August 2019 Newsletter

Rethinking Amateur Radio Clubs

The June 2019 issue of RadCom, the Radio Society of Great Britain’s equivalent to QST, contains the article, Building a strong local club structure, by Richard Thomas, G4JJP. In the article, G4JJP proposes changes to the way we organize amateur radio clubs.

Citing the dwindling membership of most local clubs, one of the proposals he makes is that instead of many small clubs, he proposes that we form more regional associations and that this regional association would exist primarily online, except for perhaps a club station. Organizing in this way would reduce the overhead costs of running a traditional club.

I would say that in addition to forming regional associations, we need to make them more like real nonprofit organizations, and that includes paid staff. There’s only so much that you can do with volunteers. And, running a club like this is going to be even more work than running a smaller club. It’s already difficult to find folks to be club officers for small clubs. I don’t think that there will be that many people who are willing and able to run one of these regional associations solely on a volunteer basis.

Once set up, these regional nonprofit corporations will have to provide services that people can’t get online. For example, access to a club station and a lab with equipment, such as a spectrum analyzer and a 3D printer, might just be something that you can get people to pay for. Other services might include regularly-scheduled license classes as well as classes on a variety of other topics, such as software-defined radio, digital modes, DMR, and operating techniques.

I like this idea, but to make it work, the national amateur radio associations—the RSGB and the ARRL—are going to have to step up and work with local groups to affect these changes. For the most part, the clubs just don’t have the resources to pull this off. I’m not really sure the ARRL does, either, but as G4JJP points out, “We need to change. Before we die.”

from the KB6NU Blog

Updates to K-Link/KS-DMR

Posted August 4, 2019
Hutchinson KS-DMR repeater on 444.475+ CC1, NV8Q is on the air and networked!

Thanks to Jordan Henion and Charles KB0SQL for helping out, the extra hands made it go a lot more smoothly.

If you’re in or within range of Hutch please get on and try this repeater today. I’ll be doing some drive
KS-DMR and K-Link have teamed together to convert the Humboldt, NE 443.575+ KØHAM repeater to dual-mode. On FM/analog this repeater is still on the K-Link network just as it were. It now also features DMR capability and is part of KS-DMR, featuring our standard talk group plan.

The analog mode does have priority over DMR. We hope that folks in Northeast Kansas and Southeast Nebraska will enjoy the new repeater and new mode.

Note: Due to frequency coordination issues we were not able to move this repeater to the new 5 frequency plan. It remains on 443.575 as it were.

Thanks to Shawn Kyker for hauling the repeater down to K-Link HQ and saving me 6 hours of driving!

Justin Reed, NV8Q

via Richard, KØRCJ  

Repeater Aging Report: Kansas

Displays the age of the repeater's "last updated" date in reverse order. Archived repeaters are excluded. The goal is to have all repeaters reverified and updated every two years. All dates marked in red are older than 2 years.

[Kansas Amateur of The Year Nominations](mailto:cmoore67467@gmail.com)
Links for Kansas Hams!

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Links to all known Kansas Clubs can be found at the bottom of [https://ksarrl.org](https://ksarrl.org)

If you change your Clubs web address, please contact Kent at kb0rwi@arrl.net

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

**Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network**

http://satern.ksarrl.org/

Supporting Our Veterans - Honorably Discharged

**S*M*A*R*T - Special Military Active Retired Travel Club**

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**KCONDG Sherwin**

or SARG; EX-K102 1960 to 1987

or TOP, 1SG; Army USAR, Retired 1951 to 1987 —— final discharge 1994

God Bless those who have served this great country AMERICA

Proud Military Veteran

SEEING THE COUNTRY WE DEFEND

SHERWIN & DOROTHY STIELOW
Silent Keys

As a service to fellow hams across the state, I urge all individuals and Clubs to send me Silent Key notices. Please include a link to an obituary. I watch Larry's List for announcements of hams from Kansas. If you are not on Larry's List, I will forward the notice to him. He in turn notifies the ARRL. As Larry cannot include pictures, I do my best to find images so that a face can be put with the name and call. Thank you!

