photo to the QCWA journal. QCWA held the deadline for news over a week so Alvin the secretary got the photo in on the 6th or 7th I think.

Larry N0LL Thanks agn Larry. I know a lot of hams will be looking for it in the next QCWA Journal.

Tom's Key Strokes:
Orlan, Cleaning out the shop a bit yesterday, after repairing & realigning KBØODM's 1955 National NC-183D receiver, I came across an item that coincides with our first meeting in 1964, out in San
Diego. As a matter-of-fact, I'm pretty sure I had it with me then.

It's my home-brewed field-strength meter, that I used to "tune up" my Heathkit "Twoer", that I operated from my black '60 Chevy 4-door... the day I met you atop Point Loma - there at Cabrillo Nat. Monument. Oh, and I tried it, and it still works great. Boy, has that old meter been a few places! I remember thinking that in late '66, when I was in KC - I decided to paint it "wrinkle black", but that required BAKING it in an oven for best results... imagine Mom's angry concern when she came into the kitchen and smelled baking paint, coming out of the OVEN! It must have worked, 'cause the paint's STILL GOOD!

The National NC-183D (double half-moon dials) required some repairs and "tweaking", but still functions perfectly. As I took the bottom cover off, I noticed the red grease-pencil (remember those?) writing on the inside surface that said 10/18/55. Wow... an accurate date of manufacture! In those daze [sic], alignment of the bands was accomplished with ceramic trimmer-caps and "loop bending". This entailed a loop of wire INSIDE the coil-form which, when bent, changed the tuning AND coupling of the coil, for adjustment of the lower portion of each band. It was a pain to deal with, but after 51 years, they were still fairly close - NUTHIN' TO MOVE 'EM!. Still, alignment hasn't changed much - move the top adjustment, and you're gonna' have to move the bottom too... then reverse that.

On the lower bands (40, 80, & 160) after alignment, this half-century-plus old receiver showed usable CW at about .025 microvolt... compare that with a modern ICOM or YAESU! You won't get close. Sure it drifts a little bit; sure it doesn't have a digital readout (unless you count your fingers as digits), and sure... it doesn't have a product-detector, but that puppy with it's 5-position crystal filter w/phasing control will separate out the tightest of pileups. A grand lady of the radio world rides again. I'm glad I got to do the "physical therapy" to make it happen.

NOTE: The predecessor - an NC-173, accompanied Thor Heyerdahl on the famous Kon Tiki adventure to South America, proving that ancient Egyption mariners could have sailed their reed boats to the shores of South America. At one point in the journey, the Kon Tiki was sinking and they barely made it to an island. The NC-173 was totally soaked, but after washing it with fresh water and allowing it to air-dry on the beach, they made contact with their rescue station with UNDER 10 MINUTES to spare, before an all-out rescue effort was to begin. Tough receivers, these.

Tom Dailey – WØEAJ

I got this antenna at a hamfest - the center pin was broken off & the mounting threads were really buggered up. My gunsmith friend made me a remount pin & cleaned up the threads. Thus, it is repaired and it functions well... just completed the interface (ATAS antenna to IC-706 MKII/G), and that works as well... 12vdc makes the antenna lengthen, and 8vdc shortens it - I used a pair of 3-pin voltage regulators, with adequate filtering (from noise AND RF); this is switched, and coupled to the antenna SO-239 through a hand-wound toroidal RF choke, with the Radio being coupled to the antenna via a 1uf @ 2kv disc ceramic cap (for DC blocking). interesting is that it displays a nearly FLAT SWR, even though going through a .1 @ 2kv cap - course' it's in a die-cast metal box with custom machined covers... very little leakage in tests. The added Xc of the cap in-series offsets the XL of the exposed inductor of the ATAS, when on the lower bands, yielding less reactance and a lower SWR when on the lower frequencies... came out smelling like a rose - by accident. By the way - standard threads for the PL-259 / SO-239 are 5/8" x 24 - it's a standard tap size.

I drilled out the hole in the top cap to take the whip from a 5/8 2m whip (about 14" longer), and now it tunes well below 40m, almost to 80m. The 5/8 whip is slightly larger in diameter (the ATAS whip is the
same diameter from bottom-to-top!), but I chose the correct bit, and the new whip is also a very tight fit.

- There's also an additional tapped hole for a second allen set-screw, that's been added as well, offset 90 degrees. (the original top-cap has only ONE set-screw)

Oh - heads up - they're famous for losing the tiny steel pin that holds the lower sleeve on the antenna base. Check yours, and if it's loose - put a drop of RED LokTite on it, then shove it back in the hole - prevents antenna loss (en total')

BIG screwdrivers are better, but this one will work swell on the Saturn coupe. I'm going to put it on an elevated mount, similar to what's shown in the picture (not on the trunklid), so it acts kind of like a center-loaded antenna, vs. a bottom loaded one. The picture is NOT my car (what, me a KC'... nahhhh!), but gives a general idea of how it turns out.

