Most Wanted Country!

As we head into another new year, the most wanted or needed ATNO remains North Korea. With the political situation in North Korea, it is highly unlikely that this country will be coming on the air anytime soon. Unless there is a regime change, DXers around the world will probably just be sitting around with their amps in the standby position for a long time.

The first modern day operation from North Korea took place in 1992 when Romeo, 3W3RR, and his crew of ops activated P5. See the pic of the nice QSL this crew produced and distributed to all who worked them.

However, many DXers remember 3W3RR, Romeo, had a problem following DXCC rules and got no documentation for this operation. Meaning that the QSL and contacts could not count for official DXCC credit! This wasn’t Romeo’s only problem with following DXCC rules. This QSL shown was from N0XA’s files. I have one too, in my files, along with

thousands of other DXers who worked them, also. My qsl from P5RS7, with Romeo was on CW. A CW contact from North Korea would become the rarest of rare in the near future, but I shouldn’t get ahead of myself in this story! But of course, the old saying WFWL(Work First Worry Later) is always followed by most DXers.

When this P5RS7 Contact didn’t count, many sad but persistent DXers kept waiting for a legitimate P5 contact to come along.

It took 10 years before a recognized and documented operation from N. Korea to take place. Several well-known DXers and ambassadors for ham radio(OH2BH,W3UR and friends) worked their contacts and got the gov’t of N. Korea to approve an operation from there. 4L4FN was vouched for, and shortly approved for an operation from P5. P5/4L4FN came on the air shortly.

P5/4L4FN become the last country to reach the top of the ARRL DXCC Honor Roll for many hams around the world. Several KCDXC members moved to the top rung of the DXCC ladder with the P5
QSL shown above. P5/4L4FN operated in the middle of the day on 10, 15 and 20 Meters for a few days. The DX virus hit quite a few hams and they were forced to call in sick to work. The virus was cured when a P5 contact was logged! Ed, P5/4L4FN, was vigilant and allowed no dupes for this rare one. I called him about a week after my first contact, and was abruptly told, “You are already in the log. Do Not call again!”

See QSL below:

Of course, I didn’t want to jeopardize my qso, so I didn’t call him again. This was long before on line logs and insurance contacts were a common practice then.

Another aspect of this unique story was that there had been almost no CW contacts from P5 since it was established many years ago. When OH2BH and friends visited N. Korea to first convince the govt. of P5 that ham radio was a good thing, some of the ham visitors managed to actually operate CW and a few QSOs were made on this mode from P5. A select few were notified to get on the air at a certain time and frequency, so only a handful of DXers around the world got a CW QSO from P5. These few DXers stand at the top of the DXCC CW Honor Roll alone. 4L4FN was almost entirely a SSB operation, so P5 CW contacts are without a doubt the rarest or rare QSOs.

The Future of N. Korea on the ham Bands

With the paranoid attitude of the present day dictator of N. Korea, Kim Jong Un, it is highly unlikely that there will be any ham operations from there in the near future. P5 will remain at the top of the most needed list on CW, for sure, and Mixed Honor Roll for all who were not active in 2002 or who had missed P5/4L4FN.

Hugh Cassidy, would probably say if the WCDXB was still in operation, “If you believe, the Deserving will be rewarded.”

Are you one of the deserving?

**Intergovernmental Advisory Committee to the FCC Files Recommendation, Reports on Amateur Radio Disaster Communications Capability**

Source: The ARES E-Letter for January 15, 2020

The Intergovernmental Advisory Committee to the FCC filed Advisory Recommendation No: 2019-3 in the Matter of Intergovernmental Disaster Response Coordination, which included a discussion of the Amateur Radio service. [See below for excerpts]. The mission of the Intergovernmental Advisory Committee is to provide aid to the Commission on the many telecommunications issues affecting local, state and Tribal governments that are within the jurisdiction of the FCC. The IAC is composed of elected officials of municipal, county, state, and Tribal governments.