Wayne Scott Slauson, WØAHT

On July 24, 2019, at the age of 90, we had to say goodbye to Wayne Scott Slauson of Kansas City, KS, born in Albany, NY. Family and friends can send flowers and/or light a candle as a loving gesture for their loved one. Leave a sympathy message to the family in the guestbook on this memorial page of Wayne Scott Slauson to show support.

He was loved and cherished by many people including: his parents, Naomi Clementine Defreest and Harold Scott Slauson; his former spouses, Rose Mendoza and Fidelia Safford Bitler; his son David Scott Slauson; his wife Bonnie Maurine Templin; his step-children, Karen S. Baker, Roger T. Templin and Jeffre L. Templin. He was also cherished by grandchildren and great grandchildren. Memorial Contributions Memorial contributions may be made to Shawnee Presbyterian Church Compassionate fund, 6837 Nieman Road, Shawnee, KS 66203 or to American Cancer Research Fund, 29 Broadway, 4th Floor, New York, NY 10006-3111.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, August 2nd 2019 at 11:00 AM at the Memorial Service A Memorial (6837 Nieman Rd, Shawnee, KS).

Gilbert Blas Valerio, II, KDØGTS

Gilbert Blas Valerio II, age 53, died on Monday, July 29, 2019 at the Wesley Medical Center in Wichita, KS. He was born on June 28, 1966 in Rocky Ford, CO, the son of Gilbert and Genarita Rocha Valerio.

He worked for Finney County as the assistant director of Finney County Emergency management for six years and as the director for four years. Prior to this he worked at Tyson for 19 years. Gilbert also proudly served his country in the United States Army from 1984-1986.

On February 21, 2004, Gilbert married Rori Fenner in Garden City, Kansas. She survives.

Other survivors include: One son Shea Valerio of Garden City, KS, two daughters Abigail Valerio and Hailey Valerio, both of Garden City, KS, mother Genarita Valerio of La Junta, CO, one sister Geri Lynne & Anthony LaCombe of Castlerock, CO.

He was preceded in death by his father and one brother, Gerald Valerio.

Rosary will be held at St. Dominic Catholic Church at 7 pm on Thursday, August 1, 2019.
Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Friday, August 2, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.
Interment will be held at Valley View Cemetery immediately following.
There will be no calling times.
Memorials are suggested to the Gilbert Valerio Memorial Fund in care of Price & Sons Funeral Home, 620 N. Main St. Garden City, Kansas 67846.

<https://priceandsons.com/tribute/details/2231/Gilbert-Valerio-II/obituary.html>

**Michael Lee Brown, NØADB**

Michael Lee Brown was born on August 23, 1950 in Kansas City, Kansas and passed away on August 4, 2019 in Merriam, Kansas.

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/olathe-ks/michael-brown-8804029>

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**ARRL Midwest Director**

Roderick K. Blocksome KØDAS

The ARRL Midwest Division August 2019 Newsletter is now available on the Division's Web page. Here's the direct link:


This link always takes you to the current month's newsletter. If this month’s newsletter doesn’t open, try refreshing the page or clearing your browser’s cache, in case your browser is loading a copy of a previous newsletter. Previous newsletters are available at: [http://www.arrlmidwest.org/newsletter.html](http://www.arrlmidwest.org/newsletter.html)

Highlights this month are:

- ARRL Midwest Division Convention
- Field Day at the Smoking HOT Radios ARC
- The Pella, Iowa Amateur Radio Club
- ARRL Membership Statistics Update
- Around the Midwest Division
  - St. Louis & Suburban Radio Club’s “Mentoring Workshop”
- State QSO Parties in the Midwest Division
- ARRL Board Meeting Midwest Division
- ARRL Hamfests & Conventions
- Midwest Division Special Event Stations

Thanks and 73’s,
ARRL Midwest Division Director:
Roderick K Blocksome, KØDAS
k0das@arrl.org

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**Field Day 2019 KC Region**

Field Day 2019 may be remembered as one of the wettest in recent years.

Some clubs began set up on Friday and also made it the club meeting for June.