Considering that the ATAS-120 (new version) now costs $399.99 (WITHOUT A MOUNT!), I figure $15.00 for a little sweat ain't bad. Next installment will be the MOUNT. I plan to modify the one used in the original article, but still have it on an extended mount, vs. the trunk-lip variety. The ATAS antenna is famous for needing a REALLY GOOD GROUND PLANE, so this will be the challenge.

Later - TC

Here's a site that might come in handy if you ever have to call a major company and don't want to waste time pushing buttons in hopes of talking to a live person:


Currently, I have a few of note:

1967 (I think) SWAN 350 w/117ac power-supply RESTORED & WORKING
1967 Hallicrafters HT-2A "Village Radio" - used in Vietnam; issued by the CIA
1954 Hallicrafters SX-62A...with "Reproducer" speaker RESTORED & WORKING
1956 Hallicrafters S-38D RESTORED & WORKING
1949 Zenith Trans-Oceanic (H-500) - project status
1959 Heathkit AR-3 Receiver w/QF-1 Q-multiplier RESTORED & WORKING (my first rcvr)
1939 Stromberg-Carlson 410-T AM & SW My Grandfather's - still working perfectly
1927 Unknown TRF 32vdc "Farm Radio" RESTORED & WORKING

Late 50's I think - Zenith "Interoceanic" - Zenith's FIRST solid-state radio... made by "Royal" of Japan

and my pride-and-joy to be...

1937 Hallicrafters SX-16 Receiver WITH matching Speaker!

This receiver was made for only ONE year. Mine works, but is still awaiting restoral. The SX-16 was to be ordered by the FCC back then, but they asked it to be made with an additional RF amp stage, AND a noise limiter – several were produced for them, and the model was so popular that people began asking for them - Halligan named it the SX-17, and it is the more prolific model, and the one most often seen.

The SWAN came from WØRAS (SK), and is used weekly to check into the Hallicrafters, SWAN, and Collins Collectors Nets. Norm Wilson was my Stepdad's best buddy, and knowing that I love tube stuff (and I used to run a SWAN 500, years ago), my Stepdad Jim gave it to...
ME. It's used with my ORIGINAL Astatic D-104 that was given to me by Ellis Eldrid in 1972, who used to run the "ham shack" at Burstein-Applebee on 31st. and Mercier.

The old TRF type radio came from a barn, near Willard, KS. It sat under my Uncle Bill's workbench for years, then under MINE for about 5 years, and finally hand-drawing a schematic, I figured out what it was. The original 32v radios ran from a Jacobs Wind Charger, or Autolite system, which powered many farmsteads in the late 20's and 30's. After bringing up my Variac slowly to light the filaments, the meter read exactly 32 vdc, when all tubes, plus the No. 47 pilot lamp were glowing at proper brilliance. It runs at 145vdc B+, which comes from a 1:1 xfrmr through a full-wave bridge, with a 1930's 8 mfd electrolytic cap across it (yup! It was still good!). It has an antenna binding-post and a ground post as well, as the loop antenna didn't appear on radios for quite some time thereafter. The radio plays through a strange design of Hazeltine speaker, which uses a "pin" glued to the center of the speaker cone, that running through a horse-shoe magnet w/voice coil. It displays good sensitivity for the period but has poor selectivity, I thought. After reflection, it hit me... there were NOT VERY MANY stations in the late 20's and early 30's, so it DIDN'T NEED much selectivity, did it?

Not describing each and every one of my toys, I will tell a small tale about the AR-3 Heathkit. I had built one of those rotatable dipoles for 15m from the Handbook, in late '59, maybe '60. I wasn't licensed yet, BUT that antenna was pretty neat, and I JUST HAD TO BUILD IT. Real "E.F. Johnson" ceramic stand-off insulators came from B-A on 10th. and McGee, and a couple of 10' pieces of EMT tubing (I "appropriated" from a building site... heck, they weren't using 'em, were they?), My Dad got me the 1/8" copper tubing for the inductor, and there I was - cool, but where to use it? I traded it to my friend Bill Cook (KNØIFG at the time), for his AR-3 receiver. It was quite a sight to watch two kids on bicycles, carrying a 20 foot long antenna down the street, as we pedaled over to his house. Crossing Antioch Road at 71st Street wasn't too bad, but making the corner at 76th. was pretty "interesting". He ran the antenna for some time, and I had the Heathkit for a LONG time. Mom finally sold it at a garage sale (Arghhhh!) When a pair of them surfaced at a hamfest, I bought 'em both. Neither worked, but I fixed one, and totally rebuilt this one from scratch... sometimes, it's just easier. Looking through all my old SWL card-files from back then (I was in HS at Shawnee-Mission North), I found one that caught my eye, of the many hams I'd heard talking on that radio... WØOYH.

Time is a funny thing, and it's rather amazing how it's all one big circle. Imagine, a 3 x 5 index card, written in pencil, all those years ago, and now it's mentioned again in this very guy's column that he puts together for all of us to enjoy.

73 again, Orlan
Yah Tom it is good to remember the good times with a soldering iron in your hand, when U fixed it and it worked. Not many hams today will have those memories in our plug and play world.

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