From the filing: "One of the mainstays for many decades in disaster communications in a recovery has been the use of amateur radio operators, often referred to as ham operators. Ham radio's ability to
operate when other telecommunications systems cannot is critical to understand in this discussion. Generally, amateur radio operators assist when other means of communications are down or overloaded. Ham radio resources are available for emergency communications support to any public service agency and can bridge interoperability gaps between agencies on a local, Tribal, and/or state level. Potential ham deployment locations include, but are not limited to, auxiliary command posts, emergency operations centers, emergency shelters, evacuation sites, fire stations, medical facilities, mobile disaster vehicles, police stations, public works sites, and volunteer intake centers. They can also be deployed to provide links to: Create communications links between similar agencies across political boundaries, especially where there are mis-alignments in frequency bands and modes; Establish communications in locations outside the existing coverage areas of public service and commercial communications systems; "Shadow" critical public officials and emergency management personnel to facilitate constant and rapid contact; Monitor critical infrastructure (such as highways and bridges) and provide periodic situation reports; Staff operation posts (river levels, flooding, damaged areas) and provide periodic situation reports; Every hospital has a ham radio station on premises and there are volunteer hams ready to operate (they are generally not hospital employees). These systems are tested on a very regular basis. A typical emergency activity might be identifying which hospitals have the available capacity to accept the injured after an event.

"Another overlooked ham application is continuing communications support after an event. An example of this would be after a hurricane has blown through and fires are out etc. There is still no power or phone service. Hams have provided on-going coordination to families outside the disaster area.

"As a communications provider, ham radio falls under the Emergency Support Function #2 umbrella. Planning for a 'when all else fails' communications scenario is essential for all jurisdictions."

### Links for Kansas Hams!

| ARRL Main Page                                      | http://www.arrl.org               |
| ARRL KS Section News Page                          | http://www.arrl.org/Groups/view/kansas |
| ARRL Midwest Director’s Newsletter                 | http://www.arrlmidwest.org/newsletter/newsletter.pdf |
| Kansas Section Pages and KAR’s                     | https://ksarrl.org                 |
| Mo-Kan Regional Council of ARC Orgs                | https://mokancouncil.org/         |
| Associated Radio                                   | https://www.associatedradio.com/home.php |
| Kansas QSO Party                                   | https://ksqsoparty.org/           |
| Ensor Museum                                        | http://www.ensorparkandmuseum.org |
| K-Link Repeater Network                             | http://ks0lnk.net                  |

Links to all known Kansas Clubs can be found at the bottom of https://ksarrl.org
If you change your Clubs web address, please contact Kent at kb0rw@arrl.net
Mo-Kan Regional Council Training Saturday and Sunday

I wanted to remind once again that the Mo-Kan Regional Council is offering training, free of cost. Seats are still available, but you need to sign up.

The training is on the topic of managing an amateur radio club or organization. Any ham who is starting a new club, having a desire to become an officer of their club, or just wanting to learn how and why their officers run their successful organization, then here's a chance to learn. This two part training is offered free of charge to all who wish to attend.

Sign up at: https://survey.websurveycreator.com/s.aspx?s=08ef1171-068c-4665-aef8-4c746b8bbd2d

The two classes are:

Ham 401 - Intro to Amateur Radio Organizations: Organization Basics
Ham 402 - Amateur Radio Organizations Governance: Govern Your Club Like a Business

You may sign up for one, the other, or both.

This training will take place at the National World War I Museum and Memorial of Kansas City, with Ham 401 starting at 8:00 AM, Saturday, February 15th. Ham 402 will start at 1:00 PM, Saturday, February 15th, and will break at or about 4:00 PM, and will continue at 9:00 AM on Sunday, February 16th, and conclude at 12:00 Noon. Certificates of Completion will be provided, so long as you have registered in advance at:

https://survey.websurveycreator.com/s.aspx?s=08ef1171-068c-4665-aef8-4c746b8bbd2d

We hope to see you there!

73
Randy Schulze
KDØHKD
Kansas City, Missouri

Net Reports courtesy of Richard, KØRCJ

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<td>WARC DMR nets</td>
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<td>PSHR: 1:40  2:40  3:30  4:0  5:0  6:30 TOTAL: 140</td>
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Supporting Our Veterans - Honorably Discharged
S*M*A*R*T - Special Military Active Retired Travel Club

KCONDG     Sherwin
or SARG;     EX-K102  1960 to l987
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!

Martin Otto Beck, WBØESV

Martin Otto Beck passed away at the age of 88, in Wichita Kansas, on November 9, 2019, with his daughter at his bedside, following a long struggle with respiratory illness. He was preceded in death by his loving wife, Janet Deane Beck, Wichita; his brother Warren Beck, California; his mother Delle Shafer Beck and stepfather Ray Beck, both of California. Survivors include his daughter and only child, Mary Ellen Moore, Wichita; his brother Carlton Beck, Nevada; his two brothers John Beck and Larry Beck, California. Martin was born in San Diego, California and as an adult shared many interesting stories of his life growing up during the Depression Era in the town of Needles, near the Mojave Desert. He was close to his maternal grandparents who helped raise him for a portion of his childhood.