Parts of the state received rain Friday but things were looking better Saturday morning. Other groups started out wet and were able to get up and running for the better part of Saturday. Temperature was mid to upper 80s and breezy making operating fairly comfortable and typical of this weekend in
Kansas.

I have been alternating Field Day between central Kansas clubs and Kansas City area.

This year I started with Douglas County ARC at Wells Overlook South of Lawrence. The club has spent Field Day there many times. It is electrically quiet and high elevation. The observation tower lends itself to antennas and this year sported a triband Yagi. They operated phone, digital and I saw a key so I’m guessing there was some CW as well.

A couple of the guys have been experimenting with solar power and this year doubled the equipment to operate two positions with solar and batteries using inverter technology in order to get the most out of the sun.

Pilot Knob ARC spread out their five operating positions on the ridge North of the VA hospital. They have set up there before and found it is electrically quiet with good elevation. Perhaps not the best place to be during a thunderstorm but otherwise it’s fantastic. Most of the antennas were simple portable types of wires, some with vertical elements.

NJØP choose to use the driven element from a commercial beam at 15 feet as a rotatable dipole. For several bands. Maybe that’s why he and Vic-KEØSYO were going to town on 15 meters Saturday afternoon. Dinner time brought catered barbecue from a local place. (Martha-WØERI picked it up) The club took a break from operating and hunkered down during the storm that moved in that evening.

In Wyandotte County, Jayhawk ARS and R.A.C.E.S. combined at Pierson Park in Southern KC. Matt-KC4WCG brought out the county comm. trailers with pneumatic masts. He also served as grill master with help from Jaci-KCØYSU. This group also operated with wire antennas for the most part. With key club member Rob-NØGMT becoming a Silent Key the week before, there was an air of somberness broken occasionally by recounting a humorous story of one of GMT’s ham radio exploits. With the storm chasing me South I headed out around 8:00 and drifted down to Kansas Antenna Club IN Johnson County.

The KØANT bunch was set up at Listowel Park in Northern Johnson Co. They had been watching the weather and were beginning to shut down when I walked up at 8:20 and was greeted by Jim- KBØMZF.

With a couple members absent this year the club was still making a good run and logging contacts
right up to the storm. The lightning was not
going away and I had one more stop to make.

At approximately 9PM I arrived at Shawnee Mission Park where Johnson County RAC was set up to find President KA2FNK departing. He jumped out of his Jeep to let me know they had shut down due to the impending storm. I thanked him and he disappeared into the darkness. The SATERN communications truck was positioned at the entrance to the site for visibility from the road and easy access for visitors. Brian- KCØBS and John-KDØEVM offered me a beverage and invited me into the truck. We visited for a while but our discussions were cut short by the torrential downpour and we all left for the nite. I believe dinner was Mexican this year.

Sunday morning I arrived at Marshall Ensor Museum and Park where Santa Fe Trail has operated from many times. The location is easily accessed by the public and has adequate parking for this kind of event. Field Day is typically the last weekend the museum is open before the summer break. The club's long term project has been a communications trailer for event and emergency use. With the trailer now outfitted it was used for one of the 3 operating positions. The other positions were located in the screened porch on the back of the house and a very nice 5th wheel trailer from a visiting ham. The clubs crank up tower was used for a tri-bander and 6 meter Yagi-Uda. A military pole mast and wire antennas were also used. The club reported fairly good band conditions Saturday and Sunday morning.

With the storm Saturday night, Sunday morning became an evaluation of what the clubs were going to do with the remainder of Field Day. Pilot Knob hooked up after the weather moved out and put in a few more hours of operating. Jayhawk/WY R.A.C.E.S. decided to call it good and packed up. The KØANT crew started packing up before I pulled out Saturday and went back.

Sunday to get the random wire out of the trees. They also used a 14AVQ vertical, and an Outbacker. Johnson County RAC went back at daylight to survey the camp and made the call to conclude the event and begin tear down as soon as it was safe to do so. Their 3A operation is rather large and requires several hours to pack up when there has not been bucket s of rain and wind. Santa Fe Trail operating with the comfort of the trailers only shut down due to lighting and resumed making contacts when the storm passed.