He joined the U.S. Navy at a young age and served during both the Korean conflict and peacetime, working with an Air Transport Squadron carrying out aviation electronics duties as a radio communications operator on naval plane flights, and as a medical corpsman for a lesser period of time. His military service afforded him the opportunity to briefly visit and experience the cultures of numerous countries while on shore leave. Following honorable discharge, he traveled across the country, beginning in California and stopping in Lawrence, Kansas, where he met Janet L. Deane at the University of Kansas while she was attending as a graduate student of English Literature, a subject for which he subsequently developed a shared interest. Martin also attended K.U. as an undergraduate for a short time. Following their marriage in Lawrence, they moved to Wichita where
Janet’s parents lived. A few years later, when their daughter was a year old, they moved to Bakersfield, California where Martin’s immediate family members resided. While living in California, Martin, Janet, and Mary enjoyed several vacation trips to coastal towns along the Pacific Ocean and camping in the Sequoia National Forest.

Eleven years later, Martin and Janet returned with Mary to Wichita, Kansas to live with Janet’s father following the passing of Janet’s mother. Both Martin and Janet spent the remainder of their lives residing in Wichita. Martin held several jobs over the years, including as a pipefitter; as an Instrument Technician with Schlumberger Oil company executing numerous duties including modifications, troubleshooting, radiation detection system circuitry, component testing, scope and film readout and recording, research and technical writing, instruction methodology and programming of theoretical and applied electronics, and establishing a technical engineering library. He was later employed maintaining and operating the camera and running broadcast programming at a television station; and he also free-lanced in carpentry and building custom electronics equipment. Additionally, on occasion he had gigs playing piano in nightclubs over several years.

Martin was intellectually inquisitive and read widely in a variety of subject matter, including microbiology; entomology; zoology; cryptography; radio astronomy; electronics; science fiction; World War II; and the history of medicine, surgery, and infectious disease. He admired and read biographies of Nikola Tesla, the legendary inventor in the field of electricity. A few of his favorite fiction authors were Edgar Allen Poe, Jules Verne, Herman Melville, and Edgar Rice Burroughs. He introduced his daughter to the study of insects and spiders which they pursued together over the years. He loved watching science fiction films and was also an avid aficionado of basketball, being a devoted fan of the Kansas Jayhawks. Martin was gifted with several talents and aptitudes, such as the ability to play piano by ear in the musical styles of boogie-woogie, blues, jazz, and swing; jitterbug dancing; drawing; composition of poetic verse; code deciphering; and advanced mathematics. His hobbies included woodworking; black and white 35 mm photography; acrostics and crossword puzzles. His favorite holidays were Christmas and Halloween. Martin, Janet, and Mary enjoyed humor, wordplay, a deep appreciation for wildlife; and they shared their home with many companion cats and dogs over their lifetimes. Martin especially found owls, tigers, meerkats, insects, and reptiles intriguing and endearing, but was most fond of elephants for whom he had a profound reverence. At one time he had a diverse collection of elephant figurines. For his entire adult life, Martin’s primary passion was amateur radio (aka ham radio), which he pursued with great enthusiasm, beginning with membership in the Military Amateur Radio Service and continuing as a civilian maintaining his license for over sixty years while acquiring and establishing an elaborate amateur radio station at home. He was skilled in sending and reading morse code and enjoyed connecting and conversing over the air with other amateur radio operators across the U. S. and around the world as well as keeping up with and exploring innovations in the field himself, such as bouncing radio waves off the moon. He excelled at designing, drafting, and constructing standard and original radio communication equipment and published several articles in an amateur radio magazine.

From time to time, Martin volunteered in the community, including with the neighborhood clean-up project and as an election poll worker. He was helpful to an elderly neighbor, performing a considerable amount of home maintenance assistance to her during her last fifteen years of life. For a number of summers, he enjoyed growing tomatoes and cucumbers in the backyard garden patch. He also found it gratifying to build a diverse array of items such wooden clocks and furniture, some of which he gave to family, as well as sold and donated to others. When his daughter was young, he built her a brick sandbox, a large dollhouse, and when she was in college, they created together a deluxe set of children’s building blocks for a classroom assignment.