Overall 20 and 40 were the busy bands with 15
Planning is going well for the 2019 Kansas QSO Party. With less than two weeks to go, fixed operations and mobile and portable routes are coming in, and we already have 101/105 counties covered. The goal is to cover all 105 counties both CW and SSB, and we try to cover them all on Saturday as well.

There are no changes to the actual party operations, but the award package this year includes plaques again as well as sweatshirts and T-shirts. Category winners will have the option of a sweatshirt or plaque since the sweatshirts were so well received last year, and we'll continue to give T-shirts to out-of-state ops who fill their nine-stamp certificates and Kansas 1x1 ops who don't already have one. We also found the last four antique stamps which are radio-related and will offer them one a year for the next four years. You can see them in the Rules. The new stamp series is called "American Inventors" and this year we'll be offering the 1983 20-cent Edwin Armstrong stamp (who developed wide-band FM).

I'm planning on 56 1x1 operators which could easily change and often increases. 54 calls have already been assigned by the ARRL with one last minute cancellation. Let me know if you're interested in helping us out this year. I particularly need one more CW op to take the cancellation since the other two ops with the same letter are SSB-only. We will also continue the special FT8 category which had 20 entries in 2018.

It was really fun delivering T-shirts to the Kansas ops and sponsors last year, and it couldn't have happened without our great sponsors. We gave out about 200 T-shirts and about 30 sweatshirt awards. I knew it was a big challenge but somehow it worked out! If you'd like to help us out as a sponsor, drop me an email!

The 2019 KSQP is August 24-25. Please use the online form on the KSQP web site to post your operation so I can add it to the web pages. Mobile and portable stations should check out the route maps and try to fill in red and blue counties as much as possible. The main goal is always to have fun and put Kansas on the map, so let's do just that once again! Thanks in advance to all who participate or make this really fun event possible.

73, Bob, w0bh
KSQP Coordinator
AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE

MONTHLY EC REPORT

◆ Zone 4A – Brian KCØBS

AUGUST MONTHLY ARES REPORT TO DEC & SEC
Total of ACTIVE ARES members: 150 +0
Local Net Name: Johnson County ARES
Emergency Coordinator - Brian Short KC0BS  913-638-7373
Alternate Emergency Coordinator, Recruiting - Jim Andera K0NK  913-884-6613
Assistant Emergency Coordinators:
Herb Fiddick - ECS Liaison
George McCarville WB0CNK - Training, Drills
Matt May KC4WCG - IDs, MECC
Bill Gery KA2FNK - Recruiting, Technology
Darren Martin N0MZW - Net Manager
Brad Kelsey KU0FAN – Membership
Jesse Gonzalez KE0ECS – CERT
Chuck Simpson KC0NUG - Rapid Response
Jim Andera K0NK - KCHEART

NTS liaison is maintained with the KS SSB Net:
Jim Andera K0NK          Terry Reim WA0DTH
George McCarville WB0CNK      Jim Cordill KI0BK
Debbie Britain AB0UY         Rich Britain N0ENO

Net Sessions: 33
QNI: 312
QTC: 0

4 nets = 2 Meter Voice
4 nets = 2 Meter SATERN Voice
1 nets = CW
4 nets = 6 Meter
4 nets = 2 Meter Voice Simplex
4 nets = PSK 31 SATERN
4 nets = APRS Packet
4 nets = 1.25 Meter
4 nets = SATERN 80 meter SSB

Report prepared by:
Darren Martin N0MZW
Johnson County Kansas
Kansas Zone 6A, E & G ARES Net Report for July 2019

Total Nets........5
Total QNIs......41

Stations participating: WB0QYA, KG0VA, N0KQX, N0OMC, N0OXQ, AC0E, N0YK, KC0MDC, KD0ODX, W0BYV, K0EQH

Rod
K0EQH
NCS

Western Kansas News

SK Report
We lost a member of the Sand Hills ARC. Gilbert Valerio, 53, KD0GTS, passed away July 29, 2019. Gilbert was the Director of Emergency Management for Finney County and a member of the Sand Hills ARC. He will be missed. Obituary available at priceandsons.com. (And in this newsletter.)