Martin succeeded in overcoming some of the daunting and painful personal challenges and hardships he experienced throughout his life and he offered support to others contending with their own similar adversities. He had an intense personality; socially he was a dual combination of introvert and
extrovert, and in each sense he lived life with gusto. He was creative; imaginative; analytical; insightful; witty; resourceful; generous when able, donating in later life to many charities; and he especially derived pleasure in making people smile and laugh by engaging in levity.

Martin’s cremains will be scattered into the Pacific Ocean from a naval ship off the port of San Diego—his place of birth—through the Navy's Burial At Sea program for veterans. In his memory, relatives, friends, acquaintances and interested others are encouraged to engage in mentoring; tutoring; documenting history; preserving vintage naval vessels; advocating for veterans, with particular emphasis on treating PTSD; and/or making donations in his name to the following esteemed nonprofit organizations: Doctors Without Borders; the Elephant Sanctuary in Hohenwald, Tennessee (www.elephants.com); the Performing Animal Welfare Society Ark sanctuary in northern California (www.pawsweb.org); the David Sheldrick orphan elephant and rhino rescue/rehabilitation center in Kenya, Africa (www.sheldrickwildlifetrust.org) or the Wichita Amateur Radio Club (www.warc1.org).

Mary Jo Hallberg – KØTGU

We are sad to announce that on February 2, 2020, at the age of 83, Mary Jo Hallberg (Overland Park, Kansas), born in Pascagoula, Mississippi passed away. Leave a sympathy message to the family on the memorial page of Mary Jo Hallberg to pay them a last tribute. You may also light a candle in honor of Mary Jo Hallberg.

She was predeceased by: her parents, Otto Davis and Mable Davis; and her brother Larry Davis. She is survived by: her husband Chet; her sons, David (Melinda), Kevin (Becky) and Alan (Shannon); her sisters, Jean Carol (Nelson) and Margaret Ann (Charles); and her grandchildren, Jeremy, Abby and Sophia.

Visitation will be held on Saturday, February 8th 2020 from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM at the McGilley & Hoge Johnson County Memorial Chapel (8024 Santa Fe Dr, Overland Park, KS
A funeral service will be held on Saturday, February 8th 2020 at 1:00 PM at the McGilley & Hoge Chapel (8024 Santa Fe Dr, Overland Park, KS 66204). A burial will be held on Saturday, February 8th 2020 from 2:30 PM to 3:00 PM at the Mount Moriah Cemetery (10507 Holmes Rd, Kansas City, MO 64131).

January ARES Report Douglas County

Net Sessions: 4
QNI: 46
QTC: 0
Members: 19
Total Person hours: 6:54

◆ Zone 4A – Brian KCØBS

JANUARY 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 NZ0F - 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 K10BK
Debbie Britain AB0UY                        Rich Britain N0ENO

Net Sessions: 41
QNI: 379
QTC: 0

4 nets - 2 Meter Voice
3 nets - 440 Voice
1 net - 440 Fusion Digital
4 nets - 2 Meter SATERN Voice
4 nets – CW
4 nets - 6 Meter
4 nets - 2 Meter Voice Simplex
4 nets - PSK 31 SATERN
4 nets - APRS Packet
5 nets - 1.25 Meter
4 nets - SATERN 80 meter SSB

Report prepared by:
Darren Martin N0MZW
Johnson County Kansas
Zone 6A, E & G – Rod KØEQH

January ARES Report Zones 6A, E & G
Total Nets.........4
Total QNI.......20
Stations participating: AC0E, WB0QYA, KG0VA, N0KQX, N0OXQ, N0OMC, KD0TWO, KC0ARA, KØEQH
New check in: Welcome KC0ARA, Ward, from Winona.
Alt NCS: N0OMC (thanks Dean)
Rod
KØEQH| NCS

Mine Creek Hamfest Report
from Ron Cowan, KBØDTI

Mine Creek hamfest at LaCygne kicked off the season. The weather cooperated and it turned out to be a wonderful day out in the country. As usual it was a who's who of radio operators, including WØAIB- Larry, KØTCB-Chet, WAØWOF-Kay and our Technical Coordinator WAØCBW-Bill. WAØCFQ-Dale of Wichita received the hamfest DX award, handily beating out Greenfield, MO.

Several more Kansas hamfests are planned for the year. Please support these clubs in their effort to provide you not only flea markets but also in-person contacts, presentations and forums.

Tom's Key Strokes - WØEAJ

Denver, Co. Displaced Kansas Neighbor and very gud friend!
radio@daileyservices.com

Making SWANs Fly – Chapter Two

So like a good Popiel commercial... “But WAIT There’s MORE!”, I realized I’d never told how I got my first SWAN, and who made it happen.

It was mid-December of 1971, and I’d just left KING RADIO CORP for a job offer from the Pro-Industrial Division of Burstein-Applebee. At the time, I had a 2nd floor apartment in a big white house at 63rd & Terrydale (always that street sounded like some place Beaver Cleaver would live on), which is 1 block East of Antioch. The landlady had “graciously allowed” me to put up a HyGain 12AVS vertical, which I fed with RG-8, buried in the ground to the outside wall of the house, thence up into
my bedroom. As it was the North side of the house, there was always moisture there, as evidenced by the moss growing, so who needed a ground-plane of wires? It was 1971, and the sunspot cycle was still going up, so I worked TONS of DX with the rig I had – Ahhh, the rig.

Imagine for a moment (as Rod Sirling used to say, announcing The Twilight Zone), one of those OLDER kitchen tables, with a mottled grey Formica top, and built like the Paseo Bridge – I mean, this sucker was fashioned from 1” chromed steel pipe, bolted AND welded, and how the hell they got it up to that apartment was beyond me, ’cause it sure wasn’t gonna come down. It was the PERFECT platform for “the rig” – First, there was the Central Electronics 20-A exciter, a fairly non-descript grey box with lots of knobs (tuning eye, no meter), doing about 20w PEP, that fed the 600L linear amp (a single 813, but it was broad-banded – NO TUNING AT ALL!); they shoulda’ called it the 600LB, ’cause it’s net weight was exactly 100 POUNDS! The only way I got it up from the front door was by lying it on my thighs, sitting on the stairs, and one-at-a-time, pulling my knees (and the linear) up, then pulling my rear-end up a step, and repeat... It sat on the floor of my apartment for a week, until my buddy helped me lift it up onto the table. Next to THAT, was the 1941 Hammarlund Super Pro receiver, it’s OUTBOARD POWER SUPPLY, and OUTBOARD SPEAKER. I’d estimate that the whole rig weighed somewhere near 200+ pounds, NOT including the D-104 mic, key, and BIG SWR meter.

Ahhh, but it was a great station in the WINTER, ’cause all those “valves” produced as much heat as one of KCP&L’s power distribution stations. The Summer was another story.

So... after a couple of weeks working at the new job, I wandered over to the “Ham Shack Store” across the parking area and a fella that some of you may remember, Ellis Eldred, ran it... He introduced himself and asked if I was a ham... “Yep – WAØEAJ” says I – hmmm, “What kinda rig you runnin?” Ellis asks... so I rattle off the complete nomenclature of my “rustic” station and he audibly and visibly groaned... After a minute or so, he says “Why don’t you bring ALL that stuff in tomorrow and I’ll trade you a nearly brand new SWAN 500C?” He’d taken one back in trade from a lady in NKC, who decided to pop for a full Collins S-Line, and she’d only had the SWAN for about 5 or 6 months. As it WAS Winter and pretty cold... and as I DID drive a ’65 Austin-Healey 3000 sports car, with VERY limited trunk space. I waited till a warmer day and loaded the Hammarlund stuff (the postman took pity on me and helped me move the linear to the passenger seat [producing a decided lean to that side, after the Hammarlund went atop it] and I secured it all with the 3-point racing harness. Yeah, crossing the railroad tracks on 31st Street, heading up to Mercier, produced a great S-C-R-A-P-E and shower of sparks, but I got it all up there to the store – a couple of warehouse guys carried all the “booty” into the Ham Store and true to his word, Ellis handed me a shiny “new” SWAN 500C transceiver IN THE ORIGINAL BOX, along with the matching power supply and the switching-mode mobile converter that went onto the p/s, should you decide to go mobile with it (totally out of the question in the Healey... not to mention the possibility of overtaxing the typically unreliable LUCAS generator). Getting ready to go home that night, I was approached by the VP, Mister Phil Glano, who was incidentally. WØEAJ (yep, almost the same callsign, albeit 15 feet away from the shop at the time – and now MY call). He asked if I’d like a vertical he’d bought but never assembled, and I answered “Sure” – thus the HyGain 12AVS.