Rod, K0EQH

K-Link update.
The Scott City K-Link repeater, 444.950, is off the air. (has been for several weeks) The SHARC is working on a plan to either repair or replace the equipment.

Rod, K0EQH

Scott City connected to K-Link via IRLP. There are no longer any IRLP nodes on the system. - KAR Ed

Pre-Convention Gathering update
In as much as there will NOT be a Kansas ARRL Convention/CKARC Hamfest this year, there will not be the traditional 'pre-convention' dinner that is held the Saturday evening before. I want to thank all that participated in the years past.

I am working on getting on the schedule for next year if everything works out. I am making reservations for a location in 2020. I hope many can attend.

Rod, K0EQH

Upcoming ARRL Hamfests

| September 21, 2019 | 2019 Reno County Hamfest  
Reno County Amateur Radio Association  
Contact: Jerome Kahn AC0RL | Kansas Nat'l Guard Armory  
1111 N. Severence St.  
Hutchinson, KS 67501 |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|

more next page
October 5, 2019

2019 Wichita Area Hamfest
8:00AM-1:00PM
Valley Center ARC
http://vcarc.
Talk-In: 146.94-
Admission: $5.00
Contact: Bruce Barley KK0S
316.744.3555
Steve Periman NOYYI
316.617.1658
Email: Wichita Area Hamfest

Riverwalk Church of Christ
225 N. Waco
Wichita, KS

VE Testing Session
Arrive early, ready to test
9:00AM Sharp.
Don't be late!!

Updated information for the Reno Co Hamfest will be posted at https://ksarrl.org/hamfests

Tom's Key Strokes - WØEAJ
Denver, Co. Displaced Kansas Neighbor
and very gud friend!
radio@daileyservices.com

Hey...
You know me... never leave “well enough” alone!

The radio came from the Palmer Lake Hamfest, south of Castle Rock, CO, and It was billed as having been “completely redone”. Looking at the case & front panel, it was believable as for something having been sold in 1958, it was in very nice shape. I knowingly paid TOO MUCH, but if you can FIND one these radios (sold by ALLIED RADIO at 100 N Western Ave, Chicago...why I remember that is beyond me), they’re usually pretty beaten up, so figured there had to be a modicum of truth in the guy-across-the-table’s statement. He didn’t have the original manual (Drat!), but at home, I had one of my prized possessions – a 1956 hard-bound edition of “Electronics Made Easy”, printed by Popular Mechanics, and the VERY FIRST “radio book” I ever had, back when I was a kid of 12 years. IN that book, shown as a home-brew project, is in-fact, the Knightkit Space Spanner, with full details of the chassis, schematic, parts list, and a pictorial of “where everything goes and how”... so I HAD a manual, already!

Looking through that book again, was a bit of time-travel. It contains the very basics of electronics & tube-theory, plus many tube (and transistor) projects that just about ANYBODY could put together. I’d built the filament continuity tester in it, as well as a capacitor/resistor substitution box, and a crude & simple signal tracer too. These were given to a cousin when I joined the Navy, and I wish he’d kept them – oh well.

So... got the radio home and tried it out – the Ocean Hopper and Space Spanner were never ‘that good’, but the Space Spanner (had a bandswitch, vs. plug-in coils) was known as pretty good for a 3-
tube regen’ set, upon which, you could listen to the AM broadcast band, and “short wave” from 6.5 to about 17 mcs (it wasn’t called mHz yet!). Easy to build and fairly simple to operate, it opened up the wonderful World of short-wave and amateur radio to many kids for $15.95 + $2.90 for the cabinet... and perhaps even $1.03 for the “official antenna kit”. All this could be shipped to Kansas City (per ALLIED - zone 6) for the historically fitting amount of 73 cents in Parcel Post charges.

I managed to get 2 AM broadcast stations, and some mystery RTTY from somewhere, using the “sw” setting of the bandswitch, but instinctively knew it had to work better than THAT, so left it alone for the next day...

Finally I took the radio out of the relatively PRISTINE case (optional like the case for the Heathkit AR-3)), and true-to-form, discovered that nearly ALL hardware was loose, the "re"wiring job was fair but unorganized, a few solder joints were poor & two weren’t soldered at all!, A .5ufd @ 400v cap had one end “pooched out”, a clear sign of having gone bad (replaced with a .47 @ 400v – it doesn’t need to be rated at 400v, ’cause the B+ in this radio is only about 150vdc max, but it's what I had on hand... and while the old value caps were typically .5 or .05 for instance, the new standard values are .47 and .047). In spite of the seller having replaced all three electrolytic caps (2 for the PS, and 1 for the audio cathode-bypass, he’d failed to “notice” the OBVIOUSLY bad one.

Oh and there was a 200 ohm 10w wirewound resistor in place of a 1/2w 180 ohm part, so that got replaced with the correct one, NONE of the control mounting-nuts were tightened down, and the knob on the antenna [compression type] trimmer cap was installed too far down on the shaft, which prevented it from screwing down enough to actually work.

I redid many of the wires so that they could be pressed down FLAT upon the chassis metal (makes the radio more stable, by preventing self-oscillation [which is ironic, ’cause a regenerative receiver WORKS by SELF OSCILLATION!!!], and relocated them so that they weren’t tangled together. Noisy control pots (and variable capacitor shafts) were treated with a tiny bit of DeOxIT, which really improved things, and a check of the tubes on my Navy AN/TV-7/AU tube tester showed them all very good (most likely not used much, due to the many problems and construction “techniques” – somebody just got frustrated and put it in the closet.

I checked all the wiring... and satisfied, set the bandswitch on “BC”, turned the switch on, put the volume at about 30%, set the REGEN control a bit beyond halfway, put the BANDSPREAD control at “50”, and brought the radio up to 115vac with the variac (Note: line voltages in 1958 were still around 117vac max, UNLIKE NOW when they can be as high as 132vac – yes, I’ve measured that at some fire-alarm control panels!). It drew very little current (3 tube filaments and no pilot-lamp), and after about 25 seconds, began to hiss, then make that characteristic “plop” sound when the regeneration goes beyond max. Using the tried n’ true method of adjusting a regenerative receiver, I played with the REGEN and ANT TRIM controls until I got background sound and playing with the MAIN TUNING, got a BC station.

Actually, the sound was pretty good from the 4” speaker, and further tuning got SEVERAL bc-am
stations, including a couple from Nebraska! Switching over to SW, one DOES have to play with the Regen and Trim controls PLUS Main Tuning and Bandspread, and aided by my Marconi 2022C digi-input signal generator (yeah, I know... that’s cheating) to mark 7.0475 (W1AW CW broadcasts), I played with ALL the controls, until I got a good note from the sig-gen. Peaking with the Regen & Trim controls, I silenced the generator, and waited – sure ‘nuff, W1AW came on as advertised, and in spite of horrible band conditions, I managed to copy the 20wpm bulletins (in my head) for several minutes, with NO APPARENT DRIFT – THAT was the surprising part... once warm, this silly thing doesn’t drift!

Finally satisfied that it really WOULD work as advertised (and then some), I replaced the large-sized (modern) power cord the seller had put on with one of proper size and installed the radio back into the case. A bit of PLEDGE and it looks brand new. Best of all, ... it works the same.

Back in 1958, this radio was a kid’s dream, hatched during long hours of pouring through the ALLIED catalog and trying to figure out what (or WHO) I could sell to get the money for one. Finally, at age 76 (some 64 years afterwards), I have one... and the best part is that my parents won’t be yelling at me to “turn off that damned radio and do your schoolwork!”... although – in some ways, I wish they WERE.

Dit dit – Tom

I agree Tom! Having lost both parents in the past 5 years, memories of such instances still come back.  - Kent, KAR Ed

Thanks to everyone that sent articles and information for this edition! Kent, KBØRWI, KAR Ed