Note: The difference between the 12AVS and the later (and more well known) 14AVQ vertical, was that the 12AVS used a ¼ wave stub for 20m, while 40, 15, & 10 were done by traps. So, man was I stoked – a “brand new” radio and a brand new
antenna!

Seeing me in the parking lot, Ellis called me over and handed me a pretty new Astatic D-104 microphone with a smile, saying “Now, you have a decent rig... and a lot more room in your bedroom, eh?” Yes, I used the heck out of that radio and the only modification I made to it was to use the old “instant on” trick from television sets. I soldered a 1N4007 silicon diode across the on/off switch on the volume pot, in such a way that it passed the NEGATIVE part of the incoming AC line voltage, so kept the filaments at half-voltage all the time, but as the POSITIVE peaks weren’t getting through, no B+ was being “made”. Turn the switch to ON, and the radio INSTANTLY came on, and warmed up much quicker, ‘cause it was half way THERE already!

The STUPIDEST thing I ever did to that radio was to clean all the switches with CRAMOLIN... what’s that you say? Cramolin was the FULL STRENGTH version of what we know know as DeOxIT - (THE best contact cleaner on the planet, in my humble opinion). I discovered the stuff, working in the avionics industry, and it is sort of the consistency of sewing-machine oil, as opposed to the 5% solution DeOxIT. Well boys and girls – one thing they DON’T tell ya, is that that wonderful stuff from CAIG LABS will CONDUCT at higher power RF... so when Mister Wizard here cleaned the bandswitch in the SWAN, I sorta got too much back there in the transmitter final section, and turning on the radio... Whoo baby, it began to FLY – I mean, that sucker self-oscillated EVERYWHERE. Yep, that’s “flying” alright. Nothing I did would calm it down, so I ended up removing the front panel, knobs, meter, tubes and anything else I could get off easily, and soaking the entire chassis in 99.8% Isopropyl Alcohol FOR A WEEK! It finally got rid of the Cramolin, but I did have to treat the contact wafers and tips with TINY bits of it on a Q-tip, ‘cause there was NO lubricant in that radio... not one bit. I learned my lesson – yep... like Brylcreem – "a little dab’ll do ya”

The whole family of transceivers back then, used TV sweep tubes... they were cheap, plentiful, and delivered a lot of power for not much money. Drake used 3 in the TR-3, the SWANS used a pair (that ABSOLUTELY, POSITIVELY had to be MATCHED down to the n'th degree), Galaxy, SBE, Yaesu, and many others - Heathkit stuck with 6146s – STILL good tubes and very tolerant of abuse. I just redid a Drake TR-3, given to me by N6DUR in San Diego. He bought it NEW and ALL the tubes in it, tested like BRAND NEW on my Navy TV-7A/U tester – the finals are a 12v version of the later 6v tubes, and are harder to find and MORE expensive to buy... luckily, I don’t need any for it.

Anyway... Yes, those black, grey, & silver “birds” have a place in my heart... dollar-for-dollar, the SWAN radios were a screaming deal, and got lots of folks on the air with a radio that was SO MUCH SMALLER that what we did have, it wasn’t funny.

To this day, when I turn the ‘350 on for a bit of vintage sideband play, I remember a dark, snowy, and freezing night at a house I lived in at 41st and Mercier... my girlfriend Alice was “visiting” and said "Why don’t you talk to somebody on your ham radio so I can see it work?” Hey, that was an invite you don’t hear every day, so I led her up to the to 3rd floor shack... the wind was blowing freezing rain and sleet onto the windows and I really didn’t wanna go driving out in it, so tuning around on 20m, I put out a CQ... Imagine her surprise (and MINE), when a guy in American Samoa came back, and after putting her on the mic, he really played up the soft tradewind breezes, the warm ocean, the gin & tonic in his hand, and the surf pounding... Man, you can’t make that stuff up!

A SWAN, a home-brew L-network tuner, and a long piece of wire – and I’m not saying another word about that night.

Dit dit – Tom

KAR  kb0rwi@arrl.net  The Kansas Amateur Radio  kb0rwi@arrl.net  KAR
Hide out from Sadie Hawkins on Leap Year Day 2020 at the WØVFW 2nd Dead of Winter Extravaganza

WHEN: NOON-5 PM SATURDAY 29-FEBRUARY-2020

PRIZES – FOOD –DEMONSTRATIONS – FIND OUT WHAT HAM RADIO HAS TO OFFER YOU.

VFW post 3115 WØVFW Amateur Radio Club is sponsoring an event you will not want to miss. It is open to the public, both hams and those that are interested. WØVFW is the only club in the area that has its own ham radio station for its members. Ham radio is growing and we want you as a member. You do not have to be a VFW member or veteran to belong. You just need a desire to associate yourself with a PATRIOT group that is dedicated to help in times of Emergencies to give back to the community, locally and nationally. We support VETERANS.

Where: VFW POST 3115
South side of building - use Patio Entrance
4801 West Douglas (corner of Anna)
Wichita, KANSAS 67209
Talk-in: 145.27(-) Mhz. repeater 103.5 pl

EVENT Raffle- You can win one of these valuable prizes- Drawings at 3:30pm
- YAESU FT-70D DUAL BAND dual mode ANALOG-FUSION 5 WATT HT
- NanoVNA Antenna & Network Analyzer with USB and Li-ion battery pack
- Derby Radio Shack $25 gift certificate

Raffle tickets $1 each or 6 for $5. You need not be present to win. Tickets sold at the event.

DOOR PRIZES GALORE - You must be present to win. NO purchase necessary.
- Derby Radio Shack $25 Gift Certificate.
- Raspberry Pi Zero 1.3
- And more……
Food will be available by donation. Drinks available at the VFW canteen.

WØVFW CLUB Facts YOU need to know -

We offer so many things to both Amateur Radio Operators, Veterans, Interested parties and all their families.

Learn about: Becoming an Amateur Radio Operator – Become a trained SKYWARN spotter. Participate in communications for contests, awards, and public service. Meet people across the street and around the world. It’s a better than ever time to join the most diverse group of ham radio operators in the Wichita Area. See our demo’s of our high power contest class all band radio station. Meet Amateurs who talk almost daily through satellites orbiting earth and they can do it with less than $50 of equipment. See how operators have mated ham radio’s with computers to bring communications into the 21st Century. Find out why Amateur Radio gets through when all else fails. Visit our radio room, visit with our members, find out why it is time to be part of a growing Fraternity of Skilled Dedicated Electronic, Computer and Radio Experts. Obtain a valued Amateur Radio License.

Find out about the latest trends in the hobby. SDR radios, electronic Kits, Radio Direction Finding, Repeaters, Slow Scan Television, Packet, WSPR, Cube Sats, Drones, High Altitude Balloons, Wireless MESH, IOTA, LOTA, QRP. If you don’t know these terms, come find out. We are planning classes, Do it yourself parties, fox hunts, Field Days, contests, and other such outings that are family fun. Remember we are the First and Oldest Amateur Radio Club sponsored by a VFW post in the entire USA.

All 2020 VFW post 3115 Amateur Radio Club members will get 5 FREE raffle tickets. Think about joining – We will have membership applications available at this event. Membership in the VFW Amateur Radio club is $20 for a full year.

We meet every month, on the 4th Tuesday at 7 pm – we have casual gatherings before and after called “EYEBALLS”. We also have additional meetings and activities through out the year.

- We can arrange training – how to operate, how to build electronics – emergency training, public service training.
- Have an unusual interest? Drones or playing chess on the radio. We can point you in the right direction.
- Picnic’s and BBQ’s…
- Ham Fest ride-a-long and Side walk sales
- A interactive group messaging board all members can access for announcements or questions.
- Fox Hunts
- Participate in a WØVFW common blog on www.groups.io where members can follow other members.
- Field Days.
- Demonstration at the Annual Kansas Veterans Reunion in July at Eldorado Lake State Park,
- Available is a complete 600 watt HF station with Multiband antennas at 50feet.
- We plan training sessions, and meeting programs
- We will have group buys and do it yourself parties.
- Learn to make your own antenna’s
- Kit building for the beginners and advanced users.
- Be part of a group that enjoys many if not all the facets of Amateur radio.
- We have the best to offer in Wichita.
- Our VHF repeater is linked to the world.
- Our UHF repeater is part of the K-Link system supports the National Weather Service for severe weather reporting.

2nd DEAD of WINTER EXTRAVAGANZE – SEE YOU THERE!!!